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COMMUNITY



HONORING SAGINAW'S BLACK HISTORY: DEPUTY FIRE MARSHAL RALPH MARTIN

COMMUNITY, PG 12

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Black History Month 28 Days of Inspiration



ERICKA M. TAYLOR, PH.D., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF EARLY CHILDHOOD AT SISD WITH CONGRESSMAN DAN KILDEE



Wilson Goes Beyond The Strength

COMMUNITY, PG 22



An Evening with A Civil Rights Icon Rev. Wheeler Parker Jr.

COMMUNITY, PG 26



Students Protest for Coach Reed at Bethune Cookman University

SPORTS, PG 52

Carter G. Woodson, known as the 'father of Black History' launched Negro History Week almost one hundred ago in February 1926. He chose February because it covered the birthdays of both Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln. It was his intent to educate and inspire people about the rich and diverse history of Black people whose countless contributions to mankind had

been neglected and to a great extent erased from mainstream narratives. He wanted to challenge racism and discrimination in all aspects of society and culture while celebrating peoples of African descent world-wide. Over the course of several decades, and with

CONTINUES ON PG 2, BLACK HISTORY MONTH

FEATURED STORY

MI Hispanic Latino Commission Honors Manuel Lopez and Alberto Jimenez

LATINO BANNER, PG 2



THE MICHIGAN BANNER IS A PROUD MEMBER OF:



Continued from cover, Black History Month

constant controversy regarding the need for such recognition, the week evolved into Black History Month, became recognized, and celebrated nation-wide and eventually in other countries including our neighbor to the north, Canada.

History is literally a factual chronicle of past events. It is an account or record of things that actually occurred. Some of the events will cause us to hold our heads high in acknowledgement of our individual and/or group contributions to the betterment of the world in which we live. Other historical events may result in a sense of dishonor and bewilderment at the very notion of the capacity of humanity to cause harm to others with degrees of callousness that are difficult to comprehend. No matter how difficult to understand, it is history - it did happen. We can learn from it and vow never to repeat it but cannot be erased. It happened.

As we continue to be embroiled in conversations regarding the erasure of histori-

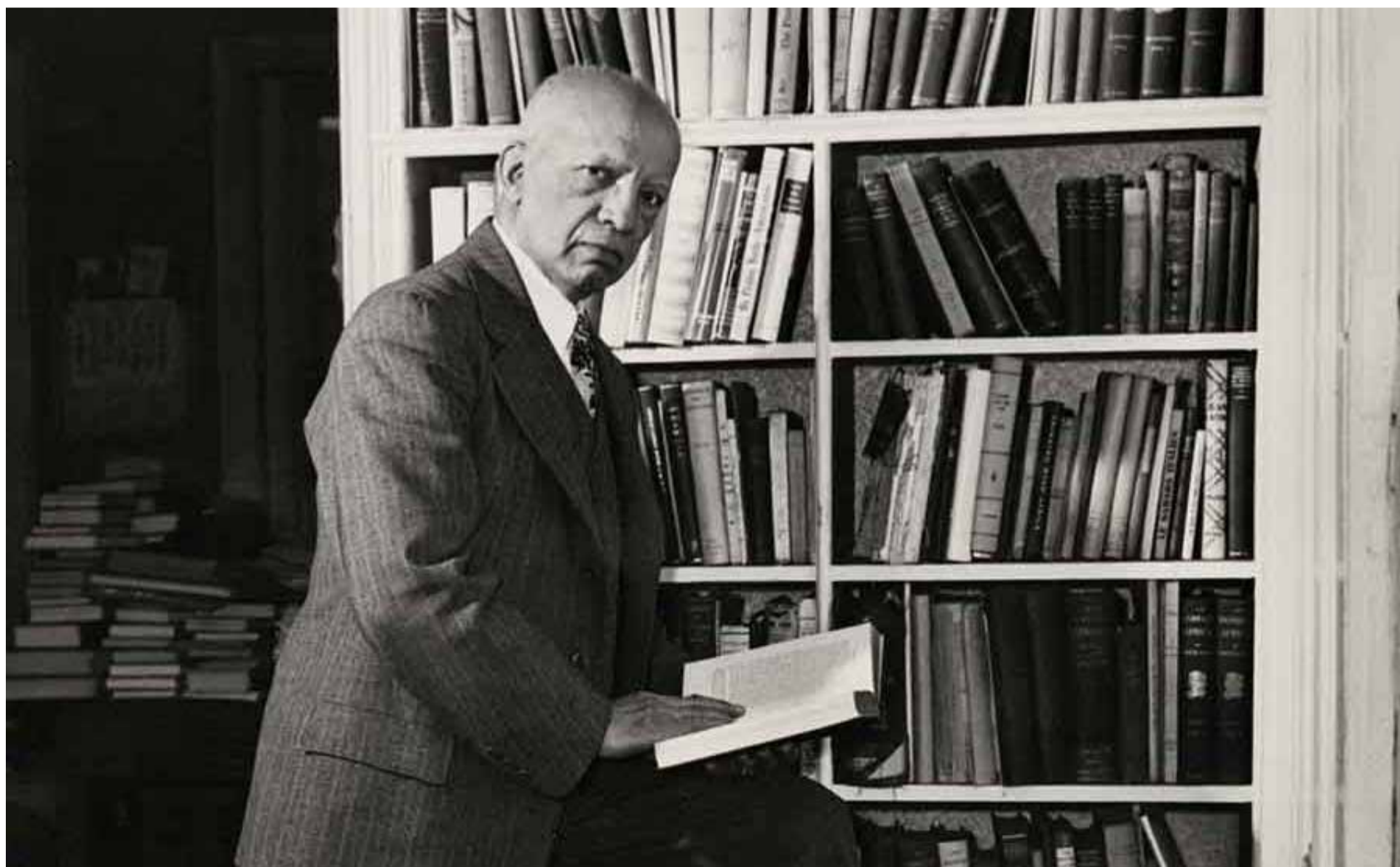
cal events and how studying the history of discrimination and its enduring legacy of struggle in America is difficult to digest, perhaps delving into the vast array of contributions of African Americans is a place to begin. Black history is American History. It is rich, vibrant, and alive. It is inspiring. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said that, 'history books have almost completely ignored the contributions of Black people throughout history'. Beyond history books and school curricula, there can be an individual commitment to develop a richer understanding of the world and the people around us. This is a year-round life-long pledge to build better, safer, and more inclusive communities for next generations to experience. So, this month and hopefully year-round, we can find inspiration in many ways:

- Read books about the lives and contributions of Black people and when possible, written by Black

authors.

- Visit and/or study museums featuring historical accounts of the Black experience in America.
- Attend one of the many movies, documentary presentations, art exhibits, podcasts, or panel discussions (many of them at no cost) available each year during the month of February.
- Support local businesses owned and operated by people of color.

Olympic gold medalist Wilma Rudolph said, 'The potential for greatness lives within each of us'. Over the next twenty eight days of inspiration, we take the opportunity to study and celebrate great historical contributions and the potential for even greater things to come.



CARTER G WOODSON

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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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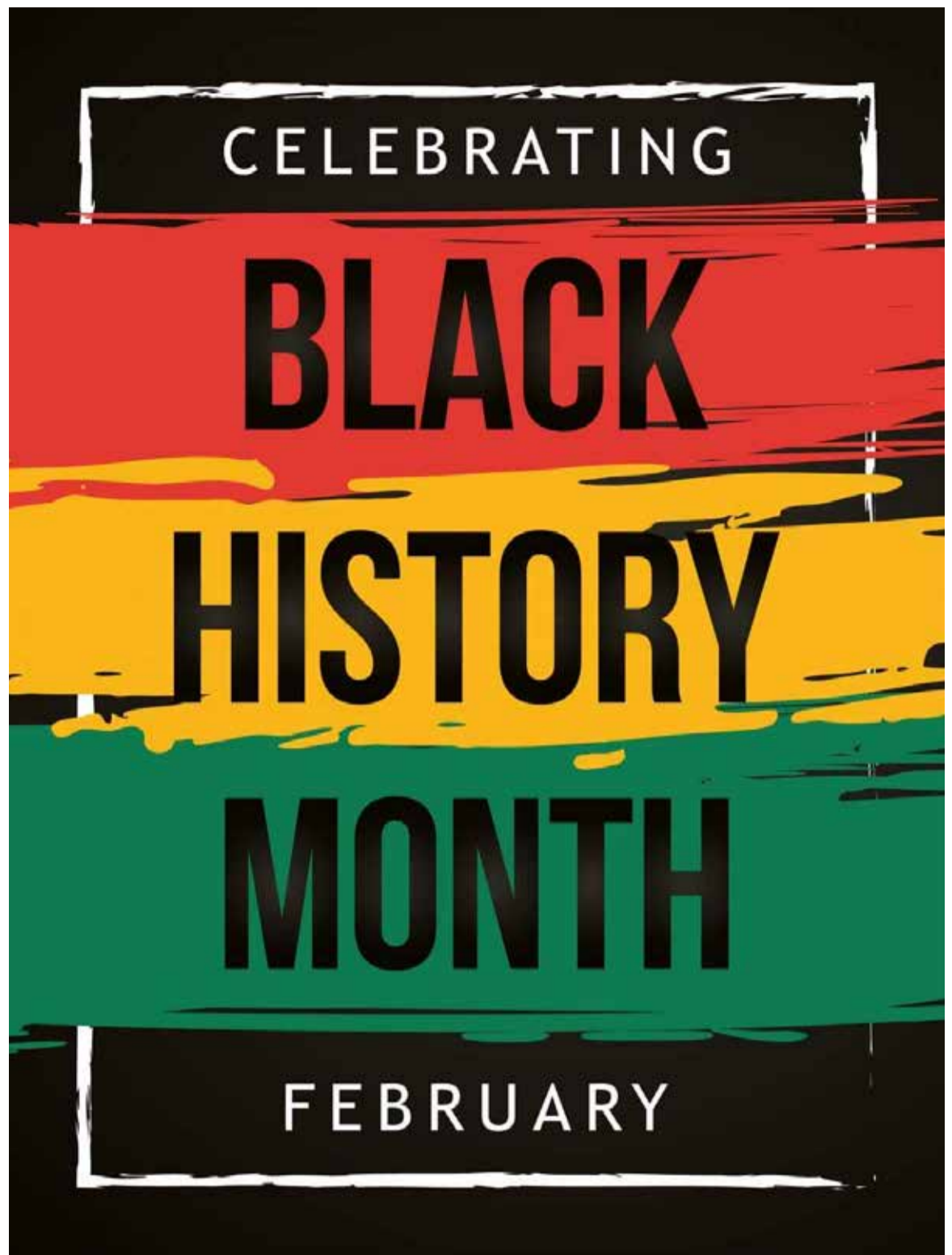
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MICHIGAN YOUTH BANNER

VOLUME 5 • NUMBER 3



THE ESSENCE OF A HISTORY MAKER

By DONIQUA SOVIA

It was always there. The potential. The talent. The creativity and The ability. It was displayed in boldness, ambition, determination and unwavering faith in God. They thought they had us captive. They thought if they kept us bound, bruised and broken that they would always have us. But we proved them wrong.

Though our bodies were bound, our minds were free. Free to think, free to believe, and free to KNOW that freedom was the right of every man, so we became free. They told us we weren't as smart, so we became smarter. They told us we couldn't do it, so we did it better. They said we belonged on the ground, so we took flight. They told us we wouldn't make it, so we made it and went farther. We overachieved. We broke barriers down of every kind, and jumped hurdles to the finish line.

We educated the educators. We personified unity. We came to together collectively, and rose up revolutionary. We didn't settle for the back of the bus, but rather achieved the status of driving the bus. We marched, through fear. We stood toe to toe with evil, and told them we will win. We are History Makers. Trailblazers. Path Finders. Rule Rearrangers. Barrier Breakers. We are Black and Proud.



NAACP
Albion Branch



**ESSAY
CONTEST**

WHAT IS A LEADER?

K-12 students who live or go to school in Albion!
Tell us what "leader" means to you in 500 words or less.

Essays are due: **February 10, 2023**
Email your essay to amccaskill@albion.edu.

Winners announced: **February 16, 2023**
During the NAACP Founders Day Celebration!

MESSAGE FROM THE PUBLISHER

No Room For Compromise

I have often shared memories of experiences with my grandmother who was a kind and gentle force to be reckoned with. She said what she meant, she meant what she said and settled for nothing less than our best. In our efforts to justify having tested very clear limits, it was not uncommon to attempt to compare our actions with those of our peers as an excuse. Excuses (none of which worked – ever) such as, ‘Yes, but....’, or ‘Well they did it first’, or ‘I just figured no one would care because...’ were met with the sternest of consequences. As she doled out the well-deserved consequences, she would sometimes ask the question, ‘If they jump off a bridge, I guess you’re going to jump too?’ We were held accountable for doing the right thing no matter what the rest of the crowd chose to do. We were being taught critical life lessons – the importance of character and that integrity mattered. Our actions were our responsibility, and we were taught to govern ourselves accordingly. The all-too-frequent ‘what about them’ excuses we hear today in relationships, religion, politics, law enforcement, and business allow us to take cover and comfort as we compromise both character and integrity. Compromise is a very necessary and beneficial part of life when done for the good of the intended individual or group. It is when it slowly begins to benefit those in authority to the detriment of those in need that we find ourselves in need of adjustment.



