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YOUTH BANNER



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YOUTH BANNER, PG 53



COURTESY PHOTO

African Cultural Festival celebrates 53rd birthday

By MIKE THOMPSON

For the Saginaw African Cultural Festival on the weekend of Aug. 13-15, the theme is "Ujamaa," the Kwanzaa principle for cooperative work and responsibilities.

Those qualities have been necessary to bring the 53rd annual celebration at least partially back to the grounds of Morley School Park at 2601 Lapeer, after the covid pandemic restricted patrons to their home computers last summer for a totally virtual event.

Organizers "went back and forth on

what to do" as 2021 rolled into the summer months, says Ralph Martin, festival committee president.

They arrived at a split decision:

- **Friday, Aug. 13**, is canceled, except for a voting rights march at 7 p.m., beginning at the park and extending into adjacent northeast neighborhoods. Efforts

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Church brings life revival for hometown pastor

LATINO BANNER, COVER



Civitan revival? Food Club holds key

COMMUNITY, PG 11



Music Tunes 2021

COMMUNITY, PG 12

FEATURED STORY

'Call me' to troubleshoot covid funds, Kildee says

Recovery Guidelines are set for communities to begin planning

COMMUNITY, PG 14



Continued from cover, African Fest

to restrict and suppress progress are in full scale both in D.C and in Michigan, along with other states. Activists are battling to protect against further threats to the purpose and spirit of the hard-won Voting Rights Act of 1965, enacted in the aftermath of the Selma-to-Montgomery march.

- **Sunday, Aug 15**, will remain virtual, the same as last year, with an online church prayer service starting at 11 a.m. on the Facebook page for Saginaw African Cultural Festival. Sacrificed will be the traditional daylong gospel music performances by local choirs. The service will be conducted by Pastor Craig Tatum of New Life Baptist Ministries, which also oversees the popular Mission in the City outreach project.
- **This leaves Saturday, Aug. 14**, as the breakthrough day, with in-person activities returning from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., including never-ending music and entertainment, topical speakers and workshops, vendors of African clothing and crafts and jewelry, a food tent, and children's activities such as face-painting,

"We are trying to build back up for next year," Martin says, "while at the same time we show everyone that we still are here. We are being very careful and mindful of health and safety, based on state and local mandates. We will practice social distancing and we encourage everyone to wear masks."

Great Lakes Bay Health Centers will offer covid testing and advice on receiving vaccinations. Spectator bleachers for entertainment will not be on-site, and so concert-goers should bring their own portable chairs and seats. Elder patrons will receive motor-cart transport from the parking lots to their chosen festival areas.

No attempt was made to arrange a national or regional headline musical act, Martin adds. "We're giving our locals a chance to showcase their talents."

A new feature this year is the Charles L. McNair Youth Chess Tournament, named for the legendary local educator and festival leader who passed away in December 2019. Prospective age-group participants

should register by noon Saturday.

Out-of-town patrons from Flint or other locales may take I-75 to I-675 to the Veterans Memorial Parkway exit, and then proceed a quarter mile southbound to Lapeer Street.

For advance Saginaw African Festival information, to donate, or to sign up as a vendor, call (989) 992-9184, or visit the Facebook site.

Festival Background

Official history from the Festival Committee:

"The oldest ongoing, three-day Black Arts Festival in the country, the Saginaw African Cultural Festival began in 1969 as the Inner City-Arts Exhibit (ICAE).

"It was begun as a joint project between a grassroots organization and a community-based service agency. These were United Power and the Community Action Committee (CAC) Inc. Although the Black Power activists of United Power and the staff professionals of CAC had many differences, they shared a common interest in raising the consciousness of the African American community, as well as the community at large. United Power and CAC put their differences aside to work for an operational unity. They identified a common goal and worked out an agreement on the action steps and proceeded to make it real. Moving from theory to practice the IC AE was held February 14, 1969, in the old St. Rita's building on Narloch Street.

"The Sphinx Artists Guild was orga-

nized the following year from IC AE Artists. This seemed to be the natural step because United Power and CAC saw community organization as key to the healing process so badly needed in the African American Community.

"Later that year, United Power evolved into Poverty Peoples Alliance, with focus on organizing in the Black community to address community problems. In 1972, the Umoja Arts Council replaced Sphinx Artists Guild. What began as an art exhibit began to take form as the annual Black Arts Festival. With tradition and reason as the guideposts, the Festival has been institutionalized over four decades by an evolving group of dedicated community volunteers.

"In 1989, tradition gave way to reason, and the Black Arts Festival became the African Cultural Festival. The new name distinguishes Africa as the place of our origin, our historical reference, and cultural base."

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

FRI. AUG 13 TH 7PM	A CALL TO ACTION - A MARCH FOR VOTERS RIGHTS	ON THE MORLEY GROUNDS
SAT. AUG 14 TH 10AM - 8PM	OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY AFRICAN DRUM CIRCLE & DANCING LIVE MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT WORKSHOPS & LECTURES CHARLES MCNAIR CHESS TOURNAMENT FOOD & VENDORS INFORMATION TABLES CHILDRENS ACTIVITIES & MORE	ON THE MORLEY GROUNDS
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The Michigan Banner, Latino Banner and Youth Banner operates and serves as a print and online media venue committed to educating, informing and enlightening our readership regarding events and news that directly and indirectly affect the communities regionally and globally. Furthermore, to serve as a catalyst and a link for cultivating young adults as entrepreneurial and business leaders for the future.

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MESSAGE FROM THE PUBLISHER

While I continue to recognize and celebrate the Detroit Tigers Baseball Team as the greatest of all time, I follow and celebrate other teams as well. I follow and celebrate other sports as well. I have been enjoying the victories of the athletes in the Summer Olympics. Win or lose, the competition has been phenomenal with each individual, team and country celebrating with pride and incredible humility. Notice the tears from athletes as they receive their medals – they recognize their wins with honor. When and how to celebrate a victory is important. It says a lot about an individual. Celebrating too soon and with reckless attention to detail can result in unnecessary and costly consequences.

There were many, many examples of early and irresponsible celebrations in sports to choose from for this piece. It seems that the human condition of self-flattery isn't limited to any one sport, gender, age, or title. Some were sad but others hilarious and I admit to watching them over and over again. For example, take the 2020 game between the Seattle Seahawks and the Dallas Cowboys. Seahawks star receiver DK Metcalf fumbles when he eases up, holding the ball in an outstretched hand before crossing the goal line. The Cowboys however, stayed in the game until the very last second, capitalized on his early celebration knocking the ball (which should have been protected until the very end) out of play. In the end, it was Victory Cowboys! Some writers labeled this the blooper of the year. Similar, and even worse examples are recorded in every sport from racing (runners, cars, horses, you name it) to sledding – remaining focused is essential to the win.

Just as it is important to keep your eye on the ball and know when to celebrate in any game or sport, it is critically important that we be aware of our surroundings and the need to remain focused in this game of life. A setback is defined as a reversal or check in progress; a hitch, upset or complication. Setbacks in a sporting event can be devastating as in the game mentioned above – pride suffers a blow, but it is rarely the end of the story. In life, however, these 'setbacks', often the result of complacency, carelessness, or refusal to modify thoughts or behavior, can be more damaging and even fatal if we don't maintain our focus. Choose to survive and come back strong anytime you stumble – remember, you're still standing, the game isn't over yet.

Rely on the facts – emotional decision making is a risky and dangerous game. Research. Research reliable sources. When we're considering the safety and well-being of the people we care about and those we are hired and/or elected to serve, memes, tik tok and twitter do not make the cut! Due diligence requires us to 'dig a little deeper, control the self-pride (remember DK) and make the right choice even when the choice isn't popular. Stay focused on the goal for the win. In sports, a trophy or bragging rights may be the cost. In life, the stakes are much higher – lives may actually be on the line.

Receive the ups and downs, ins and outs with as much patience and tolerance as can be mustered up during times of pressure. All kinds of challenges, even global challenges have been conquered before and certainly will be overcome again. We can come out on the other side unified and victorious if we don't fumble the ball, call foul, or celebrate too soon. This way, everyone dances in the end zone. Stay safe Great Lakes Bay Region, The State of Michigan, America and beyond - hope to see you there.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jerome Buckley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being significantly larger and more stylized.

Jerome Buckley
Publisher, Michigan Banner

Latino Banner

LIDER EN LA DIVERSIDAD

VAMOS ADELANTE



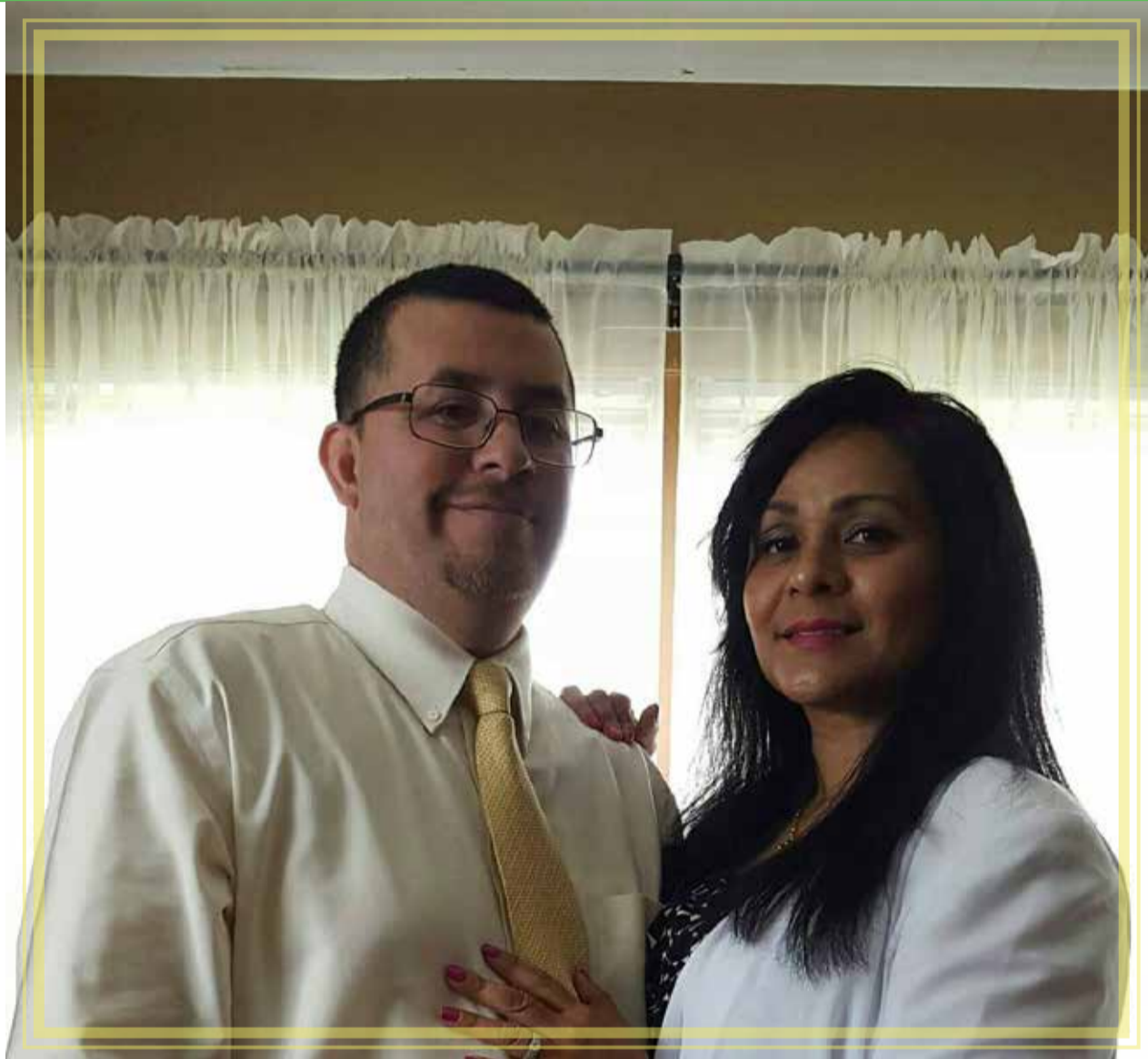
Register for MHCC's 30th annual golf outing

On Monday, August 23, MHCC will host their 30th Annual Golf Outing, which brings together senior-level executives, business owners and purchasing representatives from across the state of Michigan for one of the top Hispanic business development events of the year.

Guests will spend the day among OEM and Tier 1 purchasing management and their direct reports in Supplier Diversity, established business owners of highly successful middle market suppliers, and purchasing representatives from other industries such as banking, energy and information technology.

The outing will take place at Indianwood Golf and Country Club in Lake Orion, MI.

For more information visit www.crm.mhcc.org/events/details/mhcc-30th-annual-golf-outing-450



COURTESY PHOTO

Church brings life revival for hometown pastor

By **MIKE THOMPSON**

If the Rev. Augustine Delgado appears highly spiritual and sanctified at times, there is a reason.

"My parents would take us out to the revivals on Swan Creek Road," recalls the second of four sons of the late Jerry and Velia Delgado, who now is pastor of New Beginnings Ministries Outreach, 701 Hess.

"When I was 6, 7, 8 years old, I loved to get up and sing."

Activities for the past seven years at New Beginnings have reflected that spirit. Tents. Food and clothing giveaways. Thanksgiving turkeys. Guest preaching and teaching. Youth activities and ministry. Back-to-school roundups.

CONTINUES ON LB PG 2, HOMETOWN PASTOR

LATINO BANNER SPONSORED BY GREAT LAKES BAY HEALTH CENTERS & TEAM ONE CREDIT UNION



Continued from LB Cover, hometown pastor



CLAUDIA DELGADO

Parishioners and visitors may take all of these for granted, Delgado says, "but many of them don't know the whole story."

He followed the straight and narrow long enough to graduate from Bridgeport High School in 1991 and to enlist in the Army, but with the daily grind on domestic military base, nightlife and partying took center stage, especially drinking.

"For all those years, I never set foot in a church," he recalls.

Love blossoms

The boozing wasn't bad enough to disqualify him from the Army, but it didn't meet his personal standards.

He encountered a young lady, Claudia, at Fort Hood in Texas.

"We met at a club (on the base)," she notes, with a hearty laugh, "and when I called him back, he at first thought I was a bill collector."

They wedded in 2001. When Augustine returned home to Saginaw a year later with his new bride, she gently and gradu-

ally persuaded him to attend Sunday services with a local Assembly of God congregation.

He soon became a minister himself, but he felt constrained by all of the established, old-time practices.

