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Farmworker and Latino advocates file amicus brief supporting Michigan's emergency public health order



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City Back to Schools: Support for parents



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Chadwick Boseman dies at 43: his impact lives through black film

By MB Staff Writer



Courtesy Photo

People across the globe are mourning the loss of actor Chadwick Boseman who died on August 28, 2020, at the age of 43 after a 4-year fight with colon cancer.

The following statement was shared to the 43-year-old's social media accounts: "Chadwick was diagnosed with stage III colon cancer in 2016, and battled with it these last 4 years as it progressed to stage IV. A true fighter, Chadwick persevered through it all,

and brought you many of the films you have come to love so much. From Marshall to Da 5 Bloods, August Wilson's Ma Rainey's Black Bottom and several more, all were filmed during and between countless surgeries and chemotherapy."

Chadwick was known for his portrayal of Black historical figures, playing such roles as

Continues on pg 2, Chadwick Boseman

Cover Story, Chadwick Boseman



courtesy photo

Jackie Robinson in *42* (2013), James Brown in *Get on Up* (2014), and Thurgood Marshall in *Marshall* (2017). His role as the superhero Black Panther in the Marvel Cinematic Universe films, including *Black Panther* (2018), made him an international star, winning him an NAACP Image Award and a Screen Actors Guild Award.

Chadwick Aaron Boseman was born and raised in Anderson, South Carolina, to Carolyn and Leroy Boseman, both African-American. His mother was a nurse and his father worked at a textile factory, managing an upholstery business as well. According to Boseman, DNA testing indicated that some of his ancestors were Krio people from Sierra Leone, Yoruba people from Nigeria and Limba people from Sierra Leone.

Boseman graduated from T. L. Hanna High School in 1995. In his junior year, he wrote his first play, *Crossroads*, and staged it at the school after a classmate was shot and killed. Boseman attended college at Howard University in Washington, D.C., graduating in 2000 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in directing. One of his teachers was Phylicia Rashad, who became a mentor. She helped raise funds, notably from her friend and prominent actor Denzel Washington, so that Boseman and some classmates could attend the Oxford Mid-Summer Program of the British American Drama Academy in London, to which they had been accepted.

Boseman wanted to write and direct, and initially began studying acting to learn how to relate to actors. After he returned to the U.S., he graduated from New York City's

Digital Film Academy.

He lived in Brooklyn at the start of his career. Boseman worked as the drama instructor in the Schomburg Junior Scholars Program, housed at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture in Harlem, New York. In 2008, he moved to Los Angeles to pursue his acting career.

Boseman got his first television role in 2003, in an episode of *Third Watch*. That same year, Boseman portrayed Reggie Montgomery in the daytime soap opera *All My Children*, but stated that he was fired after voicing concerns to producers about racist stereotypes in the script; the role was subsequently re-cast, with Boseman's future Black Panther co-star Michael B. Jordan assuming the role. His early work included episodes of the series *Law & Order*, *CSI: NY*, and *ER*. He also continued to write plays, with his script for *Deep Azure* performed at the Congo Square Theatre Company in Chicago; it was nominated for a 2006 Joseph Jefferson Award for New Work. In 2008, he played a recurring role on the television series *Lincoln Heights* and appeared in his first feature film, *The Express: The Ernie Davis Story*. He landed a regular role in 2010 in another television series, *Persons Unknown*.

Boseman had his first starring role in the 2013 film *42*, in which he portrayed baseball pioneer and star Jackie Robinson. He had been directing an off-Broadway play in East Village when he auditioned for the role, and was considering giving up acting and pursuing directing full-time

at the time. About 25 other actors had been seriously considered for the role, but director Brian Helgeland liked Boseman's bravery and cast him after he had auditioned twice. Robinson's widow, Rachel Robinson commented that Boseman's performance was like seeing Jackie again. In 2013, Boseman also starred in the indie film *The Kill Hole*, which was released in theaters a few weeks before the film *42*.

In 2014, Boseman appeared opposite Kevin Costner in *Draft Day*, in which he played an NFL draft prospect. Later that year, he starred as James Brown in *Get on Up*, doing some singing and all of his own dancing. In 2016, he starred as Thoth, a deity from Egyptian mythology, in *Gods of Egypt*.

In 2016, he began portraying the Marvel Comics character T'Challa / Black Panther, with *Captain America: Civil War* being his first film in a five-picture deal with Marvel. He headlined *Black Panther* in 2018, which focused on the character and his home country of Wakanda in Africa. The film opened to great anticipation, becoming one of the highest-grossing films of the year in the United States. He reprised the role in both *Avengers: Infinity War* and *Avengers: Endgame*, which were released in 2018 and 2019, respectively. Both films were the highest grossing of the year they were released, with *Endgame* going on to become the highest-grossing film of all time. Also in 2019, he starred in *21 Bridges*, an American action thriller film directed by Brian Kirk, as an NYPD detective who shuts down the eponymous 21 bridges of Manhattan to find two suspected cop killers.

In 2019, it was announced that Boseman was cast in the Netflix war drama film *Da 5 Bloods*, directed by Spike Lee. The film was released on June 12, 2020. Lee, in choosing Boseman for the divine like character of 'Stormin' Norman said, "This character is heroic; he's a superhero. Who do we cast? We cast Jackie Robinson, James Brown, Thurgood Marshall, and we cast T'Challa."

The world lost a great actor with Chadwick Boseman's death, but he will never be forgotten. He will live on forever through his iconic performances.

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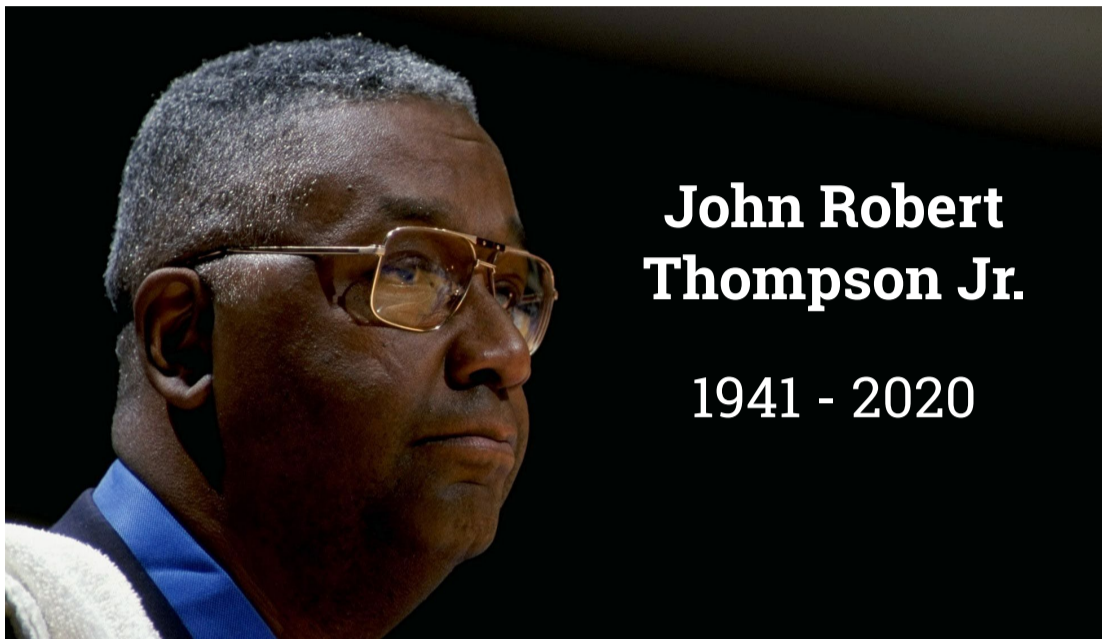
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John Thompson Jr., NCAA championship coach, dies age 78



John Thompson Jr., legendary college basketball coach for the Georgetown Hoyas who led the Hoyas to an NCAA Division I national championship in 1984, died at his Arlington, Virginia, home on Sunday night, according to his family. He was 78.

Thompson played college basketball for the Providence

Friars and earned honorable mention All-American honors in 1964. He was selected in the third round of the 1964 NBA draft by the Boston Celtics. He played two seasons for the Celtics, who won an NBA championship in both seasons. Thompson became a high school coach in Washington D.C. before coaching Georgetown for 27 seasons.

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MICHIGAN YOUTH BANNER

VOLUME 2 • NUMBER 16

YouthQuest and TeenQuest/SYI promoting #MaskUpFlint

*courtesy photo*

Flint, MI — YouthQuest and TeenQuest/SYI are joining the Flint & Genesee Chamber of Commerce in a social media campaign encouraging community members to wear a face-covering in public settings to help prevent the spread of coronavirus.

“We want our students, teachers, parents and partners to stay safe and healthy,” says Dr. Kimberly Leverette, executive director at the Flint & Genesee Chamber. “This is why we are using social media to spread awareness on the importance of wearing a mask.”

According to the Center for Disease Control, coronavirus is primarily spread through respiratory droplets produced when a person coughs, sneezes, talks or raises their voice and that using masks may help people who have COVID-19 reduce the spread of the virus.

To help promote the use of masks, YouthQuest and TeenQuest/SYI are sharing photos of partners and students wearing masks, sharing information on the use of masks, and encouraging others to share their own photos.

Want to get involved? Share a photo of yourself wearing a mask in public, tag YouthQuest or TeenQuest/SYI and use the hashtag #MaskUpFlint. Your photo may be shared on one of the pages.

Follow YouthQuest on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, and TeenQuest/SYI on Facebook and Twitter to stay up to date on #MaskUpFlint.

Boys & Girls Clubs of America and The Coca-Cola Company partner to close the employment gap for over 4 million youth

Atlanta, GA — Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA), a youth development nonprofit, has announced a five-year Workforce Readiness partnership with The Coca-Cola Company, a 74 year partner of BGCA, to close the employment and opportunity gap by preparing more than 4.7 million American youth to be pioneering workers, leaders and innovators of tomorrow.

As a founding partner of Boys & Girls Clubs of America's Workforce Readiness Strategy, The Coca-Cola Company's investment will support four pillars: essential skill development, career exploration, employability skills and credentialing, and work-based learning opportunities for young people at Clubs.

BGCA's Workforce Readiness Strategy is intended to foster sound life-decisions by building social and emotional skills such as communication, creativity, collaboration and leadership, which are all critical for 21st-century careers. The Strategy also exposes Boys & Girls Club teens to real-world work experiences and to employability skills like resume writing and interview prep, as well as industry certifications for first jobs in high school and following graduation.

The Coca-Cola Company's investment will also support BGCA programs like CareerLaunch, which enables teens to explore career opportunities that align with their passions and talents.

"As a long-standing partner of Boys & Girls Clubs of America, we

are committed to helping expand the developmental and growth opportunities for young people in communities across our country. We are proud to expand our support and join the organization in implementing a Workforce Readiness Strategy designed to equip our nation's youth with the tools and resources needed to ensure they join and become leaders of the future workforce," said Quinton Martin, chief of staff, office of the president and vice president community marketing, Coca-Cola North America.

Amid widespread social and economic uncertainty, BGCA and The Coca-Cola Company are committed to keeping young people on track academically and engaged in building fundamental, transferable skills for success to help them become both life and workforce ready.

"Boys & Girls Clubs serve as a safe environment for young people to learn and grow year-long," said Jim Clark, president & CEO, Boys & Girls Clubs of America. "As we continue to navigate the impact of COVID-19 and help aspiring youth achieve great futures, our Workforce Readiness Strategy with The Coca-Cola Company will play an essential role in restoring security and resiliency within our

youth, so they're ready to explore their dream jobs and make positive differences in the world."

Through a network of industry, nonprofit, government and education partners, Boys & Girls Clubs nationwide are increasing access to a variety of career exploration and work experiences for local Clubs. To learn more about Boys & Girls Clubs' commitment to Workforce Readiness, visit BGCA.org/workforce.

