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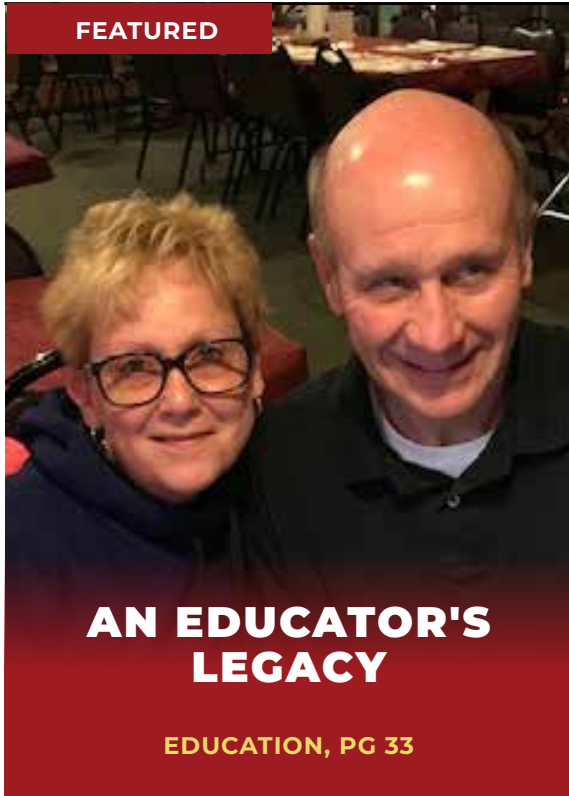


PIC OF THE WEEK
Women of Colors and Julian Morris recognized at Governor's service awards

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

MICHIGANBANNER.ORG/SUPPORTUS

FEATURED



AN EDUCATOR'S LEGACY

EDUCATION, PG 33

SVSU receives six-figure gift to boost scholarship support



SVSU PRESIDENT GEORGE GRANT JR.; DEBORAH RICKERT, SVSU SUPPORT STAFF ASSOCIATION VICE PRESIDENT; JACKIE JANETSKI, SISTER OF GLORIA WAGENER; BERNAL KOCH, SISTER OF DOUGLAS WAGENER; ELLEN CRANE, INTERIM DIRECTOR OF THE SVSU FOUNDATION; KATHLEEN CHANTACA-KUBCZAK, SVSU SUPPORT STAFF ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT.

A six-figure gift from the estate of a former Saginaw Valley State University employee will benefit SVSU students who are current or past members of SVSU's Support Staff Association or their children or grandchildren.

Douglas "Doug" Wagener, who worked more than 20 years for SVSU as a stagehand, theatre building director and electrician, passed away in April 2022. He left an estate gift of \$650,000 to benefit the Gloria J. and Douglas E. Wagener Support Staff Association Endowed Scholarship at the university. The scholarship is named to honor the service and generosity of Douglas Wagener and his wife, Gloria, a 42-year employee of SVSU. The couple met at the university – then Saginaw Valley State College – and married in 1975.

Bernal Koch, Doug Wagener's sister, presented a check to the SVSU Foundation during a reception hosted by the Foundation and the SVSU Support Staff Association. In her remarks, Koch said about the Wageners: "They had no children but understood the importance of education. The devotion Gloria had to her fellow colleagues through the work of the union and the connections she and Doug had with the students at SVSU were the reasons

they created this scholarship. With this scholarship, future students will benefit from this generous endowment. Their legacy lives on!"

Gloria Wagener was instrumental in the establishment of the SVSU Support Staff Association and active in the organization throughout her SVSU career.

The SVSU Support Staff Association Endowed Scholarship was established in 2012. It was renamed the "Gloria J. Wagener Support Staff Association Endowed Scholarship" following Gloria Wagener's unexpected death in 2016. In 2019, Doug Wagener pledged an estate gift to support the scholarship, and it was again renamed to honor his generosity.

"The Support Staff Association of Saginaw Valley State University gratefully acknowledges the generous donation received towards its endowed scholarship," said Kathleen Chantaca-Kubczak, president of the Support Staff Association. "This generous contribution, to be presented by the Wagener family, is a tribute to Gloria Wagener, who founded the SSA in 1980, and her dedicated husband, Doug, who was a longtime SVSU employee and Gloria's greatest supporter."



REV. LOUIS "POPPA" BISHOP

Aug. 15, 1921 - Nov. 24, 2023
102 yrs old



C.A.C. and H.E.L.P. host "Fresh Start" expungement clinic

COMMUNITY, PG 19

THE MICHIGAN BANNER IS A PROUD MEMBER OF:



Governor Gretchen Whitmer proclaims November 26, 2022: Sojourner Truth Day



WHEREAS, Sojourner Truth was born a slave named Isabella in the late 18th century; and,

WHEREAS, after escaping the bonds of slavery, Sojourner Truth chose her new name and became a tireless advocate for freedom, equality, and economic opportunity; and,

WHEREAS, Sojourner Truth traveled the country to share her own story, to speak out against slavery, and to promote equal rights, social reform, and human justice; and,

WHEREAS, in 1858, Sojourner Truth settled in Battle Creek, Michigan, and started, among other actions, a job placement program for former slaves in the region; and,

WHEREAS, Sojourner Truth lived in Battle Creek until her death on November 26, 1883; and,

WHEREAS, in June 2005, Michigan Governor Jennifer M. Granholm signed legislation officially designating November 26 as Sojourner Truth Day in the State of Michigan; and,

WHEREAS, 2022 marks the 18th annual recognition of Sojourner Truth Day in the State of Michigan; and,

WHEREAS, Sojourner Truth Day provides an opportunity to celebrate freedom and honor a heroic woman who fought to ensure all Americans benefit from liberty, dignity, and equality; and,

WHEREAS, it remains imperative that we continue to work towards a more equitable and just Michigan and ensure the joys of liberty, justice, and economic opportunity for every resident of our state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gretchen Whitmer, governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim November 26, 2022, as Sojourner Truth Day in Michigan. We encourage all residents of the State of Michigan to celebrate the life and legacy of Sojourner Truth by continuing to promote diversity, equality, and community in our state.

MICHIGAN BANNER

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

CEO/COO

Jerome Buckley
publisher022@gmail.com

PUBLISHER EMERITUS

Jerome Buckley

EDITOR EMERITUS

Rae Lynn Buckley

**THE LATINO BANNER
PUBLISHER**

Jerome Buckley
thelatinobanner@gmail.com

OMBUDSMAN

Elaine Gregory McKenzie

MISSION

The Michigan Banner, Latino Banner and Youth Banner operates and serves as a print and online media venue committed to educating, informing and enlightening our readership regarding events and news that directly and indirectly affect the communities regionally and globally. Furthermore, to serve as a catalyst and a link for cultivating young adults as entrepreneurial and business leaders for the future.

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DEADLINES

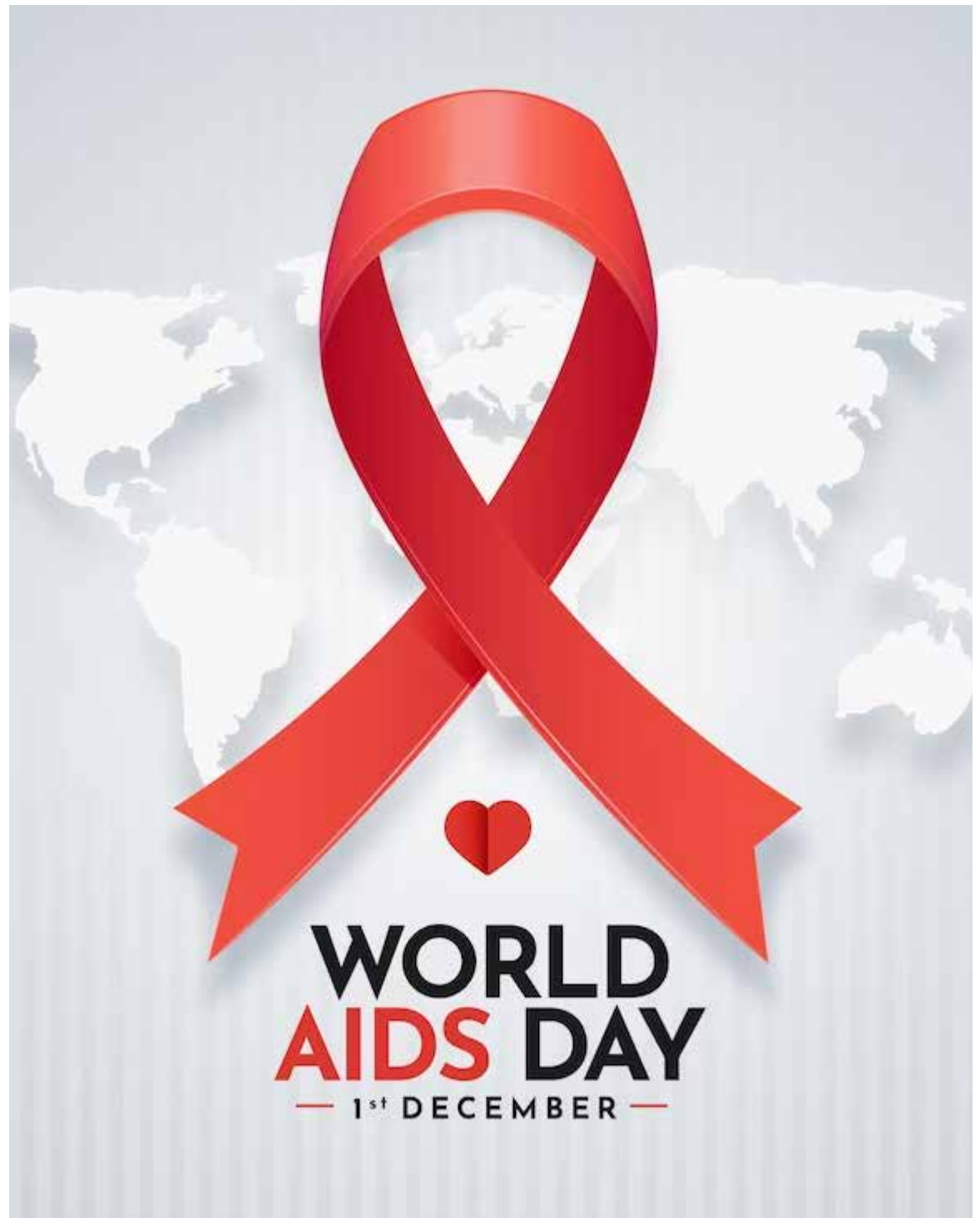
2 weeks before each publication date of the 1st and 16th of each month

SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

Mailed or e-mailed
Preferred format: Jpeg or PDF

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MICHIGAN YOUTH BANNER

VOLUME 5 • NUMBER 23



DON'T DISMISS OPPORTUNITY

By DONIQUA SOVIA

What you want, can be a hinderance to what you need. Most times without realizing it, we put all our eggs in one basket and carry that basket around so confidently that we dismiss when people tell us that the eggs are beginning to spoil, and that we need to get a new basket.

But we want that specific basket. When people come to us and offer the opportunity to change out our basket, and our eggs, we tell them "no" and that we will be fine and our eggs aren't that bad and our basket doesn't need replacing as it's in fine shape. What are doing? We're dismissing an opportunity.

When you dismiss an opportunity and have a closed mind, you limit your potential, delay your success and lower expectations of being able to surround yourself with greatness. Be open minded. What you need, may not be what you want, but what you wanted may have unforeseen consequences. Broaden your horizons and watch where you can go.

Don't dismiss your opportunities, for your wants, you won't be disappointed. Change your basket, throw your spoiled thoughts away, and start new, fresh, and most importantly; Open. Opportunity comes when you least expect in an area you sometimes didn't want; Embrace it and let it offer you a new lease on life.



The Saginaw Community Foundation makes applying for college scholarships easy

Education is vital to the growth and future of every community. Because of this, the Saginaw Community Foundation administers a variety of scholarship programs for high school, community college, university and Career and Technical Education students.

Since awarding our first \$500 scholarship in 1987, the Saginaw Community Foundation has awarded more than \$9.9 million in scholarships.

These scholarships are possible because of the generosity of our fund donors – including individuals, families, civic groups and businesses. Learn more about all of our 245+ scholarships by using our scholarship directory.

Our online application will open on Nov. 1, 2023. Applications must be submitted using our online scholarship application by February 9, 2024. Before you begin your application, we recommend you review a list of information and items you will need to complete your application. If you have additional questions, review our frequently asked questions or call the foundation at (989) 755-0545.

Before you begin

It's important to read the following before you begin your application. If you have additional questions, review our frequently asked questions or call the foundation at (989) 755-0545.