"I wanted freedom, to do what I believed that I was called to do," he says. He met with a group of eight church mates at the Wendy's on Dixie Highway in Bridgeport, and this was the beginning of New Beginnings.

Unlike some "born again" ministers and followers, Pastor Delgado does not speak of a totally sudden clear-cut turnaround.

He has faced temptations not so much to return to bad habits, but to give up and to quit the strains that go with outreach ministry, even as recently as three years ago, when his father passed away.

"I'm very dependent on my own prayer life," he says, and this extends into his pastor's role.

"We work with all sort of different people here on the South Side, and if you are not for real, they can see right through you," he explains. "I can't take a sermon or an action out of thin air. I don't want to lead any of them astray."

Supporting his family

Augustine relies not on his ministry to support his family. His professional job is weekdays as a Michigan Department of

Social Services caseworker, having worked his way up after beginning at the downtown Jerome Hart DSS headquarters as a security officer. His 15 years in the military also helped to provide a way of entry into his employment.

Claudia always is there as his supporter and organizer, taking care of many of the behind-the-scenes details and now emerging as a more outgoing partner. She says the various outreach efforts, especially the food pantry, "are just like babies, growing in stages... always moving forward."

She adds, "We both are active in the community, both within the church and outside," she says. "Saginaw has been really good to me, with its four seasons and all. My husband is thrilled to have been able to come back home in this way, and our children have a place to work and to live, to raise their own families."

Their children are Jacob, 20, now at Saginaw Valley State University and Micaela, 16, also taking SVSU advance studies while finishing at dad's alma mater, Bridgeport High..

"I had not had the same Biblical studies or the formal seminars as other members of the clergy," Pastor Delgado reflects, "and so basically I just have to follow God."



AUGUSTINE DELGADO



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LLEAD makes Lansing connections

By MIKE THOMPSON

For some of the questions, Lt. Gov. Garlin Gilchrist II openly answered that he was not familiar with specific details.

But offering information to make state leaders more aware was a key purpose of the gathering, said Alberto Flores, president of LLEAD, Latino Leadership for the Enhancement of Advocacy and Development.

He and his wife, Diana, opened their family's lakeside estate near Lansing on July 29 to the state's second-in-command and to an assembly of 50 leaders and activists from 15 Michigan communities, including a major contingent from Saginaw.

"We need to share our best practices and tear down those silos that separate us," said Flores, a former Michigan Department of Civil Rights outreach spe-

cialist who is helping to organize the new statewide coalition in his retirement. "That is what LLEAD is all about."

One issue that Gilchrist vowed to learn more about is an ongoing dispute over a proposed federal shelter in Alma, for Mexico border refugees, that has stirred massive race-based opposition. (See related report on these pages.) Another participant asked about long-term adult sentencing of prisoners convicted as juveniles, a cause of mass incarceration that is out of proportion for Latinos.

Gilchrist told the audience that regardless of the specific issue, the first key is that Gov. Gretchen Whitmer has built "vibrant and diverse" ethnic representation within her own team. He said an initial test was the covid pandemic that broke out only a year after they took office in January 2019, which demanded specific and sensitive

approaches to Latinos who may have remained hidden because of language or immigration fears.

Going a step beyond, the lieutenant governor recognized diversity within the diversity, noting that the Latino population in one community may identify differing goals and approaches than the residents within another.

Saginaw's Daniel Soza III, LLEAD vice-present, posed a challenge while the lanky Gilchrist stood by his side.

"What are our goals?" Soza asked. "Can we hand them down to our children and grandchildren? Can we start to build a foundation today?"

Supporters who wish to learn more may visit the website, llead.org.



Alma immigration debate resumes

By MIKE THOMPSON

An emerging civil rights issue in mid-Michigan may come to a decision point in early August.

A Gratiot County proposal to use a vacant former nursing home as a temporary federal shelter for older immigrant children, separated from their families will return to Alma Planning Commission during a session set for 6 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 4, at the local high school, 1500 Pine.

If the planning panel offers a yes-or-no recommendation, the question could go to the Alma City Council as soon as the next regular meet at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 10.

The subject in question are refugees, ages 12 to 17, who have fled from their Central American homelands because of oppressive living conditions that are publicized in national news coverage at the Rio Grande border. The feds take custody, for an average of 45 days, before foster or adoptive homes are found. In rare cases, the adolescents and teens are reunited with their families.

As the Latino Banner has reported, Alma is in the spotlight because a large group has formed in opposition, citing such familiar fears as gang violence and

transmission of Third World diseases. An audience of 400 gathered in July, with the foes clearly outnumbering those who spoke in humanitarian favor of providing aid for the temporary immigrants. The Planning Commission voted for a delay, which is the reason for this month's August follow-up.

Meetings normally are at City Hall, 525 East Superior, but the unprecedented audience sizes have led to the switch to the high school auditorium.

The proceedings are open to the general public outside of Alma, and anyone may register to speak. Several Saginaw leaders took part in July and they are urging larger numbers to get involved by heading out M-46 for the Aug. 4 and possibly the Aug. 10 meetings.

One method to keep track of developing news is via the small town's website, myalma.org. Another is simply to Google search for "Alma immigration."



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+ COMMUNITY



TINA SWANTON,

Civitan revival? Food Club holds key

By MIKE THOMPSON

By 2023, Saginaw's vacant Civitan Center could become home to the "Saginaw Community Food Club and Kitchen," an effort to tackle the long-standing concern over lack of a major grocery source on the city's East Side.

The Civitan facility is a leading site-selection contender for a project that could launch a revolution in the low-income "food dessert" that is isolated multiple miles from such major outlets as Kroger, Meijer and Walmart/Sam's Club, says organizer Tina Swanton.

She spoke recently to a group of local grassroots volunteers who gathered at the Houghton-Jones Neighborhood Resource Center. Swanton is the program manager with the 14-year-old Michigan Health Improvement Alliance (MiHIA), leading the initiative "Access and Quality of Food."

Her pathway toward this current project began three years ago, when she joined the Food Access Collaboration Team of Saginaw (FACTS), a group of 25 partners that aims to improve food access countywide.

Tina states, "When FACTS started, the main purpose was to have regular conversations to help reduce duplications of services. FACTS believes that no one should suffer from the lack of food and that we can work together as a community to ensure this."

Members are working together to build public awareness, both through day-to-day food distribution efforts and through special projects, such as the longer-term plan to establish the Food Club.

Role models for Saginaw

The concept, similar to old-time food co-ops but with far lower prices, already is in

place in multiple areas across the state, allowing Saginaw to replicate a successful model. Grand Rapids often pops up first on a Google search.

Low to moderate-income households would pay "sliding scale" fees in the range of \$11 to \$15 a month in exchange for "points" determined by number in the household to monitor quantities of their self-selected items.

For example, this year's federal poverty line for a family of four is \$26,500, and in Saginaw County, 17 percent are below the standard. But when the max is set at double, of 200 percent, nearly half of families qualify.

This means a family of four earning \$53,000 would pay \$13 a month for 60 points, or \$120 worth of food, with more food going to a lower-income household. Clearly, this would reduce the need for the frequent giveaways that we see nowadays.

Meanwhile, the community kitchen help partners to expand programs, such as cooking or canning classes. The kitchen will allow for samples to be prepped, for people to try a variety of produce before selecting.

New life for Civitan?

The Civitan Center closed amid City Recreation budget cuts during the late 1990s. It has survived the demolition of the formerly connected Longstreet School. Various stories and rumors have come and gone regarding local professional athletes adopting the building for rescue, but none have come to fruition.

Among the Civitan's selling points are a large parking lot and handicap access, along with an I-675 link for delivery trucks.

Swanton's current agenda is to organize support and a financial pledge campaign. Among FACTS partners listed on the Food Club brochure are the Saginaw Community Foundation, United Way of Saginaw County, Ascension St. Mary's-Center of HOPE, Great Lakes Bay Health Centers, the Saginaw Intermediate School District, Saginaw Valley State University, and Tina's own former roots, the YMCA of Saginaw.

Familiar leaders on the 29-member board are Christina Dillard, Buena Vista Township supervisor; Sandra Lindsay, County Mental Health CEO; Monica Reyes, director of the Great Lakes Bay Hispanic Leadership Institute; and Pastor Craig Tatum of New Life Baptist Ministries, leader of Mission in the City.

Contributions may be offered via saginawfoundation.thankyou4caring.org, selecting Saginaw Community Food Club. The startup fund-raising goal is about \$3.5 million.

+ COMMUNITY

Museum Tunes

2021



By RUMI WILSON

The Saginaw Art Museum's free summer concert series Museum Tunes 2021 is taking place outdoors on the grounds of the beautiful gardens behind the main building on North Michigan Avenue. All are welcome to attend. For details go to www.saginawartmuseum.org.

Upcoming concert for August, Wednesday on the 10th of the month, will be the not to be missed singer Monique Ella Rose.

Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and the live music starts at 7:00 p.m. Attendees are free to chat, wander the hedges of the English like garden grounds, or get excellent seats in anticipation of the evening's music artists. People can bring their own chairs, while a few rows of seats are provided. Refreshments are available for a nominal price.

The first concert of the free monthly summer music events established the high bar that the Saginaw Art Museum marketing director Thor Rasmussen and events manager Benjamin Champagne are setting for area music and art lovers.

From the opening strains of the sound-check, a man remarked to laughter that the pre-concert playlist sounding from the speakers could be his favorite part of the evening's music. It just got better as the night went on.

The featured act of solo artist Jordan Hamilton, from Kalamazoo by way of Washington, D.C., started things off. In stunning riffs of polyrhythmic, hip hop and classical musical influences combined there was nary an off note. People sunk deep into the gorgeous set of original songs and roared their approval. Even small children attending were lured by the strangely hypnotic music and propped themselves on their elbows or folded themselves into lotus positions to focus on the pied piper's thumbing cello and its effects.

High above the soaring music, first seagulls and then a hawk jetted across the evening sky. Below, in the gardens of the art museum, beauty overloaded rapt concert goers. The crowd softly chanted back "Love, peace, gratitude, forgiveness" to the lyrical Jordan Hamilton and his funking cello.

Humming among the diverse crowd,



MONIQUE ELLA ROSE

Mr. Hamilton's generated good vibes kept people's smiles wide and expectations high during the musical interlude. To the excitement of their fans, the local band Kalysta opened their set with a rocking version of Aretha Franklin's "Chain of Fools". Among a series of scintillating covers, Kalysta's haunting rendition of Etta James' "I'd Rather Go Blind" featuring the amazing vocals of lead singer Kalysta Sylvester highlighted a strong and tight performance for the night.

In all, the wonderful evening served as a small reminder how great but short-lived summer can be. The next time to re-discover will be Wednesday, August 10th, 7:00 p.m. at the Saginaw Art Museum (doors open at 6:00 pm for the free show). The last concert will be showcasing Monique Ella Rose. Ms. Rose is a Saginaw born, Detroit raised and universally acclaimed singer. Her stirring music mixes soul and jazz influences with inspirational messages. It looks to be a groovy concert!



MUSEUM TUNES 2021

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+ COMMUNITY

'Call me' to troubleshoot covid funds, Kildee says

Recovery guidelines are set for communities to begin planning

By MIKE THOMPSON

Federal covid-aid rules generally are in place, says Congressman Dan Kildee, for how local officials can -- and cannot -- decide how to spend their influxes of monies to combat the pandemic's harm to public health and everyday life.

The oncoming shares are \$65 million for Saginaw city schools, \$52 million for City Hall, and \$37 million for Saginaw County operations. Suburban and small town governments and schools will receive less per capita because they contain less poverty.

"Some of (the guidelines) are easier to interpret than others," Kildee said in a July 28 interview with the Michigan Banner, "but a lot of it is pretty clear already."

The dollar amounts represent historic sums of federal aid, exceeding totals even from the 1960s/70s War on Poverty, even when adjusted to inflation. Still, scant levels of public interest or input have come forth. A handful of activists are speaking out, not pushing for specific programs but expressing that the School Board, the City Council and the County Board of Commissioners in general have been too slow to get started.

In response, local officials have said they are acting with caution and awaiting more federal guidance, mainly because they wish to avoid making false promises that might be at risk of being overturned within the federal bureaucracy. As recently as the July 26 Council meeting, Mayor Brenda Moore said advisors and consultants "are (advising) the city to slow it down, to slow it down."

Kildee said his role is to avoid getting involved in local debates over how to spend the funds, with obvious exceptions such as criticizing a highly-publicized attempt by some Shiawassee County officials to reward themselves up to \$25,000 apiece

in corona virus "hazard pay."

He doesn't even want to step into lower-profile differences such as timetables, such as exist in Saginaw.

If a desired spending item or idea is in doubt, the Congressman suggests that local officials relay the eligibility question to his office so that he can "advocate" for a streamlined answer, one way or another, usually from U.S. Department of Treasury administrators.

Responses so far

Local action during recent months has been scant, leaving very little news to report, other than that the size of the dollar amounts is unprecedented:

- Saginaw's City Council aims to get started during a day-long planning session on Friday, Sept. 17, overseen by Public Sector Consultants, long-time advisors, under a \$10,000 contract.
- The County Board has not discussed or acted heading into its traditional August break.
- The School Board passed a resolution in May asking for top priority, in tandem with the city and the county, be given for youth centers and activities. Members have not acted since then.

Kildee is in his ninth year in Congress after serving as a Flint school trustee, a Genesee County commissioner and then as the county's treasurer.

He explained that governing units could use covid aid monies to relieve harm to homeowners and businesses, for hazard pay to covid-fighting frontline workers in roles such as health care and public safety,



COURTESY PHOTO

for water-sewer and broadband functions, and to offset pandemic-caused operation costs.

Schools actually gained some funds because facilities were shut down. Still, they qualify for building re-opening safety improvements such as ventilation costs, and mainly to address "learning losses" with activities that may range from reduced class sizes to after-school learning.

Both categories are open to new and creative ideas, the Congressman says,

"We have both a health crisis and an economic crisis," he notes. "and people who are poor are impacted more by covid. This opens us up to a broad set of uses (for the funds)."

Silence echoes

Saginaw school and city leaders did not immediately respond to the Michigan Banner's invitation to respond to Congressman Kildee's remarks.

Citizen activist Jeffrey Bulls, meanwhile, offered some feedback.

"Our response is simple," Bulls said. "Nobody is asking for the city to make decisions they would have to rescind later. All we ask is for them is to listen to the needs of the community in open forums, in meetings where folks can share their ideas.

"This isn't a one-and-done deal. (Federal aid) is here to respond to our community's needs. The city needs to be actively listening to the community to determine what those needs are, not making decisions behind closed doors and telling us about it later.

