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PICS OF THE WEEK
Rep Dan Kildee attended the 54th Annual Saginaw African Cultural Festival

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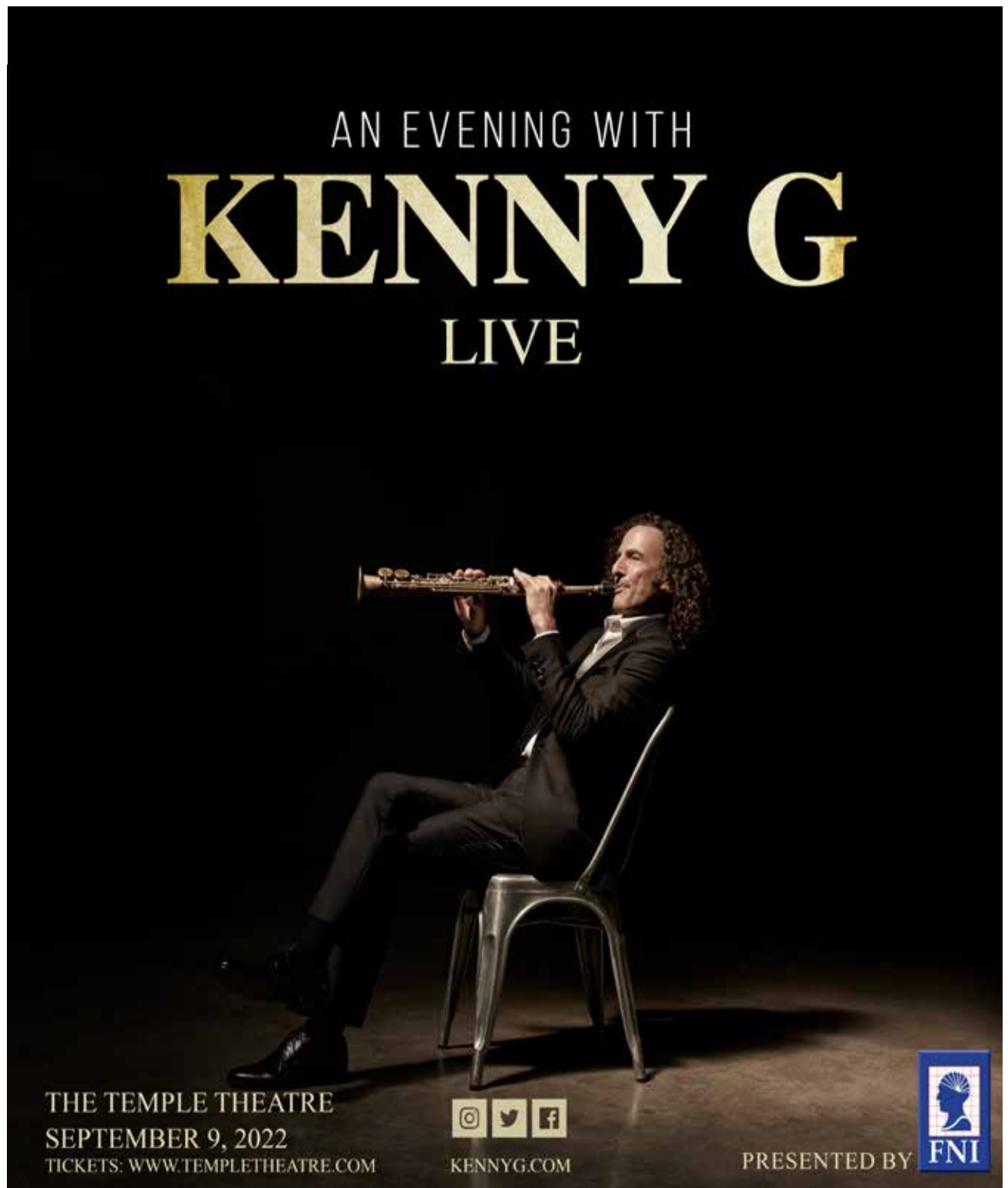
EDUCATION



DELTA COLLEGE HIRES DR. PAMELA ROSS MCCLAIN AS CHIEF OFFICER OF CULTURE, BELONGING AND COMMUNITY BUILDING


EDUCATION, PG 37

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Congratulations to the 2023 Leadership Class for Saginaw County

COMMUNITY, PG 11



Bridging the disparity of mental care for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) with mental illness

COMMUNITY, PG 14



Still in the fight: Keena Williams makes historic run for mayor in Albion

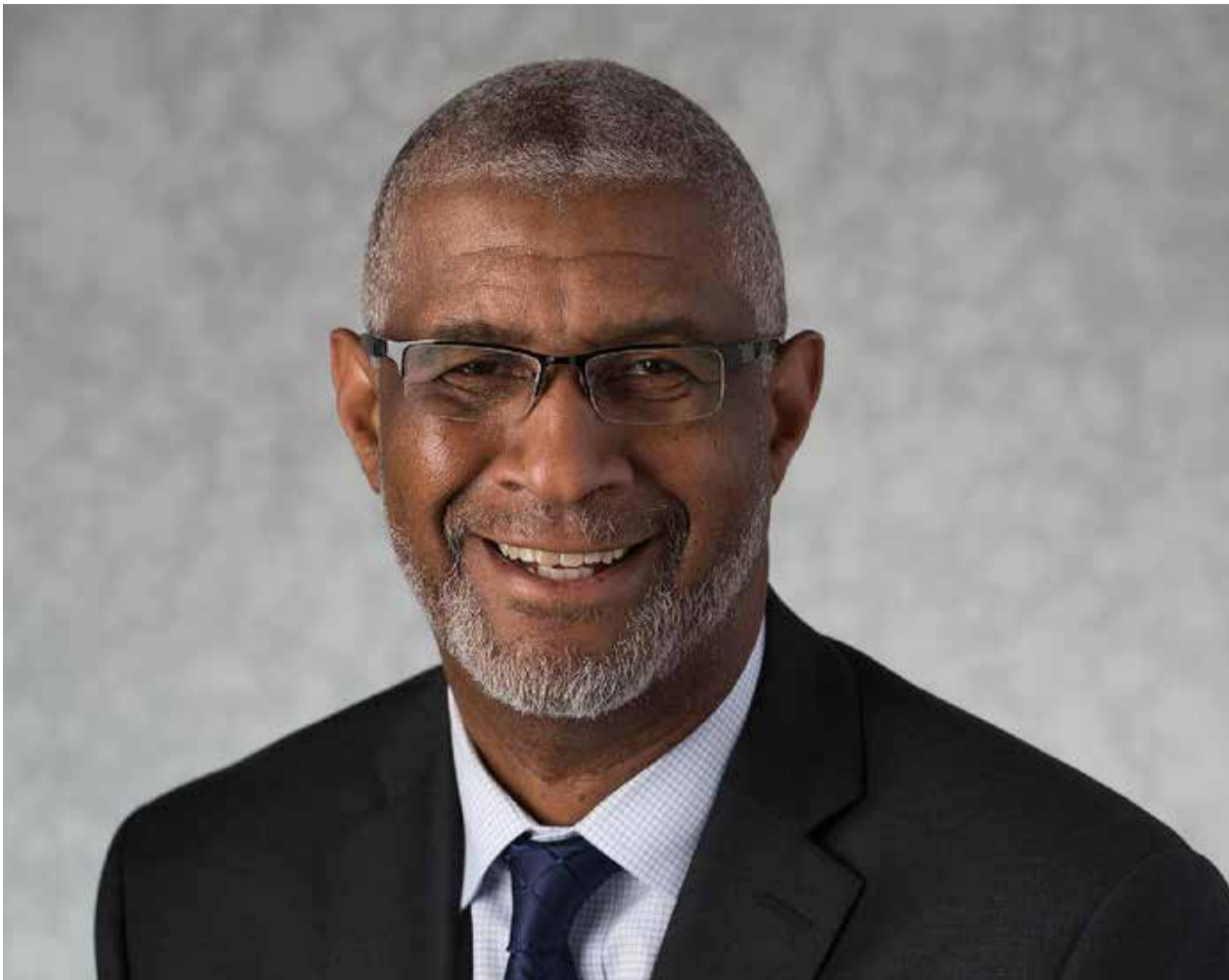
COMMUNITY, PG 22

FEATURED STORY

GOOD THINGS COME IN THREE'S - LIKE GOOD LEADERSHIP

COMMUNITY, PG 12





GEORGE GRANT

SVSU Board selects George Grant to serve as 5th president

The Saginaw Valley State University Board of Control appointed George Grant Jr. to serve as the institution's fifth president during a special meeting of the Board Tuesday, Aug. 9. Grant will succeed Donald Bachand, who is retiring after serving as president since 2014.

Grant is currently serving as chancellor of Pennsylvania State University-Berks, a campus of more than 2,100 students. Prior to that, he spent 24 years at Grand Valley State University in Michigan, including 12 years as dean of the College of Community and Public Service.

"We are delighted that Chancellor Grant has agreed to join SVSU and serve as our next president," said Vicki Rupp, chair of the SVSU Board of Control. "He is a caring, committed and innovative leader with an outstanding record of success in academic program development, fundraising, and community outreach, among many accomplishments.

"I would like to thank the faculty, staff, students and community members who

served on the presidential search advisory committee for their thorough and exemplary work in providing the Board with strong candidates. In the interview process, George's diverse leadership experiences, his commitment to inclusion, and his understanding of Michigan really caused him to stand out to the Board," Rupp added.

Grant began his tenure as chancellor of PSU-Berks on January 4, 2021. A Detroit native, he welcomes the opportunity to return to his home state and to join a university that aligns with his values.

"I know the history and tradition of SVSU. Its people have a passion for academic exploration and achievement, and it continues to ensure that the opportunities of higher education are attainable to assist students in meeting their full potential," Grant said.

"I was not looking for a new opportunity," Grant added, "but SVSU's mission, strategic plan and commitment to community engagement are in line with my

personal values. SVSU is committed to educating the citizens of Michigan, while also providing the opportunity for a quality education to people across the country and around the world. I cannot wait to get started."

SVSU Board of Control member John Cherry, former Lieutenant Governor for the State of Michigan, noted that the university has enjoyed remarkable consistency in its core values, and he believes Grant will build upon that legacy.

"George is a devoted and experienced educator who will guide SVSU in a manner that will prepare and equip SVSU to meet the future challenges of higher education while maintaining a community culture that we have all come to love and cherish," Cherry said.

During his tenure as dean at Grand Valley, Grant raised more than \$46 million. He also developed new academic programming to support adult learners who were juggling work, family, and other demands. Grant implemented Master of Social Work programs in rural communities across Michigan to give students access to an advanced degree to better serve their communities.

Rajkumari Wiener, vice chair of the Board of Control and an SVSU alumna, appreciates Grant's record of bringing people together.

"George's career has been characterized by his commitment to collaboration, inclusion, and diversity," Wiener said. "He has a broad vision of institutional and community relationships. SVSU has been blessed with a great tradition of presidential leadership. George will add to that tradition."

SVSU has seen only four prior presidents since its founding in 1963.

Grant studied at Wayne County Community College prior to completing a bachelor's degree in social work at Marygrove College in Detroit. He later completed a master's degree in social work at Grand Valley State University and a Ph.D. in sociology at Western Michigan University. Grant also earned a certificate from the Harvard Institute in Educational Management.

Grant will be the first person of color to serve as SVSU president. He will begin his duties at SVSU December 1.