- You will need to provide the email address and full name of reference who is unrelated to you within the application. Be certain to ask them to be a reference for you before you submit your application. The reference will answer a series of questions regarding your academics, achievements, and/or character. They should also be able to provide an example to support their responses. Some scholarships require recommendations from specific persons. See the individual scholarship descriptions within the application for more information.
- Obtain a copy of your most recent



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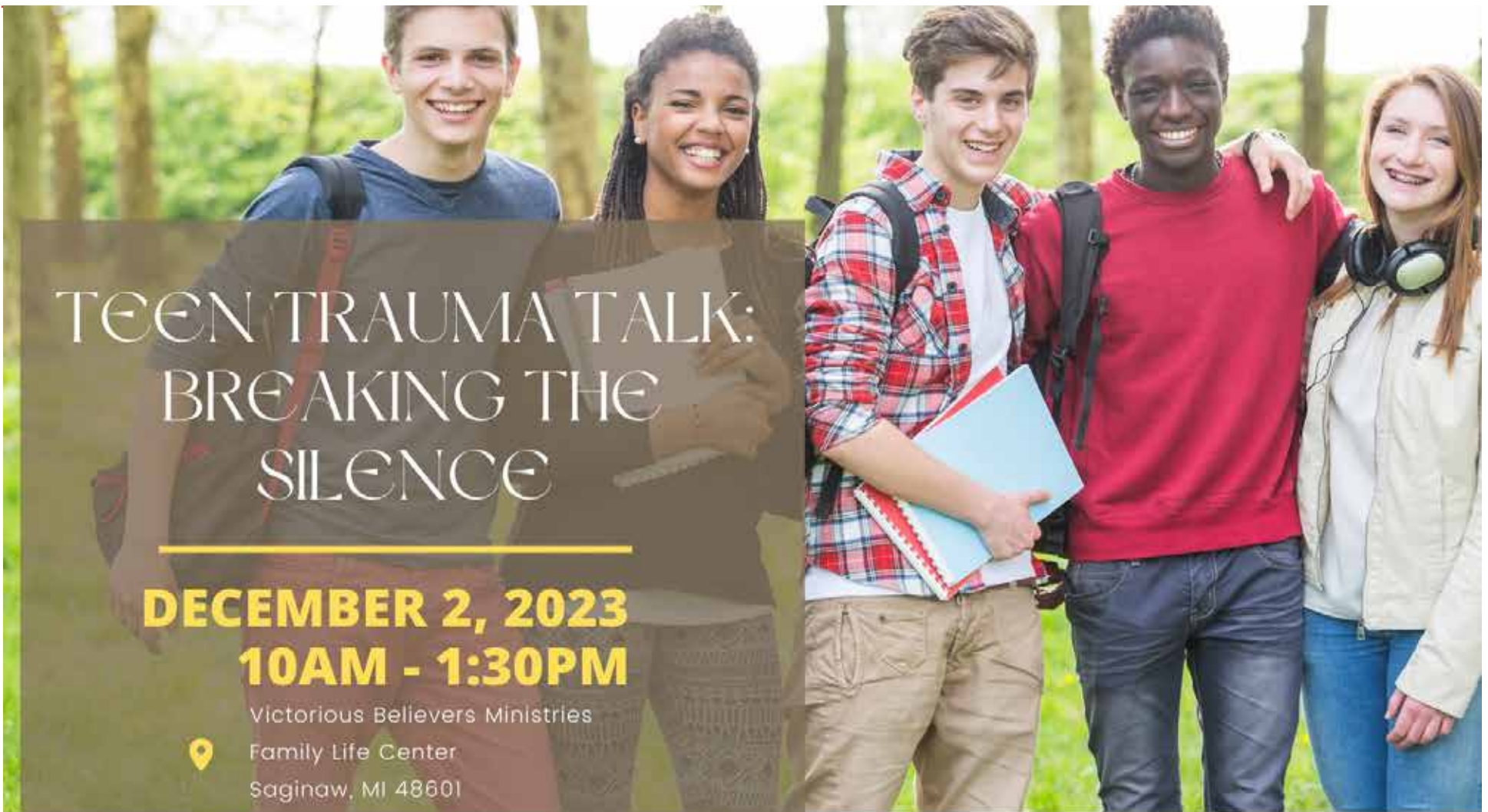
school transcript to upload with your application. Official paid transcripts are NOT required or necessary. A student copy of current college transcripts is acceptable for college students. Your transcript is different than your report card. High school seniors: you must upload transcripts that include the first semester/trimester of your senior year.

- For the 2023-2024 application, the SAI (Student Aid Index) from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) will not be required to consider your financial need. For consideration, please refer to the financial questionnaire within the application. Please keep in mind that the FAFSA is required to receive any source of federal aid (including Pell, Grant, Tip, Michigan Achievement, or Student Loans).
- All applicants must complete the scholarship essay questionnaire within the application. There are seven questions regarding your educational and career goals, as well as, your experiences in the community or at home. Each question will require at least 150

characters. This is questionnaire is a significant factor in your overall score, be sure to give it careful thought and editing. You may copy and paste your essay from another program such as Microsoft Word.

- Include any required special attachments or membership verification information. See the special scholarship pages within the application form for more specific information. (Special attachments are listed on the participation-based, memberships, and additional scholarship pages within the application).
- Be certain to answer all questions on the application with an asterisk (*). This information is required.
- Applications for 2024 will begin being accepted on November 1, 2023 and must be submitted online by February 9, 2024. Be sure your application is complete before submitting your application on the submission page.


If you have any questions filling out the scholarship application, contact Chamika Ford, program officer at Saginaw Community Foundation, at (989) 755-0545 or email chamika@saginawfoundation.org.




TEEN TRAUMA TALK: BREAKING THE SILENCE

DECEMBER 2, 2023
10AM - 1:30PM

Victorious Believers Ministries

 Family Life Center
Saginaw, MI 48601

 geteministries@gmail.com

OUR SPEAKERS



WARDENE B. TALLEY
ACE'S CERTIFIED FACILITATOR
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REV. ERINNA M. HINDS
CERTIFIED FAMILY MEDIATOR &
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- Includes a FREE Lunch
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Topics Include:

Suicide Prevention
Cyber Bullying
Racism
Community Violence
Grief
Divorce
Abuse
Teen Dating Violence



ABOUT OUR WORKSHOP

Adverse Childhood Experiences – An Overview

Let's talk about Adverse Childhood Experiences. Also known as (ACE's), these are potentially traumatic events that occur in childhood. ACE's can include violence, abuse, and growing up in a family with mental health or substance use problems. Toxic stress from ACE's can affect how the body responds to all stress and are linked to chronic health problems, mental illness, substance misuse in adulthood and other challenges which can be treated. Most importantly, ACE's can be prevented! Preventing ACE's can help children and adults thrive and potentially stop them from being passed from one generation to the next. Let's talk about ACE's.

With grant-funding from the Youth Employment and Recreation Program (YEARN), ACE's Certified Facilltator and Master Trainer Wardene B. Talley will present an overview of ACE's to groups throughout the city of Saginaw. Plan to participate in this informational session to learn more about ACE's, how to support the children and families we serve who have been impacted, and continue the process of educating our community on best practices available to improve the quality of life.

Event Partners: EM Ministries, Triumphant Teens & Boys to Victorious Men. **TEXT 989.493.9171 TO RSVP.**



December 2, 2023

Hosted by SVSU Men's Basketball - O'Neill Arena, Ryder Center

- 11:30am: All Saints vs Charlton Heston
- 1:00pm: Bridgeport vs Kearsley
- 2:30pm: John Glenn vs Mt. Pleasant
- 4:00pm: Hamady vs De La Salle
- 5:30pm: Powers Catholic vs Schoolcraft
- 7:00pm: Chesaning vs Carrollton
- 8:30pm: Nouvel Catholic vs Cass City

TICKET INFORMATION:

**SCAN THE QR CODE
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Latino Banner

LIDER EN LA
DIVERSIDAD

VAMOS ADELANTE

Great Lakes Bay Hispanic Leadership is Recruiting for 2024

The GLBHLi is tailored for individuals seeking to cultivate skills and relationships essential for effective leadership. It offers a comprehensive program that readies and empowers future visionary leaders, fostering positive impacts on both their personal lives and the communities they serve.

Emphasizing personal development, cultural awareness, leadership growth, and community engagement, the program facilitates a transformative journey. Participants gain valuable skills and actively contribute to community welfare through volunteering activities integrated into the curriculum. This hands-on experience enhances their leadership capabilities. Moreover, the program enables participants to form a network of professional colleagues and regional relationships. It is a crucial support system as individuals progress in their careers and pursue life goals.

Structured as a year-long initiative with classes running from April to December, most of the program is conducted online via Zoom or on-demand. Additionally, five in-person courses in various regions provide unique opportunities for direct interaction. Seize the chance to elevate your future and earn a leadership certification by reviewing the attached agenda and submitting your application today.

APPLY TODAY

Deadline is January 10, 2023

Registration Fees waved for first 10 Applicants

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SCAN ME for Application

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12-3 PM

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Saginaw 48601

For More Information, Please Contact:

Ms. Inez Williams

Family & Community Engagement Specialist
iwilliams@spsd.net or 989.399.4425

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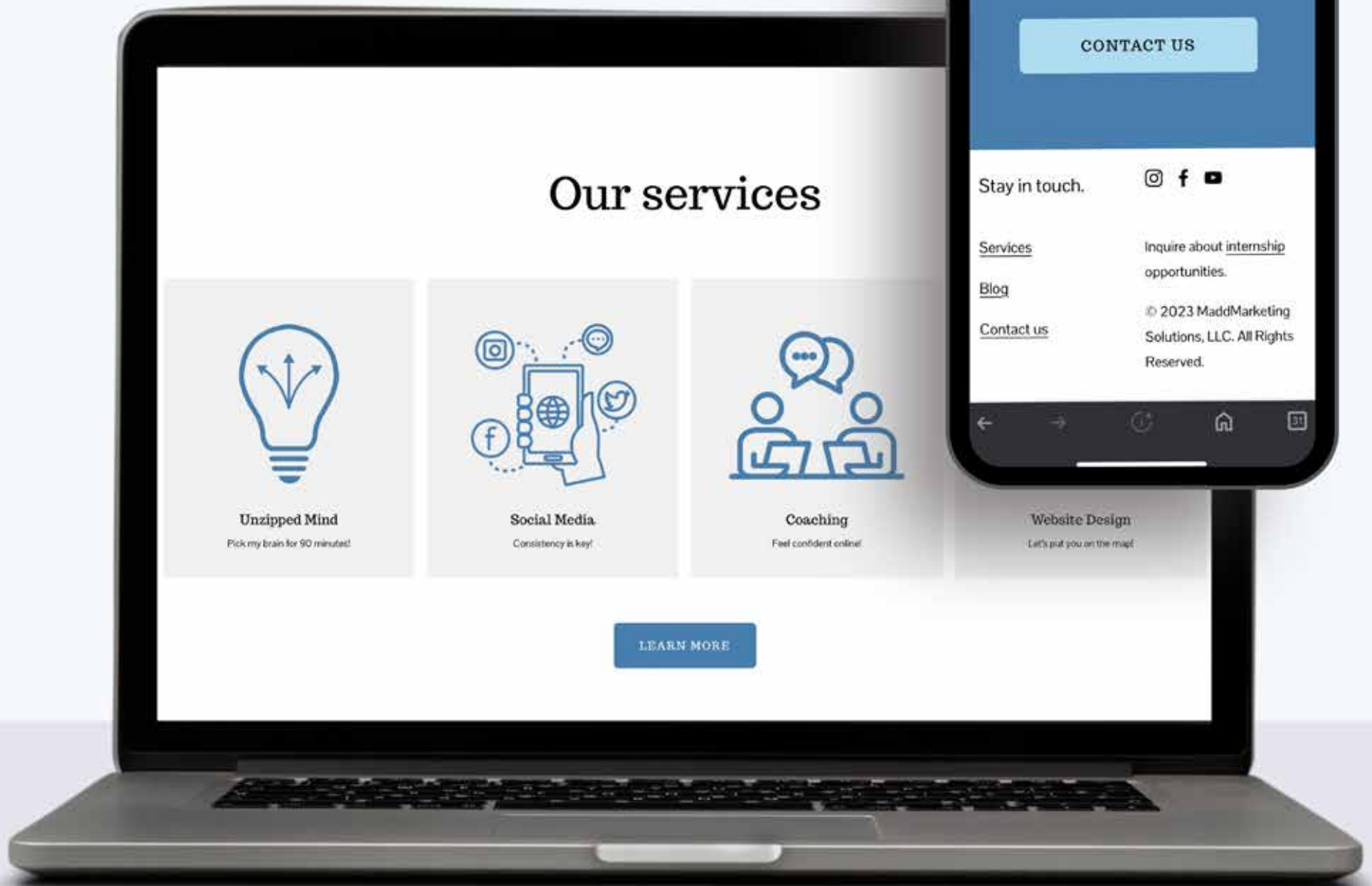
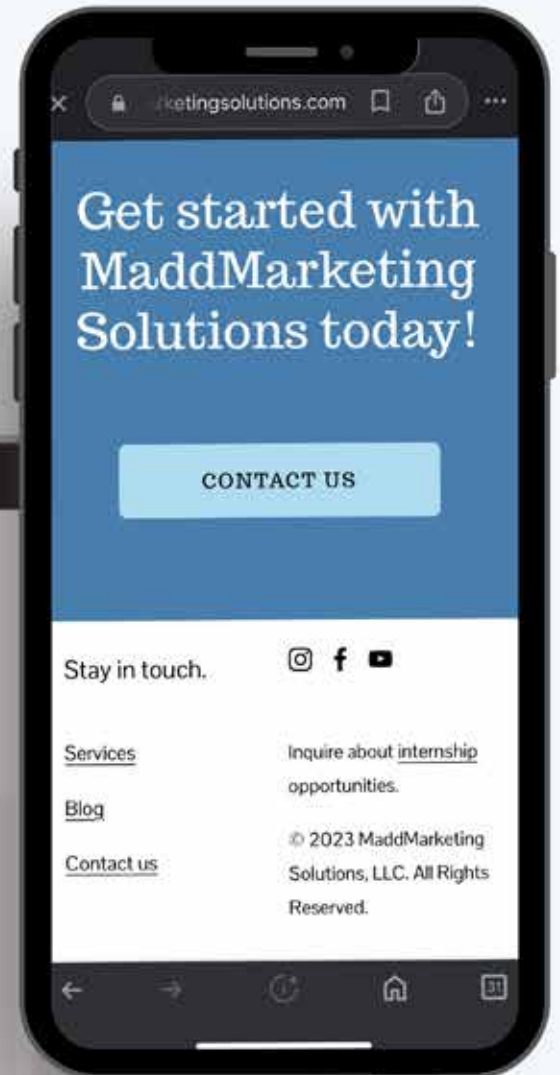
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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