The true measure of a person is contained within the way one regulates and conducts himself or herself within their most important relationships, life, and business dealings. One of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s most famous quotes, inscribed on his memorial in Washington DC states, “The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands in times of challenge and controversy”? This statement alludes to the fact that a person’s true moral fiber cannot be fully measured during times of peace but instead during tests and trials. It is then that one’s behavior can be assessed and deemed above reproach or considered lacking. Ancient Greek philosopher Plato stated simply, ‘The measure of a man is what he does with power’. Both of these great minds concluded that times of challenge or difficult circumstance reveal a person’s true nature. I would add that the prospect of gaining more or losing existing power or control will also shine a light on an individual or group in their ability and/or willingness to compromise for more than personal gain.

In my assessment, corruption is an example of compromise gone bad. Most people, at some point, begin decision-making and action with benevolent intent. For example, one begins a non-profit organization with the sincere intent of helping families in crisis. At some point, we bend the rules just a bit to help someone as a favor to someone in position to help the non-profit somewhere down the line (minor compromise). Later, someone ups the ante and offers money to get their family member bumped to the head of the list and the compromise has now morphed into corruption and most likely, an actual crime. The explanation – ‘they’ do it all the time. My grandmother would have had a very serious discussion with ensuing discipline for this type of behavior and the resulting lack of remorse which coincidentally opens the door for more serious negative behaviors. The cycle has begun, and a culture of malevolent decision-making is established as the mode of operation. Again, ‘they’ did it first so my compromise is justified, and I can face the man in the mirror and sleep at night. It’s a slippery slope and anyone is susceptible to that initial act of self-serving compromise. Most people, without regard to gender, age, or other defining characteristics can be vulnerable to the prospect of gain. The type of gain varies greatly from financial, relationship, power, authority, position, etc. Everyone has a moral compass that dictates his or her level of susceptibility. It requires almost constant monitoring and entering into agreement with healthy compromise only. World renowned author, J.K.Rowling said, “If you want to see the true measure of a man, watch how he treats his inferiors, not his equals.”

There is no room for harmful compromise. We must diligently speak up when we see it. We must model the appropriate behavior in the presence of our children and other family members. There are people in the workplace who are known as sticklers to policy and the rule of law. Let’s support them – even when they are nerve-wrecking (as they sometimes are). Everyone who comes into contact with us is influenced by our decision-making and behavior. Remember, the phrase, ‘Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely.’ was a statement made in reference to the church. So, let’s even model appropriate behaviors within our church groups and other community organizations with which we may be affiliated. If they jump off the bridge, we won’t follow. We do the right thing – she meant what she said.

Jerome Buckley
Publisher, Michigan Banner

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Thoughts on the Tyree Nichols incident in Memphis



TERRY PRUITT

**By TERRY PRUITT, PRESIDENT
NAACP SAGINAW BRANCH**

Over the past few days, I have been involved in a series of conversations regarding the tragic death of Mr. Tyree Nichols in Memphis, Tennessee. These verbal engagements range from area media outlets contacting me for comment to family members, friends, associates and total strangers who all expressed outrage at what appears to be the unnecessary death of this man at the hands of police officers. As president of the NAACP Saginaw Branch this incident has given me cause for reflection and the thought that I should/would share these comments with many of you, local constituents of the Saginaw NAACP. Many of you've been a part of similar conversations in the past few days over this unfortunate incident. For that matter, many of you have formed your own thoughts and framed your own conclusions.

I encourage you to do so. The conversations must be had if we are to achieve the change that is needed. Imagine the conversations that are taking place in police departments around the nation.

First, without question what we witnessed last Friday evening from video capturing the conduct of Memphis law enforcement officers broadcast on numerous news outlets broadcasts is appalling, and at a minimum demonstrated a total lack of moral decency. Our brother, Tyree Nichols should have been able to make it home safely to embrace his beloved mother (father) and his child once again. Further, for most of us the expectation is that the role of law enforcement is to protect life and serve our communities with a high regard for humanity. Instead, what we watched in those video clips is the exact opposite.

It is frequently mentioned in news coverage that these were black officers who pummeled Tyree to his

death. I'm not sure what my take-a-way is from these statements. It doesn't matter what their race or color is. These officers did not fulfill their sworn duty, didn't adhere to department policy or training and absolutely must be held accountable. Let me make this perfectly clear, I absolutely condemn the actions of these officers and any law enforcement officer who fails to carry out their duties in a responsible and fair manner. Do we need more diversity (black officers in urban communities) in our police departments? The short answer is yes. There is no need to go through the litany of reasons why this makes sense. However, minority officers don't have the right or privilege of going rogue and creating a culture of mayhem, especially in the case of their own people. What this simply confirms is that no matter what the profession there are those who will fail to meet prescribed accepted societal moral and humanistic standards. The call must be put to public officials to immediately address measures to end the senseless killing and mistreatment of citizens throughout the nation by law enforcement officials.

As we all share in the grief of Mr. Nichols' family, let us vow going forward that we will do our part individually and collectively to hold all institutional and public officials accountable for the harm inflicted upon their fellow humans.

I want to extend my heartfelt sympathy to the family of Mr. Tyree Nichols and pray for the nation. It is my hope that God will give each of us the fortitude and peace to endure these very difficult circumstances.



Latino Banner

LIDER EN LA
DIVERSIDAD

VAMOS ADELANTE



**Mich. Hispanic
Latino
Commission
Honors
Saginaw's
Veteran
Manuel
Lopez and
Artist Alberto
Jimenez**

LB pg 2

Mexican American Council Allocated \$500,000 Hispanics Discuss Possible Uses for ARPA Funds

About 43 participants gathered at the Delta College Downtown Saginaw Center on January 26 to learn about the American Rescue Plan Act's \$500,000 in federal funds allocated to the well-known non-profit the Mexican American Council, Inc. (M.A.C.), 1537 S. Washington Ave. in the heart of the city.

Bobby DeLeon, president of the M.A.C. board welcomed the attendees, saying he wanted to share the good news that came in a surprise phone call that his organization had been selected for its long record of helping Hispanics, survivors of domestic violence, migrant farm worker and the immigrant community in Saginaw County. The grass-roots non-profit has operated for years. on a shoe-string budget.

Deleon encouraged community members during this time of renewal and opportunity to take responsibility to help each other. We're not alone any more, he said. We've got each other. "Tonight, we'll learn why you are so important to this community, as we get to know you and hear your ideas."

In recent weeks, enthusiasm and interest has grown as news of the available funds and the grant winners became public. The M.A.C. was one of dozens of hard-working grass roots community non-profits who submitted a grant proposal, asking for \$250,000. They received half a million. John Ayala wrote the grant and was overjoyed at learning their proposal had been accepted. Even more surprised he said when he learned that they could

have asked for more money.

From the get-go, half of the money will go to repair and refurbish the two-story wood frame building across the street from Hoyt Park. The other \$250,000 will go for programming and outreach.

"As a small community non-profit who has never gotten big grants, I wanted M.A.C. to proceed carefully,' Ayala said. He has experience as an auditor and in administration as former director of the Boys and Girls Club of Saginaw. Ayala is part of the team of experts advising and serving in an oversight capacity.

"It's very important that we listen to each and every one of you," DeLeon said. Each speaker was allowed three minutes to share either a community issue that needs help or a specific idea for how to make use of the funds.

During the two-hour gathering 28 individuals spoke to the crowd about their vision for a better Saginaw, each sharing a specific dream or goal. The ideas, all based on serving the needs of Hispanics in Saginaw, were broad in spectrum ranging from cradle to grave.

Among the suggestions: to help seniors who are still isolated or not able to participate in cultural activities; help youth in troubled circumstance; expand awareness for mental health services and suicide prevention; educational support

**CONTINUES ON LB PG 3,
MAC**

Mich. Hispanic Latino Commission Honors Saginaw's Veteran Manuel Lopez and Artist Alberto Jimenez



(LEFT TO RIGHT) PHOTO: JOSE SANTOS JIMENEZ SUPPORTS SON ALBERTO JIMENEZ HOLDING HIS ARTS IN THE COMMUNITY AWARD AS PROUD MOTHER BERNARDA CASTILLO JIMENEZ LOOKS ON WITH TEARS IN HER EYES.

By ROSA MORALES

The 2022 awards from the Michigan Hispanic Latino Commission for two lucky honorees came to Saginaw on January 26 in a special delivery facilitated by Saginaw Commissioner Monica Reyes and HLCOM Executive Director Isabel Montemayor-Vasquez, Ph.D. The reason was simple: Michigan's stormy weather last fall had cancelled the award banquet.

"The Hispanic Latino Commission had to postpone the Hispanic Heritage Celebration on Nov. 18, 2022 due to bad weather," explained a press release. "HLCOM would like to acknowledge those who would have received their awards in person. We will share the new date for the celebration soon."

Rather than wait until next fall, both Commissioner Reyes and Executive Director Montemayor-Vasquez ensured the honors were directly delivered to Manuel Lopez and Alberto Jimenez at a Hispanic community meeting at the Downtown Saginaw Delta College Campus.

The Distinguished Veteran Award was presented to Manuel Lopez who stood tall, holding the crystal award plaque in his hands. Dr. Montemayor-Vasquez shared his story with those in the room.

"Born in Michigan, Manuel Lopez was a migrant farm worker who traveled between Michigan and Texas with his fam-

ily as a youngster. Upon settling in Michigan, Lopez learned English and, after graduating high school, enlisted with his friend Bill in the Marine Corps. Lopez ended up in Camp Pendleton and later stationed in Okinawa, Japan, not knowing that a few months later he would embark upon a war he and his enlisted friend were unprepared for in Vietnam, a country neither he nor Bill had ever heard of before.

"After his time in Vietnam, Lopez returned to the U.S. and went to his next duty station in North Carolina at Cherry Pointe, Marine Corps Base for a period of time. After his enlistment ended, he returned to Michigan and got a job in 1970 with General Motors Corp.

In 1987 Lopez joined the Army National Guard at the age of 42. He served in various capacities in the unit and retired in 2003 after 20 years combined service to his country.

"In 1987 Lopez and other Vietnam veterans started a chapter of the Vietnam Veterans of America. The distinguished veteran became a member of the American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, and the Marine Corps League. He served as president of the Bay County Veterans Council, and currently serves as Commander of the G.I. Forum of Bay City. Lopez is State Commander of the G.I. Forum of Michigan. Lopez has been active with these organizations for many years. These organizations help the community be a place to be proud of, with events like the Parades of Honor Guards or the formal military Color Guards for funerals of veterans. Lopez also works with veterans by helping them get their benefits from the U.S. Veterans Administration for their service-related disabilities.

"He helps not only vets, but spouses and widows of deceased veterans too.

Manuel Lopez simply states: 'I will continue helping veterans and the community until I can no longer.'

Dr. Montemayor-Vasquez also presented the 2022 Arts in the Community Award to artist Alberto Jimenez. Proud parents José Santos Jimenez and Bernarda Castillo Jimenez accompanied their son as they joined in crowd in applauding his many accomplishments as read aloud by the HLCOM director. (Please see photos.)

"Alberto Jimenez is a resident of Saginaw, Michigan. He was always drawn to the Cinco De Mayo Parade to watch the beautiful floats that each new generation created for the community. Jimenez learned about float-making in Carrollton High School, where he constructed floats for the Homecoming parades. In 2010 his involvement with La Unión Cívica Mexicana contributed six artistic projects to influence the parade line-up.

"Jimenez then moved on to the Mexican American Council (M.A.C.) to help provide youth in the Great Lakes Bay Region a direct path to art and artistic opportunities. In 2019 he received a grant to provide a cultural arts program for Saginaw youth. In partnership with the SVSU Marshall Fredericks Sculpture Museum, in 2020 Jimenez and his team was able to provide the young people with an art program once a month. Currently, Alberto Jimenez strongly supports the arts at the Mexican American Council and will continue to offer youth exciting art projects and creative experiences in the years ahead.