MICHIGAN BANNER

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

CEO/COO

Jerome Buckley
publisher022@gmail.com

PUBLISHER

Jerome Buckley

EDITOR EMERITUS

Rae Lynn Buckley

**THE LATINO BANNER
PUBLISHER**

Jerome Buckley
thelatinobanner@gmail.com

OMBUDSMAN

Elaine Gregory McKenzie

MISSION

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

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MICHIGAN YOUTH BANNER

VOLUME 4 • NUMBER 15

Boys & Girls Clubs of America honors '2022 National Military Youth of the Year'

Selected among five outstanding regional finalists from Boys & Girls Clubs of America-affiliated military Youth Centers across the country and overseas, Ahsha B., of Kings Bay Naval Submarine Base has been named the 2022 National Military Youth of the Year by Boys & Girls Clubs of America.

During the annual Washington, D.C., celebration, emceed by American sports commentator and Boys & Girls Clubs of America supporter, Lewis Johnson, Ahsha was rewarded a \$20,000 scholarship to support her future educational endeavors. This is in addition to the \$22,500 in college scholarships already awarded to her at the state and regional levels of the Military Youth of the Year Program.

"For 30 years, we are honored to support military-connected youth, providing safe spaces, positive mentors and life-enhancing programs to help young people learn, grow and thrive," said Jim Clark, president & CEO, Boys & Girls Clubs of America. "We are extremely proud of Ahsha and her achievements as we champion great futures for young people across the nation."

After a move from Virginia to rural Georgia, Ahsha's parents encouraged her to join the Military base's Youth Center. She was less than thrilled.

"The first time I attended the Kings Bay Teen Center in January 2019, I did so begrudgingly," Ahsha said. "I had no clue what to expect."

Within two weeks of the program, a Youth Center staff member encouraged Ahsha to audition for a talent program through the Youth Center. She had the opportunity to perform an original spoken word piece and perform alongside a spoken word artist. In the same year,



AHSHA B.

she was nominated as Boys & Girls Clubs of America's East Coast National UPS Road Code Ambassador, which provided the opportunity to conduct safe driving workshops for teens. After these two major leadership milestones, Ahsha had the confidence to launch a podcast for teens at Kings Bay Naval Submarine Base, connecting directly with her peers.

"Immediately I began to build friendships and realized that this was not just a 'program,'" Ahsha said. "It was a place of growth and opportunity where I could be surrounded by people willing to invest in my success."

Ahsha's list of achievements has only grown since, becoming a member of several Club committees, locally and nationally. Perhaps the most profound experience for her so far has been participating

in the 'Whatever it Takes to Fight for your Voice' series, which connected her with other young people of color.

"My experiences have shown me that the only limitations I have are the ones I place upon myself," Ahsha said. "Through these opportunities, I have been surrounded by successful teens of color and other ethnicities, who have shown me the importance of not allowing others to define my limitations by the color of my skin. Seeing all these confident and successful teens made me become more confident in who I was as a person and revitalized the pride I feel for my culture, my unique gifts and talents."

National Military Youth of the Year is a component of Boys & Girls Clubs of America's National Youth of the Year recognition program for Club and Youth Center members. On October 13, Ahsha will join five finalists in Los Angeles for the National Youth of the Year celebration to contend for the National Youth of the Year title. If named the National Youth of the Year, Ahsha will receive an additional \$50,000 scholarship, a brand-new Toyota Corolla and the opportunity to serve as a spokesperson for Boys & Girls Clubs of America representing 4.3 million Club and Youth Center kids and teens.

For 75 years, Boys & Girls Clubs of America has recognized young people in its Youth of the Year premiere youth leadership program, honoring extraordinary young people in their achievements in leadership, service, academic excellence and dedication to living a healthy lifestyle.

For more information about Youth of the Year, visit www.youthoftheyear.org

Seen on the Scene:

On August 2, Julian Morris (Founder of SWAG Magazine) won the Dare to Dream pitch competition for youth entrepreneurs.

Dare to Dream is sponsored by Kids Rule Now Inc. and Terry Duperon (Duperon Education)

To learn more visit www.daretodream.info.

All You Need is Strength



By Doniqua Sovia

If but one thing, was taken from me, I'd say take whatever you want but leave my strength be.

If I was tore up, from a beating by a person or by life, you can take me off support, but if my strength is still wrought then I'm still alive.

I don't know much, haven't been here long, but I'll say one thing, and I doubt I'm wrong.

You can be in the pit of life, dark and unaware, you can be cold and in utter despair, but as long as you got strength, you have all you need, cause strength is the force that drives you to live you see.



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Latino Banner

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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.”

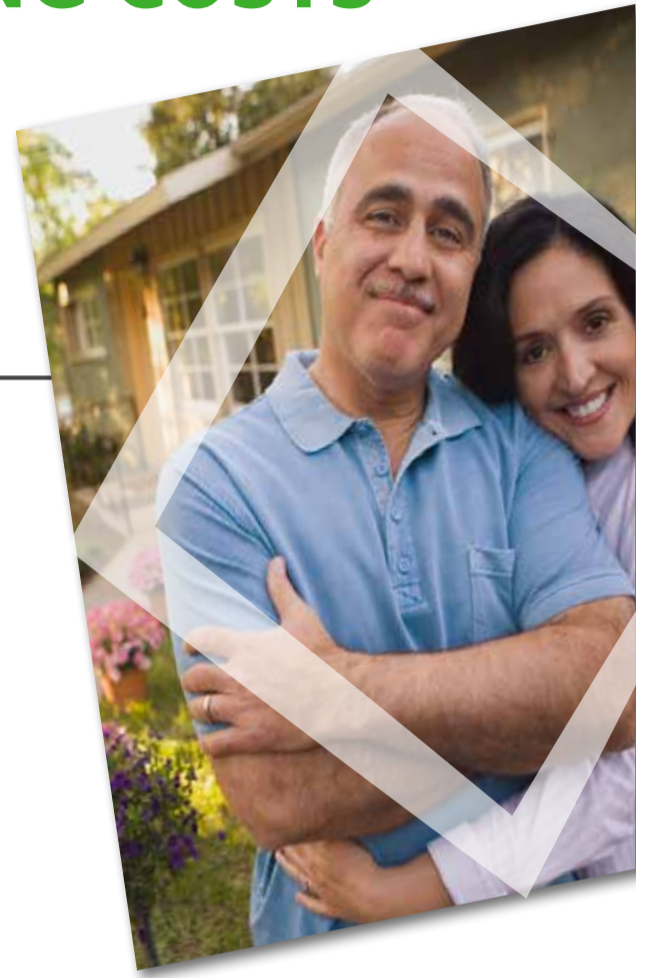
- Matthew 6:34

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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Monday, August 22, 2022 8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Indianwood Golf and Country Club | 1081 Indianwood Rd, Lake Orion, MI

Agenda:

- Registration 8:30 am - 9:30 am
- 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
- Event Concludes 6:00 pm

For more registration information please contact Dina F. Wagner at 248-639-7725 or email at dlatom@mhcc.org

community BOARD

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Congratulations to the 2023 Leadership Class for Saginaw County

Leadership Saginaw County welcomed its new Class for 2023 as they kicked the program off with a retreat at the Frankenmuth Bavarian Inn Lodge. Participants will work together for the next ten months as the program runs from 8/11/2022 - 6/15/2023.

The focus of Leadership Saginaw County is to familiarize existing and emerging leaders with opportunities and challenges in Saginaw County. In addition, the program allows participants to meet community leaders to gain insight and deepen their understanding of our community while fostering a network of contacts among participants and presenters.

You can measure the success of this program through past participants. Since 1987, over 950 graduates of Leadership Saginaw can be found in critical positions on boards and committees of community-based organizations, in elected positions

in local government, and practicing their acquired leadership skills within their occupations.

Course Topics

Leadership Saginaw County offers monthly sessions to participants. They provide information, insight and analysis of the following specific areas of interest:

- Leadership Retreat and Orientation
- History of Saginaw County
- People Helping People
- Government
- Education
- Public Safety
- Economic Development
- Health Care

- Arts, Culture & Entertainment
 - Wrap Up Retreat
- Interested in Applying?

Leadership Saginaw County encourages individuals from all walks of life to apply for the program, including individuals from varying occupations, industries, and organizations.

Leadership ability and potential are determined, including past and current community involvement. As a leader, if you are interested in growing and contributing to the growth of your organization, applications for Leadership Saginaw County are accepted year-round and due May 31st for consideration in the Class that begins in August, with selections announced in June.

Congratulations on the selection of the 2023 class.

+ COMMUNITY



PICTURED FROM L TO R: DR. BILL PINK, DR. JOHN SELMON, DR. GEORGE GRANT

Good things come in three's - like good leadership

By MB STAFF

There is an old proverb that "Good Things Come in Threes." It has been said that the number three is a symbol of something that is solid, real, significant, and complete. The number three appears on everything that is truly exceptional. For example, Omniscience, Omnipresence, as well as Omnipotence, are three of God's characteristics.

We saw this proverb in action at three area Michigan colleges and universities, where each institution filled prestigious leadership positions. Ferris State University (FSU) in Big Rapids, Muskegon Community College (MCC) in Muskegon, and Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU) in Saginaw, all appointed three new Presidents. It is quite significant that all three appointments were made in early 2022.

Ferris State University

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Ferris State University (FSU), officially and unanimously selected Dr. Bill Pink as the 19th president by their Board of Trustees. On March 8, they held an announcement ceremony to formally announce Dr. Pink's selection. This was a monumental occasion, because not only was he slated to begin the position July 2022, but it also happens that Dr. Pink is the first African American appointed to the position since the University's founding in 1884.

Prior to his appointment at FSU, Dr. Pink served as the past president of Grand Rapids Community College (GRCC) and has spent more than 30

years in academia as a teacher, administrator, and community leader. Dr. Pink said, "I strongly believe in the power of education, in providing opportunity and furthering the University's commitment to ensuring the success of all students." He understands the task before him at FSU as they ranked among the best universities in 2020 according to U.S. News and World Report Rankings.

Dr. Pink comes to FSU fully prepared. He holds a Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Oklahoma in Instructional Leadership and Academic Curriculum, a Master of Education in Physical and Secondary Education from the University of Central Oklahoma, and a Bachelor of Science in Physical and Professional

**CONTINUES ON PG 13,
GOOD LEADERSHIP**

Continued from pg 12, good leadership

Education from Oklahoma Christian University. Amongst his other credentials, he was appointed by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation executive committee, and he is a member of the Higher Learning Commission board of trustees.

Dr. Pink has scheduled a "Link with Pink" tour traveling to various cities across the state between August 31 - October 13. The cities he will travel include, Big Rapids, Detroit, East Lansing, Flint, Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Midland, and Traverse City. Dr. Pink's goal for the tour is to introduce himself and Ferris State to each community and discuss his bold vision for the future of FSU. For a complete listing of tour dates and locations, [click here](#).

Muskegon Community College



As in FSU's case, Muskegon Community College's (MCC) Board of Trustees, unanimously selected Dr. John Selmon as the college's next president on April 27, 2022. During his acceptance remarks, Dr. Selmon said, "It's just an awesome day for me." "This is the stuff you dream about. When it comes true, it does become emotional. These jobs are special. Not everyone is going to become a president of a college. So, it is a dream come true. I appreciate the opportunity to live out my dream here at Muskegon Community College." Dr. Selmon assumed his position as President July 1, 2022.

Although Dr. Selmon has been appointed as the new president, he has been around MCC for a while. He served as the Provost/Executive Vice President for the past 11 years. In that position, he provided leadership and oversight for Academic Affairs, Athletics, Facilities, and Student Services.

