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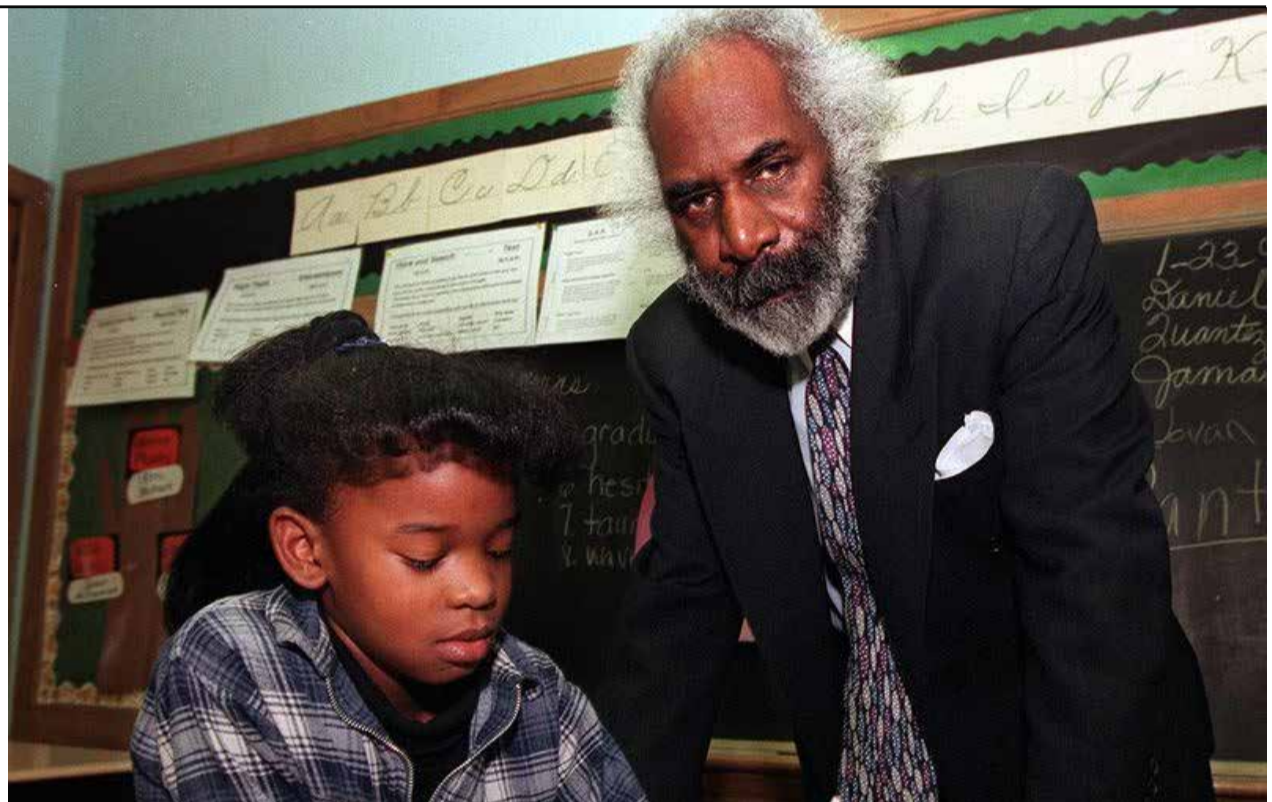
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COMMUNITY



BLUES LEGENDS RETURN FOR FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE

COMMUNITY, PG 23



CHARLES MCNAIR, PRINCIPAL OF MORLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, 2601 LAPEER, SAGINAW, ASSISTS A STUDENT WITH THEIR CLASSWORK (MLIVE - JWR-JOEL RENNICH)



Saginaw African Cultural Festival Schedule

COMMUNITY, PG 11



Peace rallies and marches? Try kickball

COMMUNITY, PG 14



Sing, Dani, sing! And play that gee-tar!

COMMUNITY, PG 17



Comedy without cursing? New at Gospel Fest

COMMUNITY, PG 20

Festival honors Mr. McNair

By MIKE THOMPSON

When Charles McNair is honored during the 54th annual Saginaw African Cultural Festival, Aug. 12-14 at Morley School Park, tributes will come from two of his main teammates through his years as principal.

Kermit Diggs was launching her 36-year teaching career at Morley when Mr. McNair arrived, and Darlean Carpenter was PTA president.

"I always respected him," Kermit says, "and he always respected me."

Which means, of course, they didn't always see eye-to-eye.

The same was true with Darlean, who adds, "After five minutes, no matter what the case, it was over and we would move on."



KERMIT DIGGS

CONTINUES ON PG 2, MR. MCNAIR

FEATURED STORY

FROM GHANA TO SAGINAW, GIVING BACK

COMMUNITY, PG 12



Cover story, Mr. McNair



MAURICE ASHLEY, THE FIRST BLACK GRANDMASTER, WILL MAKE AN APPEARANCE AT THE MCNAIR/COUGHLIN CHESS COURT ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 13

McNair, Morley all in one

Charles McNair passed away in December 2019, age 85. He will be saluted during the entire festival that he helped to create, culminating with a ceremony at 8 a.m. to begin Sunday's morning worship.

This year's event will feature more entertainment than ever, and the children's activities are greatly expanded.



DARLEAN CARPENTER

"Mister McNair was dedicated to young people, not only in his job but in his entire life," Darlean says. "We would debate about change. I would talk to him about computers, but he was all about the library, the books and the encyclopedias. He was such a historian, and this was a main part of what made him so great, even though we would argue sometimes about the high tech."

Kermit Diggs has been a festival fixture forever, this year with oversight of face painting and sidewalk chalk art, and she may have known McNair's feisty side the best. She chuckles when she says, "You must remember, it wasn't just the festival. I was at the school every day with him."

She adds, "He was adamant about incorporating children into the festival, and

education. When Mister McNair first persuaded me to volunteer, he said it was for the children. It still was the Black Arts Festival. He was the leader in changing the name to 'African Cultural' to better reflect the mission of the event, and the history."

Kermit's Morley pupils regularly were winners in a county science fair that otherwise was dominated by "gifted students" from the magnet Handley School, and she helped McNair develop the nature trail that still exists in the wooded area in the front corner of the festival grounds near I-675.

"He wanted to get the kids outdoors, to better appreciate nature," she says.

While literacy and science were McNair fundamentals, he also furnished music instruments for his elementary student band (the city's only) and chess sets for youngsters across the city.

'King' Charles

Assigid Mersha, a leader in Saginaw cultural activities, recalls playing chess with his mentor years ago.

Siggy says, "I honestly can't remember who won the games. Even while we were playing, our discussion was



ASSIGID MERSHA



JOHN TURNER

all about how to get the young people involved."

Indeed, chess can play a strong role in a child's social and mental development, says John Turner, the festival's children's activities chairman.

The strategies and moves are similar to physical exercise for an athlete, he says, modestly adding that he is no slouch himself on the big board,

In honor of McNair, John worked to recruit an appearance by the first Black man to achieve chess Grandmaster status, Jamaica-born-and-raised Maurice Ashley, who achieved the status as a young Brooklynite in 1969. This activity is slated to begin at 1 p.m. Saturday, also with an earlier appearance at 10 a.m. at New Birth Baptist on Sixth and Janes, where a Mission in the City outdoor chess park also is dedicated to our local education legend.

Kermit Diggs says Charles McNair focused not only on educating children, but on helping to guide their mothers and fathers.

"He always wanted what we did to be transferable to the parents," she says. "We appreciate when they also attend, because we want to share some of these fundamentals with them."

Read related SACF articles



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Will another legend emerge at African Fest kids' b-ball contest?
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MICHIGAN BANNER

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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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MICHIGAN YOUTH BANNER

VOLUME 4 • NUMBER 14



ALIJAH WILSON-BRONSON

5 Tips from a Teen Entrepreneur

In 2020, Ajjiah Wilson-Bronson was scrolling through Instagram and noticed a lot of women and girls wearing jewelry – something she didn’t have much of herself.

“Instead of just saying, ‘Oh, I want that,’ I asked myself, ‘How can I make that?’” says Wilson-Bronson, a 17-year-old student who is about to enter her senior year at International Academy of Flint. “And then I asked, ‘How can I sell it to others?’”

Thankfully, this experience aligned with her participation in YouthQuest, an afterschool enrichment program that offers youth entrepreneurship activities. As part of the eight-month YQ Biz program—provided in partnership with Genesee Intermediate School District (GISD) and the Young Entrepreneur Institute (YEI) — Wilson-Bronson and other students learned how to create a business plan and were challenged to start their own entrepreneurial venture.

In Wilson-Bronson’s case, she started Charmed, a jewelry business that promotes individuality by creating and selling charm bracelets in the Flint area. She buys bracelet bands and charms from various vendors online and then combines them to make unique jewelry options that she can sell for a profit.

Since then, Charmed’s owner has

**CONTINUES ON MYB PG 5,
5 TIPS**

MYB Cover Story, 5 Tips

learned quite a bit about what it takes to run a business. So, she recently sat down with the editors of Afterschool Download to share a few tips for other teens interested in making their business ideas a reality. Her top five recommendations are as follows.

1. Create a strong business plan and stick to it.

This is a document that outlines your business' mission, goals and other key information. This keeps you on track and reminds you why and how you're doing what you do. In June, Wilson-Bronson impressed other local business owners by sharing her business plan during YouthQuest's Hustle Hard Business Pitch competition. Not only did she win first place for her business pitch, she was also featured in an article from the Flint Courier.

2. Find a suitable mentor.

In Wilson-Bronson's case, that mentor was Jimantra Grant, the middle school/high school youth entrepreneur coordinator for YouthQuest/GISD in partnership with YEI. Grant was able to offer her valuable insight as it related to things like marketing, pitch creation and financing opportunities. Wilson-Bronson said that guidance is what helped her to take Charmed from idea to reality.

3. Keep your ears open for advice. There is always something to learn.

Through YQ Biz, Wilson-Bronson had the opportunity to promote her business during a monthly market day at the Flint Farmers' Market. There, she earned over \$1,000 that she was able to reinvest in her business and spend on herself. At first, she thought her target demographic was other teen girls. But she found that her audience at the market was wider than that – people would buy the product for girls and women of all ages. And, what's more, guys expressed interest in her product, too. Looking forward, she says she plans to expand her jewelry line to include men's jewelry as well.

4. Do not overwork yourself. It's okay to relax.

Wilson-Bronson spends at least a few hours a day, three to four days a week, working on her business. She also makes time for school and – to avoid burnout – she also prioritizes spending time with her friends.

5. Don't be afraid to ask for help. If you have helpful resources, use them wisely and to your advantage.

Not only did YQ Biz provide her with important guidance, funding and connections, it allowed her to attend the NextGen Summit in New York, where she heard from inspiring speakers and networked with other young leaders. For anyone interested in starting their own business, Wilson-Bronson says, "I definitely recommend applying for YouthQuest so you can participate in YQ Biz. It taught me a lot about starting my business."

Looking forward, Wilson-Bronson plans to develop an online presence so she can sell and ship her jewelry to customers outside of the area. Stay tuned for updates related to her business!

YouthQuest is made possible through the generous support of the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation and 21st Century Community Learning Centers.

Just a Glimpse



By Doniqua Sovia

I wish you could see what I see; how you have everything you need to succeed. The gifts, talents and creativity. You say you can see it, but what you see is a glimpse, and that's what you see, because all you do is glance, you don't stop and your eyes don't land on the whole picture cause if you saw what I saw, man could nothing distract ya.

You're not seeing it. Why? Not cause you don't believe it, but your focus keeps on shifting, and you're carrying weight that was never meant for you to be lifting and your strength is really starting to stagger, because you're focused on people that don't matter, and that's causing you to put your dreams on the back burner. But baby if you could only see, if you could only put my glasses on you'd be able to read, but you keep yours on and life will be blurry.

It ticks me off, you comprehend, but the understanding is lost. You're not counting the cost, and it's your potential that will be gone, because you're NOT A STANDARD PERSON BUT KEEP ACTING LIKE YOU ARE! Don't chase. Embrace. Don't lose; use. Untie the noose, I know life can be suffocating, but never lose hope or motivation, because I see it in you, allthat are, and all you see is glimpse, but you will go far.

I wish you would quit glancing and quit getting glimpses, I hope you can trust me and let your focus start shifting, because if you saw what I saw; There would be no more hesitation.

