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PIC OF THE WEEK
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BUSINESS



DOW CREDIT UNION TO OPEN NEW BRANCH IN SAGINAW

BUSINESS, PG 46

GRETCHEN WHITMER WINS GOVERNOR'S RACE IN MICHIGAN



GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER AND LT. GOVERNOR GARLIN GILCHRIST CELEBRATE THEIR WIN



An attitude of gratitude

COMMUNITY, PG 11



Art Competition change after 13 years

COMMUNITY, PG 16



As cases rise locally, what you need to know about RSV

HEALTH, PG 49

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — Democratic Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and running mate Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist won a second four-year term in Tuesday's election, defeating Republican challenger Tudor Dixon in Michigan where abortion had become a key issue.

Whitmer led a statewide ticket of Democrats that centered their campaigns on abortion rights after the U.S. Supreme Court's overturning of Roe v. Wade. Whitmer filed multiple lawsuits in state courts to block a 1931 law banning abortion from taking effect.

Dixon, who was endorsed by Trump, was a former political commentator and horror-film actress who struggled until late in the campaign to compete with Whitmer's multimillion-dollar campaign fund.

The outcome of the November race is sig-

nificant beyond Michigan, a presidential election battleground. The winner will be in office for the 2024 contest, and could influence voting laws and how the election is conducted. Trump, Biden and former President Barack Obama all visited the state in recent weeks to rally support for their party's candidates.

Speaking to supporters in Detroit early Wednesday morning, Whitmer said "the prospect of leading this state for four more years is a privilege which we are incredibly grateful and excited about."

"We will always work with anyone who actually wants to solve a problem because there's nothing more important than the people of this state to us — all of the people of this state," Whitmer said.

FEATURED STORY

LOCAL & STATE ELECTION RESULTS

POLITICS, PG 44

THE MICHIGAN BANNER IS A PROUD MEMBER OF:




MESSAGE FROM THE PUBLISHER

Am I My Brother's Keeper?

It is official. The lights, nativities and blow-up Santa's (reindeer sold separately) are rapidly replacing the pumpkins, ghosts, and goblins of Halloween. The season of thanksgiving and gift giving is underway. Another annual indicator of the change of season is the substantial numbers of fraternities, sororities, churches, non-profits, and other groups collecting for and providing coats, blankets, food baskets and/or serving home cooked meals to individuals and families facing challenges during tough times. Two terms come to mind as I observe the countless acts of kindness typically displayed during the holiday season; 'Good looking out,' and 'Am I my brother's keeper'?

These phrases are often used interchangeably. For example, the sibling who notices a pair of forgotten sneakers at the back door needed for the track meet after school takes them and places them in the locker of the forgetful younger sib expecting nothing in return. Good looking out and yes, I am my brother's keeper. The sister who prepares a full Thanksgiving dinner for an older brother who does not cook but loves to eat, again, good looking out and yes, I am my brother's keeper (literally in this instance – thanks Sis). Other examples might be a simple word of encouragement, the occasional greeting card or a thoughtful surprise flower or Edible Arrangement. Good looking out. The term, 'Am I my brother's keeper,' however, carries far more meaningful and critical weight than just 'good looking out.'

The origin of the question, 'Am I my brother's keeper?' goes back to biblical days dealing with jealousy and tragedy within the actual first family. In the scripture, one brother, Cain, becomes enraged with jealousy and slays his brother, Abel – I think the first recorded homicide. When questioned by God himself about his brother's whereabouts (both knowing that he had killed him), Cain responds with the now age-old and arrogant retort, 'Am I my brother's keeper?' The response is a resounding, 'YES Cain, we are our brother's/sister's keepers.' We have a responsibility to be mindful of the needs of our brothers and sisters and when possible and appropriate, to assist those in need. Cain's attitude is symbolic of a modern-day unwillingness to consider providing prayerful support for the safety and well-being of our fellow man. The refusal to do so led Cain to a place of hatred and jealousy which ended his brother's life and greatly diminished any hope of fulfillment on his own. I am in no way qualified to go into a full-fledged Bible study here – my pastor friends would have to devote considerable time and energy to sorting out and explaining my analysis. However, I will share my understanding of Genesis 4:10 which reads, 'The voice of your brother's blood is crying out to me from the ground', or another translation that reads, 'his blood cries out for justice'. It means that Cain's actions required justice and just as there were consequences for Cain, so there will be costs for those whose decisions are to ignore or cause harm to others who may be weaker, or different in any way. This is especially true for those who do so under the guise of serving Christ.

Those of us who serve as leaders have a responsibility to impact the world for its betterment. Those of us with a platform, who have resources or connections available to us must go beyond the annual turkey give-away. While that assistance is much needed, there are also systemic changes to be considered as well. If needs are properly and thoroughly addressed, perhaps recipients of food baskets this year will be givers next year. The expectation is certainly not that one be such an activist that his or her own family would endure discomfort – few are called to that level of sacrifice. However, all are morally (and scripturally) forbidden to cause harm to others both on an individual level as well as from positions of power or authority. In a prolific speech given during his presidency, Barack Obama said (in part), 'If there's a child on the south side of Chicago who can't read, that matters to me, even if it's not my child. If there is a senior citizen somewhere who can't pay for their prescription, who has to choose between medicine and rent, that makes my life poorer – even if it's not my grandparent..... It is the fundamental belief – I am my brother's keeper; I am my sister's keeper – that makes this country work.'

A contentious and divisive election is almost over (still counting in some places). The economy continues to pose challenges on a global basis - not just in our little corner of the world or in our personal accounts. How we address these difficulties, i.e., looking out for one another matters. The world is watching. We can choose to present a model to which others will aspire. We can choose to take this phrase literally and very seriously. We can absolutely choose to be our brother's keepers treating one another with empathy, kindness, respect, and consideration. Let's do so as if the future of humanity depends on it. The season of giving is upon us. Opportunities to give or volunteer will be included in the next three editions of The Michigan Banner. As usual, I plan to be intentional in giving and serving but this year with a bit more zeal. Yes, we are our brother's keepers.



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.

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

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MICHIGAN YOUTH BANNER

VOLUME 4 • NUMBER 22

SVSU to introduce 82 4th graders to computer science in university's 6th Hour of Code event



FOURTH GRADE STUDENTS ENJOY STEAM (SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ART AND MATHEMATICS) ACTIVITY AT THE MARSHALL M. FREDERICKS SCULPTURE MUSEUM DURING AN HOUR OF CODE EVENT AT SVSU

Saginaw Valley State University will introduce 82 4th graders to computer science concepts during an Hour of Code program on Friday, Nov. 18 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. SVSU's STEM Center (STEM@SVSU) and the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum are partnering to provide a full day of activities for the students, who attend five elementary schools in the Great Lakes Bay Region.

Adrienne Cole, director of STEM@SVSU, emphasized the importance of programs like Hour of Code.

"STEM@SVSU is excited to be part of the Hour of Code global movement," she said. "Our world heavily relies on technology, so it's critical to introduce computer science concepts at an early age. Programs like this one allow us to increase the interaction between our campus partners and K-12 schools so young students can experience a college setting while increasing their knowledge and passion for the STEM

fields."

The Hour of Code program consists of students participating in 60 minutes of coding, the process of writing a computer program using a programming language. George Corser, SVSU assistant professor of computer science and information systems, and SVSU computer science students will provide instruction to the elementary students.

In addition to writing code, participating students will tour the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum at SVSU. Andrea Ondish, curator of education at the museum, will lead the students in a STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, mathematics) activity. They will also enjoy lunch at the Marketplace, SVSU's on-campus dining facility.

Cole said SVSU first offered an Hour of Code program in 2016 and has offered it every year except 2020. This year's students represent:

- All Saints Elementary, Bay City, with teacher Becky Neetz
- McAlear-Sawden Elementary, Bay City, with teacher Stephanie Shay
- Carrollton Elementary with teacher Marcia VanderElzen
- Trinity Lutheran, Reese, with teacher Kamie Pike
- Skeels Christian School, Gladwin, with teacher Brei Siegert

Through Hour of Code, SVSU has reached hundreds of 4th graders. Including this year's participants, the total is 515 students and 24 teachers. Corser and his students use materials from the global Hour of Code program and show students and teachers how to access the lessons at home and school. For students who already have experience with the simple block coding presented in Hour of Code lessons, Corser and his students provide Java script instruction to take them to the next level.

Hour of Code is a global movement that reaches students in over 180 countries to increase diversity in computer science as well as to introduce coding to students at a young age.



ADRIANNE COLE, DIRECTOR OF STEM@SVSU (LEFT), GUIDES 4TH GRADE STUDENTS IN A CODING ACTIVITY DURING HOUR OF CODE AT SVSU



Your Voice Your Choice Youth Consortium

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VIA ZOOM**

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

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Latino Banner

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Seen on the Scene: On November 11, Latino Leaders Enhancing Advocacy and Development (LLEAD) visited Adrian, Michigan for the State board of directors meeting where they discussed a wide variety of topics including how Adrian Latino Leaders can partner with LLEAD.





*What to do if the holidays
won't seem as bright this year...*



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Monday, November 28 ,2022

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Please **RSVP** by November 23rd to Sue Gentle at
ProMedica /Heartland Hospice 989-667-3440

There is no charge for this presentation, which is open to anyone in the community who has experienced the death of a loved one.

A grant has been made available through the ProMedica/Heartland Hospice Memorial Fund

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COURTESY PHOTO

An attitude of gratitude

By **HASANI ALI**

Ok, we've all seen the Thanksgiving movies and television shows. Every character in the film is surrounded at the dinner table, declaring what they were thankful for.

It's the part of the movie that gives you those warm vibes and gives you the satisfaction and the reminder of the importance of family during the holidays.

And that's wonderful!

Family is the reason why we get together for the holidays. It's the way we finish out the year and also bring in the New Year.

We should absolutely be grateful for every single person in our families – the crazy ones, the successful ones, the estranged ones, all of them!

Be grateful that those people either have helped you at some point or has

taught you valuable lessons.

However, what else are you thankful for?

For those of us living in the first world, we tend to zone in and put hyperfocus on everything in our lives that is going wrong. In fact, we're those most privileged people in the world, despite our current circumstances.

Be proud of your circumstance!

This is the perfect time to assess your current situation and find the optimism. When you find the positive in a situation, then you're able to look towards the light at the end of the tunnel rather than staring back into the darkness, wondering how the past got so dark.

For those who lost their job this year. Understand that I have the deepest sympathy and empathy for you as your livelihood was taken away from you, hopefully unjustly. If you were fired because of your

own negligence, then I can't feel bad for you on that end.

However, for those that it applies to, be patient! Something better is coming. Trust me, I understand. I was one of those people that was laid off from the mortgage industry due to the volatile housing market.

Be grateful for the job experience you were able to have at your previous employer. Take those lessons and apply them to the next job when it comes.

Think about it. More than likely, you didn't like that old job anyway. It brought on too much stress for the compensation that you were receiving. Your boss is texting you on your days off, work drama ensues off the clock and you dreaded heading

**CONTINUES ON PG 12,
GRATITUDE**

+ COMMUNITY**Continued from pg 11, gratitude**

into work as that alarm clock went off.

Sometimes, God takes you from a situation to prepare you for something better. May not be able to see it in plain sight, but faith and gratitude will propel you into another arena that will provide more experience and hopefully a better situation than the previous.

However, we become traumatized by being removed from our current situation. Some of us were not prepared to leave. Some of us got comfortable in our routine because we had a perception of stability.

Be grateful that you're pushed into something new, something better.

Gratitude doesn't always include our struggles, we can appreciate the simple things that we have in our everyday life.

Let's start with our own bodies.

If you have a pair of arms and legs, functioning organs and very little to no abnormalities, then your opportunities to experience are far more abundant.

There's someone at home or at the hospital, wishing that they could walk, wishing that they could see. Imagine the rest of your life in a wheelchair or constantly being in pain for most of the day.

There's almost 8 billion people on this planet, many of them around the world would love to have access to the amenities that we have in the first world.

For example, imagine having to travel a

mile (one way) with buckets to the nearest lake or river in order to supply water for your entire family. Not to mention that you may have to go back to refill those buckets. That water may have several functions, whether for cooking, bathing or cleaning.

We have access to clean water at the turn of a dial.

Having the ability to wash your clothes and dishes in a machine is an absolute blessing. Our water is hooked up to our homes, or any building for that matter, that gives us access to flowing water.

That's an absolute reason to be grateful.

Thank your true friends. They've been with you through your darkest hours and helped you carry the load when everyone else turned their back on you.

They were there to nurture you, uplift you, comfort you during trying times and even be honest by telling you about yourself.

Nothing out of malice, but purely out of love.

Some of them have given their last dime in order for you to eat when you were hungry. Some have gone out of their way to contact colleagues and other connections to help you find a job.

And here's the one that takes the cake.

Some of our friends have watched our children for free while we went to work,

school or an outing to give us a break from parenting.

These people are pure gold in our lives. Be thankful for them.

They didn't have to do these things for you. Money or any other compensation was not asked for when stepping up to do these things for you. They strictly did these acts of kindness purely because they care about you.


If you're not able to repay them or reciprocate, then please be sure to thank them, sincerely.

Gratitude has the ability to shine light into darkness, bringing positivity to a negative situation and brings awareness to all of the resources accessible to you in your immediate surroundings.

We're not all rich or wealthy by American standards. Many of us drive hoopties to get around and may have to eat cheap food to get us by. However, a lot of us still have vehicles and access to food that is readily available at our local grocery stores.

Can you imagine hunting for your food on foot? It would be a great skill to have, but many of us have the luxury not having to develop a hunting skill.

Either way. Look at what you've been through. Look at what you have. Look at what's coming your way. Be grateful for all of it.



Gratitude
can change
everything.

COURTESY PHOTO

Remembering Michigan Banner's Co-Founder RAE LYNN TINSLEY-BUCKLEY

| APRIL 6, 1953 - NOVEMBER 19, 2015 |



Rae Lynn Tinsley-Buckley was born in Saginaw, Michigan on April 6, 1953. She graduated from St. Joseph High School (Class of 1971) and went on to attend Delta College and Saginaw Valley State University where she earned a Bachelor degree in Business Management.

On July 14, 1979, she married Jerome Buckley. The two of them would form a partnership in life and in business, opening Wonderland Beauty and Barber Supply and years later, The Michigan Banner Newspaper.

Rae Lynn had a strong passion for local journalism but she was even more passionate about the youth in her community. She merged both of her interests and established the Michigan Banner Outreach, a program that educates at-risk youth in media literacy.

In 2017, Jerome Buckley established The Rae Lynn Tinsley-Buckley Scholarship to honor Rae Lynn. The annual scholarship is awarded to high school students in the Great Lakes Bay Region who intend to pursue a degree in Journalism, Communications or a related field from an accredited Institution.