At MCC, Dr. Selmon helped spearhead a college-wide "Achieving the Dream" initiative resulting in a "Leader College" designation and has coordinated several major multi-million-dollar

building projects. Dr. Selmon instituted significant emergency practices and procedures to greatly enhance campus safety and security and launched a series of college-community events to proactively increase meaningful dialogue on divisive issues affecting the nation. Dr. Selmon stated, "I am strategically focused and passionate about developing policies, programs, and systems to improve access, completion, and equity in higher education." As a result, MCC has been consistently recognized as one of Michigan's top community colleges.

Prior to coming to MCC, Dr. Selmon served as the Executive Dean of Student Services at Lake Michigan College in Benton Harbor, MI, after working in Student Services at Kennesaw State University in Atlanta, GA. He began his career in Michigan with Grand Rapids Junior College prior to joining the Davenport University Educational System, where he held numerous administrative roles during his 18-year tenure leading to his position as the Davenport system's group vice president.

Dr. Selmon's credentials also speak for him, he earned both a Doctorate and a Master of Arts in Educational Leadership from Eastern Michigan University. Prior to his advanced degrees, he earned a Bachelor of Science in Education from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. In addition, he has participated in several leadership programs, most recently a 2020 graduate of the Aspen Institute's Presidential Fellows Program. Based on Dr. Selmon's credentials, it is understandable how he became the obvious choice.

Saginaw Valley State University



This brings us to Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU) and the appointment of Dr. George Grant, Jr., as their newest president. Dr. Grant is the most recent appointment of the three and is the institution's fifth president. He was appointed during a special meeting by the Board of Control Tuesday, Aug. 9, 2022.

Dr. Grant will succeed Dr. Donald Bachand, who is retiring after serving as president since 2014. This is a monumental appointment as Dr. Grant will be the first African American to serve as SVSU's president since its inception in 1963. He will begin his duties at the institution on December 1, 2022.

Dr. Grant is currently serving as chancellor of Pennsylvania State University-Berks. Prior to that, he spent 24 years at Grand Valley State University, including 12 years as dean of the College of Community and Public Service.

Dr. Grant comes to SVSU with excellent credentials. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Social Work at Marygrove College in Detroit. He later completed a Master's Degree in Social Work at Grand Valley State University and a Doctorate in Sociology at Western Michigan University. He also earned a certificate from the Harvard Institute in Educational Management.

During a recent interview, Dr. Grant said, "I know the history and tradition of SVSU. Its people have a passion for academic exploration and achievement, and it continues to ensure that the opportunities of higher education are attainable to assist students in meeting their full potential."

He went on to say, "I was not looking for a new opportunity, but SVSU's mission, strategic plan and commitment to community engagement are in line with my personal values. SVSU is committed to educating the citizens of Michigan, while also providing the opportunity for a quality education to people across the country and around the world. I cannot wait to get started."

Yes, good things do indeed come in threes, and having Dr's. Pink, Seldom and Grant each appointed as new college and university presidents will be a wonderful addition to the surrounding communities of Michigan. We look forward to their great achievements and vision for each of their institutions.

+ COMMUNITY



COURTESY PHOTO

Bridging the disparity of mental care for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) with mental illness

Stigma isn't the only factor resulting in the disparity of mental healthcare for BIPOC populations. or education . Insurance limitations may also play a part in deterring those who need treatment from seeking it. Women of Colors (WOC) is fighting to bridge the behavioral health disparity of mental care for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color. (BIPOC). We are providing evidence-based curriculum prevention training. In addition, WOC host monthly forums to educate and bring awareness in our community about various topic of interest as systemic racism, prison reform, behavioral health, human trafficking and substance use disorder just to identify a few topics.

Mental disorders are omnipresent with a stigma that continues to hover over our society and is more prevalent in BIPOC populations. It is tantamount that we embrace people with behavioral health issues. We need to destigmatize mental disorders

by respecting and encouraging those who experience mental disorders by listening to their stories, challenges, and experiences.

According to the National Institute of Mental Health nearly one in five U.S. adults live with a mental illness (52.9 million people in 2020). Most mental disorders go untreated, especially in communities of color. While People of Color (POC) have rates of mental health disorders like Whites, these disorders are more likely to last longer by resulting in a more significant disability for People of Color.

Forty-six percent of Whites with any mental disorder received mental health services in 2015, compared to 30 % of Blacks and 27 % of Hispanics.

According to SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) service cost or lack of insurance coverage was the most frequently cited reason for not using mental health ser-

vices across all racial and ethnic groups. A 2021 report HHS (Health and Human Services) cites "persistent systemic concerns for POC during the COVID-19 pandemic." These inequities are reflected in different ways in one's quality of life, varied disability, length of life, severity of illness and treatment access.

Statistically, one in five people you encounter or see may have dealt with anxiety, depression, or other mental health conditions in the past year. In 2021, WOC received 200,000 from the Michigan Health Endowment Fund for the Racial Disparities in Behavioral Health Care Project. WOC has partnered with several community organizations to conduct research in Saginaw County through surveys, one-on-one interviews and listening sessions on the experiences of African Americans less

**CONTINUES ON PG 15,
MENTAL CARE**

+ COMMUNITY

Continued from pg 14, mental care

likely to receive behavioral healthcare follow-up. WOC will share the findings with the community on August 25. This study is the first of its kind in the Saginaw area and provides an opportunity to identify why these disparities are occurring so that healthcare providers and lawmakers make necessary changes.

OC is also WOC's initiatives help youth and adults learn the benefits of adopting a lifestyle free of drugs and alcohol and other unforeseen barriers that could prevent them from becoming productive citizens of the city of Saginaw. In addition to education and research, another BIPOC people is encouraging conversation.

It is important to know efforts towards social justice in the BIPOC community will remain incomplete until mental healthcare disparities among these groups are addressed and seeking mental health treatment is a part of a standard wellness plan.

If one in five adults live with some kind of mental condition, why isn't that number reflected in our awareness of the people we know and interact with on a daily basis? Because a mental illness can't be seen like other illnesses. We often work, learn, and live beside people with mental health conditions without knowing it. People want to keep their stories a secret because of fear of judgement and repercussions.

While stigma isn't the only reason for the disparity, it's one of the biggest barriers in people seeking treatment, and it's something we need to prioritize action toward eliminating. The more our colleagues, friends, relatives, and community members identify their mental health struggles, the more others will come forward to share their stories and triumphs. They need to feel safe to do so.

Employers, educators, and church leaders need to create opportunities for these discussions and support people with mental health conditions in any way they can. They can offer workshops and promote community resources to reduce stigma and increase access to mental health resources.

It is important to promote mental health on a regular basis, not just during open enrollment for health plans or after being directly affected by events like

suicide. Newsletters can be a great place to share resources and information with employees and members of the congregation. Executives, educators, managers, and church leaders can discuss emotional well-being on a regular basis. To promote wellness, employers could encourage employees to use their vacation time and provide schedule flexibility. Employers could also provide accommodations and develop a return-to-work plan so if an employee needs to take time off for a mental health situation, they feel supported when they return.

Education is key. Over 80% or more Black Americans are concerned about the association of behavioral health stigma which tends to discourage people from seeking treatment.

Health care providers' lack of cultural understanding, language differences or barriers can be a factor in obtaining services.

Lack of awareness may also contribute to misdiagnosis and underdiagnosis of mental disorder in People of Color which can become a problem.

However, we can start a conversation by saying:

"Who do we identify with mental health conditions?"

"How does race affect mental health treatment?"

"Why don't people of color use mental health services more often?"

"How do we address mental health in the black community? The more we can create safe environments and opportunities to have these conversations, the more we can shed light on the realities of mental health and begin to destigmatize mental health treatment for BIPOC communities, which is essential for us to come full circle in our path toward social justice.

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Knowledge
is power.

- Francis Bacon



COURTESY PHOTO

Fan the flames of truth

By MB STAFF

The age-old idiom, 'Fanning the flames of conflict' is typically used to describe a negative or undesirable situation or event. It portrays emotions such as anger or hatred being probed and prodded to become stronger or more intense. With technology informing us of world events in real time, it is all too common to see literally millions of people whipped into an angry or violent frenzy seeking equally quick or immediate justice in situations requiring time for actual facts to catch up with the flames of conflict which have been stimulated within us. As a result, millions of people world-wide are incensed over flames of conflict fanned eons ago with no hope for resolution in sight. These conflicts, whether real, imagined, or fabricated lead to division, strife and sometimes even harm to the perceived threat. This may be the right time to consider a new approach, 'fanning the flames of truth'.

Fanning the flames of truth is similar to 'speaking truth to power' but will require a bit more courage. When speaking truth to power, more often than not we get to go home to families and friends who agree with us. There is comfort and safety in knowing that our circle is intact and that we are in agreement with whom we

perceive as the enemy – the threat is easily identified and isolated. But truth poses more of a challenge. This may necessitate taking a stance on subjects we firmly believe to be just, then having to stand alone when our circle has succumbed to false flames of conflict. In these circumstances, comfort and safety seem to be in short supply. Again, technology can be used to substantiate claims on either side. Another age old idiom, 'A picture is worth a thousand words', takes on new meaning when the same picture is very easily altered to demonstrate two polar opposite points of view. Unfortunately, even the best of us can be convinced that a glaring red flag which should caution us to dig a little deeper is readily accepted by those around us. After all, how could so many people who believe what I believe and have pictures to 'prove' it be wrong? Coming to terms with the fact that my truth may not be the only truth is difficult to accept.

There is a simple four step process which we can all practice to help to alleviate confusion and support efforts to build unified households, communities and over time, nations. KNOW:

1. Knowledge is power. Learn as much as you possibly can from varied and reliable sources before passing judgment. A headline titled, 'Cat

marries goat and delivers 5 lb. baby boy' is for entertainment purposes ONLY! And I use the phrase entertainment very loosely here. An article such as this cannot be used to support efforts to separate cats and goats on family farms. Such a separation would be costly and unnecessary. We must learn to look beyond titillating headlines which support age-old beliefs and search for truth.

2. Now is the time. Right now. It is time to make truth a priority in critical decision-making even when those closest to us have differing points of view. Cats and goats – probably not a big deal. But there are decisions to be made which are potentially life changing and worthy of discussion beyond a few suspect images on social media.
3. Offer solutions. Again, learn as much as possible so that intelligent and informed options can be discussed. You may have the solution to a catastrophic problem facing the world. Offer it up with confidence and sincerity – we may not change the course of history with our genius, but we may inadvertently influence someone who can. Take a chance - offer your well-informed input. And lastly,
4. Welcome new, informed and possibly even dissenting ideas. I learn a great deal about other places, other people, other customs, even more about the laws of this land as I prepare for, review, and edit articles each month. Differing perspectives make for richer outcomes. You never know how much of a difference your informed voice might make in the future of our community.

To fan the flames of truth while practicing the four steps of KNOW is to provide hope and order to a rapidly changing and difficult to manage world. Hope for a peaceful future - something worth fighting for.

+ COMMUNITY

Meet Author Aesha LaViolette

'Every day work on your goals, work on being the best version of yourself. Love yourself, empower and inspire others.'

Aesha LaViolette was born and raised in Detroit Michigan and now lives in the metro Detroit area with her two daughters and significant other. She graduated from Western Michigan University with a bachelor's degree in Communication Studies and also holds a certification in Broadcast Media Arts and a master's degree in Media Arts.

Throughout her career, Aesha has worked as a substitute teacher, secretary, receptionist and paraprofessional, working in 50 grade schools throughout metro Detroit in the process.

Aesha wrote Love Empower Inspire I Am Wonderful, Love Empower Inspire The Best Me, and Love Empower Inspire Journal for the Youth as a means to help children recognize that we are all different, but each is as wonderful and unique

as the next and there is nothing wrong with that. She is following this up with many more children's books in the near future.