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- Scissors
- Decorations
- Boxes

THE DOW
EVENT CENTER

CASA MEZCLADA
Photography & Graphic Design

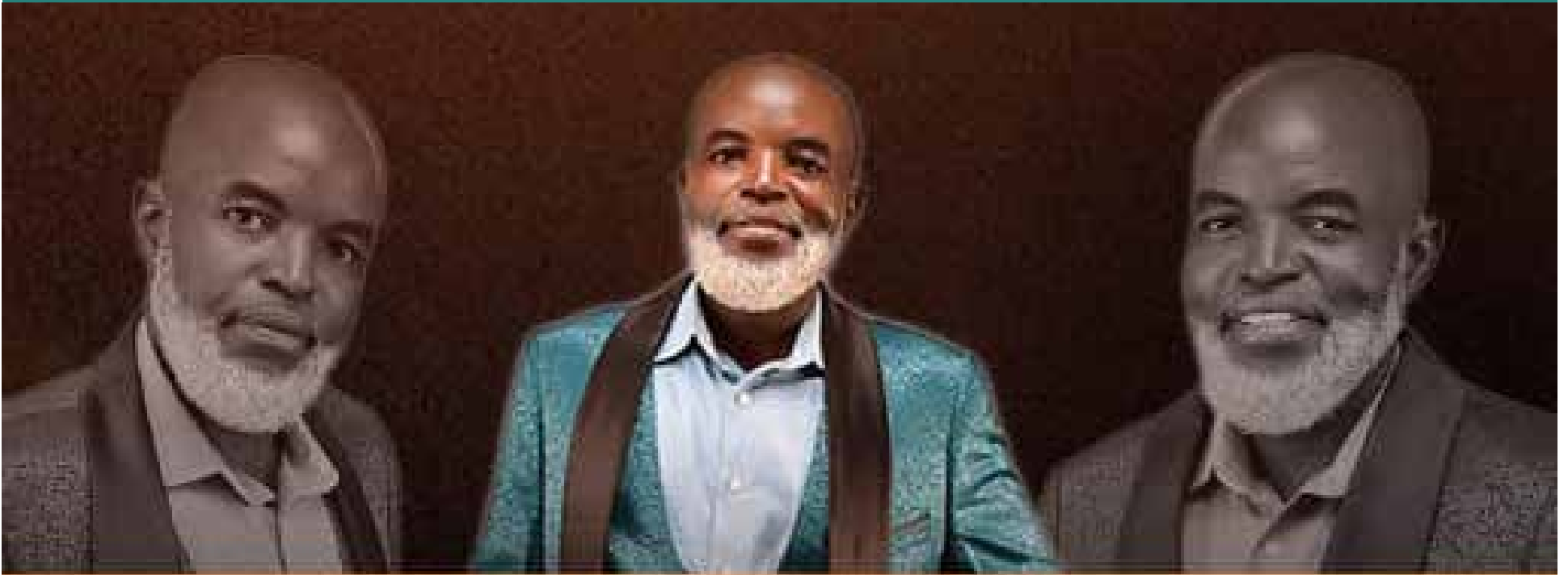
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Auto sales consultant
Louie "Louie G" Garcia
Call 989-770-3078
For an appointment



+ COMMUNITY



PAA-KUMI FRANK

04. 08. 2023



PAA-KUMI FRANK

Three reputable U.S. entities to host the founding President of Pali Initiative 2 Reshape Africa as keynote guest/facilitator

The Victorious Believers Ministries (V.B.M), a U.S.-recognized religious organization affiliated with the Church of God in Christ (CGIC) USA, Duperon Education—an executive educational centre affiliated with Duperon Corporation—and the Michigan Banner/Global News (TMBGN), a media agency, have extended an official invitation to Frank Kumi and his spouse, Vivian Kumi Awura Adwoa, to serve as keynote presenters, itinerant preachers, lead facilitators, and trainers for an array of speaking engagements. These include Church conferences, Revival Meetings, Cross-Cultural Conversations Workshop sessions, Business and Partners meetings, and engagements, along with social networking sessions and dedicated time

for book signing, meet-and-greet sessions, and sightseeing at notable locations such as the Charles Wright Museum of African American History, Detroit Institute of Arts Museum, and the Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation, among others. The business relations between the PALI – Christian Academy of Development Leadership and the Victorious Believers Ministries (VBM) dates back to March, 2014 and that of the Duperon Corporation has existed since January, 2018.

While in Saginaw, Michigan, the Founding President will grant several media interviews with local media, especially the Michigan Banner, to share perspectives on cross-cultural topics and diversify the concept of intergenerational congru-

ence, the remediation approach to cultural conversation, and the preservation of Africa's heritage.

The month-long tour to the state of Michigan is scheduled to begin in the middle of December 2023 and end in mid-January 2024. The founding president will be accompanied by his spouse, Vivian Kumi Awura Adwoa. Frank Kumi is known for his unrelenting efforts aimed at achieving social re-engineering, community improvement, and institutional renewal, as well as leveraging inherent talent to minimize youth unemployment for the past two decades and counting. During his absence, the legal advisor to the PALI - Initiative, Lawyer Frederick Sampson, will have an oversight and supervisory role.

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When the lights go out

How to stay food safe and minimize food loss during a power outage?



By **ARIELLE BUCKLEY, MPH**
NUTRITIONAL SCIENCES - DIETETICS

Colder temperatures are upon us and winter storms are approaching. We're bound to have a power outage sometime this season, so how can we ensure our food remains safe and we don't waste our resources by losing too much food? Though electric companies may provide a credit for families who are without power for two or more days, most refrigerated food items reach unsafe temperatures in as few as four hours. Because food may expire before that 2-day window, feeding a family can become difficult when the lights go out.

Luckily, there are resources and tools available for those who experience food loss during a power outage.

SNAP Benefit Replacement

Michigan families receiving food assistance can have their benefits replaced if they experience food loss during a power outage. This assistance ensures access to essential nutrition without the financial burden of replacing spoiled groceries. In order to receive it, you will need documentation of the outage from your local energy provider. After first calling DTE Energy, to inform them of the outage you can ask them to email—it's faster than mail—with the dates and times of the outage. Then call Michigan SNAP at 844-464-3447, and they will direct you to upload the email documentation electronically. You may receive up to a month of benefits.

Michigan Public Service Commission Electric Outage Credit

If you are eligible, a credit of up to \$35 per day will be placed on your energy bill if your power outage lasts longer than 16 hours. The actual credit you receive will depend on how many customers were affected, determined by formulas established by the state.

You can receive a credit by calling your energy provider directly. (You can find the customer service number on your bill or their website.) If you meet the qualifications for an energy credit and are denied a credit for some reason, you can then contact the Michigan Public Service Commission at 517-284-8100.

Emergency & Local Food Pantries

Benefit replacement and credits may take time to reach your account. If you are in need of emergency food assistance, you can locate a nearby food pantry. Michigan has a network of over 4,000 food pantries, dispersed across various regions of the state. You can find your closest emergency food pantries at <https://foodfinder.us/>

Your questions answered:

How long can a fridge go without power?

Food safety recommendations suggest that food be thrown out if it has been exposed to temperatures higher than 40 degrees for more than 2 hours. But what if you don't know the timing or don't have a thermometer? As a rule of thumb, refrigerators tend to hold their temperature constant for about four hours if it is continuously closed. After four hours, it is best to discard perishable food items like meat, poultry, fish, eggs, and any leftovers. Although tossing food may not be common practice due to budget and financial constraints, it is the best practice.

To find a complete list of foods to keep or toss during a power outage you can visit <https://www.foodsafety.gov/food-safety-charts/food-safety-during-power-outage>.

Is it safe to eat frozen food that has thawed and then refrozen?

Any food that has thawed and reached a temperature of 40 degrees or more for more than 2 hours should be tossed. Typically, a fully stocked freezer will take 2 days to reach this temperature, and a half-stocked freezer will reach this temperature within one day.

How do I prepare for a possible blackout?

Preparing for a power outage in advance

may help reduce food loss.

1. Invest in a thermometer

An inexpensive refrigerator and freezer thermometer can help you monitor the temperature inside the appliance. Also, a simple food thermometer can help you to check the temperature of food before deciding to keep or toss it in the trash.

2. Create an power outage emergency kit

Emergency kits are useful tools for navigating the kitchen during an outage. An emergency kit should include a flashlight, matches, candles, a first aid kit, bottled water, blankets, a clock, a radio, a manual can opener, and some unexpired, non-perishable food items.

3. Use the Cup of Water Trick

One way to check to see if your power went out is by using the frozen cup trick. Before a power outage, freeze a cup of water and then place a quarter on top. Keep it in the freezer. If you return to your freezer and find the cup of water in the same condition, the temperature of the freezer likely remained the same. If the ice has completely melted and the quarter at the bottom of the cup, the food inside may not be safe to eat. And if the quarter has melted partially down into the ice, that indicates some thawing and refreezing has occurred, and therefore it is best to check for spoilage.

While there's no question that a power outage can be inconvenient, preserving food and minimizing waste remains a critical concern for households. Programs like SNAP Benefit Replacement offer aid to those receiving food assistance. In addition, the Michigan Public Service Commission can help you receive credit from your energy provider if you meet the qualifications. And there are steps you can take to minimize the impact on the safety of your food for you and your household. Being prepared, and taking advantage of programs available can take some energy and time, but thankfully there are some resources you can utilize immediately including emergency food pantries, along with your own food safety temperature monitoring to help alleviate the burden of food loss during these disruptive events.



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COURTESY PHOTO

C.A.C. and H.E.L.P. host “Fresh Start” expungement clinic

By HASANI ALI

A fresh start would be the perfect gift for many people for the holidays.

Michigan residents had the opportunity to turn over a new leaf which would help many put their past behind them and gain access to privileges that were once lost.

The “Clean Slate. Fresh Start” Expungement Clinic gave residents that opportunity on Nov. 18 at the Saginaw Community Action Center (CAC), located at 2824 Perkins St.

H.E.L.P. (Healing Engagement Love and Presence) Community Violence Intervention Team partnered with 94th District Representative Amos O’Neal, State Attorney General’s Office, Saginaw City Mayor Brenda Moore, Saginaw Public Defender’s Office, and CAC were all involved in putting together the clinic.

O’Neal and Moore leveraged their state-wide relationships to host an expungement clinic for the Great Lakes Bay Region. The 4-hour clinic is the brainchild of Certified Peer Recovery Coach, Antonio Brooks, of The H.E.L.P. Community Violence Intervention Team.

Brooks, a former felon, recently completed the process of having his felonies

expungement, while attending an expungement clinic.

“I can’t explain the amount of freedom I felt after having that weight lifted off my shoulders,” he said. “I finally have my life back. I’m thankful that my poor judgment as a youth no longer has to haunt me as an adult.”

The statewide clinic had 1,200 attendees from across the state.

H.E.L.P. Event coordinator Kareem Bowen was ecstatic about the turnout of the event. Being able to help individuals turn their lives around was something that he and the staff could be proud of.

“It was absolutely amazing to be able to provide hope to our community,” he said. “It showed me by the amount of people in attendance of how many people truly want to be free of their past.”

Though the clinic was open to Michigan residents statewide, people did come from other states such as Illinois and Ohio.

As people were looking to change their life around, one of the biggest barriers that stood in the way of many was the financial obligations that come with cleaning their record.

“Due to the volunteers, we were able to wipe out the cost required to expunge their

records,” Bowen said. “From the attorneys, notaries and the police department, everything was done in-house and didn’t cost a dime for anyone.”

Many interesting circumstances were presented at the clinic.

There were several cases where many of the residents already had their felonies expunged due to the new “Clean Slate” law as a felony is wiped off the record after 10 years.

“Many of the people that attended already had their records wiped clean due to the new law,” Bowen said. “They just weren’t aware as they may not have known about the new law nor were notified.”

Some residents were even able to have multiple felonies deleted off their record due to the “One Bad Night” law, where a person was charged with multiple felonies that occurred during one incident.

Another clinic will be scheduled for the beginning of the year. No official dates have been given. The next event will include residents having the opportunity to have their driver’s license reinstated.

If you would like additional information about the upcoming clinic, please call Kareem Bowen at 989-714-6957.