Rae Lynn was a woman of great intellect, dedication and creativity who contributed immensely in making The Michigan Banner what it is today. So as we celebrate our 20th Anniversary and think about our future, we do so while holding on to Rae Lynn's vision of educating and enlightening our communities through positive, inspiring and informative stories.



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It's time to heal our past family traumas this holiday season

By HASANI ALI

The holidays are a time for family. They're not always the perfect people, but it's our family nonetheless. It may be a sensitive subject for many, but it's time to release all of the anger, guilt and resentment this year.

Let's step in 2023 with clean slates.

Your mother may have been emotionally abusive, or father may have been absent in your life. Heck, it can be a continuing sibling rivalry. No matter what your personal family dynamic is, there's no need to carry the burden for the rest of your life. If your traumas are spilling into other relationships, whether familial, platonic or romantic, then it may be time to really ask yourself why these triggers are still affecting you in your daily life.

Now before I continue, let me just say that I'm not forcing anyone to make amends with family if they are not ready or if the relationship cannot be reconciled. It's okay to love people from a distance. However, if the relationship has a chance to be salvaged, please give it a chance to be worked out.

Working out these relationships would not only be good for the family, but good for your own well-being as well.

In fact, let's explore a couple reasons why healing past trauma and fixing relationships can be imperative to your overall growth.

First let's look at trauma, what it is and how it can be detrimental to one's well-being.

According to www.verywellmind.com, trauma is the result of a negative event. It occurs when you feel emotionally or mentally hurt by something that has happened, and it may lead to post-traumatic stress disorder, which is commonly referred to as PTSD.

Examples of traumatic events include the death of someone you love, experiencing abuse, a plane or automobile crash, an extremely difficult relationship or break-up, or a natural disaster like an earthquake or hurricane.

If you feel shocked, saddened, anxious,

or otherwise overwhelmed by an occurrence like one of the above, you're probably experiencing trauma. The trauma isn't the event or experience itself but rather your body and mind's response to it. Traumatic stress affects the brain, which makes it crucial to take the steps toward recovery and mitigate its negative effects and impacts as much as possible.

According to healthline.com, Since threats can involve physical or psychological harm, trauma doesn't always leave you with visible injuries. But it can still linger long-term, as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

Trauma can challenge your ideas of how the world works and who you are as a person. This disruption can have a ripple effect on all corners of your life, from your plans for the future to your physical health and relationship with your own body.

Healing from such a profound change often takes a long time, and trauma recovery isn't always pretty, or linear. Your journey may involve obstacles, detours, and delays, along with setbacks and lost ground. You may have no idea where you're going or how to get there — but that's OK.

Just as trauma can take many different forms, trauma recovery takes a multitude of paths.

Ever wonder why you attract the same people into your life? Whether it's the broken people that you always feel the need to fix or the nonchalant lover that you're always trying to chase for validation, that instinct could be something triggering from your childhood. Your job is to simply identify why you have these triggers in the first place and work on yourself internally so you can attract those healthier options into your life.

We've all had traumatizing moments in our lives that we all want to forget. Some of us had issues with bullying, others may have had a neglectful parent that never gave their undivided attention. That could result in some of us being overwhelmed with living the past rather than staying in the present. We could be in the middle of a cocktail party or volunteering at church and those thoughts arise. The ones we try our best to bury, but never can. Whatever

happened to us in the past keeps replaying in our heads over and over again.

A professional can help you process those thoughts so you can face them head on. They no longer need to haunt you as they have done in the past. Sure, the thoughts may never subside, but at the same time, they can be viewed as a lesson learned rather than something that affects us daily as we don't know how to process the traumatic experience that happened to us.

If it happened with a family member, it may be time to finally address the issue once you're in a state of emotional stability. Get that trauma off your chest! There's no need to carry that hurt with you for the rest of your life. However that family member reacts to you, well, that's on them. The main objective is to shed light on a situation that has been buried in darkness for so long. If the conversation leads to deflecting and gaslighting, then at least you know that you did your best to discuss it.

You don't need to feel powerless anymore. You have the ability to take control, but it will be up to you as to how you're going to move forward with your life from here on out.

Why address these traumas during the holidays?

Because your support is around you during this time, ironically enough. Old friends come back into town, family comes in from out of town and you're with family around this time more than any other time during the year.

Be the person that steps up!

Outcomes are nothing but a thought until you put in the work. Breaking family curses doesn't always mean financial. You can be a trailblazer in your family to finally clean out the skeletons in the family closet.

If you want to build better connections, then it starts with you. Don't waste another day carrying these emotional burdens. Become that beam of light — because it may be someone out there looking for it.

+ COMMUNITY



TWIGGY THE FOREST DRAGON (LEAH TENNANT)

Art Competition changes after 13 years

By MB STAFF

The Michigan Banner previously reported on the magnificent art show and competition held yearly in downtown Grand Rapids. Competitors and art enthusiasts from all over convene downtown to participate in and showcase their talents. Spectators come to look, gawk at, or buy. The culmination of the event is the announcement of several winners with the Grand prize going to the most extravagant and extraordinary piece.

For those art lovers, the good news is ArtPrize will still be a mainstay in the community, although there will be some changes next year. According to a recent press release, ArtPrize will partner with downtown Grand Rapids Inc., the City of Grand Rapids and Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University (KCAD) aimed at building upon the legacy of the international arts competition.

“What started as an experiment in 2009 quickly became something more, and we have an entire community to thank

for embracing the ArtPrize idea and taking it to amazing heights,” said ArtPrize Founder and Chairman Rick DeVos. “Together, we were able to stimulate thought and creativity by celebrating art, supporting artists, exploring familiar and not-so-familiar venues, and starting entirely new conversations.

While there are certainly mixed emotions, we know the time is right to conclude the original ArtPrize experiment and open up space for new energy and creativity. We are thrilled that the partnership of DGRI, KCAD, and the City of Grand Rapids is stepping forward to continue to produce an incredible fall event, Artprize 2.0 said Devos.

“Every destination community has a destination event that captures the spirit and aspirations of that community, said Mayor Rosalyn Bliss. For us, ArtPrize has been a manifestation of the independent creative spirit that defines Grand Rapids, and has captured the imagination of people from around the world,” she added, “Rick DeVos and the ArtPrize Board have laid out a roadmap and a foundation that we’re

grateful for and excited to build upon.”

ArtPrize has held 13 events since 2009 and awarded more than \$6 million through a combination of public votes, juried awards and grants. Millions of people across the globe have participated in ArtPrize in some fashion – displaying their work, performing, opening their spaces, volunteering, or visiting and enjoying Grand Rapids each fall.

Ran Ortner, with his “Open Water no.24,” was the original ArtPrize grand prize winner in 2009, as determined by public vote. He netted \$250,000 for the honor, the largest monetary art prize at the time. In 2010, four juried awards were added to the competition and ArtPrize continued to evolve over the years to keep the experience fresh and surprising. A list of all ArtPrize winners can be found here.

Therefore, ArtPrize, as you know it will no longer exist, but with the new partnership, we look forward to what ArtPrize 2.0 has to offer.

2022 at the Temple

REMARKABLE. That is the word for 2022. This past year The Temple Theatre and Saginaw Art Museum rebounded from the COVID pandemic in spectacular fashion. From blockbuster exhibitions to sold-out shows, people are taking part in the arts more than ever before.

With your support, TempleArts, as a singular non-profit arts organization, elevated the programming at The Temple Theatre and Saginaw Art Museum by providing exceptional visual and performing arts to the Great Lakes Bay Region. In 2022, the Temple hosted a record number of patrons for performances ranging from America to Kenny G to Zach Williams. When comedian Tom Segura sold out the theatre for his first show, the buzz around Saginaw was so big that he added a second.

True to TempleArts commitment to diversity and inclusion the Saginaw Art Museum proudly collaborated with Blactiquing's Kevin Jones, the Saginaw Branch of the NAACP, and the University of Michigan Clements Library to connect our community with meaningful exhibitions. We also presented works by Lark Allen III in From Africa to Eternity. The Temple Theatre, in cooperation with community partners, hosted a full house for Flor De Tolache, an all-women mariachi group.

And we are just getting started.

These significant arts and culture opportunities could not happen in our community without the support of people like yourself. As 2022 comes to a close, consider a gift that will keep on giving with an end-of-the-year tax-deductible contribution to TempleArts.

All of us at TempleArts look forward to welcoming you back to The Temple Theatre and Saginaw Art Museum in the near future as we continue to build on the momentum we've gathered to bring high-quality, diverse and inclusive programs to Saginaw and the Great Lakes Bay Region for years to come.

Sincerely,
Mike Kolleth
President & CEO, TempleArts



+ COMMUNITY

Seen on the Scene: On November 12, Women of Colors gave away over 500 coats to the Saginaw community. They also passed out free books, hats, gloves and toiletry items.



+ COMMUNITY



DAVID AND AUDREY LEWIS

Pit & Balcony Community Theatre dedicates auditorium to David and Audrey Lewis

Pit & Balcony Community Theatre has dedicated its auditorium in honor of the late David and Audrey Lewis, two of the theatre's most avid supporters and prolific performers.

David and Audrey Lewis began volunteering at Pit & Balcony in the 1970's and had been a part of every season since as performers, directors, ushers, and board and committee members until 2019. The Lewises could often be found on stage together including a few times with their children, Gavin and Laura.

"David and Audrey had a huge impact on this theatre and its community," says Amy Spadafore, Pit & Balcony's Managing Director. "Anyone who met them loved them instantly. Beyond being immensely talented, they were caring, passionate, funny, down-to-earth people who gave so much of themselves to Pit & Balcony. I am grateful to have known them, performed with them, directed them, and learned from them. They will be sorely missed."

Audrey was a vociferous proponent of children's programming at Pit & Balcony, supporting any efforts to educate young people in the dramatic arts and to present plays that they could take part in. David was always a favorite in the casts he took part in, most likely due to his "gentle giant" appeal and boisterous laugh. In fact, he was even a favorite among the casts he was not in because on the nights he was in the audience David's laughter would boom from the back of the house, alerting all to his presence and ensuring a good performance. David and Audrey were once described in a review as "community theatre royalty," a distinction they humbly shrugged off, never denying, but also never fully acknowledging

how revered they were in their community.

A plaque painted by long time Pit & Balcony scenic artist, Mary Whalen Swift, now hangs above the entry to the David & Audrey Lewis Memorial Theatre at Pit & Balcony. A formal dedication ceremony will take place at a later date.

David Samuel Lewis

David Lewis was a beloved husband, adored father and grandfather and loyal friend when he passed away on May 30, 2020 at the age of 81 years. David was born May 9, 1939 in Wyandotte, Michigan, the son of the late Joshua Hugh and Doris (Cook) Lewis. In 1957, David graduated from Teddy Roosevelt High School in Wyandotte and then in 1961 from Albion College. David married Audrey J. Smith on June 15, 1963 at First Presbyterian Church in Saginaw. David and Audrey were three weeks shy of 57 years of marriage. He was employed as metallurgical and chemical technician at Saginaw Division (later Delphi Automotive), retiring after 30 years of service. He was a proud member of Pit & Balcony Theatre Company in Saginaw. David caught the performing bug from his wife and kids and his first audition was for the Giant in "Jack and the Beanstalk." He did not get the part as he was deemed "too scary" by the director, something he was very proud of! His favorite roles included: the titular character in "Dracula", Sir Evelyn in "Anything Goes", FDR in "Annie", and Marcus Lycus in "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum". Most recently he appeared as Santa in "Miracle on 34th Street", Ebenezer Scrooge in "A Christmas Carol" and

Farmer Zuckeman in "Charlotte's Web".

David really loved performing at the area's community theaters (Pit and Balcony, Bay City Players, Midland Center for the Arts, Cass River Players), attending plays, musicals and concerts with his family, being his wife and kids' number one fan whenever they tread the boards themselves, traveling to Europe multiple times with his wife Audrey, building models of planes and ships, reading science fiction, listening to classical and Dixieland music and all things nautical.

Audrey Judith Lewis

Saginaw Beloved mother, grandmother and loyal friend passed away peacefully at her home on Wednesday, September 7, 2022 at the age of 83 years. The only child of the late Henry Schuyler and Audrey Judith (Westwood) Smith, Audrey was born on March 22, 1939 in Saginaw, Michigan. A graduate of Arthur Hill High School, she earned a Master's in Library Science from the University of Michigan after attending Albion College for her undergraduate studies. On June 15, 1963 she married David Lewis, whom she'd met at Albion, and shared nearly 57 wonderful years of marriage with him. David preceded her in death on May 30, 2022. A voracious reader, Audrey spent her career as a librarian in Michigan, starting as a Children's librarian in Detroit and then working in several Saginaw County libraries. She was the Head of Reference for White Pine Library Cooperative, the Head of Birch Run Libraries and retired as the Head of Hoyt Library in 2006. She was also the author of 'Madame Audrey's Guide to Mostly Cheap but Good Reference Books for Small and Rural Libraries', published in 1998. One of the founders of the Riverside Film Festival, Audrey, along with her husband David, was heavily involved in Pit & Balcony for many years. She was an actor, stage manager, prop designer, served on the play selection committee, and organized volunteer coordination. Audrey also acted on stage with the Bay City Players and Midland Community Theatre multiple times, often with David. Her favorite roles included Miss Hannigan (co-starring with future Tony nominee, Brian D'Arcy James) in "Annie"; the Wicked Queen in "Snow White and the Seven Dwarves"; one of the Pigeon Sisters in the female version of "The Odd Couple"; and Felicity in "The Shadow Box". Audrey and David enjoyed traveling to Europe after they retired and were always happy and proud to travel around the United States cheering on their two children in their professional theatrical pursuits. Audrey loved a good trivia night, was a fan of horses and mice, and always beat the rest of her family to the correct "Jeopardy!" answers.

+ COMMUNITY



ZOE GILBERT, LEFT, A THEATRE MAJOR FROM HEMLOCK, AND LEXIE SCHULTZ, A THEATRE AND MUSIC MAJOR FROM SAGINAW, REHEARSE A SCENE FROM "THE EFFECT OF GAMMA RAYS ON MAN-IN-THE-MOON MARIGOLDS."

SVSU presents 'The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds'

Saginaw Valley State University's second theatre performance of the season tells the story of motherhood, science and beauty in the play "The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds." Written by Paul Zindel, the play shows the journey of an embittered mother raising her two children, whom she must support by taking in a decrepit old boarder that wreaks havoc on the family.

Paige Tuckerman, a first-year theatre major from Dewitt, plays "Tillie," a shy girl who has a love for all things science.

"My experience has been absolutely incredible," Tucker said. "In the short time I've been working with everyone, I've learned more than I ever could have imagined," Tuckerman said. "I've learned how to be a better actress and a better person. I'm having a blast with the experience."

Tuckerman urged the community to see the performance.

"The show is a unique experience. There are so many hidden lessons within the show. I think everyone could get something different from it."