In her free time Aesha enjoys exercising, traveling, bowling, writing, acting and of course spending plenty of quality time with her family. She is also the founder and president of Love Empower Inspire Publishing L.L.C. and Love Empower Inspire non-profit organization.

As far as the future goes, Aesha hopes her work will inspire countless youth throughout the world, inspiring positive change in those that she touches.

For more information about Love Empower Inspire books, Aesha's publishing company or just to follow her, go to:

loveempowerinspirepublishing.com
info@loveempowerinspire.org
[instagram.com/loveempowerinspire](https://www.instagram.com/loveempowerinspire)
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+ COMMUNITY

Seen on the Scene



On July 31, 2022 my nephew Ashanti Franklin and I worked our 3rd trip together. Only this time we were able to work on the same beverage cart together.

Words cannot express the joy I have every time we're able to fly together.

I'm so proud of him as I reflect back to the days when he would pull my roller board suitcase. It was of course much bigger and taller than him but he would say, "Tee Tee I got it!"

He wrote me a letter titled "The Perfect Mother" a few years back. It says, "as a kid I thought you were the most awesome mysterious woman I have ever met. You flew from place to place, knew the hippest places to go...."

He graduated from flight attendant training last October. I wasn't able to pin his wings on him but it brings me joy to see him soar.

I knew some day he would carry on the legacy and well, the rest is history.

- SHANTAY MCKINNIE

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On the Saudi bus



By **JOAN L. WASHINGTON**

The Preparation:

In January 2007, I made up my mind to take a job in The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA), as a Prep Year Instructing Facilitator for female students at Prince Mohammed University, located in The Eastern Province of Al Khobar, situated on the beautiful Arabian Gulf. Little did I know how much my life would change; the lifelong friendships I would stumble over and make - And how those friendships would influence and impact my life up to this very day, as I share..."On The Saudi Bus."

Somehow, I always knew I would go to the Middle-East. So, my journey was not random. Back in the 90s, my lifelong and recently deceased good friend, Dr. Belinda J. Moses, (of course it was all her idea) and I got our very first teaching start at Wayne County Community College District (WC3D), Fort Street Campus, in Downtown Detroit. This was at the very beginning of the introduction of ITV and Blackboard technology. Belinda was an IT Specialist and I was teaching English as a Second Language (ESL), Speech Communications, Technical Writing and Business Communications, and loved it! My students came from all over the world. They came from Africa, China, Europe, and India and of course from all over the Middle East and North Africa (MENA).

You would never know their horrific tales of courage and survival at a glance. No, but the full brunt of some their stories could sweep you away like a tsunami wave. To be quite honest, in the classroom I was often the student. I listened intently to their testimonies of intrigue and adventure, which made excellent critical thinking and writing cross-cultural classroom

lessons. I used their own stories to create "experiences stories." They spoke of being vulnerable "foreigners" starting over after having professional careers in their homeland, to coming to America with nothing, and having to restart their lives all over again.

I never knew the mental anguish these people endured - The strange looks they received, and harsh rebuke of rejection, all because most had very little English speaking, reading and writing skills.

Through the years, we developed a respectful affinity for one another, particularly my African and Middle Eastern students, in turn, I taught from my empathetic heart, determined to give my students the best of myself, so they could transition to that next level of their collegiate experience...on their journey to elsewhere.

After about 12 years of teaching, at WC3D, I remember during a "Show & Tell" assignment, I said..."Well, if you can come to my country, I can go to yours!" And that I most certainly did. The most precious and certainly unintended gift from being a true teaching facilitator in those days at Wayne County Community College was emphatically the diversity and sincerity of the students.

They invited me into their private world, trusted me not to eyeball or judge, and I laughed with them as they shared the "naughty and humorous side of culture" and I can say, we grew and learned together.

Needless to say, I wasn't totally clueless about the secretive and closed society and culture of the Middle East. I felt at the time, privileged and just as awestruck to have such a golden opportunity to live and teach at Prince Mohammed University (PMU) in The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. To aid in my quest to learn as much as I could before my departure date, I researched, and read everything I could find on the internet about KSA's complex and mysterious people. I communicated Ad nauseam with Jamila Rasheed in HR via email, regarding my passport information, inquiring about a litany of subjects,

ranging from how to properly dress, etiquette, prayer times, Eid, Ramadan and the multi-leveled social structure and strict protocol for (the word that I found now odious and offensive learned from my students) American "foreigners" particularly single females arriving in country.

There also was a lady named Paula that lived in the villa next to what would potential be my villa. This lady was very knowledgeable and extremely helpful. She was strategically assigned to me and we had an instant connect. She also just happened to be an older African-American, single Black female.

Knowing myself is my first level of defense, and is paramount to my growth and how I learn from even the most difficult situations. I have zero tolerance for foolishness and I have never been one to fake and pretend. Not even in a society as professional and polite as KSA. Nonetheless, I was cautioned the cultural environment within The Kingdom is male patriarchy dominant, and being myself might not be good for my career. However, being an American can have its privileges, but they are earned. I knew this was either going to be a positive experience, or I was going to crash and burn. I was cautioned because I was a single, full-figured, African-American female with dreadlocked hair, and the validity of my character, integrity and every principle that I stood for, would be absolutely challenged in the worst way imaginable!

Nevertheless, I was not daunted by this caveat, but forged full-steam ahead and readied myself for what lie ahead.

Still, the single most crucial, element of this journey in my mind was rubbing shoulders with highly skilled and sophisticated teaching facilitators; those experts from all around the globe, that recruiters boasted about making PMU highly favored and unique. I was a jumbled-up ball of energy and raw nerves. Of course

**CONTINUES ON PG 21,
SAUDI BUS**

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I questioned myself as too, "How would I measure up to the rest of the group?"

After all, my goal was to fully engage in active-learning, training and sharing sessions, in a positively topnotch university with professionals, using state-of-the-art technology in a modern and safe living environment.

I knew I hit the jackpot (ching-ching!) with this dream job at Prince Mohammed University!

Bahrain:

The flight from Detroit, to Saudi Arabia was about 20 hours long, with a lay-over in Amsterdam. Our final stop by air would be in the small Arab state of Bahrain, which sits on the Persian Gulf. We would remain in Bahrain for about 5 days until our official government paperwork was complete. Ironically, as fate would have me sitting next to a friendly white female. Her name was Dr. Erika Burner, which turned out we both were headed to PMU, and later I discovered she would be the Dean of the female campus. The entire flight, reminded me of that scene from superman, where the baby is hurling through space at lightning speed, growing up and listening to the entire history of the planet Krypton through the crystals of knowledge. Well, Erika Burner turned out to be my crystals of knowledge in KSA. She chatted away about her extensive travels throughout the Middle East. Who need the U.S. Embassy? I had Erica! We hit it off right away. She quietly appointed herself my guardian and protector, which was alright by me.

Remarkably, we still had on our winter coats disembarking from the aircraft in about 120 degree heat. I had never in my life experienced such oppressive heat and heavy humidity. I was thoroughly convinced the world was ending, because human beings "could not" possibly survive in that kind of ungodly heat! It actually felt like my skin was suffocating me and the very air itself was burning holes through my lungs. While I was panicked-stricken and grieved over our impending doom, Ericka Burner remained as cool as a cucumber and insisted my body would eventually acclimate to the heat and she

advised me to relax. Suddenly we were greeted by a team of Saudi nationals dressed in blinding white thobes (long white shirts) and each donned in their traditional red and white-checked pattern headgear, or ghutra. It was bound tightly with a single long-black cord, wrapped tightly around their heads.

They darted back and forth calling out names. When I heard my name called, I exhaled. After row call, we were 25 souls accounted for, off the Lufthansa aircraft.

Finally, after issuing out more stern orders to the Indian service workers to hurry using the words "Yalla! Yalla!" The airport service workers literally ran and scurried to grab our luggage off the baggage carousel and struggled to cram them into the luggage hatch on the bus. We were politely ordered onto the bus that would take us to our hotel. Once on the bus, they checked and double-checked the list again, and called out our names. The air conditioning was on full blast. I thought I died and went to heaven.

I could finally breathe again, Erica and I naturally set together on the bus, it was about 3:00 a.m. by then, jet lag was taking its toll - everything became a blur; I didn't remember getting off that bus or walking into the hotel. I thought the whole heat thing was just a dream.

But it wasn't a dream... I was up and dressed and downstairs in the main dining hall of the Grand Hotel in Bahrain for breakfast by 8:00 a.m. This is where things got interesting. I walked into the dining hall and there was Erica. She gave me a big greeting and motioned for me to come and join her. She was accompanied by several other ladies from the U.S., Canada, Pakistan, India, Egypt and Morocco.

I was overjoyed. This was exactly the type of international diversity in education that I was desperately seeking. It was a beautiful and comforting moment in my life. Some of these women traveled halfway around the world to find each other. God had smiled on me and I knew I had made the right choice!

During our very first informal meet and greet session among the ladies over breakfast, some minor incident happened with

the food service. One of the newly minted PMU members named Kim, an American white female, became very upset and loud with a food service worker. The young worker was genuinely sorry and kept attempting to profusely apologize, but that Kim wasn't having any of it. Eventually, the server just gave up and ran away.

A very smartly dressed, even-tempered manager of the hotel intervened, named Deepak, to defuse the situation and calm Kim down. Everything happened so fast, we were all stunned. First, Kim was a white female, about 5 feet 6 inches tall and 400 pounds easy, with an American passport. By today's standards she would be culturally classified as an entitled "Karen," and bully.

I thought the entire situation was ridiculously over the top. I got up and immediately apologized to Deepak for Kim's uncouth and demeaning behavior towards the service worker. I assured him that all American's did not conduct themselves in that manner, and in the process made my first enemy, after only being in country less than 24 hours. However, I was treated like a queen among the hotel staff. The perks included special foods, day shopping trips, and a site seeing tour, while we waited to get processed in. At the end of our five day stay in Bahrain, clicks were being formed and alliances made.

I was too busy exploring my new environment and enjoying the unique flavor of Bahrain's vibrant cultural mix to really take notice. I later found out Bahrain was the place to go and hangout, take in a movie and just enjoy yourself.

Finally, after about seven days in Bahrain, a bus came to take us across The King Fahd Causeway (bridge), which is about a 15-20 miles long drive that connects to the Eastern Province of KSA.

There we went to the Onyx Compound, in Al Khobar which would be my home sweet home for the next three years. We would meet the president of PMU and receive our long awaited orientation.

To Be Continued....

+ COMMUNITY



KEENA WILLIAMS

Still in the fight: Keena Williams makes historic run for mayor in Albion

By MB STAFF

In Albion, population loss and power shifts create space for new voices

In one Michigan city, mounting challenges have forced residents to consider new forms of leadership. They have also inspired everyday citizens to see leadership in themselves.

Albion looks like many deindustrialized cities across Michigan. When unemployment and foreclosures spiked during the Great Recession in the late 2010s, the state lost significant amounts of housing stock. Newer constructions were left vacant and existing homes were abandoned. Over the past decade, Albion has seen an increase in blighted properties and a steady decrease in population. Despite targeted efforts by local entrepreneurs and its current largest employer, the small liberal arts Albion College, the city has been slow to rebound in the housing market. Affordable housing is out of reach for many. A feasible strategic plan for infill development, the process of rehabilitating underutilized or vacant properties, has been slow coming.

Major employer Union Steel Company closed in 1995, followed by Harvard Industries in 2001 and the Albion Malleable in 2002. As with other cities that lost the factory and manufacturing jobs that characterized the better part of the twentieth century, Albion struggled

to redefine its downtown and formerly high traffic tourist areas. Many of the retail, grocery and leisure businesses that served factory employees soon followed. Albion City Hospital closed in 2002, leaving many residents in a functional food and healthcare desert.