HLCOM EXEC. DIR. ISABEL MONTEMAYOR-VASQUEZ, VIETNAM VETERAN MANUEL LOPEZ, AND COMMISSIONER MONICA REYES

Continued from LB Cover, MAC

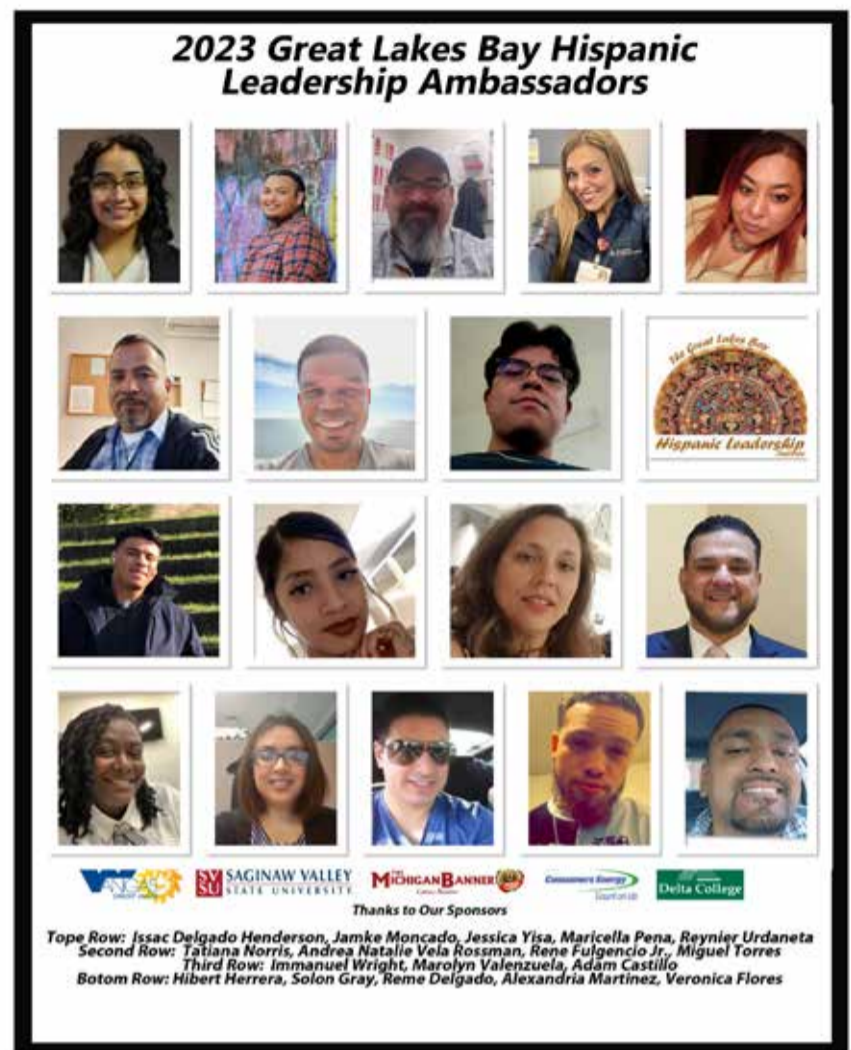
and expanded networking for k-12 Hispanic students and their parents and guardians.

To help the public keep up with all the ideas and speakers, the presentation is available for viewing on Delta College's Youtube.com channel, at <https://youtu.be/OAIL-8YJIN0>

More suggestions from the community can be made by downloading a M.A.C. form posted on the LLEAD Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/saginawllead> Completed forms can be sent or dropped off at the M.A.C. building. Organizers will schedule follow-up meetings and announce dates and times.

Participants responded favorably to the sharing experience and the attention each person and their idea received. The meeting location was perfect, many said, with parking nearby. That response is music to Dr. Elsa Olvera's ears, whose office is in the building.

"Delta College Downtown Saginaw Center hosted the meeting for our Hispanic leaders and community members to discuss the ARPA funds for the Mexican American Council." said Dr. Olvera, director of the Delta College Education Opportunity Center. "We were glad to be of assistance in welcoming our community to support future initiatives. Delta College Downtown Saginaw Center looks forward to our continued partnership in collaboration with M.A.C. the Hispanic community and our community in general."



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March 1, 2023

Program: 12:00pm - 1:00pm
Networking: 1:00pm - 2:00pm



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+ COMMUNITY

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Honoring Saginaw's Black History: Deputy Fire Marshal Ralph Martin

By HASANI ALI

Growing up in Saginaw on the corner of 10th St. and Cherry St., Ralph Martin had a pretty good life growing up.

His father was a policeman (James Martin) and Saginaw's first black sergeant and his mother (Carrie Martin) was one of the first black teachers in the city.

Both college graduates.

"My parents were always there and my family were always there," Martin said. "My father couldn't go anywhere in the city without me."

Growing up in the 60's was a challenge for Martin. All of his neighbors knew of him and his family and it seemed like his eyes were always set on him.

"Being a son of a police officer was a challenge within itself," he said. "Everyone had such high expectations for me since I was the son of a police officer. At the same time, people had a lot of disdain for me and my family as Saginaw had some civil unrest during the 60's and 70's."

A lot of racial tension caused many Saginaw residents not to trust the Martin family as the city did not have a lot of black police officers at the time.

However, Martin still receives fond



RALPH MARTIN

memories of his father and his service to the community.

"To this day, I still get stories about my dad, who served on the police force for 32 years, and what he has done for the city," he said.

Martin went to college at Eastern Michigan University where his focus was more on fun rather than academics.

Yet, his father saw the potential of the man he was bound to become once he got more focused.

"My father was the one who encouraged me to take the fire exam," he said. "I had no inclination of being a firefighter growing up."

Divine intervention took its course as Martin had to return home to Saginaw and help take care of his mother after she was diagnosed with cancer.

He was currently working at the hospital in Ann Arbor while taking classes at EMU.

"I don't want to be a fireman," Martin said hysterically. "But I went down there and took the test and here I am 30 years later and I absolutely love it. Apparently, my dad saw something in me that I didn't even see in myself."

He was hired in 1990 through Affirmative Action. Martin and his family were also members of the NAACP.

Martin was met with racial tension when he became a firefighter as there weren't too many black firefighters in the city.

"This is not a job, it's a calling," he said. "Many people can pass the preliminary exams, but it's different when you actually have to run into a burning building."

"There are some things as a firefighter that you would not want to see again and wish to forget it. You just want to come home and see your family."

Martin, who has worked as the acting Fire Marshal since September 2012, was officially promoted to serve in the position in an official capacity back in June 2013.

Throughout his tenure, Martin would take the smokehouse and go to several events throughout the city of Saginaw. The objective was to simply educate those around the city to understand how to prevent house fires and what to do in case of an emergency.

"I really developed a passion for it," he said. "Sometimes I would do these events for free because I know that somebody can benefit from this information and would eventually save somebody's life."

**CONTINUES ON PG 14,
MARTIN**

+ COMMUNITY

Continued from pg 13, Martin

Martin was established as the top candidate through a competitive testing process, according to a news release from the city of Saginaw.

Martin has "increased the effectiveness of the position and increased collaboration with the Michigan State Police in the investigation of suspicious fires in Saginaw and has contributed to the two convictions for arson that recently occurred," the release states. "He continues to aggressively investigate all fires and is committed to better educate the citizens of Saginaw in fire prevention by urging the installation of smoke detectors throughout the city."

Assistant City Manager for Public Safety Phil Ludos said Martin's performance in the position for the last 10 months has been exemplary and productive, establishing new procedures and seeking to ensure all of the fire codes are being enforced.

City Manager Darnell Earley also praised Martin's work.

"Fire Marshal Martin has exemplified the kind of character, commitment and dedication to serving Saginaw and its citizens. I am confident that he is prepared to accept this new level of responsibility, and

his work will add great value to the Saginaw Fire Department."

Martin said his job won't change too much, but said he will now take "more of a hands-on approach" to fire safety programs and may implement some new things in the future.

Most of his time is spent on inspections, education and investigations, Martin said, and he plans to ramp up fire safety inspections in the city.

Being a firefighter comes with many hats. In fact, Martin sees himself as a pillar of excellence in the community that the youth can look up to.

Martin remembers arriving at the 7-Eleven gas on the corner of Hoyt and Washington. As he was putting gas into his fire marshal vehicle, a young black man pulled up next to him who may have the attributes of a person who runs the streets.

The look that he gave him made Martin realize that the people in Saginaw need to see more authority figures that look like them.

"He had the nice car and he wore a gold chain," he remembered. "He approached



JAMES MARTIN NEWS ARTICLE (SAGINAW NEWS)

me and talked about how he should be more like me. I was confused because by the way his vehicle looked, he seemed to be doing very well."

Martin gave the man a response that he would have not expected based on the smile that was coming from the fire marshal.

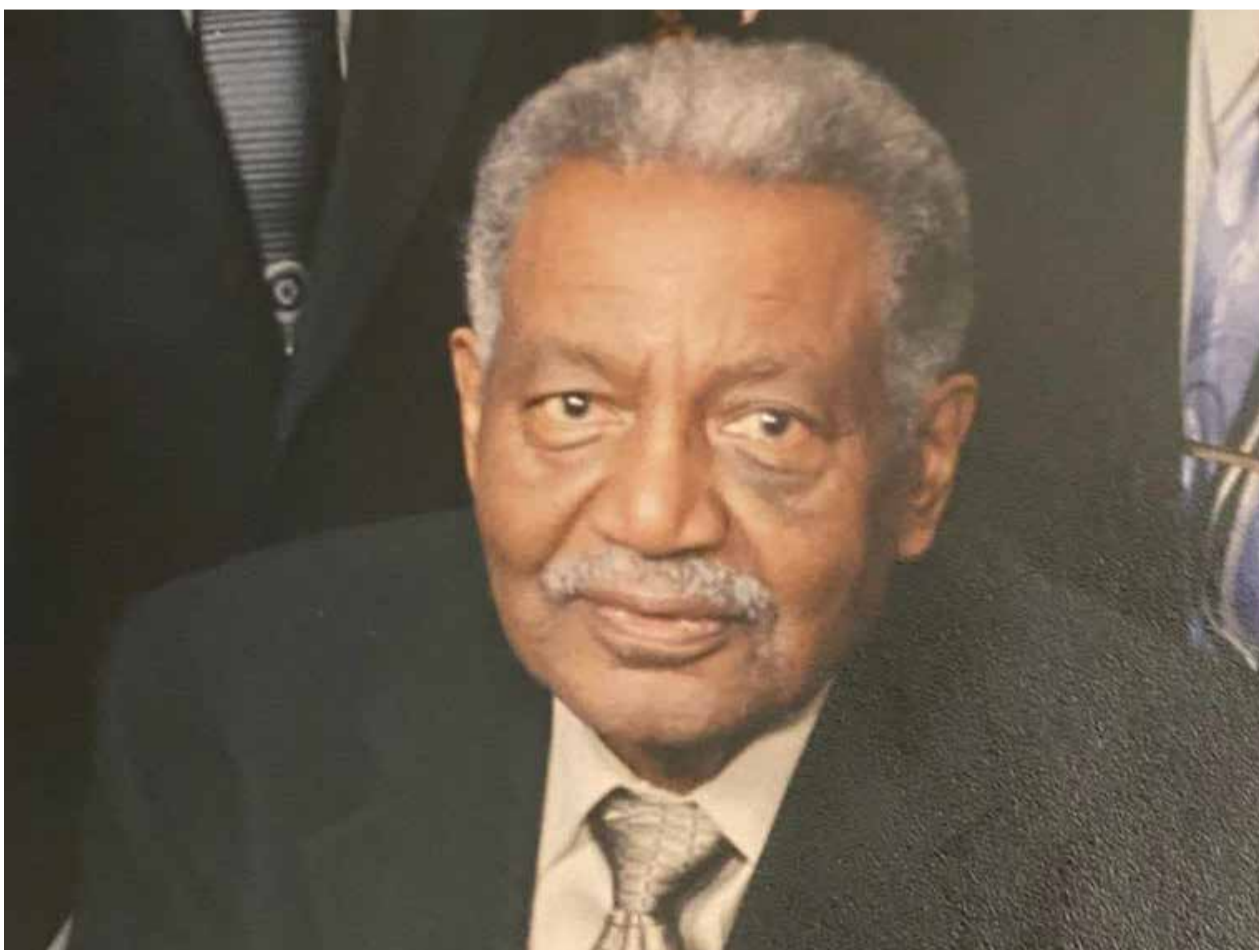
"I used to be like you," he said.

It was then that Martin remembered how his parents kept him in line, even when he slightly strayed away from the straight and narrow path.

To continue the fight for equality as his father did on the police force, Martin fought to help two young black men join the staff.

He noticed the disparaging difference as he was becoming the fire marshal.

"When I first became a firefighter, there were like 20 of us," he said. "When I was leaving there were only four. I had to be sure that he had some equal representation on the staff."



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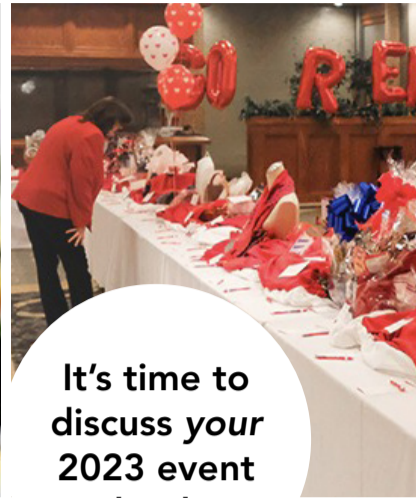
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Albion Branch NAACP Founders Day

The Albion Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People marks its annual Founders Day with an event to honor the lives, values and leadership of the organization's founders and members. The celebration will take place from 6:30-8:30 p.m., Feb. 16, at the Albion College Science Complex at Hannah Street and Michigan Avenue.

The NAACP was founded Feb. 12, 1909. The organization's first official act was to circulate a call for a national conference on the state of race relations in the United States. Luminaries including Jane Addams, John Dewey, W.E.B. Dubois, Mary Church Terrell and Ida B. Wells-Barnett were among those who signed in support. The Albion Chapter's Founders Day will honor these early suffragists, anti-lynching activists, educators and prominent civil rights leaders and celebrate 114 years of

work toward ending racial discrimination.

