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**PIC OF THE WEEK**  
Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce's leadership awards

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**SPORTS**



**SIMMS: SAGINAW'S FIRST WORLD HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION**

SPORTS, PG 50

## Congratulations Dr. Donald Bachand on 45 years of service!



DR. DONALD BACHAND

The Michigan Banner wishes to congratulate Saginaw Valley State University's President, Dr. Donald Bachand, on 45 years of dedicated service. We appreciate and thank you Dr. Bachand, for your commitment to SVSU, Great Lakes Bay and Saginaw communities. Your ability to reach out and connect with community leaders and residents have been pivotal in your exemplary leadership and success. The Banner wishes you and your wife, Liana, the best in your retirement. Job well done



**The importance of now!**

COMMUNITY, PG 13



**Time and Ally Financial honor Richard J. Garber**

BUSINESS, PG 36



**Great Lakes Bay Health Centers-Old Town celebrates grand opening at 700 Court Street**

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**TIME TO VOTE** 

GENERAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 8 2022

## MESSAGE FROM THE PUBLISHER

## On the Fence

During a recent drive north for a brief but much needed family visit, I observed a phenomenon that took me quite by surprise. Along the way, I saw billboards, yard signs, and flags supporting candidates and causes ranging from one extreme to the other. In some neighborhoods, I noticed equal numbers of signs in support of opposing candidates – a clear sign of a divided community struggling to articulate its identity and goals. In one city where the mayoral race has been particularly contentious, both candidates' signs were proudly displayed on opposite sides of the same yards! I was told by a resident of this city that 'staying on the fence' in this manner is not uncommon and is believed to help maintain neutrality and peace.

Fences often define ownership, like the fences around our yards. To sit on a physical fence means that you are not touching the ground on either property. As a metaphor, the phrase 'On the Fence' is used to describe being undecided about something – refusing to make a decision or to take a side when presented with two options or possibilities. Maybe people who sit on the fence want to be seen as an ally to both sides without truly committing to either of them. Maybe they want to reap the benefits of association with both sides but none of the consequences that might come from taking a particular position. In today's culture, where individuals worry about being mocked, cancelled, or ridiculed for their beliefs, sitting on the fence might seem like the safest decision.

Some things, however, require a public commitment. Some ideas are actually so critical that if implemented, the outcomes for individuals, families and entire communities may be severe. When the choices faced are polar extremes, how then can one take a middle ground or middle of the road approach in decision making? In this instance I am obviously referring to political discourse, however, the concept is applicable in any facet of life. Taking a stance for what one believes to be right or true - i.e., getting off the fence – is essential to the well-being of people whose voices are represented by those selected to hold public office(s). How then, can we suggest that sitting on the proverbial fence is a legitimate course of action?

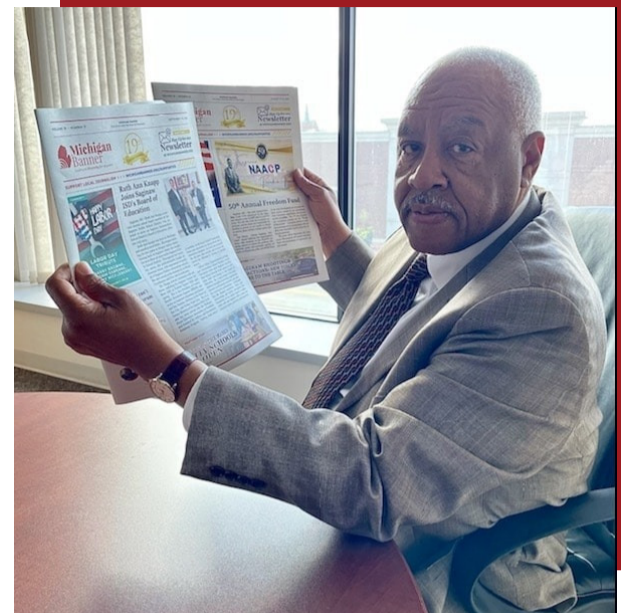
The stakes are high. Politics have reached a fervor pitch even between opponents who previously practiced civil conversation in well-structured public debates. Now, it seems everyone wants to shout slogans and sayings even if those shouts are unrelated to the specific issues that need to be addressed. Still, taking a stance matters. This is true no

matter which side of the fence you're on. It doesn't mean we have to devolve into constant, unhealthy conflict or bickering. But our commitments are the basis of our decisions, including how we vote, donate our time and resources, and otherwise support worthwhile causes. Our commitments are the basis of how we work together for the communities we want to see. On many issues, there is no justifiable "fence". Instead, there is simply silence and inaction where there should be hope and confidence for the individuals, families and communities who need us to be brave on the issues that matter.

This is a fair and balanced publication, so it is morally and ethically necessary to remain neutral. Some might even say that The Michigan Banner sits on a fence. As the publisher of one of the few media outlets that remain in our region, I am committed to sharing information that helps my readers better understand the context and implications for their decisions without trying to directly influence those decisions. I want to share the facts and stories that help you decide which side of the fence you want to be on. I will never tell you how to vote or which signs to put in your yard. But I will remind you of a powerful quote from Dr. Martin Luther King that addresses these kinds of issues: "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy." Let's leave the fences to define property lines. Make up your mind, and make sure your voice is heard. Our future depends on it.



Jerome Buckley  
Publisher, Michigan Banner



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**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.

**DISCLAIMER**

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**DEADLINES**

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

**SUBMISSION PROCEDURE**

Mailed or e-mailed  
Preferred format: Jpeg or PDF

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NOVEMBER 11

VETERANS  
*Day*

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

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# MICHIGAN YOUTH BANNER

VOLUME 4 • NUMBER 21



## State of Michigan offers resources for teens struggling with depression



COURTESY PHOTO

### Staying Well

Four in 10 teenagers report they feel "persistently sad or hopeless," according to a recent CDC survey. Our new Saturday afternoon workshop series for teens can help young people struggling with these kinds of feelings.

The online workshops are geared toward helping teens understand the causes and consequences of emotions. Participants will learn how to turn off self-judgment, manage relationships better, and regulate their ups and downs -- with the goal of finding more meaning and purpose in life.

Mental health counselor Zeinab Mousa, M.A., LLPC, will lead the workshop. Zeinab specializes in facilitating dialogue about feelings and emotions. She has children of her own and understands the negative impact COVID-19 has had on the mental health of teens and young adults.

To participate, all you need is an Internet connection to Zoom, paper and pencil, and an open mind.

All sessions are free of charge.

Learn more about Teen Talk and Staying Well at <https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/resources/mental-health-resources/teen-resources>.

### Teen Talk

Have you been feeling (pick one): Anxious? Depressed? Worried? Concerned about a friend or family member? It might help to talk it out!

In this weekly talk group for people aged 14 to 17, you can share your ups and downs with other teens, and hear about their experiences, too. A friendly Stay Well counselor will listen in, to

help participants process their feelings.

Each Teen Talk session will last one hour.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

This is an emotional-support talk session. Registration information is for use during the session and to assist with our safety protocol, if needed. This is not mental health treatment, and no information will be retained.





# Your Voice Your Choice Youth Consortium



**VIRTUAL MEETING  
VIA ZOOM**

**WEDNESDAY,  
NOVEMBER 9, 2022  
6:00 P.M.**



**Women of Colors is forming the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual consortium of youth to help plan an event for young people to be inspired, have a voice, and learn how to plan their event.**

**Students of all backgrounds and ethnicities are welcome to help and earn community service hours.**

**Receive Zoom Link by Phone or Email:  
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ewmtoday@aol.com**



## If Today Was Your Last Day



**By Doniqua Sovia**

If today was your last day. Today was all you had. Yesterday is just the day before....it is in the past. Tomorrow is like a foreign language, because you don't know what it means, for the word "tomorrow" isn't promised by any means.

The milliseconds, turned seconds, unfold into minutes, resulting in hours, that like the wind in the trees form a breeze....time breezes by. In those seconds, minutes, and hours, what would you do? How would you leave a legacy....its all up to you.

What if today was all you had, and you saw the person who tore your heart to shreds? What would you say? Would words of anger, like hot boiling water, burning deep within you, penetrating even your bone, and disintegrating your soul, be hurled at them, to make them feel the same way you do?

Or would words, like the gentle touch of a mother's hand to soothe her crying child, and diminish every doubt, fear, and worry be spoken? This is your last day, will you mend or leave broken?

What if a friend or family member needs you, for a talk, a lending hand, or a ride? Tell me, do you, would you take the time, out this last day of your life to help them?

What if God speaks to you, and tells you to speak to a person? In your last day of living, tell me, are winning souls important?

What would you do? Would worry or fret? Reminisce about past regrets? Live every second "in the moment?"

Heal what's been broken? Cherish ones you love? Give one of your enemies a hug? Tell your enemy, that them you do love?

So many options, would flood your brain, if today was your last and final day, and you never know it may be. So forgive cause you can, love though you been hurt, and on your final day, you'll be good to say: Today was the best day ever.

**THE MICHIGAN BANNER NEWS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH AT&T**



# Our commitment to help bridge the digital divide

At AT&T, we're dedicated to bringing connectivity to millions of unconnected Americans. To achieve this goal, AT&T is investing \$2 billion from 2021-2024 to help address the digital divide.

From 2018-2020, we expanded coverage and improved connectivity in more communities by investing more than \$1.4 billion in our wireless and wireline networks in Michigan.

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# Latino Banner

LIDER EN LA  
DIVERSIDAD

VAMOS ADELANTE



## Inaugural Velasquez Lecture to feature Lawrence W. Reed, founding president of Mackinac Center for Public Policy

LB pg 2

## 20 students awarded 2022 Hispanic Latino Commission of Michigan Scholarship

To further career development and increase the enrollment of Hispanics in postsecondary education and training programs, the Hispanic Latino Commission of Michigan (HLCOM) awarded \$20,000 to 20 students through their Hispanic Latino Commission Scholarship. Recipients of the scholarship are students currently enrolled in a Michigan-based high school, college, university or other recognized higher education institution who plan on utilizing the funds for postsecondary education.

“The \$1,000 scholarship provides Hispanic and Latino students with added financial stability to help them achieve their education and career dreams,” Office of Global Michigan Director Poppy Hernandez said. “Through this scholarship and our work to make Michigan a welcoming state, we are committed to providing ongoing support that helps empower and engage all individuals to make Michigan a home for opportunity.”

Scholarship recipients\* from across the state are as follows:

- Joe Galaviz—Lawton, Michigan
- Andrea Valdes Flores—Zeeland, Michigan
- Lazaro Salais—Lansing, Michigan
- Jessica Cortes—Bangor, Michigan
- Heidi Garay-Estupinian—Mount Pleasant, Michigan
- Leah Flores Cabrera—Troy, Michigan
- Robin Morales—Lansing, Michigan
- Pablo Tang—Battle Creek, Michigan
- Alexis Robles-Vasquez—Grand Rapids, Michigan
- Deisy Magana—Grand Rapids, Michigan
- Jazmin Cruz Amaya—Bay City,

Michigan

- Paula Duva Rodriguez—East Lansing, Michigan
- Damaris Vail Mencho—Grand Rapids, Michigan
- Amina Torres—Dearborn, Michigan
- Vanessa Pena—Holland, Michigan
- Gabriella Olivarez—Saginaw, Michigan
- Jordan Hernandez—Muskegon, Michigan
- Nightdelyn Martinez—River Rouge, Michigan

Over 80 applications were submitted, and selections were made based on student’s submitted essay, grade point average, letters of recommendation, and community service experience. Each of these students will receive \$1,000 in scholarship funding to support their educational attainment goals.