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Frederick Douglass invited to speak at 250th Anniversary of Boston Tea Party



NATHAN M. RICHARDSON

Nathan M. Richardson is a Hampton Roads based first person historical interpreter of the iconic Frederick Douglass. Nathan's interpretations of Douglass have received national and international acclaim. He recently received an invitation to perform a reenactment at historic Faneuil Hall in Boston, Massachusetts where Frederick Douglass spoke at the centennial anniversary of the Boston Tea Party (December 16, 1773)

The Faneuil Hall tickets have gone live at the below link. These tickets are moving VERY quickly so if you're interested in reserving any, I'd suggest you do that ASAP. As this is a public space, the seats are not "for sale" but do need to be reserved. >>> <https://www.december16.org/boston-tea-party-reenactment#tickets>

We welcome interviews in print, radio or television with Mr. Richardson to talk about his role in The Boston Tea Party 250th Anniversary, Boston, Massachusetts, Saturday, December 16, 2023.



2022 LIGHTS BEFORE CHRISTMAS EVENT

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 8, 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 4.

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

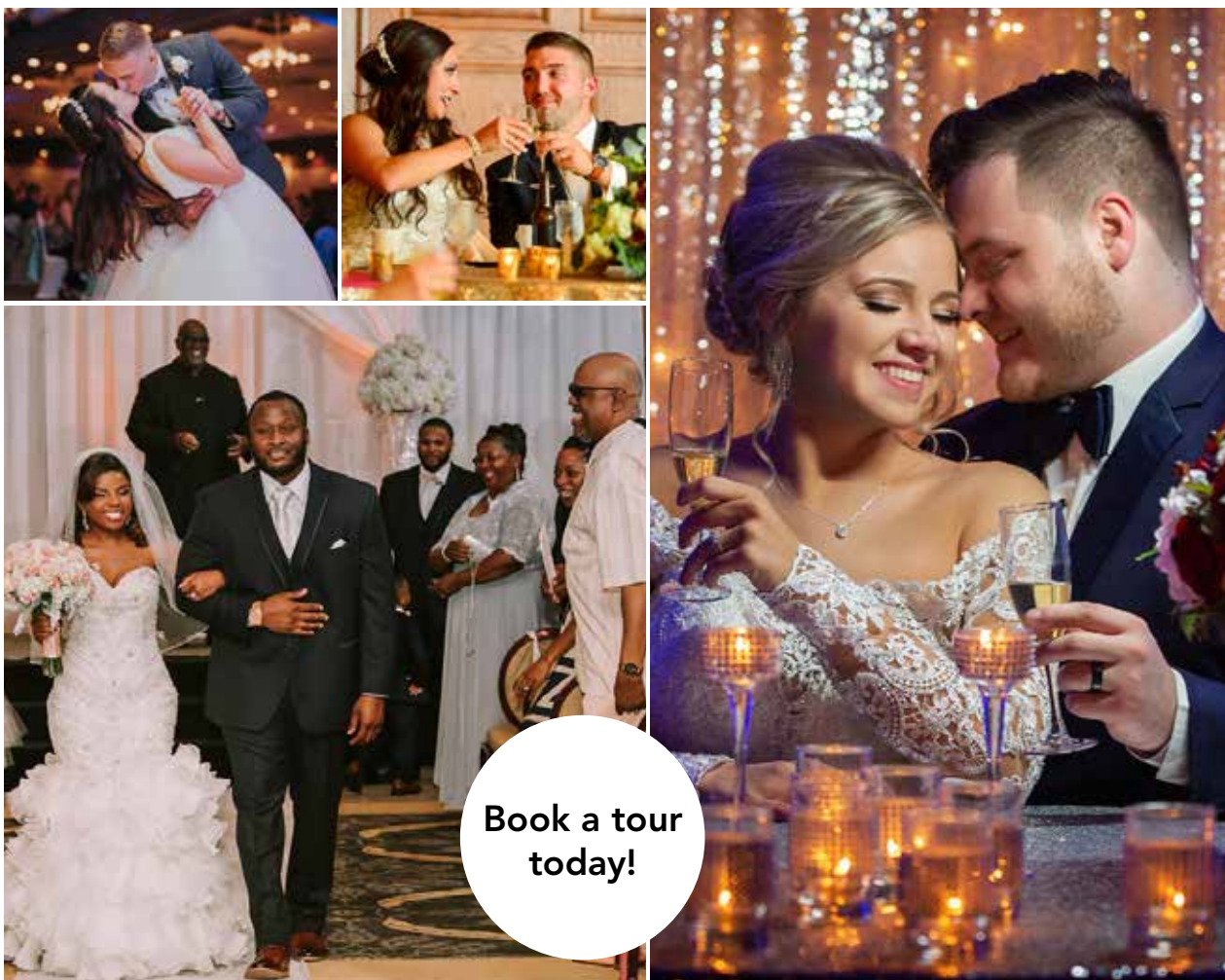
- COPOCO Community
- Elga
- Family First
- Financial Plus
- First Area
- Frankenmuth (SVRC)
- Health Advantage
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- Lake Michigan
- Team One
- United Financial
- Wildfire

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 2023 Lights Before Christmas and make the holidays brighter for Covenant Kids! Every night at 6pm December 4-8, 2023, 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 6pm 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.



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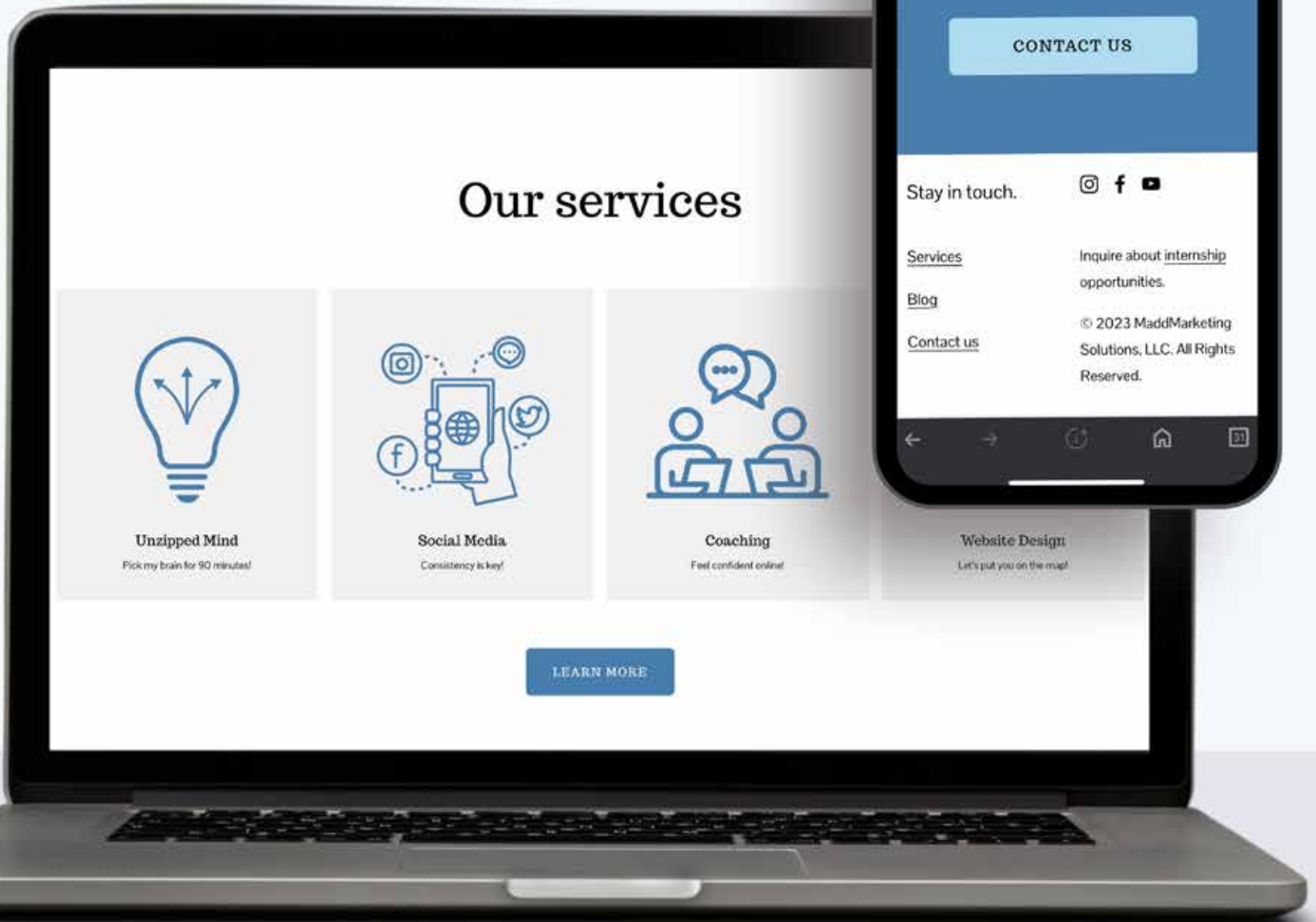
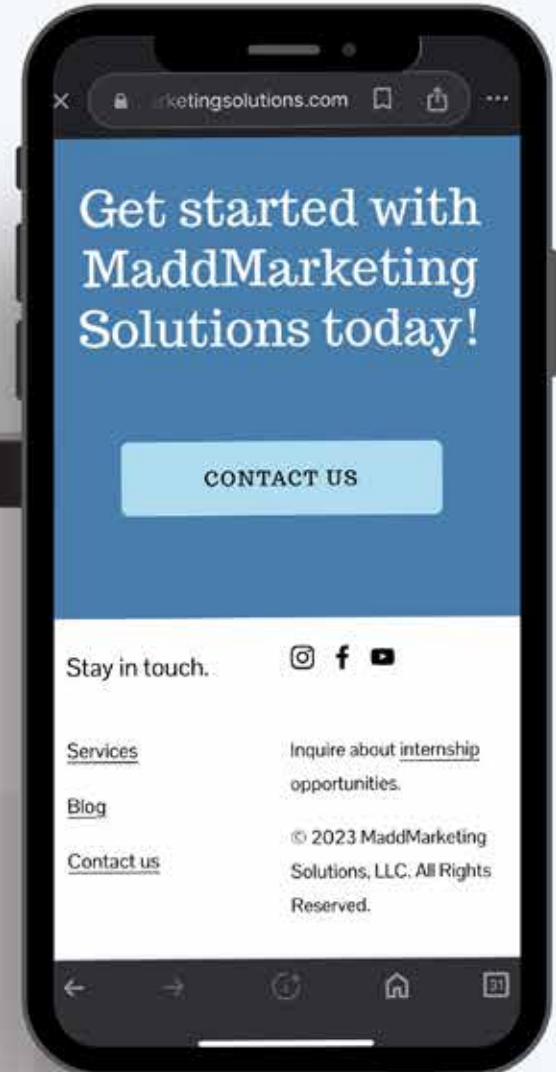
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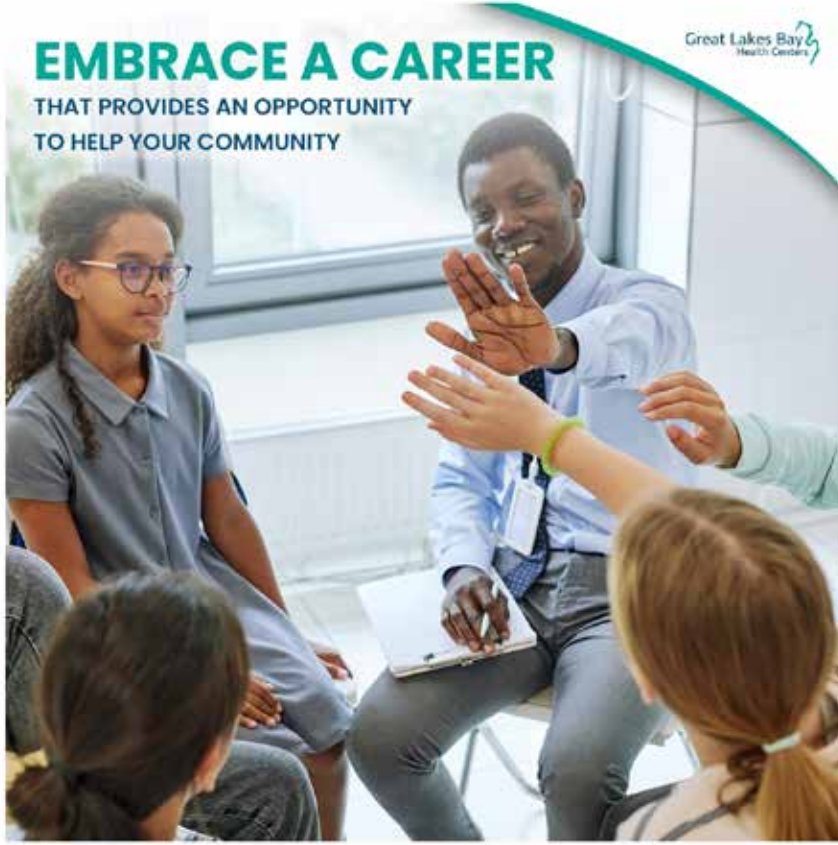


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+ COMMUNITY

ForbesBLK
Summit

COURTESY PHOTO

The right fit at the right time

By **JOYCE CADE-HITCHEY**
VETERAN/SNOWBIRD

“I don’t fit into spaces. I add to spaces.” Maybe a quote from Melonie D. Parker (Google) but it is also the conundrum that so many black and brown people face in our consumer created world.

This is one of the reasons I attended the ForbesBLK conference. ForbesBLK was formed in May 2023. It is a global community of exceptional leaders of color breaking down barriers, driving more equitable economies and catalyzing systemic change according to the Forbes website. Several months later the first ForbesBLK summit was held in Atlanta, Georgia.