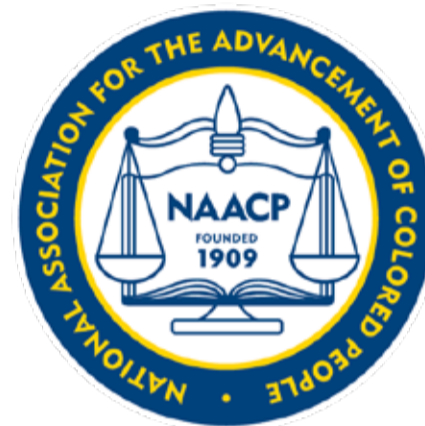
Entertainment for this year's Founders Day will be the award-winning author and spoken-word artist Mama Sol. A Flint native, Mama Sol is an advocate for self-care, self-love and pursuing lives of purpose. She was the featured voice of the 2021 Detroit Pistons 'We Hustle Different' campaign and a marquee presenter for the 2022 Michigan Women's Summit with Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson. Mama Sol regularly headlines the Michigan Fatherhood Conference and received their special recognition award in 2016.

K-12 students who live or go to school in Albion can participate in Founders Day by submitting to an essay competition. The prompt is: "Tell us what "leader" means to you," essays should be 500 words or less and submitted by February 10, 2023 to amccaskill@albion.edu. Winners will be

invited to read their essay during the celebration.

Co-sponsors include the Albion College Office of Advancement, the James L. Curtis Institute for Race and Belonging and the Albion College chapter of the NAACP.

For more information, please contact Ari McCaskill: amccaskill@albion.edu.



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DATE	EVENT	TIME
Saturday, January 28	Promote Your Favorite Team <i>wear your team colors!</i>	12:00 - 4:00pm
	Night Skate <i>sponsored by Jolt Credit Union & KISS 107.1</i>	4:00 - 7:00 pm
Saturday, February 4	Skate with the Mascots & SVSU Hockey Team <i>sponsored by Jolt Credit Union & 102.5 WIOG, Dow & 96.1 WHNN</i>	12:00 - 4:00 pm
	Broom Ball <i>sponsored by Saginaw County Parks</i>	12:00 - 2:00 pm
Saturday, February 11	Skate & Sledding	12:00 - 4:00 pm
	9th Annual Outhouse Race <i>sponsored by Positive Results In Downtown & 97.3 JOE FM</i>	

Warming House Open!
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Race Starts at 1:00 pm

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For more information contact Positive Results Downtown at (989) 753-9168, Friends of Hoyt Park Facebook Page or Larry at (989) 284-0945
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What's for Dinner, Della?

BY DOLORESE FALL-GRANT

Never tried curry before, or at least your own? Lots of people think eggs are only for scrambling, boiling and baking. There's so much more to eggs than meets the eyes. Especially if you run out of any kind of meat and you need some protein, it's very delicious if cooked right.

Egg Curry

Ingredients

- 2 cups of water
- 1 cup of coconut milk
- 6 boiled eggs, peeled
- 2 white potatoes, cubed
- Rainbow peppers
- 6 garlic cloves
- 4 teaspoons, curry powder
- 1 teaspoon turmeric
- 1 teaspoon chicken boullion, or one cube
- 1 teaspoon cummin.
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- Fresh thyme, celery, bell pepper, onions, cilantro



Instructions

Coat pan with oil and heat on high.
 Chop peppers, mixed with curry powder and turmeric, add chopped herbs and potatoes, and saute/stir for 5 minutes.
 Reduce heat and allow a few minutes to cool.
 Add water and coconut milk
 Add eggs and cook for 10 to 15 minutes over low heat.
 Stir occasionally to prevent sticking to pot then turn stove off and let's steam some more.
 Serve over steamed white rice with salad enjoy. Notice I leave pepper out because it's your choice and not everyone can do the heat

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IN MY HUMBLE OPINION



COURTESY PHOTO

Valentine's Day Is More About The Head Than The Heart



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

It is now February, the month of love, and Valentine's Day is just a couple of weeks away. I know that some people don't celebrate the holiday, but millions of us do and billions are spent annually on flowers, jewelry, candy, cards, and more. Whether you are considering gift options or not, you might be wondering why 14 February

is Valentine's Day and how the tradition of expressing our love and affection for that special someone on this day began. One thing I can tell you up front, Valentine's Day is more about the head than the heart, and if you're not faint of heart, you will enjoy learning about this ancient, fascinating, and tragic origin story.

While the exact origins are shrouded in mystery, we do know that February has long been celebrated as a month of romance, and Valentine's Day is of course named after St. Valentine. But the exact identity of St. Valentine and traditions that the present-day holiday takes inspiration from are still debated amongst historians.

Some historians consider an ancient Roman feast called Lupercalia, which was held from 13 to 15 February and has been traced back as far as the 6th century B.C.,

as the earliest iteration of the holiday. Lupercalia was a fertility festival dedicated to the Roman god of agriculture, Faunus, and the Roman founders Romulus and Remus. Members of the Luperci Order of Roman priests would gather at a sacred cave where the founders were believed to be cared for by a she-wolf, or "lupa", as infants at the beginning of the festival, according to History.com.

The Luperci priests would sacrifice a goat for fertility and a dog for purification. Then they would skin the goat and cut the hide into strips, dip them into the sacrificial blood, and run through the streets naked gently whipping both women and crops with the goat hides during this de-

**CONTINUES ON PG 21,
VALENTINE'S DAY**

Continued from pg 20, Valentine's Day

bauched festival. Far from being afraid, the young women would line up to be hit by the priests because it was believed it would make them more fertile in the coming year. Later in the day, this freakfest would include all of the young women in the city placing their names in a big urn. The bachelors would then pick a name and become paired with the women sexually for the duration of the festival, or longer, often ending in marriage if the match was right.

History.com goes on to tell us, “Lupercalia survived the initial rise of Christianity but was outlawed—as it was deemed ‘un-Christian’—at the end of the 5th century, when Pope Gelasius declared February 14 St. Valentine’s Day. It was not until much later, however, that the day became definitively associated with love.”

Before we focus on the date and what it is associated with today, there is a Roman Catholic priest or priests, now saints, by the name of Valentine that we need to highlight and get an understanding of why I say the day is more about the head. As it turns out, the name was quite common during late antiquity and depending on who is counting, there are between 12 to 14 Saint Valentines including a Spanish woman who was a hermit named Valentina, as per “The Strange but True Story Behind Valentine’s Day” by Walks of Italy.

At least three different saints named Valentine or Valentinus are recognized by the Catholic Church and all of them were martyred, which makes it difficult to identify the real-life man behind the holiday.

One popular legend contends that Valentine served as a priest in Rome during the 3rd century A.D. During that time, Emperor Claudius II outlawed marriage for young men believing that single men made better soldiers than those that were married with children. Realizing that the decree was unjust, Bishop Valentine of Terni continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret defying the emperor. When the bishop’s actions were discovered, Claudius ordered him to be executed.

A story about another priest named Valentine suggests that he may have been killed for attempting to help Christians escape persecution and harsh Roman prisons where they were beaten and tortured. Another story that adds to this legendary mystery involves the writing of a love letter. It is believed that Valentine, as a priest, was imprisoned for his religious beliefs and started tutoring a young girl and fell in love with her while in prison. An article by Country Living about the true history of Valentine’s day states, “According to The History Channel, before his death, he wrote her a letter signed ‘From your Valentine,’ which remains a commonly used phrase to this day.”

Both Bishop Valentine of Terni and one of these priests were beheaded by order of Emperor Claudius II almost 10 years apart but on the same day, February 14th. Pope Gelasius, mentioned above, established St. Valentine’s Day in order to honor these men. Their skulls and other skeletal remains are enshrined in Santa Maria in Cosmedin and the Basilica of Saint Valen-

tine in Terni where they used to be visited by pilgrims for many years when relics were the backbone of the original tourism industry in Rome during the Middle Ages.

If not for English medieval poet, Geoffrey Chaucer, these saints would have been venerated but somewhat anonymous relics. Chaucer was the first to write about St. Valentine’s Day as a romantic celebration in his 1375 poem “Parlement of Foules”. He wrote, “For this was sent on Seynt Valentyne’s day / Whan every foul cometh ther to choose his mate”, as per History.com. I think he interpreted the saints’ sacrifices as acts of love because their stories emphasized compassion, heroism, and sense of romance. It wasn’t long before others, like William Shakespeare also connected the dots moving Valentine’s Day away from beheaded to betrothed.

In the centuries that followed, the day grew in popularity mostly in England and France with loved ones exchanging handwritten notes to factory-made cards in the 19th century in the New World by a newly founded printing company in Kansas City, Mo., and now a household name, Hallmark Cards. The rest is history and Valentine’s Day has not been the same since. It has evolved to become a multibillion-dollar commercial holiday, like many have, and has come to symbolize love and matters of the heart, but it is clear that its origins are more about the head, or should I say two heads and not one; namely, St. Valentine of Cosmedin and St. Valentine of Terni, or Geoffrey Chaucer and William Shakespeare.



+ COMMUNITY

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Wilson Goes Beyond The Strength

By HASANI ALI

Imagine a slender, 6-foot-1, 140 pounder trumpet player from Hampton University turning into a master of muscle.

Carlin Wilson couldn't imagine it either.

Before becoming an Exercise Science & Movement Science professor at Schoolcraft College and Macomb Community College, Wilson had a dream to play football on Saturdays, possibly on Sundays.

When the Saginaw native decided that he wanted to play college football, he never would've thought that the desire to be on the gridiron turned into a passion for health and wellness.

Wilson was in the band in college when he decide that he wanted to play football at the collegiate level. Without a single play in football in high school, he believed that he could be an effective defensive back.

"I wanted to play football in high school, but never happened," he said. "Never played football in high school because my mother wouldn't let me play. It was a blessing in disguise as we're finding out all these cases of CTE that causes long-term damage amongst football players."

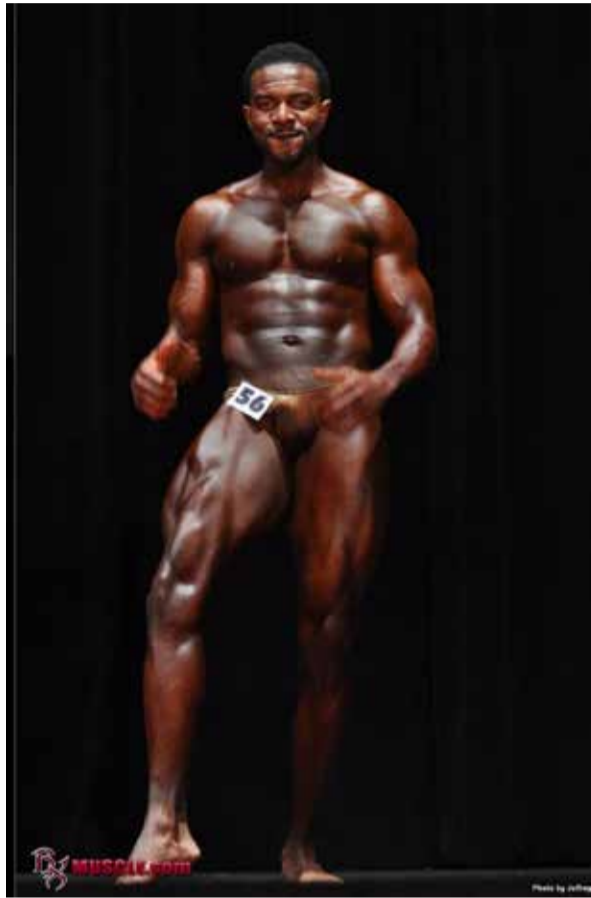
Wilson was an active athlete in high school as a golfer. He received three scholarships to play golf, but turned them down to play in the band.

Once he got to Hampton, he wanted to start working out to fill out his frail frame. As he trained with the players from the football team, they noticed his genetics. They encouraged him walk onto the team.

"They said that I have the skills and speed to make a play, despite never playing in high school," he said. "That's what really got me going."

Wilson managed to add on at least 50 pounds of lean muscle, filling out to become 190 pounds.

Though he wanted to be a sports agent, obtaining a degree in Sports Management, Wilson left Hampton to return home and attend Western Michigan University.



CARLIN WILSON

He transferred to WMU at 24-years-old, majoring in physiology and a minor in dietetics.

Unfortunately, Wilson had one obstacle that he could not stop when it came to his college football dreams that eventually shut down his dream – the NCAA.

"My attempt to walk onto the football team at Western failed because I turned 24 before the next season," he said. "I didn't know the rules at the time, but not knowing that caused me not being able to play college football. The funny this is that if I would have just done a redshirt while I was at Hampton, I would have been eligible."

From that point forward, Wilson decided to work on myself in order to build some self-esteem and to be consistent with his workouts.

"I blossomed like a flower," he said. "Just needed to add a little water and a little sunlight. And I grew just like that."

Being proud of his progress, Wilson started helping people with the same goals as he had. Steadily growing into his field

and truly understanding how the body works, he instantly become a resource for his family and friends.