“One of the most important responsibilities of the Commission is the advancement of educational and economic opportunity for our Latinx communities,” said HLCOM Commission Chair Jesse Bernal. “We are so proud to be able to award and recognize Latinx youth across the state of Michigan with scholarship awards to begin or continue their postsecondary education. Not only do all these students represent our state so well, but these awards symbolize our confidence and faith that they will continue to contribute to our community and state for years to come.”

HLCOM strives to market the state’s career development services to Michigan Hispanics, encourage initiatives to reduce the high school dropout rates of Hispanic youth and facilitate efforts to increase the enrollment of Hispanics in postsecondary education and training programs.

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



# Inaugural Velasquez Lecture to feature Lawrence W. Reed, founding president of Mackinac Center for Public Policy

As the 2022 mid-term elections draw near, Saginaw Valley State University will host economist and historian Lawrence W. Reed, who will discuss civility in politics. The inaugural Velasquez Lecture on Liberty and Free Markets presents “Liberty, Character and Civility in Politics” on Wednesday, Nov. 2 at 7:00 p.m. in the Rhea Miller Recital Hall in SVSU’s Curtiss Hall. The lecture is free and open to the public. Registration is required online or at the door.

An economist and historian, Reed is president emeritus of the Foundation for Economic Education (FEE.org) in Atlanta. Before retiring to the emeritus role in 2019, he served as president of FEE for 11 years. Prior to that, he was founding president of the Mackinac Center for Public Policy in Midland, a role he held for 21 years.

Reed is the author of seven books and more than 2,000 articles and newspaper columns published around the world. He has lectured in all 50 states and most of the 87 countries he has visited.

Earlier this year, the Poland’s president, Andrzej Duda, announced that he will soon bestow upon Reed the Grand Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic Poland, the highest honor his country gives to a foreigner.

He holds two honorary doctorates (in Public Administration and in Laws) from Central Michigan University and Northwood University. He blogs at [www.lawrencereed.com](http://www.lawrencereed.com).

The Velasquez Lecture on Liberty and Free Markets, established by Christian and Jenée Velasquez, is designed to highlight and educate on the fundamental idea that the United States form of government is based on the idea of individual liberty, with its success tied to a financial system of free markets. As free speech is critical to the protection of our freedoms and the functioning of free markets, it is also important to put emphasis on the role of civility and ethics in politics, business and public policy.

Christian Velasquez has a long, dis-



LAWRENCE W. REED

tinguished career in strategic leadership, community involvement and public service in the Great Lakes Bay Region. Following a 30-year career with Dow Corning Corporation, where he held positions in a variety of focus areas, he established a consulting business that provides strategy and market insights in the chemical industry.

Jenée L. Velasquez began as the first executive director for the Herbert H. and

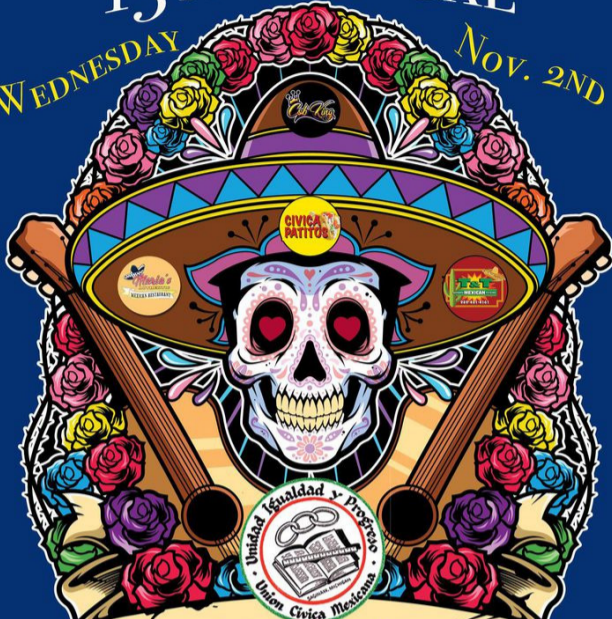
Grace A. Dow Foundation in October of 2005. Previously, she rose to the position of chief executive officer of Midland Tomorrow and was also Midland’s first Downtown Development Authority coordinator.

Both Christian and Jenée Velasquez are active in professional organizations and community service throughout the Great Lakes Bay Region.



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\*\*\$50 annual fee, \$300 early closing fee if the HELOC is closed within 36 months. See Team One for details.

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## + COMMUNITY



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# Stand Up-Speak Out!: You need to vote



By **TERRY PRUITT**  
PRESIDENT NAACP SAGINAW  
BRANCH

It is often heard that the 2022 mid-term elections are the most important in our lifetimes. I'd like to frame it differently, by strongly affirming that the upcoming November 8, 2022, election will be the most consequential election in our lifetime. For me and many others I strongly feel that our democracy as we know it is literally at stake. There is no question that who we put in office to represent us this time around will significantly dictate how we will live our lives over the next four to five decades.

The political partisanship, lack of civility and outright racism we've witnessed over the past few years should give us all concern about the state of our nation and the thing we call democracy. Anything we, the people, decide to do begins with what

is referred to as the foundation of democracy, voting. Ultimately, any serious discussion about our responsibility or right to vote turns largely on the issue of whether individually each of us feels our vote will make a difference. I say yes to this proposition. It matters who our governor is. It matters who our state senator and representatives are. More locally it matters who our commissioners, county clerk, prosecutor, city council and trustees and local school board members are. These individuals can further engage in alienation and partisanship, further deteriorate civility and perpetuate racism, or on the other hand create greater involvement and confidence in our system of representative government. Clearly, history and the work of the NAACP and civil rights leaders over the past five decades highlight the importance of voting. Indeed, recent history by way of the 2000, 2004 and 2016 presidential elections demonstrated to the entire nation that every vote counts. Indeed, despite the passage of the Voting Rights Act in 1965 there are still barriers and hurdles that serve to discourage and, in some cases, restrict the ability of minority and socio-disadvantaged citizens to exercise their constitutional right to participate in the democratic process by voting.

What we know is just arguing that it

is our constitutional right and civic duty to vote is not good enough in the effort to encourage voters to participate in the process. It is necessary to orchestrate a comprehensive collaborative effort toward educating and motivating the electorate. Ultimately helping voters to understand that "voting is power." We have the ability to better determine our collective destiny through voting. It is no secret that Black and Latino voters in Michigan made a difference in the 2018 and 2022 elections with respect to who holds the seats at the highest levels of state government as well enacting various ballot initiatives that help to shape our lives. When we vote we, in effect, grant power and authority to our political leaders through our collective consent. When we do not vote we allow someone else to make the choice for us with respect to the direction of our nation, state or local community. African-Americans, Hispanics and other minority citizens need to be players in setting the direction of this country. We can't afford to let someone else determine our course. We must continue to work to protect the right to vote and to restore the rights of displaced voters. Simply stated, everyone who is eligible to vote must vote!

On Tuesday, November 8, 2020, Michigan voters will have the opportunity to choose 13 members to represent us in congress. We will elect a new governor, attorney general, secretary of state, two Supreme Court Justices and two members to the State Board of Education. In addition, 38 State Senate seats and all of the 110 State House of Representatives seats are up for election. At the local level, all Saginaw County Board of Commission seats are up for election as well as many other local offices throughout Saginaw County. I encourage voters to educate themselves about the candidates as well as the proposals that will appear on the November ballot so that you make choices you feel will best represent your interest. Keep in mind that this mid-term election will have far more impact on how you live your daily life than the more hyped presidential elections.



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# The importance of now!



By **REV. HURLEY J. COLEMAN, JR.**  
WORLD OUTREACH CAMPUS  
CHURCH

A wise man once told me these words: “Yesterday is a cancelled check, Tomorrow is a promissory note, Today is cash money!” It was more than 40 years ago and I have never forgotten it. I refer to it often in conversations with younger people, other faith leaders, and even the myriad of professional people that I interact with. I ask the question, how are you spending your cash?

It seems that so often we get caught up in the challenges of the deficiencies in our institutions that we forget that the institutions are people, and represent people, and serve people. The core ingredient in “institutions” is people. Institutions are under attack by those who do not wish for them to change toward correcting long term issues.

Institutions are under attack by those

who want to manipulate the purpose of these people serving institutions toward ends that do not serve the people who need the service most. The pressure on these institutions that provide structure for our society is creating a sense of urgency for me.

There is a powerful verse in the Bible, the book of Hebrews, chapter 11 verse 1. It says, “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” I love the power of the immediacy of this verse, as well as the strength of its prophetic message.

The verse suggests that something as intangible as “faith” is solid enough to build hopes and dreams upon, as well as provide vision for a future that we can describe but not truly see. It is a faith in each other, a faith in our God, a faith in our institutions, and a faith in our own abilities.

I cannot stress the importance of NOW, especially in light of the present political environment. If we are not invested in “now”, we will have no room to complain about the perils of tomorrow, or the “what if’s” of yesterday. I hear the criticism of the generations of today when my generation spends time in the “would have, should have, could have” conversations.

I also hear my generation challenging them not to make the same mistakes, take

advantage of all of the accomplishments, and move things further ahead. It is a “now” moment that we are in. This election “now” will affect the futures of everyone living, and those yet to be born. There is something urgent about this moment.

The Merriam Webster dictionary defines now with three important tenses. Now- at the present time or moment, as in “Now is the time for action.” Now- in the time immediately before the present, as in “I thought of them just now.” Now- in the time immediately to follow, as in “Come in Now!”

All of these tenses speak to where we are, where you are. You cannot afford to think that your actions don’t matter NOW! There is so much at stake, for the present time, for the moments that just passed, and for the moments that will follow. NOW!

I cannot stress the urgency of your personal involvement, NOW! It is time now to vote. It is time now to get involved in your community. It is time now to get involved with your family. It is time now to get engaged with the next generation.

There has never been a more important NOW! You have probably heard this before, but you must understand that it is true. There has never been a more important NOW!

## + COMMUNITY

MICHIGAN BANNER  
SERMONETTE SERIES

*“Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it”*

Proverbs 4:23 (NIV)



COURTESY PHOTO

**By MINISTER CAROLYN CARTER  
TOWNSEL**

The Book of Proverbs has several individuals as authors of its varying chapters. However, the first chapters of Proverbs were written by King Solomon, Son of David, King of Israel, and the wisest man who ever lived. In Proverbs chapter 4, Solomon presents Divine principles, words of wisdom, and godly instructions that if applied men will live godly, purposed, and effective lives. However, one must remember as the King offers his river of words they are flowing from a heart of love - these are the words of a father to his son, from a teacher to his student.