Director Peggy Mead-Finizio added, "There are things that every audience member will be able to connect with as well as moments that will serve as conversation starters. In some ways, the play challenges the viewer with the character's actions and then brings it back to relatable moments.

"It is a play that I have wanted to work on since I first read it in high school," she added. "The storytelling feels very timeless with the characters' interactions and circumstances."

"The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds" features an all-female cast:

- Lexie Shultz, a theatre and music major from Saginaw, plays "Bea-

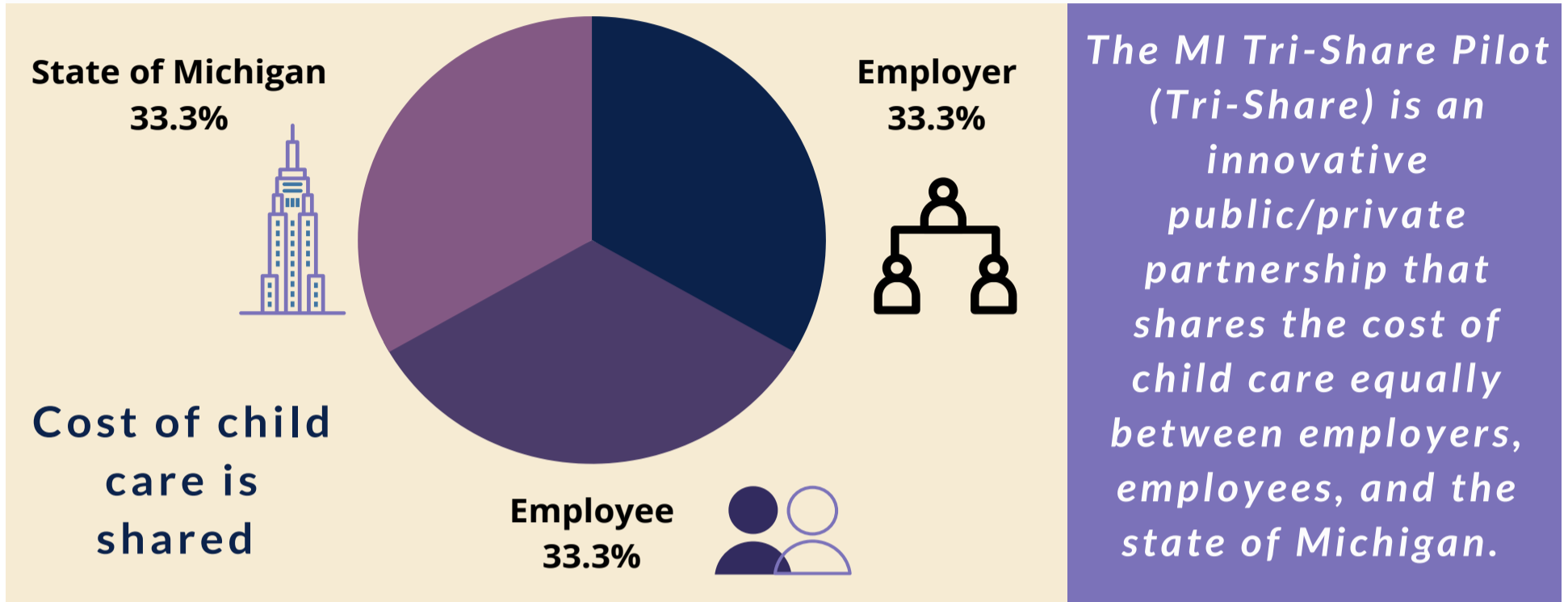
trice."

- Zoe Gilbert, a theatre major from Hemlock, portrays "Ruth."
- Lila Duvendack, a psychology major from Saginaw, plays "Nanny."
- Daija Thornton, a pre-health major from Lansing, plays "Janice."
- Paige Tuckerman, a theatre major from Dewitt portrays "Tillie."

Performances will be held Wednesday, Nov. 16 through Saturday, Nov. 19 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 20 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased online at svsu.edu/theatre/ or in person at the SVSU box office.

Note: Please be advised that "The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds" contains strong language and adult themes. This play is recommended for audiences 13 and above.

MI Tri-Share CHILD CARE

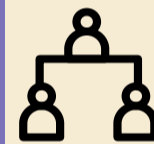


The MI Tri-Share Pilot (Tri-Share) is an innovative public/private partnership that shares the cost of child care equally between employers, employees, and the state of Michigan.

Overview

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

Benefits



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



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



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

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





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What's for Thanksgiving, Della?

By Dolores Grant-Fall, former Neighborhood House cook

To stuff your main holiday entree, you don't need a turkey.

Stuffed Salmon

Ingredients

- 2 boxes of Stove Top stuffing, or croutons with the most herbs and garlic
- Fresh chicken stock
- Fresh herbs of your choice
- 2 nice-size salmon fillets
- One stick of butter, or use fresh olive oil
- Paprika, garlic powder, seasonings of your choice



Instructions

Cook the dressings and let cool .

Clean and wash the salmon with a little bit of vinegar water or lemon water pot dry.

Grease pan with olive oil or butter, lay one salmon filet, press the fillings then add the other piece of fish and tie together with a piece of string. Spread the top with remaining oil, cover and bake at 350 for 20 minutes, then broil for an extra 5 minutes. Serve with your favorite sides and a cool glass of wine.

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IN MY HUMBLE OPINION



COURTESY PHOTO

War is obsolescent



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

When I was considering what to write about for this article, I pondered the subjects I have covered in the past including COVID-19, African leaders, cannabis, racism, Black women in tech, the rapture, food security, Black Friday, travel, family, the metaverse, Black history, narcissism, climate change, gun violence, prayer in schools, capitalism, school fees, Michigan, the Black vote, and many more. I realized that one subject I have not covered and, since the Russian invasion of Ukraine, actively avoided was war. Fortunately, and

by the grace of God, I have never experienced war personally, but in my humble opinion war is obsolescent.

With the commemoration of Veterans Day last week, I thought if I am ever going to write about war, now would be an appropriate time to tackle the subject. I have complete respect for all of our military service men and women, past and present, and the tremendous sacrifices they have made. My sincere hope is that one day they will not have to make those sacrifices anymore because wars will no longer be needed.

“War” is defined by The Britannica Dictionary as, 1) a state or period of fighting between countries or groups, 2) a situation in which people or groups compete with or fight against each other, or 3) an organized effort by a government or other large organization to stop or defeat something that is viewed as dangerous or bad. Currently, there are thirty-two countries at war in 2022, including Afghanistan, Colombia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Iraq,

Mexico, Russia, Syria, Ukraine, Yemen, and others according to World Population Review. The conflicts range from civil wars, drug wars, ethnic violence, geopolitical wars, political unrest, and terrorist insurgency. Despite these statistics, warfare declined since the Second World War, as pointed out by Steven Pinker in *The Better Angels of Our Nature*, there has been a steady decline in the number of deaths due to warfare worldwide. Countries in Europe that were in an almost constant state of war with one neighbor or another for centuries, like France, Germany, Great Britain, Holland, Poland, and Spain, have experienced unprecedented long periods of peace. I will touch on some of the factors responsible for this increase in peacefulness a bit later in the article. Let’s first look at the history of war itself.

**CONTINUES ON PG 25,
WAR**

Continued from pg 24, war

The first war in recorded history was between Sumer and Elam in Mesopotamia in 2700 BC, and Sumer was victorious. The first peace treaty ever signed that ended a war between nations was between Rameses II The Great of the Egyptian Empire and Hattusili III of the Hittite Empire in 1258 BC. “Warfare has been a part of the human condition throughout recorded history and invariably results from the tribe mentality inherent in human communities and their fear or mistrust of another, different, ‘tribe’ as manifested in the people of another region, culture, or religion”, according to World History Encyclopedia. Between 1740 and 1897, there were 230 wars and revolutions in Europe, and during this time countries were almost bankrupting themselves with their military expenditures.

Psychology Today in its article, “The Psychology of War” states, “Evolutionary psychologists sometimes suggest that it’s natural for human groups to wage war because we’re made up of selfish genes that demand to be replicated.” There are other attempts to explain war biologically claiming that men are primed to fight wars because of the large amount of testosterone we contain, since it is widely believed that testosterone is linked to aggression.

These explanations are problematic, because they cannot explain the apparent lack of warfare in early human history, or pre-history, and the relative lack of conflict in most traditional hunter-gatherer societies. Anthropologists Douglas Fry and Patrik Soderberg published a study in 2013 of violence in 21 modern hunter-gatherer groups and found that, “over the last 200 years, lethal attacks by one group on another were extremely rare. They identified 148 deaths by violence amongst the groups during this period, and found that the great majority were the result of one-on-one conflict, or family feuds”, according to Psychology Today. Convincing evidence has been amassed by R. Brian Ferguson, another anthropologist showing that warfare is approximately 10,000 years old and only became frequent around 6,000 years ago. Another problem with the biological theory is that, while it might explain specific outbreaks of violence, warfare is an activity that is highly planned and orga-

nized in mostly non-violent situations before it is executed as actual fighting.

Now that we have established the origins of war and that we are not psychologically or biologically predisposed to it, let’s look at what drives nations to war. Nations go to war for various reasons if the benefits of war are deemed to outweigh the disadvantages, and if there is a sense that no other mutually agreeable solution is available. Some have argued that wars are fought primarily for economic, religious, and political reasons. While others have claimed that most wars today are fought for ideological reasons.

Despite the reasons for war, we experienced a long period of peace since WWII due to factors like the nuclear deterrent, the growth of democracy making it more difficult for governments to declare war against the will of their citizens, the work of international peacekeeping forces, and the demise of the Communist Bloc. Sport is another factor that has contributed to peacefulness. It is said to be a moral equivalent of war, having a similar invigorating and socially-binding effect, but not involving the same degree of violence and devastation. Maybe it’s no coincidence that, over the years of this steady decline in conflict, sport has grown correspondingly in popularity.

John Mueller, author of *Retreat from Doomsday*, wrote a paper entitled, “Is War Still Becoming Obsolete?” where, despite the fact that war persists in the world, he states, “that an important and consequential historical change has taken place with respect to attitudes toward the institution of war, one rather akin to, though cer-

tainly not identical, the process by which the once-venerated and widely accepted institutions of slavery and formal duelling became extinct.” Duelling, once considered a natural and appropriate response to offense and insults between gentlemen, became outrageous and therefore unthinkable in the course of the last century. Slavery, although much more complex and reprehensible, has in general experienced a similar fate.

There is a part of the article in *Psychology Today*, which was published in 2014, that I will borrow and paraphrase for 2022. Perhaps, as a species, we are slowly beginning to transcend the pathology of warfare. Hopefully the present wars, such as the one in Ukraine will be seen more and more as aberrations, as group identity fades further and a sense of moral inclusion increases. Perhaps, if this process continues the need for social identity will fade away to the point that empathy extends indiscriminately, to and from all human beings, so that it becomes impossible — even for power-greedy governments — to exploit or oppress other groups in service of their own desires.

No more wars would mean everlasting peace, and as a Christian that can only come when Jesus returns, which means that there will be one final war to end all wars. I am most certainly not a prophet, but if my opinion that the obsolescence of war is in fact true, does that mean the end is near?



African American Advisory Committee Meeting

Date: November 18, 2022
Time: 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM EST

Event Description:

Join us for the Flint & Genesee Chamber's African American Advisory Committee (AAAC)! The Committee has been energized with new leadership and a refined mission to support the growth and success of Black-owned businesses in Genesee County. Business owners and professionals are welcome to participate in AAAC activities.

The AAAC serves as the liaison between the region's growing African American business community and the Chamber. AAAC members partner with the Chamber to support the advancement and development of African American businesses.

Please join the AAAC the third Friday of each month for informational and networking meetings. Locations may vary from month-to-month to highlight different businesses in the area, and a virtual option will be offered when possible. Meeting agendas will focus on connecting people to needed resources, engaging with community leaders, and networking.

Questions or ideas? Email aaac@flintandgenesee.org

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+ COMMUNITY

Gearing up to fight the winter blues

By HASANI ALI

Fighting seasonal depression, or what we call the Winter Blues, is a serious matter. Though the times should be festive with the holidays approaching, many people suffer from Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD).

According to the American Psychiatric Association, five percent of Americans are affected by this disorder. People that suffer from this disorder are lacking sunlight. Symptoms of SAD could include fatigue, weight gain, irritability, insomnia and social withdrawal. Consult with your doctor if you feel like you are experiencing these symptoms.

However, there are steps you can take to prevent yourself from heading down this path!

Do yourself a favor and prepare for these winter months. Winterize yourself as you would do the same for your vehicle.

Here are eight helpful tips to help you combat the winter blues:

1. Behave Like A True Michigander – Whether living in the UP or down in Wayne County, we can never predict what the weather will be like at any given time. And you know what? That's okay! Like we always do, we adapt to whatever the weather conditions are outside. Well, once we're finished complaining about it. If the sun is out, then simply go outside and enjoy the sunshine while it's accessible. If it's cold out, go outside anyway! Assuming that we all have a warm home to go to, it couldn't hurt to get outside and let your face hit the cold air once in a while. It does come with some benefits so why not give it a go? From reducing inflammation to increasing metabolism, getting out in the cold is good for everyone.

2. Wear Bright Colors – Think about it! Go through all of your winter clothes and see what the general colors of those outfits are. Mainly darker, more gloomy colors. Studies have shown that people tend to be happier when they wear brighter colors. Different types of colors reflect different types of moods. According to www.scienceofpeople.com, wearing colors like yellow, orange, red and (light) blue would help uplift one's mood. These colors tend to reflect feelings of happiness, warmth, fun, optimism and energetic. It could also change the mood of other people that are coming in contact with



someone that is wearing the bright colors. Brighten up the day by wearing bright colors!

3. Stock Up on Vitamin D – Not a doctor, but a common truth is that

most people acquire Vitamin D from the sun. With winter heavily approaching, the sun is becoming less visible as we get deeper into the fall season and approaching winter. Do yourself a favor and get as much sunlight as you possibly can. For those that work in an office setting, you can take ten minutes to simply walk outside and soak in those sun rays. Vitamin D helps with dealing with depression and other hormonal imbalances. If getting sunlight is not an option for some, then it can be supplemented through the diet. One of the main sources where Vitamin D can be acquired is through consuming certain types of fish. According to Harvard.edu, you can get your Vitamin D from eating sardines, tuna, salmon and swordfish.

4. Make a Book and Movie List – Winter is a great time to get to those books and movies you've been meaning to read and watch. Challenge yourself to accomplish knocking out a list while you have to stay indoors for a few months. For those who are not huge readers, commit to ten pages a day. Not even full chapters, just ten pages a day would help you knock out all those books that you have bought, but have yet to read. Dedicating ten pages a day could help you knock out a book in a month. Movies are a bit easier to get through, but it's a matter of setting time aside to watch those movies. Get creative! Explore a genre of film that you normally wouldn't watch. From foreign films to documentaries, give yourself something else to talk about by watching a film that's not in your normal rotation.