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Latino Banner

LIDER EN LA DIVERSIDAD

VAMOS ADELANTE



Latin Kings of Comedy coming to Saginaw

LB PG 2

2nd Annual FIESTA K?ONDA

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 5:30 pm - 7 pm Banda El Bajijo
 7 pm - 7:30 pm DJ Dwayne Medel
 7:30 pm - 9 pm Tejano Sound Band

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 - 5:30 PM - 9 PM
 5:30 pm - 7 pm Grupo Super A2
 7 pm - 7:30 pm DJ Dwayne Medel
 7:30 pm - 9 pm Grupo Dezeo

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 - 6 PM - 10 PM
 10 am Church Service - Radiant Church of God
 11:30 am - 12 pm Al Garcia - Piano
 12:30 pm - 1 pm Samson
 1 pm Pastor Augustine Delgado
 2 pm Bobby Barrera
 3 pm Gill Guevara - Poetry
 4 pm Ballet Folklorico Meyocoyani Izel
 5 pm El Ballet Folklorico Estudiantil
 6 pm Roxanne Chantaca











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LATIN KINGS OF COMEDY

Latin Kings of Comedy coming to Saginaw

The original Latin King of comedy, Paul Rodriguez, is back with his cast of hilarious comedians for the Latin Kings of Comedy 20th Anniversary Tour and they will make a stop at the Temple Theatre on October 15, 2022.

Paul Rodriguez is joined by comedians Joey Medina, Gilbert Esquivel, Johnny Sanchez, and Dennis Gaxiola.

Longtime comedian Paul Rodriguez has been making audiences laugh all over the world (in Spanish and English) for nearly three decades with his unique brand of humor that is a perfect blend of his Latin heritage the American dream and his undeniable universal appeal. As an actor and comedian Paul Rodriguez's multi-faceted career includes starring roles and featured appearances in over 45 films and countless television series and comedy specials.

Voted one of the most influential Hispanics in America and awarded the Ruben Salazar Award by The National

Council of La Raza (NCLR) the largest national Hispanic civil rights and advocacy organization in the United States Rodriguez has remained a constant force in his community and the world of comedy throughout his career.

The multifaceted entertainer recently wrote and performed his first-ever one-man show "Just for the Record" which is now available on DVD. In this tell-all theatrical piece Rodriguez takes audiences on a journey through his remarkable life including his childhood in Mexico to his family's move to Compton California (where he grew up) his illustrious career and the significant relationships and moments that helped shape his life along the way.

As an accomplished writer director and producer for television motion pictures and feature shows Rodriguez has several hit projects to his credit including the comedy concert film "The Original Latin Kings of Comedy" which he

executive produced and starred in along with Cheech Marin George Lopez and Carlos Mencia; the feature film "A Million to Juan" which he also wrote directed and starred in; six comedy specials for HBO including "Loco Slam" "Live in San Quentin" and "Idiots and Armadillos." As executive producer he recently struck comedy again with his Comedy Central stand-up concert DVD "Comedy Rehab." In addition to his many hit comedy specials in English Rodriguez has the distinguished credit of performing the first-ever one-hour standup comedy special in Spanish "Dime Con Quien Andas" for Telemundo.

Among his many credits Rodriguez has also made guest appearances on several Late Night shows including "The Wanda Sykes Show" "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno" "Last Call with Carson Daly" and "Politically Incorrect." Additionally he has guest starred in several television series including "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" "Kathy Griffin: My Life on the D-List" "Shaken Not Stirred" DIRECTV's "Supreme Court of Comedy" Showtime's original series "Resurrection Boulevard" and "American Family." He has also lent his voice to popular animated series including "King of the Hill" "Dora the Explorer" and "The Proud Family."

In addition to being a revolutionary and enduring force in the world of comedy throughout his career Rodriguez has remained involved with various charitable civic and educational organizations including the Hispanic Scholarship Fund Juvenile Diabetes Foundation Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) and The Leukemia Society to name a few. He also is a member of the advisory board of the California Film Commission. Additionally as part owner of the world famous Laugh Factory Rodriguez has participated in the club's annual free Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners for the underprivileged for over 30 years.

For more information visit www.etix.com/ticket/p/3289643/latin-kings-of-comedy20th-anniversary-tour-saginaw-temple-theatresaginaw-mi.

LATINO BANNER
SERMONETTE SERIES



By **MICAELA DELGADO**
NEW BEGINNINGS
MINISTRIES

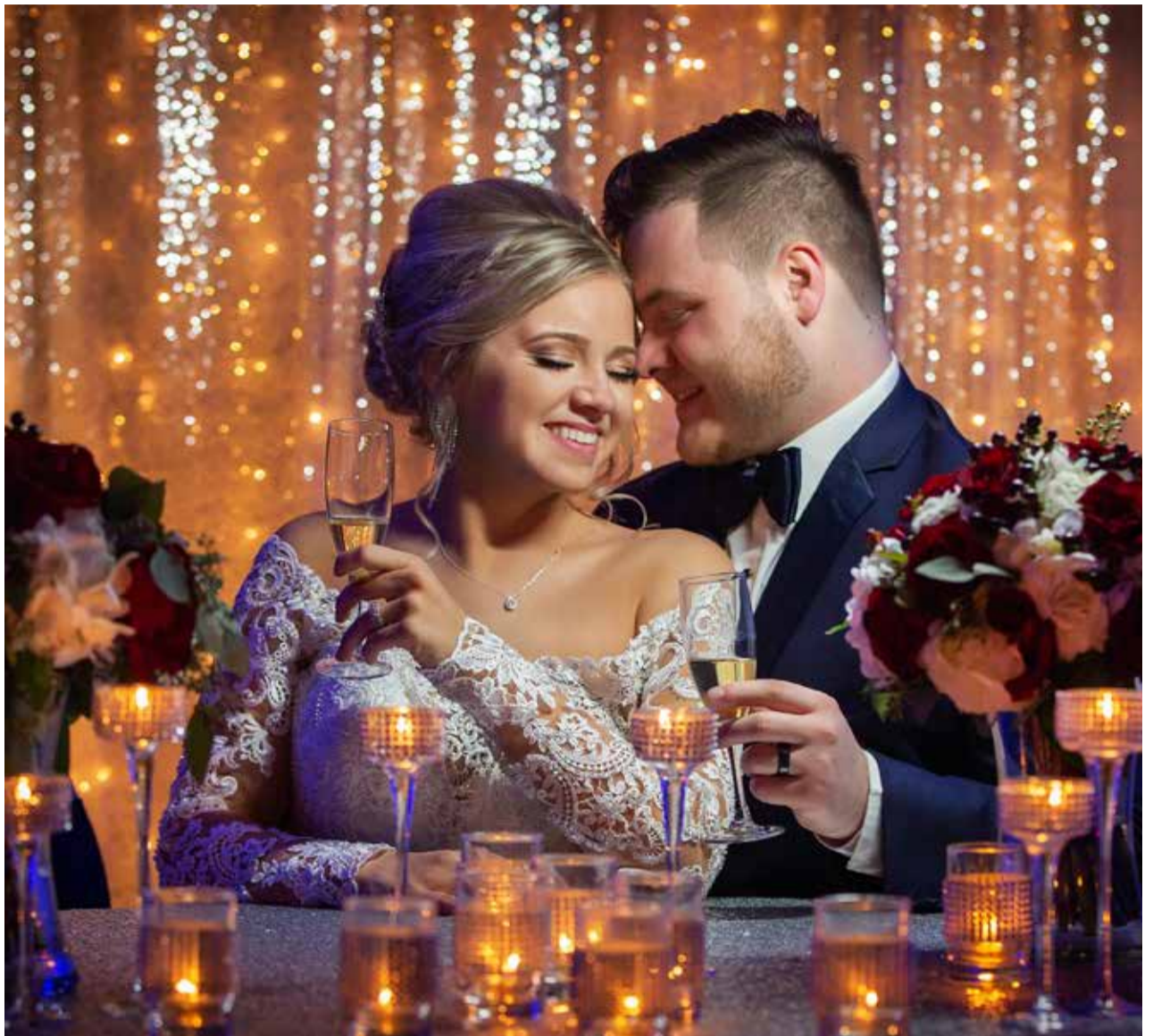
“Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.”

- Matthew 6:34

Our summer chapter is approaching a near end. While it was a very well-needed break from all things concerning work and school, it’s almost time to get back into the swing of things.

Speaking from a personal place, both Fall and Winter always tend to be stressful, where my days are filled with tasks needing to be done while also needing to find time for both myself and my family.

So before we dive headfirst into the rest of the year, let’s enjoy the remainder of the Summer that we do have. Remember that tomorrow is never promised, so enjoy the present. Of course, you can never go wrong with preparation, but sometimes it’s better to just stop and smell the roses.



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- Continental Breakfast & Practice Range 8:30 - 10:00 am
- Shotgun 10:00 am
- Networking Reception 3:00 - 6:00 pm
- Putt Off 5:00 pm
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+ COMMUNITY

Saginaw African Cultural Festival Schedule



ONE WAY FEATURING AL HUDSON

These events are slated for the 54th annual Saginaw African Cultural Festival, Aug. 12-14 at Morley School Park. Admission is free. Out-of-towners may take I-675 to the Veterans Parkway exit, and head southbound less

than a half-mile to Lapeer Street. Expansion has been so strong that the calendar is divided between entertainment and children's activities. Vendors will be present all three days, of course.

Entertainment Activities

To prepare, first get your carry-on lawn chair ready, and maybe visit the web and search for the old hit song, "Cutie Pie." That's right. Detroiters Al Hudson and One Way are the featured entertainers on Saturday evening, and that's their big hit. The year? Hint: If you're 39 or younger, you were not even born yet, but you still may recognize it and get into it. BV's Jeanette Mack-Jackson, a regular with the group since the 1980s, will be on hand.

Friday, Aug. 12

- 5 p.m. SWAG magazine, live history
- 6 p.m. Dani Darling Band
- 7 p.m. Elevation, featuring Chiara Clayton

Saturday, Aug. 13

- 11:30 a.m. Kuungana African Drum and Dance (repeat, 5 p.m.)
- 2 p.m. Flint Motown Imitators
- 2 p.m. Sew System demo
- 3 p.m. tap*ol*o*gy
- 5 p.m. Lionel Baldwin saxophone
- 7 p.m. One Way with Al Hudson

Sunday, Aug. 14

- 8 a.m. Charles McNair tribute
- 2 p.m. Chosen Sons and Daughter
- 2 p.m. "Dream of Detroit" conversation
- 3 p.m. Tosha Parker, vocalist
- 4 p.m. Hurley Coleman and Friends, gospel
- 4 p.m. 1619 Project with Pamela Ross McClain
- 6 p.m. Souliloquy63, poetess

- 7 p.m. Gezelle Myers and Djois
- 8 p.m. Call to Action, discussion

Children's Activities

More than any festival or fair, in the spirit of Charles McNair, kids are the focus. As volunteers like Kermit Diggs will inform us, "We need to teach children more than the school subjects, but how to take recess, how to play."

Friday, Aug. 12

All day, board games

- Noon to 4 p.m. STEM education
- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Fire Safety House
- 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Sidewalk art
- 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Basketball skills contests
- 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Isabella Bank, financial literacy
- 6 p.m. Adult dominos and chess (kids watch and learn)



Saturday, Aug. 13

All day, board games

- 9:30 a.m. to noon STEM education
- Noon Talent contests, ages 11-18
- 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Chess demo Maurice Ashley (also appears earlier, 10 a.m., New Life Baptist)
- 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. karate (includes women's self-defense)
- 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Sidewalk art
- 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Pony rides

Sunday, Aug. 14

All day, board games

- 8 a.m. Charles McNair tribute
- Noon to 2 p.m. Face painting and sand bottles
- 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Sidewalk art
- 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Painting on canvas



+ COMMUNITY



STUDENTS ATTEND ACCOUNTING SUMMER CAMP AT SVSU

Many of the firm's 200 employees follow "hybrid" weekly schedules of three days at home and two days at the office.

Compensation? Yeo & Yeo speakers cited no specific dollar figures, but they noted that salaried employees remain eligible for overtime and that a minimum of 18 vacation days are offered.

Other amenities? Child care for pre-schoolers, an in-house fitness center and cafeteria, a minimal dress code with many workers clad in jeans or khakis, and neckties rare to be seen.

Discussion also led to cell phone allowances, which at Yeo & Yeo are \$150 a month for the 28 partners and \$100 for all others.

To keep matters interesting, Kwame and Zikora engaged their pupils in related fun and games, such as playing Monopoly. They asked students to imagine they were handling money management and marketing for a sports franchise, and the camp included a visit with the Great Lakes Loons minor-league baseball team at Midland's Dow Diamond.

Kwame is an example of an alumni "cohort" who returns to help with outreach to students from disadvantaged environs, says Betsy Pierce, SVSU associate professor of accounting and department chair.

He wrote his own grant proposal and is looking ahead to future years.

"Now, I'm excited," he says. "I'm hoping to see it succeed beyond expectation."