King Solomon is positioning the apprentice, his son, to possess wisdom for living. Therefore, he instructs him to pursue wisdom, to be devoted and faithful, and to love God and his neighbor. He provides instructions regarding wisdom, character, astuteness, and sound judgment. He shares with his son to become committed, persistent, obedient, and disciplined. Although, these instructions, provisions, and sharing is to his son, it

is for us as well. even the warning - But above all else, guard your heart.

The Hebrew term “guard” is to protect. As Christians, Solomon is instructing us to guard our hearts – How then do we guard the heart? By listening, reading, meditating on, and living the Word of God. Proverbs 4:21 tells us, “Let them not depart from thine eyes, Keep them in the midst of your heart. For they are life unto those who find them, and health to all their flesh” (ASV). Psalm 119:11 declares, “Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against you” (NKJV). Subsequently, it is the Word of God that we must use to guard our hearts, for it is our fortress and defense.

In the Old Testament, the Hebrew word for “heart” is lev or levav and is used more than 800 times, but more than 200 times dealing with the mind, thought life, will, and feelings that motivates, shapes, and molds us – As a result our heart is the control center of our lives. Consequently, Believers must truly understand the value of their hearts and know it is the entrance, the doorway through which things get in and out of the heart. For

that reason, it is crucial that we keep the Word of God in the midst of our hearts, because then the Word of God becomes our weapon for the ungodly and unrighteous thoughts, actions, will, and feelings.

Respectively, it is imperative that we know, believe, and speak the Word of God toward any and all things that are contrary to the will of God concerning our lives. By way of illustration, if an ungodly thought presents itself to your mind such as, “There is no way you can do that” God’s Word that would render that thought powerless is, “I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me” (Philippians 4:13).

King Solomon makes it vividly clear that the heart is the source of everything we do – regardless of what we say, do, or think it flows from the heart. Therefore, if the heart is poison, the flow becomes poison. We have an adversary whose inclination is our destruction. He not only opposes God, but he opposes everything that is aligned with Him – including us. Therefore, Beloved “Guard Your Heart.”



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Multicultural Academic Student Services seeks to promote a campus community that fosters the holistic development of multicultural students by providing support for their academic goals, while expressing genuine care for their personal development and well-being, advocating on their behalf and encouraging the full use of all university resources.

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CMU is an AA/EO institution, providing equal opportunity to all persons, including minorities, females, veterans and individuals with disabilities (see cmich.edu/ocrie).

# ATTENTION

## 1st Annual G-11

Quality of Life 'Community/Economic Development', Elected Leadership Summit  
Hosted by: Detroiters United, LLC

**NOVEMBER 12, 2022**

**Marygrove College 8425 W. McNichols Rd • Detroit, MI 48221**  
Specific Campus Location: Madame Cadillac Building (ADA Compliant)

What To Bring: Pen, Note Pad, Sandwich, and Beverage.  
You are encouraged to bring your children 15-18 years of age.  
*We ask you to RSVP by October 12, 2022, due to the possibility a larger room is necessary.*

Engage with Concerned Detroiters and Detroit Elected Officials to discuss some of the Issues and Challenges impacting Detroit.  
Currently, there is a Serious Disconnect between Detroit Elected Officials and Detroit Citizens.  
Our Summit will provide an opportunity for Constructive Dialogue and Solutions.

**We have a Dynamic Speakers Panel that will address the Issues with Progressive Solutions.**

### Summit Focus:

- Detroit Quality of Life • Community and Economic Development
- Elected Official Accountability, Performance and Evaluation
  - Need for a 21st-Century Political Paradigm Shift
- Issues and Challenges Impacting Detroit • Solutions

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You may direct your questions to Reginald D. Amos @ 313.399.8290 or amosdeputychief@aol.com

# HAVE YOU HAD ENOUGH?



# 'I Wonder If There'll Be Pie'

By DANIELLE LEE

"Put the second burger back, Gracie."

I paused mid-chew and looked down at my plate, then up at my mother, carefully avoiding the stares of the assorted family members sitting around the table. Somewhere a cousin snickered. "If I have to embarrass you into eating right, I will. Put it back!"

Had she been talking to either of my sisters...or my brother for that matter, they would have had a quick comeback. Something witty or an oddly respectful sarcastic rejoinder to put my mother in her place. Ava would have pointed out my mother's plate was swimming in trans fat itself. Gwen would sharply remind her that she was a grown woman and could eat any darn thing she pleased. Carter would have rolled his eyes and walked off after picking up a third burger from the grill. But she would never have said that to any of them. They weren't fat. And I was. I was also safe. I wouldn't fight back.

Tears welled up in my eyes. I glanced up at the July sun giving it a chance to dry the water threatening to spill from my eyes. I was suddenly aware the button on my shorts was on its final countdown before launching into space. The swamp under my boobs had grown so that if you listened closely, you might catch Kermit the frog humming a few bars of "Rainbow Connection". I absently licked some rogue barbecue sauce from my thumb, gathering myself.

Family functions weren't usually my things. I made excuses not to attend. I would pick up overtime at work on holidays. But this July fourth, I had no excuse...no respite. And so, surrounded by aunts, uncles, and probably half of my two million cousins, I was in a silent war with my mother over a charred second burger. I hate when people say, "their eyes flashed with anger". It's cliché and lazy. Unfortunately, I am both cliché and lazy at times. Her eyes did flash with anger and possibly a little indignation that I hadn't acquiesced immediately. I turned to retreat, second moo cake still in hand, when her nails dug into my elbow. Bless her heart, she still thought she was being discrete but by now

it seemed that all activity was just people pretending they weren't seeing her humiliate me.

I wasn't particularly hungry when I first grabbed the sandwich. I don't know why I grabbed it and I could have put the burger back. I should have put the burger back. Frustration and embarrassment roiled in the pit of my stomach, carving out a hunger and craving for this 2nd beef patty I had never known before. I steeled myself against the disappointed gaze and yanked my arm from my mother's death grip. I walked into the house, refusing to meet anyone's eyes. I trudged upstairs to my bedroom, denying those gathered the entertaining silent spectacle that was the battle ensuing between me and my mother.

Alone, I relaxed. Held at bay were feelings of guilt and disgust as I bit into beefy cheesy goodness. Euphoria washed over me anew with each bite. I forgot the tiff downstairs. I ignored the waist of my shorts becoming uncomfortable. I reasoned I could start a new diet tomorrow and for a moment I was happy. It wasn't until the last bit of food had been scavenged from my plate that anxiety reared its ugly head. At some point I would have to rejoin the barbecue...if only to put my plate in the sink. I'd have to walk through guests' curious glances, wondering if I had in fact eaten both burgers. Their imagined thoughts played on a loop in my head. "She's too fat to eat that much food." "No wonder she's gained so much weight." I cried.

I'm not sure how long I sat picking at the edges of my duvet crying and hiccupping. The food sat like a stone in my belly. I hefted myself up and made my way down to the kitchen. More family had arrived in my absence. The house was packed. Gwen and Ava were in the middle of Monopoly with a gajillion cousins. Carter was squished on the couch with my father and uncles watching some sport. On his lap was a bowl of what I assumed was salad but it was hard to tell under the oceans of Italian dressing. I'm guessing no one had confronted him on how many calories were in that bowl. More anxiety crashed over me thinking of what everyone must be think-

ing of me and I was hungry again. Could I? No, I shouldn't...

I looked around for a tray of food not immediately in my mother's sight. A tub of bratwurst sat alone on the kitchen counter. They'd obviously just been taken off the grill and everyone was letting the burgers digest before digging in. Hoping I wasn't drawing attention to myself, I covertly grabbed two hot dog buns. When it comes to sneaking food, I can be a ninja. I moved quickly. Relish...the sweet kind. Ketchup. Walk sideways to the stairs so my girth would hide my plate. Tuck and roll. I'm on the stairs again, racing to my room. Slamming the door shut, I slid to the floor, taking a large bite out of my pilfered brat. Another wave of euphoria hit me and again, I was happy. I wanted to dance. I wanted to savor the taste but someone was bound to come looking for me. I had been away too long. I took large bites that tried to stick in my throat. I should have swiped a bottle of water too.

With a contented sigh, I finished my second meal in less than an hour. Moments later my mother yelled up the stairs, "Gracie, did you dig into these bratwursts already! You just had two burgers.!" I wonder if there is any pie?



+ COMMUNITY

**Seen on the Scene:** On Sunday, October 30, New Birth Missionary Baptist Cathedral celebrated their 21st Pastor and Wife Anniversary with Bishop Larry Camel & First Lady Shirley Camel



A campaign banner for Cheri Hardmon. At the top, seven blue stars are arranged in a horizontal line. Below the stars, on the left, is a portrait of Cheri Hardmon, a woman with short dark curly hair, wearing a blue top and a necklace. To the right of the portrait, the text "VOTE FOR" is in white, "CHERI" is in large white letters, and "HARDMON" is in very large yellow letters. Below "HARDMON" is the text "FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE" in white. To the right of the text is a circular logo with "CHERI HARDMON" around the top edge, "HOUSE DISTRICT 68" in the center, and "STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES" around the bottom edge. At the bottom of the banner, a white bar contains the text "PAID FOR BY FRIENDS OF CHERI HARDMON P.O. BOX 776 GRAND BLANC, MI 48480".



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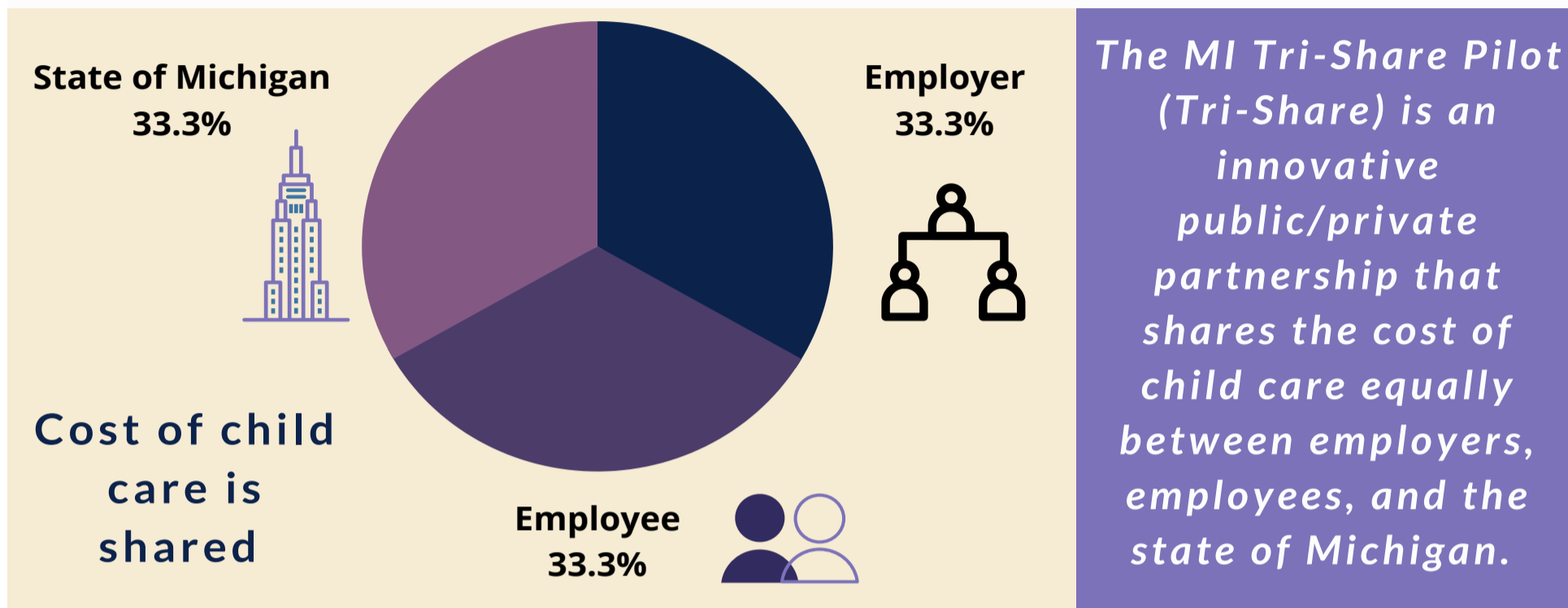
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# MI Tri-Share CHILD CARE