Job losses and economic shifts from the COVID-19 pandemic dealt the city further significant blows, exacerbating symptoms of poverty including violence, housing and food insecurity. In 2016, the city voted to annex its troubled public school district to the neighboring city of Marshall. These changes have deeply impacted the community of Albion, with families of color and poor families bearing a disproportionate share of the inaccessibility burdens.

Keena Williams is a first-time candidate for mayor in Albion. She was raised in Albion and as with many people who have lifelong ties to the city she has a memory for nearly ever vacant lot. She is a graduate of the former Albion Senior High School and earned her Bachelor of Arts in English from Albion College. She's a member of Grace Temple Church of God In Christ, the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and has held various civic leadership positions in citywide. After teaching for a handful years in Texas, she returned to her undergraduate alma mater as the Assistant Director for Global Diversity. The next six years saw her

fasttracked to a position on Albion College's cabinet, becoming the institution's first Chief Belonging Officer in 2020.

If elected, Williams will be the first Black woman mayor of Albion. She sees great possibility in her city's changing demographics and in other population trends. As one example, she notes the national trend of migration to rural areas in growing numbers. People want to take advantage of the lower cost of living, access to green space and sense of community. "I live in Albion because generations of my family are here," she says, "But it's also a choice. It can be a political statement. Being proud of a place that others give up on, that others don't understand, there's a resilience and beauty in that." Williams' husband, five children and mother also live in Albion, in addition to members of her extended family and friends who are now like siblings.

"Some of the first time voters this election, I watched them grow up." Williams beams as she tells the stories of specific students. Judging from her smile, you might assume she was blissfully unaware of some of the challenges facing her hometown. That would be a misassumption. Her encyclopedic knowledge of the city's downtown paints a vibrant picture of restaurants, bars and stores. Within her lifetime, she even recalls a relatively heterogeneous social scene. "We're not a utopia but we interacted with one another more frequently," she says as she reflects on her K-12 years.

Public comments during many of the last several city council meetings suggest that the kind of integration Williams remembers is becoming less common. Community members either allege or angrily deny everything from a racialized town gown divide to preferential treatment for the park in the city's least diverse neighborhood. Public lectures respectively sponsored by the College and individual community members have focused on socio-economic and racial inequities in Albion and the nation. Williams notes that she is proud of her community for asking the tough questions. Getting answers to those questions has proven more difficult.

"The division that we see now should not be surprising," Williams says. "There's no factory or Malleable unions, where people would work together for better labor conditions. There's no highschool football games in our community. Churches are as segregated here as they are everywhere." According to Williams, the loss of key civic and economic institutions has revealed fault lines that many people were un-

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WILLIAMS**

Continued from pg 22, Williams

aware of or unaffected by. She believes her vision for an incentivized city passport program that encourages attendance at everything from festivals to city council meetings would build community in a low stakes, low cost way. She wants to see assessment measures attached to the city's communications and strategic plans to ensure that resources are fairly distributed across social difference. She is also committed to dedicating more resources to sitting city council members to help them engage their constituents and lead feasibility studies on justice projects for their precincts.

As painful as they are, the divisions Williams describe created what she sees as a need for her campaign and candidacy. She is running on her reputation for peacemaking and discretion. Population loss and power shifts resulting from high rates of turnover in city council, the school district and other civic positions have sparked a fire that "we can only put out together," Williams theorizes. "People talk

more openly and confidently about Albion's history and what we owe one another. This is a moment where you have to say outright why only certain people have lived in certain neighborhoods or why certain children are always sick or hungry."

If division is one of the city's problems, Williams feels she has achievable solutions. Creating a sense of community is what she does best. When she went to the bank to open an account for her campaign, patrons stopped to hug and congratulate her. The likes on her new campaign Facebook count are a multiracial who's who list in Albion. She feels she can translate this early interest to votes in November.

Her home is almost exactly in the middle of the historically Black west side of town and historically White east side of town. After acknowledging the impact of generations of real estate steering, housing covenants and bank redlining, she notes that she can literally

see both sides of town from her front porch. "Things that I don't see are schools and grocery stores," she observes.

The symbolism of the view from her porch is not lost on Williams, nor is that fact that more Black women are pursuing municipal leadership than ever before. Many are also stepping out as social entrepreneurs and advocates for change. Days into her campaign, Williams resigned from her position as Chief Belonging Officer. She continues to canvas, work as a grassroots organizer and evaluate opportunities for diversity administration. A recent job interview went well and philanthropic positions in driving distance abound. Whatever comes next in her career, she plans to keep space in her life and schedule to lead in her community. "They say that a rising tide lifts all ships. There's not that many of us left in Albion," she says with a laugh. "So why aren't we all in the same ship?"

A tribute to Ella Fitzgerald featuring world-renowned Patti Austin

By MB STAFF

On October 1, 2022, at 7 P.M., The Whiting Auditorium in Flint is the place to be. Grammy Award-winning vocalist Patti Austin will be the headliner as she performs with the Flint Symphony Orchestra during a benefit concert for the Black Classical Origins (BCO) program. She will perform in a tribute to the late great Ella Fitzgerald. The guest conductor will be Damien Sneed.

Since breaking through to solo success in the mid-1970s, Patti Austin has become one of the world's most popular and versatile vocalists. In the past decade, it is in the world of jazz (a genre that is close to her heart) that Ms. Austin has been building a solid international audience.

In 2002, Ms. Austin released her album "For Ella," featuring 11 of Ella Fitzgerald's most popular songs and an original tribute song. She has performed and recorded with Paul Simon and Michael Jackson, amongst others.

The purpose of Black Classical Origins



PATTI AUSTIN

programs is to honor and expand the legacy of Black classical composers and musicians. It is also the culminating event of the Flint Institute of Music's (FIM) "September Spectacular."

For the past 16 years, Black Classical Origins has brought quality vocalists and guest conductors to Flint to perform with the Flint Symphony Orchestra.

This is not your regular symphony performance, proceeds from the BCO benefit concert will provide tuition and scholarships to assist Black students in the FIM Flint School of Performing Arts. Funds

also are used to provide free admission tickets for FIM programs.

To date, BCO has raised more than \$100,000 for financial assistance for more than 450 African American students studying voice, instrumental music and dance at Flint School of Performing Arts. For 2021-2022 BCO awarded \$6,600 in scholarships to students.

Lennetta Coney, co-chair of the event stated in a recent interview, "As we seek to expose audiences to diverse performers, we look for people with a mixture of a classical, pop and jazz sound. If we can find that intersection between what an audience would like and with other genres of music, we will have accomplished our goal."

There are several options available to obtain your tickets to see Patti Austin "A Tribute to Ella Fitzgerald," online at <https://www.thewhiting.com/events>, by phone at 810-237-7333, or in person at Ticket Center box office locations at The Whiting Auditorium, and the Capitol Theatre.

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Straw Guitars

By DANIELLE LEE

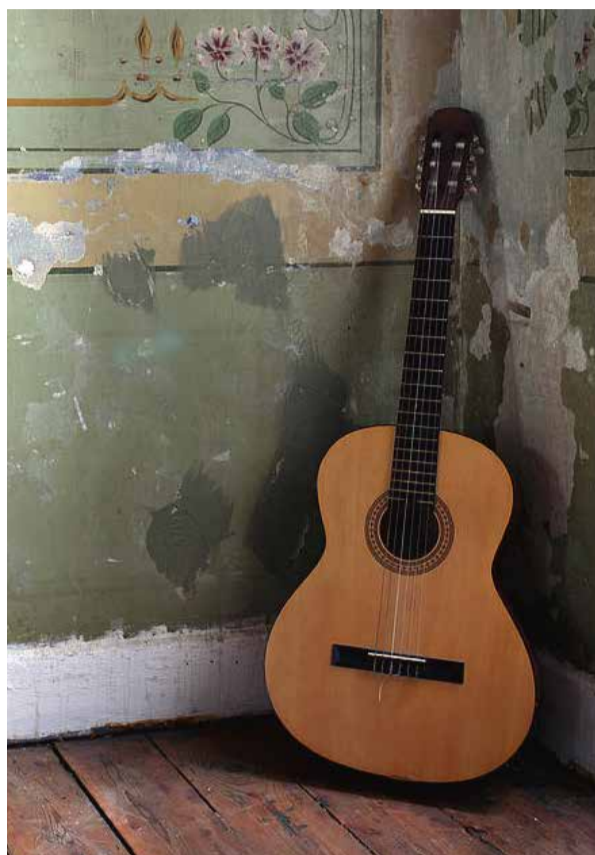
The guitar sat on display in Aunt Nida's living room. The case was a weathered mahogany, lined with the shag psychedelic orange carpet you imagine was popular in the 70's. A cloudy plexiglass protected the ancient guitar from the nieces, nephews, and neighborhood kids constantly banging in and out of Nida's front door. When I was younger, I would stare at it, just making out the delicate curves of a truly magnificent instrument. I begged my Uncle Junior to teach me to play on it. (It was long after his death that it occurred to me he was tone deaf and I'd never seen him successfully play any musical instrument let alone a guitar.) I pleaded for him to just let me hold it but it stayed fixed in its place on the coffee table with a hand scrawled \$99 price tag affixed on the glass. It's constant for sale status was the reason Junior provided for never letting me touch it.

"Girl, you'll break it, then I'll never sell it."

"Little Girl, if you don't get your fingers off that guitar. Boom'll be over with a hundred dollars in 10." Boom was on his way over for the better part of two decades. He must have gotten lost.

Junior returned from Vietnam tired, scared, and incapable of coping with the harshness of the city blocks that seemed to echo the violence of the battles he'd just fought. Home held no solace but the corner store did. Aunt Kandi says she always held her breath when he came around until she knew if the liquor had done its job dampening his short temper. I'm not old enough to remember Nida's myriad of black eyes in those first few years after he came home. Intense brutality preceded his frequent migration into the Jackson prison system.

Every Sunday, my mother would dress me in the frilly yellow taffeta dress my Nanny had sewn and we would ride the bus two hours. Through thick glass I would recount how I now knew my ABC's and that, yes, cat did begin with the letter "C". When I was ten, he laughed when I asked my mother if she had packed my training b-r-a, reminding me that he too could spell. At every family funeral, he'd tell the most inappropriate joke he could think of before coaxing all the



COURTESY PHOTO

adults into an all night spades tournament. The bright, funny man I loved was incongruent with Jackson inmate 230968...I've never met him. I knew Uncle Junior...sanity and levity. But Junior is gone now.

"Aunty Nida! Bring me a screwdriver!" Faces begin peeking around corners from every area of the tiny home. It had been quiet. Somber. My request crashed through each room like a linebacker on meth. This couldn't wait. Shuffling into view, Nida, still in her black dress, had

changed into fuzzy green slippers. She held multiple screwdrivers in her hands and looked, well, annoyed. "Katherine Grace Daniels, you are too old to be yellin' through my house like one of these kids! What you need a screwdriver for?" You could see some of my aunts and uncles nodding in agreement. I pointed to the guitar. Immediately her eyes misted over and she shoved the fist full of tools at me. "Don't break a thing in my house." She eyed me and then shuffled back into the den.

I knew I was still being watched. Everyone was pretending to go back to their conversational mourning but we'd all grown up with this guitar. Now that someone had thought of it, they were dying to see this

ancient stringed beast of fables. The stories Junior told about playing in blues joints from Mississippi to Michigan, paying his way up north had enchanted every member of the family. Even those who were old enough to have been around and knew none of them were true.