He concludes, "How much involvement does the city plan on truly committing to listening to citizens with action plans? Where's the transparency?"

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COURTESY PHOTO

Construction underway to update Garber Courts

Project will bring 16 new tennis and pickleball courts to the city of Saginaw

Saginaw, MI – Construction is officially underway to revitalize Garber Courts in Saginaw, bringing 16 new state-of-the-art tennis and pickleball courts to the community.

The six courts that currently make up Garber Courts, located at 1760 Fordney Street in the city of Saginaw, were badly deteriorated and unrepairable. Now they are currently being transformed into a multi-court, multi-sport complex for public use, featuring:

- 8 tennis courts
- 8 new pickleball courts
- Multi-use building and picnic area
- Accessible courts
- Accessible restrooms
- Equipment storage building

Ken LeCureux with the Saginaw-based Urban Racquet Sports Foundation (formerly known as the Urban Youth Tennis Foundation) is helping drive the project, alongside friend and organization colleague Pharrington Douglass. He said the revitalization should “hopefully be com-

pleted by the end of August or first of September.”

William A. Kibbe & Associates, Inc., is engineering the updates to the courts, while Spence Brothers Construction is serving as the construction manager.

“They are both city-based and their heart is in this project, too,” LeCureux said. “Along with financial donations, all contractors have contributed significant in-kind donations.”

The total budget for the court renovation is \$2.2 million. Thanks to the generosity of local foundations, businesses and individuals, the organization (also doing business as Friends of Garber Courts, and Urban Youth) has raised close to \$2 million, LeCureux said. But he added, “We still need more in order to accomplish our goals and see this project through to completion.”

Garber Courts: The Origins

If you want to know the origin of the Garber Courts, look no further than its name.

Originally built in 1949, the courts are named after Guy “Ike” Garber Jr.: an avid tennis player and Arthur Hill High graduate. He went on to play tennis at the University of Miami, winning numerous national tournaments with tennis great, Poncho Segura.

Garber convinced his father — Guy S. Garber, founder of Garber Automotive Group — to build courts in the city of Saginaw. Ike wanted to ensure the sport could be enjoyed by all.

Dick Garber, president of Garber Management Group and Ike’s nephew, said he is excited about the Garber Courts update.

“We are very excited for the court revitalization,” Garber said. “This project emphasizes how impactful changes can take place when someone raises their hand and says, ‘Let’s do it.’ We are grateful to Ken and Pharrington for spearheading this project, as well as the organizations, businesses, foundations and individuals for the support to make this happen.”

CONTINUES ON LB PG 17, GARBER COURTS

+ COMMUNITY

Continued from pg 16, Garber Courts



GARBER COURTS GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY

Garber added, “My uncle loved tennis, but most of all, he loved the idea of sharing the game with our community. We are excited for this next chapter of Garber Courts, which will continue to add elements of fun, community and competition to Saginaw.”

LeCureux said Garber has been involved with the courts historically, and the support continues to this day.

“The Garber family was responsible for the original courts being built,” he said. “Today, Garber is a donor and amazing community supporter, carrying on the family tradition of giving back to its community.”

Garber Courts: A New Chapter

LeCureux and Douglass (who birthed the original idea of founding Saginaw’s Urban Youth Tennis Foundation) have hosted youth tennis camp programs at the Garber Courts since 2006. In the winter they took their programs to elementary schools and recreation centers.

Both LeCureux and Douglass grew up playing tennis on Garber Courts. The passion for the project to improve the facility was born out of their desire to continue to positively impact inner-city kids’ lives through tennis.

“As my friend and colleague Pharrington likes to say, tennis is the hook,”

LeCureux said. “It helps us teach kids positive character qualities and have positive influences in their young lives. Our urban youth often live in many different social environments, and we try to show them how tennis and its disciplines can help them interact anywhere in the world with anyone.”

LeCureux said he “got fired back up in 2019, after being discouraged about the possibility for a few years, to really go after revitalizing the courts.”

“What kept us going was our passion to mentor and minister to kids about the more important things in life,” he said. “And we didn’t want to abandon the dream of a facility that could broaden that ideal. We knew we were going to make an impact with it.”

“We said, ‘Let’s go for it, let’s achieve our dream,’” LeCureux added. “I asked Renee Johnston with the Saginaw Community Foundation: ‘Do you think there’s money in our community to accomplish our dream?’ And she said ‘yes’. That’s all the encouragement we needed.”

Looking Ahead

Once the courts are finished, the plan is to host tennis and pickleball tournaments, as well as continue the public youth tennis (and now pickleball) programs.

“These courts will bring an economic benefit to Saginaw,” he said. “Hosting tournaments can also help bring excitement to our area. With tennis bringing in the youth and pickleball appealing to an older demographic, we are excited about more and more youth getting connected with adults.”

LeCureux said a goal is to reach 100 kids with tennis and pickleball programs each summer: a substantial increase from the 30-40 kids they’ve reached annually in the past. They also would like to help replicate the success of influencing local students to receive college scholarships to play tennis.

He said watching the courts come full circle from playing on them many years ago is inspiring.

“Knowing that what we grew up with can continue 50-60 years later and the legacy...knowing how much fun we had growing up on these courts and have it take on a new life...it’s heartwarming,” LeCureux said.

If you would like to contribute to the Garber Courts revitalization project, you can donate to Friends of Garber Courts at the Saginaw Community Foundation. For donation information, visit <https://saginawfoundation.thankyou4caring.org/scf> or donate via check to: Saginaw Community Foundation, 1 Tuscola, Ste100; Saginaw, MI, 48607; with “Friends of Garber Courts” in the memo box.



COURTESY PHOTO



GARBER COURTS GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY

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COURTESY PHOTO

Council forms an island of silence on Ojibway's fate

By MIKE THOMPSON

Most Saginaw City Council members are dodging a decision on the future of Ojibway Island, switching the burden to City Manager Tim Morales.

Their interpretation of the 1936 City Charter allows them to do so.

The document states that the Council's role is to set overall policy, while the Manager is responsible for day-to-day operations.

So, is Ojibway's fate a part of overall policy? Or is it merely a day-to-day operation? This is the dilemma.

Mayor Brenda Moore and five members -- Michael Balls (pro-tem), Annie Boensch, Bill Ostash, Autumn Scherzer, and Reggie Williams II -- have indicated

they will place Ojibway decisions in the hands of Morales.

Councilwoman Monique Lamar Silvia definitely feels the opposite. Also, possibly, do George Copeland and Michael Flores. They constitute the trio of members newly elected last November.

At the July 26 meeting, Silvia questioned what had appeared to be a Council-directed vote in late June to close the popular island park to vehicle traffic.

In response, as though they had planned for Silvia's inquiry, Morales brought Balls to the forefront. Balls said he indeed had made the late-June action motion for a restricted parking area at Ojibway's entrance, but that the decision for closing the circle drive with barricades had come from Morales.

Surprise, surprise, especially for residents who during the controversy have directed their views to their elected representatives.

Copeland then joined the discussion, pleading to restore an open roadway at least on Sundays, the most popular Ojibway day for family gatherings and after-church activities. Morales responded that he would consider the idea, especially if churches combined to submit an organized plan. Mayor Moore closed the meeting abruptly.

At the Michigan Banner, the non-agenda outburst caused us to immediately survey council members with an email note that first was sent on July 27, the day after the sudden Ojibway discussion, and then repeated on each of the following three days.

Williams was the only member of the nine to respond, as members who had cooperated with past surveys suddenly went silent on this one.

"Parks and rec are a part of day-to-day operations and should be handled by the manager," Williams wrote. "The (Ojibway) rules should proceed how the manager sees fit."

Confusion over the Ojibway scenario has dominated ever since the park closing in April. City officials issued a press statement that indicated covid-19 was the main concern, even though discussion focused on misconduct by some park patrons, including speeding onto the lawn in ways that could endanger others, especially elders and even excessive littering.

The Council's next meeting is at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 9. They have resumed in person after more than a year of being computerized.

In a referendum, Saginaw residents in 1935 voted to change the form of government and to increase the appointed manager's powers because of reports of corruption and nepotism during the previous years among an elected mayor and four elected department heads. The reforms took effect in January 1936.

The full City Charter section says the manager "is the chief administrative officer of the city government and upon whom is placed the responsibility for efficient operation of the city." In effect, the council is similar to a corporate board, with the manager as CEO.



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Four Person Scramble - Includes: 18 Holes with Cart, Driving Range, Hot Dog & Chips at the Turn, BBQ Chicken Dinner and Awards Presentation

GOLF PER PERSON - \$150

GOLF FOURSOME TEAM - \$600

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 Total Amount for **Sponsorship** \$ _____
 I would like to make a **Donation** \$ _____
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Team Name _____
 Player #1 _____
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*Saginaw Community Foundation is the fiscal agent for Saginaw Promise

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BOOK REVIEW

Civil rights courage? He's 'The Man'

By MIKE THOMPSON

Some of the best and most insightful civil rights stories come from names we may recognize but not hear much regarding.

My latest example is the Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth of Birmingham. He was one of the most devoted soldiers for Dr. King, Ralph Abernathy, Andrew Young, all the insider leaders. Also, at times, he was their biggest pain in the rear. A diplomat he was not.

This can be seen simply by observing the title and the cover of the biography compiled by author Andrew Manis. The tome was composed 22 years ago and Shuttlesworth passed away during the past decade, but this story is as alive as any.

During the late 1950s, Bull Conner's main rival wasn't MLK, but Fred Shuttleworth. Conner helped to plot a bombing of the reverend's Bethel Baptist church and parsonage. That didn't work, so he tried again. Not. Then, a contracted assassination attempt. Still no go. Pastor Shuttleworth lived to age 89, but it was through God's grace that he even made it halfway there.

To make matters worse, Connor tried to frame Shuttleworth in a sex scandal, and alleged that the clergyman planted those bombs himself as publicity stunts.

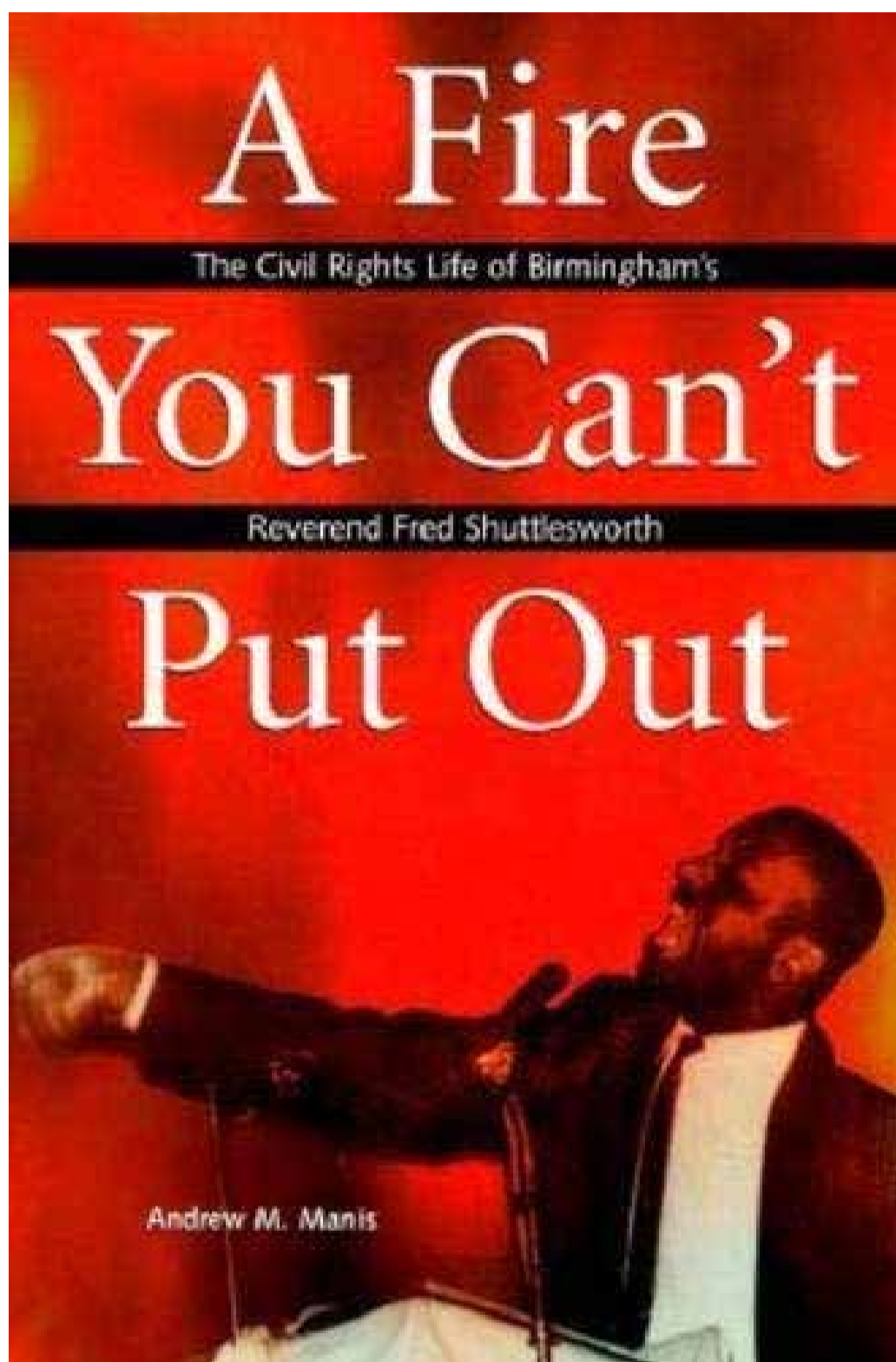
This was only the 1950s. To celebrate the arrival of the 1960s, our hero joined the original Freedom Riders and had the tar beaten out of him a couple times. He endured another whipping when he attempted to enroll his daughters in white schools. If anyone was best prepared for Birmingham '63 and Selma '65, Fred Shuttlesworth was the one.

Friends described him as "crazy," often with unprintable adjectives preceding, but in this case profanities of love and admiration.

Seems Pastor Shuttleworth was so far into Dr. King's strategy, he was more like King than King himself. At the same time, he had a strident Malcolm X personality. He wasn't the most popular character among the fellow co-activists, whom he would sometimes describe as sellouts and Uncle Toms.