From Ghana to Saginaw, giving back

By MIKE THOMPSON



KWAME AKOWUAH

When Nana Kwame Akowauh of Ghana started as an international student in finance at Saginaw Valley State University in 2009, he landed an SVSU incentive grant to return to his birthplace for the purpose of guiding teenage students toward similar careers.

Now the owner of Globadigm Consulting is doing the same with young people in his new hometown -- Saginaw, Michigan, USA.

During the week of July 18-22, he teamed with his alma mater and with First Ward Community Center's Michigan DNR Youth Employment Program to organize and oversee an "AFL (Accounting, Finance, Law) Summer Camp," again with SVSU funding support.

"I feel a need to give back to the younger ones," says Kwame, who achieved his MBA in 2016 at Saginaw Valley with support from Joseph Ofori-Dankwa, a fellow Ghanaian and H.W. Wickes professor



STUDENTS SEEN AT ACCOUNTING SUMMER CAMP

of international business. "The environments for them are very different (comparing the United States to Ghana), but one thing in common is they have not had exposure to the various careers that are involved in finance."

His partner in the project was Zikora Okefor of Lansing, a fellow SVSU alumni from a family of Nigerian heritage

More than 30 teens took part, closing with a visit to Yeo & Yeo's CPA's and Business Consultants state headquarters on Bay Road, where Corion Pritchett (Delta College freshman) and Carrington Pryor (Heritage High senior) took the lead with questions.

Work during covid times?



STUDENTS PLAY MONOPOLY AND LEARN ABOUT FINANCE



Festival artist offers a village from the motherland

By MIKE THOMPSON

If you ever noticed a woman taking photos all over the grounds at the Saginaw African Cultural Festival, this may well have been Nyesha Clark-Young.

She's a professional who owns and operates TINK's Photography, but she was doing more than clicking snapshots of the happenings at Morley School Park, as her way of offering a donation.

While she made her rounds, she also was building a gradual vision to "bring more art back" to an event she grew up knowing as the Black Arts Festival, and this year she is serving as arts chairwoman.

"The main goal is to promote and support local artists who otherwise would not receive exposure," says Nyesha, a 1992 Saginaw High School alumnae who continued through Delta College and SVSU.



NYESHA CLARK-YOUNG

Patrons on the fest's opening Friday may take note of an "African Village," assembled near the I-675 pedestrian bridge. On Saturday, the main scene moves closer to Lapeer Street for exhibits of drawings, paintings, sculptures, "any form of visual arts." Sunday's conclusion features modeling with a futuristic emphasis.

Nyesha was a theater student at Saginaw High, and three decades later she has found occasion to join the youthful mural artists at the foot of the Court

Street Bridge. For her festival efforts, she is focusing on inclusion to such a degree that she still must decide on her own exhibit.

"I'm fortunate enough now that I have opportunities to showcase my work," she says. "I've been an artist all of my life, and I wish there had been more openings when I was starting out. The issue is opportunities."

Another issue is to bring a wider audience, for the African Fest to be viewed as existing for all, similar to events with Irish, Mexican, Bavarian or Greek cultures as the focus.

"When I attend other (Black arts) festivals, they are more integrated," she says. "Our festival in Saginaw has so much history and tradition. I hope to see everyone come out and support us, just to take everything in."

In this spirit, she is extending the deadline for entries. Call Nyesha Clark-Young at (989) 577-9919 or send her a note, nyesha.latoy@gmail.com.

One Way has been a good way for Jeanette Mack

By MIKE THOMPSON

Jeanette Mack-Jackson is not "returning" to Saginaw to perform with Al Hudson and One Way. She still lives here with her husband, Patrick "P.J." Jackson from his old disc jockey days on W-3-SOUL, their three children and a 21-month-old grandson.

When Al calls her, either for a show in the USA or for an overseas tour, then she's ready to hit the road. This time the road just happens to be in her own backyard.

The 1979 Buena Vista High School product will take the stage with One Way at 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 13, as headliners for the 54th Saginaw African Cultural Festival at Morley School Park. There may be some hollering for Hudson, but the megacheers will be for Mack.

"I've been to Italy and all over Europe, and Japan six times," Jeanette says. "It is



JEANETTE MACK-JACKSON

an honor to be recognized here at home."

Her father, Andrew Mack, passed away 20 years ago. Her mother, Janie Mack (1932-2013), was known for her flower shop and tuxedo rentals from a storefront under the Temple Theatre marquee, but she also managed talents such as Larry

Reynolds with The Dramatics.

This helped lead to Hudson's Detroit production company scouting her when she performed at Saginaw's former downtown hotel during the early 1980s. The 3-SOUL station manager at the time, Kermit Crockett, also played a role and became her own manager.

"They signed me on the spot," she recalls, and her debut was singing background for an array of artists. When an opening took place in One Way, she already had her foot in the door.

Her hit duets with Hudson have included "You Better Quit" and "Say You Will," which reached Billboard's top ten. Her vocals also once were featured on TV's Miami Vice.

"Since then, One Way has been all I know, like family," Jeanette says. "God has blessed me."

+ COMMUNITY

Peace rallies and marches? Try kickball

By MIKE THOMPSON

Central Junior High Cougars versus Webber Wildcats versus South Rebels versus North Vikings versus Arthur Eddy Panthers.

And you too, BV Ricker Gears.

For Charles "Chucky" Lawrence, kickball is a centerpiece to help stomp out local violence and gunplay.



CHUCKIE LAWRENCE

He is organizing an Aug. 20 rally, "Peace in the Community," at Hoyt Park from noon until 6 o'clock.

Alumni from schools and former schools are challenged to organize teams in

kickball, the childhood combo of baseball and softball.

"With all of the shootings, Saginaw has developed too much of a negative reputation and image," Lawrence says. "I love the positive idea of people saying 'no' to the violence through a game that we all played together as kids."

The format will guarantee each school squad at least two games, with a championship finale later in the afternoon.

Co-ed? Yes. T-shirts or uniforms? Design your own. Entry fee? Just show up.

All ages? Chucky will be neither the eldest nor the youngest, but he assures, "For anyone who wants, we will have kids to run the bases for them."

He owns and operates Lawrence Logistics, a private transport company, but he also shows a knack for marketing. High schools also are included, but by focusing on the junior highs, he's lighting up the social media. Connections during those adolescent years are right up there with The High or The Hill, or with Carrollton or Bridgeport, or the pre-Heritage High years at MacArthur or Eisenhower. He is aiming for suburbanites also to take part.

Lawrence, who was big on football and track during his 1980s prime, says he

picked kickball as a game for all skill levels and all ages.

He adds, "People are getting really excited about this."

Chucky landed his first sponsor without even trying. Kristopher Livingston, a sales professional from Garber Chevrolet on Gratiot, spotted the poster on social media. As a product of Bridgeport High School, Kris encouraged his managers to get involved in the proceedings.

Other sponsors who since have signed

on are T & T Authentic Mexican Restaurant, T.B.F.B. (The Beverages For Bros), Gales Automotive shops on Dixie, and Meijer's on Gratiot.

Advance registration is requested, so that Lawrence and his team may better estimate attendance for the inaugural event. To obtain more information, or to serve as a vendor on Aug. 20, please send an email to charleslawrence46@yahoo.com or call him, (989) 598-2786.

BY KNIGHTS

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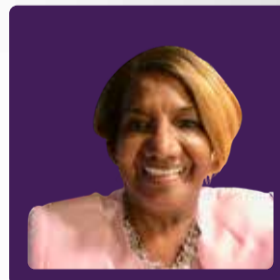
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TUNE IN AFTER ON THE WOC TV NETWORK VIA

+ COMMUNITY

New babies, new biz for local mom

By MIKE THOMPSON



ERICKA LASHAWN AND KEATA LITTLE

We can agree We are stronger together! says Ericka Granderson and Keata Little who will be hosting a small business showcase, "Unity in the Community," set for 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 20, on the grounds

of North Saginaw Charter Academy, 2332 Trautner Drive behind the Target store in Kochville Township.

Keata Little, owner and founder of Bless B'younn.(sells 0-4T clothing, shoes and the adorable fashionable and affordable accessories) "I finally have built the courage to talk about what I went through with IVF" After losing her tubes and being told she would not be able to have children naturally She underwent two rounds of IVF and her and fiancé AnTwain Terry were doubled blessed with their twin daughters Ketwainay in Antwainay. She is truly blessed beyond measure, to be a new mother and newly started business owner

Her teammate in promoting the Aug. 20 event is Ericka Granderson pen name Ericka Lashawn, the author of No Privacy the series and founder of Writing On The Wall. Which specializes in bringing your creativity to life, helping uncover and discover your artistic side, in forms of writing and photography.

"This is more than just an event and pop-up shop," Ericka says. "It is an experience the whole family can enjoy. There will be bounce houses, photo booths, bookbag giveaways, races, food trucks and a lot of great businesses. We wanted to bring our local businesses together and show that even though we are all in different types of business. or even something similar, we can all support one another among our families, friends, and neighbors."

The event is free of charge. For information, send a note to elnewman52@gmail.com.

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Sing, Dani, sing! And play that gee-tar!

By MIKE THOMPSON

When we learn that Ann Arbor's Dani Darling is a triplet, we can start to fill out the story of her inspiration and influences.

Yes, of course, she formed a trio with her sisters from a very young age. Yes, their first singing was in church.

The difference is that the triplets also showed a love and affinity for instruments, choral music, and theater.

That's why patrons at the Saginaw African Cultural Festival will see Dani with a Fender guitar strapped to her shoulder at the same time as she reaches her vocal octaves as leader of the six-member band she has assembled during the past four years.

On the weekend of Aug. 12-14 at Morley School Park, she will serve as an example that fest patrons who will enjoy Al Hudson and One Way also should look beyond for a full weekend of music and entertainment enjoyment.

Her Saginaw connection is through her mother Jeanine Sheppard (Martin) and through her uncle Ralph Martin, whose name festival-goers may recognize as SACF chair. Her grandfather, James Martin, was the city's first Black detective sergeant, and her grandmother, Carrie Bell Martin, was a long-respected educator at Arthur Eddy Junior High School. She still visits relatives who live here, and is eager for a local contingent to cheer for her at the festival.

Writing by playing

Dani loves the guitar as a means of songwriting and leading the band, but she considers herself a vocalist first: "My voice is my lead instrument and my favorite instrument."

More women nowadays are performing on guitars and keyboards and drums and saxophones, but even in the new millennium they remain rare, which is all the more reason why parents may wish to bring their little girls along to see and hear a role model.

Her credentials include three albums, a Detroit Metro Times cover story and a



DANI DARLING

Detroit Music Awards nomination.

Like many musicians, Dani resists labels, but if forced, she describes her group's stylings as "Indie soul" that sometimes delves into "psychedelic soul." She will cover classics -- crooning Sade, for example, and strumming the chords for "Smooth Operator" -- and she also writes her own material.

In one combo piece, after the 2020 police slaying of George Floyd, she begins with Marvin Gaye's "What's Going On?" and then adds her own personal segue in a reverent original called "Trying."

"Sometimes I will take classic songs that I really like, and then work up something of my own," she explains.

As seen on TV

Dani Darling is the stage name for Danielle Davis. She and her siblings qualified for a TV round of "X Factor," a televised singing competition, where they encountered the likes of judges Simon Cowell and Paula Abdul. They have followed their own career paths since then. Jacqui works in theater arts at the University of Michigan, while Nikki is a flight attendant for Delta Airlines.

Dani ventured out on her own musical journey, and also works in the non-profit sector as program coordinator for Neutral Zone, a youth-oriented community center in Ann Arbor, which gives her a deep feel-

ing of purpose as she develops music and arts programs for teens (including her own teenager, Eden Nicole).

She adds that the university town offers the opportunity to pursue alternative ventures. Dani may feel like being Jimi (Hendrix) for a moment, and then chill to acoustic for a ballad.

In closing, for readers who are music aficionados, following is what Dani told a Detroit-area entertainment magazine:

"I started out with lo-fi music. The way vintage jazz sounds were reimagined really spoke to me coming from a love of pop-jazz vocalists like Ella Fitzgerald, Nat King Cole, and Billie Holiday. From there I formed a band and started adding more layers to production. I kept my songwriting themes dreamy and intergalactic, and I wove in influences from Motown, Hendrix and Pink Floyd, Radiohead, 90s femme rock, Sade. I started to find myself and find my own voice. After making a name for my music and live experience I was awarded a Fellowship with the Amplify Project and was able to conceptualize, record, and release my latest Psychedelic Soul EP "The Future". I'm most proud of my most recent release and its reception. My journey has been full of obstacles, and triumphs. I believe that the tapestry of sound, coupled with the live experience of my band, sets Dani Darling apart."