Dropping to the floor and setting the case on crossed legs, I set to the task of uncovering Junior's guitar. I worked at each screw carefully. When the final one plunked onto my lap, I eased the tool into a slight opening near where the plexiglass and case met. I took multiple deep breaths, letting the protective glass slide to the floor beside me and looked down. It felt like the laughter started outside of me. I actually startled myself. When the first laugh left my lips, I looked around to see which cousin had snuck up behind me. But it was me. Which made me laugh harder. And louder. A crowd gathered.

"Kadee, you've lost it," my cousin Dingo chastised. Once again, I pointed at the guitar. Recognition, confusion, then hilarity crossed every family member's face at almost the same time. The house erupted with uncontrollable laughter. Old men fell to floor gasping for air through tearful guffaws. My Aunt Kandi was rolling on the floor, exclaiming "I'm peeing! I'm peeing!" Still laughing, Nida was trying to make her way over to kill Kandi for peeing on her floor.

At some point over the decades, Junior had replaced the guitar with a small straw broom. Or maybe it was always a broom. Due to the cloudiness of the glass, the general woodiness of the broom, his stories, and our own imaginations, we let ourselves see a guitar. It had gone unquestioned for thirty years.

No one felt much like mourning after that. Card tables sprung up everywhere. Spades tournaments broke out. Beer bottles clinked. Cigars rested in a dozen ash trays. And, "Remember when Junior..." floated from more than one slurring aunty. One last time, Junior had been the one who was both the heaviness in the room and taken the heaviness out of it.

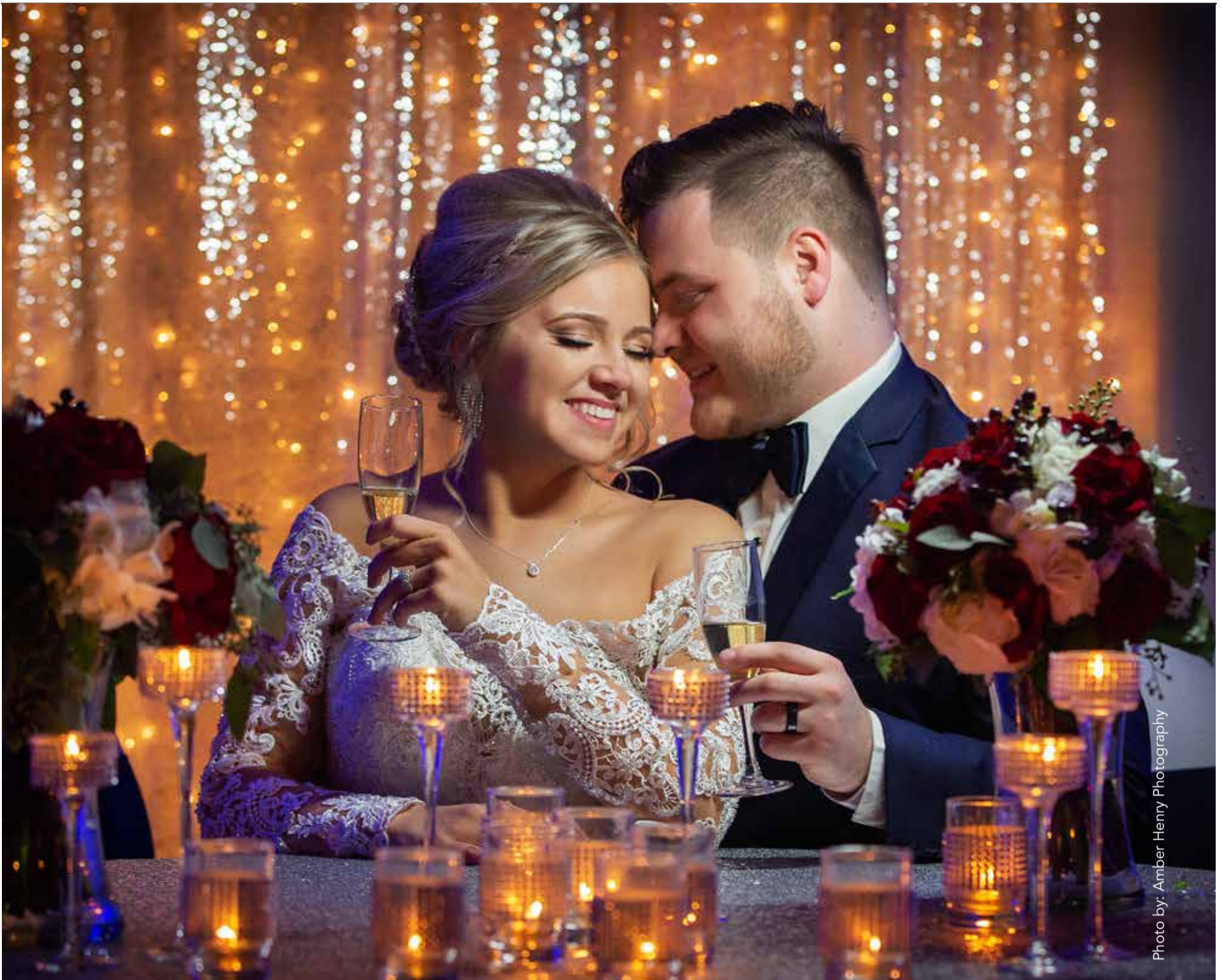


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What's for dessert, Della?

By Dolores Grant-Fall, former Neighborhood House cook

Cassava is a root vegetable native to South America, including my childhood homeland. It provides many important nutrients, including resistant starch, which may have health benefits.

Cassava egg balls

Ingredients

- 1 pound of softly boiled and crushed cassava
- 5 cloves of garlic, crushed
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 4 blades of finely chopped shallot
- 6 hard-boiled eggs enough oil to deep fry

Instructions

In a bowl combine all ingredients except eggs together and mix into a smooth dough

Peel eggs and cover with cassava mix into a ball

Deep fry until golden brown and eat with your favorite salad, there you have a full balanced meal.



This can also consider a Saturday evening snacks when serve with cheese and rolls. One can also put Italian dressing on it. It is all optional.

Downtown Saginaw Center Programs of Study

Many of the courses for these programs will be available at the center. For increased schedule flexibility, some may be taken at main campus or online.

- Associate of Arts – Transfer program
- Criminal Justice – Loss Prevention Specialist
- Fire Science Technology – Associate in Applied Science
- Health Foundations – Advanced Certificate
- Michigan Transfer Agreement
- Office Professions – Office Skills Core – Certificate of Achievement
- Sterile Processing Technician – Advanced Certificate
- Youth Services – Certificate of Achievement



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Delta College

+ COMMUNITY

SSI recipients can get internet access

Internet access is now necessary for work, school, healthcare, and more. However, for many households, it remains unaffordable. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) wants everyone to access reasonably priced internet services. We recently launched a new program to reduce the cost of getting online.

The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) provides a discount of up to:

- \$30 per month toward internet service for eligible households.
- \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands.

Eligible households can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 toward purchasing a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers. To qualify for this one-time discount, households must contribute more than \$10 and less than \$50 toward the purchase price.

Any household with an individual who receives Supplemental Security Income

(SSI) is eligible to receive discounted internet service through the ACP. Social Security doesn't count ACP assistance as income or a resource for SSI purposes. Receipt of this assistance will not affect your SSI payment. You may also be eligible, if your household participates in other assistance programs, such as:

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).
- Medicaid.
- Federal Public Housing Assistance.
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC).
- Lifeline.

If you don't receive SSI or participate in another qualifying assistance program, you may also be eligible if your household income is at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

There are additional ways to qualify. Go

to our Affordable Connectivity Program page to learn more and apply. If you have questions, you'll find a consumer FAQ that can help, along with a list of participating internet service providers sorted by state.

Cost shouldn't be a barrier to getting online. Being connected can help you find job opportunities and access telehealth services, saving you time and transportation costs. And with affordable internet services, students no longer need to rely on public Wi-Fi hotspots to do their homework or for distance learning.

As of February 2022, more than 10 million households have already enrolled in the ACP program. That's an exciting threshold, but we know many more eligible households that are not yet enrolled. Please help us spread the word about ACP with your families, friends, neighbors, and co-workers.

For more information about the program, please email ACPinfo@fcc.gov or call 877-384-2575.

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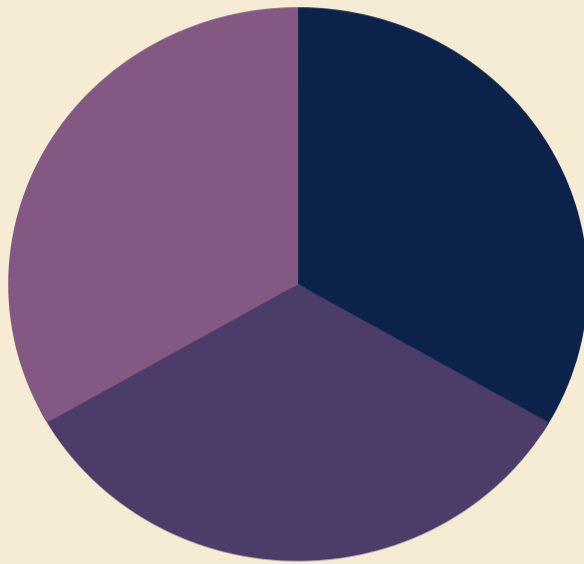
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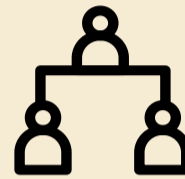
MI Tri-Share

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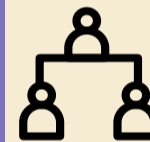


The MI Tri-Share Pilot (Tri-Share) is an innovative public/private partnership that shares the cost of child care equally between employers, employees, and the state of Michigan.

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



For working parents, this will reduce the out-of-pocket cost of child care, and alleviate the burden of finding child care



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

For more information, visit-
<https://www.michigan.gov/mwc>



+ COMMUNITY

IN MY HUMBLE OPINION



COURTESY PHOTO

Capitalism Must End



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

Two decades into the 21st century, it is evident that capitalism has failed as a social system. The world is mired in economic stagnation, financialization, and the most extreme inequality in human his-

tory. The COVID-19 pandemic over the last two years plus has accelerated this decline. Unless it can adapt to the needs of the majority of people and the planet, in its current form, capitalism must end in my humble opinion.

Despite the extreme variety of human cultures throughout history, from the Oldowan (homo ergaster) to Ancient Egyptians to twenty-first century Americans, there have only been three basic ways economic life has been organized. The first way is to rely on tradition to decide what goods and services will be produced, how they will be produced and distributed, and for whom they will be produced and distributed. It is called a traditional economic system and has been the most common

over the course of history by far. It continues to guide economic life in some parts of Africa, Asia, and South America and is commonly found in rural settings where economic activities are predominantly farming or other traditional income-generating activities.

Another way is to defer to some central authority figure who directs all members of society to follow his or her orders in regard to these issues. This is called a command economic system, and usually, the government is the authority controlling a significant portion of the economic struc-

**CONTINUES ON PG 31,
CAPITALISM**

Continued from pg 30, capitalism

ture. Also known as a planned system, the command economic system is common in communist societies since production decisions are the preserve of the government. In theory, the command system works very well as long as the central authority exercises control with the general population's best interests in mind. However, that rarely seems to be the case.

Finally, a society can allow market forces, such as supply, demand, and the desire for profit to shape its economic life. This third system is based on the concept of free markets and is called a market economic system where the government exercises little control over resources and does not interfere with important segments of the economy. A pure market system doesn't really exist so the market economic system is mostly theoretical because most governments enact laws that regulate fair trade and monopolies. This gave rise to a hybrid, or fourth system that combines characteristics of the market and command economic systems, which is referred to as a mixed system. Today, most countries practice a mixed economic system that includes some degree of government regulation of business and ownership of select industries.