By 2024, both Blavity Inc. and CNBC states that spending power among people of the African Diaspora is expected to reach \$1.8 trillion. That spending power was utilized to make the ForbesBLK inaugural meeting for people of color one of the quickest to sell-out. The inaugural theme was the future of black entrepreneurialism: convening culture, creativity, and community.

Some of the highlights were singer La La Anthony, and executives from A T & T (Michelle Jordan, Chief Diversity Officer), Microsoft (Todd Minor, General Manager, MCAPS Academy) and Google (Melonie D. Parker, Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer).

La La Anthony, singer, actress and entrepreneur states that her mother is her champion. She emphasizes that dealing with someone she respects and trusts has helped her to surpass in a business that not only has numerous disappointments

but where few prosper.

Several executives from various companies came to tell of programs both past and present that assist people of color. Some also told what the organizations look for when funding entrepreneurial programs. AT&T looks for certification, diversification, and scalability when looking for entrepreneurs to work with. Microsoft has programs such as Microsoft Sales Academy which was begun a few years ago. It is a six-month program that builds skills in sales with people that have had unusual first jobs. Its goal is to have them become acclimated to the sales culture. Google has mental health programs for African Diaspora and Latinx communities. Google also has programs that have also funded these communities with one hundred thousand to one hundred fifty thousand dollars for their startups. People in these programs have had a ninety-six percent success rate.

Most of the people who were speaking were first generational college graduates, came from inner city or limited income families but each had achieved what their relatives could not do due to barriers in education and employment. That was what was so inspiring for me. That is why I stayed. “I am the hope of my grandmother.” Todd Minor (Microsoft) stated.

Forums like this are needed to help continue to grow the seeds our ancestors cast.

“Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave, I am the dream and the hope of the slave. I rise. I rise. I rise.” – Maya Angelou

Unity



By Brigitte Johnson

Unity is a word
That everyone should know
The interlocking of our spirits
The compassion, the love, the glow

Unity is a source of strength
Never choosing to give up
Always having each other’s backs
Continuing to expand our cups

Unity is all hands on deck
Stretching to grab one another
Striving to live our best life
While cherishing our sisters and brothers

Unity is a bond
that continues to glue us together
Whether you are right, whether you
are wrong
We will strive to do better

Unity is a peaceful solution
Knowledge from the ones
who have already been there
Spoken word’s of education and
wisdom
Always the will and gratitude to share

Unity is not about
The titles that We hold
It’s about love for our community
The memories we desire to be told

Unity is a mental revolution
Allowing your mind to be at rest
Working through all of life’s drama
Satisfied you doing your best

Unity is a world united
Striving to do what is right
Teaching and supporting each another
While keeping God in our perfect
sight

+ COMMUNITY

Nominations encouraged for Michigan Lottery's Excellence in Education Awards to honor outstanding educators

The Michigan Lottery is celebrating 10 years of recognizing outstanding educators with the 2023-24 Excellence in Education awards. During the program's 10 years, the Michigan Lottery has recognized more than 300 public-school educators across Michigan and highlighted the impact they have in their respective communities.

Nominations are currently open, and parents, students, school staff members, and others are encouraged to nominate outstanding public-school educators for awards. All public-school employees may be nominated for the awards, which recognize educators who go "above and beyond" to make a difference in the lives of children. To nominate a public-school educator, go to <https://www.michigan-lottery.com/excellenceineducation>.

"Public-school educators play a critical role in our students' lives by serving as role models, offering encouragement and motivation, and teaching critical skills that prepare Michigan's students for future success," said Acting Lottery Commissioner, Jessica Weare. "The Lottery's Excellence in Education awards shine a light on dedicated educators who go above and beyond for their students and inspire them to reach their full potential."

The Michigan Lottery established the Excellence in Education awards in 2014 to recognize outstanding public-school educators across the state during the school year.

One outstanding educator will be selected each week and will receive a \$2,000 cash prize. At the end of the school year, one of these weekly award winners will be selected to receive the Lottery's Educator of the Year award and will receive a \$10,000 cash prize.

Winners of the weekly award are featured in a news segment on the Lottery's media partner stations: WXYZ-TV in Detroit, FOX 17 in Grand Rapids, FOX 47



in Lansing, WNEM-TV in Saginaw, and WWTW-TV in Traverse City.

The winner of the 2023 Educator of the Year award was Kathryn Kluzak, a kindergarten teacher at Robert L. Green Elementary in East Lansing.

Hundreds of educators were nominated during the 2022-23 school year, which was the ninth year of the Excellence in Education awards program. Thirty-four of these nominees, including Kluzak, were selected to win a weekly award.

Previous winners of the Educator of the Year award:

2022 – Spencer Vanderheide, a high school teacher with Kenowa Hills High School in Grand Rapids.

2021 – Janice Smith, a school social worker at Fisher Magnet Lower Academy in Detroit.

2020 – Megan Sidge, an Autism Spectrum Disorder teacher at Hickory Woods Elementary in Walled Lake.

2019 – Stewart Kieliszewski, an Earth science, biology, mechatronics, and media teacher for eighth through 12 graders at the Ubly Community Schools.

2018 – Kerri Moccio, a first-grade literacy intervention specialist at Bedford Elementary School in Dearborn Heights.

2017 – Linda Holzwarth, a social studies teacher at Portage West Middle

School in Portage. 2016 – Daniel Carr, a Spanish and sports marketing teacher at Waverly High School in Lansing. 2015 – Michael Craig, a special education teacher at the Charles Drew Transition Center in Detroit.

Excellence In Education award nominees should demonstrate the following qualities:

- Excellence – Their work consistently helps students and/or their schools or school districts advance to higher levels of academic achievement.
- Dedication – They consistently go above and beyond expectations to help students succeed. • Inspiration – Their work inspires others around them to exceed expectations either academically or professionally.
- Leadership – They demonstrate clear leadership skills in their positions with their school or school districts.
- Effectiveness – The nominee's work has clear and positive results on the educational advancement of students within the school or school district.

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Overall odds of winning A Partridge in a Pear Tree: 1 in 4.61, Overall odds of winning 'Tis the Season: 1 in 4.50, Overall odds of winning Peppermint Payout: 1 in 4.11, Overall odds of winning Holiday Wishes: 1 in 3.61, Overall odds of winning 500X Money Maker: 1 in 3.43, Knowing your limits is always the best bet. Call the Michigan Problem Gambling Helpline for confidential help at 1-800-270-7117.



+ FAITH BASED

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



HONORARY ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

LOUIS "Poppa" BISHOP

*And in their mouth was found no guile:
for they are without fault before the
throne of God. - REVELATION 14:5*

It is with humble acceptance of God's will that we, the Bishop family, and The Nation's Church, announce the Heavenly transition of Honorary Administrative Assistant, Louis "Poppa" Bishop, from earth to Glory on November 24th, 2023. Final arrangements will be forthcoming.

+ FAITH BASEDMICHIGAN BANNER
SERMONETTE SERIES**By MINISTER CAROLYN
CARTER TOWNSEL**

Once a year Thanksgiving Day is set aside to express our gratitude. This special day arrives with the aroma of delicious, tongue tasting, jaw smacking edibles. The table is a delightful feast consisting of cornbread dressing, turkey, ham, potato salad, sweet potato pies, cakes, and so much more! It is a day of gathering with family, friends, and love ones. The rooms are filled with jokes inducing hearty laughter, children playing, strolls down memory lane, and yes sadness for those who you yearn for, but were unable to be with and for those who are no longer with us. Ultimately, it is a day of giving thanks

Although, the thanksgiving holiday has come and gone, when and if you stop and intentionally take the time out to think about all the blessings, you are thankful for, it becomes a transformative experience. Transformative in that you are not

Every day is a day of Thanksgiving

Giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ

Ephesians 5:20

only thankful on Thanksgiving Day, but you are truly grateful daily, you quickly comprehend the good outweigh the bad, you understand that the things you are grateful for, deserves your continuous appreciation of them. Simply because he, she, they, them or it (people, places, or things) may be here today, but gone tomorrow. Therefore, it is imperative that we embrace the fruitfulness of gratitude and count our blessings that enhance our lives with abundance every day.

The Lord has blessed us with many Blessings and Amazing days. Here is a poem that has blessed me and I pray it blesses you. The poem is called, "Thanksgiving Observance" written by an unknown Author:

Count your blessings instead of your crosses,

Count your gains instead of your losses,

Count your joys instead of

your woes,

Count your friends instead of your foes,

Count your smiles instead of your tears,

Count your courage instead of your fears,

Count your full years instead of your lean,

Count your health instead of your wealth,

Count on God instead of yourself.

Scripture teaches us every day is a day of thanksgiving. While Thanksgiving is a holiday for all in the United States, as Christians, we do not need a holiday to remind us to give thanks. We genuinely know that "Every Day Is a Day of Thanksgiving."

Blessings to All...

+ CHURCH DIRECTORY

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Christ Fellowship Baptist Church
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989-754-4435
PastorD818@gmail.com



Christ Image Community Church
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(989) 759-9161
christimage.us

F



Faith Harvest Church
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Saginaw, MI 48602
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faithharvestministry.org
office@faithharvestministry.org



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



Glimpse Of Hope Ministries
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g.ministries@aol.com



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Grace Chapel Church
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M

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



Mt. Olive Baptist Church
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+ FUNDRAISING GOODTIMES

Working together: local government and nonprofits

By MEL AND PEARL SHAW

Let us pull back the curtain on the relationship between local government and nonprofits to share a story of a community that works together.

Last week we had the opportunity to work with the Office of Neighborhood Engagement in Memphis, TN and we are delighted to report that “The ONE” as they call themselves showed up in style to host nonprofit grantees. As Joyce Cox, manager of The ONE shared in her welcoming message, “We are the bomb diggity.” She is proud of her team – and the other programs within the Department of Housing and Community Development – for how they are responsive to community needs, and how they work to lift up residents within Memphis neighborhoods. These programs are responsible for administering federal and local funds, and ensuring the dollars reach those for whom they are designated, including those who are homeless, with special needs, living with AIDS, and more.

All grants are publicly announced, have specific criteria, and a detailed application process. There are grant committees that review the applications, and then they make decisions about which organizations should receive funding and for which proj-

ects. But the process doesn’t end there. In Memphis the process goes beyond letters being sent out with paperwork for the nonprofits to return. Joyce Cox and her team take time to build community by bringing together grantees with City staff members to review all the ins and outs of how to manage a grant and report on use of funds. They seek to build community amongst and between local nonprofits, and to make sure that grantees know who to talk to within City government when it comes to questions related to their grants.

This was the second time we were asked to facilitate this process and we left feeling good. Our city has been making the national news lately for horrible crimes and police brutality, and locally we, like so many other communities, wake up to news of violence from the preceding today. But last week we got to see the goodness that is at the core of who we are as Memphians. We shared the morning surrounded by people who spend their lives caring for the homeless, connecting people to services and housing. We were with those who made sure the “hard to reach” were connected to COVID testing and vaccines during the height of the epidemic. There were representatives from the local LGBTQ organization, OUT Mem-



JOYCE COX

phis, from the Salvation Army, and from a local rugby team. The room was overflowing with diversity and a caring commitment to service.

The purpose was to help make sure that the nonprofits who are awarded funds have an understanding of how and when funds can be spent, and who to turn to when they have questions or challenges. Joyce Cox shared her vision, “We got it together so people would understand how quickly we need to spend the money, how important it is, and how to spend the money and to spend it correctly.” We hope your City has its own Joyce Cox!



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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.

+ EDUCATION



JOAN AND CRAIG DOUGLAS

An educator's legacy



By **CRAIG DOUGLAS**
RETIRED EDUCATOR

It is widely reported that there are shortages in education in all areas, especially teaching candidates. There are many causes, and I will leave them to another article on another day.

Less often, it seems, do we reflect upon an educator's rewards that are derived from a person's career. These are the intangibles that are unique to us to be in the profession. They are the unexpected blessings we receive.

The purpose of today's article is to look at the blessings and intangibles as found in the career of an educator who recently passed away, my dear wife Joan Douglas.

Joan passed away peacefully on November 16th at Detroit Henry Ford Hospital after a courageous battle with health issues involving low blood pressure and organ failure. Her visitation and funeral brought many people out to pay their respects, and the overwhelming response motivates me to select three examples highlight what Joan had achieved as an educator. In her own humble way, Joan served as a teacher, counselor, and elementary principal. In doing so, Joan carved a unique legacy.

First, I will start with the people who worked with Joan. The secretaries knew her best, Marilyn Walkowiak (Bush Elementary School) and Kathy VanOchten (Garber High School). Both secretaries

admired Joan's work ethic; she was one of the first to arrive and last to leave. Joan rolled her sleeves up and went to work each day, not for herself or for any personal recognition. It was for the students and staff. Garber H.S. counseling colleagues, Kathy Kinkema and Bill Harris, echoed the same sentiment. They were fiercely loyal to Joan because of her fairness and strong work ethic, as were the counselors in elementary and junior high school, Carol Laframboise and Lisa Reynolds.

Second, I would offer students who spoke about Joan. Nicole Russell wrote, "I had the opportunity to go to the national HOSA competition in California my senior year but didn't have enough money. Mrs. Douglas made it so that I could go." Dawn (Bradour) Gillard stated, "Mrs. Douglas was a huge part of my journey at Garber High School. She helped me through some of my darkest and trying times when my mom passed away. She was one of a kind. I will always remember her for her kind, caring spirit." Martha Umphrey shared, "Joan changed my life so profoundly many years ago, and I have never lost sight of that." These are samples of many students who commented and/or reached out. It further cements a legacy unique to an educator.