+ COMMUNITY

COURTESY PHOTO

We can win them back

By MB STAFF

Over the past twelve years, the population of the city of Saginaw has decreased by more than ten thousand. This trend, affecting small cities and rural communities nation-wide is cause for alarm. One of the major concerns is that many of the individuals taking flight are arguably the greatest resource of any city - the young adults. Young adults breathe life into the community. They are vibrant, they bring fresh ideas, they plan and participate in activities and events which bring revenue into the areas in which they dwell. They work and raise families which contribute to the tax base which support schools and other essential services. So, I am wondering what we can do to curtail the rapid pace at which they leave and of equal importance, how we can win back as many as possible of those who journeyed to faraway places.

Why do young people move away from their hometowns? Some of them leave for college or the military, fall in love with far-away places (or people), and begin their adult life there. That is to be expected and celebrated. We must be cautious, however that distance is not equated with success. There appears to be a prevailing misperception that the farther away we roam the greater the degree of success is attributed to our life choices. The youth who relocates to California, for instance seems to be heralded as adventurous, somehow more courageous than those who stay and build

homes and families here in Saginaw. This mindset cannot be changed overnight but over time, that message must be transformed into one that encourages families and young adults to settle and support efforts to develop here. Adults with influence such as parents, teachers, coaches, faith leaders, etc. can begin to encourage young people to explore options right here at home. Some are destined to move away but others will thrive in an environment close to home with the natural supports of family and friends.

Young people also leave for job opportunities. This is a challenge that will require strategies far beyond offerings in this editorial but will be critical to turning the tide of continuously losing our best and brightest. Resources are limited and many businesses are struggling. Seeking grant and philanthropic funding sources may provide opportunities for youth and young adults to experience paid internships, temporary positions with stipends attached, or part-time positions compatible with their career choices within local businesses and organizations.

As mentioned earlier, young people enroll in colleges, universities, and training programs all over the country. They graduate, make their homes in the location where they have lived the first few years of adulthood, and they visit Saginaw on holidays. Saginaw and the Great Bay Region is home to some of the most excellent institutions of higher learning in the nation. There are too many to name

here, but I will mention Delta College and Saginaw Valley State University as two of the finest. I age myself when I recall having clubs in High School which were a means of recruiting students into local schools and careers here at home. Organizations such as Future Teachers, the Science and Technology Club, and the Newspaper/Yearbook group all met weekly with an adult advisor, with many remaining here throughout their career now at the age of retirement. A collaborative effort between the high schools and the universities to revamp some of these groups would include campus visits with faculty and staff to develop familiarity, security and an interest in enrollment would increase the likelihood of the students choosing Saginaw (insert your community here) as the place they call home. I am also mindful of the fact that there are many, many career options which do not require a college education. Again, we have Delta College right here in our own backyard.

Young people work hard and play hard. They will choose to live in communities with a wide array of extra-curricular activities to offer. Where do I begin? Michigan has the absolute best seasonal offerings in the states. Winter, summer, spring and fall there are sports, festivals, beaches, sand dunes, one of the longest snow mobile races in the country, resorts, and food, food, food. Saginaw is but a hop, skip and a jump to Detroit – home of the world-famous Jazz Festival and of course Motown, with concerts from every other genre of music as well. Weather permitting, Saginaw offers free concerts, movies and sporting events for youth and families. There are reasons to stay – we must give that message to young people before they seek opportunities elsewhere.

My love for Saginaw and the Great Bay Region provoked me to share these thoughts. Over time we can change the perception that far away travelers are more successful than those of us who stay. We can encourage some who moved away to begin their journey home. We can even be such a beacon that this will become home for young adults and families in search of a safe and healthy

community to call home. If we want them to stay – and we do – let's give them something to stay for.



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+ COMMUNITY

Comedy without cursing? New at Gospel Fest

By MIKE THOMPSON

Detroit Michael McDaniel, a 2022 Saginaw Gospel Fest headliner, says just because he's a "clean" comedian doesn't mean he isn't funny.

Almost all the legendary comics have been R-rated, some more than others, of course. McDaniel's outlook is, "Take the curse words out, and you're still going to laugh."

Vicki Hill's 21st annual Gospel Fest returns to Ojibway Island on Saturday, Aug. 6. Featured musical artists are Larry Callahan of Detroit, Keyla Richardson of Houston, and the Colorado Mass Choir.

Admission is free and parking is allowed on the island for this event.

"We never gave up in spite of the pandemic situation," Vicki says. "Where there is a will, there is a way."

Her team of volunteers did their best to beat the virus the past two years by going virtual "as though we were outside," she notes, but nothing beats the return of fresh air.

She adds, "This year we will have a comedian to host part of the show, which is a first and which I believe will be great, as well as the Xinos and Kudos doing their stepping routine."

'Shush your mouth?

The real keys to comedy, McDaniel says, are good material and fine-tuned timing.

So what's the borderline?



MICHAEL MCDANIEL

"I don't use words that I wouldn't use in front of my own children," says Michael, a 1996 graduate of River Rouge High School who attended Eastern Michigan University and who launched his stand-up career when he was 29 years old,

His act is filled with impressions, but he hesitates to identify his likely "victims" in advance, preferring to measure his audience and to go with the flow rather than locking into his clean routine.

Another description is "edgy," so don't expect a bunch of innocent why-the-chicken-crossed-the-road jokes. His favorite popular comic is Dave Chappelle, and so patrons may anticipate some ironic scenarios along similar topics.

He also won't make you feel guilty if you head back home and play, for example, one of those Redd Foxx albums that were hidden in the back shelves of old-time record shops.

"I don't take sides on that, right or wrong," McDaniel says. "I simply go by what's in my own heart. I never say anything on stage that couldn't be said in a school."

Nothing for granted

Vicki Hill's media experience with the station now known as KISS 107 has provided a saving grace.

She sums up: "Yes, after the pandemic hit, I thought for sure it would be the end of Gospel Fest but instead, we came up with innovative ideas. We still had national recording artists, so we never gave up."



VICKI HILL

+ COMMUNITY



MIDLAND-BASED ARTIST ANNIE STOUT ADDING KEYS TO THE SCULPTURE SHE BUILT.

Creative 360 hosts opening for The Key House Public Art Project

The Marshall Fredericks Sculpture Museum is excited to partner with Creative 360 to celebrate a new public art project in Midland with a dedication event on Wednesday, August 10, 2022 from 6 – 7:30 pm at the Creative 360 Stage, Studio and Galleries located at 1517 Bayliss St, Midland, MI 48640. The sculpture by Midland-based artist Annie Stout is part of the “NEA Big Read: Great Lakes Bay Region” initiative and will be permanently installed at Creative 360.

This public art installment is the culminating chapter in the ten-month long initiative centered on the book “The House on Mango Street” by Hispanic author Sandra Cisneros. The book's themes, particularly “neighbors and “neighborhoods” were also the basis for three community artmaking projects throughout the Great Lakes Bay Region.

For the Midland piece, artist Annie Stout created a steel house frame approxi-

mately 7’x8’x12.5’ that has two open ends for visitors to walk through and two sides and a roof where keys can be hung. “Everyone, regardless of the age or artistic ability, will be able to come together to create a shared community artwork they can take pride in. It is special experiences like these that provide high quality of life in the region,” states Megan McAdow, director of the Marshall M. Fredericks Museum and lead on the NEA Big Read initiative.

“The house structure is representative of the community as a whole,” Annie Stout said. “I want to invite the community to help complete the sculpture by adding keys all over the walls. The keys represent the individuals in our community with open hearts, minds, and doors, which is how we can make real connections and strengthen relationships with our neighbors.”

Community members are invited to join the opening celebration and add their own key, or one of the collected keys, to

the artwork. Light refreshments will be provided.

Funding for this portion of the “NEA Big Read: Great Lakes Bay Region” comes from, the National Endowment for the Arts Big Read program in partnership with Arts Midwest, the Hemlock Semiconductor Community and Regional Empowerment Fund, the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum, and the Midland Area Community Foundation who provides philanthropic leadership to strengthen our community by fostering collaboration and giving today and in the future. For more information about the initiative visit the project’s website at www.marshallfredericks.net/bigread.

Museum hours are Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday noon to 5:00 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call (989) 964-7125 or visit the Museum’s website at www.marshallfredericks.org.

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+ COMMUNITY



SHARRIE WILLIAMS AND LARRY MCCRAY

Blues legends return for Friday Night Live

By MIKE THOMPSON

Sharrie Williams and Larry McCray are long-time favorites who still both will have something new to offer on Aug. 12 when they perform downtown at Friday Night Live.

Sharrie's latest CD is "The World Is In Trouble," which she describes as a theme album devoted to "my life trials" and how she has aimed to overcome challenges.

Larry also has a new release, "Blues Without You," a commemoration upon last year's death of his career manager, Paul Koch.

"Larry McCray actually abducted me into the blues," Sharrie says. "My husband (Norm "Pops" Crawford, who passed away three years ago) asked him to take me to Chicago and bring me back a star. Larry took me under his wings. Full circle, we

are on the same stage again."

She adds, "I am so excited to be at home, sharing my music with my Saginaw family."

Admission is always free to Saginaw's Morley Park Plaza. Patrons may wish to bring some cash not only for the food and beverage and souvenir vendors, but to purchase the latest works from a pair of local artists who have achieved renown overseas, where new blues music remains more popular than here in the States.

McCray is a 1978 graduate of Saginaw High School, while Williams is a Trojan of later vintage.

"People know me quite well, because I speak about the truth, about life," he says, reflecting his upbringing as the youngest of nine children in Magnolia, Arkansas until he was 12, when his family headed to Saginaw 50 years ago.

In addition to his new CD, fans may be surprised to learn that Larry's first instrument was not a guitar, but a saxophone. He did not take kindly to the demands on what musicians call the "amberture," a.k.a. mouth and jaws, but he fell in love with the six strings.

Among his top accomplishments regionally is a Lifetime Achievement honor from the Detroit Music Awards. Among the luminaries he has joined in concert are B.B. King and Albert King, his childhood heroes. He once had Frankenmuth's emerging Greta Van Fleet open for HIM at the Civic Center.

One of his favorite quotations is, "I always try to move forward while remembering where I came from."

Meanwhile, Sharrie Williams always remembers she came from the former Daniels Heights public housing projects to share stages with such luminaries as Shirley Caesar, the Winans and Mavis Staples. A top honor remains best blues album from France's L'Academie du Jazz, representing one of 45 nations where she has performed.

Like McCray, she writes her own material and sometimes spins off from popular material. Her fifth album, for example, includes the Beatles' "Don't Let Me Down" among a playlist that otherwise is all originals.

After finding her voice at Greater Williams Temple COGIC, she has shared stages with the likes of such gospel icons as Shirley Caesar, James Cleveland, Mavis Staples and the Winans family. On the blues side, Koko Taylor and Buddy Guy.

Matt Besey, popular mid-Michigan blues guitarist, will join her at Morley Plaza.

Her promo material summarizes, "Sharrie's desire is to take her Rockin' Gospel blues to every country and every nation, is as certain as the rain ending in time for her performance. There's no stopping this princess!"

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What's for dessert, Della?

By Dolores Grant-Fall, former Neighborhood House cook

Cookies with the kiddies

Soft molasses raisin cookies

Ingredients

- 2 eggs
- 2 cups of sugar
- 2 cups of buttermilk
- 2 cups shortening
- 2 cups molasses
- 5 teaspoon soda
- 1 teaspoon ginger powder
- 1 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups raisins
- 2 teaspoon vanilla
- 3 cups of flour to finish, if you need more, add for the right batter



Instructions

Cream sugar, shortening and eggs.

Add all other ingredients and mix well

Bake at 375 degrees 10 to 15 minutes

Cool and sprinkle with white powder sugar.

(If you have diabetes like I do cut, back on the sugar just use 1/4 the amount.)

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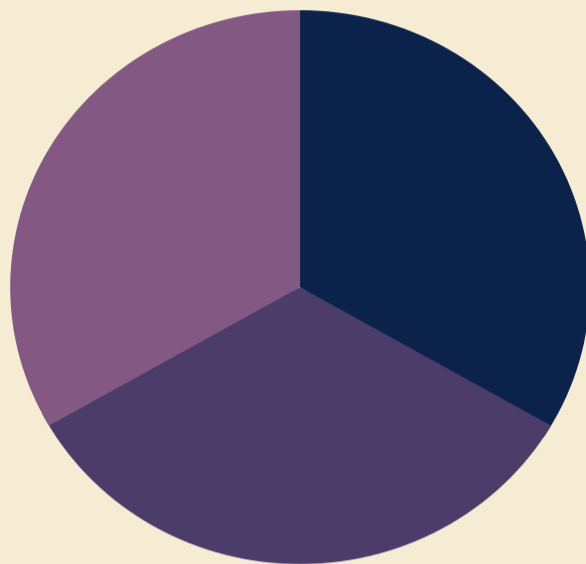
MI Tri-Share

CHILD CARE

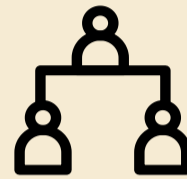
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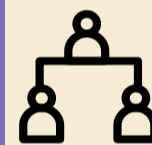


The MI Tri-Share Pilot (Tri-Share) is an innovative public/private partnership that shares the cost of child care equally between employers, employees, and the state of Michigan.