5. Hang With Positive People – This is more than just a relatable status on social media. Being around positive people will keep your spirits up, especially during the darkest months. Understand that feelings are contagious. If you surround yourself with negative people, then it's inevitable that you will become that negative person as you absorb that energy. Do your best to avoid

people who cannot find the simple joys in life. Those same type of people will attempt to steal your joy simply because they cannot find joy of their own. Don't have any of these types of people in this group? Find a hobby that has like-minded people! People are typically happy when doing something that they love.

6. Try Something New – This is self-explanatory. The winter season is a perfect time to pick up a new instrument, discover a new talent or play a new sport. When you try something new, it rewires your brain in a positive way. In fact, the brain actually expands. Especially with a sense of accomplishment, the body will be rushed with a plethora of endorphins, the "feel-good" hormone. Especially for those who work normal jobs, it's important to have something to look forward to after work. For children and young adults, the challenge will help boost their self-esteem and give them the confidence needed to succeed academically and socially.

7. Start a Project – There's no time like winter to start a home project, like decluttering the house or purging all the old clothes in your kids' closets. When a friend of mine was going through a tough time, she painted her entire house – and every room downstairs with two different colors. Not only did it help distract her from her problems, but it provided her with a sense of accomplishment that she desperately needed those months: something to feel good about as she saw other things crumble around her. Projects like organizing bookshelves, shredding old tax returns, and cleaning out the garage are perfect activities for the dreary months of the year.

8. Eat Winter Mood Foods – If you have a slow cooker, winter is a great time to experiment with tasty mood-boosting soups and stews. Some great fall and winter ingredients to include are squash (a great source of magnesium and potassium), eggplant (which contains fiber, copper, vitamin B1, and manganese), sweet potatoes (full of pantothenic acid, vitamin B6, biotin, and anti-inflammatory flavonoids), and turmeric (which assists with immune-inflammatory or stress pathways and hypothalamus-pituitary-adrenal axis activity).



IAN GONZALES, MD



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She Speaks Me - A Truth

Written by Joan L. Washington

An Ode to Kamala Harris in Memory of her Mother Shyamala Gopalan Harris

She is the nucleus of Strength, its impulsion... that binds the meaning of Hope
 She is a masterpiece in shattered perfection...
 In the midnight stillness of her ache, churning in the ebb of unflattering surrender,
 I come...I unfold...into **LIFE's** essence...**resilient** and **unbroken**
 Be it by her blood, or marrow of my bone,
 Conjuring up portraits of an old haunt, stirred and fully **woken**

There is no calamity in truth when SHE speaks it...
 Coming out of the mouth of truth – I taste the gaudy sweetness of scrumptious **FRUIT!**
 Stark gauging of **Black** innocence, caught in the crossfire of America's despair,
 It's the ire of her **Blacknificence**, authentic with foxlike -discreet,
 Casting aside the fickle myth of forever after, now **gagging** for its last gulp of air...
 Its ugly jaded presence and folly left withering – dying, nobody's crying – **devious secrets**, now laid **bare**
 Cuz a Black woman's **Virtue**, is indeed her **treasures**; it ain't measured by the texture of her **HAIR...**

She speaks me - a truth, of vivacious Heritage Too...
 High desert dunes and low barren hills, riding on ripples of dry golden sand...
 With landscapes **amazing** - now fading...changing abruptly dropping into the deep of oceans blue...
 Floating, gliding...stretched out wading, on the tide in a weightless emerald sea
 The revelation in its effervescence **moved** and surge, so **AUDACIOUS** and free...
 It's calling and chanting and **whispering** my lineage...right back to **ME!**

She speaks me - a truth, of my indigenous Roots...
 Adrift in the slow moving obscurities of time,
 With arched fingers splay, in dense soft waves of auburn tresses...
 Distinguished and n o w so refined...by heavenly hues of pearl and grey

I am not a figment of a spontaneous daydream or vague notion gone awry
 I'm trending **light**, in the presence of **Angels**, in their solace no evil shall prevail ...
 Overwhelmed by the tender mélange of fervent prayer, waged as a quantum sum, for a daughter
 From the eclectic Loom of **LOTUS** Blooms – Wisdom **thrives** in the bowels of muddy **water**

Marching out a truth...they speak
 Eons have ambled into centuries past, and the **BELLS** have not yet, **inspired** a toll
Together we've crossed that Rubicon, from timeworn tears, and inborn fears
 Too many years attested, by the hopeless mirage of America's **STILLBORN** justice
 Heaped on historic piles of **fallen stars** and **shredded stripes** refracted
 Yes, I hear the ballads of a sing-song truth, coming from the mouths of American youth...

MARCHING, marching on and up the brittle spine of injustice, unapologetic, explicit and restless
 I am the seed of influence and a plan **POWER RESURRECTED...**
 On those strong shoulders of that **GIANT** I stood protected,
 But **SHE** not enough, her genius rebuffed and knowledge not fully respected

Our collective voices **wailed out** in spirituals grief, in the "**ring shout**" of obedient praise...
 For better days to appear, after **400 years** in the battlefield, change ain't cumin' it's already here!
 What's that rift? It's seismic shift, rattling within the walls?
 Y'all better take care, and move elsewhere...
 Baby! That glass ceilin'... is in **FREE FALL!**

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**CITY OF SAGINAW
ARPA FUNDING
PROGRAM UPDATE**

The City of Saginaw is finalizing the details for the ARPA Home Rehabilitation Program, utilizing ARPA funds to provide home rehabilitation assistance to qualified applicants. The City is aware that a flyer advertising dates and times to apply for this funding was erroneously distributed throughout the City and on social media. Any dates listed on that flyer are NOT confirmed and should be disregarded.

A formal presentation on the City of Saginaw's ARPA Home Rehabilitation Program will be presented at the November 21 City Council meeting at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers. Citizens are encouraged to watch this important presentation to learn about the program, including how to apply and qualifications for the program. The meeting will be broadcast on SGTV, Channel 191, and streamed live on the City's YouTube channel at <http://ow.ly/aQTk50LCLUV>

For all questions on the ARPA Home Rehabilitation Program, please email ARPAService@saginaw-mi.com or call (989) 577-0184.





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Multicultural Academic Student Services (MASS) is a comprehensive office, which provides academic, personal, social and cultural support to students. To empower and retain students, the office provides culturally relevant services through academic achievement, scholarship, cultural celebrations, mentoring, and diversity education which promotes the successful transition, persistence, achievement and graduation of students.

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.

The office maintains strong relationships with students, parents, alumni, faculty/staff as well as the community, while building support for the successful matriculation and retention of students.

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Learn more about the Multicultural Academic Student Services office today!

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Fax: 989.774.1376
Email: mass@cmich.edu

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

Mott Community College's Larkin is an AAWCC 40 Under 40

DeAndra Larkin, Chief of Staff in the Office of the President at Mott Community College, has been named a 40 Under 40 by the American Association of Women in Community Colleges (AASCC) for 2022.

"She is exemplary in her dedication, positivism, leadership and philanthropic effort in our community," said MCC President, Dr. Beverly Walker-Griffea, in Larkin's nomination. In addition to her role at MCC, Larkin serves on the Flint Women and Girls Fund Committee at the Community Foundation of Greater Flint, the Hurley Medical Center Board of Managers, the Community Foundation Board of Trustees, and the Flint River Watershed Coalition Board of Directors.

The AAWCC 40 Under 40 Award recognizes and elevates exceptional women from community colleges who are consistently surpassing expectations. These women represent 40 rising stars who are making a difference beyond the scope of their primary positions.



DEANDRA LARKIN

Help make the holidays brighter for Covenant Kids

Credit Unions Impact Saginaw and Alpha Media are partnering to share some joy this holiday season with Covenant Kids during "The Lights Before Christmas". This event is an opportunity to shine a little light into the lives of little ones who have to spend time in the hospital.

From now through December 9, donate a new, unwrapped toy at one of the below drop-off locations or bring it with you to the Lights Before Christmas events the week of December 5.

Drop-off boxes can be found at the following credit unions at their Saginaw locations:

- Jolt
- COPOCO
- Family First
- First Area
- Frankenmuth CU SVRC Branch
- Health Advantage
- Team One

- United Financial
- Wildfire

As the regional children's hospital, Covenant HealthCare provides care for kids ages newborn to 18. Please consider donating a toy or supporting Covenant Kids through a monetary donation online at www.covenantkidsmi.com.

About Lights Before Christmas

Started in 2021, in partnership with Impact Saginaw, Alpha Media, and Covenant HealthCare, the goal is to bring joy and light to hospitalized patients at Covenant. The community is welcome to join the 2022 Lights Before Christmas and make the holidays brighter for Covenant Kids! Every night at 7pm December 5-9, 2022, at the Covenant HealthCare parking lot located at 1000 Houghton Avenue in Saginaw, people will gather to shine our light using flashlights, glow foam tubes or

anything that lights up, towards the kids' windows at 7pm for two minutes. Free flashlights will be provided to the first 100 attendees each night by Impact Saginaw. A different musical act will be featured for entertainment, cookies, hot chocolate, and more. Stay tuned for more information or visit www.facebook.com/CovenantKidsMI.

About Impact Saginaw

Impact Saginaw Area Credit Unions work together to provide financial and/or volunteer resources for the betterment of our city and is committed to making a difference! Impact Saginaw Area Credit Unions include: COPOCO Community Credit Union, Family First Credit Union, First Area Credit Union, Frankenmuth Credit Union, Health Advantage Credit Union, Jolt Credit Union, Lake Michigan Credit Union, Team One Credit Union, United Financial Credit Union and Wildfire Credit Union.

Welcome Dreamer 
- Brought to you by Duperon Education, LLC

We're so excited to share our newest project with you!

We know you've got big dreams, and we want to help you make them a reality. That's why we created The 1st Club: a place where we can all come together, network with people in the community who are up to something amazing, and follow our own dreams in pursuit of our best selves.

Happenings
Club Kick-Off
November 22nd

Find your dream and pursue it.

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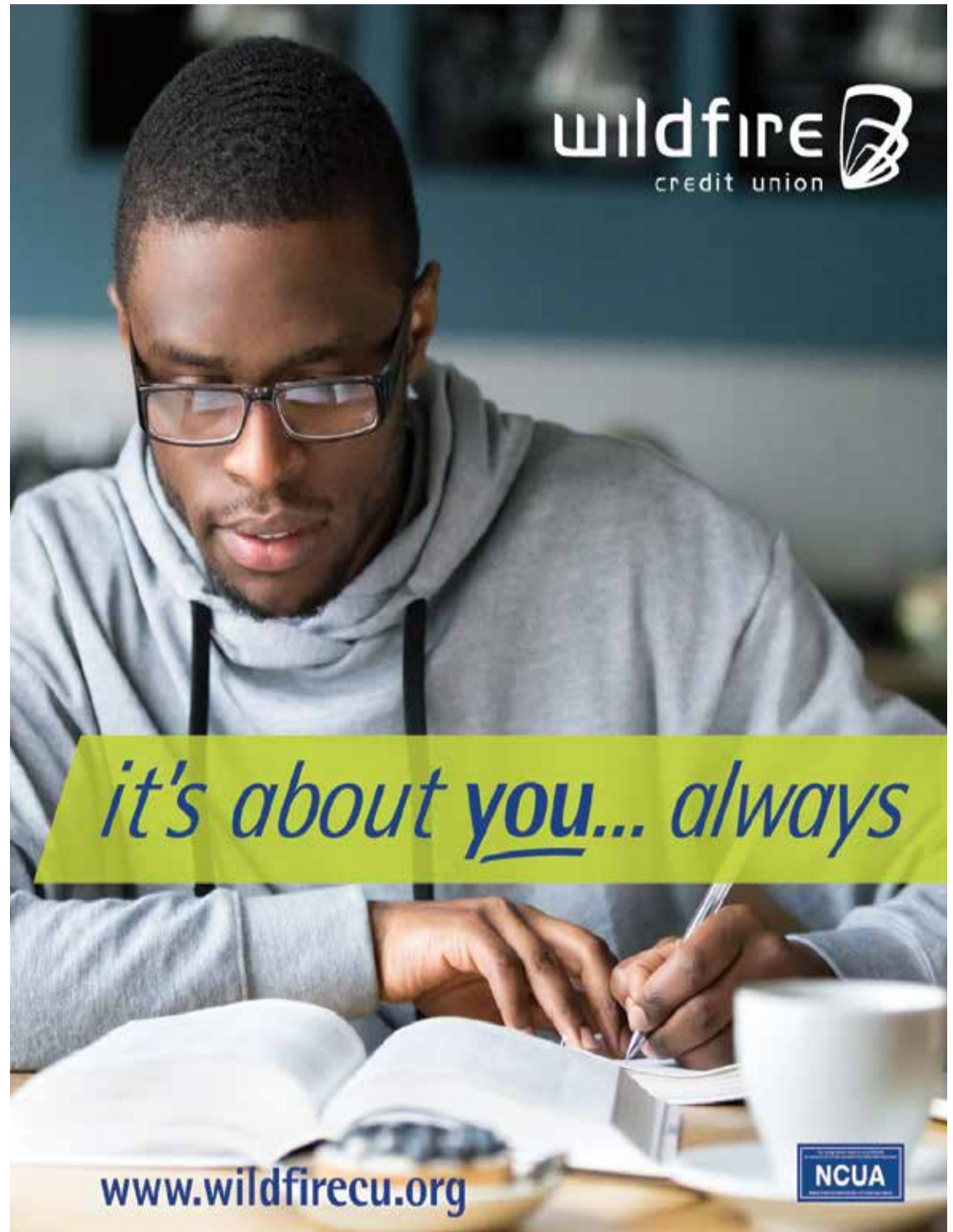
Network with leaders in the community.


1st Club
CHANGING LIVES BY 1st

Terry Duperon started The Class, to encourage those around him to take the next clear step. The 1st Club is our next step to support each other and grow our communities. We want you to come share your stories and surround yourself with people up to something.


Join Us!

November 22nd from 5:30PM-7:00PM for our Club Kick-Off at **The Point**, 6235 Gratiot Rd. Saginaw, MI. 48638
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Who else is giving Tik Tok the side eye?

By HASANI ALI

More and more social media posts are creeping on people's timelines, addressing the peculiar phenomenon that has over a billion users that we call, Tik Tok.

The social media app based out of China has the attention of many young folks and adults alike. The ability to view pranks, workout routines, dinner recipes, thoughtful monologues and conspiracy theories at the swipe of screen makes the app irresistible to put down.

In fact, the average American spends 46 minutes a day on the app.