About the Partnership

For more than 70 years, The Coca-Cola Company has worked to strengthen local communities through its partnership with Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA). As a founding sponsor of Boys & Girls Clubs of America's Workforce Readiness Strategy, The Coca-Cola Company's investment supports essential skill development, career exploration, employability skills and credentialing, and work-based learning opportunities for youth at 4,700 Clubs nationwide. Together, we're helping to close the opportunity and job readiness gap by preparing 4.7 million youth who visit Clubs every day to become the future American workers, leaders and innovators of tomorrow.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS



THE MICHIGAN BANNER NEWS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH AT&T

A dramatic, low-angle photograph of an emergency scene at night. The scene is filled with the intense, multi-colored lights of emergency vehicles, including red, blue, and yellow. The lights create a sense of urgency and chaos. The background is dark, with some structures visible in the distance. The overall mood is one of high-stakes action and critical response.

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THE LATINO BANNER

LIDER EN LA DIVERSIDAD

Vamos Adelante



Chinese, Latin American media join hands to tide over the global crisis

LB Pg. 4

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Farmworker and Latino advocates file amicus brief supporting Michigan's emergency public health order



courtesy photo

Ypsilanti, MI — The Michigan Immigrant Rights Center (MIRC), along with the Sugar Law Center for Economic Justice, United Farm Workers (UFW), UFW Foundation, Public Counsel, and partners from across Michigan and the nation, filed an amicus brief in response to a federal lawsuit backed by the Michigan Farm Bureau (*Castillo v. Whitmer*, W. Dist. MI, Case No. 1:20-CV-751). The lawsuit against the State of Michigan seeks to stop an emergency public health order that proactively seeks to address health disparities faced by essential farm and food processing workers during COVID-19.

Amici are worker advocates, community organizations, labor unions and public health experts that collaborate with and advocate

on behalf of farmworkers and workers more generally—both in Michigan and nationwide. They are committed to the health and well-being of essential workers and through the brief filed today, provide insights into the lived realities of farmworkers during the pandemic and the need for testing to help combat the virus.

“The lawsuit backed by the agricultural lobby against the state of Michigan is dangerous to the health and well-being of farmworkers, our communities, and our food supply,” said MIRC Supervising Attorney Diana Marin. “Workers in the agricultural

Continues on LB pg 2, Michigan's emergency public health order

LB Cover Story, Michigan's emergency public health order

sector have had to continue working while the pandemic rages on. Although many people can safely stay home during this global pandemic, farmworkers cannot, exposing them to a greater risk of being infected with the novel coronavirus. To make matters worse, this case has caused confusion among farmworkers in Michigan with respect to their right to get tested free of discrimination or retaliation. If Plaintiffs in the case truly care about the rights and health of Michigan's agricultural workers, they should help implement the state's public health order and not undermine it."

MIRC supports the public health order and its tailored approach to addressing barriers that block farmworker access to health services and social programs. When surveyed, MIRC's farmworker clients also indicated their support, saying that they care about their health and the health of their families, their co-workers and the public. They need and deserve equal access to interventions like testing and quarantine housing that stop the spread of COVID-19 without intimidation, blacklisting, or unfair economic pressure. One MIRC client, a farmworker who migrates to harvest Michigan crops each summer, said the policies in the order will benefit everybody: "I think we all are equal and need just treatment."

Another Michigan farmworker told MIRC the order "will benefit employers and workers alike. When workers are put in a house in quarantine, that action could lower the risk of spreading the disease to co-workers and people in general. If one worker gets infected, the grower would have less workers to harvest and the impact would be big for the grower. I think it is good that the state can provide food to workers who are in isolation. And it is also important to receive pay while complying with the quarantine so that workers can pay their bills and send some money to their families back home."

The amicus brief reflects broad support for the public health order from farmworker advocates, including overwhelming backing from Hispanic and Latino leaders who soundly reject the lawsuit's claims of racism and discrimination. Seventeen Michigan organizations joined in the brief, spanning from legal services to community organizations, labor unions, faith-based, and health-focused organizations. Nationally, MIRC was joined by 14 legal advocacy

organizations and labor unions.

United Farm Workers President Teresa Romero said: "The agribusiness-led lawsuit attempting to block Michigan's emergency public health order by evoking a false narrative of civil rights is outrageous and insulting. As essential workers, farm workers need protections from COVID-19 and access to testing is one. The UFW firmly supports Michigan's public health order and urges farm workers to dismiss the dishonest agribusiness plot seeking to avoid the responsibility of providing free access to testing."

"We have lost too many farm workers to the COVID-19 pandemic – a result of the hypocrisy of deeming farm workers essential but not providing the protections they deserve," said UFW Foundation Executive Director Diana Tellefson Torres. "We need to prevent more infections and deaths in agricultural communities – and that's possible if employers comply with the public health order in Michigan. The UFW Foundation unmistakably supports Michigan's public health order. The agribusiness-led lawsuit is an effort to avoid the responsibility of testing their workers and is an offensive front by the Michigan Farm Bureau to create division between farm workers."

U.S. Representative Jesús "Chuy" García (IL-04), member of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC), lent his support, commenting: "Farmworkers and meatpackers put their lives at risk every day and they deserve help from the government to recover from the coronavirus pandemic. While I fought to ensure all our working families received support, our undocumented workers, including those who put food on our tables, did not qualify for federal assistance. Mandatory testing is not only the right thing to do, it is the only way we can contain the spread of COVID-19. That's why I commend Michigan for taking this important step to protect all working families and help mitigate the disproportionate impact this public health crisis is having on Black and Brown communities."

Michigan elected officials also supported the amicus brief and rejected the lawsuit's backward narrative. U.S. Representative Rashida Tlaib (MI-13) said: "Growing up in southwest Detroit, I learned from my Latino

neighbors about how they continue to be excluded from programs and protections that other communities are afforded.

The Latino community is essential to the strength of the 13th Congressional District. As a proud Congresswoman of color who cares deeply about the health threats facing Black and brown communities during the COVID-19 pandemic, I applaud the State of Michigan for the actions they took to protect our communities. Unfortunately, yet again, corporate greed is trying to ensure that my Latino neighbors are not protected. The corporate agriculture industry claims in this lawsuit are dangerous and insulting. Addressing racial health disparities is not discrimination, it's our duty—and an important step towards breaking down systemic racism and protecting all of our community members."

Members of Michigan's state legislature also expressed support for the public health order. The Michigan Legislative Latino Caucus -- composed of State Representatives Alex Garza, Darrin Camilleri, Vanessa Guerra, and State Senator Erika Geiss issued the following statement: "This public health order is about protecting the most vulnerable among us. Agricultural and food processing employees are, and always have been, a driving force behind our state's growth and success, and it is absolutely crucial that we provide these essential workers the protections they need as we continue to navigate this global pandemic. The Michigan Legislative Latino Caucus stands in full support of the order, and commits to working alongside all groups involved to ensure it remains in place."

Michigan's non-partisan Hispanic/Latino Commission also issued a statement, saying: "The HLCOM supports the recent public health ordinance enacted by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), providing our vulnerable migrant farmworker communities around the State with further protections. We firmly believe that the action taken by MDHHS will help maintain the health and safety of our migrant families, who diligently work in our state's agricultural industry to help provide fresh produce for millions across the country. We hope the order will be quickly adopted, and that our migrant farmworker communities are able to thrive during these difficult times."



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Where: Holy Family Catholic Church
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2pm to 5pm or as long as supplies last



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David R. Gamez parking Lot
501 Lapeer Ave. Saginaw, MI 48607
Monday - Friday 7:30am - 12:30pm
* You need to bring ID and insurance card *

Drive-thru Hotline (989) 293-3492

Chinese, Latin American media join hands to tide over the global crisis



courtesy photo

Beijing, CN — A joint statement between China Media Group (CMG) and its Latin America media partners was released calling for a strong collaborative force to help the global community overcome the COVID-19 pandemic and effectively promote the construction of a China-Latin America community with a shared future, and a community of common health for mankind.

The statement was made during the Latin America Partners Media Cooperation Online Forum 2020 held in Beijing on August 28. The event was co-hosted by CMG and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). Alianza Informativa Latinoamericana (AIL), the biggest non-profit television network alliance in Latin America and the Caribbean, also put its support behind the forum.

At the forum, 33 guests from 15 organizations from 10 Latin American countries and China discussed in-depth how they should overcome difficulties and move forward hand in hand in fighting against the pandemic.

CMG's President and Editor-in-Chief Shen Haixiong said in his opening remarks, "Media should report the truth instead of spreading rumors and creating trouble; seek to build a consensus instead of creating divisions; strive to battle the pandemic scientifically instead of shifting the blame onto other countries and

finally broadcast confidence, not air malicious attacks."

In the post-pandemic period, Shen pointed out, media outlets from China, Latin America and the Caribbean should further strengthen cooperation in improving the sharing mechanism of news content, exploring and creating new forms of cooperation, and learning from each other on new media technology applications.

He said, "We should adhere to the principles of objectivity, fairness and truth in reporting major news, and jointly show the voice of the Chinese and Latin American and the Caribbean media to promote the construction of a community of common health for mankind."

Alicia Bárcena, the Executive Secretary of ECLAC expressed, "As we face a global context full of uncertainty, our partnership must become even stronger by transforming it to a more balanced and equal one. The media have a key role to play in bridging the mutual knowledge gap that it still exists between both sides of the world."

"The media shoulders a huge responsibility," said Juan Carlos Isaza, the CEO of AIL. He explained that the media has an obligation to not only hold the government accountable but also support governments that do their

utmost to fight the pandemic and bring hope to audiences who are pursuing news authenticity and reliability.

When China was being hit hard by the virus, 17 AIL members sent joint condolence videos to show their solidarity and support for China. CMG also provided support and assistance to some Latin American media outlets within its capacity when the pandemic spread in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The president and CEO of Rede Bandeirantes de Comunicação, João Carlos Saad, detailed in his keynote speech how CMG rapidly sent anti-pandemic materials to afflicted areas and thanked them for their quick and thoughtful response.

"China and Brazil will continue to play a strong synergy in the future," he said.

According to José Luis Manzano, the founder of the Grupo América, he severely criticized the actions of attacking and questioning the World Health Organization (WHO).

"We should strengthen the building of the WHO, and help it become the source of knowledge and authority in the health field," he said.

A launching and signing ceremony of Program Hoy was also held between CCTV Video News Agency (CCTV+) and AIL during the forum. The program meets the needs of AIL members for high-quality and multi-dimensional news content, and 22 mainstream media in 21 countries and regions within the alliance have already benefited.

In the forum, five Chinese and Latin American media representatives and experts participated an online panel discussion around the theme of "Strengthen Collaboration & Defeat the Pandemic".

In their opinion, media will become an important driver of economic recovery. Strengthening cooperation between Chinese and Latin American media will help regain investment and consumer confidence.

Community Board

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¡Registre su negocio en el programa Microempresas De Negocios Locales (Micro-LBE)

8 de septiembre | 7:00 pm

Acompáñenos en una sesión informativa en español para aprender sobre el programa MLBE de la ciudad de Grand Rapids y como registrar su negocio para que participe en el programa. Este programa le dará a las pequeñas empresas la oportunidad de ser certificadas para obtener contratos con la ciudad.

Este entrenamiento será presentado virtualmente y dirigido por Ana Jose, Gerente del Programa Transformando West Michigan. Para conectarse llame al siguiente número: **827 3511 4568**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82735114568>

Si desea registrar su negocio o solicitar información adicional llame al (616) 452-3960 o envíe un correo electrónico a yesenia@westmihcc.org



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FUNDRAISING GOOD TIMES

Nonprofits retool to meet a community need

During World War II the country retooled to meet the crisis of the day – recruiting stations were flooded with volunteers and companies retooled to meet military production. Today during COVID-19 healthcare workers are working around the clock, and businesses have retooled to produce equipment needed to protect frontline workers and ensure testing is available. Now it is time for nonprofits to retool to ensure those we serve have the right to vote.

Today confusion, misinformation, and COVID-19 are creating barriers to registering and voting. In many communities, there are laws and policies that are not always made clear which – even if you vote – keep your vote from being counted.

We as nonprofits must use our resources, relationships, and the trust we have built with those we serve to ensure people can vote and that their vote is counted. We must “retool” to help people exercise their right to vote.