## 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.

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+ COMMUNITY



# What's for Dinner, Della?

By Dolores Grant-Fall, former Neighborhood House cook

Pholorie is one of our Caribbean snacks made from scratch. As a child growing up, the older women would come to the school yard and sells their goodies. Pholorie was one of their best-selling goods, It is made from seasoned yellow split peas and seasoned flour -- very simple. I want to believe the dish came from India many many moons ago. You can also order the instant mix on eBay or I would say Amazon, but it's not like making your own.

## Pholorie

### Ingredients

- 1 cup of yellow split peas, soaked for two hours.
- 2 cups of flour
- 3 to 4 blades of green onion
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 2 to 3 teaspoons cumin powder
- Salt to taste.
- Deep pot of oil.
- About 6 to 8 cloves of garlic
- Hot pepper.
- 1 pack of dry yeast.



### Instructions

Drain peas from water. Add garlic ,green onions, and pepper in a food processor and grind fine. Add baking powder flour and all other ingredients and mix well. Heat oil on stove and with a spoon, drop a little at a time it should float to the top of the oil turn and let it brown equally on both sides, take out and drain, repeat until finished. This snacks can be eaten with a mango or cucumber sauce which is basically a blend of pickles with mustard and hot sauce. Enjoy.

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## + COMMUNITY

## IN MY HUMBLE OPINION



COURTESY PHOTO

## The elderly should be cherished



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

A few weeks ago, I was introduced to an elderly gentleman regarding some potential business. He is European but has lived in South Africa for fifty years. He is a shrewd businessman and a very good host. I have met with him twice. The first time was with my wife and the friend that introduced us, and the second meeting at his house was just the two of us. We discussed

business initially, and then he offered me something to drink and we started talking about our lives. As we were getting to know each other better, Mr. X, as I will call him, confided in me that he was just waiting to die. I thought he was joking at first, but he was dead serious (no pun intended). He is in his early 80s but looks 10 years younger, and I asked him why he felt that way. He said that he had done everything there was to do in life, and I told him that he was still strong, looking good, and God still had work for him to do here. Eventually, during our conversation, he laughed and said maybe God was keeping him to meet me.

This experience reminded me of times with my parents, my aunts, my uncles, and my grandparents, all of whom are deceased for many years, and elderly people in general. My afternoon with Mr. X was so relaxing, educational, and enjoyable that he even said we could have sat and talked the

whole night. My dear father used to say, "getting older is better than the alternative", and I think he is right. The elderly should be cherished in my humble opinion.

Let's take a brief look at aging and how senior citizens have been treated throughout history. Aging results from the impact of the accumulation of a wide variety of molecular and cellular damage over time at a biological level. "This leads to a gradual decrease in physical and mental capacity, a growing risk of disease and ultimately death. These changes are neither linear nor consistent, and they are only loosely associated with a person's age in years" according to the World Health Or-

**CONTINUES ON PG 25,  
ELDERLY**



## Continued from pg 24, Elderly

ganization (WHO), “Ageing and health” published 01 October 2022. Beyond the biological changes, life transitions like retirement, relocation to more appropriate accommodation, and the death of loved ones, friends, and peers are often associated with aging.

From a historical perspective, old age has some surprising and often sad facts associated with it. Before the 20th century, life expectancy was usually below 60 years or so, and the type of longevity we are seeing today was never expected. Sociologically speaking, there has always been some ambivalence about old age. It could be regarded as a source of wisdom and prestige, or as a source of suffering and stage of decrepitude. According to an article entitled, “The Role of Senior Citizens Throughout History” by Stannah on 27 September 2017, “In ancient times, the category ‘old’ was applied not according to age, but to the loss of ability to perform useful tasks.” In classical Greek and Roman cultures, beauty and strength were valued above all, and old age was seen as a stage of decline. During the Medieval and Renaissance periods, “Old age was often depicted as a cruel or weak stage of life. They could be ‘respected or despised, honored or put to death’ depending on the circumstances.” In Eastern culture, with the influence of Confucianism, there was more of a collectivist approach with more value given to family, the elderly, and traditional hierarchies of age.

In Africa culture and traditions are held in high esteem and passed down from generation to generation. Respect for an African is profound. It is shown in the way you speak, eat, refer to someone, or respond to questions. Foremost in the area of respect is respect for elders. According to Motivation.Africa in its article, “Respect is from Africa”, “It is believed that the very foundation of African culture is based on the past and present, our ancestors and our living elders, thus they are the connection to this foundation and must be accorded the respect due to them.” In most cases, the extended family is dominated by the senior generation.

Throughout the centuries, due to many improvements in healthcare and technol-

ogy, life expectancy is now approximately 79 years for men and 83 years for women. Unfortunately, the cultural status of seniors has declined in modern Western cultures. The elderly often find themselves displaced due to financial constraints or an inability to live independently. Many are forced to move to retirement communities, assisted living facilities, and nursing homes.

Ageism is discrimination on the grounds of a person’s age and is one form of social prejudice that people from all social backgrounds experience. We live in a world where youth is valued over old age and where old people are often mistreated and negatively stereotyped. Major social institutions are largely behind these negative attitudes toward the elderly, particularly the mass media. Western culture is well known for its focus on youth, self-reliance, and individualism.

America is obsessed with youth. Youth and beauty are glorified across all forms of media and we are influenced from a very young age to believe that “new things” are the best and old things are worthless. People are preoccupied with trying to look much younger than they are. Cultural stereotypes often portray the elderly as frail, feeble, financially distressed, and not contributing to society. If society in America continues to move further in the direction of secularism, materialism, and individualism, we can expect to see these negative attitudes and perceptions toward the elderly, and aging in general, continue.

In my life, I have been fortunate to spend quality time with some exceptional elderly people. One of the most notable is Nelson Mandela. I had the rare privilege of being invited to his house in Houghton, Johannesburg while he was serving his country and people as the first Black president of the Republic of South Africa. The invitation was not because of me or anything I did. My girlfriend at the time was a beauty queen and people’s favorite in the Miss South Africa beauty pageant, and I was her plus one. Mr. Mandela’s presence was larger than life; his energy was palpable and his unique tenor voice was mesmerizing. We enjoyed tea and engaged in conversation with President Mandela for what seemed like an eternity but was really

not more than an hour. I will always cherish those memories and that exceptional statesman and humanitarian, Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela.

Last week, I called Mr. X to check on him and he was in good spirits. He told me that his teenage son (last born) was home from boarding school for a mid-term break and they were enjoying time together. I told him that I was in the process of finishing this article, which was inspired by our meeting and my last visit with him. He was pleasantly surprised and jokingly said, “I hope you didn’t say anything bad about me”, and I said, “absolutely not, I would never do that”. He thanked me for the call. I wished him more good times with his boy and said I would stay in touch.

When it comes to quality time with my parents, I have been doubly blessed. After moving to South Africa in 1995, my father retired from his position as a professor of architecture and joined me a couple of years later. He thoroughly enjoyed his life in his new home and always told me he never intended to go back. And indeed, he did not but went from his African home to his heavenly home in 2010. I was with him all the way and I will cherish those years for the rest of my life. My mother came to South Africa for the funeral and I convinced her to stay with me. We spent unforgettable quality time together for five years, which made up for the broken home that we experienced as mother and child so many years ago before she went peacefully in her sleep in 2015. God is good. “Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God is giving you.” – Exodus 20:12.

I could go on and on about other exceptional elders and relatives, but that is for another day. I remember telling one of my cousins after the passing of a relative, “now we are the elders”, and I pray that society, and more importantly my offspring, will cherish me in my old age. I am a young 57, so they have many, many more years to practice, God willing.

## + COMMUNITY

## STARS providing free transportation for Saginaw voters

Election day means Free Ride Day at STARS this year and every year.

There are three ways that voters in Saginaw County can get rides to the polls for free:

- On election day, all STARS fixed route services will be free. Please use this service and vote. On this day only, STARS Fixed Routes will run until 9PM so that all voters have a ride home after the polls close.
- Second, voters aged 60 and over and gold card holders can ride STARS LIFT for free to vote. Vote early at the Saginaw City Clerk's Office from Tuesday, November 1st to Monday, November 7th. Or vote in person on election day on Tuesday, November 8th. To schedule your free LIFT ride to vote, call STARS LIFT at (989)753-

9526 Monday-Friday between 9AM and 3PM. Rides must be scheduled at least one business day in advance.

- Third, voters unable to use bus routes or STARS LIFT can use STARS Rides to Wellness for free round trips to their polling location on Election Day. This offer is available only for voters who cannot access their polling location by STARS bus routes or STARS LIFT. These rides can be scheduled at least one business day in advance by calling (844) 532-7433.



COURTESY PHOTO

Request and complete an absentee ballot at your clerk's office through Monday, November 7th. Polls are open on Tuesday, November 8th from 7AM-8PM.

To find your polling location or to see a sample ballot, visit the Secretary of State website at <https://mvic.sos.state.mi.us/>. To register to vote, vote absentee or confirm your polling location, call or visit your local city or township clerk.

## Wildfire Credit Union launches a community focuses giveback

Wildfire Credit Union is proud to announce a program that lends a helping hand.

This holiday season, Wildfire is doing something new and very special. Through a partnership with Hidden Harvest and several area food pantries, Wildfire will provide food bags loaded with shelf-stable food to families in need. Each bag will contain enough food items to feed a family for up to one week.

From November 1st – December 31st, bags will be available for purchase for \$10 at all Wildfire branch locations. Each branch is partnered with area food pantries who will take the sold bags and distribute them through their food pantries. There will also be enough room in the bags to accommodate fresh items from the pantries.