Capitalism, often thought of as an economic system, is a practice of the market economic system in which private individuals or businesses own capital goods and the means of production (i.e., factories, tools, machines, raw materials, etc.). At the same time, business owners (capitalists) employ workers (labor) who operate the means of production and only receive wages; labor does not own the means of production but only uses them on behalf of the capitalists, nor do the workers benefit from profits generated from their labor - these also belong to the capitalists. As such, private property rights are fundamental to capitalism and it is the primary pillar on which it was founded.

The other pillars of capitalism, as published by the International Monetary Fund, are self-interest through which people act in pursuit of their own good, without regard for sociopolitical pressure; competition, through firms' freedom to enter and exit markets, maximizes the joint welfare of both producers and consumers; a mar-

ket mechanism that determines prices in a decentralized manner through interactions between buyers and sellers; freedom to choose with respect to consumption, production, and investment - dissatisfied customers can buy different products, investors can pursue more lucrative ventures, and workers can leave their jobs for better pay; the final pillar is the limited role of government to protect the rights of private citizens and maintain an orderly environment that facilitates proper functioning of markets.

Because of how capitalism is structured, it will always pit business owners and investors against the working class. Capitalists are in competition against one another and will seek to increase their profits by cutting costs, including labor costs. At the same time, workers want higher wages, fairer treatment, and better working conditions. These two incentives are fundamentally at odds with one another. This creates class conflict, inequalities, and misery among the working class. Capitalism also produces negative externalities that can harm the environment and peoples' health and incentivizes cronyism and other corrupt behavior in pursuit of profit.

Crony capitalism refers to a capitalist society that is based on the close relationships between business owners and the state. Instead of success being determined by a free market and the rule of law, the success of a business is dependent on the favoritism that is shown to it by the government in the form of tax breaks, government grants, and other incentives. In practice, this is the dominant form of capitalism worldwide due to the powerful incentives both faced by governments to extract resources by taxing, regulating, and fostering rent-seeking activity, and those faced by capitalist businesses to increase profits by obtaining subsidies, limiting competition, and erecting barriers to entry.

From its beginnings, U.S. capitalism thrived on the exploitation of humanity, most brutally represented by the system of slavery. Despite the gains of Reconstruction, the systemic racism that was rooted in the capitalist system reasserted its power.

U.S. capitalism, particularly its most reactionary sectors, is responsible for the massive economic, racial, and gender disparities that plague U.S. society and for the gun violence, militarization, and environmental crisis that threaten life on Earth. As Rev. William Barber III, a leader of the Poor People's Campaign noted during the 2022 Juneteenth Moral March on Washington, D.C., "Forty-three percent of people—over 140 million—live in poverty or are low income. 52% of our children live in poverty. And the Federal budget is just as immoral—\$700 billion for defense and \$700 billion for everything else. During COVID, billionaires made \$2 trillion more and eight million more people fell into poverty. That's ridiculous!". This was reported by People's World on 18 June.

Today, the world faces multiple crises. Foremost among them is an impending environmental catastrophe, marked by rapidly rising temperatures and sea levels, widespread extinction and reduction of species, poisoned air, contaminated and polluted water, including our oceans, the loss of soil elasticity, and worsening desertification. We are rapidly reaching a point at which human societies, as we have known them, will be impossible to sustain.

At the same time, we are witnessing a phenomenal increase in every manner of inequality — income, wealth, health, life expectancies, access to everything from schooling to drinking water; the spread of neofascist movements in both the Global North and Global South; the spectacular accumulation of power by a few global corporations; and what appear to be endless wars.

Through organizations like the Poor People's Campaign that marched on the capital, and the Council for Inclusive Capitalism, which is a global movement of leaders doing business in ways that benefit people, our communities, and the planet it is possible for capitalism to adapt to the needs of society and the environment.



The SEDC Small Business Expo is back for its 9th year! Join us for local food trucks, small businesses, live entertainment, giveaways, and more. All are welcome and admission is free. Come experience a taste of Saginaw by supporting the small businesses that are run by your neighbors and strengthen our community.

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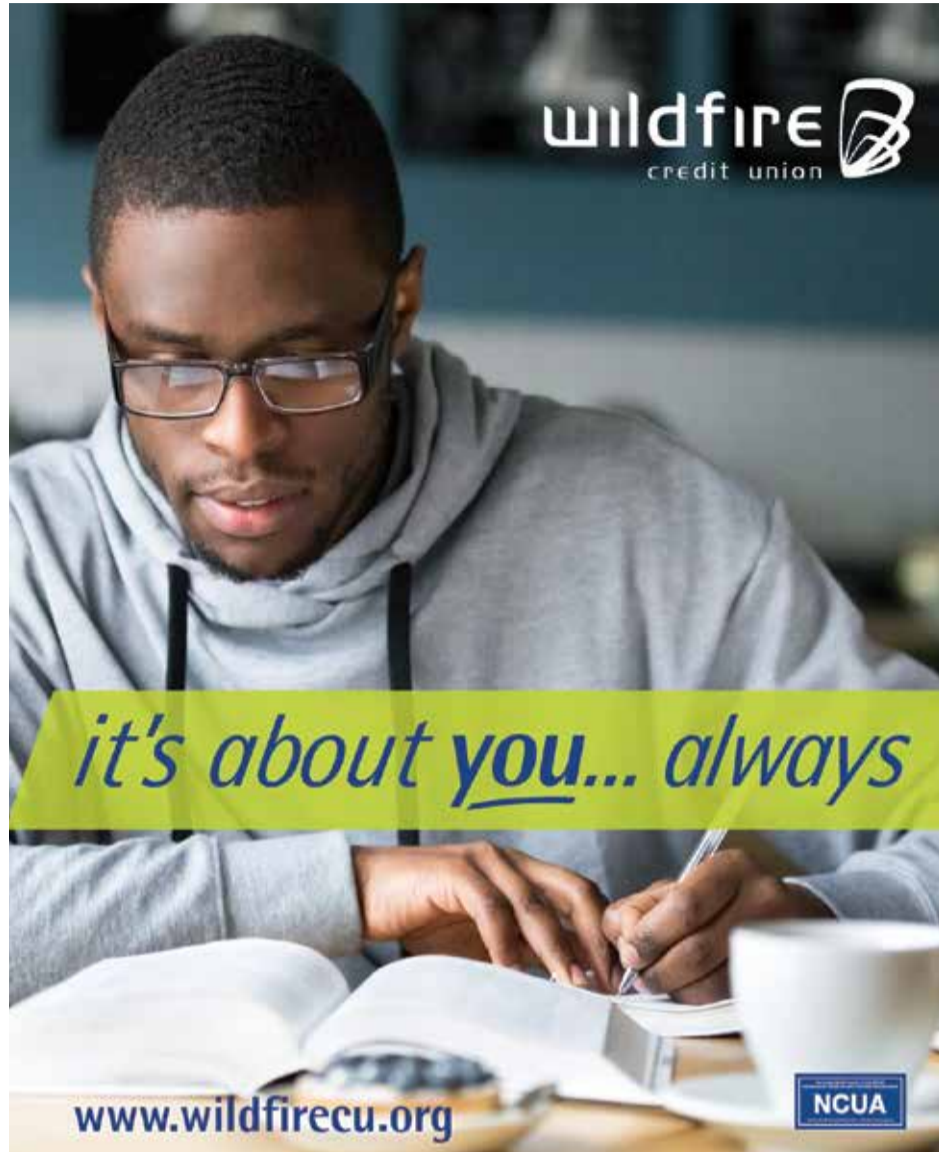
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+ HEALTH



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MDHHS forms 11 Regional Health Equity Advisory Councils to combat health disparities among high-risk and underserved communities

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is announcing the formation of 11 Regional Health Advisory Councils designed to help combat health disparities in underserved and rural areas across the state. These councils will provide a network of trusted community partners that will help improve structural gaps in current and emerging health emergencies including policies, practices and resource flow related to data.

“I am proud of the proactive measures we have taken to make health care more accessible to all Michiganders, especially those we know have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19,” said Lt. Gov. Garlin Gilchrist. “We know the work to address racial disparities is continuous and the creation of the Regional Health Advisory Councils will bring together federal, state and local public health organizations to meaningfully address disparities related to COVID-19 through strengthening local

community organizations that serve these populations.”

This spring, a Request for Applications was sent to organizations to oversee the councils in 14 identified regional areas to function as a backbone organization (BBO) to support the formation of each council. Of the 14 areas identified, 11 Regional Health Equity Councils will be established, which are composed of community organizations serving populations disproportionately affected by COVID-19. BBOs are expected to begin serving their respective regions in August. The councils are being funded through a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Center for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Support grant. Councils will be established in the following regions:

- Genesee County
- Ingham County
- Kent County

- Oakland County
- Ottawa County
- Macomb County
- Muskegon County
- Saginaw County
- Washtenaw County
- Wayne County

BBOs will support their Regional Health Equity Council in accomplishing five key goals:

- A reduction in COVID-19 disparities in impacted communities specifically among Michigan’s five racial ethnic minority populations (African Americans, American Indians/ Alaska Natives, Arab and Chaldean Americans, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, Hispanics/ Latinos)
- Planned reduction of community identified priority risk factors.
- Development and implementation of practices and policies to promote equity and reduce health disparities.
- Equitable distribution and efficient use of resources to support affected communities including organizations and community leaders – both existing and emerging.
- Community driven, not agency driven, decision making and priority setting.

“It’s critical that we do everything possible at MDHHS to combat disparities,” said Elizabeth Hertel, MDHHS director. “By working together with community leaders, tribal governments, local government officials and others on the ground of impacted communities we can better understand and serve affected populations. All these efforts make Michigan a better and more equitable place to live.”

Grants began distribution in July and funded activities will complete by May 31, 2023.

The regional Monkeypox task force: education on the risk factors of Monkeypox

The World Health Organization (WHO) has been tracking cases of monkeypox that have been reported in countries where the disease is not endemic including the United States, since May 2022. The WHO and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services have declared monkeypox a Public Health Emergency.

Great Lakes Bay Pride has assembled a regional task force to share educational resources and updates about the monkeypox outbreak and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' vaccination strategy currently being deployed in the state.

The Regional Monkeypox Task Force partners include: Great Lakes Bay Pride, Bay County Health Department, Midland County Department of Public Health, Saginaw County Health Department, Central Michigan District Health Department, and the Michigan Health Improvement Alliance (MiHIA).

Monkeypox (MPV) is a rare disease and, while many people affected in the current global outbreaks identify as men who have sex with men, monkeypox can spread to anyone through close, personal, often skin-to-skin contact including:

- Direct contact with monkeypox rash, sores, or scabs from a person with monkeypox
- Contact with objects, fabrics (clothing, bedding, or towels), and surfaces that have been used by someone with monkeypox
- Contact with respiratory secretions, through kissing and other face-to-face contact

This contact can happen in certain social and sexual situations including:

- Hugging, massage, and kissing
- Oral, anal, or vaginal sex or touching the genitals (penis, testicles, labia, and vagina) or anus (butt) of a person with monkeypox

- Touching fabrics and objects that were used by a person with monkeypox and that have not been disinfected, such as utensils, cups, bedding, towels, clothing, and sex toys

Monkeypox is NOT considered a sexually-transmitted infection, but can spread during intimate physical contact between people.

"Monkeypox is disproportionately impacting our LGBTQ+ community, specifically those who identify as men who have sex with men. Our goal is to get information and resources in the hands of our community members at highest risk for this illness and do whatever we can to prevent it," said Scott Ellis, Executive Director of Great Lakes Bay Pride.