Though it may seem harmless, many people have begun to question why this app has taken the country over by storm and why the access to it is limitless.

In fact, former president Donald Trump attempted to ban the app back in 2020. Though he changed his mind, he demanded that the company be sold to an American entity.

It started one of the biggest standoffs on the modern internet – a fight for control over a multi-billion dollar powerhouse that could define culture and entertainment for decades to come. Whoever were to gain control of the app would have influence on the majority of the world's thought process and ability to define the consumer's demand for entertainment.

The Chinese government refused to sell the app and stated that they would rather let the app be destroyed than to give the United States one of its crown jewels.

What's so special about this app? Why are so many people addicted to viewing it?

In a recent American study, the number one dream job for young elementary and middle school students is a Tik Tok influencer.

Again, here's where the questions begin to come in.

Two recent videos have been surfacing around Facebook. One with a man addressing the ills of Tik Tok and the other coming from a popular podcast on YouTube.

Both of them had similar questions when it comes to the algorithm and the viewership.

In a time where attention is the new currency, the app may be a dangerous place to influence the mind of its users.

The videos question how the algorithm for American targets senseless media. The viewers and influencers are incentivized to consume and produce prank videos, dance challenges and other non-professional material.

The gentlemen in both videos mention how the algorithm in China encourages the consumer and producers to surround their material with educational, professional and meaningful content such as science experiments, inventions and other accomplishments that would help move the country forward.

In lamest terms, the conspiracy behind the app is that it's destroying the country from the inside: dumbing down Americans through social media to make the country less productive.

This would eventually make the country as a whole less productive, hence being less competitive in the global market.

Is this true?

Get on Tik Tok and see how it operates. Now, be mindful that the algorithm does suggest videos based on the previous videos that the consumer has seen.

This could be a personal choice amongst the American viewers to be entertained how they choose to be.

Is this just a conspiracy? Or is there some legitimacy in this argument? Are we in modern warfare without our knowledge?

For parents and overseers alike that have Tik Tok users in their home, it may be time to have a sense of concern as to what content is being plastered onto the screens of the users.

Parental controls may not be enough in order to solve this problem. It may be time to get proactive instead of reactive to determine what the young adults are watching and whether the content is detrimental to one's development.

Is Tik Tok any different than any other social media app that's being used for entertainment? If we're okay with the app being the dominant form of entertainment, then we have every single right to choose what we use for entertainment.

Just be mindful if you begin to see those videos surfacing around other platforms.

According to www.economist.com, governments alike eye TikTok nervously for different reasons. As the first consumer-facing app from China to take off in the West, TikTok is a source of pride in Beijing. But the app's Chinese ownership makes politicians elsewhere uneasy about its tightening grip on their citizens' attention.

Users' data could end up in the wrong hands, they fear, or their viewing could be molded by Chinese propagandists. TikTok has already been banned in India, formerly its largest market. Other countries, including America, are considering their next move.



It was only ten years ago that Zhang Yiming, a bookish Chinese entrepreneur a year older than Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg, founded a software firm called ByteDance. Among its first creations were Neihan Duanzi (Inside Jokes), a platform for sharing gags, and Toutiao (Headlines), a news aggregator.

The apps used artificial intelligence (AI) to learn what kind of sketches or stories users liked. Both took off; today Toutiao is China's biggest news aggregator, with 360 million users.

Mr. Zhang soon wondered what else his algorithm might do. In 2016, ByteDance released Douyin (Shaking Sound), an app for recording and sharing lip-sync videos. Douyin was modeled on Musical.ly, another Chinese-made lip-syncing app that was popular with young Americans, but enhanced by ByteDance's AI discovery engine. It was a hit.

The following year, ByteDance released a twin app outside China, with an identical interface and algorithm but separate content. It used Douyin's logo of a juddering musical quaver but had a snappier name: TikTok.

At first TikTok was little noticed outside Asia. But in 2017, ByteDance bought Musical.ly and soon transferred its 100 million users to TikTok. TikTok has since grown like no other app.

In September, when it was a little over four years old, it reached 1 billion users, a milestone that Facebook, YouTube and Instagram took eight years to pass, albeit at a time when fewer people were online.

It has been the world's most downloaded mobile app since early 2020. And whereas young audiences are lukewarm about Facebook, TikTok has them hooked. Some 44 percent of its American users are under 25, believes eMarketer, a data company, compared with 16 percent of Facebook's.


+ FAITH BASED


Living in a state of Thanksgiving



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

This month has an institutional celebration attached to it. It is a purely American celebration, and for many years an accepted tradition of giving thanks for things American. In the spirit of transparency, most of America believes that the holiday is set aside to recognize an agreement of terms between the indigenous people of this land and the settlers. The story was told to me in elementary school as an actual note of history. Almost all American cultures adopted the celebration, adding their own cultural filters for the menu and methods of the celebration.

In recent days, there has been much ado about an area of study at the graduate level for law students. It is called CRITICAL RACE THEORY, and its objective is the study of the institutions of law, education, industry, and so many other areas as it relates to the impact that race has had on the way that these institutions are influenced by it. In the interest of further transparency, I thought about this notion of honest appraisal of history in light of the Thanksgiving holiday.

I won't spend the time in this column to deal with the question of the truth of

Thanksgiving, primarily because I think that the benefits of this is that many people would not take the time to offer thanks without some influence. This holiday offers that annual influence for many to take the time and give thanks for their lives, their families, their accomplishments, their blessings, and their freedoms. I can't express my appreciation enough for that, because there are some prayers prayed, words spoken, and family engagement that may not happen without this holiday celebration.

The Amplified Bible records the words of Apostle Paul to the Colossians in this way, "Be persistent and devoted to prayer, being alert and focused in your prayer life with an attitude of thanksgiving." (Colossians 4:2) This verse weighed heavily on my heart as I considered all that we are facing in our country. We are seeing things happen in the court systems that we never thought we would see, the political world is in a state of upheaval. Our institutions are all shaken and tottering, as if they may fall: education, justice, law enforcement, industry, the economy, politics, family, marriage, the church, and entertainment. Everything is experiencing the powerful impact of this pandemic.

We are in a place that most people living never experienced, and there is no normal, not even a new normal has been able to be established. Most people won't claim the same exact religious belief system, so this state of thanksgiving that I am encouraging is not religious. It is not connected to a particular church, denomination, or even religious doctrine. It is the simple attitude of being thankful, for everything that we have.

There is enough to mourn about. We have not experienced this much death, sickness, and trouble in our lifetimes. No one is exempt from the feelings of this time. There are no governmental, geographical, political, or social boundaries that prevent people from experiencing the pressure of this time of our lives. We can't find a political platform that everyone will agree with, and now that everything is be-

coming politicized, we are more exposed to the grief and terror of the atmosphere of fear than ever before.

This idea that personal freedoms is the most important issue of our lives is a great influence on the social atmosphere. The pressure is palpable, on the surface in the grocery stores, in the malls, in the restaurants, in our churches and schools. I noticed the concern recently in a public place when someone sneezed, and so many people immediately reacted to it. I want to encourage everyone to adopt an attitude of gratitude, a position of being positive, a state of thanksgiving.

Take some time today, and start listing all of the things that you have to be thankful for. I want to ask you to believe in the potential of goodness. I want you to expect a blessing, to look for great things, and to believe in the power of thanksgiving. I have found that giving thanks is contagious. If it happens enough, it will influence the environment and create a state of being.

What does it mean to be in a State of Thanksgiving? It means that the boundaries of that state will be welcoming to everyone that enters that state. It means that those who live in that state will have a joy that exceeds the difficulties of their circumstances. It means that those who live in that state will live with optimism, peace of mind, and joy of spirit.

Wouldn't it be wonderful for you to have a smile on your face and everyone that you come in contact with returns that smile with one of their own. I was thinking about my Mom, resting in peace; my Dad, resting in peace, my sister, my cousins, my uncles and aunts who have all gone into eternity before me. They are resting in peace, according to the promises of my faith. I want to honor their memory by giving thanks for their lives, and their investment in mine. I have friends that I'm thankful for, some living and some gone. I am thankful. It is an attitude of thanksgiving.

I'm just thinking.....



+ FAITH BASED

MICHIGAN BANNER
SERMONETTE SERIES

*Great Praise from a
Place of Great Victory
This is the day the
Lord has made; we
will rejoice and be
glad in it”*

Psalm 118:24



COURTESY PHOTO

**By MINISTER CAROLYN CARTER
TOWNSEL**

Psalm 118 in its entirety venerates God’s conquest over the enemies of Israel. God’s people could now offer praise to Yahweh for His victory. During this time of worship the people were rejoicing in the acknowledgement that this day of feasting and celebration was the Lord’s doing because the Lord had crushed their enemies. They were in essence declaring, “***This is the day we remember when the Lord defeated our enemies.***”

It is in Psalm 118:24, where the psalmist declares “***This is the day the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.***” The writer pens this in remembrance of God’s great love and deliverance in releasing them from captivity from their cruel

and heartless enemies. The author writes this while recalling the despairing, depressing, and dark times. The times were so horrific and brutal that Israel cried out to God, because they understood they were in the hands of their enemies, and if God did not step in – they would not be able to weather the storm.

As they cried out to the Lord, during these challenging and unfavorable times - He heard their cries and guided, sustained, protected, and delivered them. In reminiscing the mighty power of Yahweh, it was more than enough to celebrate and give thanks for the goodness, faithfulness, and mercies of God to declare, “***This is the day the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.***”

Just as the children of Israel

remembered and declared – We too are to remember the faithfulness, trustworthiness, defense, grace and mercy of God that has been granted to us, and proclaim “***This is the day the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.***” It is also a reminder to us that, “No matter what the day may bring sunshine or rain, keep your focus on God. Why? Because the Lord made the day, He’s given you the day, He’s in control of the day, and He will be with you throughout the day.

Therefore be intentional, give God the Praise, Honor, and Glory for the past and present deliverances, and yes even for the future deliverances. As children of God everyday is the day that the Lord has made, and we can rejoice and be glad in it for His Love, Deliverance, and Protection.

+ FAITH BASED



MUSLIM WOMEN FOR MEMBERS AND ORGANIZERS. (COURTESY PHOTO)

#Faithworks: Meet the faith-based group mobilizing Black Muslims to vote

By **NADIRA JAMERSON**
WORD IN BLACK

This is the first story of a series that spotlights the influence of religion in the Black community and the faith-based organizations working to inspire action, hope, and wellness.

Faith and religion have played an important role in the lives of Black folk in the United States since we arrived on these shores. Black congregations have long served as safe, healing spaces where Black people can come to ease their burdens and unite under ideals of progress and justice.

In the face of today's rampant racism and daily threats to Black folk's rights and freedoms, many community members are looking for a space to that will support and uplift them — and Black faith-based organizations are here to do just that, including organizations that support the Black Muslim community.

Although only 2% of Black Americans are Muslim, Black people comprise 20% of the overall Muslim population in the United States, according to a 2017 Pew Research Center survey.

"The question has always been, are they organized and do they believe that they have power in society — and if they don't, that's typically for a reason," says Doha Medani, co-founder and director of digital strategy for Muslim Women For, a North Carolina-based organization focused on educating and empowering Black, brown, and immigrant Muslim women, as well as queer, trans, and non-binary folks.

Founded in 2017, Muslim Women For hosts social justice and wellness events to

unite Muslim women and marginalized folks. With less than a month before the 2022 mid-term elections, the nonprofit's using their resources to ensure that Black Muslims make it to the polls. Their website features a Muslim Voter Guide which helps members learn how they can get involved with mobilizing efforts and make a plan to vote.

"We also are a C-3 organization, so we try to do get-out-the-vote opportunities in North Carolina," Medani says. "For the election cycle this year, we have three community organizers all of whom are these awesome folks who are super involved in their community and are going to be doing various events. They have a certain number of events they have to do and groups of people they are supposed to talk to who should be registering."

Mobilizing around voting is just one aspect of the faith-based group's work to turn faith into action. The year it was founded the organization held a vigil for Nabra Hassanen, a Black Muslim woman who was kidnapped and killed by a man while walking home one night in Washington, D.C. Muslim women are more likely to be the victims of religious violence than Muslim men, but their stories are often not shared as widely. The vigil held by Muslim Women For allowed for their membership and volunteers to come together and mourn their community member and uplift Hassanen's story, while also imagining a better way forward.

"Most of the leadership — whether it's social justice organizations or religious organizations or advocacy groups — is typically men even though a lot of the struggles, including violence toward Muslims, is usually faced by women, queer folks, and gender-nonconforming folks, and not necessarily by men," says

Medani says.

"Our organization proves that if we do get organized, we do have the power to create change. The purpose of our work is to make sure people are not only part of their community but that they are actively working toward a goal."

Some of the greatest civil rights leaders in history, including Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X, have relied heavily upon religious teachings to mobilize, inspire hope, and promote social justice within the Black community.

Similarly, Muslim Women For's five pillars of political education, leadership development, relationship building, empowerment for the historically marginalized, and grassroots organizing create a space "for people to not only participate in advocacy and participate in political education, but also to do it in a way that is in line with their religious and political beliefs," Medani says.

Along with amplifying the need for justice and equality, researchers have found that religion and participating in faith-based groups can also lead to a variety of health benefits, including improved heart health and better mental resilience during tough times.

To that end, in 2020, Muslim Women For hosted a series of wellness circles helping their members and volunteers through the stress and isolation of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We had about 30 organizers in North Carolina who participated in that and we were able to give them a stipend for participating," Medani explains. "There was a yoga session, an art session, a creative writing session, and we were able to pay people in the community who we knew could offer that."

While Medani believes that religion does not solve all of the world's problems, she is grateful for the opportunity to participate in Muslim Women For and be a small part of creating change in the community.

"Ask yourself what you can give to the world that no one else can. I know that sounds so lame, but taking that and trying to find a space or create your own space — even if creating space for that is just two people you know who want to go volunteer — it can be so simple," she says.

"So many people are always talking about destroying things and tearing things down — like we need to abolish this and abolish that," Medani says. "And while I think a lot of that is really valid, I also think we don't spend enough time thinking about, what can we build together?"

This article was originally published on afro.com.

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
- A place where safety is a priority
- 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
Saginaw, MI 48603

+ FAITH BASED

What is the real meaning of CHRISTmas?

By LISA COLEMAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, H.I.S.
RESTORATION MINISTRIES

What is the real meaning of CHRISTmas?

The real meaning of CHRISTmas is that it is truly more blessed to give than to receive.

GOD demonstrated this by giving us the greatest gift in the world has ever known, JESUS! And JESUS continues to demonstrate that as HE gives and gives to us on a daily basis, not based on what we deserve, but based on the richness of HIS Grace and Mercy.

The most important gift is a precious newborn babe born in a manger, a symbol of GOD's love for humanity.

JESUS came to bring Life, Love, Hope and Light that overcomes the darkness. We to are to be the light to the world walking in HIS Love.