Finally, members of the churches and service clubs Joan aligned poured out love and support. Joan's middle name could have been "service" because that was a core belief she had. People saw that and respected her for it. This is a common quality many educators have; they want to serve their students and parents. They engage with their community.

For those who may be considering a career in education, I urge you to "go for it" just as Joan did. We need good candidates in the field; why not be among them? Mahatma Gandhi said, "You must be the change you wish to see in the world." Joan Douglas' legacy is that she was, indeed, the change she wanted to see in the world.

+ EDUCATION

Karen S. Carter, Dow Packaging & Specialty Plastics business president to deliver commencement address to SVSU graduating class



KAREN S. CARTER

Karen S. Carter, president of Dow's Packaging & Specialty Plastics (P&SP) business operating segment, has been selected to address Saginaw Valley State University's graduating class during two commencement ceremonies on Saturday, Dec. 16.

Nearly 500 SVSU students who are

completing degrees have expressed their intent to participate in the commencement ceremonies.

The first of the two ceremonies will begin at 10 a.m., recognizing graduates from SVSU's College of Arts & Behavioral Sciences; College of Science, Engineering & Technology; and the Scott L. Carmona

College of Business. The second ceremony, at 2:30 p.m., celebrates graduates from the College of Education and the Crystal M. Lange College of Health & Human Services.

Both ceremonies will be held in O'Neill Arena in SVSU's Ryder Center and will be livestreamed.

Carter, who has spent her entire career at Dow, was named president of P&SP in November 2022. With annual sales exceeding \$29 billion, the business unit is widely recognized as the world's largest materials supplier of polyethylene resins and functional polymers used in a wide variety of applications.

Since joining Dow in 1993, Carter has served in a progression of roles. Prior to being named president of P&SP, Carter served four years as Dow's chief human resources officer and chief inclusion officer, successfully institutionalizing inclusion and diversity as key drivers for long-term growth.

Carter has been widely recognized for her innovative leadership, including being named to the EMpower 100 Senior Executives Role Model List supported by Yahoo! Finance in 2020, 2021, 2022, and by YouTube in 2023. Most recently, she was inducted into the Kansas African American Museum Trailblazer Hall of Fame.

Carter completed a bachelor's degree in marketing from Howard University and a master's degree in international business from DePaul University.

Founded in 1963, SVSU is celebrating its 60th anniversary this academic year. Since the first 10 graduates earned degrees from Saginaw Valley College in 1966, more than 50,000 individuals have joined the alumni ranks, living and working in every state in the nation and at least 40 countries worldwide. The vast majority of SVSU alumni – roughly 85 percent – remain in Michigan, with a large concentration in the Great Lakes Bay Region where they are building careers in the state's most in-demand fields.

SAGINAW PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Exchange Partnership



Emma Nduka, 5th Grade Math
Thompson Middle School



Kerina Okonko,
Middle & High School Science/Math
Saginaw Arts & Sciences Academy



Sovaina Florette Bonilla, 7th Grade Science
Thompson Middle School



Etso Che, 8th Grade Science
Thompson Middle School

Welcome to Saginaw Public Schools! 2023-2024 International Teachers

Saginaw Public Schools has entered into a partnership with Saginaw Valley State University which allows SPSP to participate in an exchange program with students and staff members from the S.T.G. School in India and the Saginaw Arts & Sciences Academy. Each group of students and staff members will visit the respective schools and countries and exchange cultural ideas and educational practices. This is the first year that Saginaw Public Schools will be participating in the program.



Liyuan Bao, Chinese
Saginaw Arts & Sciences Academy



Brandon Brieva, Spanish
Thompson Middle School



Jean Acuna, Spanish
Arthur Hill High School



Jorge Delgado, Spanish
Arthur Hill High School



Asante Ali, Geometry
Arthur Hill High School

Handley Elementary School Dedication

November 6, 2023

The collage features a central image of a large group of people, including children and adults, gathered in front of the school building. Surrounding this are several smaller inset photos: a group of people shaking hands, a man speaking at a podium, a woman speaking at a podium, a group of children, and a group of people holding a ceremonial object. The background is decorated with confetti and the school's name.



THE POWER OF THE PROMISE DEPENDS ON ALL OF US!

Support the Saginaw Promise with a
gift to its 2023 Community Campaign!

The Power and ability of the Saginaw Promise to affect
change through postsecondary education, depends on
community partners, donors, sponsors and volunteers.

Since 2012, the Saginaw Promise has awarded
\$1,227,714 in scholarships to **695** scholars.



The Saginaw Promise asks you to invest in Saginaw and its students with a gift
of support to the Saginaw Promise today! The Saginaw Promise is working to
provide the opportunity for and to eliminate barriers to postsecondary education to
impact the future of Saginaw, its economy and the lives of its students. **Please join
us as a community partner with your gift of support!**

To donate visit:
<https://form.jotform.com/221173527315147>
or visit the Saginaw Promise website
or contact our office at **(989)755-0545.**

Thank You

It takes a village...all of us to care for our community and our children....

Saginaw Promise | www.saginawpromise.org | (989) 755-0545





COURTESY PHOTO

Saginaw Promise... a scholarship to impact the future of Saginaw and its students!

Education is something that will last a lifetime and will open doors to life and career opportunities! The Saginaw Promise is working to affect Saginaw's future, its economy and quality of life by eliminating barriers to postsecondary education with information and a scholarship for students who live in the Saginaw Promise Zone.

- Scholarships may be used at technical/trade Schools, community colleges or universities to earn a program certificate or degree.
- Scholarships are available up to two years.
- Parental income or GPA are not considered. (Students must maintain the standards of the institution they enroll with.

- Students who complete the application have up to six years from high school graduation to use their scholarship.
- Visit www.saginawpromise for organizational and scholarship information and details or telephone the Saginaw Promise at (989) 755-0545.

Eligible Students:

Students must live in and graduate from a high school in the Saginaw Promise Zone (which consists of the cities of Saginaw, Zilwaukee, Kochville and that part of Buena Vista designated to the Saginaw Public School District) and students must meet the residency and school attendance requirements to apply

How to Apply?

- Complete the online Saginaw Community Foundation "Scholarship Application"—check off the Saginaw Promise and complete FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid-- when it becomes available online.
- Scholarship application deadline is February 9, 2024

Note: If you or know of someone who has completed the scholarship application and has used some or none of their Saginaw Promise scholarship, the student has up to six years from high school graduation to apply to use their Saginaw Promise scholarship. Telephone the Saginaw Promise office at (989) 755-0545 to determine your scholarship status.

+ EDUCATION



COURTESY PHOTO

SPONSORED CONTENT

Despite staffing challenges, Saginaw Intermediate School District's Early Childhood Department continues to provide students and families across the Great Lakes Bay Region with a variety of resources!

Despite staffing challenges, Saginaw Intermediate School District's Early Childhood Department continues to provide students and families across the Great Lakes Bay Region with a variety of resources!

The Saginaw ISD Early Childhood Services Department provides an array of resources for children and families throughout Saginaw County including home visits, preschool programming, and community support. Programs are designed to strengthen families by providing high-quality learning environ-

ments and support for their children while sharing access to essential family resources. Our programs include the following:

- Birth-5
- Early On
- Great Start Collaborative
- Great Start Readiness Program
- Great Start to Quality Eastern Resource Center
- Healthy Families America

- Head Start/Early Head Start
- Michigan Adolescent Pregnancy and Parenting Program (MI-APPP)
- Michigan Tri Share Child Care Program

Our largest programs encompass our preschool programming. The Early Head Start (EHS) program serves 156 students

CONTINUES ON PG 39, SISD

Continued from pg 38, SISD

in 6 classrooms and several homes while our Head Start (HS) program serves 859 students in 51 classrooms and 17 sites. Our Great Start to Readiness Program (GSRP) serves over 1,100 students across Saginaw county in local school districts, community based organizations and charter schools. These programs are essential to providing our youngest, most vulnerable learners the experiences they need to build a firm foundation for future academic success. It's impossible to do this alone and we value our partners at the local, state and federal level helping us in our pursuit for funding, support and legislative advocacy for high quality services.

Despite staffing challenges, SISD continues to keep the provision of these services at the forefront of what we do. These challenges are not prevalent just in our county, but across the state of Michigan. Research shows that the early foundational years of a child's life are of the greatest importance due to (but not limited to) the following:

- There are 700 to 1,000 new neural connections forming every second in a child's brain,
- Genetics in addition to life experiences help shape the developing brain,
- The foundation is key for future cognitive abilities, and
- Vocabulary at age 3 can predict 3rd grade reading achievement.

Implementation of high quality programs depends on a quality workforce. Providers locally and across the state know all too well the challenges we have and continue to experience being able to recruit and retain highly qualified staff. We are in need of individuals with a passion to provide much needed services to our students and families across Saginaw County. We encourage you to review the Saginaw ISD current preschool openings at www.sisd.cc and select "Join Our Team!" at the top right corner of the

page to see all of our openings for the following positions:

- Head Start Lead Teacher
- Head Start Associate Teacher
- Program Service Aide
- Home Visitor
- Early Head Start Lead Teacher
- Family Service Advocate
- Program Support Secretary

The credentials required for these positions range from a high school diploma to advanced degrees and certifications. Below you will find a list of our sites as well as our partner sites providing EHS, HS and GSRP services. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact Dr. Ericka Taylor at (989) 399-7423 or by email at etaylor@sisd.cc. Please, join our team in providing much needed services to the children and families within Saginaw County!

Early Head Start/Head Start Locations

- Adams Avenue
- Arrowwood Elementary
- Birch Run (North Elementary)
- Birch Run Annex
- Brucker
- Brunkow
- Building Blocks Child Care & Preschool Center
- Chesaning
- Claytor
- Hemmeter
- Jerome
- Kinder Kare Center
- Merrill
- Murphy Farm
- Saginaw Career Complex
- St. Peter & Paul
- Valley

Great Start to Readiness Program Locations

- Birch Run Area Preschool
- Bridgeport-Spaulding Preschool
- Building Blocks Childcare & Preschool Center
- Carrollton Early Childhood Center
- Chesaning Union Schools Latchkey and Preschool
- EduPlay Discovery Center
- Francis Reh Public School Academy
- Hemlock Child Development Programs
- Merrill Community Child Development Center
- Michigan Child Care Centers, Inc.
- Roaring Lions Learning Center
- Saginaw Preparatory Academy
- Saginaw Public Schools
 - Arthur Eddy Academy
 - Henry Doerr Early Childhood
 - Herig PreK & B/ATB
 - Kempton PreK & B/ATB
 - Jessie Loomis Preschool
 - Merrill Park PreK
 - Rouse PreK
 - Stone Preschool
 - Zilwaukee Prek & B/ATB
- St Charles Children's Center
- Wee Care Christian Children's Center

⁴Head Start Program Information report (2019-2020); Kids Count Data Book (Michigan, 2021); U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics (2020); Great Start Readiness Program State Evaluation Annual Report (2019-2020).

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FREE TUITION.

Get Free Tuition through Michigan's Reconnect Scholarship Program

Delta College, in partnership with Michigan Reconnect, is offering free in-district tuition to qualifying Michigan residents who want to earn an associate degree or certificate.

Do you qualify?

- Michigan resident for 1 year or more
- At least 25 years of age
- U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen
- Hold a high school diploma or GED
- Do not currently hold a college or university degree
- Students must enroll for 12 credits per year

**Newly expanded
to those 21-24
for a limited time!**

*Other costs apply. Students outside Bay, Midland and Saginaw counties (Delta's service district) can receive the scholarship but will be responsible for the difference between in-district and out-of-district tuition and fees.

Apply today! | delta.edu/reconnect | 989-686-9093



SAGINAW PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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IS YOUR CHILD A FUTURE SAGINAW PUBLIC SCHOOLS SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE?