We all have relationships, platforms, and programs we can use to encourage voting once we educate ourselves. Here are two resources Nonprofit VOTE, and the Election Protection Coalition. You can learn from Momentum Nonprofit Partners as an example of a nonprofit mobilizing its constituents, and offering employees Election Day as a paid day off so they have time to vote and the ability to help others vote. Here are four suggestions for what you can do.

Prepare your team. Orient and train staff, volunteers, and board members with talking points so they can answer questions from potential voters. Ask for in-kind resources you will need such as transportation, advertising, printing, and social media. Host a 24/7

“hot-line” so your nonprofit becomes a communication center providing information people need to vote and have their vote counted.

Educate, communicate, and engage your leadership, staff, volunteers, and supporters on how important it is to vote. Use your communication tools to share information about voter registration, how to vote by mail, how to safely vote in person, and more. Use your mailing list, social media platforms, publications, website, and newsletter. Go “old school” and set up a phon-a-thon where volunteers call people to share information. Print “door hangers” and flyers that can be distributed to people’s homes, at barber shops and beauty salons, restaurants, food distribution lines, COVID-19 testing lines....

Create virtual special events that share information and answer questions. Use people from your community who are admired and trusted to share information and provide encouragement. Create a public service

announcement, a short video clip that can go viral. Create a series of videos that explain different aspects of voting and what people may encounter as they try to vote.

Break the barrier. Remember, if people haven’t registered to vote – or actually voted before – it is a new experience. That in itself can be a barrier. Make it real, create a video showing a person actually registering to vote. Show how to request an absentee ballot and what happens when you enter a voting location. Remember: not having done something before is a barrier – do all you can to break that barrier.



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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

MDHHS continues Flint mobile food pantries during September; department and food bank to take extra precautions due to COVID-19

Lansing, MI — The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) will continue to provide nutritious food by the truckload to Flint residents throughout September.

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

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

This month's mobile food pantry distribution will have plenty of delicious, vitamin-rich produce and proteins, including, potatoes, hard squash, sweet corn, peppers, watermelon tomatoes, cheese and ground turkey.

September dates for distributions are:

Asbury United Methodist Church, 1653 Davison Road.

Tuesday, Sept. 1, at 10 a.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 8, at 10 a.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 15, at 10 a.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 22, at 10 a.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 29, at 10 a.m.

Prince of Peace Missionary Baptist



courtesy photo

Church, 1417 N. Stephenson St.

Wednesday, Sept. 2, at 11 a.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 9, at 11 a.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 16, at 11 a.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 23, at 11 a.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 30, at 11 a.m.

Greater Holy Temple, 6702 N. Dort Hwy.

Thursday, Sept. 3, at 10 a.m.
Thursday, Sept. 10, at 10 a.m.
Thursday, Sept. 17, at 10 a.m.
Thursday, Sept. 24, at 10 a.m.

Luke's NEW Life Center, 3115 Lawndale Ave.

Friday, Sept. 4, at 10 a.m.
Friday, Sept. 11, at 10 a.m.
Friday, Sept. 18, at 10 a.m.
Friday, Sept. 25, at 10 a.m.

Bethel United Methodist Church, 1309 Ballenger Hwy.

Monday, Sept. 7, at 10 a.m.

Monday, Sept. 14, at 10 a.m.
Monday, Sept. 21, at 10 a.m.
Monday, Sept. 28, at 10 a.m.

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

Bethel United Methodist Church, 1309 N. Ballenger Highway, open from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mondays; Asbury United Methodist Church, 1653 Davison Road, open Tuesdays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; and Greater Holy Temple, 6702 N. Dort Highway, open Thursdays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

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

MDHHS launches media campaign urging residents to get flu vaccine during upcoming vital season



courtesy photo

Lansing, MI — The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) announced it is launching a statewide media campaign encouraging Michiganders to get their flu vaccine this fall and help prevent an outbreak of a second communicable disease that – with COVID-19 still very much a concern – could put our state's economy and health care system at greater risk.

Last flu season, an estimated 3.2 million people in Michigan received a flu vaccine as documented in the Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR). While reporting doses to the MCIR is strongly encouraged, it is not mandatory for adults aged 20 years and older. The state has set a goal of achieving a 33 percent increase in flu vaccination this season, which means more than 1 million people over last flu season. To accurately reflect how many Michiganders are receiving flu vaccine this season, reporting all doses to the MCIR is vital.

The vaccine is already available in some parts of Michigan, with an ample supply expected across the state and nation starting in early fall.

“It’s more important than ever for

Michiganders everywhere to get your flu vaccine. Preventing the flu will help us save lives and preserve the health care resources we need to continue fighting COVID-19,” said Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. “Every flu-related hospitalization we see this season will put an additional strain on Michigan’s economy and our health care systems and hospitals. Our hospitals are still reeling from the spring COVID-19 hospitalizations and are working to prepare for a potential second wave of the virus. I encourage everyone to get their flu vaccine, and tell your friends and family to do the same.”

The flu vaccine campaign – Facing the Flu Together – will include multiple media sources including TV and connected TV, social and digital media, podcasts, print and radio advertising. Ads and messages will begin Aug. 31 and reach audiences across Michigan, including targeting the most vulnerable and at-risk populations. An updated flu vaccine website at Michigan.gov/Flu also launched today with comprehensive resources with more information soon to be added.

During the 2019-2020 flu season, the nation recorded 39 to 56 million estimated cases

of the flu, 18 to 26 million medical visits due to the flu and nearly half a million flu hospitalizations. Despite its comparison to the common cold, the flu is a very serious and potentially deadly disease, especially for children, older people and people with chronic health conditions. Last season, 187 children died from the flu in the United States, including six children in Michigan.

“There is a lot of misinformation about the flu and the flu vaccine, but the science is clear: the flu can be deadly, and there are steps that we can take to protect against it,” said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, MDHHS chief deputy for health and chief medical executive. “That’s why as a parent and a doctor, I make sure myself and my children are protected each year with a flu vaccine for their safety, and for my patients, friends and community.”

To support the effort to get Michiganders vaccinated against the flu, the Michigan Health & Hospital Association, Michigan Primary Care Association and the Franny Strong Foundation joined Governor Whitmer and MDHHS in calling on residents to get vaccinated. Michigan’s health care system, hospitals and health clinics will be ramping up efforts to vaccinate for the flu this fall and throughout the season.

Additionally, the state’s I Vaccinate campaign is working to educate residents about the safety of vaccinating. In an effort to help parents protect their children from all serious vaccine-preventable diseases, I Vaccinate provides the facts parents need to make informed decisions about vaccinations.

As the flu vaccine becomes available, Michiganders should contact their local health departments, physicians and pharmacies to schedule a time to get the flu shot, and to seek out credible sources like IVaccinate.org for answers to vaccine questions. For more information about the flu, visit Michigan.gov/Flu.

Information around this outbreak is changing rapidly. The latest information is available at Michigan.gov/Coronavirus and CDC.gov/Coronavirus.

2020 CENSUS

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

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

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

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my2020census.gov

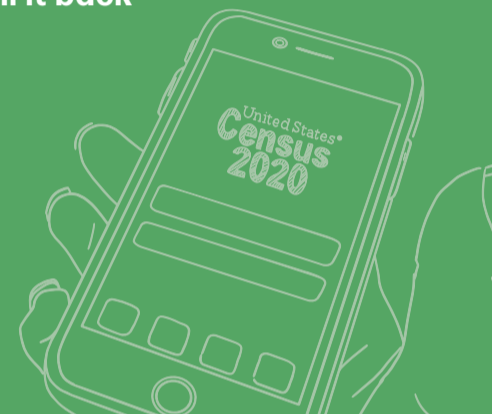
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- Countless prayers and messages of encouragement

Our heartfelt thanks go to everyone who has supported us. You are all extraordinary.



BUSINESS & WEALTH

CarData names Michigan most expensive state for business use vehicle insurance in 2020



courtesy photo

Amherst, NY — If you offer a VRP (Vehicle Reimbursement Program) to employees a key data point is the cost for insuring vehicles with a 'business use' designation. Consider that a FAVR (Fixed and Variable Rate) program is tailored to regional insurance premiums as well as other cost of living factors. CarData keeps track of the current data that builds these programs to help our clients make informed decisions when deciding on the right Vehicle Profiles to use for reimbursement.

As an aside, be mindful of how a 'business use' designation is determined and differs from pleasure use or commercial use status. That being said, we'll take a look at the most expensive cities and states in the U.S.

Michigan – Let's start with the reasons why

Michigan is the most expensive. Michigan requires Personal Injury Protection (PIP) coverage that provides lifetime benefits to victims in some situations, and it has the most comprehensive no-fault insurance system in the nation. However, in July 2020, there will be several changes to the requirements that should drive down costs. For example, you won't need to buy unlimited no-fault PIP benefits. In the meantime, drivers based in Detroit will pay an average of \$4,252 per year and those in Flint will be out of pocket \$3,242. Statewide, the average is \$2,614.

Florida – The average premium in Miami is \$3,868; West Palm Beach and Tampa are close behind at \$3,409 and \$3,117, respectively. The Sunshine State is vulnerable to hurricanes and other severe weather events that cause a lot

of damage, payouts and premium increases. Florida also requires all drivers to carry Personal Injury Protection (PIP) coverage, which accounts for 25% of the premium. To top it off, Florida experiences more car insurance fraud than any other state resulting in an average premium of \$2,575.

New Jersey – Traffic congestion leads to accidents; accidents drive up premiums. When you add on PIP coverage up to \$250,000 and a high volume of medical fraud, you get premiums of \$3,367 in Newark and \$2,976 in Bergen. Furthermore, on top of legally required coverage, many businesses are required to have extra coverage for property damage and personal injury claims. Survey data for the entire state yields an average of \$2,569 annual premium.

Connecticut – The overall average premium in the state of Connecticut is \$2,557. Hartford is the capital and where business use drivers average \$2,894/year in insurance premium. New Haven is about 40 miles away, on the coast, and only slightly less costly at \$2,744. Connecticut is characterized as an urban state with road congestion, CT has higher disposable income resulting in more expensive vehicles and increased liability limits. To top it off 35% of the roads are in poor repair.

Louisiana – A salesperson with a speeding ticket, a not-at-fault collision and business use insurance will pay \$3,187 in New Orleans. What drives high premiums in Louisiana? Natural disasters, some of the worst maintained roads in the country and the ability to directly sue insurance companies. Louisiana lawsuit settlements against insurance companies totaled \$7 billion in 2019, which is a big part of why the statewide average is \$2,454.

McLaren Central Michigan welcomes Darrell Lentz as new President and CEO



courtesy photo

Mt. Pleasant, MI — McLaren Central Michigan’s (MCM) Board of Directors has selected Darrell Lentz as the new President and CEO.

Lentz will be assuming this role following the resignation of Martin Tursky, MCM’s President and CEO since April 2018.

“We are very excited to welcome Darrell Lentz as our new President and CEO. He has an impressive resume of administrative experience and a proven track record of success,” said Doug Ouellette, McLaren Central Michigan Board Chair.

Over the course of a 20-year career in hospital and health system operations management, Lentz has worked in various parts of the country, allowing him to gain experience covering the entire continuum of healthcare in a variety of settings. These settings include small rural hospitals, critical access, faith-based, for-profit, large academic and multi-hospital health systems.

Most recently, Lentz was hired by McLaren to perform CEO and integration duties relative

to the corporation’s acquisition of St. Luke’s Hospital in Maumee, Ohio. While at St. Luke’s Hospital he provided guidance and direction for the Board of Directors and Senior Leadership surrounding physician alignment initiatives, program development strategies, COVID-19 response and daily operations.

“I am excited for the opportunity to become part of the McLaren family in Mt. Pleasant and feel privileged to be joining such a high performing team at McLaren Central Michigan,” said Lentz.

Lentz holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Finance from Bentley College in Waltham, Massachusetts, and a Master’s in Business Administration from New Hampshire College in Manchester, New Hampshire.