Overview

- **Tri-Share aims to:** (1) make child care affordable and accessible for working parents; (2) help employers retain and attract employees; and (3) help child care providers secure slots.
- Facilitator Hubs coordinate and administer the program in three regions currently representing the **Great Lakes Bay region, Northwest lower peninsula and Muskegon County.**
- Hubs serve as a **central liaison to facilitate connections** between employers, employees and providers.
- Eligible employees are those who are **Asset Limited Income Constrained Employed (ALICE)** to alleviate one financial burden and remove a barrier to work.

Benefits



For employers, Tri-Share hopes to aid employers recruit and retain talent, and remove barriers to employment



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For providers, this pilot will secure slots for reliable payments of child care, as well as help with recruitment.

For more information, visit-
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+ COMMUNITY

IN MY HUMBLE OPINION



COURTESY PHOTO

Our schools need more prayer



BY KEN H. SIMMONS, II
MANAGING DIRECTOR, KENZO
PROJECT MANAGEMENT

One of the most controversial issues in the U.S. today is organized school prayer. Many people see prayer in schools as a necessary part of the struggle to curtail violence, drug abuse, and other social ills that plague our nation in general and schools in particular. I am one of them, but not to the point of violating the Constitution or breaking any laws, but in my humble opinion, our schools need more prayer.

A little more than a month has passed since the Supreme Court ruled in favor of a Washington state football coach who knelt at midfield to pray and was joined by student-athletes. In a 6-3 decision, the court wrote that Bremerton High School assistant coach Joseph Kennedy's prayers were protected by the Constitution's guarantees of free speech and religious exercise and that the Bremerton School District was wrong to discipline him for what the majority saw as a private act.

The issue of prayer in schools did not start in this century, but during the 19th and early 20th centuries, school prayer was challenged in court by some citizens affected by it for violating state constitutions. These early cases often found that state-mandated school prayer violated the constitution of the state in question. In 1872, the landmark case of "Board of Education of Cincinnati v. Minor" was decided. Judge Alphonzo Taft, former President

William Howard Taft's father, and an Ohio Superior Court judge, upheld a school policy prohibiting school prayer and Bible reading in the already religiously diverse Cincinnati public schools.

When the case was challenged, it was the unanimous opinion of the Ohio Supreme Court to uphold Judge Taft's decision, which made a strong argument for the separation of church and state. According to a Michigan State University article entitled, "History shows why school prayer is so divisive", Justice John Welch wrote for the court, "When Christianity asks the aid of government beyond mere impartial protection, it denies itself. Its laws are divine, and not human. Its essential interests lie beyond the reach and range of human governments. United with

**CONTINUES ON PG 29,
SCHOOLS**

Continued from pg 28, schools

government, religion never rises above the merest superstition; united with religion, government never rises above the merest despotism; and all history shows us that the more widely and completely they are separated, the better it is for both.”

In 1930 and in 1952, justices declined to rule on the constitutionality of requiring Bible readings in public schools; simply saying the practice had great significance. Ten years later, 13 states required daily prayer or Bible reading in public schools, including reciting the Lord's Prayer, found in Matthew 6 and Luke 11. However, it was not this practice that led to the 1962 U.S. Supreme Court decision in the *Engel v. Vitale* case to ban public school-sponsored prayer. It was a prayer drafted by the New York State Board of Regents that read, "Almighty God, we acknowledge our dependence upon Thee, and we beg Thy blessings upon us, our parents, our teachers and our Country", according to All About History. This prayer promoted good moral character, provided spiritual training, and helped combat juvenile delinquency.

The U.S. Supreme Court found that a prayer drafted by a government agency for use in a public school was unconstitutional. Justice Hugo Black wrote the following for the majority, "it is no part of the business of government to compose official prayers . . . the Regent's prayer [is] inconsistent both with the purpose of the Establishment Clause and the Establishment Clause itself." The Establishment Clause of the First Amendment provides that government shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion. Because public schools are government-funded, prayer led by school officials or incorporated into the school routine amounts to government-established religion. Other types of prayer in school, including silent prayer by individual students or teachers and voluntary group prayers led by students, were not found to be unconstitutional and are recognized by the Court as rights protected under the First Amendment.

I believe wholeheartedly in the power of prayer and my family and I pray regularly together and individually. The Bible tells us, "Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them."

There are several reasons we need prayer in schools starting with it building morality. Along with the values taught and upheld by the school system, prayer lays a foundation for those principles. Prayer can help guide students to make the right decisions and better choices throughout the school year. Prayer is a positive form of expression, just like speech or song. This gives students the opportunity to openly, or privately pray, which conveys the love of their God. Students of the same faith, and even of different faiths, can band together in solidarity and be a support system for each other. Prayer brings people together, to share in worship. Being exposed to other religions, like Islam, Buddhism, or Judaism makes students more aware of faiths they may not know much about. Prayer in schools can be an opportunity for students, teachers, principals, and other school officials to promote religious tolerance and acceptance.

Teaching about religion in public schools is also a complex issue. It would be difficult to comprehend the history of the Crusades, the art of the Renaissance, or the literary references made by Shakespeare without some understanding of the history, symbolism, or texts of Christianity. It would be difficult to appreciate the complex history of the Arab-Israeli Con-

flict without even the most basic knowledge of the histories of the Muslim and Jewish peoples. However, there is a fine line between teaching religion in public schools, a violation of the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment, and teaching about religion in public schools, which is allowed under the Constitution.

Interestingly, some of the religious groups that support school prayer today opposed it only 40 years ago, often for the same reasons suggested by Justice Welch in the 1870s. Some Southern Baptists and evangelicals, for example, viewed public school prayer as an affront to God.

Although there are certain legal restrictions for praying in school (e.g. mandated school prayer, display of religion by a teacher or other school official), prayer is still allowed in schools and there are opportunities to pray. Students can pray in student-organized religious clubs, in the classroom, before taking a test, on the bus, or at a game. The goal with prayer in schools is to ensure that all religions are equally represented and respected. So, in my opinion, more prayer in schools is needed as long as it does not break the law, or infringe on anyone's constitutional rights.



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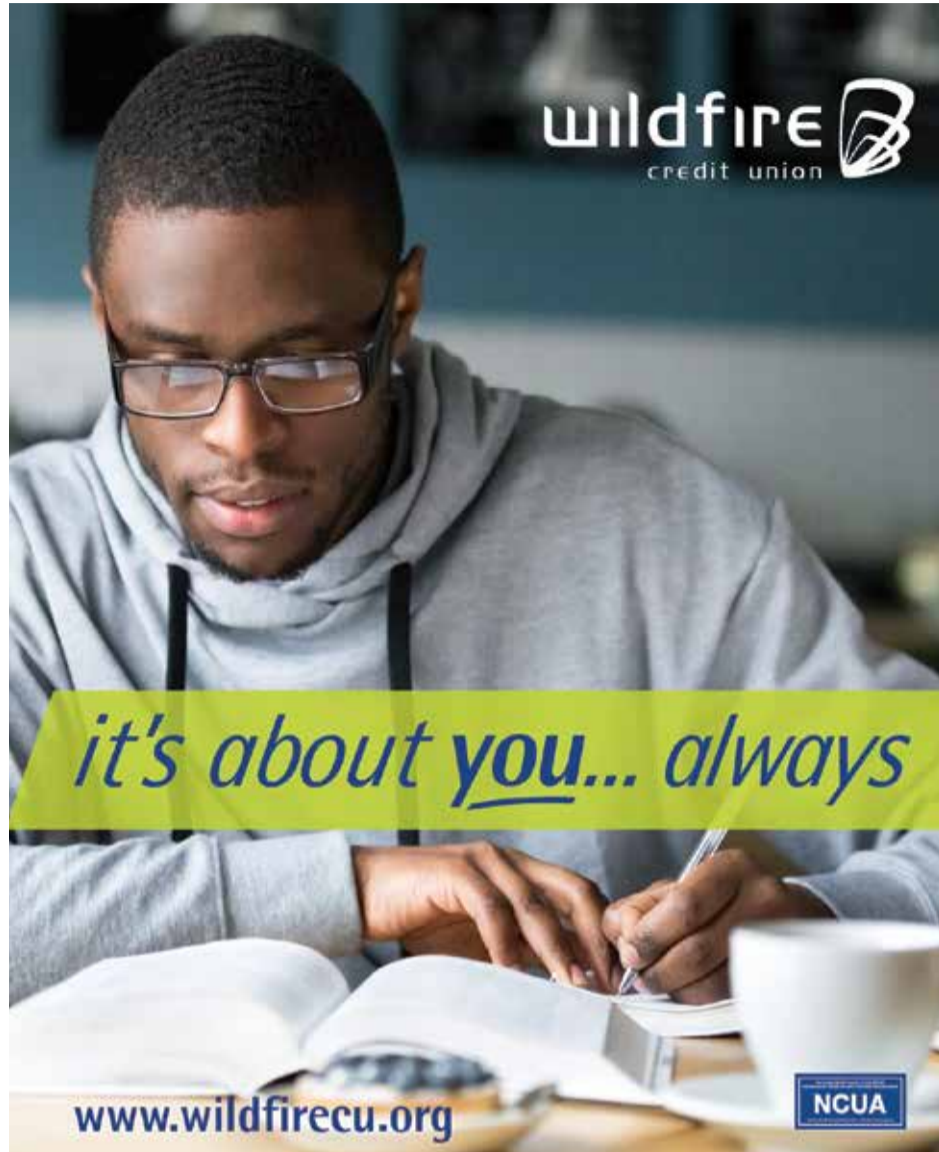
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+ HEALTH



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SVSU and MyMichigan Health partner to enhance health Care workforce in region, state

Saginaw Valley State University and MyMichigan Health have announced a partnership designed to enhance educational opportunities for MyMichigan Health employees and improve the talent pipeline for health care delivery at the health system's locations in communities throughout Michigan. To achieve this goal, MyMichigan Health, through its tuition reimbursement program, and SVSU are partnering to provide financial support to those employees pursuing relevant degrees and coursework.

MyMichigan Health students can pursue undergraduate, graduate and certifications in a variety of areas, including nursing (RN to BSN), social work, medical laboratory science, information technology, accounting, business, occupational therapy and more.

Deborah R. Huntley, SVSU provost and vice president for academic affairs, said the cooperative relationship between SVSU and MyMichigan Health is designed to address the critical need for health care professionals in the Great Lakes Bay Region and throughout the state

"We know the tremendous contributions MyMichigan Health and its employees make to the communities they serve. We are proud to partner with MyMichigan Health so its employees can pursue degrees and certifications that will help them enhance the care and service they can offer to their patients and advance in their careers," Huntley said.

"MyMichigan Health is ecstatic about our partnership with SVSU. We have a long history of welcoming SVSU students into our hospitals to complete clinical rotations and have many of our employees attend the university to obtain a higher degree in leadership, business, nursing, information technology, laboratory science, and occupational therapy," said Colleen Markel, M.S.N. R.N., S.H.R.M.-C.P., MyMichigan Health system director of education services and workforce development.

Markel said that many MyMichigan Health employ-

ees have expressed interest in advancing their educations, and this partnership helps make this possible.

"SVSU has generously taken an interest in MyMichigan Health by offering significant financial support," she said. "Our purpose statement for the health system is 'Creating Healthy Communities Together.' We value SVSU as our community partner."



COURTESY PHOTO

MDHHS launches new website to educate Michigan residents about monkeypox, how to get help if you have symptoms, the state's response

To help keep Michiganders up to date on monkeypox (MPV) and the state's response to the virus, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has launched a new website at Michigan.gov/mpv.

The site provides information about the signs and symptoms of MPV, number of cases in the state by county; information for health care providers about testing and coordinating with local health departments; treatment; and other resources for the public and providers. State case count information will be updated regularly.

"MDHHS is working closely with our federal partners, local health departments and health care providers across the state in response to this outbreak," said Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian, MDHHS chief medical executive. "MPV is a viral illness that spreads primarily through direct contact with the infectious rash, scabs, bodily fluids or prolonged face-to-face contact. It is important to remember that the risk to the general public is low. However, Michiganders with concerns about MPV should see their provider to be evaluated for testing."