"Nobody in my family went to school for health, nor did anybody have any knowledge regarding health," Wilson said. "I took it upon myself to get educated in order to become the resource of health and wellness, rather than my family depending on solely western medicine."

Now standing at 240 pounds (100 pounds later), Wilson's co-personal trainer (Michael Jackson) sparked his interest into bodybuilding – first show being in 2007.

Wilson and Jackson both had their start at the West Hills Athletic Club in Kalamazoo, Mich. – off campus fitness center for faculty members and employees.

They both received an in-house certification, where the professors provided the exams and certification.

"The professors in our field basically told us that if you guys can pass this exam, you can train here under our supervision," Wilson said.

He eventually obtained his training certification through American College of Sports Medicine.

As the top trainers of the facility, their competitive edge gave Jackson on Wilson being a competitor in professional bodybuilding.

"He saw the capability of me becoming a bodybuilder," he said. "It didn't take much nudging. I was already training 20 hours a week anyway, might as well make it worth something."

After weeks of putting a plan together as far as training and diet, Wilson was on his way to his first show – where he placed 9th of 10.

Despite placing nearly last. Wilson developed an appetite to continue competing.

"It made me want to compete more," he said. "I did five more shows over the next

**CONTINUES ON PG 23,
WILSON**

+ COMMUNITY

Continued from pg 22, Wilson



CARLIN WILSON

eight years and I placed second in all of them.”

When it comes to bodybuilding, you would think of the stereotypical muscle head with building muscles that any shirt could not contain in any frame.

Those type of competitors are prone to taking steroids, which Wilson chose not to do.

“They take steroids because they are able to get levels of muscle, get stronger beyond the body’s natural capability,” he said. “You’re able to recruit way more muscle fibers to become way more dominant.”

He further explained as to why most of professional bodybuilders have so many injuries, the muscles are too big for the tendons and joints to handle – the muscles just essentially break off.

“I didn’t want to have issues with that nor did I want to deal with the early organ failure,” Wilson said. “Didn’t feel a need to go that route and my career was perfectly okay without it.”

Wilson’s passion for bodybuilding gave him the ability to apply his work ethic into his professional career.

“Mental prep from training, allowed me to become more versed in my professional field,” he said. “Every muscle is being exposed when you’re on stage in front of the lights and judges—every single muscle. So it teaches you to focus on all of the little things, in detail.”

The assumption when it comes to health and fitness, it’s an assumption that

the more muscle definition a person has, the strong they are. Wilson explains how bodybuilding works when it comes to actually applying pressure to the muscle and making it look aesthetically appealing.

“Not about how strong you are, it’s how hard you are training the muscle,” he said. “It helped me understand the body and how it moved. How it contracts and every striation and realizing the movement in each muscle action. It also helped me help people provide pre-

vented measure regarding safety, know how the ligaments work compared to the muscle mechanics.”

Having success in the field, Wilson’s first client was about to lose 100 pounds in six months. The 55-year-old woman didn’t have the knowledge of diet along with issues of being accountable for completing each workout.

“Getting her down to 175 pounds and keeping that weight off gave her huge boost in confidence and self-esteem as it would with anyone,” Wilson said. “That goes for every client. Those traits carried over into their marriages, careers and personal lives.”

Now a Stretch and Correction Coach at Franklin Community Church, Wilson makes it an imperative that all of his clients become educated, knowing the why behind their actions rather than just doing what they’re told.

“They need to know what they need to do,” he said. “They just don’t know how to be consistent with it. Not understanding what the body is growing through.”

Senior Citizens are his demographic as they are the most underserved. With Baby Boomers doing the

most laboring jobs, most of them are now struggling to get out of bed now that they are retired.

“The medical system has changed in the last 15 years, so they only have so many resources when it came to physical therapy and other medical needs,” Wilson said. “They’re usually capped off at a certain point, which can cause a detriment to their personal growth as everyone’s bodies heal differently.”

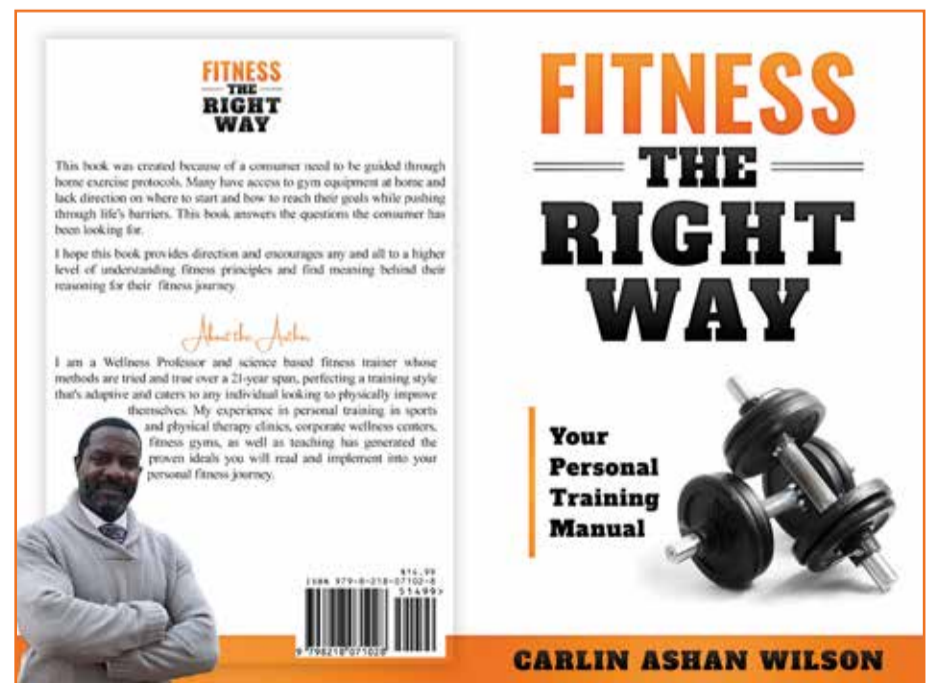
Health can be a tricky subject for many that don’t understand it. Due to misinformation and marketing by companies wanting to sell products, it’s difficult to know who’s telling the truth.

Wilson encourages people to not take shortcuts when it comes to getting healthy, no matter how difficult the journey may be.

“Look for the permanent solution,” he said. “Don’t look into the surgeries, weight loss pills. Engage more in the naturopathic remedies when it comes to healing the body.”

His website and YouTube channel will officially launch on Feb. 15. He can be reached at www.carlinwilson.com. His book, “Fitness The Right Way,” will also be available for purchase for those who have an interest in learning more about health, wellness and maintenance.

The book can also be found at Amazon.





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THE BIRD'S EYE VIEW

Love Never Fails



By **JEROME BUCKLEY, II**
WRITER/COLUMNIST

*"Darkness cannot drive out darkness;
only light can do that. Hate cannot drive
out hate; only love can do that."*

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

February is the shortest month of the Gregorian calendar, but its significance can't be denied as it's 28 days gives precedence to two major celebrations, Black history month and Valentine's Day. From school plays to parades and festivals an exhibition of pride and celebratory fanfare resonate coast to coast here in the United States and around the globe praising and promoting African American leadership, accomplishments and culture. From soul food to authentic cuisine straight from the Motherland the eclectic convergence of the many facets of African culture tells the story of a truly divine people.

Last year Americans spent a whopping 23.9 billion dollars to celebrate Valentine's

Day. The love holiday holds the record for the largest consumer spending holiday right behind the winter holidays and Mother's Day. February 14th marks the day Cupid's arrow pierces lover's hearts as well as their pocketbooks as analyst expect consumers to break last years record spending on candy, stuffed animals, flowers and other paraphernalia.

In correlation to Valentine's Day and in the spirit of Black history month we celebrate Black Love Day. Observed on February 13th, Black Love Day is an annual observance started back in 1993 by Ayo Handy-Kendi, the founder and director of the African American Holiday Association (AAHA). The spirited holiday is rooted in five principals: Love for our Creator, Love for self, Love for family, Love for our communities and Love for the black race overall.

The emanating principal that parallels between these three holidays is love. Whether it's Eros love (romantic) for our significant other, the feelings of butterflies we get when we hold hands or kiss; Philia love where you show deep compassion and empathy for your fellow brother or sister; or Agape love (God Kind). This is love without conditions. The kind of love that God shows us and calls upon us to demonstrate. Let's take the time to search our hearts and strive to cultivate true God like love.

Phenomenon

From the attitude in your
walk,
To the passion in the way you
talk,
You are beautiful as a whole,
The origin of life.

For an intense love that you
give so freely,
Only to be seized by a fool
who mistreats it,
You are truly wonderful,
A rough draft of perfection.

An incomprehensible gift that
God gave to men,
A leading role character in the
script of His plan.

You are simply incredible,
Exceeding above anything I
could ever ask or think.

Always misunderstood in a
shallow man's eyes,
But like a diamond in the
rough,
In time you will shine.

The very nature of you I
cherish and respect,
I love you with my whole
being even beyond infinity.
You are my mother, my sister,
my wife, and my Queen,
You are the mother of all the
Earth,
Wisdom's instrument of life,
You are God's Black Women.

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BLACK HISTORY MONTH

An Evening with A Civil Rights Icon Rev. Wheeler Parker Jr.

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

B. Wendell Parker Productions LLC, in association with The Bay City Players Community Theater and Labadie Auto Company proudly presents a three-fold Black History Weekend special event cen-

tered around the life, death, and family of Emmett Till. These three events will take place February 16,17,18, 2023. Events will be held at the DoubleTree Hotel Grand Ballroom and the Bay City Players Com-

munity Theatre, both located in downtown Bay City, Michigan.

The kick off for this Black History Weekend special event will take place on Thursday, February 16th with "An Evening with A Civil Rights Icon" Rev. Wheeler Parker Jr. Rev. Parker is the last remaining living witness to the kidnapping and abduction of Emmett Till. The reception begins at 6:00pm. Dinner will be served at 7:00pm.

Rev. Parker will be available for book signings, autographs, and photo opportunities, from 6:00pm until 6:45pm. Media outlets wishing to do interviews should submit a request prior to the event by calling 989-280-0114 or 405-821-2870.

Emmett Till was a black teenager from Chicago, Illinois who in the summer of 1955 embarked on a vacation to Mississippi accompanied by his cousin Wheeler Parker Jr. who was also a teenager at the time. The tragic events of that vacation are detailed in Rev. Parkers newly published book entitled

"Till A Few Days Full of Trouble: Revelations on the Journey to Justice for My Cousin and Best Friend Emmett".

The evening festivities will include remarks by various state and local elected officials, as well as selected members of the clergy, and talent performances by local youth. The evening's events will conclude at 9:30pm.

On Friday, February 17th and Saturday, February 18th, The stage play "Still Emmett Till" will be performed at The Bay City Players Theater. Curtain time is 7:30 pm for both shows. "Still Emmett Till" is a riveting true story that promises not to disappoint.

Tickets for "An Evening With A Civil Rights Icon" can be purchased by calling 989-280-0114 or 405-821-2970. Tickets for the stage play "Still Emmett Till" can be purchased by contacting The Bay City Players Community Theater, or by calling 989-280-0114.

+ COMMUNITY



AMARI STEWARD

Explore Flint & Genesee Announces New Executive Director

Flint, Mich. – On January 23, Amari Steward was promoted to executive director of Explore Flint & Genesee, a division of Flint & Genesee Group. The position opened in November of 2022 after the restructuring of departments at the Group which promoted former executive director Alaina Wiens to Chief Marketing & Communications Officer effective January 1.

“We are very pleased to find such quality talent for this position within our own organization,” says Tim Herman, chief executive officer of Flint & Genesee Group. “We employ exceptional individuals here at the Group and I can’t wait to see Amari’s continued success in her new role.”

Steward was formerly a senior sales manager for Explore Flint & Genesee and has been with the organization since 2016. Through her years with Explore Flint & Genesee, Steward has worked hard to help bring meetings and events to the area, most notably the Gus Macker 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament which returned to

Flint in 2021. Before joining Explore Flint & Genesee, Steward worked for 10 years in hospitality and hotel management with IGH and Marriot brands in Michigan, Indiana, and Ohio.

“Explore Flint & Genesee continues to do great work that assists the Group in advancing its vision of being a top-five community in Michigan by 2040,” says Steward. “I appreciate the opportunity to help drive tourism in Flint & Genesee while enhancing visitor experience.”

Explore Flint & Genesee is the Convention & Visitors Bureau division of Flint & Genesee Group, serving all tourism needs. Explore Flint & Genesee staff provide knowledgeable, unbiased advice and support for individuals and groups. These services are funded by the Genesee County accommodations tax and are provided at no cost.

“As a lifelong resident of Genesee County, I am honored to represent and serve this unique and proud community,”

says Steward. “We have a great team that I have been working with for the past six years and I am ready to hit the ground running to help drive the economic impact that tourism brings to our region.”

Tourism is a large part of any region’s economy. In 2021, visitor spend in Genesee County was \$511.3 million, an increase of 25.3% over 2020. Spending in Genesee County accounted for 41% of the total spend in the East Michigan region according to the Michigan Economic Development Association’s 2021 study of Tourism Economics.