BBB of Western Michigan seeks to Honor Ethical Businesses and Nonprofits



courtesy photo

- Have been in operation for at least 3 years
- Earned at least a “B” rating from BBB
- Indicate they have met their financial obligations (charities)
- Not have won this award in the past three years
- Be headquartered in BBB-WMI service area

Status as a BBB Accredited business is not required and is not considered in the judging process.

“Our community has a lot of fantastic businesses,” says Phil Catlett, President of the Better Business Bureau Serving Western Michigan. “With a goal of making Western Michigan the most trusted place in America to do business, we want to support organizations who make a serious commitment to ethical practices.”

Businesses and nonprofits can learn more about the Awards and application process at <https://www.bbb.org/western-michigan/bbb-awards/>. Applications must be submitted by September 18th. The 2020 BBB Torch Awards event will be held in November.

Mt. Pleasant, MI — The Better Business Bureau (BBB) is seeking applications for the 2020 BBB Torch Awards for Ethics. Every year the BBB Serving Western Michigan honors ethical businesses and nonprofits in our community through the BBB Torch Awards. Judged by business and nonprofit leaders, these awards are a way to spotlight

organizations that are building trust in our community and within their organization. This year the application process has been simplified and should be easier to complete.

Businesses and nonprofits within the BBB’s 38 county service area are eligible to apply if they meet the following criteria:

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Tax assistance available for individuals, businesses affected by Midland area flooding disaster

Lansing, MI — Michigan Department of Treasury is reminding taxpayers affected by the Midland area flooding that state tax assistance is available to disaster survivors.

Individual and business taxpayers who reside in Arenac, Gladwin, Iosco, Midland and Saginaw counties now have additional time to file state tax returns, with penalties and interest waived. The five counties were severely affected by flooding in May, impacting homes, businesses and public facilities and infrastructure.

“A disaster can be devastating both personally and financially,” said Deputy State Treasurer Glenn White, who oversees Treasury’s Tax Administration programs. “By postponing state tax filing and payment deadlines, disaster survivors will have more time to

focus on recovering and getting their lives back to a sense of normalcy.”

Affected taxpayers can write to Treasury to request disaster-related tax relief. When writing, the following must be included in the correspondence:

- Name and account number of the individual or business taxpayer.
- Reason for the relief request.
- Taxpayer address within one of the disaster areas or address of the tax preparer located in one of the disaster areas.

Taxpayers should send the completed correspondence to the following address:

Michigan Department of Treasury

Attn: Disaster Tax Relief
Lansing, Michigan 48922

Some taxpayers may receive a preliminary assessment notice before a tax relief request is formally received by Treasury. Taxpayers within the disaster areas who receive these notices should contact Treasury to resolve.

Individuals with questions related to disaster tax assistance should contact Treasury through the Treasury Self-Service website. Businesses with questions should inquire through self-service options using Michigan Treasury Online.

To learn more about Michigan’s tax system, go to www.michigan.gov/taxes.

MSHDA Board approves \$146M for affordable housing development across Michigan

Lansing, MI — The Michigan State Housing Development Authority Board made major investments to advance six affordable housing projects across the state.

During its regular meeting, the board approved \$146 million in overall investments that will create or preserve more than 900 apartments for seniors, individuals, and families with low and moderate incomes.

“These investments will help improve the rental housing landscape across Michigan and preserve affordable housing for years to come,” said Jeff Donofrio, MSHDA Board chair and director of the state Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity. “The mix of new construction and property renovations will also create hundreds of jobs. In this time of economic uncertainty, MSHDA must do all we can to stimulate the economy and provide affordable housing to Michiganders who need it most.”

The board approved a \$25 million loan to Herman & Kittle Properties, Inc., to build CityLine Apartments, new construction of a 240-unit housing development in the city of Kentwood.

All apartments will be reserved for tenants with low incomes, serving those at or below 60% of the Area Median Income (AMI).

The board also approved mortgage loans allowing the Pontiac Housing Commission to rehabilitate and convert its public housing development, Carriage Place Apartments, into a Section 8 development under the Rental Assistance Demonstration program. The 234 units, as well as the common areas and grounds will be completely remodeled.

The upgrades have been widely supported by local units of government.

“This is a win for the residents and the community,” said Gary Heidel, MSHDA acting executive director. “It will provide for the preservation of the development, extend the affordability of apartments for residents

for another 50 years, enable necessary in-unit improvements, and further extend the beautification to the common areas and grounds around the property.”

To further enhance statewide rental development, the board adopted resolutions to authorize mortgage loans for several other projects, including:

- HOM Flats at Felch Street, Holland Township/Ottawa County, \$21 million, 114 family units
- The Marwood, Detroit/Wayne County, \$17.5 million, 71 affordable units
- Village at LaFranier Woods, Garfield Township, Grand Traverse County, \$26 million, 115 units – 59 affordable, 55 market rate, one manager unit
- Westchester Village South, City of Saginaw/Saginaw Township, Saginaw County, \$18 million, 149 affordable senior units



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EDUCATION

City Back to Schools: Support for parents

By Mike Thompson



courtesy photo

In the Saginaw School District, some old-fashioned telephone calls will help students and their parents become familiar and comfortable with the newfangled techniques involved in online virtual learning.

The back-to-school calls are inviting families to take part in personal training for at-home use of tablets (kindergarten through second grade) and Google Classroom personal computers (third grade and upward) when classes begin on Sept. 8, the day after Labor Day.

Superintendent Ramont Roberts and a unanimous Board of Education, the same as most educators in Saginaw County and across Michigan, have opted to delay in-school group classes until the relentless covid19 virus at least begins to recede, which has not happened this summer.

In the past, some parents or guardians kept their children home for opening school days from embarrassed feelings over lack of new clothes. Nowadays, in a similar way, the personal tech tutorials in advance are intended to cope with any inadequate fears over lack of

experience with computers.

Social-distanced spaces will be reserved in gymnasiums and cafeterias for families that lack home internet hook-ups or who still require special guidance, Roberts notes, and all-hours WiFi driveups will be in place at the 13 buildings.

"We will continue to get better at what we are doing," he says, "but, of course, there will be a learning curve."

Families of more than half of the district's 5,700 pupils had indicated that during covid times, they would not be willing to participate with interaction in traditional school settings, even with precautions

At the same time, says Roberts, parents still desire college-trained educators to take the lead, and there has not been a move toward outright home schooling, at least not within the city, as some analysts were forecasting at the onset of the corona outbreaks.

"It's the exact opposite," he notes. "Their experiences after the school closures

last March provided an appreciation for professional teachers and school staff members."

Still, he adds, parent involvement remains of vital importance in a youngster's success.

Some students will receive direct online classes on Mondays and Wednesdays, some on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with Fridays alternating. Homework-type assignments with available school support staff will occur on the off days.

Teachers will monitor individuals' participation on the computer days, similar to taking classroom attendance during the old days, and if children and their families use the Chromebooks for off-hours activities such as games, movies, email or Facebook, so be it.

The district purchased the Chromebooks wholesale in bulk for about \$300 apiece, with funds coming from the federal CARES Act, Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security. CARES is best known for supporting hospitals, nursing homes and other health care providers, as well as the infamous (and now expired) extended unemployment \$600 supplements, but the legislation also has offered limited funds to schools.

Roberts and his team announced last spring, pre-covid, that the formerly in-debt city schools had recovered to achieve a healthy and solvent budget status. He says he expects solid finances to continue even during pandemic times, although probably with some erosion of the uncommonly strong 36 percent rainy day fund. State takeover threats are in the past.

Regarding school meal delivery, the superintendent says most families will be asked to visit neighborhood pickup sites, with a few home visits to households of youngsters with major disability challenges.

City Back to Schools: Three County districts reopen schools

By Mike Thompson

Saginaw County is home to 12 local school districts, under the oversight of the Saginaw Intermediate School District, SISD.

We first made a covid-policy information request on August 24th to the new SISD superintendent, Jeff Collier, and then inquired two more times. Collier did not respond.

However, a survey of district websites indicates that Saginaw City is among the majority that will keep all buildings closed to students at the start of the school year, offering only remote instruction via computers. The others are Birch Run, Bridgeport, Carrollton, Chesaning, Frankenmuth, Hemlock, Saginaw Township and Swan Valley.

Three districts will offer a mix of in-school and computerized classes. They are Freeland, Merrill and St. Charles. Also, the Saginaw Career Complex, now managed by the ISD, is open to students, as is the Millet Learning Center for special education.

Delta College Public Broadcasting announces name change

University Center, MI — Delta College Public Broadcasting has announced its new brand and name: Delta College Public Media.

The change took place in late August to better align its stations as a service of Delta College. The name of the TV station, formerly Q-TV, is now Delta College Public Media. The radio station, formerly Q-90.1 FM, is now Delta College Public Radio.

Thomas Bennett, general manager of Delta College Public Media, said the new name reflects his team’s work to deliver programs and services in new and innovative ways.

“Our mission to educate, inform and inspire the communities we serve is as relevant today as it was when we first went on the air over 50 years ago,” said Bennett. “Rebranding our

television and radio stations as Delta College Public Media will allow us to focus all of our media services on our mission of community service.”

Delta College Public Media reaches more than 1.4 million viewers and listeners in the Great Lakes Bay Region, Flint, the Thumb and beyond. It has provided community-supported media to inform and entertain since 1964, and it serves as the area’s primary PBS and NPR stations.

The television and radio stations, located on the lower level of Delta’s main campus, is also an academic and broadcasting hub for students in electronic media, broadcasting and journalism programs.

Learn more at DeltaPublicMedia.org.

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Nature Preschool in Midland moving entirely outside for 2020-21



courtesy photo

Midland, MI — Nature Preschool at Chippewa Nature Center, located at 400 S Badour Rd in Midland, is giving families even more of what they love! This year, classes will be held entirely outdoors (except in the event that Michigan weather prevents from providing a safe learning environment), and is now accepting registration requests for the 2020-21 school year, its 14th year of operation. Nature Preschool is open to children who will be 3 or 4 years old by September 1 for two, three or four half-day sessions per week September through May.

When Nature Preschool classes must be moved indoors, extra safety precautions will be taken, such as minimizing opportunities for person-to-person exposure, and only one class will be allowed in the hallway at a time. Also in place are robust cleaning and disinfecting procedures. If it is determined that class will be indoors for the day, families will receive an email as early as possible, who can then choose whether to send their child to school that day. If class must move indoors during the day, parents will be notified and may plan for early pick up if they wish. If class must stop meeting in person due to COVID-19, virtual lessons (recorded videos, live virtual meetings and written resources) will be delivered. The complete 2020-21 Nature Preschool COVID-19 Response and Preparedness Plan can be found

at www.chippewanaturecenter.org/nature-preschool, along with a detailed guide on mask usage (when masks are required, when it is based on family preference and when masks are not required) and answers to Frequently Asked Questions.

Nature Preschool offers students a high quality learning environment that meets their developmental needs while initiating them



courtesy photo

into a life-long, meaningful relationship with the natural world through experiences such as discovery-based learning through play, sensory exploration, large and fine motor activities, creative expression, making friends and developing social skills. Nature Preschool is unique in that it uses the natural world as a catalyst for children's growth and development. Children have daily experiences outdoors in the play areas and on CNC property. The children regularly hike to wooded areas, ponds, fields and the Homestead Farm. Classes are held in two locations – the Gold LEED certified Margaret Ann (Ranny) Riecker Nature Preschool Center and in a dedicated classroom in the Visitor Center.

Nature Preschool uses the play-based HighScope® curriculum which includes a focus on exploration, social and cognitive skills, fine and large motor development, and academic learning outcomes. Seasonal changes and child interest drive the daily Nature Preschool preschool experience. Children will build their knowledge through first-hand experiences with nature, classroom materials and their relationships with peers and adults.

Interested families should submit their class preferences online through the 2020-21 Nature Preschool Placement Request Form free of charge at www.chippewanaturecenter.org/nature-preschool. Registration information packets are available online, by calling 989-631-0830 or at CNC, and applications are being accepted now.