CONGRATS

ARTHUR HILL HIGH SCHOOL'S

SAGINAW COUNTY

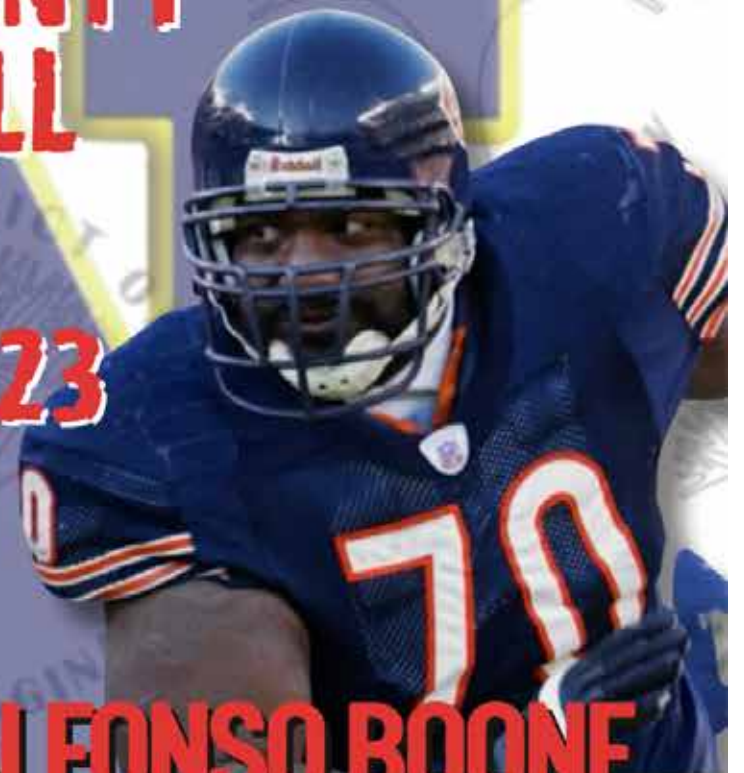
SPORTS HALL

OF FAME

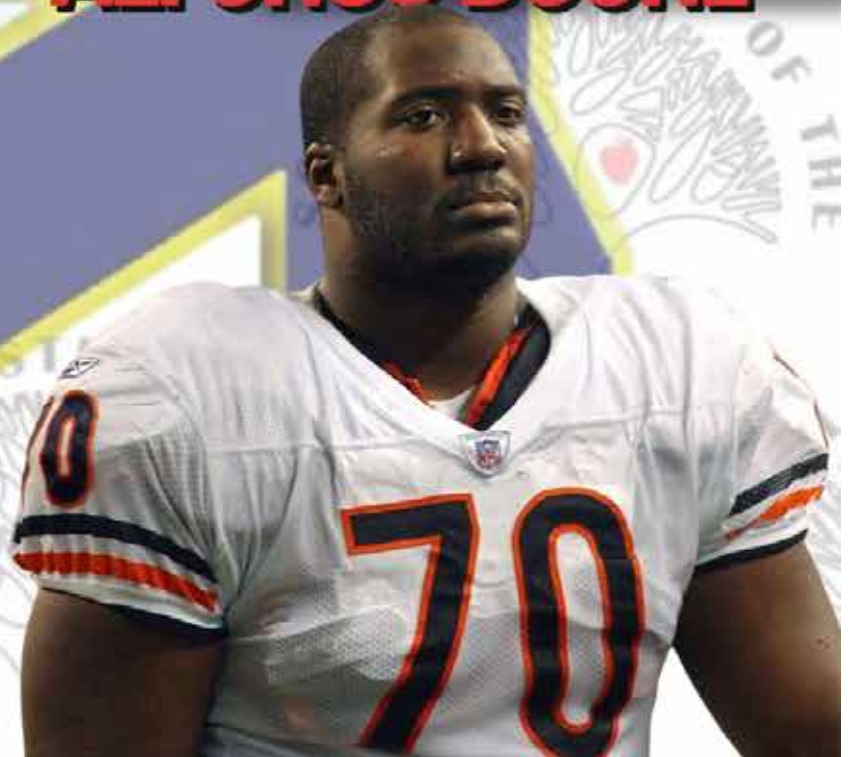
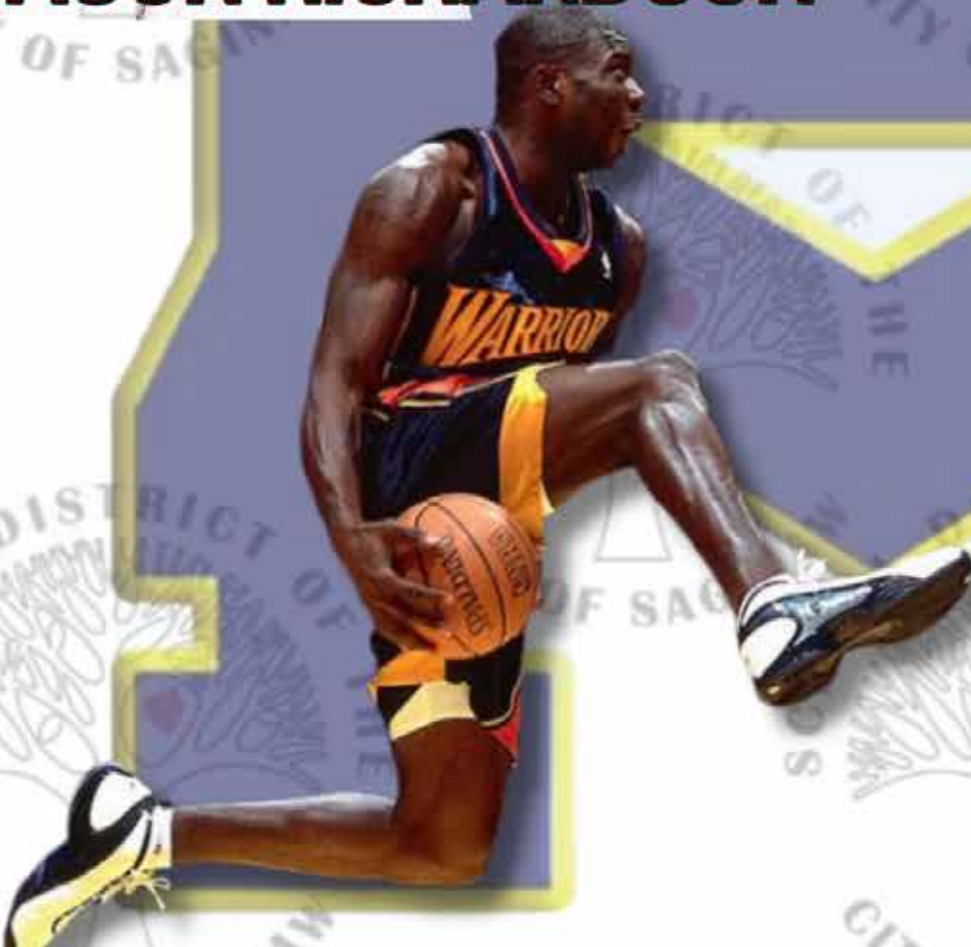
CLASS OF 2023



JASON RICHARDSON



ALFONSO BOONE





Saginaw Intermediate School District (ISD) is an educational service agency that provides effective and innovative leadership, services, resources, and programs throughout Saginaw County school districts since 1962. Saginaw ISD's **Early Childhood Services** department offers an array of support for children and families, including home visitation, preschool programs, and community resources.



Scan the QR code to learn more about Saginaw ISD's Early Childhood programs and family services. You may also contact Executive Director Dr. Ericka Taylor at etaylor@sisd.cc.



SAGINAW INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT

3933 Barnard Road, Saginaw, MI 48603
(989) 399-7473 | www.sisd.cc





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

MI Tri-Share
CHILD CARE

SAGINAW ISD
SERVE • INNOVATE • EMPOWER

MWC
MICHIGAN WOMEN'S
COMMISSION



The MI Tri-Share Child Care Program (Tri-Share) 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.

Current Partners

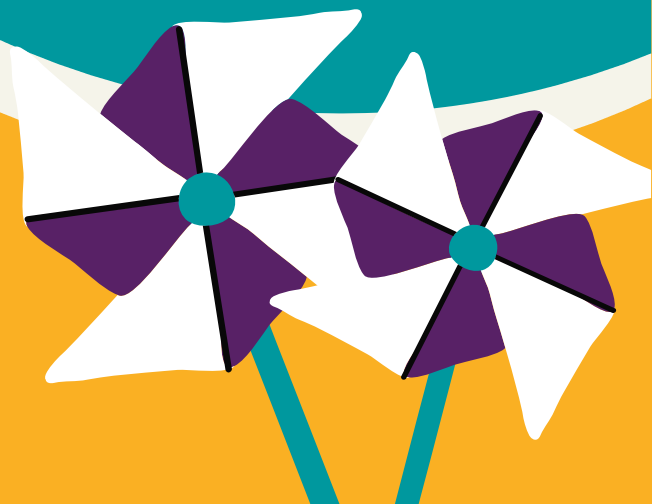
- Au Gres-Sims Schools
- Bay Arenac ISD
- Children's Discovery Academy
- Gratiot Isabella RESD
- Hemlock SemiConductor
- Ready, Set, Grow
- Saginaw ISD Head Start
- Vantage Plastics

Current Childcare Providers

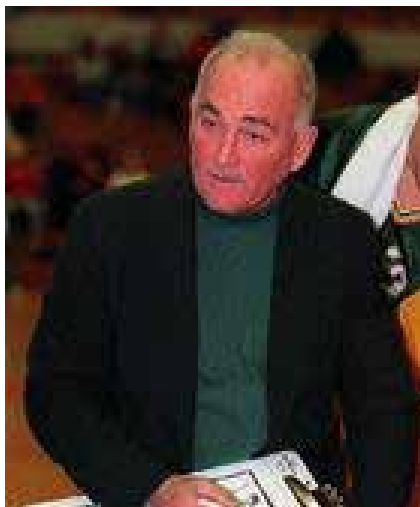
- ABC Day Care
- Best Friend Preschool, LLC
- Bright Beginnings
- Children's Discovery Academy at Carrie Knause
- Christ the King - Little Knights Preschool
- Grace Christian School
- Janas Full House
- Jolene Adams
- Kinder Kare
- Lil' Sprouts
- Little Explorers Learning Center
- Little Saints
- Play, Learn, Grow (Lil' Sprouts)
- Ready Set Grow
- Swan Valley Learning Center
- The Little Red Wagon Daycare, LLC
- Trinity Lutheran Church/School
- W.R. Bush Day Care

SIGNING UP AS AN EMPLOYER:

Saginaw ISD is one of several hubs. If you are interested in signing up as an employer, please contact Dr. Ericka Taylor at etaylor@sisd.cc.



+ SPORTS



COURTESY PHOTOS

Carrollton High School hosts basketball court dedication

CARROLLTON, MI — On Tuesday, December 19, 2023, at halftime of the boys' varsity basketball game (approximately 7:30 pm), Carrollton Public Schools will dedicate the Carrollton High School basketball court as the "Coach Ron Vondette Basketball Court at Carrollton High School." The dedication of the court honors the legacy of Mr. Ron Vondette, who served as the Boys Varsity Basketball Coach at Carrollton High School from 1965-1994, accumulating a 425-164 record, with 20 league championships, 7 district titles, 4 regional titles, and a runner-up finish in the 1969-70 state championship game.

In addition to remarks and the reveal of the sign at halftime, a reception will be held in the cafeteria after the game for former Carrollton High School basketball players who would like to visit with Coach

Vondette.

WHO:

- Tiffany Peterson, Superintendent of Carrollton Public Schools
- Jeff Boensch, Vice President of Carrollton Public Schools Board of Education
- Ed Boell, Principal of Carrollton High School
- Jacob Premo, Athletic & Transportation Director of Carrollton Public Schools
- Ken Hyde, Director of Facilities at Carrollton Public Schools
- Lindsay Bryce, Director of Family and Community Engagement at Carrollton Public Schools
- Jack Tany, Saginaw County Commissioner (District 2) and Past

President Emeritus of the Saginaw County Sports Hall of Fame

- George Kubiak, Former Carrollton All-State player

WHAT:

Coach Ron Vondette Basketball Court at Carrollton High School Dedication

WHEN:

Tuesday, December 19, 2023, at halftime of the boys' varsity basketball game against Frankenmuth High School (approximately 7:30 pm)

WHERE:

Carrollton High School
3211 Carla Dr.
Saginaw, MI 48604

+ SPORTS



KYLE KUZMA PICTURED WITH FEMALE INMATES IN FLINT

NBA star Kyle Kuzma donates \$60,000 in clothing and gifts to female inmates in Flint

By HASANI ALI

'Tis the season for family, friends and giving.

For NBA star and Flint native Kyle Kuzma, he wants to be able to give to a different demographic. As he assesses the needs of people through his annual philanthropy, Kuzma wanted to share the holiday joy with the forgotten people of society.

The Washington Wizards forward spent part of the holidays in unfamiliar territory – watching female inmates at Genesee County Jail unite with their families and children days after Thanksgiving.

They're sharing meals and pleasantries, eating pizza and popcorn. Before long, these women will fully resume normal lives and be back out in the world, hopefully comfortable enough in society to never return to such a place again.

According to Yahoo Sports, Kuzma is looking to bridge that gap, recognizing that the world often forgets about people who become incarcerated and aren't given the tools to be in better situations than the circumstances that placed them in jail.

He has partnered with the I.G.N.I.T.E. inmate program and the R.I.S.E. re-entry program through his foundation. The former has multiple six-week programs that highlight education and skill initiatives and the latter supports these women in their first six months as they exit the jail system.

The numbers are quite astounding.

According to prisonpolicy.org, nationally, 80% of women in jail are mothers, most of whom are the primary caretakers for their children. The mortality rate in jail is higher for women than for men, and women are more likely to enter jail with a medical problem or serious mental illness.

"Who wants presents?!" Kuzma belted to the children as he entered the facility with gifts.

He delivered wrapped boxes to the kids, announcing their names and watching them open board games, dolls, scooters, arts and crafts, and more. Shortly after, one of the eight inmates was in tears with her mother while holding her newborn daughter for the first time.

Kuzma noticed the moment, came over and quietly embraced both, then began a

conversation.

"During holiday time, a lot of women in prison are forgotten about," Kuzma said. "Very marginalized. It was important for me, growing up here, to help make an impact in prison reform."

I.G.N.I.T.E., established in September 2020, states that it has delivered more than 250,000 hours of training and has seen jail violence drop by 97%. Inmates can get their GEDs and receive assistance with mental health, among other initiatives.

R.I.S.E., founded in September in Genesee County, serves people with mild to moderate offenses who'll be returning home within six months.