Tim Benecke, CEO, commented: "Our marketing team brought this idea to one of our meetings, and we decided to run with it. We reached out to Hidden Harvest and brought the idea to reality. Wildfire has always been committed to our communities, and there is no better way to reflect

that commitment than to give back to the communities in a way that provides a real benefit."

Through the partnership with Hidden Harvest, Wildfire was able to obtain the shelf-stable food. Wildfire employees volunteered and packed all 1,000 bags for families and an additional 150 bags for

pets.

All proceeds from the bags sold will go to Hidden Harvest to further support their mission to alleviate hunger and reduce food waste in the Great Lakes Bay Region.

For additional information please visit [www.wildfirecu.org/holiday-harvest](http://www.wildfirecu.org/holiday-harvest).



COURTESY PHOTO

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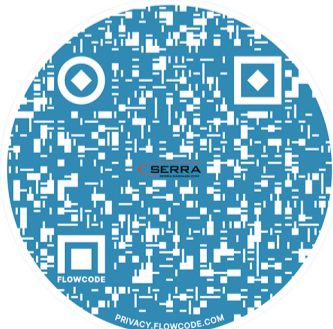
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## + COMMUNITY



KUNMANARA QUEAMA (PITJANTJATJARA PEOPLE) HILDA MOODOO (PITJANTJATJARA PEOPLE) "DESTRUCTION I", 2002

## Museum exhibitions & programs celebrate Native American Heritage Month at The Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum

The Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum on the campus of Saginaw Valley State University is celebrating Native American Heritage Month this November with several educational programs and events stemming from two special exhibitions on view through December 17, 2022.

The exhibition "Rethinking Monuments: American Sculpture in its Time 1850-2000" frames the history and reception of American sculpture through the lens of contemporary debate. "Exposure: Native Art and Political Ecology" documents international Indigenous artists' responses to the impacts of nuclear testing and uranium mining on Native peoples and the environment. The exhibition

gives artists a voice to address the long-term effects of these man-made disasters on Indigenous communities in the United States and around the world.

Both temporary exhibitions share different voices about a variety of contemporary topics that are often the center of debate including issues from equity and representation to historical memory and the environment are all voiced in these exhibitions.

### November 5, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM – 'Art & Politics' Discussion

The public is invited to join SVSU Political Science Professor Erik Trump in an

interactive discussion at the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum. Engage with others around topics related to art and politics. The event is free and refreshments will be served.

### November 5, 1:00 – 4:00 PM - Native American Art Activity: Clan Medalion Necklace

Following the discussion, the public is invited to participate in a free 'make and take' art activity and create a medicine pouch. Medicine pouches teach us about healing herbs that protect and give spiritual powers to its owner. Many North American Indians continue to carry a medicine pouch which hold personal belongings that have meaning to the owner or plant medicines such as tobacco, sage, cedar, sweet grass. You do not need to have attended the discussion to participate in this free art activity for all ages.

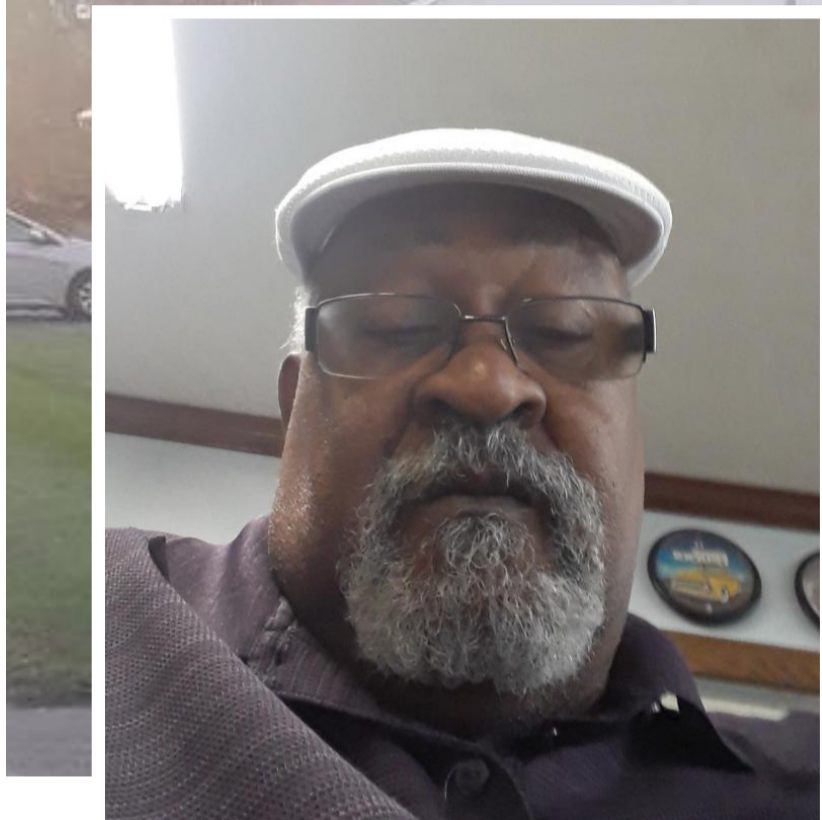
### November 16, 5:00 – 8:00 PM - Black Elk Talk

In celebration of Native American Heritage Month, the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum is hosting a lecture and book-signing reception with Michael F. Steltenkamp, author of two books on Black Elk; "Black Elk: Holy Man of the Oglala" (University of Oklahoma Press, 1993) and "Nicholas Black Elk: Medicine Man, Missionary, Mystic" (University of Oklahoma Press, 2009).

Join us for a reception and book signing of his "Nicholas Black Elk: Medicine Man, Missionary, Mystic" book at the Museum from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm. Refreshments will be served and the book will be available for sale. RSVP is requested but not required for this free event. Please call: 989-964-7125 or email: mfsm@svsu.edu.

Following the reception and book-signing, from 7:00 – 8:00 pm, Steltenkamp will discuss his Black Elk research and books in a lecture at Rhea Miller Recital Hall located in Curtiss Hall on the campus of SVSU. This program is free and open to the public.

SPONSORED CONTENT



MINISTRY WITHOUT WALLS - 3783 MANNION RD, SAGINAW, MI 48603

## Join us at Ministry Without Walls

By **PASTOR JOHN DUNN**  
MINISTRY WITHOUT WALLS

Ministry Without Walls recently returned to our building at 3783 Mannion Road with a new vision. The last couple of years, the direction of the world, and the pandemic starting with Covid have all certainly become eye openers. After seeking God for His direction and His will, we are expanding our vision. Today, we clearly understand that the Church is our community.

The assignment that God has given to us is to “Break Down Walls”, bringing both spiritual and those who work in the community together.

Our vision is for Ministry Without Walls to be:

- A place where the Spirit, Soul and Body becomes whole
- A place where resources are available to those in need
- A place where church, volunteers

and community professionals work together to accomplish the will of God.

- A place where love flows, and judgement is absent
- A place where privacy is protected
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- A place where the whole person is important

Our ongoing teaching and seminars will include:

- Outreach
- Growing Spiritually
- Mental Health
- Healthy Living
- Finding Purpose
- Money Matters
- Entrepreneurship
- Boys to Men
- Women of Wisdom
- Discipleship

We understand that the mission field is not a country far away. It is around the corner, down the street, in our community. We also know that the vision given to us will not be easy to accomplish. We know that we can not do it alone. It will take a “village”.

We are committing our resources, time, talents, people, and our connections to tear down the “walls of the church”.

If our vision is connecting with you on some level and it appeals to you and sounds like something you might want to be a part of, we invite you to join us at 11:00 on Sundays to meet us personally so we can answer any questions you might have.

God bless You, come experience for yourself, Join us!!

Pastor, John Dunn  
Ministry Without Walls  
3783 Mannion Road  
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# It's Back! Sing responsibly with Saginaw Choral Society Beer Choir

Saginaw Choral Society is excited to officially launch the Saginaw Chapter of the national singing sensation, Beer Choir! Mark your calendars and join in for the first of many sing-along events at local watering holes. Beer Choir happens Friday, November 11, 2022 from 7-9 PM, at Fischer Hall, 613 S. Main Street in Frankenmuth. No tickets or registration necessary.

Grab your drinking buddies and get ready for a lively night out with brews and bar songs. Beer Choir is no stuffy concert, but rather a community sing-along event of pure fun. Open to the public and welcome to everyone, "Participation is required, but talent is not." Beer Choir was originally created in 2014 by choral composer and conductor, Michael Engelhardt. His vision was to create a social singing movement made up of vibrant chapters around the country, hosting regular events in support of the local craft beer market. After a few years of adding local chapters, that vision has transformed into a national singing sensation.

Learn more at <https://www.saginawchoral-society.com/beer-choir.html>



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# Veterans and active-duty military members: Social Security has your back!



By **VONDA VANTIL**  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST

Veterans Day is Friday, November 11, 2022. On this day, we honor all veterans who served our country and risked their lives to protect us.

Our Wounded Warriors webpage is an important resource for military members who return home with injuries. If you know a wounded veteran, please let them know about our Wounded Warriors webpage at [www.ssa.gov/woundedwarriors](http://www.ssa.gov/woundedwarriors).

The page shares information about our Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)

benefits for veterans, including:

- How SSDI benefits are different from benefits available through the Department of Veterans Affairs and require a separate application.
- How we expedite the processing of Social Security disability claims for service members. If they develop a disability while on active military service on or after October 1, 2001, they can file a disability claim regardless of where the disability occurs.
- Answers to questions asked about Social Security.

If active-duty military service members are unable to work due to a disabling condition and continue to receive pay while in a hospital or on medical leave, they should consider applying for SSDI. Active-duty status and receipt of military pay doesn't necessarily prevent payment of SSDI benefits.



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## + BUSINESS & MONEY



RICHARD J. GARBER

over the operation in 1966 until his death in 1972, when Garber was just 16 years old.

Garber held various jobs at the dealership and was named general manager in 1979 and dealer the following year at age 25. "At the time, I was one of the youngest General Motors dealers in the country," he said. "I then bought the dealership from my father's estate over a 10-year period, from 1981 to 1991, and, with the help of many amazing people, have grown the business to 23 dealerships in six states representing 17 franchises." Today, he is president of Garber Automotive Group, which also encompasses RightWay Automotive, a collection of 50 independent used-car stores in six midwestern states, and Gateway Financial Solutions, which provides consumer auto loans in 22 states. Today the organization is a \$1.5 billion enterprise.

Garber attributes his success to his organization's core values of honesty, empathy, respect, work ethic, integrity, and pride. "I don't complicate things and I believe I connect with our team by living these values," he said.

And he is proud of the numerous automotive awards he has received, particularly his dealership's recognition on the Automotive News Best Dealerships to Work For list multiple times. In the area of community service, Garber encourages his staff to lend their time and talent to local organizations and he even designated a community room within his dealership for nonprofit groups to host meetings, seminars and events at no cost. "We are committed to supporting our community as the need has never been higher," he said. "Business must be a good steward for all stakeholders, not just shareholders." To that end, he has led capital campaigns and fundraising to support numerous entities, including Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation at Covenant Healthcare; Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of Michigan; Temple Theatre in Saginaw; Saginaw Family YMCA; and CAN Council (works to stop child abuse and neglect); to name a few. "I have been fortunate to lead some of the largest capital campaigns in our community's

# Time and Ally Financial honor Richard J. Garber

The nomination of Richard J. Garber, president of Garber Buick Company in Saginaw, Michigan, for the 2023 TIME Dealer of the Year award was announced today by TIME.