Through her relationships at the local, state, and national levels, Steward plans to continue to foster economic impact in the community.

For more information on Explore Flint & Genesee, visit ExploreFlintandGenesee.org.

+ COMMUNITY

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Nicole Lynn becomes first black woman agent to represent an NFL quarterback



NICOLE LYNN AND JALEN HURTS

Congrats to Nicole Lynn for being the first black woman agent to represent an NFL quarterback (Jalen Hurts) in the Super Bowl.

Lynn graduated from the University of Oklahoma in 2015. While studying law, she interned at the National Football League Players Association. In 2015, she joined PlayersRep as the agency's first female sports agent.[2]

Lynn became the first black woman to represent an NFL draft pick in 2019, when she represented defensive tackle Quinnen Williams.[3] That year, she was featured in Glamour's "Women of the Year" series.[4] She went on to represent quarterback Jalen Hurts in 2020.

She received her certification to represent NBA players in 2020.

In 2021, she published *Agent You*, an autobiography. In 2020, it was reported that 50 Cent was producing a drama television series based on her life and career for Starz. Lynn will be an executive producer for the show.[8]

In 2021, Lynn was included on Worth's "21 Most Powerful Women in the Business of Sports." [9] That same year, Klutch Sports hired her as president of football operations.



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Over the last century, some Black composers have found their place in European-based classical music, while others have been at the forefront of creating distinctively Black styles of American music such as blues, jazz, and Motown. This concert honors composers from all these traditions. We will be joined by special guest artists, Sharrie Williams and the Saginaw United High Drumline.

A very special thank you to our Major concert sponsor Tri-Star Trust and supporters: Saginaw Valley State University, Dow Credit Union, and Jim & Christine Church.

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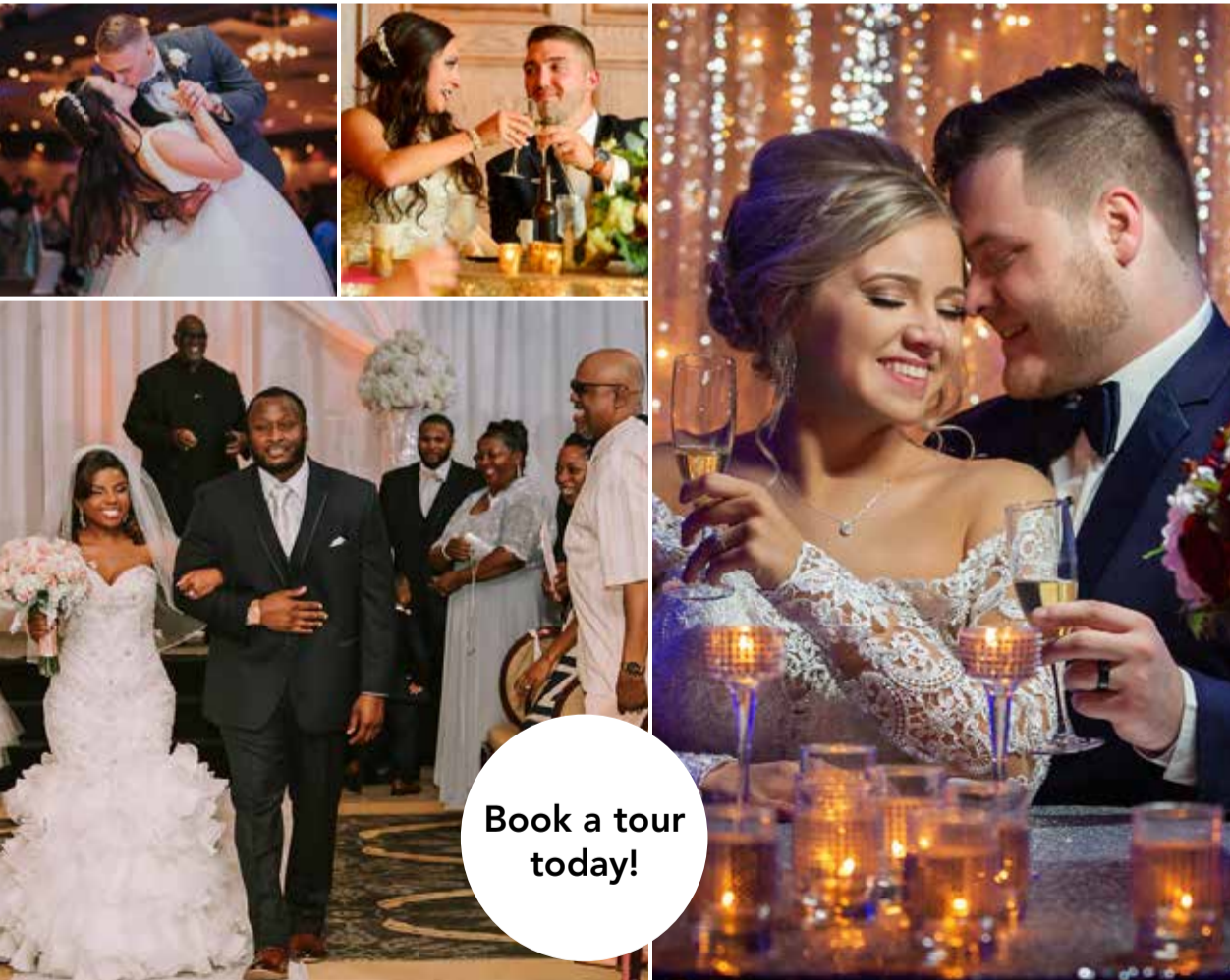


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+ FAITH BASED



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

MICHIGAN BANNER
SERMONETTE SERIESBy MINISTER CAROLYN CARTER
TOWNSEL

Slavery is a concept that is offensive and repugnant. The majority of us would recoil at the very thought of owning a slave, and especially, at the thought of being a slave. Webster's Dictionary defines slave as; "A person who is wholly subject to the will of another, one who has no will of his own, but whose person and services are wholly under the control of another." Although, the idea of slavery is repugnant, in this passage of Scripture Apostle Paul uses the slave as an illustration of our standing with God. Paul presents the fact that we are all slaves and will continue to be slaves until we die.

According to this text we are either slaves to our sin or slaves to righteousness, but we have a choice of which master we serve. Slaves? Yes, but to Which Master? Paul makes several pertinent points throughout this passage of Scripture. He informs us of the choices that we can make. We have the choice to make the decision of what master we will yield our members too. The term "yield" means to surrender, submit, give way, give up or relinquish possession of. The notion is to stand as a

Slave? Yes, But to Which Master?

Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of one you obey – whether you are slaves to sin which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness?

Romans 6:16

servant, near one's master, waiting for orders. It is an image of an individual who is at the beck and call of his master.

Paul presents that we only have two choices that we can choose from. We can choose to walk in rebellion, and that is to take the grace of God for granted. Vs. 15 states, "What then? Shall we sin because we are not under the law but under grace? Certainly not." To do so is to live a life of rebellion, a life lived outside the will of God. It is a yielded life to the master of sin. The second choice we have is to walk in righteousness, which is to walk in the Will of God which is a life that pleasing unto Him. Instead of choosing to yield our members to sin, we make a choice to yield ourselves to the Lord for His use, His purpose, and His Glory.

Apostle Paul not only speaks of the choices we can make in life, but he continues with changes that come in our lives when we walk in the righteousness of the Lord. He talks about our past failures. Paul refers to the time we endured bondage that had us tied up, tangled up, and wrapped up in sin before we came to know Jesus as our Lord and Savior. He also reminds us of the day when God knocked on our hearts and we opened the door to let Him. Our lives were no longer the same, they were changed by the power of the Lord Jesus

Christ. "Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away behold, all things are become new." (1Corinthians 5:17 KJV).

However, it is in vs. 18, that Paul reminds us of our present freedom. He speaks of what Jesus did for us, and that was to purchase our freedom from slavery to sin. Revelation 5:9 notifies us that Jesus "redeemed" us. The concept "redeemed" in this verse means "to buy in the marketplace." It makes reference to purchasing a slave from the slave block. We find in Galatians 4:5, the term "redeem" but it carries the idea a little further than Revelation 5:9. It means "to buy in the marketplace and remove from sale." This is a description of a slave purchased and who is never again to be put up for sale. Finally, in 1Peter 1:18-19, "redeemed" powerfully denotes the idiom to mean, a slave who is purchased in the market and then is set free!

Apostle Paul has presented for many a new and challenging way to look at being a slave – in that God through His Son Jesus Christ, made a way to set us free from being a slave to sin, to being a slave to righteousness. The Question that arises, "Slave? Yes, But to Which Master?"

Blessings To All

+ FAITH BASED



LECRAE

Gospel rapper Lecrae will bring his 'Church Clothes' Tour to Saginaw

Rapper Lecrae, known for lyrics that reflect his Christian faith, will be hitting the road with the 'Church Clothes' tour, paying homage to his mixtape series which spanned nearly a decade. The Grammy Award-winner took to Instagram on Monday (January 16) to announce the 25-date tour, which will stop in Saginaw on Tuesday, May 2 at 7:00 pm at the Dow Event Center.

The Final 'Church Clothes' Tour

Before the Grammys, before releasing the #1 Album in the country (Anomaly, 2014), Lecrae dropped arguably the most seminal project in his catalog, Church Clothes. XXL said, "It's impressive how he's able to deliver a message without being preachy", calling Church Clothes "a prime example of the reach of hip-hop music and culture." The people spoke even

louder downloading the project 100,000 times in 48 hours. People rocked with the mixtape because it was the first time someone planted their feet simultaneously in the streets and the Church without compromising.

10 years and two more entries later (CC2, and CC3), it becomes crystal clear that while Lecrae didn't start Christian Hip-Hop (CHH), it's his lane. In the 10 years since Church Clothes originally dropped no one has been able to keep a consistent focus on sincere Christianity and authentic Hip-Hop representation while enjoying the heights and enduring the lows like Crae.

On Church Clothes 4, the mission remains the same for rapper, CEO, New York Times Best-Selling author, investor, and activist: To represent faith and Hip-

Hop with an Unashamed edge that challenges the Church to live up to its potential and encourages the Culture to reconcile with its Savior. In this entry, Lecrae gives his listeners an opportunity to see what it looks like to reconstruct a vision of faith despite the large-scale shift toward mistrust and disillusionment with Christianity in the wake of America's racial tensions.

Tickets are available at Ticketmaster.com or in person only at The Dow Event Center Box Office. The Dow Event Center Box Office is currently open on Thursdays 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. and Fridays 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. General Admission starts at \$32.00.

For more information visit <https://www.doweventcenter.com/events/lecae>.



*Pastor Roosevelt
& Nurame Austin*

Saginaw Valley Congress of Christian Education



Pastor Vincent McMillon

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1st Annual

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Pastor Rodrick Smith

*Zion MBC
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Zion MBC • 6:00pm
721 Johnson St. • Saginaw, MI 48601*



Pastor Craig Tatum

*New Life MBC
Speaker for 2nd Lecture*

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LifeInChristMinistries07@gmail.com

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Facebook: St Paul MBC Family Connection



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T



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523 Hayden
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Pastor 810.223.2987

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Z



Zion Missionary Baptist Church
Pastor Rodrick Smith
721 Johnson
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+ FUNDRAISING GOODTIMES

You Got the Grant! Now What?

By MEL AND PEARL SHAW

Should you start spending money as soon as your nonprofit receives a grant?

We recommend taking time to make management decisions related to the grant. Here are some things you should be concerned about when your nonprofit receives a grant. Review these and prioritize which you believe your nonprofit should discuss and take action on. Let's start with three questions: Does the grant cover the full cost of what you would like to do? Do you have additional funds secured (if necessary) so that you can fully implement your project/program? How can you use the grant funds to accomplish your goal if you don't get all the funding you need? Below are three other areas for consideration.

General considerations. Does

the use of funds defined in the grant award letter match what you intend to use the funds for? Do you need more money than the grant award in order to fully fund the project? Can you use the amount from the grant if you don't yet have the full amount you need? What is the time period covered by the grant? What needs to be done by when and by who to ensure the program funded will launch and be successful? What information do you need to share with staff, board members, and volunteers as it relates to how the grant funds are to be used, and the outcomes you are seeking?

Transparency and accountability. Will you share information about the grant with staff and volunteers? What will you share or not share? Will you share information with those you serve and the larger community? How will you share the information? How will you hold the organization accountable for using funds for the purposes designated in the grant? Who is the person responsible for approving the use of funds? How will this person determine when funds should be

expended? How will you record your expenditures? What about other roles and responsibilities as it relates to the grant? Are you partnering with other organizations? If yes, what is their role? How will your board be engaged? What is their role?

The unexpected. Things don't always go as planned. What will you do if you can't recruit the staff you need, or if staff resign? What if grant funds are not enough to cover the costs of the program? Where do you go for help if you have questions about the use of grant funds? Who can you talk with if your project is not proceeding as you had expected? What will you do when the grant period comes to an end? What if you have more success than? If the grant is for one year, what will you do after that? How are you planning now to continue the program/advocacy/work after the initial grant expires? Finally, what are your vulnerabilities? Getting a grant is just one step in the process of fundraising. How and when you use the funds is equally important. Learn more in part one.