Questions regarding Nature Preschool should be directed to Madison Powell, Nature Preschool Director, at 989-631-0830 or mpowell@chippewanaturecenter.org.



courtesy photo

City Back to Schools: Unified High School still on ballot

By Mike Thompson



courtesy photo

Saginaw city school leaders will not allow Covid19 to stop them from pursuing a buildings upgrade overall plan, including a new unified high school.

A 7-mill, 30-year construction bond issue still will go on the Nov. 4 ballot. It's priced at a cumulative \$99.95 million, and property owners would pay about \$3.50 a year for each \$1,000 of their home's sales value.

Superintendent Ramont Roberts says supporters perceive the best time to campaign for the request is during a presidential election that draws maximum voter turnout. He adds that in other communities, similar school building proposals won approval last spring, even after the coronavirus outbreak had been unleashed.

"We're moving forward with it," he says, pointing to a long-range planning process that took place through the entire covid-free 2019 calendar year, featuring a series of community hearings and workshops.

Under 1990s "Proposal A" changes in state

law, local districts are not allowed to seek millages for curricula, or for more teachers or textbooks. They only are permitted to pursue building improvements.

The most talked-about change would combine Saginaw High and Arthur Hill at the west riverbank site of the Saginaw Arts and Sciences Academy, on North Niagara Street near the Genesee Bridge. The newer SASA gym and auditorium would be preserved within the surrounding new construction.

SASA would relocate to a new structure at the Arthur Hill site.

There are a few cost-saving changes to the original plan. A main change is that Central Middle would not be renovated. Instead, a portion of Saginaw High would be converted into a middle school for an East Side partner with Thompson Middle.

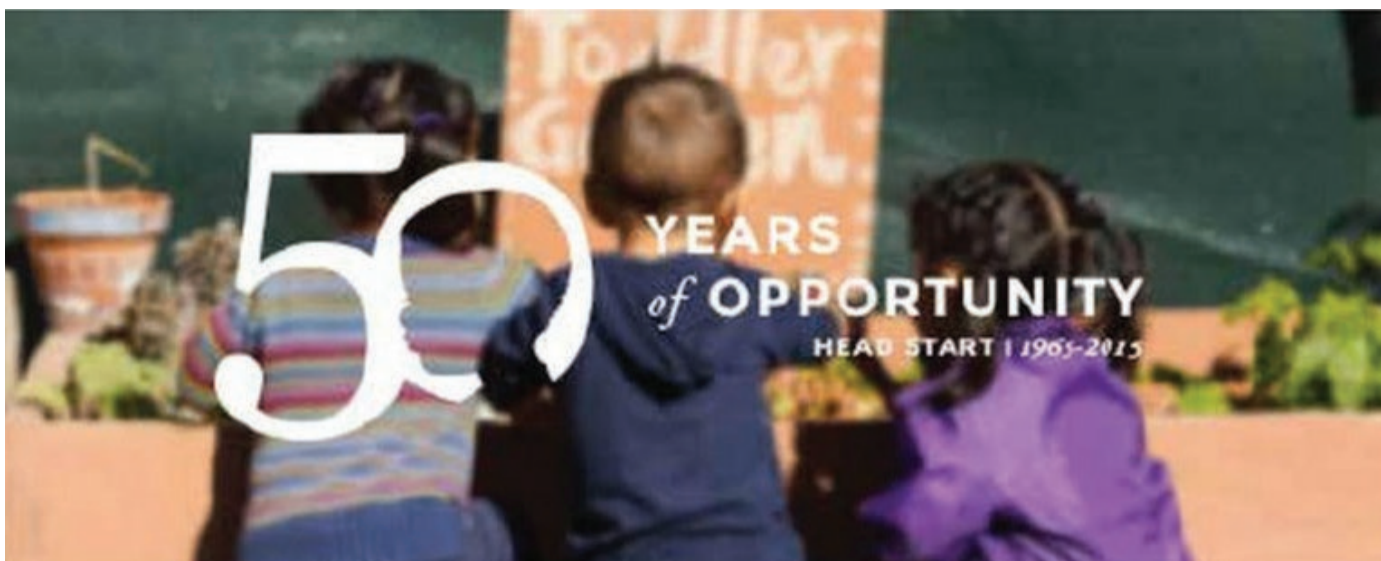
Also, there would be a delay in paying for demolition of eight vacant former elementaries. They are Edith Baillie, Nelle Haley, John Moore, Emerson, Jones,

Longfellow, Coulter and Houghton. The former Ricker Middle also would face delays to the wrecking ball. However, Buena Vista Township is taking ownership of the former Buena Vista High.

Saginaw's most recent buildings levy, mostly for a new Thompson Middle and Loomis Elementary, still is on the books at 9.42 mills. It passed narrowly in 2004 on a second attempt, after a widespread defeat in 2003. However, demographic changes in the city since then have led to a reduced count of older homeowners who have been past opponents, which could make a general election victory more possible.

Under the revise current plan, the owner of a home with \$30,000 sales value (double the tax-statement assessment) would pay about \$100 added per year in property tax. For an \$80,000 sales value, the cost would be about \$240 per annum.

With approval, a two-year construction plan could begin early in 2021.



About Saginaw ISD HE/EHS

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

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

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

women and their families.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Skilled trades at Delta College: 23 associate and certificate programs, many include apprenticeship



courtesy photo

As the fall semester approaches, students in Delta College's skilled trades programs are preparing for online and in-person instruction.

Now more than ever, the job outlook for skilled trade professionals is high, said Harvey Schneider, coordinator of Delta's technical programs. He said there's a big need for electricians, machinists and welders, among others.

"Our graduates are not having any trouble finding jobs," said Schneider. "Anytime someone is building something new, there's electrical going into that. It's needed for industrial, commercial and residential construction. And welding touches almost everything in our lives."

In-demand one and two year programs

In total, Delta offers 23 skilled trade associate

degree or certificate programs, and many include the option of an apprenticeship. Individuals who attend Delta have a competitive advantage: use of high-quality, up-to-date equipment.

"I've always appreciated Delta's hands-on labs, whether it's our welding machine, hydraulics or electrical labs. Our students learn and train on some of the latest, state-of-the-art equipment in the area," said Schneider.

A big part of Schneider's job is working with area employers, from small shops to large companies, to understand the needs and how Delta can help. So, as the market changes, so does the college's program offerings.

"One of Delta's biggest strengths is adapting to employers' needs by offering new programs," he said.

One recent example is the launch of a new program in April that will prepare students to become instrumentation technicians. The degree program was developed in partnership with area companies, including Dow, Michigan Sugar Company and Hemlock Semiconductor Operations.

"Many of the people working in these positions are retiring or leaving, so they approached us with a need for trained professionals in this specialty trade," said Schneider.

Registration is open for fall & winter

Registration is open for the fall 2020 and winter 2021 semesters. Fall semester begins on August 29 and online fees are waived for all new and current students, which a \$33-per-contact-hour savings.

COMMUNITY

Bavarian Inn Co-Founder, Dorothy Zehnder, named to Michigan Women's Hall of Fame 2020 class



courtesy photo

Lansing, MI — The matriarch of the Bavarian Inn's Zehnder family, Dorothy Zehnder, has been named a 2020 inductee into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame.

The 98-year-old Zehnder is co-founder and co-owner of Frankenmuth's Bavarian Inn and the many business operations under that name. A far-reaching enterprise, this includes Bavarian Inn Restaurant and Castle Shops, Covered Bridge Gift Shop, Frankenmuth River Place Shops, Frankenmuth Gift Shops Inc., Bavarian Inn Lodge and a specialty line of food products. At full employment, there are approximately 1,000 team members and more than 900,000 meals served annually.

Zehnder continues to work at the restaurant with no plans to retire. She and her late husband William "Tiny" Zehnder have 3 children, 10 grandchildren, and 18 great-grandchildren.

Currently there are nine family members in leadership roles in various business operations.

The author of three cookbooks, Zehnder first published "Cookies & Bars," a collection of desserts used at the Bavarian Inn and in her home. Then in 2011, she published "Come Cook with Me," an 80-year collection of recipes, wisdom and stories from her life as the Bavarian Inn's much beloved matriarch. With the success of these, she wrote another cookbook in 2014, "From My Kitchen to Yours," featuring 195 handpicked family favorite recipes from her vast 1,000 plus personal collection.

During her 83 years in business, Zehnder has received numerous awards. Later this year she is being recognized with the Saginaw Chamber's Lifetime Community Service Award.

"Our entire family is thrilled for Dorothy to be

honored this way," said daughter Judy Zehnder Keller. "As our mother, grandmother and great-grandmother she means so much to our family, to the entire Frankenmuth community and to everyone throughout the state of Michigan. It is a well-deserved recognition."

Zehnder, along with five other new nominees, will be honored at a ceremony on Oct. 15, in Lansing. The other nominees include: Najah Bazy, RN, an internationally recognized healer, humanitarian and interfaith leader and founder of Zaman International. Dr. Glenda Price, first African American president of Marygrove College and to serve as the national president of the American Society for Medical Technology. Martha Teichner a CBS Sunday Morning correspondent since 1993, earning multiple national awards including 10 Emmy Awards. Liz Jackson was a founding member and officer of the Trade Union Leadership Council, a nationally recognized organization credited with advancing black political development within the UAW. Ruth Westbrook was part of NASA's Apollo 11 project, where she wrote a program for all the steps used to get a man to the moon and back and see how long it took in real time to be completed. Essentially, Ruth was one of the "Human Math Computers" depicted in the movie "Hidden Figures."

Established in 1983, the Women's Hall of Fame is located in downtown Lansing. Today the hall of fame, which includes 333 inductees, is organized and managed through Michigan Women Forward (MWF), an organization founded in 1986 to encourage women to play an active role in philanthropy and governance.

"Today's strong women can learn so much by studying the paths of those who came before us," said Carolyn Cassin, president and CEO, Michigan Women Forward. "These amazing honorees have conquered so many obstacles and accomplished so much throughout their lives. We are proud to salute them and want to be sure their stories are told."

M.T. Thompson, The Michigan Banner and Editor-in-chief Michelle McCoy challenges the business community to help create racial diversity



courtesy photo

The televised killing of one unarmed black man after another, culminating with the brutal lynching of George Floyd, has stirred the conscious and aroused the moral outrage in people around the world. Racism in America can no longer be denied. It is a toxic virus that has been passed from one generation to the next through racist and well-established customs, habits, rules, regulations and practices. This institutionalized behavior has resulted in substandard living conditions, poor health care, higher death rates, over incarceration, second class education, higher unemployment and restricted access to the American Dream for African Americans.

In response to these realities, White America and its corporations and business organizations stepped forward with various promises designed to show their solidarity with the Black Lives Matter Movement by condemning police brutality and systemic racism. Many of them also made unprecedented commitments to diversity and racial justice. The African American Community is now asking the Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce, Saginaw

Crime Prevention Council and others to follow their statements up with tangible and meaningful action. We are asking them to take the following Diversity Pledge and actions. There is no vaccine for racism, America must do the work.

DIVERSITY PLEDGE

1. We understand that as a result of slavery, racial segregation, and this country's history of racial discrimination, certain racist attitudes, customs, habits and practices are ingrained in many of our day-to-day business operations. We acknowledge that systemic racism exist and that it has resulted in a racial imbalance in many of our student populations and workforces. We are committed to racial equality and eliminating racial discrimination in all of its forms.
2. We agree to conduct a racial-bias audit of our business and organizational operation. We agree to carefully scrutinize each job classification and other areas of our educational and business operation where there is a underrepresentation of African

Americans, for the purpose of identifying and removing those racial barriers which may have caused the underrepresentation. We oppose systemic racism and will actively work to eliminate it in our organization.

3. We agree to establish diversity targets and to develop and implement special programs and initiatives to achieve those diversity targets on a timely basis. We believe in a racially diverse student population and/or workforce and we will actively work towards achieving one.

Corporate America must begin by acknowledging the evil nature of systemic racism and then seeking to identify and eradicate it in their individual business operation. They must begin by doing their own house cleaning. They must then seek to address any racial imbalance in their operation through the use of special programs and initiatives. These special efforts will be designed to move African Americans closer to where they would be if there had been no discrimination. Together we can make America better, we can keep America strong. We can make America work for everyone.