Garber is one of a select group of 48 dealer nominees from across the country who will be honored at the 106th annual National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA) Show in Dallas, Texas, on January 27, 2023.

The TIME Dealer of the Year award is one of the automobile industry's most prestigious and highly coveted honors. The award recognizes the nation's most successful auto dealers who also demonstrate a long-standing commitment to community service. Garber was chosen to represent the Michigan Automobile Dealers Association in the national competition – one of only 48 auto dealers nominated for the 54th annual award from more than 16,000 nationwide.

"I find it rewarding to impact the lives of our associates by offering them fair wages and career opportunities so they can live the American dream in every sense," he said. "I have great passion for taking care of our staff, customers and the communities we serve as they are the foundation from which we have built a great company."

Garber is a graduate of Northwood University in Midland, Michigan, where he earned an associate degree in automotive marketing in 1976 and a bachelor's degree in business administration in 1978. He is the third generation to run the family business. His grandfather Guy S. Garber, began his affiliation with Buick Motor Division in 1907 as a factory representative, establishing a dealership in Battle Creek, Michigan. He later established a Buick dealership in Saginaw, Michigan in 1910, which today remains Garber Buick, and is America's oldest Buick dealership. Garber's father, Richard Garber Sr., took

**CONTINUES ON PG. 37  
GARBER**

## Continued from pg 36, Garber

history," Garber said. "And our organization is the largest philanthropic business in our immediate area, giving back more than \$1 million annually to support local nonprofits." For his good works, Garber has received numerous awards and recognitions. In 2017, he was given the Lifetime Humanitarian Award by then-Michigan Governor Rick Snyder, and the United Way of Saginaw County honored his company with the Lloyd J. Yeo Community Involvement Award in 2015. In 2021, he was honored by the Boy Scouts of America with the Distinguished Citizens Award, for his leadership, values and contributions to the growth and vitality of the community.

"We not only donate significant monies to our community, but our current staff and I sit on the boards of more than 20 nonprofits, schools, hospitals, chambers of commerce, museums and other organizations," Garber said. "I am so proud

of that!" Dealers are nominated by the executives of state and metro dealer associations around the country. A panel of faculty members from the Tauber Institute for Global Operations at the University of Michigan will select one finalist from each of the four NADA regions and one national Dealer of the Year. Three finalists will receive \$5,000 for their favorite charities and the winner will receive \$10,000 to give to charity, donated by Ally.

In its 12th year as exclusive sponsor, Ally also will recognize dealer nominees and their community efforts by contributing \$1,000 to each nominee's 501(c)3 charity of choice. Nominees will be recognized on AllyDealerHeroes.com, which highlights the philanthropic contributions and achievements of TIME Dealer of the Year nominees. "For over 50 years, TIME has been committed to recognizing the impact of automotive dealers on their com-

munities with the TIME Dealer of the Year award," said Edward Felsenthal, editor in chief and CEO, TIME. "We are proud to continue the legacy of honoring these works of service with our partners at Ally."

Doug Timmerman, president of dealer financial services, Ally, said, "Auto dealers across the country who are nominated for this award each year are committed to not only doing it right and leading in a rapidly changing automotive industry but to strengthening their communities through giving back. The TIME Dealer of the Year program celebrates dealers who are the role models of the retail auto industry for their continuous efforts to lift up and support their employees, customers and communities." Garber was nominated for the TIME Dealer of the Year award by Terry Burns, executive vice president of the Michigan Automobile Dealers Association. He has three children.

## Gov. Whitmer launches groundbreaking on new \$375 million expansion of Hemlock Semiconductor, Creating 170 new jobs

On October 21, Governor Gretchen Whitmer joined company officials and federal, state, and local leaders to break ground on Hemlock Semiconductor's (HSC) new expansion project at the company's Thomas Township operations. Governor Whitmer announced the project in September, bringing a planned investment of \$375 million and creation of 170 high-wage jobs to Saginaw County and strengthening Michigan's leadership position in the semiconductor supply chain.

"Michigan is becoming a global hub of semiconductor chip manufacturing and we will continue bringing these critical supply chains home so we can create jobs, bring billions in investment to our communities, and lead the future," said Governor Whitmer. "Hemlock Semiconductor, a Michigan-made company whose hyper-pure polysilicon is found in nearly all electronic devices in the world, is betting on Michigan once again, expanding their presence in Thomas Township with a planned investment of up to \$375 million creating 170 jobs. Powered by bipartisan economic development and state-supported improvements of critical public

infrastructure, Hemlock's planned investment will foster economic opportunity for Michiganders for generations to come."

Announced in September, HSC's expansion is the result of planned projects the company is undertaking to serve increasing demand in the semiconductor and solar industries. In order for HSC to construct these new investments, Thomas Township, in coordination with Saginaw Township, will significantly and rapidly expand sanitary sewer capacity in support of the HSC site. The expansions will include the construction of two new lift stations and five miles of sewer mains. In support of these needed expansions, Thomas Township received Michigan Strategic Fund approval of a \$27 million Strategic Site Readiness Program (SSRP) performance-based grant, ensuring HSC's expansion in Michigan. The SSRP grant will be funded through the Strategic Outreach and Attraction Reserve (SOAR) Fund.

These projects will further boost Michigan's leadership in semiconductor manufacturing and will ensure a strong supply chain for potential additional growth. The projects will also bring high-wage jobs to

the Saginaw region with one of the longest operating manufacturers of polysilicon in the world.

In addition, it is anticipated that the influx of 170 direct jobs will result in spin-off investments and redevelopment opportunities. More than \$364 million in new personal income is expected to be generated by the direct, indirect, and induced jobs that this opportunity will create over 10 years. The project will also support small businesses in the community and will help spur demand to redevelop underutilized properties in the community and the state.

"We are delighted that Hemlock Semiconductor will continue its growth in Saginaw County and the Great Lakes Bay Region," said Saginaw Future President JoAnn Crary. "The decision to expand here underscores the importance of local government collaboration and the availability of a rich pool of highly skilled talent. We are fortunate to have both."

# + HEALTH



COURTESY PHOTOS

## Great Lakes Bay Health Centers-Old Town celebrates grand opening at 700 Court Street

Great Lakes Bay Health Centers (GLBHC) celebrated the opening of its brand new health center at 700 Court Street in Saginaw with a Ribbon Cutting ceremony and open house at 3:30 pm on Thursday, Oct. 27. The first patient received services at the center on Friday, Oct. 28.

The Ribbon Cutting ceremony included remarks from Congressman Dan Kildee and U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, along with other community leaders.

The new building was constructed by Shaheen Development to provide 30,000 square feet of space dedicated to health services for anyone seeking care, regardless of their insurance coverage. The new building features warm and welcoming spaces for children and adults, with large windows and state of the art design.

“Shaheen Development is excited to be involved in this transformational and important project for the Old Town Saginaw community. We are grateful to the leadership of the Great Lakes Bay Health Centers for their vision and commitment to the health and well-being of the residents of the Great Lakes Bay Region,” said Peter Shaheen, Vice President Shaheen Development.

Primary medical care and OB-GYN services are relocating from space at 804 S. Hamilton to better serve the growing needs of the community. Multiple services will be available at this one convenient location – including Women, Infant and Children nutrition program and breastfeeding support, Maternal Infant Health Program, Eye Care, Child and Adoles-

cent Behavioral Health, Physical Therapy, Pharmacy, and more.

“I am excited for this opportunity to better provide much needed services for our patients and our community through this partnership to continue to change lives because we care!” said Dr. Brenda Coughlin, President and CEO of Great Lakes Bay Health Centers.

Some services at the new location will phase in for patients over the next several months. Residents from Central Michigan University College of Medicine will work at the new health center, alongside GLBHC healthcare providers, as part of the Family Medicine and OB-GYN residency programs.

## + HEALTH



COURTESY PHOTO

## Mammograms go mobile with first 3D breast cancer screening center in Northern Michigan at Ascension

About one in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer during their lifetime according to the National Cancer Institute. While mammograms don't prevent breast cancer, they can save lives by finding it earlier than it can be detected by self exam alone - on average, by approximately five years.

Through the generosity of Ascension St. Mary's Foundation, a \$1 million mobile mammography 3D breast cancer screening center is being deployed by Ascension St. Mary's Hospital to address the unusually high mortality rate for individuals with breast cancer in the mid, northern and thumb regions of Michigan.

"This state-of-the-art clinic-on-wheels will aid with early detection of breast cancer and decrease lives lost, which is prominent in many rural communities we serve, especially in areas that do not have mammography services," says Stephanie Duggan, MD, Regional President & CEO, Mid/North Region, Ascension Michigan. "Indi-

viduals will receive the same high quality mammography screening as if they traveled to one of our hospital imaging centers."

The 45-foot breast screening center on wheels features a registration area near the front and private dressing rooms that lead to the center's advanced 3D tomosynthesis mammography equipment and technology. The mobile center provides a viable option for individuals to obtain a screening mammogram by making these services more accessible to where they live and work.

"This high tech mobile mammography screening center allows people to get a mammogram at a location that is more convenient and closer to their home," says Christopher Garces, MD, breast surgical oncologist, Ascension St. Mary's Hospital. "The images will be transferred daily from the mobile mammogram system to the hospital where a radiologist will read them within 24-48 hours. Earlier detection of

breast cancer can lead to faster treatment and improved outcomes."

A regular monthly schedule will have the mobile mammography screening center traveling to Oscoda, Chesaning, Birch Run, Frankenmuth, Vassar and Genesee County. It will be available at community health fairs and events, and businesses may also schedule the mobile mammography screening center for their work sites.

Ascension St. Mary's Hospital breast care teams recommend annual mammography screenings beginning at age 40. If you have a family history of breast cancer, ask your doctor if you should have a breast screening test before you turn 40.

A physician order is needed for mammograms. For more information or to schedule a screening appointment with the mobile mammography center, call Ascension St. Mary's Imaging Center at (989) 907-8222 or (800) 605-9141.



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## + EDUCATION



COURTESY PHOTO

opportunities to “read aloud” can accelerate improvement; confidence and self-esteem grow.

### Differentiate instruction.

Students learn in different ways, and if one way is not working, try another. It could be the learner who is working on a computer needs a paper & pencil to work out the challenges before answering on the computer. Math is the best example of this; avoid computing “in your head;” work problems out on paper first before choosing answers on a screen. Encourage the student to slow down, work it out on paper, then proceed.

### Address motivation.

When students feel they are “behind,” this is extremely discouraging. “Self-motivation” is vital in helping students “catch up.” To address motivation takes time and reflection. What are the goals of the students? How can a larger set of goals (e.g., to be caught up) be chunked into smaller ones? How can progress be measured?

By attempting to answer these tough questions, student motivation can be enhanced.