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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.

+ HEALTH



CAROL SCHMIDT

Ascension Michigan Announces New Leader

Carol Schmidt, FACHE, has accepted the role of senior vice president, Ascension, and ministry market executive, Ascension Michigan.

“In her 26 years with Ascension, Carol has demonstrated a commitment to collaboration, a focus on patient-centered care and the mindset of a true servant leader,” said Craig Cordola, executive vice president and chief operating officer, Ascension. “She is a respected strategic and administrative leader who is focused on improving the health of the populations we are privileged to serve.”

Schmidt has spent her career in healthcare, first working as a registered nurse.

She served as vice president, Partnership Services, for Daughters of Charity Health System, one of the health systems that came together in 1999 to form Ascension. She most recently served as senior vice president, Ascension, and chief operating officer for Ascension Medical Group and its clinical initiatives. As a forward-thinking executive leader, she has successfully led teams and functions dedicated to improving operational performance to ensure the sustainability of the ministry. Prior to her current role, Schmidt was chief operating officer of Clinical & Network Services for Ascension. From 2010-2012, she served as chief operating officer for Ascension Sa-

cred Heart in Florida.

“I am grateful to have the opportunity to lead Ascension Michigan,” said Schmidt. “I am keenly focused on the healthcare of the future and how we will continue to provide exemplary care to our patients in new ways, where and when they need it most. I look forward to continuing to fulfill our Mission of caring for those most in need for years to come.”

Schmidt earned a Master of Health Administration and bachelor’s in business from Webster University in St. Louis. She earned an associate degree in Nursing from Maryville University, St. Louis.



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+ EDUCATION



Scholarship Information

COURTESY PHOTO



By **CRAIG DOUGLAS**
RETIRED EDUCATOR

As January draws to a close, it is a good time to circle back once again about scholarships. The reason is that many deadlines are fast approaching for applications.

Examples:

Delta College

February 1st

Bay Area Foundation

February 6th

Saginaw Community Foundation

February 10th

The good news? For many scholarships, it is not too late to apply.

The bad news? Time is moving quickly

and it is getting tight to submit a quality application.

Some key advice for all who are now applying includes the following tips.

1. Make sure the FAFSA is completed.

The FAFSA is completed online and determines what level need exists for students. Generally speaking, the greater the need.....the more scholarships may be available. FAFSA stand for Free Application for Federal Student Aid; thus, the application costs nothing and determines the level of student need. It is done online with help from a virtual assistant.

The Saginaw Community Foundation has a tutorial video to help with FAFSA, as well.

2. Take time to review scholarship application requirements.

The paradox is clear. Time is of the essence, yet students need to take time to read ALL application requirements be-

fore submitting the application. Just one missed step might lead to a disqualification. In many cases, once the "submit" button is hit, there is no option to retrieve it for last minute corrections. Once it is "submitted," it must reflect a student's best effort.

3. Consider a new scholarship program from the State of Michigan called the Michigan Achievement Scholarship.

According to the State of Michigan, seniors may apply for this new scholarship that offers significant scholarship support depending upon which post-secondary option is being chosen.

- Up to \$2,000 if they attend an eligible private training provider in Michigan, per year, up to two years
- Up to \$2,750 if they attend a Michigan community college, per year, up to three years
- Up to \$4,000 if they attend a Michigan private college or university, per year, up to five years
- Up to \$5,500 if they attend a Michigan public university, per year, up to five years

Students should inquire at their school for more information about this new program, or they can visit the website, <https://www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid/programs/michigan-achievement-scholarship>

Opportunities are plentiful, and I urge all students & parents to gear up and apply!

Resources:

<https://studentaid.gov/fafsa-app/ROLES>

<https://www.saginawfoundation.org/site/>

<https://youtu.be/x48VcM-tNCK>

<https://bayfoundation.org/scholarship-programs/bacf-scholarship-program/>



Saginaw Promise, Investing in Saginaw's Future and its Students

Apply today for the future you want tomorrow!

Application Deadline: February 10, 2023

Since 2012, the Saginaw Promise has provided \$1,182,799 in scholarship awards to 662 students!

Who's eligible:

- ▶ High school graduates who meet residency/school attendance requirements and complete the online Saginaw Community Foundation application and FAFSA.
- ▶ Students who have used only 1 year of their Saginaw Promise Scholarship (the Saginaw Promise scholarship is available up to two years).
- ▶ Students who have applied and were awarded the Saginaw Promise scholarship, but have not used their scholarship (students have up to six years from high school graduation to use their Saginaw Promise scholarship).

How to apply:

- ▶ **Students must complete the online Saginaw Community Foundation scholarship application at saginawfoundation.org**; remember to check off Saginaw Promise scholarship and answer the two associated questions about residency and school attendance.
- ▶ **Reminder:** The Saginaw Promise scholarship is renewable up to two years and must be applied for annually.
- ▶ **Students must also complete FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) at <https://fafsa.ed.gov/>.**

For information about the Saginaw Promise, scholarship, or to donate visit the Saginaw Promise website at saginawpromise.org or telephone the Saginaw Promise at (989) 755-0545.



WILD about Pre-K!

Register Now

- Free Breakfast & Lunch
- 16 Students Per Classroom
- State Certified Staff
- Field Trips
- High Scope Curriculum
- Child Must Be 4 By December 1

To Complete Registration
 → Appointment Required ←
 Call (989) 399-6750

Saginaw Public Schools

SAGINAW PUBLIC SCHOOLS MEET PRESIDENT BIDEN

#spsdinspiresgreatness **#spsdproud** **#saginawesome**

SPONSORED CONTENT



COURTESY PHOTO

Saginaw Promise: Don't leave Scholarship Dollars on the Table

The Saginaw Promise is investing in the future of Saginaw and the lives of its students by working to eliminate barriers to higher education with information and a “place based” scholarship. Since 2012, the organization has awarded \$1,182,799 in scholarships to 662 Students. While supporting higher education, the scholarship is a benefit for residents, intended to stabilize and grow Saginaw’s population, attract new businesses, affect the overall economic environment in Saginaw; with impact and benefit for surrounding communities and the entire Great Lakes Bay Region. The Saginaw Promise scholarship benefits students who reside in and graduate from a high school in the Saginaw Promise Zone (which consist of the cities of Saginaw, Zilwaukee, Kochville and that area of Buena Vista designated to the Saginaw Public School District). The organization has been working to affect change in Saginaw and the lives of its students with

a goal for all of Saginaw’s graduating students to earn a program certificate or degree.

Who is eligible? High school graduates who meet residency, school attendance requirements and complete the online Saginaw Community Foundation application and FAFSA. Also eligible are students who have used only 1 year of their Saginaw Promise Scholarship (the Saginaw Promise scholarship is available up to two years) and students who have applied but have not used their Saginaw Promise scholarship (students have up to six years from high school graduation to use their Saginaw Promise scholarship).

How to apply for the Saginaw Promise scholarship? Students must complete the online Saginaw Community Foundation scholarship application at saginaw-foundation.org; remember to check off the Saginaw Promise scholarship on the

application and to answer the two associated questions about residency and school attendance. The deadline to complete the online application is February 10, 2023. (Note: The Saginaw Promise scholarship is renewable up to two years and must be applied for annually.) Students must also complete FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) at <https://fafsa.ed.gov/>.

For information/details about the Saginaw Promise, its scholarship or to donate, visit www.saginawpromise.org or telephone the Saginaw Promise at (989)755-0545.



+ 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 43,
SISD**

Continued from pg 42, 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).

Is Your Child A Future Hall of Fame Inductee? SAGINAW PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Superstars
Today!



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Arthur Hill High School



Charles Rogers
Saginaw High School



Ron Rummel
Arthur Hill High School



LaMarr Woodley
Saginaw High School

TO SECURE YOUR
CHILD'S SPOT CALL
(989)399-6539



CONGRATULATIONS!

SAGINAW COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2022



Check Out
Saginaw Public Schools'
New
Black History 365
Curriculum

Click the QR Code to
Watch the Video of the
Launch Party!



STILL I RISE
By Maya Angelou



BLACK HISTORY 365
THE COMPLETE STORY OF AMERICA



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

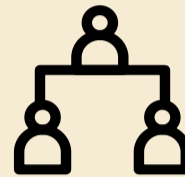
**“Our mission is to provide high quality services, developing school readiness and family empowerment for prenatal to age five children and families by working in partnership with parents and the community.”
-Saginaw ISD HE/EHS**

MI Tri-Share CHILD CARE

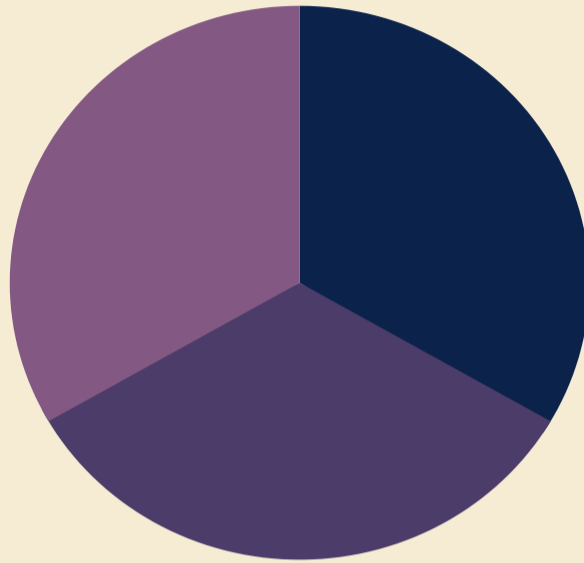
State of Michigan
33.3%



Employer
33.3%



Cost of child
care is
shared



Employee
33.3%

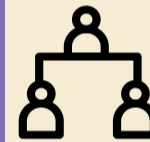


The MI Tri-Share Pilot (Tri-Share) is an innovative public/private partnership that shares the cost of child care equally between employers, employees, and the state of Michigan.

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>



Dr. Pam Ross McClain



Delta College celebrates **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

Racial Identity, Intersectionality and the 10 Cultural Lenses

Wednesday, February 15 | 12-1:30pm | Main Campus | J131

Join Dr. Pam Ross McClain as she hosts an autoethnographic exploration of racial identity development and theory. Attendees will engage and learn about intersectionality, Mark Williams' "The 10 Lenses: Your Guide for Living and Working in a Multicultural World," and receive tools to examine their own social identities, privilege and power. Bring your lunch and join us!

Presented by the Delta College history department's
"Celebrating Our Stories" initiative and "Brown Bag" talk series.

For more information

Amy French at history@delta.edu | 989-686-9132





THE OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL STUDENT AFFAIRS CELEBRATES:

Collaborations with Organization of Black Unity, Men of Distinction, Program Board, Public School Academy, King Chavez Parks, and Diversity Programs

BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2023



"Black Resistance"



FEBRUARY 1-28

Thursday 2 Black Alumni Meet and Greet 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Rotunda Meet the SVSU Black alumni for an evening of food, networking, and fun! Free Concert: 7:30 p.m. Rhea Miller Recital Hall	Wednesday 15 Black Jeopardy Night 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. Alumni Lounge Test your knowledge of Black History and Pop Culture facts for a chance to win prizes!
Monday 6 Spades & UNO Tournament 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. Student Life Programming Room Come join us for a night of fun playing your favorite tournament-style card games!	Friday 17 Black @ SVSU 7 p.m. - 10 p.m. Hamilton Gymnasium Join the Organization of Black Unity in showcasing Black Pride and the Black student experience at SVSU!
Wednesday 8 Black History Poetry Night 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. Alumni Lounge Come hear students perform or recite their original or favorite Black History Month poems!	Tuesday 21 Black Sitcom Discussion Table 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. OMSA (SC 111) Join us for brief discussions about the impact of Black TV shows within the Black community.
Monday 13 Black Faculty Meet and Greet 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. OMSA (SC 111) Come meet the SVSU Black Faculty for an evening of networking, appetizers, and games!	Thursday 23 Taste of Soul 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Marketplace Come to the Marketplace and experience some traditional African-American cuisines!



SVSU does not discriminate based upon race, religion, color, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, age, physical impairment, disability or veteran status in the provision of education, employment, and other services.

+ SPORTS



DONNY YEAGER BY MICHAEL KOLLETH

Nouvel's Yeager breaks rib in OT win against Bridgeport

By HASANI ALI

Nouvel Catholic Central's head coach Mike Kessler had no choice but to keep Donny Yeager in the close-knit game against Bridgeport on Jan. 30.

The Panthers were able to pull off the 77-75 overtime win that Saturday as they are in their final seven games of the regular season.

"He broke his rib in the overtime, but he wouldn't come out," Nouvel coach Mike Kessler said. "The kid is tough as nails. He was begging to get back in the game to finish it out. Plus, he's one of our best free throw shooters, so he knew how important it was.

Admitting that the injury was shocking to the team, Kessler knows that the team will have to make adjustments as the injury may end Yeager's season.