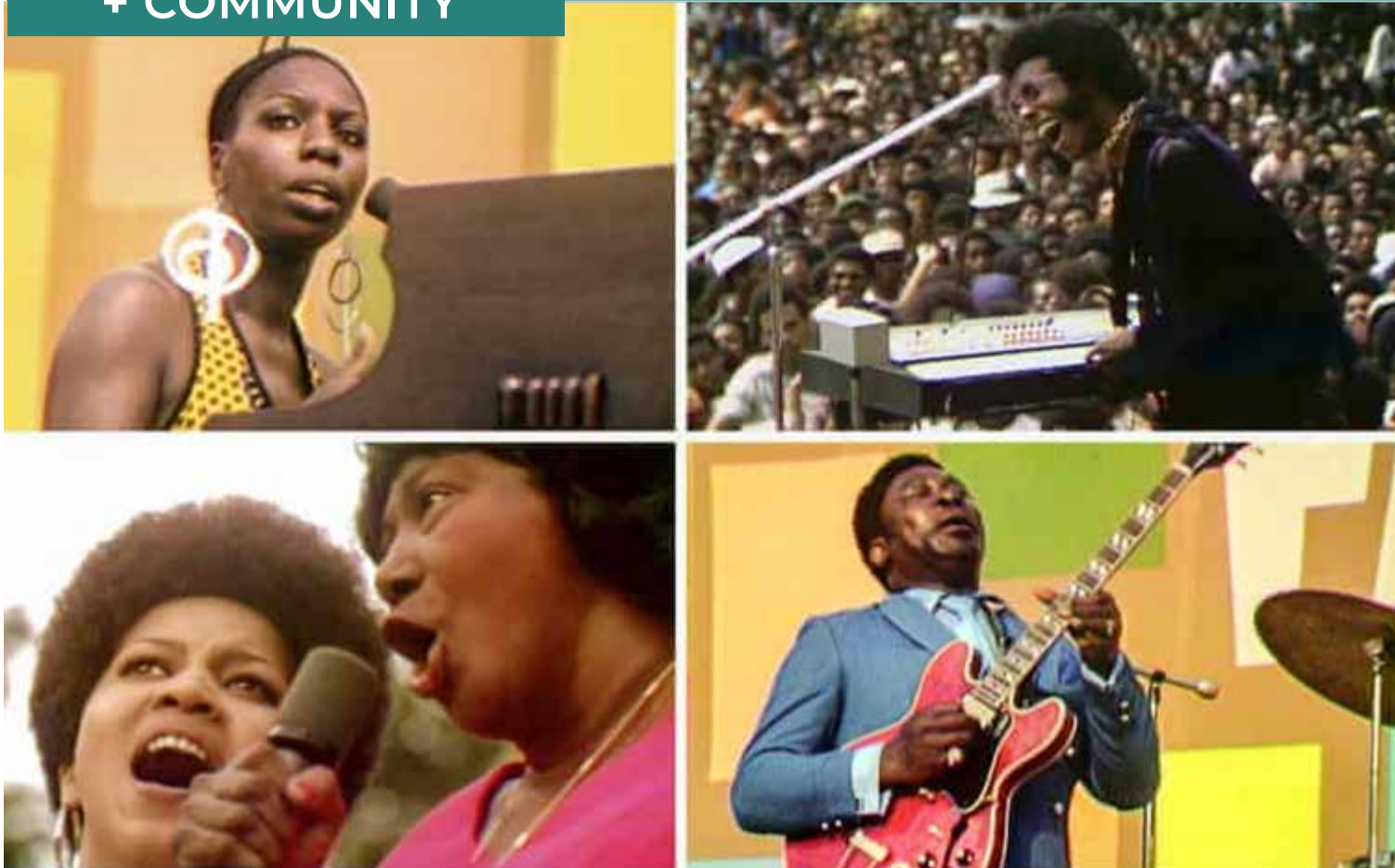
Can't put the book down. Should be back at the library soon, and if you don't go to Hoyt, you can order it at any other in the region through intralibrary exchange.

Someone should make a movie.



REVEREND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR AND REVEREND FRED SHUTTLESWORTH

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COURTESY PHOTO

Summer of Soul: A Tale of Two Stories

By RUMI WILSON

“**Summer of Soul**” is a very remarkable film. It emotionally resonates with raw truth and great music. During the summer of 1969, six concerts were staged inside Mount Morris Park, now Marcus Garvey Park. Dubbed the Harlem Cultural Festival, the concerts averaged 50,000 (more than 300,000 participants total) standing room attendance. The musical entertainers ran the gamut from the 19 year-old Stevie Wonder and Gladys Knight to Nina Simone and Mahalia Jackson to Sly and the Family Stone and the Fifth Dimension. An ever-dapper New York DJ who hosts each of the six concerts, Tony Lawrence emerges as an unlikely hero who helped organize and promote the shows that summer in Harlem. Unbelievably, the 47 hours of archival footage, shot reverently by Hal Tulchin, remained undiscovered in his basement for fifty years.

“Summer of Soul (...Or When the Revolution Could Not be Televised)” is the

directorial debut of The Roots Questlove, aka Ahmir Thompson. The film captures not just the sounds, but an awakening consciousness among Black Americans at the end of the nineteen sixties. Black Power, Black Panthers, Black is Beautiful, Say it Loud I’m Black and I’m Proud, To be young, gifted and Black; uplifted Blackness manifested a revolutionary change in American culture. (Saginaw, in the same summer of 1969, hosted the Inner-City Arts Exhibit. 52 years later, according to Saginaw African Cultural Festival organizers, it remains the longest running Black arts event in the country).

Somehow, simultaneously while the Woodstock Festival staged in Bethel, New York captured the world imagination, and was turned into a celebrated money-making, landmark movie a year later, the Harlem Cultural Festival concerts attracted no film or TV companies. The white media companies and controllers simply didn’t want it. Separated by only about one hundred miles, the two festivals in 1969 highlighted a liberating time period

in American history. But it was a tale of two stories that Woodstock became instant legend and the Harlem Cultural Festival went largely forgotten.

Time capsule, mental space trip, soul travelogue, “Summer of Soul” rewards viewers with mind blowing insights. Black Harlemites’ reactions to the man on the moon landing that summer are contrasted with white reactions. Jesse Jackson vividly describes Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s last words before his murder on the Lorraine Motel balcony in Memphis. A visibly weary Mahalia Jackson recruits

Mavis Staples for a throwdown version of “Precious Lord”. Artists are moved to tears describing their feelings watching themselves performing in their youth. Puerto Rican and other Latino artists perform alongside their Black brother and sister musicians, and white musicians on stage simply astonish members of the overwhelmingly Black audience in 1969.

The Guardian called this film the best music documentary ever made. Winner of two major prizes at the prestigious Sundance Film Festival, “Summer of Soul” will be hitting the theaters soon. It is now available for streaming only on Hulu, which offers various length free trials for home viewers. Edited for a length of one hour and fifty-seven minutes, the pride, solidarity, and palpable feeling of togetherness that permeates the film’s entirety bring back memories of how strong the vibes were in 1969.

Generations of all races would do well to watch and discuss “Summer of Soul”. It represented a turning point in history and this film does as good a job as any one documentary in showing why Black is where it is at. It might make you realize how much we miss and how much we owe 1969. It might make you want to put on some bell bottoms, fringe or a double-breasted jacket. It might make you wear an Afro in your heart.



Your Voice Your Choice Youth Consortium



**VIRTUAL MEETING
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**TUESDAY,
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5:00 P.M.**



Women of Colors is forming the 2nd annual consortium of youth to help plan an event for teens to have a voice to share inspirational stories of their interest, entertainment, educational workshops, and resources with other teens in Saginaw County.

Students of all backgrounds and ethnicities are welcome.

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MICHIGAN BANNER
SERMONETTE SERIES

By faith

(Hebrews 11)



By **PASTOR RODRICK A. SMITH**
ZION MISSIONARY BAPTIST
CHURCH

Biblical faith is believing that God is who He says He is, and that He will do what He says He will do. It is trusting and believing God. Biblical faith also involves attaching one's self to God. God is not one to be used during times of need and want by those who are not attached to Him through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. When we exercise genuine saving faith, we attach ourselves to God, a relationship is established, and He becomes our Father and we become His children. From that point forward we begin to reverence, honor, and serve Him exclusively. As a result He takes responsibility for our welfare. But one other thing needs to be emphasized. Genuine saving faith always leads to obedient actions. In the 11th chapter of Hebrews the emphasis is on what the people of God did "by faith." It's about their trust and belief, their attachment to God, and their obedience to Him. Eighteen times in this chapter we read "By faith." One time in this chapter we read "By it." Two times in this chapter we read "Through his faith." A person may say that they believe and trust God; that they are attached to Him. But the acid test of obedient action is what makes the difference. If your name was included in the faith hall of fame, what would follow the words "By faith?"



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I'M JUST THINKING.....

By PASTOR HURLEY J. COLEMAN, JR., WORLD OUTREACH CAMPUS CHURCH

*Therefore
I have hope*

"Remembering mine affliction and my misery, the wormwood and the gall. My soul hath them still in remembrance and is humbled in me. This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope." Lamentations 3:19-21 (KJV)

I often look for references that support what I am feeling in certain moments of my life. I look for references in literature, scripture, and even on Facebook. I want to find some reason to feel comfortable with whatever is going on, whether it is joy or pain, sunshine or rain. I want to find ways to normalize the present with a reference from the past. Lately I have not been as successful as I have in the past.

We are living in a day where the norms that we always knew are no longer normal. Everything seems to be different. We have experienced a once in a lifetime occurrence in a world wide pandemic that is current all over the world, at the same time. Past issues of this magnitude would occur and we would hear about them some time after the event. Today, what happens in India today, we know it today. What happens in Japan last night affects the market this morning. We have a worldwide new normal that is in constant change. In fact, constant change is the new normal, in many cases.

What is so troubling is that there are some things that we thought had changed, or improved that we are now finding really have not. I heard someone just recently reacting to the conversations about racial disparities in this country and describing it as "beating a dead horse." The truth is that the horse called racism is not dead.

It is not just racism, but the economic disparities, the social segregation, the educational imbalance that are all still critical issues with our communities. The challenge that I see is that the present circumstances seem so abnormal because we are living in times that have no recent experience to relate to. These are days that few have seen and most have not.

I think of the national push to reduce the access the voting rights through restrictive legislation. I think of the constant flow of misinformation, disinformation, and outright revision of history. I think of the continuing polarization of our political positions, and

how that is influencing decisions about health, education, law enforcement, economic investments in communities, and legislative decisions on every level: local, state, and federal.

I have been really listening to my peers in ministry leadership and I am hearing a growing concern over relevance in this new "normal" of digital/virtual ministry. It is very unfamiliar territory for most of us, and the challenge is for both leaders and parishioners. The role of the faith leader in our communities has never been more critical than it is today. In all of this, the void created by our inability to comfortably be in the physical presence of each other is crippling to the "way we have always done things."

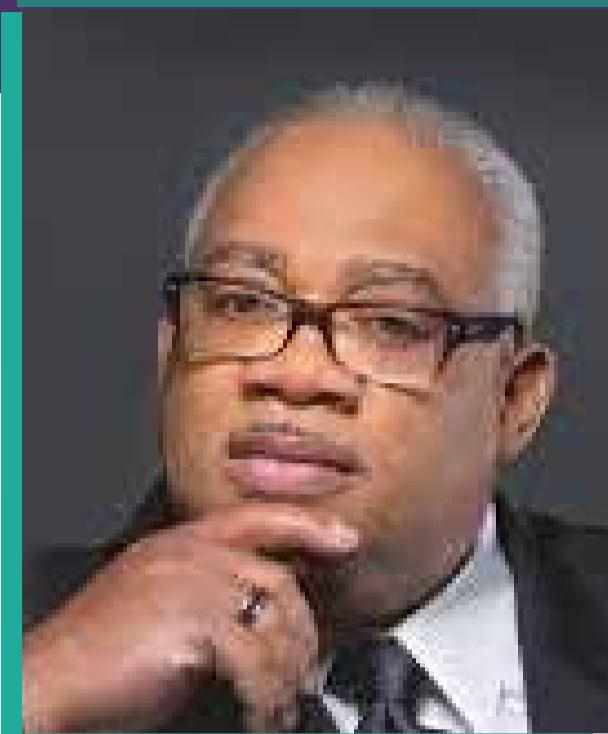
I think about the opportunities that we have to impact the way that political districts are being drawn and realize that we are the first generation of citizens in our lifetime that will have that ability in Michigan. It is so critical that we push past the fear of the "new normal" and truly do something that we have never done before.

I see the constant information about the vaccines and the pandemic and am challenged by the strong positions of people relative to the choice to get the vaccine. While African Americans have a legitimate apprehension relative imposed mandates and restrictions, we must also be aggressive in pursuing all that we can to fight this virus, together.

I see so many young people who are intentionally getting active in the political process as it relates to the activities of the City of Saginaw (water shut offs, federal funding for Covid relief, future planning), and the encouraging increasing number of voices from that group in the public dialogue.

I remember the history of the black church during the period of time immediately after slavery was outlawed in this country that is called "Reconstruction." It was the bold and aggressive leadership of the faith community that created the HBCU's, and encouraged entrance into local, state, and national politics. I think of the young people that were active in the voter registration drives of the 1960's, and the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), the the young pastors who formed the Southern Christian Leadership Council (SCLC) that produced the platform for a young articulate preacher to speak to the nations, even the world. Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King was in his 30's when he was assassinated in Memphis while supporting an effort to increase the pay for black sanitation workers.

When I look for points of reference to give balance to the present circumstances, the words of the Prophet Jeremiah provide great



encouragement for me. Even though we are living in times unlike our current historical experience, and even though we have seen and felt the awesome trauma produced by the pandemic, we can still have hope.

The social environment is tremendously impacted by the negative politics, as well as the turmoil in our communities as a result of crimes against each other, and the mounting toll of death. We can still have hope.

The lack of social interactions has severely impacted our mental and social well being. Schools have been closed. CHURCHES have been closed. Businesses have been closed. Stores, movie theaters, ball parks, and even travel has been closed. Somehow in all of this, we can still have hope.

It is that hope that keeps us moving forward. Hope that is inspired by the youthful engagement that we see. The hope that comes from interacting with children as a they rediscover play. The gradual reconnection as we go back to church, out to eat, and to our vacations. "I recall this to my mind, therefore have I hope." I have hope in our community. I have hope in our leaders. I have hope in the future through the next generation of leaders. I have hope in our children. I have hope in our people.

I am reminded of an old poem that I learned in my college days, and will never forget. It is called the "Invictus." It was written in 1875 by a British poet, William Ernest Henley. It contains great lines that describe suffering, as well as the personal strength required to succeed. It closes with these words, "I am the master of my fate, I am the captain of my soul."

I'm just thinking.....