MPV is a disease caused by infection with the monkeypox virus. MPV belongs to the Orthopoxvirus genus, which also includes variola virus (which causes smallpox), vaccinia virus (used in the smallpox vaccine) and cowpox virus. While both diseases may have similar presentation, MPV is not related to chickenpox.

Persons experiencing MPV symptoms should contact a health care provider for evaluation. CDC is urging health care providers in the United States to be alert for patients who have rash illnesses consistent with MPV, regardless of whether they have travel or specific risk factors for MPV and regardless of gender or sexual orientation. While many of those affected in the current global outbreaks are men who have sex with men, anyone who has been in close contact with someone who has MPV can get the illness.

There are no treatments specifically for MPV infections. However, MPV and smallpox viruses are genetically similar, which means that antiviral drugs and vaccines developed to protect against smallpox can be used to prevent and treat MPV infections.

States are receiving vaccine allocations from the Strategic National Stockpile in accordance with the number of MPV cases and the size of the underlying at-risk population. Michigan has received a limited supply of the vaccine, JYNNEOS. Additional limited allocations will follow in the next few months, but specific quantities and timelines are not yet known. The federal government continues to purchase vaccine, but JYNNEOS is not likely to become broadly available in the near-term.

A local health department may initi-

ate contact with eligible individuals who have been identified as a close contact to an MPV case about receiving the vaccine. If you know you have had a contact with someone with MPV please contact your local health department for more information. Information about federal vaccine allocations is available online and will be updated every Wednesday.

Treatments for MPV have not been pre-deployed to states by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and will continue to be available through the Strategic National Stockpile. Clinicians evaluating MPV patients should be aware of the clinical considerations and process of requesting TPOXX (Tecovirimat) for their patients.

For more information, visit Michigan.gov/MPV or CDC.gov/monkeypox.



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+ EDUCATION



COURTESY PHOTO

Practical advice for students starting college



By **CRAIG DOUGLAS**
RETIRED EDUCATOR

Most colleges and universities begin classes about a month from now. For students planning to start college, there are many considerations.

I like the practical suggestions I found researching this topic. Here are three of the most practical suggestions.

1. Attend class

Sounds simple. Sounds fundamental. And it is!

The reason students go to college is to take

classes, and it makes little sense to miss class. That includes online classes. Students need to attend class and keep current. Falling behind is a slippery slope to avoid.

Make a commitment from the start of fall semester to get to each and every class. Furthermore, arrive a bit ahead of time; avoid being seen as the person slipping into a seat after class has begun. Show interest, show enthusiasm, and show up for classes!

2. Participate in events, especially early on

That includes orientation sessions and other gatherings on campus, social events, and the like.

When I worked at SVSU, I discovered many opportunities for students to get involved, and these are great ways for students to engage with the culture of the campus. This is typical for all colleges, and the events range in variety. Many are ways to “give back” in community service at a day care, food pantry, or senior citizen center. What better way to engage and connect can there be?

3. Don't go home every weekend

Homesickness is part of “going away to school.” Dealing with it is one of the first challenges for new college students. That means diving into weekend campus opportunities. Many times, these are athletic (e.g., football games), but there are many other ways to spend time on campus on weekends. That is why engagement can be so crucial to a successful college launch.

College teaches many important skills such as time management. How to manage finances. How to meet people and so forth. The tips offered to new college students are sound ones, and we wish all the best to those preparing to go away to school this fall.

Resource: <https://www.thoughtco.com/tips-for-students-starting-college-793430>

+ EDUCATION

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Saginaw Promise hosts “Swinging for the Promise” Golf Event at the Saginaw Country Club in August!

Enjoy a great day of golf and fun on a beautiful course, while supporting a great cause! The Saginaw Promise hosts its annual “Swinging for the Promise” golf event, on Thursday, August 18, 2022 at the Saginaw Country Club; shotgun start at 10 AM. Event proceeds benefit Saginaw Promise programming and scholarships.

Team registration is \$660 and individual registration is \$165, which includes Four Person Scramble, Driving Range, 18 Holes with Cart, grilled “Lunch at the Turn”, “Parmesan Chicken” buffet dinner, Door Prizes, Awards and Trophy Presentation; other event surprises to be announced. Sponsorships and promotional opportunities are available! To register using a check or credit card telephone Deborah Sanchez (989)755-0545 or by email dsanchez@saginawpromise.org.

Since 2012, the Saginaw Promise has awarded \$1,072,000 in scholarships to 609 scholars. To learn more about the Saginaw Promise and its scholarship, visit www.saginawpromise.org.



Saginaw Promise Golf Outing

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2022
SAGINAW COUNTRY CLUB
(4465 Gratiot Rd, Saginaw MI 48638)

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PRIZE DONATIONS WELCOME
All prize donations will be recognized at the event and listed on the Saginaw Promise website.

Sponsors: Please email your company logo to DSanchez@saginawpromise.org.
EPS or hi-res JPG preferred.

REGISTRATION 8:45 - 9:45 AM • SHOTGUN START 10:00 AM
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GOLF PER PERSON - \$165

GOLF FOURSOME TEAM - \$660

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*Saginaw Community Foundation is the fiscal agent for Saginaw Promise

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Mark Johnston,
*Saginaw Promise, Trustee
Operations Manager, Qualified Staffing*

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SAGINAW
INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT

AUGUST 2, 2022 SPECIAL EDUCATION MILLAGE ELECTION



The August 2, 2022 Special Education Election affects all students in all Saginaw County public school districts and public school academies.



1. When is the election?

The election will be held in every local school district served by the Saginaw Intermediate School District on Tuesday, August 2, 2022. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. Absentee ballots will be available after June 23rd, and can be cast through Election Day.

2. What is on the ballot?

Registered voters residing in school districts served by Saginaw ISD will vote on a 10-year Special Education Millage Proposal that calls for a 1.5583 mill tax increase.

3. What is the primary purpose of the election?

Special education services that are required by law have not been fully funded by the State of Michigan. Hence, this year Saginaw ISD will be forced to make-up the \$8.1 million special education funding shortages by invoicing local school districts for unfunded special education services. Local school districts will pay the \$8.1 million from their general operating budgets, reducing the amount of revenue available to pay for programs and services provided to all 26,140 students in Saginaw County.

The Special Education Millage Proposal will greatly reduce the special education funding shortages, providing Saginaw County's twelve local school districts and six public school academies with annual relief to their operating budgets.

4. What school districts are served by Saginaw ISD and are affected by this election?

This election will affect Saginaw County's twelve school districts and six Public School Academies listed below:

School Districts

- Birch Run Area Schools
- Bridgeport-Spaulling Community Schools
- Carrollton Public Schools
- Chesaning Union Schools
- Frankenmuth School District
- Freeland Community School District
- Hemlock Public Schools
- Merrill Community Schools
- Saginaw City School District
- Saginaw Township Community Schools
- St. Charles Community Schools
- Swan Valley School District

Public School Academies

- Covenant Academy
- Francis Reh
- International Academy
- North Saginaw Charter
- Saginaw Prep Academy
- Saginaw STEM Academy of Excellence

Registered voters who live in Saginaw County can vote on the Special Education Millage Proposal by absentee ballot after June 23rd, or at the polls on August 2nd.



5. How much money will each local school district receive if the Special Education Millage Proposal is approved by voters?

The approximate amount of revenue that will be returned to local school district and public school academy operating budgets is based on the number of special education students residing in the school district.

SCHOOL DISTRICT	APPROXIMATE REVENUE EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT WILL RECEIVE
Birch Run Area Schools	\$ 323,000
Bridgeport-Spaulling Community Schools	\$ 484,000
Carrollton Public Schools	\$ 546,000
Chesaning Union Schools	\$ 497,000
Frankenmuth School District	\$ 283,000
Freeland Community School District	\$ 467,000
Hemlock Public Schools	\$ 323,000
Merrill Community Schools	\$ 237,000
Saginaw City School District	\$1,100,000
Saginaw Township Community Schools	\$1,300,000
St. Charles Community Schools	\$ 210,000
Swan Valley School District	\$ 516,000
LOCAL ACADEMIES	
Covenant Academy	\$ -0-
Francis Reh	\$ 13,000
International Academy	\$ 48,000
North Saginaw Charter	\$ 92,000
Saginaw Prep Academy	\$ 44,000
Saginaw STEM Academy of Excellence	\$ 76,000

6. How will the revenue from the Special Education Millage Proposal be used?

Each local school district will determine how the revenue returned to its general operating budget will be used. All districts are committed to using the revenue to enhance educational programs and services for all of their students.

Revenue from this election will benefit 26,140 students served by local school districts and public school academies in Saginaw County.

7. How much revenue from this election will go to local school districts and public school academies?

If voters approve the Special Education Millage Proposal, all revenue will be distributed to Saginaw County's twelve local school districts and six public school academies.

8. How much revenue from this election will go to Saginaw ISD?

None, all revenue will be pro-rata to Saginaw County's twelve local school districts and six public school academies.

9. How are the revenue distributions to local districts determined?

The distribution of millage revenue to local school districts is consistent with the special education funding priorities jointly established by local school district superintendents and Saginaw ISD in 2017.

The distribution formula is part of Saginaw ISD's Special Education Plan approved by local school district superintendents and submitted to and approved by the Michigan Department of Education.

10. What will the Special Education Millage Proposal cost?

The 1.5583 mill proposal will cost the average Saginaw County homeowner (living in a \$100,000 home) \$6.49 per month or about 21 cents per day. Some Saginaw County homeowners will pay more, but most will pay less.

To calculate your exact cost, multiply the assessed value of your home by 0.0015583. The assessed value of your home is a maximum of one-half its market value. So, if you live in a home with a \$100,000 market value, the maximum assessed value will be one-half that... or \$50,000. Multiply \$50,000 by 0.0015583 to get your annual cost (\$50,000 X 0.0015583 = \$77.92 per year)... or about 21 cents per day.

11. Will homeowner property values be affected if voters approve the Special Education Millage Proposal?

Research indicates that real estate values tend to be higher in communities with school districts that offer students a quality educational program. Voter approval of the Special Education Millage Proposal will enhance educational programs in all local school districts and are likely to reflect positively on homeowner property values and each local school district's reputation.



12. What special education programs/services are provided for students in Saginaw County?

Michigan law requires school districts to provide special education services to individuals with disabilities from birth through age 26 or upon graduation from high school. Students are eligible for services under one of 13 disability areas, including...

- Autism
- Deaf-Blindness
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Early Childhood Developmental Delay
- Emotional Impairment
- Cognitive Impairment
- Severe Multiple Impairment
- Physical Impairment
- Otherwise Health Impairment
- Specific Learning Disability
- Speech and Language Impairment
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Visual Impairment

The Saginaw ISD Special Education Department in combination with providers in our local districts, provides programs and services that support the academic and functional achievement of over 4,600 students with disabilities. These students comprise approximately 15 percent of Saginaw County's student population.

Over 370 special education staff members from the Saginaw ISD serve students across all twelve local school districts, six public school academies, and numerous parochial schools. These individuals provide a variety of supports and services to meet students' individual academic needs. In order to support the diverse needs of our students, Saginaw ISD also operates four center-based programs which service low-incidence disabilities. These programs include the Millet Learning Center, Transitions Center School, Saginaw Therapeutic Education Program, and Early On.

In addition, Saginaw ISD provides county-wide special education transportation services to ensure equitable access to a variety of special education programs across Saginaw County.

13. A YES vote typically means that a voter supports a proposal. Is that the case in this election?

Yes. Voters who support the Special Education Millage Proposal should vote YES. Voters who oppose it should vote NO.



14. What will happen if voters do not approve the August 2nd Special Education Millage Proposal?

Saginaw ISD will be required to continue invoicing its twelve local school districts and six public school academies over eight million dollars annually for unfunded special education costs. This will negatively affect educational funding for all students in all Saginaw County public schools.



15. Who can vote in this election?

Saginaw County residents who are 18 years of age or older and are registered to vote can vote in this election.



16. Where can I get information about voting (such as how to register, where to vote, and absentee voting)?

Go to the Michigan Voter Information website (www.michigan.gov/vote) or call the Clerk's Office where you reside.

17. Do I need to update my voter registration?

Registered voters need to update their voter registration if they have changed their name or address since the last time they voted. You can do this at any Secretary of State Office or at the Clerk's Office where you reside.

18. Can registered voters vote by absentee ballot?

Yes. Any registered voter can request an absentee voter application from their local clerk or online at www.michigan.gov/vote. After June 23rd, absentee ballots will be mailed to registered voters who have submitted an absentee voter application. Absentee ballots can be cast through 8 p.m. on Election Day, August 2nd.