In summary, the pandemic happened over a stretch of months covering more than a year. Catching up could take as much time, so let’s do our best to craft a plan to fit the needs of the student, given the age and subject matter that is involved.

### Resources:

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/test-scores-dropped-lowest-levels-decades-pandemic-according-nationwid-rcna53659>

<https://www.clickondetroit.com/health/2020/03/24/michigan-coronavirus-timeline-key-dates-covid-19-case-tracking-state-orders/>

<https://www.wgu.edu/heyteach/article/dont-wait-until-its-too-late-how-intervene-struggling-students-early1809.html>

<https://red.mnstate.edu/thesis/487/>

# Education Matters



By **CRAIG DOUGLAS**  
RETIRED EDUCATOR

News has reached us that national & state test scores are especially “low” for elementary and secondary students this year.

We view the data in context. Recall that Michigan public schools were closed on March 13, 2020, due to the pandemic. Literally all of us were told to stay away from each other (a phrase, “social distancing,” was coined).

Schools remained closed through June, 2020. In the fall some schools remained closed, going “virtual” with online instruction. Others blended online with some in-person classes. These were local decisions except when cases spiked upward, starting November 15, 2020 through the 2020 holiday season.

The disruption of in-person learning covered at least three months covering

parts of two school years and negatively impacted student achievement. What we don’t know and likely cannot measure is how much greater the learning loss might have been had these other measures not been implemented. What is interesting is that some students kept up and did well on-line; however, we now see that many if not most students lag due to the pandemic.

What can parents do to help students catch up? Here are three suggestions I would like to share found on the Western Governors University website, wgu.edu.

### Reading is the key.

If a student is struggling with reading skills, chances are that ALL other subjects will be negatively impacted. Think about the vocabulary involved with biology; a struggling reader will have extreme difficulty. Algebra story problems? Likely a struggle. History and social studies? Ditto.

If reading is a challenge, consult with the school to see what can be done to address the student’s needs. Tutoring and other on-site strategies may help build some positive momentum. I also like strategies where middle and high school students read to younger students. Op-

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**Zilwaukee School**  
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# Michigan NAEP results reflect national declines due to the pandemic

Michigan test scores on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) reflect declines seen nationally during the pandemic, and state and local education officials are focusing attention on academic recovery strategies, needed legislative action, and continued effort to address the teacher shortage, according to the Michigan Department of Education.

The NAEP tests are given to a sample of students in each state in the nation. Students are tested in math and reading in the fourth and eighth grades. Michigan had approximately 2.6% of its fourth and eighth grade students tested in math and reading from January through March 2022 in approximately 260 school buildings across the state.

Nationally, scores on the NAEP math and reading tests in the fourth and eighth grades were below the scores from 2019, the last year when the NAEP was administered. In fourth grade math and reading nationally, higher-performing students were substantially less adversely affected during the pandemic than lower-performing students. Girls' test scores were more adversely affected during the pandemic than were boys' test scores in math and reading, though reading achievement for girls was higher in both 2019 and 2022.

Michigan scores declined, as did national scores and scores of most of the states in the nation.

In a state-by-state comparison, Michigan joined many states whose declines in scores were not statistically significant from the declines of the nation as a whole.

"Statistically, we are not alone nationally. Most states were adversely affected in, and by, the pandemic. That said, instructionally, we have a great deal of work to do," said State Superintendent Dr. Michael Rice. "In spite of the extraordinary efforts of staff and students, the pandemic was very disruptive to learning. What teachers do daily in classrooms across the state is incredibly important, and disruptions of any sort, let alone those associ-

ated with a pandemic, do harm."

In math, Michigan's average score dropped from 236.2 in 2019 to 232.2 in 2022 for fourth graders and from 280.3 to 272.6 for eighth graders. Nationally, average scores dropped five points in fourth grade and eight points in eighth grade.

Although the changes were not significantly different from the national average, Michigan improved in state rankings in fourth grade math, now ranked 36th compared to 42nd in 2019. In eighth grade math, Michigan's ranking rose to 26th in 2022 compared to 28th in 2019.

In reading, Michigan's average score declined from 218.3 to 211.8 for fourth graders and from 262.6 to 258.5 for eighth graders. Nationally, average scores declined three points in both fourth and eighth grade.

Michigan dropped in state rankings in fourth grade reading, from 32nd in 2019 to 43rd in 2022. In eighth grade reading, Michigan's ranking dropped to 31st in 2022 compared to 28th in 2019.

Michigan's English learners scored significantly higher than the average for English learners nationally in 2022 for fourth grade math and reading. Hispanic and Asian students demonstrated improved average scores for fourth grade math in 2022 compared to 2019.

Dr. Rice said there are several actions that can help Michigan students rebound from the effects of the pandemic. Much of this work is ongoing, and more needs to be done.

The state legislature needs to provide greater investments to expand high-quality, frequent tutoring for students, especially in the early grades; to decrease class sizes in early elementary grades, particularly in high poverty communities with large early elementary class sizes; to fund more teachers in LETRS early literacy skills; and to create regional parent and family literacy centers, according to Dr. Rice.

Michigan has more than 3,000 teach-

ers taking LETRS training but needs many more early elementary teachers trained to substantially improve early literacy levels, Dr. Rice said. The state superintendent noted that state investments in LETRS training of \$4 million in Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) and \$10 million in Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23) have been very helpful. He also noted that increased funding of \$168 million in FY22 and \$34 million in FY23 for Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) to expand pre-school participation would be beneficial to our young readers in the future.

In addition to a \$450 per pupil increase in the student foundation allowance, the current year (FY23) budget adds \$246 million for students with disabilities, \$235 million for economically disadvantaged students, \$10 million for career and technical education, \$1.3 million for English learners, \$575 million to address the teacher shortage, \$245 million for children's mental health, and \$210 million for school safety.

"The academic recovery from the pandemic will require time. With increased supports, educators across Michigan are rolling up their sleeves to help children accelerate their learning," Dr. Rice said.

With appreciation for these investments, Dr. Rice added, the state legislature needs to continue to support efforts to address the teacher shortage in the next two months, including passage of Senate Bill 861 to permit experienced teachers certified in other states to become certified in Michigan more easily; Senate Bill 942 to permit experienced counselors certified in other states to become certified in Michigan more easily; and House Bill 6411 to permit school support staff, under particular conditions, to serve as substitute teachers.

## + EDUCATION



COURTESY PHOTO

## SPONSORED CONTENT

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

### What is GSRP?

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

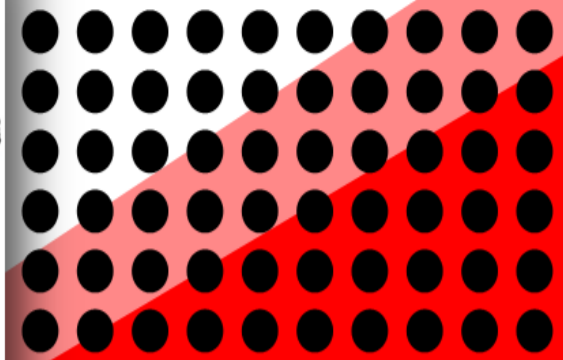
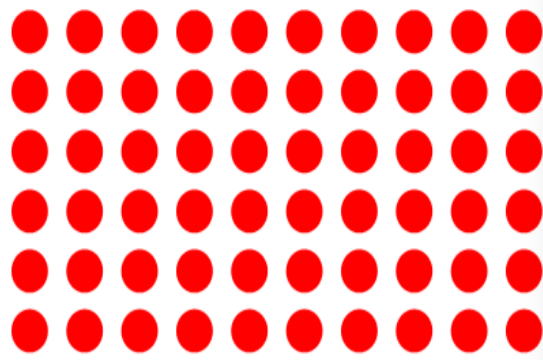
No, but if funded, you will be expected to hire qualified staff and have staff trained in the curriculum and assessment tools. You will have to operate in compliance with child care licensing rules and GSRP statute, policies and procedures. You would also have the support of a Saginaw Intermediate School 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](mailto:bashj@sisd.cc)). Join the Great Start Collaborative (contact Julie Kozan at [jkozan@sisd.cc](mailto:jkozan@sisd.cc)). Let your SISD Early Childhood Contact, Ericka M. Taylor ([etaylor@sisd.cc](mailto: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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*Nelson Mandela*



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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](http://www.saginawheadstart.org)

Source: [www.saginawheadstart.org](http://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  
messiahsgag.org



**Ministry Without Walls**  
Pastor, John Dunn  
3783 Mannion Road  
Saginaw, MI 48603



**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 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



**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

# Double the impact of your awards ceremonies

By MEL AND PEARL SHAW

Major corporations, foundations, politicians and community stakeholders are constantly showered with awards and honors because of their influence, power, and wealth. Often it is the same people getting awards, to the point that the awards can lose their luster and meaning. It's not only the general public who notices what's going on, but the awards can lose meaning for the honorees themselves. Perhaps now is the time to look at awards ceremonies and refocus them to include unsung heroes that change the quality of life within our communities and across the country.

Before we go too far out on a limb, we want to lift up the importance of honoring those who provide vital financial support to nonprofits. It's critical to say thank you to those who work to ensure quality of life, food on the table, the opportunity to vote, and so much more. Individual

philanthropists, foundation leaders, corporate leaders, politicians, and civic and faith leaders are critical to American life and to the furthering of the American dream. At the same time, a cynicism can emerge amongst those who don't have the opportunity or ability to impact life at the level these individuals can. If we believe that "we are all in this together," we can alter our award ceremonies so they have a dual focus.

Here's what we mean. As we recognize corporate, philanthropic, political, faith, and community leaders we can ask each to select someone who they want to recognize. This provides an opportunity to bring an "unknown" to the attention of the community. Both the awardee and their selected honoree would be equally honored and promoted for their work and impact. At the ceremony both should come to the stage for public honor. For example, an individual philanthropist who is being honored might select an activist who she admires for his dedication and tenacity. A corporate leader might select a representative from a nonprofit organization they partner with. A foundation CEO might select a grantee.

This approach benefits your nonprofit, the awardee, and community. For example, the awardee can increase their impact by promoting someone they believe in and telling their story. This encourages the awardee to think about why they believe in your organization, why they do the work they do, and who else is working towards similar goals. With a dual award approach you recognize that you are part of a community full of organizations who contribute to the good of mankind. You demonstrate your generosity by shining a spotlight on those who support your vision and offering them the opportunity to radiate even more light by highlighting others who are lesser known. Other benefits include increased opportunities for exposure and publicity for your organization and those being honored; a stronger partnership with your honorees; and importantly something new for those who attend your awards ceremony. You increase community knowledge of what is going on and everyone benefits. Just remember to keep the list of awards short: you want everyone to stay awake and engaged!



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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](http://www.saadandshaw.com) or call (901) 522-8727.

## + SPORTS



ROBERT SIMMS

# Simms: Saginaw's first world heavyweight champion

By HASANI ALI

Dressed in an all-black jogger suit with a teal trim, standing in front of a crowd of one-hundred people at the Samaritas Community Center (also known as The Neighborhood House), located at 3145 Russell Street, Robert Simms was in awe of all the support he received throughout his boxing journey.