+ COMMUNITY



COURTESY PHOTO

Kettering University's Atwood Stadium to host fourth-annual Vehicle City Gridiron Classic

Saginaw, MI – Kettering University's Atwood Stadium will host the fourth-annual Flint & Genesee Vehicle City Gridiron Classic to kick off the 2021 high school football season with two days of double-headers, beginning on Aug. 26.

This year's games will feature matchups between intra-county rivals as well as Genesee County schools taking on visiting schools from neighboring counties:

Thursday, Aug. 26

4 p.m. – Goodrich vs. Frankenmuth
7:30 p.m. – Powers vs. Flushing

Friday, Aug. 27

4 p.m. – Grand Blanc vs. East Lansing
7:30 p.m. – Linden vs. Pontiac Notre Dame Preparatory

Organizers said that this year's event is special because of the havoc COVID-19 wreaked on high schools sporting events in 2020 and into the new year. Most high school football games were cancelled or rescheduled, as the nation grappled with the

pandemic.

Therefore, the 2021 Vehicle City Gridiron Classic will pay tribute to the dedicated and hardworking medical professionals by offering them free admission to the games, with medical identification.

For all others, tickets are \$8 at the gate (free for children 5 and under). Tickets may also be purchased online at GoFan.co or on the GoFan app. Online sales will go live within the next week or two. Parking is \$5.

"We are excited to host the Vehicle City Gridiron Classic again at Kettering University's Atwood Stadium," said Kettering University President Dr. Robert K. McMahan. "With the events of the past year, we are proud to play a part in the community being able to come together again."

"We are pleased to announce the participating high schools for the 2021 Vehicle City Gridiron Classic that kicks off the football season in Genesee County," said Genesee County Circuit Judge Duncan Beagle, president of the Vehicle City Sports Committee. "After a one-year hiatus due to CO-

VID, our student athletes will burst onto the field at Kettering University's historic Atwood Stadium ready to play some exciting football. We will also honor the medical professionals who were so vital in saving lives during the pandemic. We invite the community to come out and help us celebrate these dedicated men and women and join in the excitement of some greatly anticipated and highly energetic football."

"The Vehicle City Gridiron Classic is a showcase event for Flint & Genesee," said Tim Herman, CEO of the Flint & Genesee Group. "The energy and enthusiasm of the spectators filling the stands at Atwood Stadium – the finest venue for high school football in the state – is simply fantastic. And it's a great fit with our community's expanded list of athletic attractions, including the Flint Firebirds, the Flint City Bucks, Flint United and the world-renowned Crim Festival of Races."

The 2021 Flint & Genesee Vehicle City Gridiron Classic is sponsored by Al Serra Auto Plaza, Hurley Medical Center and Dort Financial Credit Union.

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IN MY HUMBLE OPINION



COURTESY PHOTO

The vaccine issue is vexing



By **KEN H. SIMMONS, II**
MANAGING DIRECTOR, KENZO
PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Please let me state right up front that I am not condemning anyone that has been vaccinated, or given the “jab” as they say, against COVID-19 nor am I promoting an “anti-vax” campaign. My sincere hope is that this article will help anyone who might be trying to navigate their health options, both immediate and long term, in this time of information overload, including myself.

I have several friends and family members that have been vaccinated and I have several friends and a few family members that have not by their own choice. I happen to fall in the second group at the time of writing this piece, but only God knows where I will be by the time it is published. For me personally, and in my humble opinion, the COVID-19 vaccine issue is vexing.

Despite the fact that millions of people have been vaccinated, some people are concerned about the potential side effects and if pharmaceutical companies such as Moderna, Pfizer, and Johnson & Johnson

would be liable for any injuries. The law, as published by the U.S. House of Representatives under 42 U.S. Code 300aa-22, states, “No vaccine manufacturer shall be liable in a civil action for damages arising from a vaccine-related injury or death associated with the administration of a vaccine after October 1, 1988, if the injury or death resulted from side effects that were unavoidable even though the vaccine was properly prepared and was accompanied by proper directions and warnings.” It goes on to say that vaccine manufacturers shall not be liable in a civil action “solely due to the manufacturer’s failure to provide direct warnings of the potential dangers resulting from the administration of the vaccine manufactured by the manufacturer.”

It appears concerns about potential side effects and their consequences may be contributing to people’s reservations. If people assume that they will have to carry the full financial and personal risk of any adverse effects, even if they are relatively rare, they may decide that the overall risks of volunteering exceed the benefits of getting vaccinated. With my family and friends, those that were vaccinated did not have major side effects thus far, and those that have chosen otherwise are mostly concerned about new vaccine technology, ingredients, potential severe adverse reactions, and conflicting with religious beliefs.

Common side effects, according to the CDC and WHO are fever, fatigue, headaches, body aches, chills, nausea, and

might also include pain, swelling, redness, itchy rash, and other mild forms of irritation around the injection site. Allergic reactions, which are apparently rare, include hives, swelling, and respiratory symptoms, and anaphylaxis can occur from severe allergic reactions but this is very rare. Reports of death after COVID-19 vaccinations have been extremely rare with 6,207 reports (0.0018%) after more than 339 million vaccine doses being administered in the U.S. from December 2020 to 19 July 2021, according to the CDC.

One of the key areas of concern is the use of new technology to create the vaccine, which is messenger ribonucleic acid (mRNA) technology that induces an immune response from the body, as opposed to the traditional DNA-based and protein-based therapeutic approaches. Instead of introducing a weakened version of a virus or piece of it into the body, mRNA vaccines temporarily turn the body’s cells into tiny vaccine-making factories by using synthesized versions of a molecule that carries genetic coding (messenger RNA) from a cell’s DNA to its protein-making machinery, ribosomes. For the coronavirus, the mRNA is designed to instruct the body to artificially make the spike protein that Sars-Cov-2 uses to enter cells and cause illness. Then the immune system naturally produces antibodies creating immunity to the virus without having been infected by it. Messenger RNA vaccine production does not require growing viruses or viral proteins inside live cells, which is a difficult and expensive traditional method. They only require the blueprint of the viral proteins and are therefore quicker to develop than traditional ones.

There are dozens of myths or conspiracy theories that have been spreading online about the COVID-19 vaccine. We will review a few of the more common ones and the facts from a Britannica article entitled, “The Top COVID-19 Vaccine Myths Spreading Online” published on 29 June 2021. The first one that I was very aware of is related to the area of concern above, and the others follow.

CONTINUES ON PG 29, VACCINE

Continued from pg 28, vaccine

- “Myth: The mRNA vaccines being developed for COVID-19 will alter human DNA.” The fact, according to a statement by Dr. Dan Culver, a pulmonologist at Cleveland Clinic, that is quoted in the article, “The time that this RNA survives in the cells is relatively brief in the span of hours. What you are really doing is sticking a recipe card into the cell making protein for a few hours. This cannot change your genetic makeup.’
- “Myth: The COVID-19 vaccine will use microchip surveillance technology created by Bill Gates-funded research.” The fact, as stated in the article, “There is no vaccine – COVID-19 or otherwise – with a microchip or other surveillance feature.’ This conspiracy theory surfaced after MIT researchers, who were funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, published a paper in December 2019 about technology they had developed to keep a record of vaccination on a patient’s skin with an ink-like injection that could be read by smartphone. Kevin McHugh, a Rice University bio-engineering professor who worked on the study while at MIT, told FactCheck.org that the technology does not have the capacity to track patients’ movements. On 22 July 2020, Gates himself denied the claims during an interview on CBS News. He said, “There’s no connection between any of these vaccines and any tracking type thing at all. I don’t know where that came from.’ Another source, Slate.com, cited a poll of U.S. adults by Yahoo News and YouGov in one of its articles about Privacy in the Pandemic, a Future Tense series that found 60% of the respondents believe or are unsure that ‘Bill Gates wants to use a mass vaccination campaign against COVID-19 to implant microchips in people that would be used to track people with a digital ID.’ The article goes further to clearly state, “The technology to track people via vac-

cine simply doesn’t exist yet. While we certainly have microchips - even injectable ones - they aren’t capable of actually tracking anyone.”

- “Myth: COVID-19 vaccines will contain aborted human fetal tissue.” Fetal cell lines have been used to produce vaccines for diseases like chickenpox, hepatitis A, rubella, and rabies. Britannica cites a Science magazine article published in June 2020 stating, “at least five COVID-19 vaccine candidates are using fetal cell lines: one descended from a fetus aborted in 1972 and another from an abortion performed in 1985.” The Britannica article goes on to say that no actual fetal tissue is present in the COVID-19 vaccines. The Washington Post published an article on 14 May 2021 that provides more clarity. Apparently, the confusion about fetal cells or tissue in coronavirus vaccines “arises largely from the well-established practice of developing and testing medical products, including vaccines, using historical fetal cell lines that were derived decades ago from elective abortions. These cell lines were used to develop both the Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech mRNA vaccines to understand how they worked, and they were also used in manufacturing the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. The Post goes on to say although the Catholic Church is opposed to abortion, it issued a statement; “All the covid vaccines recognized as clinically safe and effective can be used in good conscience”, as per Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, Chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee on Doctrine.
- “Myth: Videos posted on social media show magnets sticking to people’s arms after they received COVID-19 vaccines, proving the vaccines contain magnetic ingredients.” I watched a couple of these videos weeks ago and was shocked. Britannica provides facts from Dr. Stephen Schrantz, infectious diseases

specialist at the University of Chicago, who called the videos hoaxes in a May 2021 article by Agence France-Presse and stated, “There is absolutely no way that a vaccine can lead to the reaction shown in these videos posted to Instagram and/or YouTube. It is better explained by 2 sided tape on the metal disk being applied to the skin rather than a magnetic reaction.’ A lecturer at the Centre for Virus Research at the University of Glasgow, Dr. Edward Hutchinson told Newsweek in a recent article that, ‘you would need to introduce a large lump of magnetic material beneath the skin to get the action through the skin that the videos claim to show’. To test this, he suggested trying to get a fridge magnet to pick up small bits of metal through the skin between your thumb and index finger.

There are still dozens more myths and conspiracy theories and tons of factual information about the COVID-19 vaccines out there. I wish I had more time and space to deal with them here, but I do hope that I have provided some clarity.

Just yesterday, I received an article from The Washington Post about the CDC urging vaccinated people to resume wearing masks indoors due to the highly transmissible delta variant of the coronavirus that is capable of generating outbreaks of infection even among people who are vaccinated. The Director of the CDC, Rochelle Walensky stated in an afternoon news briefing, ‘It is not a welcome piece of news that masking is going to be a part of people’s lives who have already been vaccinated.’

As I come to the end of this article, I must admit that I am a bit less vexed about the vaccine, but I will continue doing my research, wearing my mask in public, sanitizing, and practicing social distance. I suggest you do the same whether you have been vaccinated or not. COVID-19 is still very much with us, is still spreading due to the delta variant, and we must each do all that we reasonably can to stay healthy and safe. God Bless you and keep you.

+ COMMUNITY



COURTESY PHOTO

Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum receives a National Endowment for the Arts Big Read Grant

Saginaw, MI – The Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum is one of 61 organizations nationwide selected to receive a 2021-2022 NEA Big Read grant. A grant of \$20,000 will support a community reading program focusing on “The House on Mango Street” by Sandra Cisneros in September 2021 to June 2022. An initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest, the NEA Big Read broadens our understanding of our world, our communities, and ourselves through the joy of sharing a good book.

The Community Read project titled, “NEA Big Read: Great Lakes Bay Region,” is centered around the theme “neighbors/neighborhoods” and is designed to bring together communities from three different counties in the Great Lakes Bay Region – Saginaw, Bay, and Midland. With programming and events to take place in each of the three counties, this Commu-

nity Read is unique and innovative both for its variety of partnerships as well as the variety of programming that expands beyond book discussions to include community story sharing and art making.

The lead partner on this regional project is the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum located at Saginaw Valley State University. The Museum and University are both centrally located geographically but also uniquely situated to connect various partners from the three regional counties. Committed partners include libraries and arts organizations from each of the three counties. The following library partners include Bay County Library System, Public Libraries of Saginaw, and Grace A. Dow Memorial Library of Midland. Arts organizations that have committed to the project include Studio 23 / The Art Center of Bay City, Saginaw Art Museum, and Creative 360 of Midland. Delta College

Public Media has committed to serving as the project’s media partner with support through their PBS and NPR stations.

“The ‘NEA Big Read: Great Lakes Bay Region’ community read is not just a book club, but a series of programs and events centered around one book and its themes with the goal of bringing people together from our neighboring counties,” states, Megan McAdow, director of the Marshall Fredericks Sculpture Museum, “The partner organizations have selected the book ‘The House on Mango Street’ by Sandra Cisneros in part because it is accessible to a wide range of ages and abilities and has a children’s companion book called ‘Hairs/Pelitos’ that helps to ensure everyone in the family can connect around the stories and themes, including ‘neighbors and neighborhoods.’ The programs and events being planned in conjunction with this community read project are all community-oriented, from festivals that celebrate the diversity and unity of people and places in our communities to thoughtful book discussions. From the sharing of community members’ personal stories to working together to create and display community art, this inclusive project is very much centered around creating a positive effect on our communities and world.”

Along with the 2021-2022 NEA Big Read grant, the “NEA Big Read: Great Lakes Bay Region” community read has also received generous local funding support from the Hemlock Semiconductor Community and Regional Empowerment Fund, the Bay Area Community Foundation, the Midland Area Community Foundation, and the Saginaw Community Foundation.

“For 15 years the NEA Big Read has supported opportunities for communities to come together around a book, creating a shared experience that encourages openness and conversations around issues central to our lives,” said Ann Eilers, acting chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. “We congratulate Marshall Fredericks Sculpture Museum for receiving an NEA Big Read grant and look forward to a wide variety of meaningful community events.”

Programming will be announced in the coming months and include Kick-Off Events, in-person and online book discussions, community art projects, and more throughout the ten-month long project.

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+ COMMUNITY

Saginaw and Flint receive grants through Financially Distressed Cities, Villages and Townships (FDCVT) Grant Program

Lansing, MI – State Treasurer Rachael Eubanks announced a total of \$2.7 million is being awarded to 16 municipalities through the Financially Distressed Cities, Villages and Townships (FDCVT) Grant Program.

Municipalities can participate in the FDCVT Grant Program if they are experiencing one or more conditions indicative of "probable financial stress" as defined in state law. The grants fund specific projects, services or strategies -- including infrastructure and public safety enhancements -- that move a city, village or township toward financial stability.

"This grant program helps those municipalities that have faced recent finan-

cial challenges," State Treasurer Rachael Eubanks said. "Infrastructure and public safety projects are critical services that residents depend on every day. By proactively assisting our local units of government, we are enabling our entire state to thrive."