Saginaw bride protests covid prison conditions

By Mike Thompson



courtesy photo

In mid-August, Saginaw's Cangela Johnson wrote a letter to Governor Gretchen Whitmer, State Rep Vanessa Guerra and Mayor Floyd Kloc, among others. Rep. Guerra and a representative for the governor have promised to look into the matter. Mayor Kloc informed her that Saginaw city officials have no jurisdiction over state prisons, but he considerately forwarded her note to local news media, including myself.

The following three paragraphs comprise her plea:

"Hello, my name is Cangela Johnson. I

am contacting you because of my deepest love and concern for my husband Derrick LaVar Johnson #258779 who is being housed at MUSKEGON CORRECTIONAL FACILITY. There has been a Covid-19 outbreak since July 24, 2020. Within a couple of weeks, over half of the population got infected with the coronavirus. My husband has taken a series of tests on the following dates: August 4, 2020, August 7, 2020, August 12, 2020. Derrick has been a model inmate during his tenure at MCF. He has been at MCF since October 2016. Derrick was participating in the prison fellowship dorm (unit6) before the pandemic took over the country.

"Derrick informs me of everything that has taken place since the major outbreak. There are a few things that concern and worry me of his safety and well-being. Derrick was recently removed from Unit 6 to Unit 3. Derrick states to me that the previous unit he was in had the very least amount of positive cases from July 24, 2020 to August 4, 2020. Ideally this would be considered a covid- free unit. On August 10, 2020 around 2 a.m., Derrick and seventy nine other inmates were being moved to unit 3 per Deputy Warden Steward. Derrick clearly depicts to me what he witnesses upon entering the unit. He describes, "the inmates were running amock throughout the unit as if they were having a covid-19 party. I can feel the sickness, the filth, and the despair. I can see the sickness in their eyes." I am bewildered and angered by what my husband is sharing with me because I know that he is doing everything within his abilities to stay safe in there. My question to you is, why would the MCF staff move him from a safe zone to an entirely infected zone? Was this intentionally done? It just makes no sense! Derrick further

states, "The cell was not disinfected, and a fellow inmate told me to be very careful because there are many infected inmates in the housing unit there will be a removal of thirty positive cases come morning." My husband and I are God fearing, but I still question why would someone think that sending a negative-tested person to an environment with a multitude of infected people be the just thing to do. Derrick expresses his fear, anguish, and confusion to me daily. I have never experience this much frustration and stress coming from him. Derrick states, "Deputy Warden

Continues on pg 33, covid prison

Continued from pg 32, covid prison

Steward and Assistant Deputy Warden Miller duped me to believing that Unit 3 was safe to be housed in." From August 10, 2020 to August August 14, 2020 it has been a total nightmare for the both of us. During that time period, he has witnessed over one hundred inmates who tested positive for covid-19 get removed from unit 3. Derrick's life has been placed in grave danger I am fearful that he might catch the virus because MCF mishandled the outbreak. Derrick has been filing grievances and talking to Administration about his dreadful moving. He told me that he spoke with PC Antes about the move, PC Antes states, "This was all Lansing's doing. Lansing moved you without knowing the results." Is this what leadership looks like? I voted for these people, and this is how they treat me and my family? Do not kill my husband!

"Unit 2 is where the first positive was identified. Within days, that unit was filled with positive cases. Units 3, 4, and 5 had infections as well. But Unit 3 started growing positive cases just as Unit 2 did. Unit 6, which is the unit was my husband was being housed was a fairly safe environment. It seems as if MCF is trying to infect all inmates. I need some clear and true answers, unlike the lies that have been maliciously told to the public already. Spokesman Brazee has already lied about the facility not mixing negative cases with positive cases. I am sick and tired of MCF trying to control the narrative with lies and coverups. Please help resolve this matter because things are extremely out of control at MCF. Thank you for your valuable time."

And then, on the evening of August 26, Cangela learned that her husband indeed has contracted Covid-19.

Her husband is a childhood friend who began serving a life sentence in 1997 for a homicide when he was a teenager. They speak by phone daily and she drives across the state to visit twice per month. She works two jobs, one as a leasing consultant for an apartment complex and another as a cashier.

Statewide, reports indicate that 13 percent of the 37,000 prisoners have been covid infected. This is 10 times higher than Michigan's pedestrian rate of infection. At Muskegon, the count has soared to half of all inmates.

Cangela says she is not normally into letter-writing or politics, but she will continue to pursue this issue on behalf of her husband and for the sake of all inmates. She sums up, "Whatever it takes." To send her a note, she has a Facebook page and her email is cangelajohnson0905@yahoo.com.



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The International Association of Black Professional Firefighters announces first female president



courtesy photo

Dallas, TX — The International Association of Black Professional Firefighters (IABPFF) announces its new President Carrie Edwards-Clemons. The IABPFF works to improve the economic development and employment

opportunities for minorities. As Black firefighters, it is our challenge to make the fire services more relevant to the needs and aspirations of minority citizens and communities across the world.

Carrie joined the IABPFF in 2000 and since then has served as Executive Vice President, Recording Secretary and North Central Region (NCR) Director. She has served the NCR as Second Vice Director, Recording Secretary and Black Women in the Fire Service Chair. Carrie has served her local Chapter, Society of Minority Firefighters – Flint, as Vice President, Recording Secretary and Trustee. She continues to serve her local chapter as Executive Director. Carrie has also held the positions of First Vice President, Second Vice President and Trustee of IAFF Local 352.

Our President has over 21 years in the Fire Service. She was hired into the Flint Fire Department in 1999 as a Firefighter/Trainee and has served the department and community

as a Firefighter/Paramedic, Fire I & II Instructor, Instructor Coordinator, Suppression Sgt., EMS Supervisor, Haz-Mat Technician, Emergency Vehicle Operator Instructor, Building Inspector and Code Enforcement Sgt. and EMS Coordinator. Carrie is the first female to hold the rank of Deputy Fire Chief in the department's history. Carrie is also the grant writer for the department and has secured SAFER, Assistance to Firefighter grants and Community Development Block Grants in excess of \$20M throughout her career.

"I am honored to be able to serve my IABPFF brothers and sisters!" stated Carrie. "As president, I will work to strengthen our current partnerships and cultivate future opportunities in hopes providing more support and resources to firefighters and communities globally."

To learn more about IABPFF, please visit www.iabpf.org.

The Folded Formations of Mark DeWolf-Ott on display at the Andersen Enrichment Center



courtesy photo

Saginaw, MI — Patterns in Origami: The Folded Formations of Mark DeWolf-Ott features twenty-seven of the most recent and past contributions to the paper legacy of this Saginaw based artist.

The exhibition is on display now through October 9, 2020 at the Andersen Enrichment

Center, 120 Ezra Rust, across from Ojibway Island in Saginaw. Hours are 9 a.m. until 3 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Since 1985, origami expert Mark DeWolf-Ott has shared his art by conducting workshops for people of all ages at area venues including the Japanese Cultural Center of Saginaw, Saginaw Art Museum, libraries, and schools, in addition to a variety of conventions. By manipulating the most foundational artistic elements and principles of design, his works bind through commonalities in color, space, form, repetition, proportion, balance, and emphasis. They are further linked by recurring depictions of flowers and plants or studies in display and presentation. "I taught myself a long time ago, when I was twelve, and I just kind of took off from there," Mark explains, "I just get some peace and comfort from touching the paper."

First created in China about 100 BCE, paper took on a religious and ceremonial significance when folded. Now with mathematical properties of folded forms, DeWolf-Ott's work exemplifies the precision and complexity of today's origami models. From your favorite animals, to flowers, to everyday items, his minimalist approach to the thoughtful folds of paper reflects the modern life of origami.

Art @ the Andersen is made possible with the support of the Maxwell K. Pribil Memorial Trust, the Jury Foundation, and the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs. This project has been established by the Saginaw Arts & Enrichment Commission to give artists in the Great Lakes Bay Region an opportunity to exhibit and sell their work. For more information call the Saginaw Arts & Enrichment Commission at 989.759.1363.



RESOURCE LIST

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Online: www.disasterassistance.gov | Download the [FEMA mobile App](#)

PHONE: 800-621-3362 | TTY: 800-462-7585

(711/Video Relay Service)

FEMA representatives are also available by phone to help you with questions about disaster assistance.

Disaster assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA at 800-621-3362.

FEMA Mitigation Resources

For information on the resources available on mitigation measures

Email: FEMA-R5-Mitigation-Resources@fema.dhs.gov

For information on Flood Mapping and Insurance Exchange (FMIX): Call 877-336-2627

U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)

FIRST STEP: Register with FEMA at DisasterAssistance.gov or download the [FEMA mobile App](#), or call 800-621-3362 (TTY:800-462-7585)

SECOND STEP: If referred to SBA, apply for a low-interest disaster loan online with SBA at disasterloanassistance.sba.gov (Do not select COVID-19 option)

For one-on-one assistance call (571) 422-8013, (571) 422-6016 or (571) 422-0331

Email questions to: FOCE-Help@sba.gov | Deaf and hard of hearing: 800-877-8339 | www.sba.gov/

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Call the **IRS Disaster Assistance Hotline: 866-562-5227** Monday–Friday 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. local time

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Michigan Civil Rights Commission selects James White as Executive Director of the Michigan Department of Civil Rights



courtesy photo

Lansing, MI— In a special meeting on Monday, August 24, 2020, the Michigan Civil Rights Commission selected James White to serve as Executive Director of the Michigan Department of Civil Rights (MDCR). White was selected by a majority of the commission, with Chair Clayton and Commissioners Combs, Grim, Kopack and Sakwa voting in

favor of his appointment.

According to Chair Stacie Clayton, “We had seven excellent candidates who represented diversity in gender, ethnicity, and experience. With our vote for James White as the next Executive Director of the Michigan Department of Civil Rights, the Commission has selected an experienced administrator to provide thoughtful, yet strong, leadership for the department and its employees. Mr. White’s guidance of the Detroit Police Department’s Civil Rights Integrity Bureau, along with his graduate level degrees in business and sociology, will allow him to lay the groundwork to move the MDCR into a new era. We look forward to working with Mr. White to create initiatives that will further our goal of making Michigan a more equitable, just and welcoming state for all.”

Mr. White currently serves as the Assistant Chief of the Detroit Police Department. With almost 25 years of exemplary law

enforcement experience, problem-solving and decision-making skills, the Commission believes Mr. White can help to address one of our state’s and the country’s most prevalent issues – the enforcement of civil rights while reforming police operations and improving community relations.

The Commission expects he will begin the role of Executive Director on September 21, 2020.

The Michigan Civil Rights Commission was created by the Michigan Constitution to safeguard constitutional and legal guarantees against discrimination. The Commission is charged with investigating alleged discrimination against any person because of religion, race, color or national origin, genetic information, sex, age, marital status, height, weight, arrest record, and physical and mental disability. The Michigan Department of Civil Rights serves as the operational arm of the Commission.

Saginaw Bay Symphony Orchestra's 85th Anniversary Season: "Music That Moves You!"



Saginaw, MI — The SBSO announces the line up for our 85th Anniversary Season.

The Saginaw Bay Symphony Orchestra is excited to announce our 85th season “Music That Moves You.” The upcoming season will be comprised of 5 concerts, two of which will be performed virtually. Featuring a diverse

collection of composers, our upcoming season is a testament that music can truly move you both emotionally and physically. Currently scheduled as follows:

- Community Through Music-Saturday October 24, 2020 (QTV Delta College- Check local TV listings)

- Home for the Holidays- Tuesday December 8, 2020 (Facebook Live)
- Symphonie Fantastique- Saturday February 13, 2021 (Temple Theatre)
- A Life Remembered- Saturday March 27, 2021 (Temple Theatre)
- Cole Meets Gershwin- Saturday May 15, 2021 (Temple Theatre)

*If social distancing seating restrictions still apply, the concert will be performed virtually.

If you have any questions, please call or email us. For more information on our upcoming pop-up events, follow us on Facebook and to help us continue our 85th Anniversary celebration, donate at saginawbayorchestra.com/donate. Thank you!