CHRISTmas should be a reminder of GOD's great love for the world. And because HE first loved us, we are able to love others.

For HE has commanded "Thou shalt love the LORD thy GOD with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, with all thy mind and thou shalt love thy neighbor as they self." (Matthew 22:37-38)

GOD's heart beat is for people in need. Therefore HE sends us to share HIS Love and Hope to others. Providing for their needs through us.

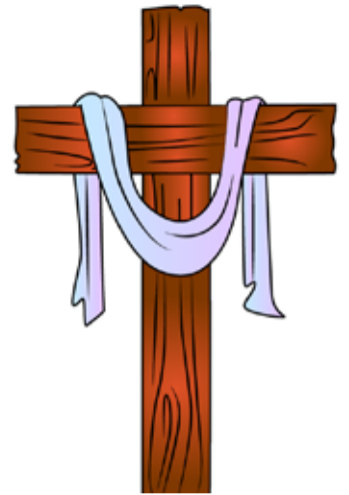
GOD sent HIS only SON so that we can have a life that matters. HE desires a relationship with us, so that we can have a purpose greater than ourselves, so that we can be the hands and feet of GOD, answering the prayers of those in need.

As we give gifts and receive, may we be reminded of the way GOD sent HIS only SON into the world as a gift to us. The ultimate gift.

That we might someday be sent into the

world to be a gift to others, sharing CHRIST's Love and the Gospel of JESUS.

May your CHRISTmas be filled with GOD's Love and may you share HIS Love with others. "It is not how we give, but how much love we put into giving" - Mother Theresa



H.I.S Restoration Ministries is a 501(c3) organization that relies upon the donations of like-minded individuals who agree that all human life is of great value and significance, including the pre-born from conception.

989-327-1086
Www.hisrm.us
1501 Weiss St
Saginaw, Michigan 48602

Go BACK Project Holiday Bazaar
Saturday, Nov. 19, 2022
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Faith Ministries Church Fellowship Hall
3420 E. Ashman St., Midland, Michigan

Vendors * Food * Great Gift Ideas



LEFT TO RIGHT: JASON RASMUSSEN (HOLY SPIRIT PARISH, SHIELDS), HUGH LEFEVRE (ST. DOMINIC PARISH, SAGINAW), MATT BEGRES (SACRED HEART PARISH, MOUNT PLEASANT), BISHOP ROBERT GRUSS, JOHN COPES (ST. MICHAEL PARISH, MAPLE GROVE), BOB ZONDLAK (ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY PARISH, MIDLAND), LENN STANKIEWICZ (ST. MICHAEL PARISH, MAPLE GROVE) AND BOB SASIELA (ST. JOSEPH PARISH, SAGINAW).

Bishop Gruss admits seven men as permanent deacon candidates

SAGINAW — On November 6, Bishop Robert D. Gruss celebrated the Rite of Admission to Candidacy for seven men during Mass at the Cathedral of Mary of the Assumption in Saginaw.

“In this rite, the one who aspires to ordination publicly manifests his will to offer himself to God and the Church to exercise a sacred order. In this way, he is admitted into the ranks of candidates for the diaconate” (National Directory, 210).

The following candidates will now continue on a three-year journey of preparation to serve in the Diocese of Saginaw as permanent deacons -- ordained ministers who carry out works of charity, evangelize, and serve in various liturgical roles such as proclaiming the Gospel, preaching homilies, celebrating baptisms and presiding at weddings and funerals outside of Mass:

- Matthew Louis Begres, Sacred Heart Parish, Mount Pleasant
- John Louis Copes, St. Michael Parish, Maple Grove
- Hugh Richard LeFevre, St. Dominic Parish, Saginaw
- Jason Edward Rasmussen, Holy Spirit Parish, Shields
- Robert William Sasiela, St. Joseph Parish, Saginaw
- Leonard Joseph Stankiewicz, St. Michael Parish, Maple Grove
- Robert James Zondlak, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, Midland

Note: If you or any man you know expresses a desire or hears the call to serve as a permanent deacon, please e-mail Dr. Dan Osborn or call him at 989-797-6662 as soon as possible. Applications for the permanent deacon program are only accepted once every four years, and a key cutoff date is approaching on May 1, 2023. Both married and single men may apply.

+ FAITH BASED

The Blood of Jesus Is



By Doniqua Sovia

The Blood of Jesus is a sword, cutting sin to bits. The Blood of Jesus is a stain remover, sin it has no trace. It destroys any evidence and what's left is forgiveness, for you it thoroughly cleanses, leaving you justified.

The Blood of Jesus takes the eviction notice and rips it to shreds, it conquers any demonic power...paying ALL of your debt. If you held a drop of His blood under a magnifying glass, you would see no diseases, you would see no sicknesses, you would see no medical conditions.

You would see a beauty so marvelous it would baffle your brain, because the blood that ran from the lamb that was slain is pure to the purest form, and it is in that name, that demons flee, sickness leaves, and bodies disturb the earths soil as they come out of their grave and breathe.

It is breath, and it is life, it is healing, it is might, it is power, it is light. It delivers and it saves, it strengthens and sustains, it protects and it's a shield, it makes demons tremble with fear, and it's a notice to the devil that you can't enter here!

The Blood of Jesus has a power that no one can really explain, and it holds it's domain in me and you. For the Blood has no end to what it can do. The Blood of Jesus can save, if you want it to. There's no mountain to high and no valley to low, that the Blood of Jesus cannot go.

+ 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
messiahsag.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



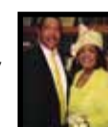
Victorious Belivers Ministries Church
Pastor Chris V. Pryor
624 S. Outer Dr.
Saginaw, MI
989-755-7692

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

What are your holiday offerings?



By MEL AND PEARL SHAW

Both Christmas and Hanukkah are global times of celebration and gift giving. Whether you are a nonprofit – or a nonprofit supporter – now is the time to finalize your giving plans.

Nearly one third (31%) of annual giving occurs during the last month of the year. Both nonprofits and donors are engaged in this circle of giving. Gifts demonstrate love, affection, commitment, support, shared values, and joy. They are the light we share with each other and the world. Whether it is lighting a menorah or decorating a Christmas tree many people experience the last days of the year as a time of reflection, celebration, and hope.

If you are a nonprofit, now is the time to encourage giving to your organization. Your creativity can help everyone feel part of your work. You can offer one-time holiday gifts, as well as gifts that contin-

ue throughout the year. One example is the Tzedakah Circle promoted by American Jewish World Service (AJWS) on their website. Their call to action is clear: “Join the Tzedakah Circle – you’ll put your values into action every month – plus your first six gifts will be doubled! Give Monthly.” They are promoting this on their website. When you click through to their giving page they share more: “The most effective way to sustain the work of grassroots activists working to repair our world is by setting up a monthly gift through AJWS’s Tzedakah Circle. You’ll know that every month, your values are automatically going into action to advance justice and human rights. Be one of the first 180 new founding members of the Tzedakah Circle and a generous matching donor will DOUBLE your first six months of giving.”

At Metropolitan Inter-Faith Association (MIFA) you can make a gift and have a holiday card sent to people on your holiday list. Here is their call to action: “Honor friends, family, and colleagues with a seasonal gift that will have year-round impact. You’ll help vulnerable seniors and families in crisis re-

main independent and in their homes. For a minimum donation of \$10 per card, send us your list of those you wish to honor, and we’ll take care of the rest. Our volunteers will handwrite your name, address each card, and mail them for you.” The image on the 2022 card is a drawing made by a first grader named Aalam. His was the award-winning submission. MIFA builds community by sharing all the submitted artwork on their website. And they let people know how their gift will be used: “This gift connects seniors with meals and families with housing through MIFA’s essential programs.”

If you are a nonprofit, think about inclusive giving opportunities such as those of AJWS and MIFA. Look to create excitement and participation – you want donors at all levels to feel welcome and appreciated. A successful holiday giving program can help grow your donor base, reduce donor attrition, and encourage donors to increase their gift. As donors we can connect with our values and give in a way that brings those values to life.



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

+ POLITICS

Local & state election results



LOCAL

New Council Members Elected In Bay City and Saginaw

On the Saginaw City Council, Councilman Bill Ostache has been unseated and Priscilla Garcia will be joining the governing body. Brenda Moore, Michael Balls, and Autumn Scherzer will remain on the council.

Five Bay City Commissioner seats were up for grabs. In the sole contested race, Shelly Ann Niedzwiecki emerged victorious to represent the 7th ward. In uncontested races, Jesse Dockette and Rachelle Hilliker will retain their positions, and Andrea Burney and Cordal Morris will join the commission representing the 3rd and 9th wards respectively.

U.S. House, State Senate and State House Race Results in the Great Lakes Bay Region

Three U.S. Congresspersons are retaining their seats, or rather, being reelected in newly drawn districts.

Congressman John Moolenaar defeated Republican challenger Jerry Hilliard in the 2nd District, 215,092 – 115,710. Congressman Dan Kildee edged out his Republican opponent Paul Junge in the 8th District race, 178,318 – 143,845. And Congresswoman Lisa McClain has defeated her Democratic opponent Brian Jaye in the 9th Congressional District 238,289 – 123,692.

In the State Senate, Democrat Kristin McDonald-Rivet beat out Republican Annette Glenn in Michigan's 35th District. State Senator Kevin Daley handily defeated Democrat Charles Stadler 62,319 – 31,328. And in Michigan's 25th District, Republican Daniel Lauwers has won in a landslide victory over Bert Van Dyke by 78,184 – 38,809.

Several State House seats were contested in this election cycle. In Michigan's 93rd House District, Republican Graham Filler beat

Jeffery Lockwood 25,730 – 14,215. In the 94th District, Democrat incumbent Amos O'Neal keeps his seat, defeating challenger James Shepler in a landslide victory, 21,121 – 9,745. Republican newcomer Bill G. Schuette defeated Matthew Dawson in the 95th District, 26,718 – 17,379. State Representative Timmy Beson in Michigan's 96th District defeated Democrat Kim Coonan, 23,372 – 18,880. In the 97th District, Republican Matthew Bierlein comes out over Paul Whitney, 27,204 – 12,793, and in the 98th district, Republican Gregory Alexander soundly defeated Robert Morczek, 29,446 – 11,538.

Several County Commissioner Seats Contested in Bay, Midland and Saginaw Counties

County Commissioners elected in contested races in Saginaw County were Tracey Slodowski over Peyton Ball with 5,686 votes in District 5, Denny Harris over Joe Wasmiller by a vote of 4902 to 2903 over Joe Wasmiller in District 6, Dennis Krafft with 6,316 votes over Nancy Wilson Baird in District 7, Christopher Boyd with 4,633 votes to Andrea Paschall's 2,703 votes in District 9, Lisa Coney won against Jason Wise by a vote of 3,491 to 2,482 in District 10, and Michael Webster beat out Leona Kramer by a vote of 3,357 to 2,083 in District 11, Sheldon Matthews in District 4 and Gerald Little in District 8 ran uncontested.

In Bay County, Democrat Ernie Krygier lost his seat to Tim Banaszak, while Republican Vaughn Begick remains on the board after beating Sandy Shutt. Republican Kathy Niemiec defeated Marie Ann-Fryzel Fox, voters chose Democrat Colleen Maillette over Lance Anson, and Democrat Thomas Herek narrowly edged out Scott Doyen. Democrat Kaysey Owczarzak Radtke defeated Dennis Banaszak and Republican Dennis Poirier edged out Jayme Johnson.

Voters also chose Republican Kevin Shark over Jacob Hilliker for County Road Commissioner and Democrat Kathleen Zanotti retains her seat as the county clerk, defeating chal-

lenger Janis Gorski-Taylor in a tight race.

In Midland County, Democrat Alaynah Smith eked a win over Scott Noeson in the Seventh District, while Republican Gaye Terwilligar beat Connie Glave in the Fourth District. Republican Eric Dorrien narrowly defeated Sarah Schulz in the Sixth district, winning by only five votes. In the county's Fifth District, Republican Jim Geisler won over Allison Wilcox.

County Commissioner Seats in Genesee County

Bryant Nolden defeated Steven M. Cousino for the position of Genesee County Commissioner – 1st District. Nolden received 6,622 votes, or 84.83% of all the votes. Cousino received 1,184 votes, which accounted for 15.17% of all the votes.

Charles H. Winfrey was re-elected as Genesee County Commissioner – 2nd District with 10,020 votes, or 81.36% of all the votes. Winfrey's challenger, Lynette Robinson, received 2,296 votes, or 18.64% of all the votes.

Millage, Proposal Request Results in Bay, Midland and Saginaw Counties

In Saginaw County, voters in Bridgeport again turned down a proposal to support the Municipal Complex Bond.

By a vote of 2,411 no to 1, 549 yes, the proposal failed for a second time. Voters handily supported the county's bid for Mosquito Abatement Renewal and an increase by a vote of 53,033 – 23,095. The Saginaw Intermediate School District's request for a special education millage also passed, 38,103 – 34,571. Other questions on the ballot that passed were the Chesaning Street Improvements Bond and the Chesaning Union Schools Operating Mill-

**CONTINUES ON PG 39,
ELECTIONS**

+ POLITICS**Continued from pg 38, elections**

age. The Lakefield Township Roads and Bridges Millage Renewal also passed. The Merrill Community School District School Bond Proposal failed as did the Maple Grove Township Millage for Road Improvements. Voters also said no to the Zilwaukee Township ordinance for the repeal of Marijuana Prohibition by a vote of 21 to 12.

In Midland County, a Geneva Township Road Millage passed 308 – 202 and the Hope Township Fire millage was renewed by voters, 558 – 182.

Bay County had five county wide millage requests, all of which passed. These include the Gypsy moth Suppression millage which passed 31,526 – 14,204, the Animal Services Millage Proposal also passed, 29,979 – 15,984. The Services to Older Citizens passed, 33,104 – 12,553, while the Bay Medical Care Facility millage passed, 29,789 – 16,102. Finally the 911 millage passed, 31,467 – 14,279.

A number of village and township millages were also on the ballot in Bay County. Voters approved the Pinconning Public Safety millage 243 – 178. The Essexville City Charter passed 1,120 – 431. Garfield Township had three fire millages: a fire truck, fire equipment and the fire operating millage, all of which were approved by voters. Two marijuana proposals were defeated in Gibson Township and Kawkawlin. Hampton Township voters passed a road millage 3,058 – 1,088. And Bay City Schools and Essexville Hampton Schools both had millages pass.

Flint Mayor Defeats former Mayor

The Nov. 8 election saw Flint's incumbent mayor Sheldon Neeley defeat the city's former mayor Dr. Karen Weaver to hold on to his seat. Neeley has served a three-year term as mayor of Flint since 2019, while Weaver was Flint's mayor from 2015 to 2019.

Neeley ultimately won with 11,692 votes or 52.90% of the total votes. Weaver received 10,411 votes, accounting for 47.10% of the total votes.