Symptoms of monkeypox can include:

- Fever, headache, muscle aches and backache, swollen lymph nodes, chills, exhaustion, respiratory symptoms (e.g. sore throat, nasal

congestion, or cough).

- A rash that can look like pimples or blisters that appears on the face, inside the mouth, and on other parts of the body, like the hands, feet, chest, genitals, or anus.
- The rash goes through different stages before healing completely. The illness typically lasts 2-4 weeks.
- Sometimes, people get a rash first, followed by other symptoms. Others only experience a rash. Symptoms usually appear one to two weeks after infection.

The 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 traveled, have specific risk factors for MPV and regardless of gender or sexual orientation.

Anyone who may have been exposed to monkeypox or is experiencing symptoms associated with monkeypox, contact your healthcare provider or local Health Department for more information.



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+ EDUCATION

DR. PAMELA ROSS MCCLAIN

Delta College hires Dr. Pamela Ross McClain as Chief Officer of Culture, Belonging and Community Building

Delta College has appointed Dr. Pamela Ross McClain as its first Chief Officer of Culture, Belonging and Community Building (COCBCB). She began her role August 1. Dr. Ross McClain will focus on developing a center that will support transformational change with belonging, equity, diversity and inclusion at its core.

Dr. Ross McClain comes to Delta with a variety of experiences in both secondary and post-secondary education, all of which have been focused on establishing cultures and approaches to equity and belonging. Her previous experience includes serving as a tenured professor of education for Saginaw Valley State University and Uni-

versity of Michigan Flint.

“Our work will focus on building a culture of belonging inside Delta’s walls, and to ensure Delta is woven into the fabric of the communities we serve,” said President Dr. Michael Gavin. “Dr. Ross McClain will be a pivotal action-oriented leader in ensuring that Delta achieves its goals of completion without opportunity gaps among any of its students.”

“I am eager to champion enhanced Belonging, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (BEDI) at Delta College,” said Dr. Ross McClain. “I look forward to working toward making sure that everyone feels seen and valued in our learning community.

My ultimate goal is to make sure that every student has a nurturing and supportive learning experience that will contribute to successful completion of their educational journey at Delta College.”

She holds a bachelor’s degree in English and Afro-American and African Studies from the University of Michigan; a master’s degree in Afro-American Studies from Cornell University; a doctorate from Michigan State University; and a secondary teaching certificate from Saginaw Valley State University.

Dr. Ross McClain was chosen following an extensive national search.

+ 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.



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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.
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REGISTRATION 8:45 - 9:45 AM • SHOTGUN START 10:00 AM

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For Questions:
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Deadlines ▶ **Sponsors:** Respond by August 9, 2022 **Golfers:** Sign up before August 12, 2022



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

"I support the Saginaw Promise because it provides hope to every child who wants to attend a postsecondary institution."

Joyce Seals,
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Tips for going back to school



By **CRAIG DOUGLAS**
RETIRED EDUCATOR

When school is about to resume, parents can use a few tips for getting ready to go back to school. Today's article focuses upon younger students (preschool, kindergarten, and lower elementary grades).

There are many considerations for parents; one website offers 101 back to school

tips! That seems like a lot, and I will boil them down to three of the most important ones.

Get all paperwork submitted ahead of time. Making sure all "t's" are crossed and "I's" are dotted. Shot records. Proof of residency. Birth certificate. Previous school records. Whatever the school requires, meet or exceed their expectations. Be as organized and positive as possible to make a good impression with all school staff.

Stay connected with the school. Identify the suggested items for the particular grade a child should have (a list of items is often on the school's website). Find out any orientation meetings or "meet the teacher" events. Prepare for the first day by finding out details about meals, trans-

portation, and classes. Consider volunteering early and often, if possible, for lunch room, playground, field trips and parent booster clubs.

Make plans to arrange sleeping schedules two weeks before school starts. Plan for a good night's sleep (8 to 10 hours) by getting "bedtime" adjusted gradually.

The start of school is extremely exciting; making it positive helps make it smooth!

Resources:

<https://www.care.com/c/101-back-to-school-tips-for-kids-and-parents/>

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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?

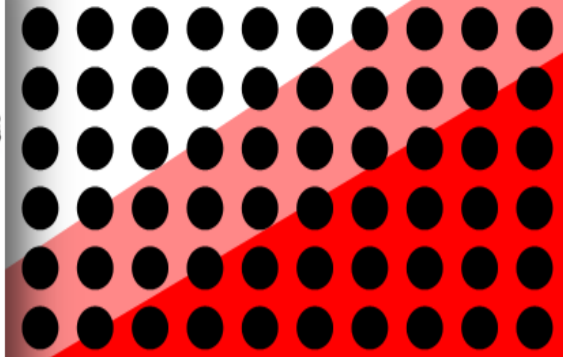
No, but if funded, you will be expected to hire qualified staff and have staff trained in the curriculum and assessment tools. You will have to operate in compliance with child care licensing rules and GSRP statute, policies and procedures. You would also have the support of a Saginaw Intermediate School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

Outside your bubble

By MEL AND PEARL SHAW

It's time to get out and about again. Back to seeing people in person. Time for morning meetings over coffee, and evenings with nonprofit dinners and galas. It's the return of breakfasts and luncheons that introduce new ideas, development projects, and "movers and shakers." Even those of us who need to continue to "play it safe" can "reenter" community life. We can wear a mask, gather outdoors, and there's always the old-fashioned phone and the newly popular zoom.

As you reengage, consider opportunities outside of your comfort zone and outside the world of your nonprofit or university. Look for ways to mix it up, pollinate ideas, break down barriers, and gain a deeper understanding of what's going on with people who are not "like us." Engage with people who may hold different ideas, focus on different solutions, or simply

work in a different geographic area. Its all about getting out of our bubble so we can see more clearly, work more effectively, and engage more fully.

This is important for us as individuals, and as members of the nonprofit community. No one of us alone can "change the world" but together we can collaborate and adapt our work, so we integrate with the work of others. We can learn from innovators, and also from those who try things that don't work out as expected.

Share your knowledge and expertise. Encourage staff members and administrators to seek out board service with other organizations. The purpose of this is for them to share a specific expertise that can help another organization grow and make decisions. Encourage members of your nonprofit to join a civic or social organization, and to attend key government events, community hearings and forums. You want your team participating in the life of your community and sharing what they are learning with their team members.

What's in it for you? Dedicating time to engaging with others can provide you

with an indication of whether or not your organization is headed in the right direction, and what it means to be a meaningful contributor in your community or region. You get a better feel for where the community is headed and what is important. You increase your awareness of who the "on the ground" stakeholders are, and who is an emerging leader. We believe nonprofits should include community participation as part of their long-term strategy. This is especially true for academic institutions. Supporting the work of other nonprofits shows that you are not just willing to receive – but that you too are a giver. One small thing to remember: when members of your nonprofit or university are volunteering or participating in community events, they should introduce themselves as part of your nonprofit. If they don't do this, it is hard for others to know that your nonprofit is engaged.

Finally, each of us has a bubble – it's part of being human. We're just encouraging a complimentary part of humanity – getting out of your bubble. You can do it: we promise, your world will expand.



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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

MHSAA Fall practices to begin with nearly 95,000 athletes, notable rules changes

Nearly 95,000 athletes statewide are anticipated to begin practices Monday, Aug. 8, kicking off the Fall 2022 season across nine sports for which the Michigan High School Athletic Association sponsors postseason tournaments.

Teams in girls and boys cross country, football, Lower Peninsula girls golf, boys soccer, Lower Peninsula girls swimming & diving, Upper Peninsula girls tennis and Lower Peninsula boys tennis, and girls volleyball may begin practice Monday. Competition begins Aug. 15 for golf and tennis, Aug. 17 for cross country, soccer, swimming & diving and volleyball, and Aug. 25 for varsity football. Football teams at all levels must have 12 days of preseason practice – over a period of 16 calendar days – before their first game.

The beginning of a school year always is accompanied by at least a handful of notable playing rules changes or adjustments regarding MHSAA Tournament competition. Among the most noteworthy this fall will be the addition of a “third half” rule in soccer, which will allow an athlete to play in a combined three halves across two matches and multiple levels (varsity, junior varsity, freshman) on the same day, any day of the week. This is similar to the fifth-quarter rules in football and basketball approved in recent years to help programs with low athlete numbers still have enough to continue fielding teams at multiple levels – generally with underclassmen playing on multiple teams to keep rosters filled.

There is also an enhanced penalty beginning this fall for violating the fifth-quarter or third-half rules: Violators must forfeit the contest during which the violation took place (either varsity or subvarsity), and that head coach in violation will be ineligible for the next day of competition.

The change to a playing rule most likely to be noticed by spectators comes

in football, where intentional grounding has been adjusted to allow for a passer to throw an incomplete forward pass to conserve yardage – in essence, to throw the ball away to avoid being tackled for a loss, even when a receiver isn’t present near the pass’s destination – if the passer is outside the free-blocking zone, or “pocket,” and as long as the pass reaches the line of scrimmage or extension of the neutral zone beyond the sideline. This change makes the high school intentional grounding rule mirror those at the collegiate and professional levels, and was made to conserve the amount of contact by defensive players with passers.

A second football rule change also was made with safety in mind, as the chop block – which is illegal – was redefined to include any combination block by multiple teammates against the same opponent where one of the blocks is above the waist and the other is below the waist. Previously, the knee (instead of the waist) was the determining factor on a chop block. This change also is expected to assist officials in enforcing the rule because deciding if blocks occur above and below the waist is more straightforward than using the knee to decide if an infraction occurred.

Another football rule change will be noticeable during the MHSAA 11-Player Finals, as head coaches for the first time will be allowed one challenge per game, with the play in question then reviewed with video replay. The challenge will cost that team a timeout if the original outcome is confirmed. Coaches will be allowed to challenge the following: complete/incomplete passes, if a runner/receiver was in/out of bounds, a runner who is ruled not down, the forward progress spot as it relates to the yard to gain, which player first touched a kick, the recovery of a ball in/out of bounds, if a pass was forward or backward, and penalties for illegal forward pass, targeting or illegal helmet con-

tact, and pass interference only as it relates to the pass being previously tipped. All potential scores and turnovers will remain automatically reviewed by replay booth officials.

Three more notable rules changes for fall sports also affect MHSAA Tournament competition.

There is a new qualification process for divers seeking to advance to Lower Peninsula Finals. In each of the three divisions, each Regional will be guaranteed 10 qualifiers for the Finals, with six more “floating” qualifier entries to be distributed to the Regionals that have one of the previous year’s top six returning Finals divers in their fields. If a team changes division from the previous season, any floating top-six spots are added to the six already allowed in the school’s new division.

In golf, the maximum number of strokes allowed per hole during MHSAA Tournament play has been reduced from 12 to 10. Also, teams will be allowed two school-approved coaches to be present and actively coaching during postseason rounds.

In tennis, the number of players who may be seeded at No. 1 singles was increased to seven if there are between 21-23 players in the field, and eight if the field includes 24 or more players at that flight. The No. 1 singles flight is the only flight that allows for individual qualifiers from Regional play, often making it larger than the other seven flights at the Finals.





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PICS OF THE WEEK

Rep Dan Kildee attended the 54th Annual Saginaw African Cultural Festival on Sunday along with Saginaw Mayor Brenda Moore and Rep O'Neal. He toured the festival and talked to the community. During his walk he was educated on what the festival was all about; he even tried his hand at playing the traditional African drum. Dan stated he was happy about attending and was excited to mix in with everyone in attendance.





We

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.*



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