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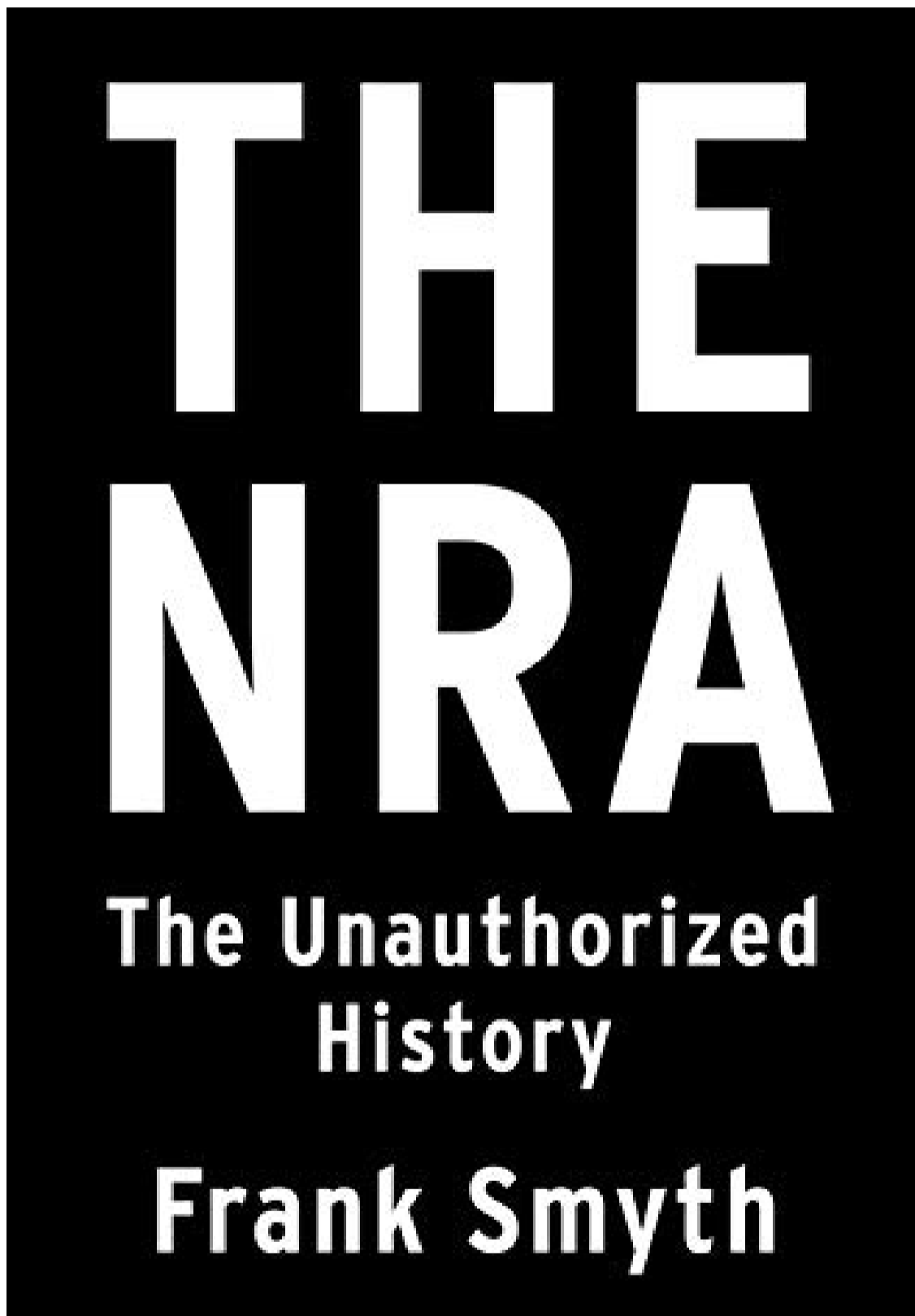
Go to
2020Census.gov

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

BOOK REVIEW

The NRA wasn't always so awful

By Mike Thompson



courtesy photo

safety classes (especially for kids) and conducting target-shooting contests, and so forth. NRA leaders even supported gun control legislation, such as requirements for registration.

In "The NRA: The Unauthorized History," author (and still dues-paying group member) Frank Smyth explains the extremist takeover that was executed by a group of far right-wingers, including a sad legion of white supremacists.

If the NRA is becoming less powerful, with a supposed 90 percent of Americans supporting at least modest standards such as gun-purchase background checks, why does the group maintain such political influence? Smyth explains how the NRA collects such large scads of cash, and deploys the money with ultra tactics to target elected officials in their disfavor. Often the cash is funneled to front groups not associated with the National Rifle Association. That's how their leaders get away with saying such horrible things and taking such terrible positions, even after mass tragedies such as Columbine and later Newtown.

I found myself skimming through opening pages on the ancient history, and then concentrating more page-by-page as the story entered more modern times. And this is one case where progress most certainly has not taken place.

(Mike is a new member of the Saginaw Library Commission, and while he prefers old-fashioned books from historic Hoyt, saginawlibrary.net offers a surprising array of features and services, even movies.)

NRA stands for National Rifle Association, not National Handgun Association or National Assault Weapon Association or National AK-47 Association, although nowadays these

newer names may seem more appropriate. That's because until the 1970s, the 150-year-old NRA was an organization for hunting enthusiasts, offering rifle

Retired hoopster Karl Malone has served on the NRA board for 20 years, starting prior to the close of his playing career. But he seems not to be a gun nut. In fact, he criticizes fellow athletes who have carried guns into playing stadium and arena, and onto airplanes.

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

The New Ezekiel Project

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989-755-1620
Fax: 989-755-4038
www.theezekielproject.com
jamie@theezekielproject.com

Great Lakes PACE

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989-272-7610
Fax: 989-272-7669
www.greatlakespace.org
jdarby@greatlakespace.org

Great Lakes Bay Health Centers

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Saginaw, MI 48607
989-759-6400

Houghton-Jones Task Force

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Saginaw, MI
989-752-1660

Samaritas Community Center

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Saginaw, MI 48601
989-752-5805

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

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989-755-0904
www.saginawlibrary.org

Restoration Community Outreach

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

Saginaw County Business & Education Partnership

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

Saginaw County Community Action Agency, Inc. (CAC)

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

Saginaw Promise

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

The Michigan Banner Outreach Ministries

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Saginaw, MI 48607
989-992-2600

The Saginaw Community Foundation

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

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989-737-9286
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Saginaw, MI 48603
989-790-7933

Christ Disciples Baptist Church

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

Christ Fellowship Baptist Church

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

Faith Harvest Church

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

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

Greater Renaissance

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

Greater Williams Temple

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



Jacob's Ladder

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

Life in Christ Ministries

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

Messiah Missionary Baptist Church

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



Mt. Olive Baptist Church

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



New Beginnings Deliverance Ministry

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

989-777-8272

Pastorbaldwin@charter.net



New Beginnings Life Changing Ministries

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



New Birth Missionary Baptist

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



New Covenant Christian Center

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

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church

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



New Life Baptist Church

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

New Mt. Calvary Baptist Church

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

New Way Ministries

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



Ninth Street Community Church

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

Prince of Peace Baptist Church

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

St. John Ev. Lutheran Church

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



Saginaw Valley Community

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



Transforming Life Ministries

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



True Vine Baptist Church

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

Victorious Belivers Ministries Church

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

World Outreach Campus of Greater Coleman Temple Ministries

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



Zion Missionary Baptist Church

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

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POLITICS & PUBLIC POLICY

FEMA approves Whitmer Administration's application for federal funding to provide an additional \$300 per week to unemployed Michiganders

Michigan.gov

The Department of
Labor and Economic Opportunity

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LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY / INSIDE LEO / UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AGENCY

COVID-19: Get the latest updates and resources from the State of Michigan. [Learn more.](#)

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The Michigan Web Account Manager (MIWAM) is the UIA's system for filing your unemployment insurance claim and managing your UIA account online. MIWAM makes doing business with the UIA simpler, faster and more efficient.

FOR WORKERS FOR EMPLOYERS

MIWAM

courtesy photo

Lansing, MI — The United States Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) approved the Michigan Unemployment Insurance Agency's application for funding that would provide an additional \$300 per week payment to Michiganders receiving unemployment benefits.

"This is good news for the thousands of Michiganders who are still without work as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, but it's still a short term band aid that falls short of what's needed," said Governor Whitmer. "We need the president, Mitch McConnell, and Congress to put partisanship aside and pass a bipartisan recovery package that will help us save lives and get people back on their feet.

Michigan families, frontline workers, and small business owners are counting on the federal government to do the right thing and work together on their behalf."

The UIA estimates that under the program, about 910,000 Michiganders would receive at least \$300 per week in supplemental benefits. The program allows for existing Unemployment Trust Fund payments delivered by Michigan's Unemployment Insurance Agency to count as 25% matching funds required for participation. Eligible claimants will be paid benefits retroactive to August 1. It is unclear at this time how long funding for the program will last.

"This additional \$300 a week will provide

some much needed support to those who are still struggling to make ends meet during this time of extreme need," said Steve Gray, Director of the Unemployment Insurance Agency. "Our goal now is to work as quickly as possible to implement this new program to get people the benefits they need."

At this time, claimants do not have to take any action to receive the additional benefit amount provided by the program. The additional benefits will be added automatically for all claimants who are eligible to receive at least \$100 in weekly unemployment benefit payments. This includes claimants receiving any type of regular unemployment insurance benefits as well as those receiving Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) benefits.

Michigan joins lawsuit against US Postal Service

Lansing, MI — Michigan has joined with a coalition of other states and will be filing a lawsuit against the federal government over recent unlawful changes to the U.S. Postal Service's (USPS) operations while preparing for the potential impacts those changes could have on the country's November general election.

With the support of Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson, Attorney General Dana Nessel announced today that Michigan will join the lawsuit, which is being led by the State of Washington and includes 13 states. The State of Pennsylvania is leading a similar lawsuit.

The lawsuit Michigan joins argues that the changes proposed and already implemented by Postmaster General Louis DeJoy in the short time he has been there are both procedurally and substantively unlawful and threaten the timely delivery of mail to individuals who rely on the USPS for everything from medical prescriptions to ballots.

Under federal law, changes to USPS operations that affect nationwide mail service must be submitted to the Postal Regulatory Commission and the public must be provided an opportunity to comment.

"General DeJoy never engaged in that process here," the lawsuit states. "As a matter of substance, these changes will have a wide range of negative consequences that violate a diverse array of federal laws, from harming individuals with disabilities in violation of the Rehabilitation Act to disenfranchising voters in violation of the Constitution."

The coalition of state Attorneys General ask the Court to compel USPS to submit a proposal requesting an advisory opinion from the Postal Regulatory Commission. It also seeks an injunction prohibiting USPS from implementing operational changes until it has an appropriate advisory opinion from the commission, and asks the Court to order USPS to rescind any changes it already illegally made without that opinion.

The lawsuit will be filed today in U.S. District Court Eastern District of Washington.

"Recent actions taken by Mr. DeJoy are unlawful and indicate an attempt to disrupt and delay U.S. Postal Service operations," Nessel said. "For more than 200 years, the postal service has been a fundamental part of the fabric of this country. People and businesses rely on it to deliver critical medications, correspondence and goods. We filed this lawsuit on behalf of the people of this state to ensure they can continue to depend on a system

that is an integral part of our daily lives, our economic well-being and our democratic process."

Since being named the U.S. Postmaster General in May, DeJoy has implemented several changes that have resulted in or threatened to reduce efficiency and timeliness of mail delivery. Those changes include:

- Eliminating overtime for USPS employees;
- Instructing carriers to leave mail behind for the following day;
- Reducing operating hours;
- Removing mailboxes; and
- Decommissioning sorting machines.

In Michigan, media reports indicate several sorting machines have been removed from post office facilities in Pontiac, Detroit and Grand Rapids. The machines can sort about 270,000 pieces of mail per hour.