STATE-WIDE RESULTS**Governor and Lieutenant Governor**

Gretchen Whitmer / Garlin D. Gilchrist II (D) – 2,421,377 votes, or 54.46% of all the votes

Tudor M. Dixon / Shane Hernandez (R) – 1,953,819 votes, or 43.95% of all the votes

Mary Buzuma / Brian Ellison (Libertarian) – 38,768 votes, or 0.87% of all the votes

Donna Brandenburg / Mellissa Carone (U.S. Taxpayers) – 16,253 votes, or 0.37% of all the votes

Kevin Hogan / Destiny Clayton (Green) – 10,774 votes, or 0.24% of all the votes

Daryl M. Simpson / Doug Dern (Natural Law) – 4,957 votes, or 0.11% of all the votes

Secretary of State

Jocelyn Benson (D) – 2,458,611 votes, or 55.85% of all the votes

Kristina Elaine Karamo (R) – 1,845,975 votes, or 41.93% of all the votes

Gregory Scott Stempfle (Libertarian) – 52,979 votes, or 1.2% of all the votes

Christine Schwartz (U.S. Taxpayers) – 27,915 votes, or 0.63% of all the votes

Larry James Hutchinson (Green) – 16,608 votes, or 0.38% of all the votes

Attorney General

Dana Nessel (D) – 2,320,440 votes, or 53.15% of all the votes

Matthew DePerno (R) – 1,945,531 votes, or 44.56% of all the votes

Joseph W. McHugh Jr. (Libertarian) – 67,710 votes, or 1.55% of all the votes

Gerald T. Van Sickle (U.S. Taxpayers) – 32,387 votes, or 0.74% of all the votes

Legislature

Jim Ananich, incumbent state senator for Michigan's 27th District, did not run for reelection, so current state representative John Cherry, a Democrat, and Aaron Gardner, a Republican, ran to take his place.

Cherry won the seat after receiving 64,189 votes, or a little over 64% of all the votes. Gardner received 35,972 votes.

State Representative Cynthia Neeley, who serves the City of Flint as representative of Michigan's 70th District, was also on the general election ballot. Tim Butler, a Republican, challenged her for her seat.

Neeley won handily, with 21,277 votes, or

slightly more than 82% of all the votes. Butler received 4,660 votes.

State Board of Education (2 positions)

Pamela Pugh (D) – 2,060,772 votes, or 25.21% of all the votes

Mitchell Robinson (D) – 1,981,366 votes, or 24.24% of all the votes

Tamara D. Carlone (R) – 1,907,724 votes, or 23.34% of all the votes

Linda Lee Tarver (R) – 1,867,185 votes, or 22.84% of all the votes

Mary Anne Hering (Working Class) – 135,404 votes, or 1.66% of all the votes

Donna Gundle-Krieg (Libertarian) – 87,501 votes, or 1.07% of all the votes

Bill Hall (Libertarian) – 87,110 votes, or 1.07% of all the votes

Ethan Hobson (U.S. Taxpayers) – 48,163 votes, or 0.59% of all the votes

STATE-LEVEL PROPOSALS

There were three state-level proposals on the Nov. 8 ballot.

Proposal 1 passed with 1,818,401 votes, which accounted for 63.89% of all the votes. This proposal requires state legislators, the governor, secretary of state and attorney general to file annual public financial disclosure reports after 2023 and introduces a 12-year term limit for state representatives and state senators.

Proposal 2 was adopted with 1,619,992 votes, which accounted for 56.47% of all the votes. This proposed amendment to the state constitution will add election provisions that include requiring the state to fund absentee ballot drop boxes and allow nine days of early in-person voting.

Proposal 3 was adopted with 1,529,939 votes, which accounted for 52.62% of all the votes. According to the public ballot, this proposal will establish pregnant mothers' right to make all decisions about pregnancy and abortion. It will also disallow the state from prohibiting abortion needed to protect a patient's life or their physical or mental health.

+ BUSINESS & MONEY



COURTESY PHOTO

Dow Credit Union to open new branch in Saginaw

Opening in 2023, new Gratiot Road location will expand credit union's Great Lakes Bay Region presence, help better serve members

Dow Credit Union has announced plans for a new branch in Saginaw.

"With 54,000 of Dow Credit Union's 77,000-plus members residing in Michigan's Great Lakes Bay Region, opening a branch in Saginaw County will better enable us to serve our growing regional member base," said Dow Credit Union President and CEO Michael Goad. "Having a second location also will reduce op-

erational and service risks that exist with our current single-site model."

To accomplish these service and operational goals, the credit union recently purchased a former bank branch office at 5420 Gratiot Rd. in Saginaw. Renovations are expected to begin before the end of 2022, with a targeted opening date in the third quarter of 2023. The new facility will feature the new Dow Credit Union name and branding, which officially took effect in September after 85 years as Dow Chemical Employees' Credit Union.

"As the largest financial institution headquartered in the Great Lakes Bay Region, we are thankful for the support of our growing member base, and we are excited to be able to offer additional in-person branch services," Goad said.

Dow Credit Union has been a perennial national leader in financial rewards for members, and the expanded membership base has helped fuel that continued performance. The credit union paid Member Giveback rebates and rewards totaling more than \$13 million for 2021 and has returned more than \$261 million to its members since 1980. In early 2022, Credit Union National Association (CUNA) once again named Dow Credit Union as one of the top credit unions in the country for delivering member value.





people helping people
one smile at a time

Every year Frankenmuth Credit Union employees volunteer their spare time and most important their support to needful families in our community. We call it Hope Pocket. It's a simple gift of friendship, an act of kindness, a pledge of devotion.

Frankenmuth Credit Union

*Proudly serving those who live, work and worship in
the State of Michigan since 1964.*

+ HEALTH

Parents urged to take preventive measures as pediatric beds fill up

Michigan children's hospitals and pediatric healthcare leaders are raising awareness about a pediatric hospital bed shortage and urging the public to help prevent respiratory illnesses, which are rapidly spreading in the form of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and influenza.

Michigan pediatric intensive care unit hospital beds are currently 89% occupied, according to data from the Michigan Health & Hospital Association (MHA) and Michigan Department of Health & Human Services (MDHHS). Hospitals are also reporting large surges in young patients visiting emergency departments, for both emergent and non-emergent care. Hospitals are urging those with mild cold-like symptoms to stay at home. If symptoms worsen, an urgent care or primary care physician's office would be the most appropriate setting to seek care, while emergency department visits should be reserved for those with moderate to severe symptoms including shortness of breath. Wait times and patient volumes in emergency rooms are increasing, and emergency department capacity in some areas is being depleted by visits for non-emergency medical conditions. Pervasive hospital staff shortages further complicate surges in hospital visits.

These pediatric bed shortages are impacting care statewide, making transfers of the sickest young patients to higher acuity care settings difficult.

"Hospitals are here for Michiganders, particularly in emergencies," said Gary Roth, DO, chief medical officer, MHA. "But our capacity to provide pediatric hospital care is extremely strained. Right now, the staffing challenges we have been sounding the alarms about all year combined with rapid spread of respiratory illnesses are impacting our hospitals' ability to care for our sickest children in a timely manner."

The MHA and the MDHHS are monitoring the pediatric bed capacity among Michigan hospitals. Nationally, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



COURTESY PHOTO

data shows that 76% of pediatric beds across the country are full, with anecdotal reports largely pinning the shortage on widespread RSV infections.

"Many of us in the pediatric medical community across Michigan are working to care for the surge of children battling RSV," Matthew Denenberg, MD, chief of pediatrics, Corewell Health East, the new name for Beaumont Health, and chair of the MHA's Council on Children's Health. "Our teams are here to help when the illness becomes severe. Parents and guardians can also help stop the spread of illness in our communities by getting children vaccinated against both flu and COVID-19. We all need to work together to keep our children safe."

"In recent weeks we have seen a significant surge in cases of RSV which is most greatly impacting our infants and young children," said Rudolph Valentini, MD, chief medical officer, Children's Hospital of Michigan. "Since Oct. 1, more than 450 patients have tested positive for RSV at our hospital. This is putting a strain on our hospital's emergency department and inpatient bed capacity; further, this could intensify if influenza cases begin to rise in the near future. It is also important to




note that RSV and its associated bronchiolitis cause symptomatic disease in 20% of infants and children less than one year of age. Although RSV may only cause a mild cold in older children and adults, it is important for parents to keep their infants and young children away from others who are ill, because RSV causes inflammation to the smallest airways making infants especially vulnerable sometimes resulting in hospitalization or ICU care. Other patients who need to avoid RSV are children with a history of prematurity, chronic lung disease, congenital heart disease, immunodeficiency or solid organ transplant."

"As we see this concerning trend in high volumes of pediatric emergent care and hospitalizations, we need to all work together to protect our children and conserve resources. Pediatric beds are a shared resource across the state," stated Christine Nefcy, MD, chief medical officer, Munson Healthcare. "Many smaller community or rural hospitals in Michigan have minimal pediatric bed capacity and rely on other facilities for higher level or specialty care for these patients. At this time of year, we naturally want to gather more often with family and friends; so as you make plans, we urge parents to follow these guidelines to ensure we manage this surge using all the tools at hand."

"We are urging Michiganders to have a plan for their families this respiratory season to help prevent hospital overcrowding and prevent outbreaks of respiratory illnesses using the tools available," said Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian, the state's chief medical executive. "This includes getting available vaccines, staying home if unwell, having a supply of masks at home, covering coughs, washing your hands often and finding out if you are eligible for treatment options if you do become unwell."

+ HEALTH

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) SYMPTOMS

INFANTS	CHILDREN	ADULTS
Irritability Poor feeding Lethargy Apnea (pauses in breathing) Fever (not always present)	Runny nose Decreased appetite Cough Sneezing Fever	Runny nose Sore throat Cough Headache Fatigue
		

COURTESY PHOTO

As cases rise locally, what you need to know about RSV

A rise in local cases of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) has area health care providers concerned. RSV is a common respiratory virus that most young children will have at least once, and it usually causes symptoms like that of a cold. However, while most children or adults will recover from RSV in a week or two, the virus can be serious for infants and older adults.

Pediatrician Shreya Wachob, D.O., of MyMichigan Medical Group, answers common questions about the virus and reminders on how to slow the spread:

Q. What is RSV?

A. RSV is a contagious, seasonal respiratory infection. It is common in childhood but can affect adults as well. RSV is the most common cause of bronchiolitis, inflammation of the small airways in the lungs.

Q. How is RSV spread?

A. RSV, like many other viral illnesses, is spread when an infected person coughs

or sneezing, when you get virus droplets in your eyes, nose or mouth, if you touch a surface that has the virus on it and then touch your face or if you have direct contact with the virus. It's common for RSV to spread in places like schools or daycare centers.

Q. What are the symptoms of RSV?

A. The most common RSV symptoms include a runny nose, cough, sneezing, fever, wheezing and a decreased appetite. In infants, symptoms may include irritability, decreased activity and breathing difficulties.

Q. How is RSV diagnosed?

A. If you suspect your child has RSV, contact their pediatrician. Warning signs may be labored breathing, wheezing or fever. Pediatricians may order a chest X-ray or other tests including nasal fluids.

Q. Is there any treatment for RSV?

A. For many, RSV infections will go away on their own within a week or two. There is currently no specific treatment for RSV, but you can provide symptom relief by using saline drops and suctioning out the nose, treating fevers with Tylenol or Motrin and making sure your child is drinking enough fluids to prevent dehydration.

Q. Why is RSV more dangerous for infants?

A. Infants, particularly premature or very young infants (under 6 months), children younger than 2 with chronic lung disease or congenital heart disease, children with weakened immune systems and children who have neuromuscular disorders are at the highest risk for severe illness from RSV. RSV for those at high risk is more likely to cause bronchiolitis, or inflammation of the small airways in the lung, or pneumonia. If you notice your infant wheezing, having difficulty breathing, including flaring their nostrils or straining their chest or stomach while breathing, or turning blue around their lips or fingertips, seek medical attention immediately.

Q. How can RSV be prevented?

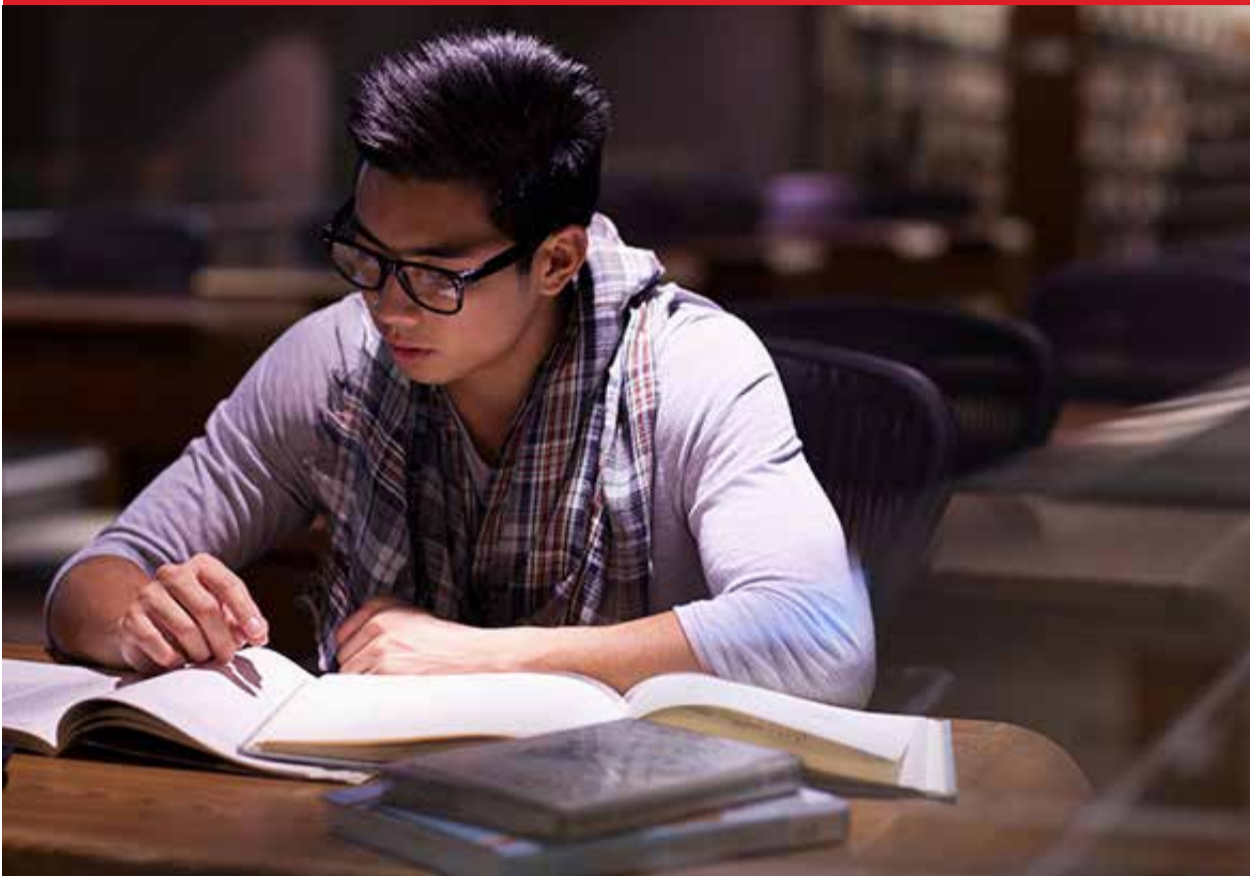
A. Prevent the spread of RSV as you would prevent any other illness as we come into cold and flu season! Wash your hands with soap and water often, clean frequently touched surfaces such as doorknobs and cell phones, and avoid things like sharing utensils, cups, etc., with others. For young infants especially, limit visitors and ask them not to touch or kiss your baby's face. RSV can be contagious before people even begin showing symptoms.