Holding his youngest daughter on his right arm and the microphone in the other hand, Simms momentarily stood in silence.

His first words on the mic at the celebration were, "I have to take my sunglasses off for this one," he said in a light-hearted manner.

Though the response to the comment resulted in laughter, everyone knew that this moment was about to get emotional for Simms.

He told the story of how he was only 23 years old when he wanted to get into boxing. In the sports world, that's a very late age to begin learning the sport.

Simms was able to obtain the phone number of another Saginaw great, Lorenzo Reynolds, a prominent super lightweight (according to [www.boxrec.com](http://www.boxrec.com)) that was an upcoming superstar until a detached retina ended the boxer's career.

He was the first amateur boxer that was signed by legendary boxing promoter Bob Arum.

Reynolds was pursuing a career in ministry in Texas so he was not able to assist Simms in his boxing journey. Instead, he sent Simms to his father and trainer, Jesse Addison.

Addison asked Simms if he ever tried boxing before and the conversation landed Simms into some trouble.

"I told Jesse that I knew how to box

and I knew that it was a lie," Simms said hysterically. "And just like that, he invited me into the gym to see what I could do."

Simms was exposed immediately.

After taking much punishment from the other boxers that Addison was training, Simms knew that this was something that he still wanted to do.

Addison respected Simms and his willing to keep fighting and he knew that Simms could become a special talent.

"If Simms could take a beating like that, then I could only imagine what he could do once he mastered the sport," Addison said jokingly.

From then on, Simms has continued to prove himself in the ring as a serious championship contender.

Prior to turning professional in 2015, Simms was a three-time Golden Gloves state champion in the Super Heavyweight division.

He returned to boxing from a brief hiatus after watching Jermaine Franklin win the national championship in 2014.

"I knew that I had to get me another one (championship)," Simms said. "I saw Jermaine win the national and I knew that it was time to step my game up and start making a name for myself."

There were plenty of moments where Simms was overlooked by promoters, critics and fans alike. His best bet was to do something that carried him throughout his entire career.

"I bet on myself," Simms said. That's all I could do. Whenever people counted me out, I had to look within myself to lead the way."

Preparing for this monumental fight with Morrison, Simms looked back at his most memorable fight of his career, defeating "The Sicilian Nightmare" Juiseppe Cusumano.

"We had a fight out in Connecticut and he was 15-0 at the time and it was a 10-fight knockout streak," Simms said. "They were

**CONTINUES ON PG 51,  
SIMMS**

## Continued from pg 50, Simms

grooming him to become world champion. They even had a billboard of him when we arrived at the fight.”

Despite all the hype, Simms silenced the crowd and it was a shocking upset.

“Those same fans that were cheering against me became fans of mine after the fight,” Simms said. “The only person that was in my corner that night was my coach.”

The Saginaw native was ranked one spot ahead of Morrison in the heavyweight division at no. 24 amongst the heavyweights. Simms knew that the win could make him a top contender in other weight classes.

“This would definitely put me in the top ten in the cruiserweight or Bridgerweight division,” Simms said. “However, if the money is good in the next heavyweight fight, and I’m sure it is, then I wouldn’t mind staying in the division.”

His dream fight would be to face the inaugural Bridgerweight champion Oscar Rivas, who won the title back in October 2021.

The Bridgerweight division has a weight limit between 200 – 224 pounds.

Simms did have intentions on trimming down to make for the lighter division, but had a couple setbacks that delayed the process.

“I had serious back-to-back injuries,” Simms said. “That really derailed me as I was not able to train for a while, but I’m okay now so I will be getting back into it.”

His last fight back in March 2022 was a no-contest against New York’s Moses Johnson—who was disqualified after hitting Simms in the back of the head during the fight.

A rematch was scheduled for later in the year, but Johnson backed out.

Simms, 38, outlasted Kenzie Morrison, claiming the United States National Boxing Championship heavyweight belt with a unanimous eight-round decision Saturday in Kansas City, Kansas.

He improved to 12-3-1 with a 78-74, 78-74, 78-74 decision, handing Morrison his first professional loss. Morrison, the

son of heavyweight champion and Rocky V celebrity Tommy Morrison, fell to 20-1-2.

The fight was part of the Triller Fight Club Lineage of Greatness II card at Memorial Hall in Kansas.

In the other bouts on the card, Steve Cunningham Jr. won his super welterweight fight with a knockout 16 seconds into the first round. Featherweight Jose Luis Castillo Jr. improved to 25-3 with 19 knockouts, with a knockout of James Roach at 2:11 of the fight.

Roberto Duran Jr. lost his welterweight fight to Jake Robinson, while Yavontae Christopher improved to 3-0 with a four-round unanimous decision over Gerald McClellan Jr. in a light welterweight fight.

Simms is taking a slight break from the action, but he knows that he’s on the clock.’

“I have 180 days to defend my title, but I will be in the ring much sooner than that,” Simms said. “I’ll take a couple weeks off to enjoy my win, but I know that I’ll have to work on slimming down before my next fight.”



SUPPORTERS GATHER AT "THE NEIGHB" ON OCTOBER 27 TO CELEBRATE ROBERT SIMMS



LORENZO REYNOLDS AND ROBERT SIMMS

## + SPORTS

# Franklin lands fight with Dillian Whyte in London on Nov. 26

By HASANI ALI

Two heavyweight boxers have put Saginaw on the map this year, including Robert Simm's recent upset victory over Kenzie Morrison for the WBC USNBC Heavyweight title back on Oct. 22.

Now, it's time for another heavyweight to get into the action.

After suffering a disastrous loss to Tyson Fury in his long-overdue title shot, Dillian Whyte will look to end 2022 on a high note when he meets undefeated Jermaine Franklin on November 26th at Wembley Arena.

Though his performance was poor against "The Gypsy King" earlier this year, Whyte (28-3, 19 KO) is still considered to be the prohibitive favorite. Franklin (21-0, 14 KO) had a brief push as the Next Great American Heavyweight.

Spectators and boxing fans alike have built some skepticism around Franklin after a controversial split decision over Jerry Forrest and a subsequent two-and-a-half-year layoff have thoroughly derailed his momentum.

Franklin is going into this fight with pure optimism and ready to make a statement to end the year. Prior to his TKO victory against Rodney Moore back in May, his last fight was against Pavel Sour back in October 2019, which resulted in a unanimous decision victory for Franklin.

"I'm super hyped to fight in the UK," said Franklin. "They love boxing and I plan on making a statement when I beat Dillian. I want them to be loud and love my boxing style and have them embrace me as the people's champ. The world will see the real Jermaine Franklin Jr."

Despite the disastrous loss against Fury, Whyte is set to prove that he's still one of the top contenders in the heavyweight division.

"It's great to be back, doing what I love doing," said Whyte. "I can't wait to get into the ring and show the world that when push comes to shove I can get right back up in Wembley and remind everyone why I



JERMAINE FRANKLIN

was WBC number one for over four years.

Whyte is certainly aware of Franklin and does not plan to take the fight lightly.

"As an undefeated heavyweight, Franklin is a dangerous guy but I'm going to teach him quite a few lessons. Most importantly, I'm going to teach him how to lose."

Franklin has a different pep under his step knowing the opportunity at hand. He is expecting a tough fight and knows that Whyte is not going to go down easy.

"Dillian is a warrior. He has heart and he's been with the best. It's time for him to step aside and let the '989 Assassin' make him body number 22 on my body count. The kind of fight I expect is a brawl. Dillian wants to prove he's got something left in the tank. I want to show him I'm the future of boxing and for USA heavyweights.

According to ESPN.com, Whyte is currently ranked no. 7 in the heavyweight division. A win for Franklin would catapult him into the top ten amongst the heavyweight division and could allot a title shot for Franklin.

"When I beat Dillian I want this victory to be followed with a title shot or a major fight to take me to the title," said Franklin. "I'm like Holyfield. I'm a warrior. I'm from the hood. You have to take my heart and that will never happen in the ring. I have speed and power. I have no problem taking a punch to land my own. I am America's next heavyweight champion."

Amongst the top ten heavyweight boxers, only three Americans are on the list. A win for Franklin will add a fourth and bring more excitement back into American heavyweight boxing.

The co-feature puts Fabio Wardley (14-0, 13 KO) against Nathan Gorman (19-1, 13 KO) for the vacant British heavyweight title, a fight first ordered in July. It's a welcome step up in class for Wardley and a return to serious competition for Gorman, who's been largely inactive and under the radar since a 2019 loss to Daniel Dubois.

**CONTINUES ON PG 53,  
FRANKLIN**

## Continued from pg 52, Franklin

“I’m buzzing to be fighting for the British title, I’ve had my eyes set on this belt for so long and I can’t wait to get my hands on it,” said Wardley. “Nathan Gorman’s a good fighter, but nothing is going to stop me from checking off this next milestone of my career. I thrive under the pressure of big fights like this, I live for it, there’ll be no better feeling than standing over him with my hand raised. I take my opportunities when they come, I’m not going to need any second chances like he did.”

Wardley has developed a hunger for the title like never before.

“I’ve never trained harder, I’ve never been fitter, it’s like the stars have aligned for this camp and everything is coming together perfectly. I’ve come on leaps and bounds with the new addition to my coaching team and I’m technically improving every day. That mixed with my natural athleticism and serious KO power, there’s nothing Nathan can bring to stop me.”

Knowing what’s at stake, Gorman realizes that it’s time to either put up or shut up as an opportunity for a title is at hand.

“It’s my second opportunity fighting for the British Title, so I’ve got to take it with both hands and this time it isn’t going anywhere other than back home with me,” said Gorman. “It’s against Fabio Wardley, and I know I’ll be facing the best Wardley that has ever entered that ring. Unfortunately for him, that will be met with the best Nathan Gorman, who is improving every second he spends in that gym.”

At light heavyweight, Craig Richards (17-3-1, 10 KO) squares off against Ricards Bolotniks (19-6-1, 8 KO) for a WBA trinket. Richards is 1-2 in his last three, both losses competitive ones against Dmitry Bivol and Joshua Buatsi, while former Golden Contract winner Bolotniks followed his own loss to Buatsi with a decision over unbeaten Hrvoje Sep. Sandi Ryan (4-1, 2 KO) will also be in action against former world title challenger Magali Rodriguez (20-6-2, 9 KO).

## Saginaw Spirit raise over \$17,000 at 2022 Pink Out jersey auction, benefiting Breast Cancer





## PICS OF THE WEEK

Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce's leadership awards held on October 21.



**Community Impact Award – Saginaw Community Foundation's Renee Johnston**



**Samuel H. Shaheen Vision of Free Enterprise Award – Michigan Sugar Company's Mark Flegenheimer**



**Robert H. Albert Lifetime Community Service Award – Saginaw Valley State University's Don Bachand**



**Spirit of #Saginaw Award – Ken LeCureux and Pharrington Douglass for Garber Tennis and Pickleball Courts Renovation**



**Outstanding Small Business – The Maple Grille Restaurant and Microbrewery**

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



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