19. How will the August 2nd ballot be worded?

The exact ballot wording appears below:

**SAGINAW INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL EDUCATION MILLAGE PROPOSAL**

This proposal will increase the levy by the intermediate school district of special education millage previously approved by the electors.

Shall the 1.9417 mills limitation (\$1.9417 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) on the annual property tax previously approved by the electors of Saginaw Intermediate School District, Michigan, for the education of students with a disability be increased by 1.5583 mills (\$1.5583 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 10 years, 2022 to 2031, inclusive; the estimate of the revenue the intermediate school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2022 is approximately \$8,638,119 from local property taxes authorized herein?

YES
NO

For more information:

- Go to www.sisd.cc and click on *Special Education Millage Election*
- Contact Erin Senkowski, Executive Director of Special Education (phone 989/249-8708 | email senkowskie@sisd.cc)
- Contact David Krantz, Director of Special Education (phone 989/249-8754 | email dkrantz@sisd.cc)
- Contact your local school district superintendent for additional details

Share your thoughts about Saginaw ISD's Special Education Millage Election.

Scan the QR code or visit www.research.net/r/SISDmillage



**SPECIAL EDUCATION
MILLAGE ELECTION
AUGUST 2, 2022**

...an election to benefit Saginaw County's twelve public school districts and six public school academies.

What is on the ballot?

A 10-year Special Education Millage Proposal that calls for a 1.5583 mill tax increase. If approved by voters, most Saginaw County voters will pay 21¢ per day or less.

Why is this on the ballot?

Special education services that are required by law have not been fully funded. This year Saginaw ISD will be forced to make up the \$8.1 million shortage by invoicing local school districts and public school academies for unfunded special education services. They will pay for the \$8.1 million shortage from their general operating budgets, reducing the amount of revenue available to pay for programs and services provided to all 25,653 students in Saginaw County.

Will all twelve school districts and six public school academies in Saginaw County benefit if this special education millage is approved?

Yes. Students in all twelve school districts and six public school academies in Saginaw County will benefit if this millage is approved. Revenue from this millage will be used to pay for services mandated for special education services in Birch Run Area Schools, Bridgeport-Spaulling Community Schools, Carrollton Public Schools, Chesaning Union Schools, Frankenmuth School District, Freeland Community School District, Hemlock Public Schools, Merrill Community Schools, Saginaw City School District, Saginaw Township Community Schools, St. Charles Community Schools, and Swan Valley School District. In addition, revenue will be available to Saginaw County's six public school academies.

Share your thoughts about the millage proposal with us!
www.research.net/r/SISDmillage



**MORE INFORMATION ABOUT
SAGINAW ISD'S SPECIAL
EDUCATION ELECTION**

What if this millage is not approved?

Over \$8 million will not be available to support the education of the 25,653 students in Saginaw County's twelve public school districts and six public school academies. Public school districts and academies will continue to fund the special education funding shortage out of their general fund.

Why is this a Saginaw Intermediate School District millage proposal?

Saginaw ISD is the only educational entity in Saginaw County that can place this proposal on the ballot.

Saginaw ISD has placed this proposal on the ballot on behalf of the twelve local school districts and six public school academies that it serves. Saginaw ISD is committed to using the increase of revenue to directly support special education services.

Who can vote in this election?

Registered voters residing in Saginaw County's twelve school districts can vote in this election at the polls on August 2nd or by absentee ballot from June 23rd through Election Day.

To register to vote, locate your voting precinct, or apply for an absentee ballot, go to www.michigan.gov/vote or call your local Clerk's Office.

Where can I get more information or ask questions about the election?

- Go to www.sisd.org and click on Special Education Millage Election
- Call or email Erin Senkowski, Saginaw ISD's Executive Director of Special Education (phone 989/249-8708 | email senkowskie@sisd.cc) or David Krantz, Saginaw ISD's Director of Special Education (phone 989/249-8754 | email dkrantz@sisd.cc)
- You may also contact your local school district superintendent for additional details



+ EDUCATION



COURTESY PHOTO

SPONSORED CONTENT

Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) initial information for potential community partners

What is GSRP?

GSRP is Michigan's state funded Pre-K program. It serves children who meet income and/or other criteria in the year before they are eligible for Kindergarten. All classrooms use an approved research-based curriculum and comprehensive child assessment tool. Each classroom has a lead and associate teacher who meet credentials specified in the State School Aid Act. Parents are involved in the program in multiple ways. The program operates in part and school-day options. More can be learned about program requirements at: www.michigan.gov/gsrp.

Who can be a GSRP provider?

GSRP is provided in sites licensed as child care centers. They may have either a regular license or a provisional license as a new or relocated center. Those with one of these types of provisional license

must agree to submit a Self-Assessment Survey in the Great Start to Quality (GSQ) system as soon as the regular license is issued. Centers with licenses that have been modified to provisional status are not eligible. All centers that have eligible licenses must also have at least a three star rating in GSQ.

Would I have to meet all program requirements to be chosen as a GSRP provider?

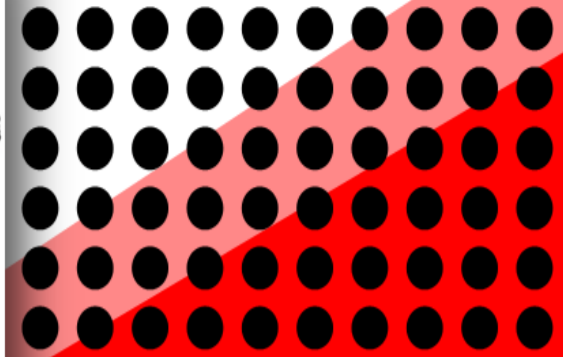
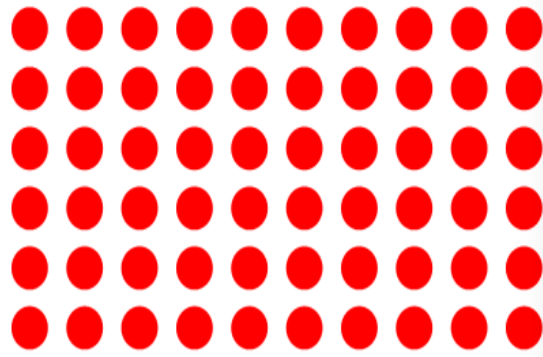
No, but if funded, you will be expected to hire qualified staff and have staff trained in the curriculum and assessment tools. You will have to operate in compliance with child care licensing rules and GSRP statute, policies and procedures. You would also have the support of a Saginaw Intermediate School District Early Childhood Specialist to implement a program that meets requirements.

Are there any other criteria and what do I have to do to apply?

Once additional funds are identified, you will receive an application to be completed.

If I want my center to be considered in the future what can I do?

Complete the GSQ Self-Assessment Survey to be star rated. Take advantage of all opportunities and support that the local GSQ Resource Center has to offer (contact Julie Bash at bashj@sisd.cc). Join the Great Start Collaborative (contact Julie Kozan at jkozan@sisd.cc). Let your SISD Early Childhood Contact, Ericka M. Taylor (etaylor@sisd.cc) know of your ongoing interest. There may be professional development that you can take part in as you prep for next year's application process.



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we make in the everyday lives of children.

Nelson Mandela



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WHY SAGINAW PUBLIC SCHOOLS?

**SIGNING BONUS &
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For More Information Contact

- **Tiffany L. Pruitt**
Executive of Human Resources
tpruitt@spsd.net
- **LaShanda Sanders**
HR Executive Assistant
lvsanders@spsd.net
- www.spsd.net
- 989.399.6602

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 - 13 out of 15 New Teachers Qualify for Loan Forgiveness

+ EDUCATION

SPONSORED CONTENT

Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) initial information for potential community partners

GUIDELINES

What are the guiding principles for the MI Tri-Share Child Care pilot program?

The following principles will consistently be used in decision making around the implementation of the MI Tri-Share pilot program:

- Choice of provider(s) will be made by the employee.
- Limit the burden to employers and providers in determining employee eligibility by requiring hubs to determine eligibility.
- Help ALICE population (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) eliminate barriers to employment.

Who is responsible to pay for child care using the MI Tri-Share Child Care pilot model?

The MI Tri-Share Child Care Program, in its pilot phase, is an innovative approach to increasing access to high quality, affordable child care for working families, with the cost of child care shared by an employer, the employee and the State of Michigan. In all cases, child care costs must be divided equally between the employer, employee and the State.

EMPLOYEE INFORMATION AND ELIGIBILITY

1. What are the employee eligibility requirements?

Employee eligibility will be determined based on the employee's family size and household income. Employees must have a household income between 186%-285% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Employees must not be eligible for the Development and Care Program (commonly referred to as child care subsidy). Once an employee is deemed eligible, they are eligible for the entire year of the pilot.

2. How is eligibility determined?

Hubs will gather income data and determine final eligibility of employee.

3. Are employees eligible if they have seasonal work?

Seasonal income is considered contractual income if it is income meant to cover the other six months when not working. In this instance, you would take the income for six months and determine monthly income based on the year.

4. What is the process for determining which employees are eligible for child care slots?

Employers have flexibility in deciding which

family will receive a child care slot. Possible ways to make this determination include:

- First come, first serve process
- Employee lottery/random selection
- Employee needs (i.e., closest to 186% FPL)
- Each family receives one child care slot/
Family receives multiple child care slots

5. How many child care slots are employees eligible for?

Employers have flexibility in deciding how many child care slots should be offered to participating employees and their families. Possible ways to make this determination include:

- Each participating family receives one slots
- Participating families receive multiple slots based on how many children need care
- Participating families receive one or multiple slots based on greatest need

6. Can child care providers and employees outside the designated regions participate in the Tri-Share program?

Eligible employees may reside outside the designated region of the hub.

7. Do employees choose their own child care provider?

Employees are encouraged to select a licensed child care provider that meets their needs, this includes an existing child care provider (so long as they are currently licensed). Employees may utilize before and after care for schoolagers, summer care for schoolagers, and part-time and full-time child care for their children.

8. Can children be placed at multiple child care providers, if the employer has more than one child care spot given to their family?

Families do not have to have the same provider for all children to participate in the Tri-Share program. Family choice of care is a guiding principle in this pilot.

9. Are there additional responsibilities of the employees enrolled in the MI Tri-Share program?

Eligible employees must complete a survey providing information around their children and child care. The information gathered through this survey will be used in informing future policies related to the work of this pilot. Personal information (like names or child names) will not be shared with any person outside the work of the project. Employees also must sign and follow any type of MOU or contract put forth by the participating hub.

CHILD CARE PROVIDER INFORMATION AND ELIGIBILITY

1. Is there flexibility for providers to increase rates based on their participation in the program?

No, child care providers will not increase rates for families because they are participating in the MI Tri-Share pilot. This does not include when child care rates for all families increase (based on annual tuition increase, cost of living, etc.).

2. Can child care providers outside the designated regions participate in the MI Tri-Share program?

Eligible child care providers may reside outside the designated region of the hub.

3. What type of child care facilities are eligible to participate in the pilot?

All participating child care providers must be licensed by the state of Michigan. Before and after school care, summer care, and part or full time care are acceptable forms of child care for this pilot.

4. Can a child care provider who offers free child care to staff (as part of a benefit package) participate as an employer in this pilot?

In all cases, the cost of child care must be divided equally between the employer, employee and the State of Michigan. If an employee does not contribute to the costs of child care, then the employer (in this case the child care provider) would not be eligible to participate in the pilot.

EMPLOYER INFORMATION AND ELIGIBILITY

1. Are there additional responsibilities of employers when they are enrolled in the MI Tri Share program?

Employees must sign and adhere to any type of MOU or contract put forth by the participating hub. Employers will be asked to participate in data collection processes implemented by the evaluation team. These may include, but are not limited to, focus groups, surveys, interviews etc. Employers should be willing to actively participate in gathering this information, to the best of their ability.

2. Can tax deductions be used by participating employers?

There may be possible deductions for employers, please always consult with your tax professional/advisor if you have questions related to tax deductions.



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. California Congressman

“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

+ CHURCH DIRECTORY

B



Bethel AME Church
Rev. Dennis Laffoon
535 Cathay St.
Saginaw, MI 48601
989-755-7011



Bethlehem Temple Church of the Apostolic Faith
District Elder Curtis E. Johnson, Pastor
3521 Webber St
Saginaw, Michigan 48601
989-755-8381



Bread of Life Harvest Center
Senior Pastor Rodney J. McTaggart
3726 Fortune Blvd.
Saginaw, MI 48603
989-790-7933

C

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

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



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 Williams Temple

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

H



Holy Communion Gospel Center
Pastor Charlene Washington
1245 E. Genesee
Saginaw, MI 48607
989-752-3993

J



Jacob's Ladder
Bishop 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
messiahmsg.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

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

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

+ FUNDRAISING GOODTIMES

The president: A fictional fundraising short story

By MEL AND PEARL SHAW

Those who know fundraising know that nonprofit life is full of intrigue, twisted paths, pure luck, genius, generosity, and more. This is the first in an occasional series of fictional fundraising short stories.