Q. Does RSV affect adults?

A. Adults can get RSV, but it usually appears as a mild cold in most. However, the elderly can have severe infection from RSV as well. It is possible for adults to pass RSV onto their children and babies.

Those interested in more information about RSV are encouraged to visit www.cdc.gov/rsv.

+ EDUCATION



COURTESY PHOTO

Thoughts about student motivation



By **CRAIG DOUGLAS**
RETIRED EDUCATOR

Some students are curious and naturally motivated. Others may be distracted, less-than-eager, and perhaps borderline “unmotivated.” Back when I was a kid, that type of student may have been labeled as “lazy” or “troubled.”

Today we know students are motivated by largely one or two ways. They may be “intrinsically” motivated, which means they are motivated by an internal drive. Some call these students as “achievers” because they are always striving to achieve. My daughter Katie was like this when she

had geometry twenty-some years ago in high school; her goal was to never miss a point on a test. Katie was driven to perfection in geometry!

The other type of motivation is “extrinsic.” This is the student who is motivated by something “external.” In this context, maybe my daughter was “extrinsically” motivated, too, by a high grade. Grades are indeed, extrinsic motivators.

For parents and teachers, it is a challenge to discover the type of rewards that can motivate a student to get him/her on track. Here are three examples for consideration that serve as conversation-starters on the topic.

Consider “Grandma’s rule.”

Grandma knew that a healthy child needs to eat vegetables, so she employed her own rule that went like this. “If you eat

your carrots, you can enjoy dessert.”

In other words, you may have a difficult or unpleasant task ahead of you, and you may cope with it better with the knowledge that after it is done, you can go back to a more enjoyable one. “Do your homework before you watch T.V.” is an example of “Grandma’s rule” being used to motivate a student.

Some say this is bribery; I claim it is making a tough situation a better one.

Consider “food.”

For most students, the promise of a favorite meal or treat can go a long way towards achieving a goal. Another spinoff of “Grandma’s rule,” food can be a reward for an unfinished assignment getting finished. We see teachers use this often as a classroom....”if everyone does their homework tonight we can have cookies in class tomorrow” might be an example.

Praise.

Sounds simple, and it is!

Praise is a tremendous motivator, especially for less-confident learners. As a math teacher I discovered found using praise particularly helpful with students who were pushed to the extreme boundaries of their comfort zones. Take the example of writing proofs in geometry. Giving praise for the initial steps in a long proof encourages students to continue with the challenge.

The bottom line for students of all ages is this. One must stay engaged and motivated to keep the learning going. If a student becomes fearful or discouraged, they may stop the effort and leave the task behind. No one wins; everyone suffers. We all must press on in order to learn and grow.

Resource:
<https://helpfulprofessor.com/>



COURTESY PHOTO

Invest in Saginaw's students with a donation to the Saginaw Promise on Giving Tuesday!

"Giving Tuesday" (the Tuesday after Thanksgiving) provides an opportunity for people to share their blessings to make a difference the community. Donations to "Giving Tuesday" to the Saginaw Promise will support Saginaw Promise programming and scholarships. Since 2012, the Saginaw Promise has awarded \$1,182,799 in scholarships to 662 students! The Saginaw Promise believes in the power of post-secondary education to be a "change agent" to impact Saginaw's future, its economy, the future of its students through a "residence based" scholarship; a benefit for families who live in and whose students graduate from a high school in Saginaw. Saginaw Promise is working to encourage and support postsecondary education for Saginaw's students to earn a program certificate or degree with the assistance of a Saginaw Promise scholarship.

When "hope" is present, dreams and goals flourish. Since its formation, the Saginaw Promise has seen high school graduation rates increase, drop-out rates decrease, FAFSA completion grow and Saginaw Promise scholars earn program certificates and degrees!

The Saginaw Promise scholarship benefits students who reside in and graduate from a high school in the Saginaw Promise Zone (Saginaw, Zilwaukee, Kochville and that area of Buena Vista designated to the Saginaw Public School District). While supporting higher education, the scholarship is also intended to stabilize and grow Saginaw's population, attract new businesses and affect the overall economic environment in Saginaw; positive impact in Saginaw will benefit surrounding communities and the entire Great Lakes Bay Region.

To donate (using a charge card): Visit Saginaw Promise's website and click on Donate, or mail to: Saginaw Promise, 1 Tuscola St., Suite 100, Saginaw, MI, 48607*Please make checks out to the Saginaw Community Foundation, Memo Line: Saginaw Promise, * The Saginaw Community Foundation is the fiscal agent for the Saginaw Promise

Applying for the Saginaw Promise scholarship: For details and information about the Saginaw Promise and its scholarship, visit www.saginawpromise.org or call (989)755-0545.



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Saginaw Community Foundation now accepting scholarship applications

Saginaw Community Foundation (SCF) is now accepting scholarship applications. Each year, SCF awards hundreds of scholarships to students pursuing post-secondary education (community college, university, nontraditional and Career and Technical Education [CTE]). Applications for 2023 scholarships are due Feb. 10, 2023.

To apply, students complete a single online application to be considered for one or more of the 235+ scholarships available, including the Saginaw Promise Zone scholarship. Many of the scholarships offered are awarded to multiple students and students can individually earn more than one award.

Visit saginawfoundation.org/site/scholarships/ to review instructions, begin an application or review a directory of scholarship opportunities. Besides offering scholarships for residents of Saginaw County, SCF offers many opportunities for residents of Bay and Midland Counties and even many parts of Michigan.

“Education is vital to the growth and future of every community. Scholarships

can help people in our region obtain a degree, certificate or other training that will help further their aspirations and goals,” said Reneé Johnston, president and CEO at the Foundation.

Earlier this year, a total of 378 high school, college and nontraditional students were awarded 692 scholarships. A record-setting total of \$920,305 was awarded to recipients.

“The scholarships we award each year are made possible because of the generosity of our donors and their commitment to education,” said Chamika Ford, program officer at the Foundation. “Our donors are individuals, families, civic groups and businesses who believe in the value of education. To them we extend our deepest appreciation as they make the dream of higher education come true for so many students.”

As an additional resource for students, SCF has produced a six-part series of tutorial videos that will walk applicants through the entire process. The videos are available at saginawfoundation.org.

“The step-by-step video tutorial series

will break down the entire application process and prepare students for the information needed for a successful application,” said Ford. “Students can view the videos at their own pace and return at any time to re-watch any part of the series.”

Topics in the videos include: a complete SCF Scholarship Application overview, letters of recommendation, essays and special essays, completing FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), membership-based and special scholarships, and finalizing the SCF Scholarship Application.

“People traditionally think scholarships are just for high school seniors,” Ford said. “At the Saginaw Community Foundation, we offer scholarships for many individuals seeking higher education – from displaced workers to the single mother just returning to school to a student working full-time and attending college part-time.”

Since 1987, the foundation has awarded more than \$8.9 million to students to help them achieve their educational goals.

+ EDUCATION



COURTESY PHOTO

SPONSORED CONTENT

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

What is GSRP?

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

Who can be a GSRP provider?

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

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

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

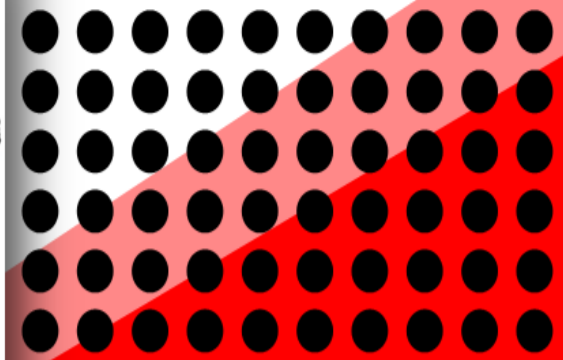
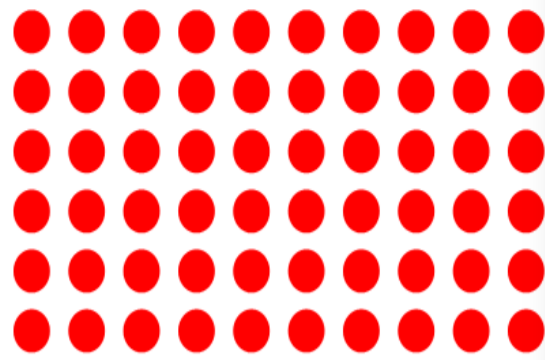
No, but if funded, you will be expected to hire qualified staff and have staff trained in the curriculum and assessment tools. You will have to operate in compliance with child care licensing rules and GSRP statute, policies and procedures. You would also have the support of a Saginaw Intermediate School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

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

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

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

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



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+ EDUCATION

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

GUIDELINES

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

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

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

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

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

EMPLOYEE INFORMATION AND ELIGIBILITY

1. What are the employee eligibility requirements?

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

2. How is eligibility determined?

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

3. Are employees eligible if they have seasonal work?

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

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

Employers have flexibility in deciding which

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

7. Do employees choose their own child care provider?

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

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

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

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

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

CHILD CARE PROVIDER INFORMATION AND ELIGIBILITY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

EMPLOYER INFORMATION AND ELIGIBILITY

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

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

2. Can tax deductions be used by participating employers?

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



About Saginaw ISD HE/EHS

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

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

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

pregnant women and their families.

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

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

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

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

Office Hours

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

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

Source: www.saginawheadstart.org



Sabrina Beeman-Jackson

Saginaw ISD Head Start/Early Head Start Program Director

“Head Start graduates are more likely to graduate from high school and less likely to need special education, repeat a grade, or commit crimes in adolescence.”

Joe Baca, former Dem. California Congressman

***“Our mission is to provide high quality services, developing school readiness and family empowerment for prenatal to age five children and families by working in partnership with parents and the community.”
-Saginaw ISD HE/EHS***



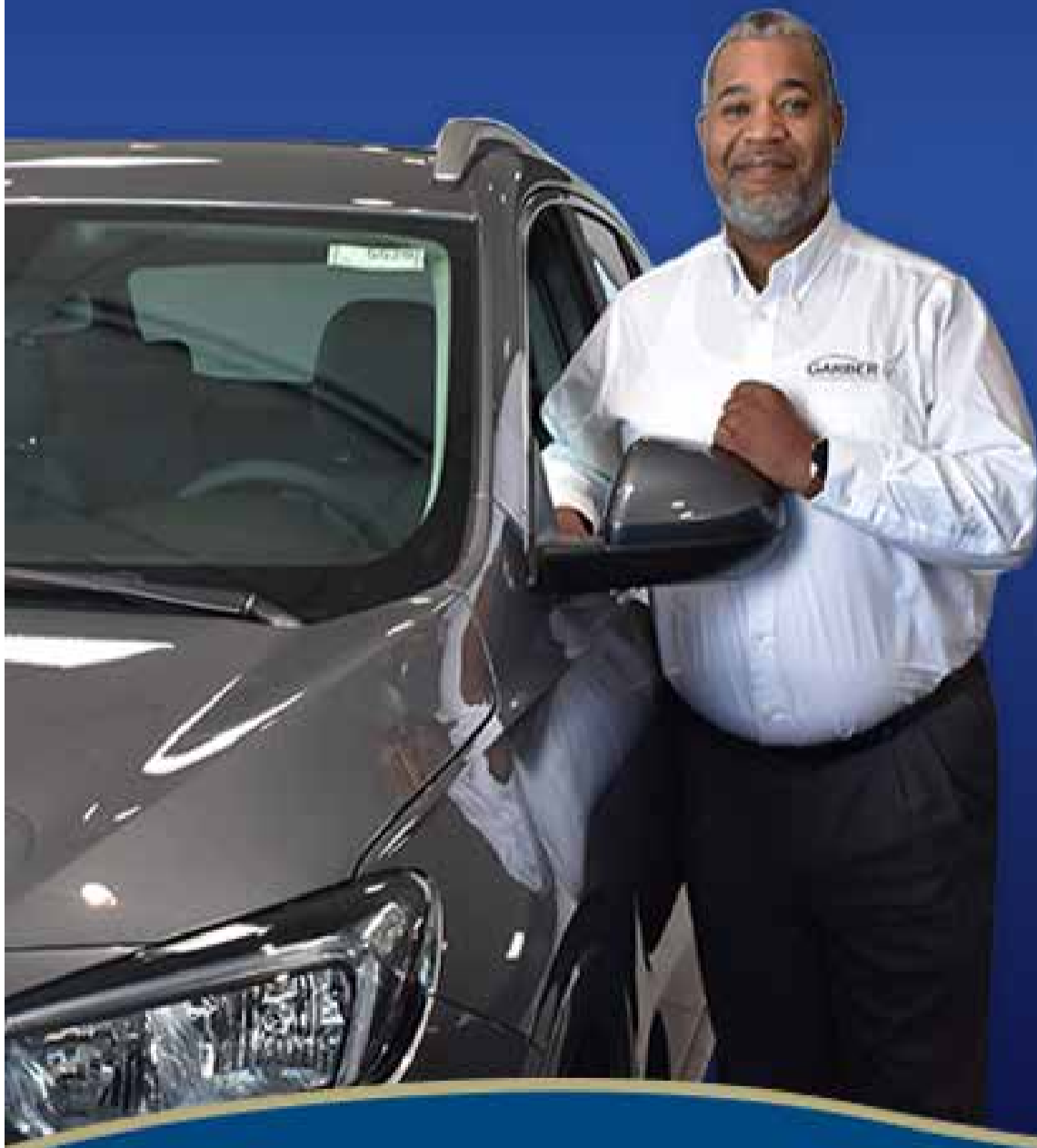
PICS OF THE WEEK

On Saturday, November 12, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the USA Post #9931 (Bridgeport) hosted their inaugural Veterans Gala where they honored B.L. Little, Clinton McMillon, Sr., and Lt. Irene Cox Hosking.



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