For fiscal year 2021, the Michigan Legislature appropriated \$2.5 million for the program, with a \$200,000 carryover from the previous fiscal year. The FDCVT Grant Program has a \$2 million cap per municipality and grants are awarded based on applications submitted by the municipality.

The city of Flint received \$183,505 for 'Public safety enhancement through installation of surveillance cameras and pur-



COURTESY PHOTO

chase of police body cameras'.

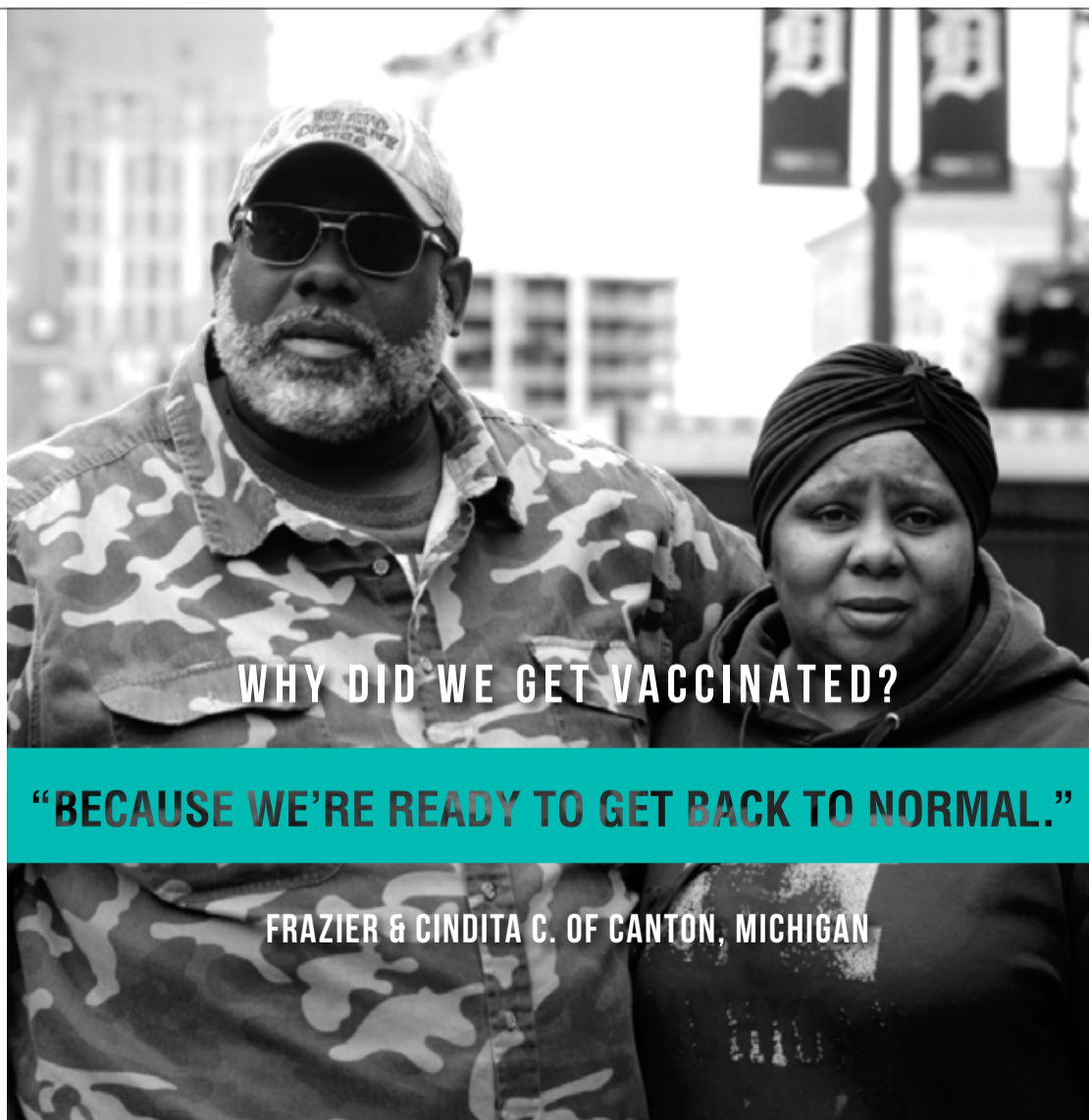
The city of Saginaw received \$37,109 for 'public safety enhancement through replacement of streetlights'.

The COVID-19 vaccine will help us get beyond this pandemic.

There are so many things Cindita and Frazier missed in the last year: celebrating big holidays, going to movies, being with friends and family. They hunkered down in the house, life just stopped. They saw firsthand how COVID took away strong, vibrant lives. Which is why they believed it was so important to get vaccinated to get back to normal.

The vaccines have been tested for safety and are trusted by doctors.

Find your vaccine at Michigan.gov/COVIDvaccine. Call 211, or text your zip code to 438829.



WHY DID WE GET VACCINATED?

“BECAUSE WE’RE READY TO GET BACK TO NORMAL.”

FRAZIER & CINDITA C. OF CANTON, MICHIGAN

Republicans and voting rights



By **JIMMY E. GREENE**

CEO & PRESIDENT, ABC MICHIGAN

You can give me a list of 100 issues with Republicans and they'll be 3 things that I just can't reconcile with them on but I'm not going to stop trying to convince them to see these issues from my vantage point.

- Voting Rights
- DACA
- LGBTQ+

I could go on and on about all three but for the brevity of this article I'll stick to voting rights. I've heard every argument to support either modifying, removing, adding, adopting etc regarding this issue. It's an issue near and dear to Black Americans despite a voting percentage that doesn't reflect that; that too another issue I could spend time on. I do think that there's a lot of hyperbole over this issue that some folks use as a political weapon and that's most unfortunate because while the right to vote is vital so to is the protections that insure it's fair and without fraud. That can only happen on a bipartisan basis and most critically with Black folks in the room. In this past election there were a lot of modifications made to accommodate voters since we were in a pandemic. It only makes sense to go back and revisit those modifications to adjust and ensure that moving forward they are good adjustments. However, the way they were introduced into bills without bipartisan support immediately killed any opportunity to do that. And again coming after losing the presidential election and several other key races like the Senate and then introducing these bills was terrible timing to do on a partisan basis. In defense of one key element of these reforms, in 2021 it's become almost impossible to defend not having a piece of ID to register to vote. With all the resources that we have in this country it's impossible for me to believe people can't get an ID. Let's fix that and move on to some of the other issues we might be able to find common ground on. Republicans need more of a minority base anyway and working with minorities on these voting reforms is one sure way to build trust and that's the first step to building a base.

MPSC urges propane customers to shop around now to lock in supply for home heating season

Lansing, MI – The Michigan Public Service Commission today urged Michigan propane customers to explore locking in supplies now for propane to heat their homes this winter.

Shopping now helps ensure they'll have the propane they need as the weather gets colder and demand increases. The MPSC urges Michigan propane users to shop around for the best deals, making sure to research options, ask questions about contracts and get terms in writing.

Before you begin shopping for propane, here are things to consider:

- Providers offer budget plans, pre-pay and fixed-price plans that can save consumers on costs compared to market prices later in the season. Knowing the size of your propane tank and your average propane use can help you avoid not buying enough or buying too much. Customers also should understand prices may increase after the prepaid allotment is used up.
- Be sure to understand possible fees including installation, service, pickup or disconnect, lease or equipment rental and minimum usage requirements, and ask for details before you sign a contract because the additional fees may increase out-of-pocket costs.
- Decide whether it's more economical to rent or lease a tank from a propane provider; this means safety and maintenance is the responsibility of the provider. Owning a tank can save money but means the customer is responsible for upkeep.

Be sure to have answers to questions before you sign a contract. Questions can include what service, budget and payment options are available, how prices are determined, what fees are possible, how often tanks will be refilled, and how much advance time is needed for delivery outside a normal schedule.

While propane prices aren't regulated in Michigan, the MPSC monitors the propane market to identify irregularities that could lead to price or supply disruptions for the approximately 320,000 Michigan households that use propane to heat their homes. The MPSC each year publishes statewide average residential prices during the heating season, which starts Oct. 1.

Michigan uses more propane in the residential sector than any other state, and propane use is highest in rural areas; it's the primary heating fuel for 18% of Upper Peninsula residents and nearly 24% in some northern Lower Peninsula counties, and 8% overall statewide.

Customers can find additional tips and information on the MPSC's propane consumer tip sheet (https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mpsc/mpsc-selecting-propane_464669_7.pdf).

For information about the MPSC, visit www.Michigan.gov/MPSC

+ HEALTH



COURTESY PHOTO

Half of U.S. parents may not vaccinate their youngest child against Covid-19

New York, NK – Even as the delta variant of Covid-19 sweeps the globe, leaving those who remain unvaccinated vulnerable, vaccination among adults and teenagers in the United States is stalling, giving rise to concerns over whether parents will vaccinate their young children once vaccines are approved for those under 12 years of age.

In one of the first studies measuring Covid-19 vaccine hesitancy among parents in the U.S. and the first in New York City, investigators from the CUNY Institute for Implementation Science in Population Health (ISPH) and the CUNY Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy (CUNY SPH) conducted a community-based online survey of parents of children under 12 years. Findings from the surveys will be published in the *Journal of Pediatrics (U.S.)* and *Vaccine (NYC)*.

The survey was conducted in a sample of 2,074 U.S. and 1,119 NYC parents in March and April of 2021 as vaccine roll-out among adults was expanding. Among all U.S. parents surveyed, only 49 per-

cent reported planning to vaccinate their youngest child when a Covid-19 vaccine is approved for children, while 26 percent of parents said they were unsure and 25 percent said they will not vaccinate their child.

Asian parents were most likely to report planning to vaccinate children in the U.S. survey while parents with less than a college education and income less than \$25,000 were most likely to be vaccine hesitant. In contrast, a higher proportion of parents in NYC (62 percent) reported planning to vaccinate their youngest child against Covid-19, while 15 percent were unsure and 23 percent did not plan to vaccinate. Also in NYC, non-Hispanic Black parents were less likely to report plans to vaccinate their children for Covid-19 compared to other race/ethnicity groups.

In both surveys, female parents were less likely to report plans to vaccinate their children. Parents who did not plan to vaccinate their youngest child selected concerns about safety as their main reason for vaccine hesitancy, and a quarter of parents

also said they didn't think children were at risk for Covid-19 infection and didn't need vaccination.

Since the start of the pandemic, more than 4 million U.S. children have been diagnosed with Covid-19 and over 300 have died. In addition, children infected with Covid-19, even those with mild symptoms, may experience long Covid, similar to adults, with persistent pain and fatigue. When available, vaccines will be an important tool for protecting the health of children and controlling the epidemic.

"The results of our survey, suggesting that as many as half of U.S. parents do not want to vaccinate their children for Covid-19, are concerning, but we can use this information while we await pediatric vaccine approval to work on improving future uptake," says Assistant Professor Chloe Teasdale. "We should start now to develop and deliver information campaigns to help parents understand the safety and effectiveness of vaccines, as well as the real dangers to children from Covid-19."

SCCMHA hosting free Great Lakes Bay Health Centers Covid 19 vaccination clinic

Saginaw, MI –SCCMHA is hosting a Great Lakes Bay Health Centers (GLBHC) consumer COVID-19 vaccination clinic on Thursday, 7/29/21 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The clinic will be hosted at 500 Hancock and the entry closest to the pharmacy will be used as the entry for the vaccination clinic. Please encourage consumers to be vaccinated as this is the best way to protect themselves and the community to prevent the spread of COVID-19. This clinic is specifically set up for consumers as we have a large number of consumers served by SCCMHA that have not been vaccinated. However, the public is welcome to participate in the clinic as well. SCCMHA Consumers coming in to get vaccinated

will be paid a stipend. Transportation will be provided if needed by the normal Taxi Cab Voucher system to provide rides for SCCMHA consumers to receive the vaccination. Stipend forms will be available as people are checked in.

The vaccine being given at the clinic will be the Moderna vaccine and a follow up appointment will be needed. We will be hosting a follow up clinic on Thursday, 8/26/21 in the same location from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The Moderna vaccine is only approved to be given to adults so this clinic will be limited to adults.

Please note Genoa Pharmacy does have the Johnson and Johnson vaccine (single dose vaccination) and people can stop in

without an appointment Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. to receive that vaccination.



COURTESY PHOTO

**“I WOULDN'T
WORK
ANYWHERE
ELSE.”**

Rosalind Williams
Registered Nurse

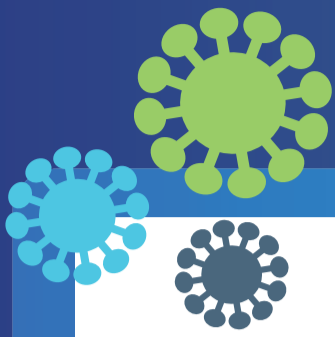


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Great Lakes Bay Health Centers has touched more than **118,000 LIVES** during the COVID-19 crisis – in patient care and community outreach with testing and vaccines.


55,884
COVID-19 TESTS
ADMINISTERED
IN 2020-2021 (AS OF JUNE 3, 2021)

Great Lakes Bay Health Centers (GLBHC) began offering community COVID-19 testing in March 2020 outside centers in Saginaw, and expanded to Bay City and Bad Axe. During the summer and fall, we partnered with churches and other community partners to bring testing to neighborhoods with “popup” events. We shifted testing to drive-thru access and do not require a doctor’s note or symptoms. Staff supported this effort on every level, including making calls to share test results. GLBHC added free Influenza community clinics through the fall of 2020. Volunteers have supported testing and vaccines.


15,091
COVID-19 VACCINE DOSES*
ADMINISTERED
IN 2021 (AS OF JUNE 3, 2021)

The Moderna vaccine was first made available to GLBHC staff in January 2021. Through the winter, staff worked with local health departments to administer vaccines to school professionals. The centers started receiving direct shipments of vaccines in March 2021, and began offering appointments to patients. GLBHC also began planning pop-up events at churches and other locations to access hard-to-reach populations. By April, the vaccine team had set up drive-thru vaccine clinics in Saginaw and Bay City and weekly clinics at the UAW Hall in Saginaw. Soon the public could access the vaccines without an appointment. Outreach continues into the summer, with young adults and teens becoming a focus.

**individuals each receive two doses*

TOTAL GLBHC PATIENTS SERVED IN 2020:



50,270 PATIENTS

RECEIVING MEDICAL, DENTAL, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE AND OTHER VISITS

The COVID-19 shutdowns required centers to limit in-person visits in March-May 2020, but we never closed. Within two weeks, GLBHC had telehealth visits operational to stay in touch with patients. Before 2020, there were no virtual visits offered.