The Postal Service also recently notified states that it will end its longstanding practice of processing ballots as first-class mail — regardless of what type of postage is used. States and counties that use marketing or bulk-rate postage for their ballots could experience delays that may prevent some ballots from being counted. First-class mail normally has a delivery standard of 2-5 days, and nonprofit marketing mail has a delivery standard of 3-10 days. For that reason, election officials are reminding voters to mail in their ballots early to ensure their timely arrival before Election Day.

The changes at the Postal Service come as President Donald Trump has continued to baselessly claim that widespread vote-by-mail will lead to a fraudulent election.

The president has also threatened to withhold critical emergency funding for the USPS as part of an overall coronavirus relief package currently being negotiated in Congress.

"President Trump's attempts to sabotage the U.S. Postal Service are deeply disturbing, and we intend to do everything in our power to mitigate their effect on Michigan residents," said Gov. Whitmer. "Americans rely on our Postal Service for prescription drugs, voting, Social Security checks and more. The president is putting families' health and safety at risk in his attempt to suppress votes in the 2020 election. That's why Attorney General Nessel, Secretary Benson and I are fighting these unlawful changes to USPS operations to protect Michigan families."

"Every Michigan citizen has a right to vote by mail, and the U.S. Postal Service is duty-bound to ensure that right is realized for every voter," said Secretary Benson. "The foundation of any

democracy is the holding of safe and secure elections. Any institution — whether local, state or federal — that plays a role in the execution of those elections is part of that foundation. To jeopardize the success of the USPS is to jeopardize the success of our democracy."

In its lawsuit, the coalition of states argues that the changes to the USPS will "delay the receipt and postmarking of mail, harming the health and well-being of residents who depend on the mail for critical and time-sensitive items such as medications, bills, benefits payments, and legal documents. The delayed mail will include mailed ballots, affecting elections of federal, state, legislative, judicial, county, city, town, and district officers scheduled for November 3, 2020."

Attorney General Nessel also thanked U.S. Sen. Gary Peters for his leadership on this issue.

"Sen. Peters was the first to raise the alarm about how mail service delays were harming Michiganders," Nessel said. "I'm grateful for his work to hold Postmaster General DeJoy accountable for changes he made that have left Michiganders stranded without medication, small businesses struggling to reach their customers and voters wondering if they will have to take extraordinary measures this fall to exercise their fundamental right to vote."

As of Aug. 14, Michigan has had more than 90,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19. The scourge of COVID-19 in Michigan has increased reliance on voting by mail by more than 50 percent. In Michigan's previous statewide election in March, fewer than 40 percent of voters cast ballots by mail. In the August election, 65 percent of votes -- or 1.6 million -- were cast by mail, setting a record for a statewide election.

Attorney General Nessel and Secretary Benson have also recently formed a joint internal election integrity work team, bringing experts together from both departments to ensure a safe and secure election where every eligible vote is counted. The team will also develop an aggressive public information and education campaign to remind voters to get their ballots back in time to get counted.

"We are committed to combatting voter suppression, misinformation and intimidation, and ensuring that every eligible vote is received, tallied and reported," said Nessel.

Michigan is joined in the suit by Washington, Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Maryland, Minnesota, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia and Wisconsin.

SPORTS

Pro players protect their hard-won stage, still fight for justice

By Mike Thompson

Friends and acquaintances were advocating a long-term NBA (and WNBA) player boycott in the wake of so many police killings, with Jacob Blake being the latest, and they gave me flak for arguing that the athletes should return and maintain the newly strong forum that they have established.

Don't be a wimp, they argued. We are past the point of being fed up, or as Fannie Lou famously said, sick and tired of sick and being tired. The ballplayers need to hit them hard in their pocketbooks, once and for all.

My counterargument was that a boycott is supposed to be against an enemy. In Montgomery 1955-56, people boycotted the buses. In Birmingham 1963, the local stores. Then, during the Jesse Jackson Operation PUSH era, targets ranged from Coca Cola to Toyota to A&P (and most lately, Kroger for closing urban stores, and so hello, Buena Vista!).

But on the other hand, if the players were to take long-term leave, they would in effect be boycotting themselves, in a most counterproductive manner. They would make a huge splash for a week or so, and then their idle voices would disappear. Don't abandon the microphones that you have worked so hard to earn.

Apparently mine was not the only voice of reason. My wise friend, President Barack Obama (yes, my personal buddy, lol) pretty much counseled the same advice in a phone call with LeBron James, who had been pro-long-term boycott, and union leader Chris "State Farm" Paul.

And the players got off to a running start, proposing a "social justice coalition," which



courtesy photo

they already seem to have unofficially started, and the use of team arenas as November polling places. with loads of social distancing space and room for dozens of voting booths, so that folks will not have to stand in long lines.

Those are items to get started. I also would recommend that the players take leads to strengthen or create independent police conduct review boards not only in their team cities, but also in their own hometowns. Maybe Draymond Green will help us out here in Saginaw. A note to all readers: Contact me at mwtsaginaw@yahoo.com if you would wish to take part in this.

Players also could speak out against covid in prisons. Michigan's 37,500 inmates are suffering a 13 percent rate of infection, a

tragic 10 times higher than the pedestrian rate. No doubt this also is true elsewhere, especially in the Deep South. And at the same time, the athletes also could use their forum to attack mass imprisonment, with an incarceration rate that has increased 600 percent since 1970. Get that? SIX times more people behind bars, black and brown in disproportion.

One more thing. The players could get strongly behind policing reform legislation passed by original Biden VP finalist Karen Bass in the U.S. House, but being stalled, as we might expect, by Moscow Mitch McConnell in the Senate.

<https://www.c-span.org/video/?473911-1/representative-karen-bass-comments-considered-vice-president>

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

MSU Athletics partners with Michigan department of state to encourage civic engagement

Lansing, MI — Democracy is a team sport. Today, Michigan State Athletics is announcing a partnership with the Michigan Department of State and local election officials in Ingham County and the East Lansing City Clerk's office to encourage civic engagement and nonpartisan voter participation among students, student-athletes, alumni, fans, and employees.

"One of my main goals for our student-athletes is to help them make a positive impact on the community during their time here on campus," said MSU Athletic Director Bill Beekman. "There is nothing more essential to our civic responsibility as citizens of this great country than to exercise our right to vote. Partnering with the Michigan Department of State and other election officials is a great opportunity for our student-athletes and staff to engage in the democratic process and encourage other students on campus to also take part in voting this November. Voting is the ultimate manner to let one's voice be heard and an impactful way to take an active role in shaping the community and society in which you want to live."

"I am grateful to the entire MSU Athletics department for their willingness to be leaders, on campus and in the college community, in the efforts to increase voter participation and turnout," said Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson. "This partnership will provide another important opportunity to help ensure voters know their rights and how to exercise them this November."

"I'm proud that my alma mater is stepping up and offering a safe and convenient way for the Michigan State community to both register and vote on campus this fall," said former Spartan All-American, three-time NBA Champion and member of More Than A Vote Draymond Green, who spoke to the football and men's basketball teams on Zoom earlier this summer about the importance of voting.

Goals: Educate, Engage, Empower and Lead

MSU Athletics will engage in the following activities in preparation for the November 2020 statewide election, with the goal to increase voter participation among students and fans on a nonpartisan basis.

- Early voting town halls (virtual): In September and October 2020, MSU Athletics and other campus organizations, including MSUvote, the university's nonpartisan voting initiative, will host "early voting" town halls online to provide voter registration information and answers to other voting questions.
- Support and promote MSU's on-campus clerk's office/satellite voting location: For several weeks in October to Nov. 3, East Lansing City Clerk Jennifer Shuster will host a satellite voting location (opening date/site TBD), where any eligible East Lansing voter will be able to register and vote on site.
- Encourage members of the MSU community to serve as election workers. Students and MSU employees can serve as election workers at the satellite office or elsewhere on Nov. 3.
- PSAs and social media infographics: MSU Athletics teams, coaches and student-athletes will be featured in a series of PSA videos and infographics aimed at voter education.

Congratulations Saginaw Gators for winning runner up at The Las Vegas Classic last weekend!



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PICS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to Jasmine Buckley for graduating from Oakland University and obtaining a Bachelors Degree in Social Work! Jasmine is the granddaughter of Jerome Buckley, Publisher of The Michigan Banner.



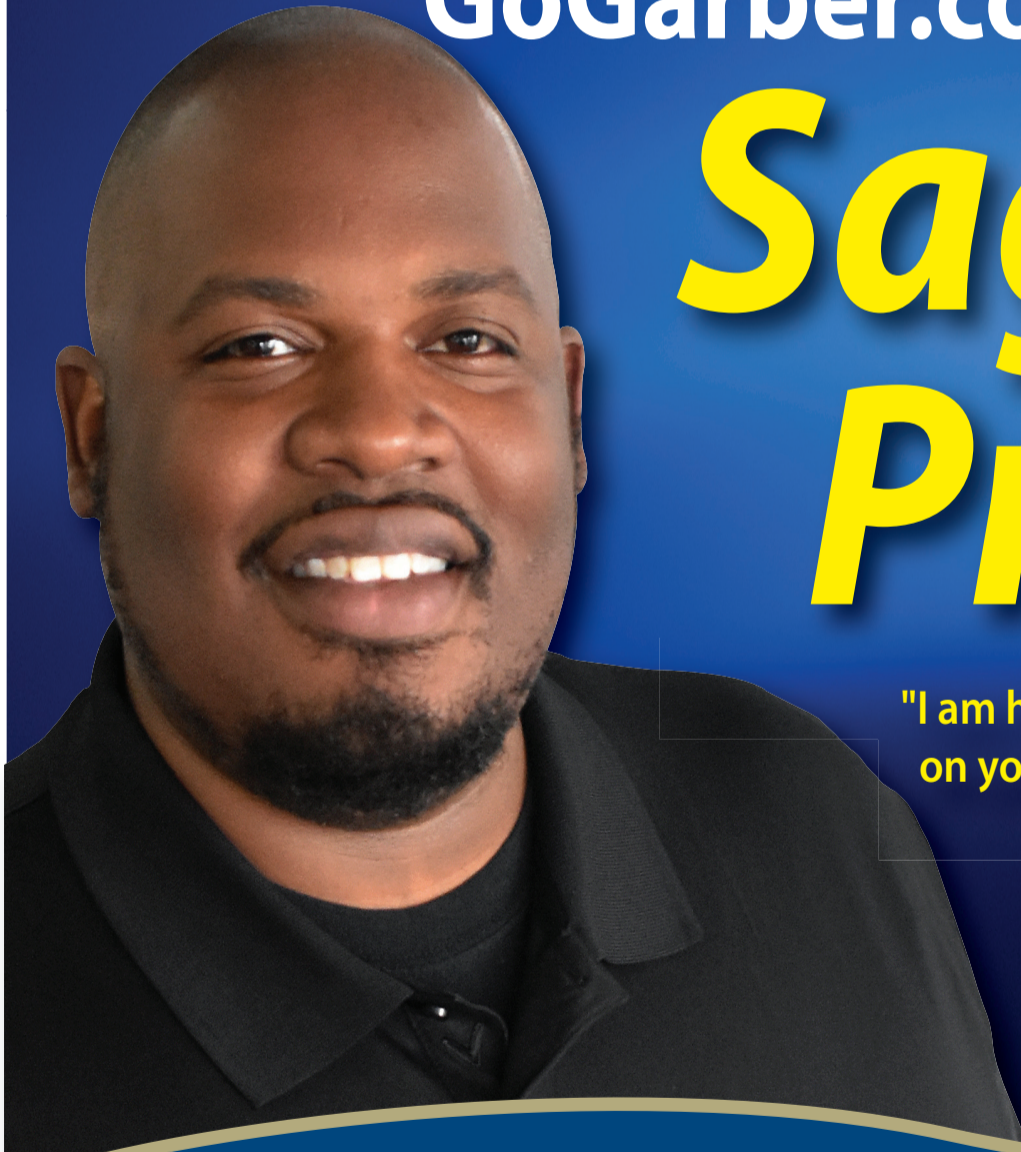
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We

empower.

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



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