Flint is just over an hour away from Little Caesar's Arena, where a night later, Kuzma had one of his best games of the season, with 32 points, 12 rebounds and eight assists in a Wizards victory.

But he flew ahead of his team, getting to the area a few hours early to make the presentation to the inmates, who, Kuzma noted multiple times, will be exiting the jail soon.

Johnson and Reed giving athletes a chance to E.A.T., re-imaging the city of Saginaw

By HASANI ALI

Saginaw has a bad reputation as a city from those who made it out of it.

From the rugged city streets to the unfriendliness of its residents, the city has definitely earned the nickname, "Sag Nasty."

However, coach Dell Johnson is looking to give the city of Saginaw a different image. A place where people can come and do good business, make great connections and athletes can come and compete at an elite level.

"I get so frustrated with our professional athletes and their narratives about how dangerous Saginaw is and what it's like to live here," he said. "If we're going to make the necessary changes, then we need to be more positive about our city and what good is coming out of it."

Johnson, one half of Equal Access to Training (E.A.T.) along with coach Keyon Reed, has always had a passion for giving back to the city and helping young athletes develop their skill-set.

From what started as volunteer work at the YMCA turned into a business for the two Saginaw High alumni.

After the two finished their careers at the college level, they wanted to stay tied to the game.

"We had some many players come to us for training that it even got to some of the legendary coaches around the area," said Reed. "Coach McMath even asked us how much we were charging so he could send his players to us when he was coaching at Arthur Hill at the time."

Playing for the legendary Saginaw coach Marshall Thomas, Johnson and Reed want to give their clients the principles needed to elevate their game. Now understanding why their coach was so hard on them in high school, they apply those same principles to their athletes.

"Coach Marshall was definitely a disciplinarian," said Johnson. "He made sure that we did everything right, even the little things. That's what made us such great ball players. We didn't understand his methods back then, but we get it now that we've become the coaches."

With the unifying of Saginaw High and Arthur Hill (Saginaw United), Johnson and Reed understand the intensity of the competition

once the players have to compete for a varsity spot.

"We're going to get more athletes in here trying to make the 15-spot roster," said Reed. "Since there's only going to be one team to represent Saginaw for the boys and girls, everyone is going to do what's necessary to secure their spot."

The dynamic duo immediately recognized the benefits of athletes having access to personal training. Johnson attributed many athletes to earning college scholarships due to their families being able to afford personal training.

"Many wealthy families invest into their children in the form of personal training," he said. "Those thousands of dollars in training can turn into athletic scholarships so those families do what they can to get their children ahead."

E.A.T. began to gain momentum while training athletes at Center Courts, but began to skyrocket as they would put on their pre-season camp, "Let's Get Ready."

"We would have these camps all over the state to prepare them for the regular season," Johnson said. "The last camp we did in Jackson had 120 ball players registered and that was a huge turnout."

From dozens of athletes receiving scholarships to play at the collegiate level, Johnson and Reed have smaller success stories that are dear to their hearts.

"We have an international player from Greece that came to us at 14-years-old," said Reed "He didn't have much experience playing basketball and people expected him to be good since he was 6-foot-3. He's actually in the Guinness Book of World Record for having the largest hands for the ages of 14-18. He's bound to be a 7-footer. Students made fun of him because his English wasn't fully developed, but he worked with us consistently and he made the varsity basketball team at Akron-Fairgrove High School."

It's the small stories that they will always remind them of their mission.



COURTESY PHOTO

"It's the players that have never played organized sports that make their school teams that always make me feel good," said Reed."

As the athletes began to travel from across the state to receive training, Johnson and Reed expanded their services to other sports.

They now offer training for football, volleyball, soccer and swimming.

"We have a staff specialized in these particular sports," Johnson said. "We wanted to make sure that all athletes have the same opportunity as the basketball players."

E.A.T. gives back to the community off the court as well.

Their annual Christmas drive is underway – looking to give away 10 bikes for the holidays in Saginaw and Bay City. The two young students complete an application with an essay explaining why they deserve to have a bike for Christmas.

As those that qualify, their names will be placed into a drawing and the winners will have their bikes delivered directly to their home.

Johnson has a simple solution for those who have heard about their training services, but not sure about the quality.

"Come check us out for yourself," he said. "Our training really speaks for itself as our athletes put in the work."

For more information, visit www.equalaccesstotraining.com. Also, you can contact Coach Johnson at 989-245-1523 or Coach Reed 989-992-4603.

+ SPORTS



LAKE MICHIGAN MENS BASKETBALL TEAM

Red Hawks starting strong, despite record

By HASANI ALI

Working with a new team and with younger players, Lake Michigan College is looking for a new identity from the previous season.

As the team sits with a 3-2 record, head coach Rickey Hampton is highly optimistic that his team will be able to have a successful season.

“We have a brand new team and we have a young group of guys,” he said. “They just started playing together and we still have the entire season for them to gel. We still have some players that are out with injury so once we have a full roster we will be able to get into the full swing of things and begin competing.”

The Red Hawks came up short against

Wayne County Community College 82-65 in their last game before the Thanksgiving break.

With a short 41-35 deficit at halftime, there were several opportunities to capitalize on a comeback.

The Wildcats had previously lost to Delta College after giving up a 20-point lead and the attacking point was applying the pressure for them to close out the game.

Unfortunately, they rose to the occasion.

Going 2-for-11 behind the arc and 18 turnovers, LMC had a difficult time regaining momentum down the stretch.

“They started to pull away at times and we panicked,” said freshman Michael

Durr. “They started to go on small runs here and there. We started playing like it was towards the end of the game when we actually had plenty of time left. We just got frantic while trying to keep them from getting hot.”

Sophomore Jailen Campbell led the way for the Red Hawks with 20 points. Durr followed with 16 points. De’Maro Buckner and Charles Brown were the leading scorers for the Wildcats with 16 points.

“That’s something that the guys will have to learn when it comes to clock management,” Hampton said. “We’re going to work on developing their basketball IQ so they know how to navigate in certain game situations. They have the athleticism and they know how to play the game, but we just have to get them acclimated to the college level.”

The Red Hawks did win the last home game against the Hope College JV team, 88-57.

Lake Michigan College had a convincing 44-28 lead at halftime and was able to keep the Flying Dutchmen at bay.

Durr led the way with 18 points. Sophomore Zahyem Bradwell trailed with 13 points while freshmen Xavion Greer and Kaleb Shannon chipped in 10 points.

Hampton knows that the competition will get tougher as the season continues, but believes that his team has enough depth to compete for a conference title and make a deep run in the playoffs.

“These guys have the competitive edge needed to win the big games,” he said. “When the team is on all cylinders, I’ve seen them play championship basketball. Experience is where we lack, but we will get that as the season goes on.”

The Red Hawks will resume their season on the road to face Jackson College on Dec. 3. Tipoff starts at 3 p.m.

+ SPORTS



COURTESY PHOTO

Eastern Michigan secures bowl eligibility for third consecutive year with win over Buffalo, 24-11

By HASANI ALI

Eastern Michigan University has solidified itself as a winning program in the Mid-American Conference.

After securing a 24-11 win last Tuesday against the Bulls during a rainy night at UB stadium, the Eagles won their sixth game of the season—making them bowl eligible for three consecutive years in a row.

EMU is looking to win their second consecutive bowl game after defeating San Jose State last season 41-27 in the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl – ironically, the same team they defeated in the California Bowl game back in 1987.

After snapping a three-game losing streak in the series, the Eagles are now 7-4

against the Bulls.

EMU (6-6 overall, 4-4 MAC) have posted three consecutive seasons with a .500-or-better MAC record for the first time since 1986-1989.

The Eagles will know their bowl fate on Selection Sunday, Dec. 3.

As the first half concluded, EMU displayed one of their best offense performances of the season, taking a commanding 24-0 lead.

Quarterback Austin Smith struck first for the Eagles with a five-yard run with 7:20 remaining in the first quarter.

Wide receiver Jaylon Jackson pulled in another score after a 19-yard catch from Smith.

After a 29-yard field goal from Jesús Gómez with less than five minutes remaining in the half, running back Samson Evans punched in a score from the one-yard line.

The Bulls put their first points on the board in the second half with a six-yard rush from Ron Cook and a two-point conversion in an attempt of a comeback. Alex McNulty followed with a 40-yard field goal.

The Eagles didn't score in the second half, but were able to shut down the Buffalo offense, holding them to a 3-of-12 conversion on third down and 1-of-6 on fourth down.

Head coach Chris Creighton gave much credit to his defense for stepping up late in the game.

“Our number two priority was winning on third down,” he said during a postgame interview. “The staff put together an excellent game plan and the players executed it perfectly.”

EMU also rushed for a season-high of 226 yards.

Smith finished the game with 19 completed passes for 141 yards, a touchdown and a rushing touchdown. Evans rushed for 127 yards and a touchdown. Jackson finished with three receptions for 18 yards and a touchdown.

Linebacker Chase Kline led the Eagles defensively with 11 tackles. EMU also recovered three fumbles.

Creighton described the locker room after the huge win.

“It was a fun locker room,” he said. “We went through a stretch in the middle of the season that was hard. It challenged our entire program going into senior night as to how we were going to respond as a team and it's about who we are week in and week out.”

Not being the favorites to win the game, Creighton believed that his players bought into the severity of the final game of the season and the impact that it had on their post season.

“We prepared well with our backs against the wall,” he said. “We only had a 35 percent chance to win apparently. Analytics cannot deter a team's will to win.”



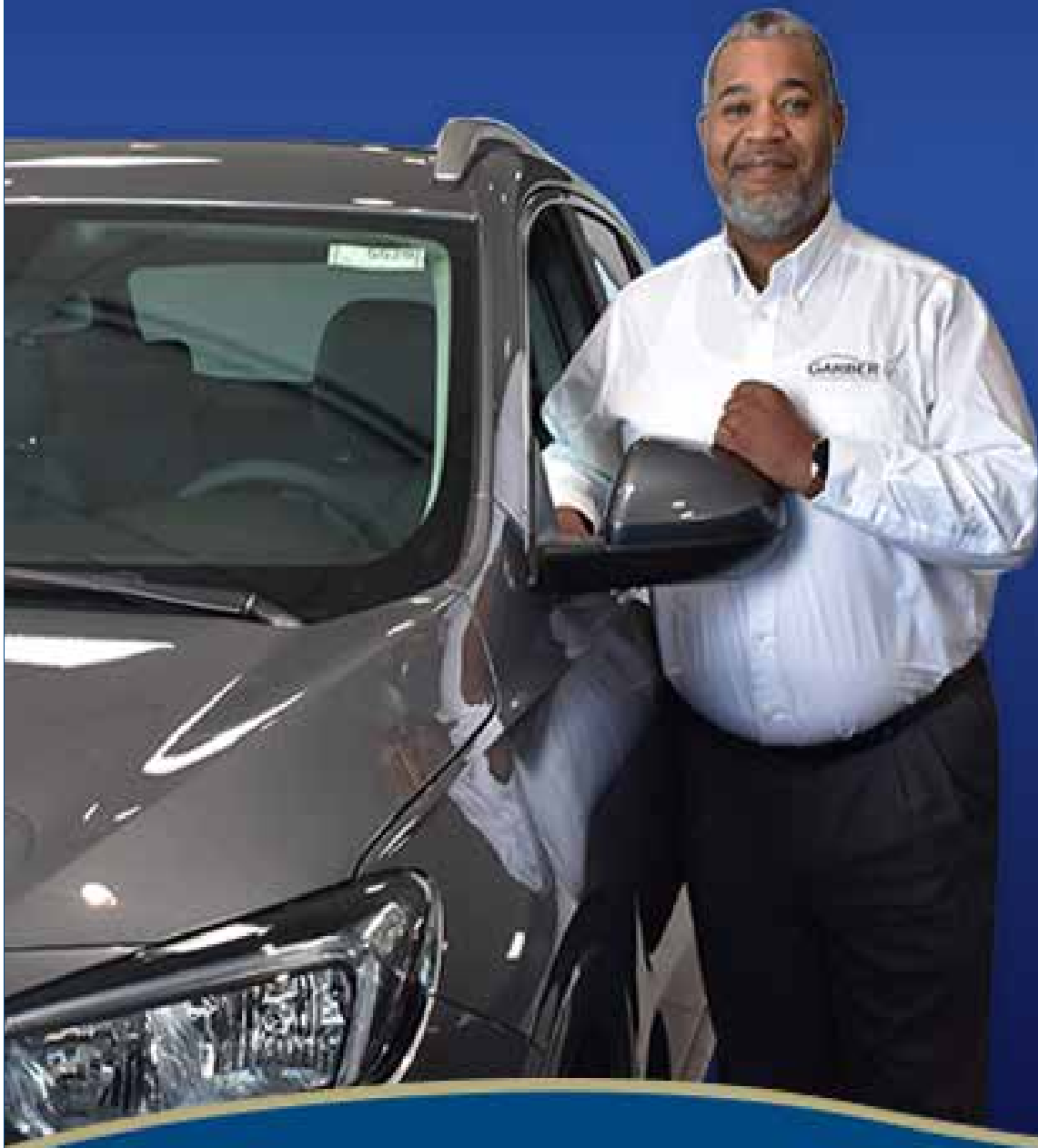
PIC OF THE WEEK

On November 28, Evelyn Wooten McGovern and Women of a Colors was honored with the Community Impact Award and Julian Morris, founder of SWAG Magazine received the Youth Volunteer of the Year Award.



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



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