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

COVID increased stress and demand for behavioral health services in 2020. Staff reached out to schools and saw increased referrals for children and teens.



DENTAL CARE

GLBHC dental centers were some of the only dental clinics open during quarantine to emergency care for patients experiencing pain or infection.



CHRONIC HEALTH MONITORING = BETTER OUTCOMES


During quarantine, GLBHC used grant funds to provide at-home monitoring kits to patients with COVID symptoms. The kits included blood pressure monitors and pulse oximeters to track oxygen levels. Telehealth visits were a lifeline for care management nurses to keep in touch with patients with chronic health conditions. Pharmacy staff made medication deliveries. A new Respiratory Clinic allowed staff to safely care for patients with COVID symptoms in person.



+ HEALTH


Hepatitis C

What you should know




What is it?

Hepatitis C is a virus that attacks the liver. Untreated, it can be life-threatening.




Can it be cured?


Yes! New treatments can cure hepatitis C for almost everyone.




It doesn't spread through...




Breastfeeding



Sharing eating utensils




Kissing, hugging or holding hands




Insect bites


How does it spread?




Used or shared needles, syringes or lancets




Sex



Sharing care items like toothbrushes or razors




Born to a mom with hepatitis C




Medical mishaps like needle injuries or unsterile instruments


What are the symptoms?




No symptoms



Stomach pain



Vomiting



Yellow eyes or skin

MDHHS highlights We Treat Hep C Initiative progress in recognition of World Hepatitis Day

Lansing, MI – World Hepatitis Day is commemorated worldwide on July 28 to raise awareness of viral hepatitis, an inflammation of the liver that causes severe liver disease. There are five main strains of the hepatitis virus: A, B, C, D and E; however, hepatitis C is the most common hepatitis virus in the United States.

Hepatitis C is a liver disease caused by the hepatitis C virus (HCV), which can cause both acute (short-term) and chronic (long-term) illness. It is spread through contact with blood from an infected person. People with HCV infection are often undiagnosed because they remain asymptomatic until decades after infection when

symptoms due to advanced liver disease manifest. There is no vaccine for HCV; however, there are effective medications that can cure HCV infection when taken once daily for eight to 12 weeks.

Last year, in recognition of World Hepatitis Day, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) announced the launch of the We Treat Hep C Initiative. This initiative is designed to eliminate hepatitis C in Michigan by increasing access to hepatitis C treatment among Michigan Medicaid and Healthy Michigan Plan beneficiaries.

MDHHS has partnered with AbbVie, the manufacturer of the hepatitis C direct-

acting antiviral MAVYRET®, to make the preferred product available to all Medicaid and Healthy Michigan Plan beneficiaries without prior authorization required. Since the removal of prior authorization from MAVYRET®, there has been a 56 percent increase in beneficiaries who have started HCV treatments.

"World Hepatitis Day is an additional opportunity to encourage all Michiganders to get tested for HCV at least one time in their life, and more frequently if they are in an at-risk category," said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, chief medical executive and chief deputy for health at MDHHS. "HCV is curable, and we are committed to making both testing and treatment accessible for all residents in need."

MDHHS has partnered with Wayne State University's Midwest AIDS Training and Education Center (WSU's MATEC) to provide case-based discussions, curricula and trainings for interested clinicians. In addition, MDHHS contracted with Henry Ford Health System to maintain an HCV clinical consultation line to provide peer-to-peer advice to clinicians in the process of evaluating and treating their patients for HCV (313-575-0332, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., or online).

Since the launch of the We Treat Hep C Initiative on April 1, WSU's MATEC and Henry Ford Health System have received 21 clinical consultations from providers across Michigan, disseminated resource packages with patient educational materials to health centers and clinics, developed webinar trainings and conducted presentations to various organizations and conferences. AbbVie has hosted seven state-wide trainings, and over 100 clinicians and health care professionals have attended the trainings across Michigan.

MDHHS and its partners will continue to actively engage with stakeholders and clinicians to ensure Michiganders are linked to lifesaving hepatitis C testing, treatment and supportive services to help eliminate hepatitis C Michigan.

+ EDUCATION

Two Resources: The Michigan Learning Channel & The Khan Academy



By **CRAIG DOUGLAS**
RETIRED EDUCATOR

Summer vacation has passed the half-way mark, and it is a perfect time to look at two free resources for parents and students, the Michigan Learning Channel and the Khan Academy.

“Extra Credit,” now airs daily at noon and 3 p.m. on many Michigan PBS stations, and it is aimed for 4th, 5th, and 6th graders in subjects of creative writing, math, fitness, art, and career exploration. These short lessons are planned and are hosted by six teenagers. “Extra Credit” supplements what is already being planned for the summer on the new Public Broadcasting program, the Michigan Learning Channel (MLC).

MLC programming is new and has evolved over the past year. MLC started to roll out last December and in May announced its summer programming. Its purpose is to bring resources to students in at-home learning environments and help students “catch up” with various subjects that have become a challenge created by the pandemic.

PBS has started MLC to reach out to young students from Pre-kindergarten through sixth grade they are calling,

“Summer on MLC.” It is not too late to take advantage of free supplemental educational offerings found on the website, www.michiganlearning.org.

Weekly themes are offered both online (demand) and on PBS stations all across the state of Michigan. Downloadable Summer Activity Books are available geared to the very young (Pre-K – 2nd grade) and upper elementary (3rd – 6th grades). Parents and teachers can sort for lessons by the week. Again, each week is a different theme. Registration online is encouraged. “Extra Credit” for 4th, 5th, and 6th graders. The programming works to reduce “summer slide” for students.

The Khan Academy has been around nearly a decade and is geared to students of all ages in a wide-range of subject-area topics. Since the instruction is offered by tape-recorded video instruction, it is arguably geared towards secondary grade level (7 – 12) students.

I have found the instruction to be especially effective in the areas of mathematics and science. For example, in the area of Algebra, there are six sets mini-lessons associated with the

general topic, solving equations and inequalities. The instruction is supplemented with practice problems and quizzes that can be taken and retaken until a mastery level of achievement has been reached.

In this format, time is removed as a barrier for students. They can work through as many lessons as desired at their own pace. In other words, when concepts come quickly, they can be forwarded; when they come slower, the freedom to repeat is at the learner’s disposal.

These two resources are free for students of all ages, and each is extremely well done. I urge you to take a look as the start of the 2021-22 school year draws near.

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Resources:
www.michiganlearningchannel.org
www.khanacademy.org



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Carmen Stricker
989-625-1202 | ccstrick@svsu.edu



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+ EDUCATION



COURTESY PHOTO

Treasury: 7 ways to be alert and informed when considering student loans

As Michiganders prepare for the upcoming fall semester and start paying their college tuition bills, the Michigan Department of Treasury's MI Student Aid Team is asking students and their families to be alert and informed when considering student loans.

"More and more, students and families have to cover a considerable amount of their higher education costs," said Robin Lott, director of the Office of Postsecondary Financial Planning. "When student borrowers become financially empowered, they can better understand how to manage and leverage the financial aid they receive."

To make the best decision regarding student loans, the MI Student Aid team recommends seven financial aid best practices tips:

1. **Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).** Colleges use information from the FAFSA to determine their financial aid awards. By completing and submitting the FAFSA, students maximize all their financial aid options.

2. **Understand loans must be repaid.** Not all financial aid included in a financial aid award letter is free money. Many financial aid awards will include federal student loans. Unlike grants and scholarships, loans must be repaid with interest.
3. **Check the amount of interest being offered on a loan before accepting it.** Federal student loans, Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS) loans, and private loans have varying interest rates and repayment terms. Before taking out loans, students should identify and compare each loan's interest rate and then accept the loans with the best interest rates and repayment terms.
4. **Only accept the amount you will need.** Students can either turn down a loan or request a smaller loan amount, and the financial award letter should include instructions on how to do this.

5. **Be aware of loan scams.** In a typical student loan scam, a scammer will ask for banking information from a student searching for loans. The scammer typically claims they will use the information to make a direct deposit into a student's account in return for upfront fees and gift cards. Instead, the scammer accesses the student's banking account and withdraws funds. In addition, be aware of repayment scams. You don't have to pay for help when repaying student loans. Contact your servicer if you have repayment questions.

6. **Visit the school's financial aid office once a semester.** Even though students may not have to begin repaying their loans while they are in school, students should not wait to understand their responsibilities. Students should know the status of their college's or university's student account and keep track of the types of aid they receive. By making this a habit, students can avoid overborrowing and stay within their budget.

7. **Create a studentaid.gov account.** Studentaid.gov, managed by the U.S. Department of Education, is a one-stop shop for managing federal student aid. With a studentaid.gov account, students can track all their student loans, check the interest rate of each one and total interest accumulated to date. Students can also look over different repayment options, estimate monthly payments and learn who their loan servicer is for when repayment begins.

Individuals have around \$1.7 trillion nationwide and more than \$52.5 billion statewide in outstanding student loan debt, according to the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS).

For more information, go to www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid or contact MI Student Aid at mistudentaid@michigan.gov, 1-888-447-2687 or @mistudentaid on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat.

Michigan Department of Education opens registration for August education workforce virtual job fairs

Lansing, MI – The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is pleased to announce the open registration of its August 2021 Education Workforce Virtual Job Fairs, presented in cooperation with the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO).

"From administrative assistants to teachers, from principals to bus drivers, it takes a broad range of educational staff working together to serve our students and their diverse needs," said State Superintendent Dr. Michael Rice. "Helping local school districts find the best educators and support staff is important to assist students in their learning experiences, and job fairs are one way that MDE is able to

assist schools and districts in placing staff in areas of need."

The 2021 virtual job fairs are open to employers of educators and educational support staff, as well as all individuals seeking to work in the education field. The job fairs will leverage LEO's expertise in hosting virtual job fairs to ensure a smoother, more robust experience for both employers and job seekers, by utilizing a new platform, Brazen, that features increased functionality and ease of use.

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

The Education Workforce Job Fairs

will take place on the following dates:

- August 4, 2021
- August 5, 2021

For information and to register, job seekers and employers can visit the website.

For information on how to become a certified administrator or teacher in Michigan, please visit the Office of Educator Excellence website.

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

Delta College to host public open house for new Downtown Midland Center

Midland, MI – Members of the public are invited to see Delta College's new Downtown Midland Center August 7 at a public open house.

The grand-opening celebration will take place from noon-2pm at the new building, located just blocks from bustling Main Street at 419 East Ellsworth St. Refreshments, including ice cream, giveaways and other activities are planned and guests will be invited to take self-guided tours through the 30,000-square-foot building.

The event is free and open to the public. No RSVP required. Free parking is available in the covered parking structure on E. Ellsworth St.

All activities for the general public are family friendly:

- Classroom tours and activities
- Tour Delta's STEM Explorer vehicle, which will be parked on site
- Free snacks and promotional items
- Talk with admission and financial aid representatives

Guests are also invited to meet staff and learn more about the one- and two-year programs offered at the center. In-person classes will be offered at the center this fall semester, which begins August 28. Students can take business, health, science and transfer courses in a variety of formats.

About the building

Spence Brothers began construction on the building in fall 2019. The facility includes science and computer labs, classrooms, special-use training rooms, multi-purpose rooms and student services. It will bring new opportunities for innovation, and programs will focus on STEM to meet the needs of area employers.

The building construction cost \$13 million, with more than \$9 million provided by community donors. It was designed by TowerPinkster.

Major funding was provided by the Dow Company Foundation and the Dow Corning Foundation. Additional funders



DELTA COLLEGE DOWNTOWN MIDLAND CENTER

include the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation, Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation, Harry A. and Margaret D. Towsley Foundation and Charles J. Strosacker Foundation. The building's site was donated by Chemical Bank and Dow.

Learn more at delta.edu/midland.



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

+ BUSINESS



COURTESY PHOTO

Morley honored with a second General Motors Overdrive Award

Saginaw, MI – General Motors has honored Morley with the Supplier of the Year award and, for the second consecutive year, the Overdrive Award. The announcement was made as part of the GM Supplier Business Meeting held on June 22, 2021.

“All of us at Morley are extremely humbled to receive these awards. To have our associates recognized for consistently delivering extraordinary service is truly special, and inspires us to continue innovating and investing in this century-old partnership,” said Paul Furlo, Morley’s President & CEO. “After a relationship spanning 120 years, GM has become part of our family.”

Internationally, 122 suppliers representing 16 countries received the Supplier of the Year award, and 26 companies representing eight countries earned GM’s

Overdrive Award. The 2020 Supplier of the Year and Overdrive Award winners were selected among GM’s approximate 32,000 direct and indirect suppliers worldwide by a global team of GM purchasing, engineering, quality, manufacturing and logistics leaders.

The Supplier of the Year award highlights global suppliers that distinguish themselves by exceeding GM’s requirements, in turn providing GM customers with innovative technologies and among the highest quality in the automotive industry. The Overdrive Award is a distinction reserved for suppliers who display outstanding achievement within the Global Purchasing and Supply Chain organization’s key priorities, including sustainable value streams, total enterprise cost and profitability, safety, launch excellence, ac-

celerating innovation and nurturing relationships.

“As GM works to achieve a future with zero crashes, zero emissions and zero congestion, we are proud to have innovative and dedicated suppliers around the world as partners in this mission,” said Shilpan Amin, GM Vice President, Global Purchasing and Supply Chain.

“Throughout a challenging year, our suppliers have showed resilience and dedication in working toward our shared goal of long-term sustainability for our planet and the communities we serve, while meeting our present needs,” Amin said. “We are pleased with what we’ve accomplished together in the past year and we are excited by the opportunity that lies ahead.”



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Gov. Whitmer Signs proclamation marking July 28 - August 4 as 'Buy Michigan Week'

Lansing, MI – Governor Gretchen Whitmer issued a proclamation marking July 28 - August 4 as Buy Michigan Week.

"Michigan businesses have been resilient through the pandemic and I am committed to getting them the support they need as we continue Michigan's economic jumpstart," said Governor Whitmer. "Buying local has never been more important as we continue to build up our economy stronger than ever. With each purchase made at a Michigan retailer, you can help keep more money in your community and improve your quality of life as we put Michigan back to work."

"Strengthening our local economies and getting Michiganders back to work is a priority for our administration," said Lt. Governor Gilchrist. "I encourage all Michiganders to support our wonderful industries and local businesses this week and always. From shopping at a local boutique, to dining at a family-owned restaurant, there are countless ways to support Michi-

gan businesses. Getting our economy back on track starts right here in our neighborhoods."