Dr. Taylor pushed back his red leather chair from his mahogany desk and looked out the large, beveled glass window that overlooked the courtyard. The cherry blossoms were in bloom a little early this year. Expected, given the warm winter, but unexpected as it was still March. The short-lived beauty was so intoxicating, creating an aura of promise. "Anything is possible," called the gentle warm winds. Crocus pressed upward from the winter ground, breaking open the hard soil. Promise was blossoming outside.

Inside his office promise was nowhere to be found. In a few short hours Dr. Taylor would have to engage the board in discussions they had been avoiding for several years. "There are no more cuts to be

made," the vice president of finance had advised him earlier in the week. "Enrollment is down 200 students from last year, 100 from last semester," the director of admissions had reported. "There is no endowment," the vice president for advancement replied via email.

"How can a college not have an endowment?" Dr. Taylor wondered out loud, speaking into the silence of his sparsely furnished office. He looked at the calendar on the wall, wishing he could turn back time. How could he have not seen the signs? And why didn't anyone warn him? The questions whirled around inside him, battering his pride, goading what was left of his self-esteem.

An attorney in private practice, and a three-term congressman, Dr. James Winston Taylor III had been blinded by the honor of being asked to serve as president of Monroe-Smith College. When Reverend Alfred Oliver and Ms. Ruby Jackson had taken him to lunch, they caught him off guard with their ask.

"Congressman, you could make a difference at Monroe-Smith. This is an opportunity to combine your talents, call on your connections, and create a new para-

digm in higher education. You will have the full support of the board. You were our unanimous selection. Just think about it." Ms. Jackson, Senior Vice President at Edison Electric did all the talking. Reverend Oliver slowly and deliberately ate his lunch - pan seared salmon, pureed parsnips, and asparagus - looking out the window at the Sandy Creek River in front of him.

Over coffee he looked directly at the congressman, "Dr. Taylor," he said, emphasizing the word 'doctor'. "It's your decision. But, you were awarded that honorary degree for a reason." He said nothing else, his words ringing still today in Dr. Taylor's ears.

Was it vanity, obligation, or a lust for power that brought him to accept the offer? He reflected on his character flaws, despairing his weakness. Now the presidency was a door he wished he had never opened. In anger he would silently curse the board members for their pure laziness and ineptitude. "How could they have let the school decline so precipitously?" he would mutter. "How could they have not known?" he asked himself. When brave, he questioned his own motives, "Why did I say yes?"



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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.

+ SPORTS

Will another legend emerge at African Fest kids' b-ball contest?

By MIKE THOMPSON

Ernie Thompson says keep your elbow in, just like Steph Curry.

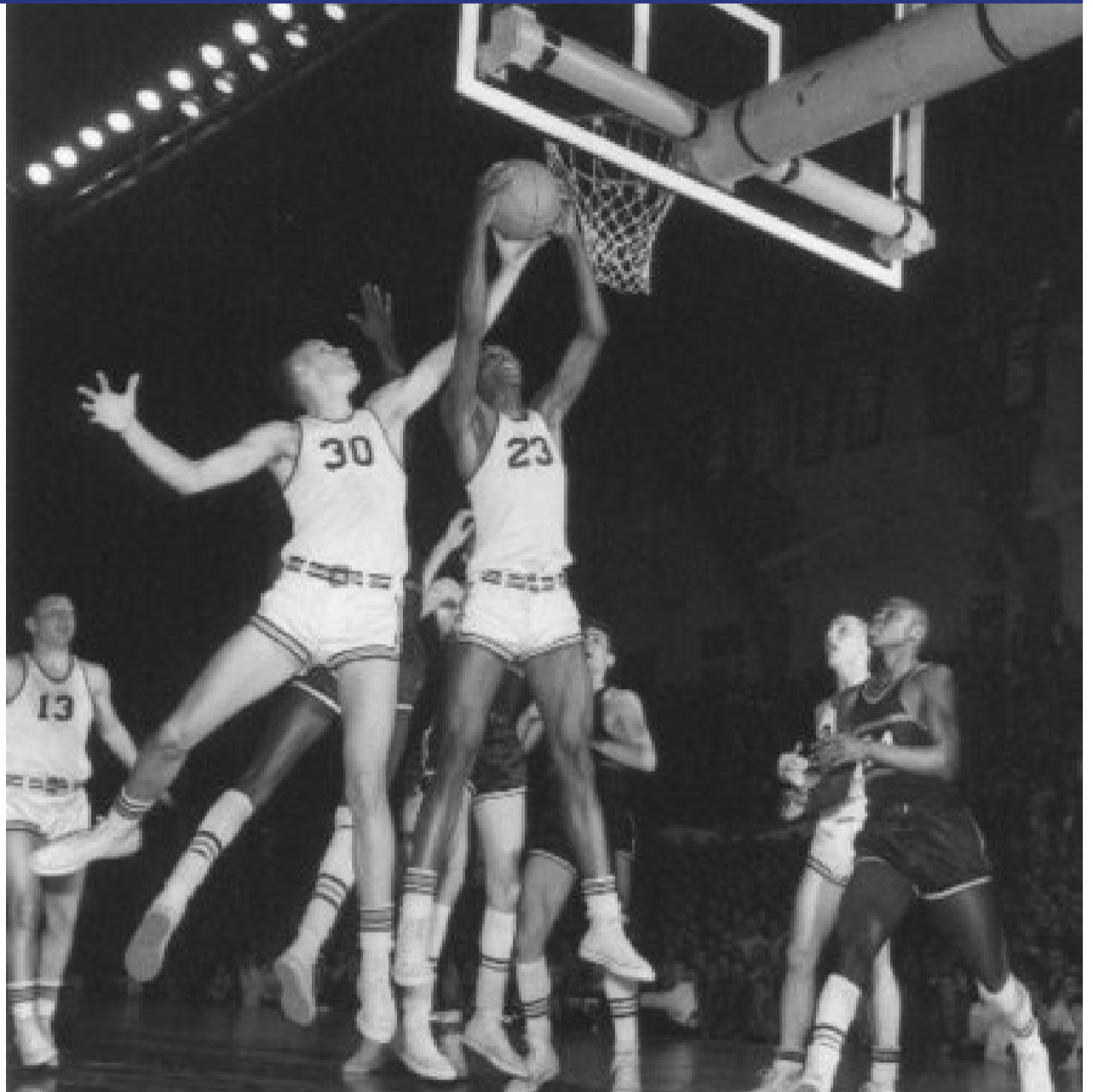
The 1960s Saginaw High basketball legend, retired with his family in Detroit, was happy to learn that the Saginaw African Cultural Festival will add some hoops activities this year at his old childhood stomping grounds, Morley School Park.

For both boys and girls, shooting contests for free throws and three-pointers will begin on the opening day, Aug. 12, a Friday, at 4 p.m. Be there early to register. There is no fee. Do not be concerned with age differences, because organizers will pick out appropriate groups.

Ernie Thompson scored 42 points with 27 rebounds in the '62 Class A title game for the undefeated Trojans, after he learned not only about the inside of the elbow, but also squaring up, which includes the feet and the shoulders and the wrist, and never forget, also the head. And while you are keeping your head still on your shot, like in baseball or golf, imagine your rotation sliding just over the front of the rim.

At 6-foot-3, later with four college years that placed him in the Bradley University Hall of Fame as well as the Saginaw Hall, he employed his leaping ability more to block shots than to dunk, and he learned that while it's good to be a shooter, it's great to have some inside moves.

Also, practice free throws before arcing those triple bombs.



SAGINAW HIGH'S ERNIE THOMPSON SET STATE FINALS RECORDS FOR POINTS AND REBOUNDS IN THE 1962 STATE FINAL (THE SAGINAW NEWS)

He was generous with his insights leading up to the contest, and he also chatted about Morley School: "Man, we used to play baseball there. The back doors were closed for the summer, and so that was our backstop. That park was so huge, you sure didn't have to worry about breaking any windows!"

Organizers Eric Smith and John Turner, repping Omega Alpha Psi Phi, say the first-time African Fest skills contest could help pave the way toward expansion during future summers, possibly with a 3-on-3 format.

Meanwhile, former SS. Peter & Paul hoopster Ralph Martin, late 1970s, may take a break from his general SACF chairman duties to put up a few shots himself. He supports the Ernie Thompson analysis,

adding his own shooting tips to bend the knees and to keep both elbows in, not just the shooting one.

And he adds, from past personal experience, "In case there's a rebound, follow your shot!"

(For a past Michigan Banner feature about Ernie Thompson, see the archive for March 16, 2022. <https://michiganbanner.org/printissues/2022/mar-16-2022.pdf>)



+ SPORTS



BILL RUSSELL RECEIVES THE PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM FROM THEN-PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA

Celtics legend Bill Russell dies at 88

At age 88, William Felton Russell died Sunday with his wife Jeannine at his side.

William Felton Russell, born on February 12, 1934, was an American professional basketball player who played as a center for the Boston Celtics of the National Basketball Association (NBA) from 1956 to 1969. A five-time NBA Most Valuable Player (MVP) and a 12-time NBA All-Star, he was the centerpiece of the Celtics dynasty that won 11 NBA championships during his 13-year career. Russell and Henri Richard of the National Hockey League are tied for the record of the most championships won by an athlete in a North American sports league. Russell is widely considered to be one of the greatest basketball players of all time. He led the San Francisco Dons to two consecutive NCAA championships in 1955 and 1956, and he captained the gold-medal winning U.S. national basketball team at the 1956 Summer Olympics.

Despite his limitations on offense, as Russell never averaged more than 19.0 points per game in any season, some regard him as one of the greatest basketball players of all time for his dominating defensive play. Standing at 6 ft 10 in (2.08

m) tall, with a 7 ft 4 in (2.24 m) arm span, his shot-blocking and man-to-man defense were major reasons for the Celtics' dominance during his career. Russell was equally notable for his rebounding abilities, and he led the NBA in rebounds four times, had a dozen consecutive seasons of 1,000 or more rebounds, and remains second all time in both total rebounds and rebounds per game. He is one of just two NBA players (the other being prominent rival Wilt Chamberlain) to have grabbed more than 50 rebounds in a game.

Russell played in the wake of black pioneers Earl Lloyd, Chuck Cooper, and Sweetwater Clifton, and he was the first black player to achieve superstar status in the NBA. He also served a three-season (1966–69) stint as player-coach for the Celtics, becoming the first black coach in North American professional sports and the first to win a championship. In 2011, Barack Obama awarded Russell the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his accomplishments on the court and in the civil rights movement.

Russell was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 1975,

was one of the founding inductees into the National Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame in 2006, and was enshrined in the FIBA Hall of Fame in 2007. He was selected into the NBA 25th Anniversary Team in 1971 and the NBA 35th Anniversary Team in 1980, named as one of the 50 Greatest Players in NBA History in 1996, one of only four players to receive all three honors, and selected into the NBA 75th Anniversary Team in 2021. In 2009, the NBA renamed the NBA Finals MVP Award in his honor. In 2021, he was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame a second time for his coaching career.

“To be the greatest champion in your sport, to revolutionize the way the game is played, and to be a societal leader all at once seems unthinkable, but that is who Bill Russell was,” the Celtics said in a statement. “Bill was a champion unlike any other in the history of team sports — an 11-time NBA champion, including winning eight consecutive titles, a five-time MVP, an Olympic gold medalist, and the NBA’s first Black head coach.”



PICS OF THE WEEK

On July 19, Bridge The Gap, an organization that provides safe, fun, and family-friendly opportunities to strengthen the relationship between law enforcement and the community, received a \$1 Million state funded grant. “This money will be going towards continuing our mission of building positive relationships in our community,” Bridge The Gap founder Ayiteh Sowah said.



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imagine.

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

Kevin Finley admits that hard work and persistence has helped him achieve many of his goals. "In life, you need the support of others to become successful. SVSU has a strong community focus that I really appreciate. I signed up for many high-profile positions as an SVSU student — from working as a resident assistant and a campus tour guide to being an orientation leader. Through these experiences I learned how much I enjoyed helping other students become acclimated at SVSU." A 2017 SVSU grad, Kevin is now working as an accountant for The Dow Chemical Company.



**SAGINAW VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY**

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svsu.edu/opportunity



7400 Bay Road • University Center, MI 48710 • (800) 968-9500 • admissions@svsu.edu