"Small businesses like local retailers are the backbone of Michigan's vibrant economy," said William J. Hallan, President and CEO of Michigan Retailers Association. "As we continue to emerge from the pandemic, we encourage all Michiganders to keep their money in the Mitten by shopping local, and we thank the Administration for reminding residents of the importance of supporting the local retailers and businesses who make Michigan's downtowns great places to shop and visit."

"The programs our Governor worked to put in place helped my business," said Rosie Pietila, owner of Rosies's Foods. "My business survived and we are looking forward to a great future."

Last week, Governor Whitmer kicked off the MI Small Business Summer tour to recognize Michigan's small businesses that have shown resiliency throughout

the COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout the pandemic, the state's dozens of economic relief programs for businesses supported more than 25,000 companies and retained more than 200,000 jobs.

With additional state revenues expected and billions of dollars in incoming federal funding, Michigan is in a strong position to make investments that can transform the landscape for small businesses.

In addition to the suite of proposals dedicated to small business and restaurants laid out in Governor Whitmer's Economic Jumpstart Plan, throughout the pandemic, the state has implemented 23 economic relief programs for businesses, supported more than 25,000 companies and retained more than 200,000 jobs.

Learn more and find resources for Small Businesses at Michigan.gov/Small-Businesses.

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+ FUNDRAISING GOODTIMES

The Power of Urgency

By MEL AND PEARL SHAW

Creating a sense of urgency is critical to fundraising. Sometimes – as in disaster relief – the sense of urgency is “built in” to the cause. Other times you have to create it. Either way, urgency can increase impulse giving and those who have every intention to give but keep putting it off!

Here are two truths about fundraising: nonprofits can put off the work of fund development and fundraising until they feel their back is against the wall. And donors and funders can decide to give, and then take forever to make an actual gift or grant. There are always “good” reasons why these realities play out, and it is important to understand these. It is even more important to spot these “stalls” and get things moving again. Even better, proactively work to avoid these situations by deploying the power of urgency.

Disclaimer: we are not talking about discarding your plans and commitment to good direction. This is not about trying to accomplish miracles – or a year’s worth of work – overnight. Rather, we are encouraging you to build a sense of urgency into all your work plans and communications. Don’t put things off! Don’t let other things get in the way of your commitment to securing the funds you need.

Here’s what we mean by the phrase “sense of urgency:” The ability to act now, in the present, to put all forces in motion. We live in a culture where time is money, and people’s time feels so precious and valuable. Because of this you want people to decide to volunteer or give financially, knowing what they will be getting into and what they will be contributing to. Here’s the response you don’t want, “I wish I

could help, but I have so many things pressing right now.”

Here are more benefits that come with creating a sense of urgency. People will know you respect their time: you’re not asking them to volunteer forever, just for an agreed upon period. You will build momentum and increase commitment. You’re fundraising won’t drag on forever: you’ll be able to “get in and get out” quickly. Your organization will have the resources it needs to meet urgent needs. People will experience a sense of accomplishment, and your nonprofit will enjoy the fruits of good planning and the resulting increased capacity. Your stress will decrease, you’ll increase your time management skills, and you will find that your organization is

able to attract leadership who have limited time to give. You can stay ahead of your competitors and the unknown to come!

Three closing points:

1. Always work with a timeline. Know what you need to accomplish by when.
2. Communicate the emotional impact of your work. Create a sense of urgency related to an immediate need.
3. When making an ask, be sure to close with, “I’ll call next week to follow up and answer any questions.” Then make that call. If you leave things open ended your request may languish, leaving you to wonder “will they give?”



COURTESY PHOTO



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

+ CHURCH DIRECTORY

B



Bethel AME Church
Rev. Dennis Laffoon
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Bethlehem Temple Church of the Apostolic Faith
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3521 Webber St
Saginaw, Michigan 48601
989-755-8381



Bread of Life Harvest Center
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Saginaw, MI 48603
989-790-7933

C

Christ Disciples Baptist Church
Founder Pastor Eddie Benson
Pastor Genevieve Benson
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989-754-2444

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



Christ Image Community Church
5501 Gratiot Rd
Saginaw, MI 48638
(989) 759-9161
christimage.us

F



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



Faith Ministries Church
Dr. Anthony Revis
3420 E Ashman St.
Midland, MI 48642
989-837-7777
faithministrieschurch.org

G



Glimpse Of Hope Ministries
Pastor Leslie D Lewis
2211 S. Outer Dr.
Saginaw Michigan 48601
989-755-9237
g.ministries@aol.com

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



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

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

J



Jacob's Ladder
Bishop Elect Dempsey Allen
1926 Fairfield Street
Saginaw, MI 48602
989-799-6601

L

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

M

Messiah Missionary Baptist Church
Pastor Otis Washington
2615 Williamson Road
Saginaw, MI 48601
989-777-2636
Fax: 989-777-2640
messiahmbc@att.net
messiahsag.org



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

N



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 Ministries
Dr. Craig Tatum
1401 Janes Ave.
Saginaw, MI 48601
989-753-1151
newlifelcm.com

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
thenewwayministry.org

P

Prince of Peace Baptist Church
Pastor Robert C. Corley Jr.
825 North 24th Street
Saginaw, MI 48601
989-754-2841

R



Resurrection Life Ministries Full Gospel Baptist Church
Pastor Carolyn L. Wilkins
2320 Sheridan Avenue
Saginaw, MI 48601
989-395-3142

S



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



Saint Paul Baptist Church
Rev. Dr., Vincent D. McMillon
120 North 15 St.
Saginaw, MI. 48601
stpaul2@yahoo.com
Facebook: St Paul MBC Family Connection



Second Baptist Church
Pastor-Elect Marcelle T. Smith
1770 W. Youngs Ditch Rd.
Bay City, MI 48708
989-893-8631

St. John Ev. Lutheran Church
Pastor Carl Ballard
915 Federal Avenue
Saginaw, MI 48607
989-754-0489
stjohnlutheranelcasaginaw.weebly.com

T



Transforming Life Ministries
Pastor William Brown
523 Hayden
Saginaw, MI 48601
989-754-9573



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

U



United Missionary Baptist Church
Rev. Cedric Nickson
4290 Lamson Street
Saginaw, MI 48601
Church: 989-759-9411
Pastor 810.223.2987

V



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

W



World Outreach Campus of Greater Coleman Temple Ministries
Supt. H.J. Coleman Jr.
2405 Bay Rd.
Saginaw, MI 48602
989-752-7957

Z



Zion Missionary Baptist Church
Pastor Rodrick Smith
721 Johnson
Saginaw, MI 48607
989-754-9621

+ SPORTS



COURTESY PHOTO

Spirit hire Rick Ice as goaltending coach

Saginaw, MI – Saginaw Spirit General Manager Dave Drinkill announced today (July 27) the organization has hired Rick Ice as Goaltending Coach.

“We are excited for Rick to join our staff as our new goaltending coach,” said Drinkill. “He is an extremely hard worker and very dedicated to his craft. We feel our goalies will really benefit from working with Rick and can’t wait for him to get to work starting with our training camp in a week.”

The 29-year-old native of Sterling Heights, Michigan has a wealth of experience coaching at various levels of hockey including NCAA, Tier III Junior, and Major Midget.

Along with his coaching endeavors, Ice has taught at Future Pro Goalie School with former NHL goaltender Steve McKichan and Michigan native Jeremy Kale-

niecki and Legace Hockey Academy with longtime NHL goaltender Manny Legace and outgoing goaltending coach AJ Walczak.

Ice is the owner of Elite Goaltending Development, where he develops goalies that play in the Ontario Hockey League, NCAA, United States Hockey League, and various other leagues throughout North America. Ice is also an assistant coach at the Under-18 level for the Belle Tire Minor Hockey program with coaches Scott Syring and Steve Dickinson.

“I couldn’t be more excited to be joining the Spirit family,” said Ice. “The culture the organization has going is something to be excited about. I’m looking forward to working with our talented group of goaltenders and being an asset to the team any way I can.”

After four years as goaltending coach,

AJ Walczak has accepted a similar role with the University of Michigan.

“We will miss AJ and thank him for everything he has done for the organization,” said Drinkill. “AJ was a big part of our success over the last few years and wish him nothing but the best at Michigan.”



COURTESY PHOTO

+ SPORTS

SVSU's Cardinal Formula Racing Team among top 20 in the world

Team placed 16th at SAE International's Collegiate Design Series competition

Saginaw, MI – Racing through a narrow figure-eight course at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn, Ben Stull had a few thoughts going through his mind: Don't hit cones, hit my apex points, slow down my movements, be smooth. The mechanical engineering major's performance helped secure a 16th place finish in SAE International's Collegiate Design Series (CDS) Formula SAE® competition July 7-10. This was the sixth time the team has placed in the top 20 overall in the international competition.

"This competition was, by far, the hardest of the three I have competed in," said Ed Tomczyk, a mechanical engineering student from Grand Blanc and captain of the team. "We had technical inspection issues and mechanical troubles that we have never dealt with at competition."

Those issues meant the team had to repeat the technical inspection and sound-check, but the members were determined to overcome all obstacles.

"It was another successful year, even though the team didn't do as well as they'd hoped," said Brooks Byam, professor of mechanical engineering and Cardinal Formula Racing Team advisor. "There was a big disruption that resulted from a rules interpretation that affected the team from Thursday afternoon until late Friday morning, but the students persevered and ended up with a good result. I am proud of how they handled that difficult situation."

Cardinal Formula Racing's continued



SVSU

success at the CDS competitions is noteworthy because it is one of the smaller teams and one of the few composed entirely of undergraduate students. The team placed ahead of several larger schools, including the University of Florida, Northwestern University and Virginia Tech. Forty teams competed in this year's validation event, which included five dynamic events: Acceleration: Evaluations of the car's ability to accelerate down a 75-meter straight-away, testing power and speed.

Autocross: Evaluations of the car's handling through a tightly wound course testing the car's suspension and power.

- Endurance: 22-kilometer race with a mandatory driver change halfway through the race that forces the team to restart the car after the driver change. This event evaluates every aspect of the car and driver abilities.
- Efficiency: The evaluation of the car's fuel economy, which is calculated during the endurance event.
- Skid pad: The evaluation of the car's cornering ability through a narrow figure-eight course, which tests the setup and balance of the suspension.

The team's best showing of the competition was the skid pad event—the course Stull drove—with a 10th place finish. The team placed 17th in autocross, 18th in ac-

celeration and 19th in endurance/efficiency. Other drivers were Ethan Brown, a mechanical engineering major from Kimball; Tobias Pfeiffer, a mechanical engineering major from Grosse Ile; and Tomczyk.

Other team members who participated in the competition were:

- **Iain Bukowinski**, a mechanical engineering major from Birmingham
- **Julia Carvey**, a graphic design major from Farmington
- **Taylor Colletti**, a mechanical engineering major from Troy
- **Ethan Jones**, a mechanical engineering major from Bolingbrook, Illinois
- **Sean McClary**, an electrical engineering major from Saginaw
- **Michelle VanHautte**, a mechanical engineering major from Saginaw

For Stull, a novice on the team, the Formula SAE competition delivered a valuable learning experience.

"I learned a lot about the auto industry, how the Formula SAE works, racing rules and regulations, the design-to-production process, and how great of an opportunity it is to be able to compete and be part of the team," he said. "I also have my name and resume with a lot of employers."

MICHIGAN YOUTH BANNER

VOLUME 3 • NUMBER 15

39% of teens feel they are behind educationally due to the pandemic
34% needing "emotional support" this coming school year



NEASIA HOPKINS

Colorado Springs, CO – A new survey of teens conducted for Junior Achievement by the research firm ENGINE Insights shows that nearly 2-in-5 (39%) feel that they are behind educationally because of the pandemic. Of those, more than a third (37%) feel they are behind permanently. The survey also found that in addition to attending school in-person and interacting with other students and teachers, many teens (34%) need "emotional support" from teachers, parents, counselors, and other caring adults to help their "mental well-being," as well as more individual attention from teachers (32%) to help with their learning. The 2021 survey of 1,003 13- to 17-year-olds was conducted by ENGINE Insights from July 8 through 13, 2021.

"These results indicate that the pandemic may have a profound and long-term impact on today's young people, not just academically, but emotionally," said Jack E. Kosakowski, President & CEO of Junior Achievement USA. "It's up to all of us,

educators, parents, caregivers, counselors, mentors, and youth development professionals, to do what we can this school year and beyond to give young people the support they need."

Other findings from the survey include:

- A third of teens (34%) have concerns about attending school in-person this year, compared to two-thirds (66%) who have little to no concerns.
- COVID-19 impacted the way education was delivered for nearly all students. Most teens (56%) rated the quality of education during the pandemic as "fair/poor," while the rest (44%) rated it as "excellent/very good/good."
- Teen interest in participating in online-only classes in the future was split down the middle, with nearly

half interested (46%) and almost half not (48%).

Methodology

This Youth CARAVAN survey was conducted by ENGINE INSIGHTS among a sample of 1,003 13-17-year-olds. This survey was live on July 8-13, 2021.

Respondents for this survey were selected from among those who have volunteered to participate in online surveys and polls. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to multiple sources of error, including, but not limited to sampling error, coverage error, error associated with nonresponse, error associated with question wording and response options, and post-survey weighting and adjustments. It is nationally representative with set quotas based on census data. The 1,003 completes are all who qualified and completed based on the demographic quota requirements. The MoE is +/- 3.1%.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO
THE NEW MISS SAGINAW
COUNTY!**

Indigo Dudley

Indigo is a recent graduate from Saginaw Valley State University, with a bachelors in General Studies and triple minoring in Music, Musical Theatre, and Black Studies.

She loves music, dancing, painting, and all things art. Her Social Impact Initiative is "Amplifying the Arts: Building Community through Empathy and Expression."

Over quarantine she started a podcast called "That One Black Girl," to create a space for Black women to have a platform to express their concerns within their community.





PICS OF THE WEEK

On Wednesday, July 28, Consumers Energy celebrated its 2021 Health and Safety Light Up the City Saginaw Drive-thru and Walk-up initiative.



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We

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Whatever your dreams, whatever your goals, your professors and friends at SVSU will fly with you every step of the way.

Since age 11, India Pernell has had a passion for expressing herself through writing. Yet, when she first enrolled in college, choosing a major proved to be elusive for the Oak Park native. "I was 'major hopping' until it finally occurred to me that I always enjoyed writing and that I was good at it." Now a published author, Pernell has her sights on a career in grant writing, publishing or the film industry. In fact, she has nearly completed writing a movie script. **Her confidence is nurtured by her positive attitude and accomplishments at SVSU.**



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