"It was scary. It felt like he couldn't breathe. Normally, it takes about three weeks to heal and then he can wear a pad. It's a very small crack, but it's still a fractured rib. Obviously, you never want to have an injury to an important player like Donny. But the other guys will have to learn to play without him, and if he comes back for the playoffs, we'll have a better team in the long run."

Donny Yeager finished with nine points as Nouvel improved to 12-3, overcoming a 10-point second-half deficit to send the

game into overtime on a short jumper by Preston Otter in the final seconds to tie the game at 64-64.

NCC kept the game alive with a last-second basket to send the game into overtime. It gave the Panthers a little bit of breathing room in order to make the final adjustments in overtime.

"We had a shot with about 8 seconds to go, but they blocked it out of bounds," Kessler said. "That gave us a chance to draw up a play. Preston got a little slip to the basket to send it into overtime. In the overtime we changed up our defense and went to a zone after playing man the whole game."

And the Panthers hit their free throws, making 11-of-13 from the line in the overtime and 25-of-30 from the line for the game.

MJ Yeager led the Panthers with 19 points, while Otter finished with 26 points and 14 rebounds.

Fransco Lee scored 24 for Bridgeport, which dropped to 11-3 after also falling to Freeland during the week. DT Winters, Jhirnea Harris and Torry Burt scored 11 points each, with Zalyn Martin adding 10. Winters also grabbed 8 rebounds.

"We had a big win earlier in the week against Fowler, where it felt like we had turned a corner," Kessler said. "Then to be Bridgeport Saturday was such a huge, huge win. Those two wins, beating Fowler and Bridgeport, is going to prepare us for the playoffs."

Nouvel was on the road to take on Carrollton on January 31 in conference play and will come home Feb. 3 to take on city rival Valley Lutheran.

The game begins at 7 p.m.

+ SPORTS



COURTESY PHOTO

Lake Michigan College Secure First Conference Win over Lansing Community College

By HASANI ALI

Head coach Rickey Hampton had his team in the huddle after scoring two quick buckets to give the Red Hawks a 39-35 lead over the Stars at Gannon Arena.

The Red Hawk players jogged back to the bench amped, with chest bumps and high fives. LMC were down by four with less than one minute left in the first half. They managed to put together an 8-1 run to lead the half.

"We have to put some stops together," he said emphatically. "We need just need to build the offense and play through the tough calls. They're zone (defense) is weak. We just have to exploit it. We know how to do this. Execute. Do your job and we'll get

out of here with the win."

Shooting nearly 60 percent in the second half gave the Red Hawks a 91-68 victory Lansing Community College, first win in conference play.

Lake Michigan College led Lansing Community College 39-36 at halftime after a made free throw by Connor Bush to bring the lead within three.

Both teams looking for their first conference win, the Saginaw native knew what had to happen in order to start pulling away.

"We have to stop turning to the refs in order to bail us out," Hampton said. "We're a young team and sometimes our emotions get to the best of us and when we don't get a call right away, we tend to shut

down. But we play great when we're level-headed."

LMC struggled from the field, going 14-of-35 (40 percent) in the first half.

Sophomore Brian Hunter Jr. led the way with 12 points at the half for the Red Hawks. Freshman Zahyem Bradwell followed with six and freshman Skylar Samuel trailed with five points.

Sophomores Cole Krause and Freddy Johnson led the way with eight points and six points at half for the stars.

After going nearly three minutes into the second half without a bucket, Samuel finally nailed a layup to put some points on the board in the second half.

Hunter Jr. gathered rebound after missed layup from a fast break. Got the putback and the foul with a chance for the 4-point play.

Sinking the bucket from the charity stripe, LMC went on a quick 5-0 run.

Freshman Jailen Campbell gave the team some life after a thunderous with alley oop off the fast break to extend the lead to a 7-0 run, giving the Red Hawks a 46-36 lead.

"Keep attacking the glass," Hampton said. "Work the ball around and attack every opening. We can pull away if we stay consistent."

LCC Freshman Hunter Woolston scored a bucket from an offensive board to break the 7-0 run.

Sophomore Jadon Williams hits 3-pointer on the left arch to extend lead, 59-44 with 10:11 remaining.

Battling back, freshman Thomas Dodd drains a 3-pointer from the right arch after a missed three-point attempt from freshman Nate Lott II, to keep LCC within reach 61-49.

Lott was able to redeem himself with reverse layup from the left side of the block, keeping the LMC lead withing 10, 65-55, with 7 mins remaining.

Hampton calls a timeout as LCC gets hot with a 5-0 run.

"There's a lot of game left to play," Hampton said. "Don't stop the intensity."

**CONTINUES ON PG 51,
JACKSON**

+ SPORTS

Continued from pg 50, Jackson

You can be aggressive, but take your time. Don't let up!"

Hunter Jr. sinks a corner 3-pointer with 5:16 left and LCC takes a timeout. Red Hawks are beginning to pull away, 72-57.

Sophomore Micah Johnson drains another corner 3-pointer to start another LMC run as Campbell puts down another alley-oop on the ensuing play.

Johnson and Woolston did drain a couple more buckets for the Stars, but the Red Hawks have already pull away.

Hunter Jr. led the way for LMC, finishing with 18 points and four rebounds and Campbell followed with 18 points and seven rebounds. Samuel added 10 points and sophomore Abdoulaye Ba chipped in 10 as well.

Krause and Bush both finished the game with 20 points while Johnson and Lott II both added seven points, respectively.

"This was a big win for us," Hampton

said. "We really leaned on our defense this time around. We're a young team and we're still learning how to win. Just needed them to stay locked in mentally and we did exactly what we needed to do to secure the win."

The largest lead for the Red Hawks was 25 points. LMC went 10-of-26 shooting in the second half. They stayed consistent, shooting 80 percent in both halves from the free throw line.

LCC stayed consistent throughout the game, shooting 40 percent from the field, but did not have as many shooting attempts as the Red Hawks.

The Red Hawks managed to outscore the Stars in points off turnovers, 12-5. LMC also dominated points in the point and second chance points.

The bench was also able to contribute to the victory as every player on the team scored at least a bucket.

After Campbell, Bradwell followed off

the bench with eight points.

A couple days later, LMC was able to secure its second win in a row, overall and in conference play with 84-81 victory over Kellogg Community College. The Red Hawks now sit at 5-11, 2-2 in conference play.

With the team averaging just over 66 points a game, Hampton understands what his team needs in order to finish out the season on a strong note.

"We have some players out hurt and we needed a lot of players to step up," Hampton said. "I told many of the players that this is their time to step up and show how you can contribute to the team. We're young and we have a lot of growing to do as far as a team. Nonetheless, we are making progress by leaps and bounds."

Hampton is still looking to rebuild the program after taking the Red Hawks to the playoffs in his first season.

SPSD WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULES



ARTHUR HILL HIGH SCHOOL

KASYDRA GOODE-TIBBS
AHHS Principal

BENJAMIN LEAL
AHHS Athletic Director



SAGINAW ARTS & SCIENCES ACADEMY

RACHEL REID
SASA Principal

CINDY TENNANT
SASA Athletic Director



SAGINAW HIGH SCHOOL

ERIC GORDON
SHS Principal

SOPHIA JORDAN
SHS Athletic Director

BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL

Dec 1	Saginaw vs Bay City Western	A	7:00
Dec 2	Flint Community	H	7:00
Dec 3	Flint Community	H	7:00
Dec 4	Flint Community	H	7:00
Dec 5	Flint Community	H	7:00
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Dec 7	Flint Community	H	7:00
Dec 8	Flint Community	H	7:00
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Dec 30	Flint Community	H	7:00
Dec 31	Flint Community	H	7:00

COACH: ANTHONY DAVIS

PREMOMAN BOYS BASKETBALL

Dec 1	Saginaw vs Bay City Western	A	7:00
Dec 2	Flint Community	H	7:00
Dec 3	Flint Community	H	7:00
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Dec 31	Flint Community	H	7:00

COACH: ANTHONY DAVIS

BOYS JV BASKETBALL

Dec 1	Saginaw vs Bay City Western	A	7:00
Dec 2	Flint Community	H	7:00
Dec 3	Flint Community	H	7:00
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Dec 30	Flint Community	H	7:00
Dec 31	Flint Community	H	7:00

COACH: MARK GATES

WRESTLING

Dec 1	Saginaw vs Bay City Western	A	7:00
Dec 2	Flint Community	H	7:00
Dec 3	Flint Community	H	7:00
Dec 4	Flint Community	H	7:00
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COACH: ANSEL RODRIGUEZ

BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL

Dec 1	Saginaw vs Bay City Western	A	7:00
Dec 2	Flint Community	H	7:00
Dec 3	Flint Community	H	7:00
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COACH: JULIAN TAYLOR

BOYS FRESHMEN BASKETBALL

Dec 1	Saginaw vs Bay City Western	A	7:00
Dec 2	Flint Community	H	7:00
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COACH: ROBERT CLARK

BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL

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COACH: JULIAN TAYLOR

BOYS FRESHMEN BASKETBALL

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COACH: ROBERT CLARK

BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL

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COACH: JULIAN TAYLOR

+ SPORTS



ED REED

Students Protest for Coach Reed at Bethune Cookman University

By HASANI ALI

After seeing what coach Prime did for Jackson State University, you couldn't help but to get excited for another NFL legend to take on another HBCU and put them on the map as far as college football.

Apparently, it was much bigger than football and as a former student of a HBCU, I can totally see it now that I've been to both a HBCU and a PWI.

Ed Reed did not take the coaching job at Bethune Cookman University for the money. Why would he? He's a NFL legend, pretty sure he's not hurting for finances.

And no offense, the salary of a HBCU football coach does not come close to what NFL players make on average.

Coach Reed wanted to make an impact on those students. Following the steps as Coach Sanders, he wanted to give back to his community.

Though he played football at the University of Miami, he knew that he could make BCU a prominent football program in the state of Florida.

However, he was riddled with other problems on top of a struggling football program.

According to Bracey Harris from NBC

News, the split between the school and coach Reed has the students irate, ready to expose their mistreatment at the school.

A battle over a would-be football coach's pointed criticisms has roiled Bethune-Cookman University, heating up student protests over broken ventilation systems, inconsistent hot water and mold-infested dorms at the historically Black university.

Pro Football Hall of Famer Ed Reed was ousted from his job at the Daytona Beach, Florida, school last week before he had even formally started it, after he alleged in a profanity-laced social media rebuke that he had arrived to find an unclean office and a trash-strewn campus.

Bethune-Cookman announced Saturday that it was parting ways with Reed, but student demonstrations calling for Reed's return, as well as repairs to buildings, have only ramped up since then.

On Tuesday afternoon, more than a dozen students launched a sit-in in White Hall, the campus chapel, and some stayed into early Wednesday morning. On Wednesday afternoon, roughly 40 students on this campus of about 2,700 marched to Daytona Beach City Hall to ask leaders for a meeting about their concerns.

Janiya Jones, 21, vice president of the school's Student Government Association, called Reed's dismissal "the tipping point" for issues over living conditions that were already simmering. Jones said she has dealt with mold on the ceiling of her room and had her sleep interrupted by coughing fits.

"He put it out there — what we put up with," she said of Reed. "We're just fighting for better. We know Bethune-Cookman is capable of giving us that, and we don't know why we're not getting it."

In recent years, the school has weathered accreditation issues, a credit rating dip and facilities battered by back-to-back hurricanes.

Students accused the university of failing to repair air-conditioning units and malfunctioning elevators. Some students have shared photos on social media and with local outlets of mold on the walls and

**CONTINUES ON PG 53,
REED**

Continued from pg 52, Reed

fungi-covered clothing and sheets in their dorms.

On Wednesday morning, Jones and Wilbert Stubbs, president of the Student Government Association, met with the school's interim president, Lawrence Drake, about a host of issues, from housing woes to scholarship needs. Jones said that Drake wrote down each of their demands on a whiteboard.

Jones said she saw the sit-down as a crucial first step. But she and other students expect the demonstrations to continue until the university addresses their concerns.

"We won't stop until a change is made," said Maya Walker, a senior who participated in Tuesday's sit-in and Wednesday's march. "It's time to start changing. We had a protest five years ago — nothing has changed."

The university declined to make Drake available for an interview and referred to an open letter posted to its website Tuesday.

Drake's letter said the school has already begun projects to address hurricane damage and last year contracted with a construction company to determine which facilities should be renovated or torn down.

"Many of our students chose to use this moment to voice their concerns," Drake wrote. "This administration takes no issue with this. In the coming days, I will meet with student leaders to ensure that we address many of the students' concerns and answer their questions as honestly as possible."

Drake also wrote that the university is days away from announcing its next head football coach.

But Reed, a former safety who played most of his career with the Baltimore Ravens, isn't ready to walk away.

"I really do want the job back," he said in a brief phone interview this week. "I didn't come here to bash anything."

Some HBCU supporters have found Reed's comments short-sighted. On social media, many have argued that his barbs should be placed in the context of structural inequities that have haunted many

of the institutions, which were founded to support Black students during an era of racial segregation.

Concerns about inadequate funding of HBCUs have sparked lawsuits in Florida, Mississippi and Maryland. And a growing body of work by academics and journalists has documented the underfunding of public HBCUs. (Although Bethune-Cookman is a private university, the state of Florida awarded \$17 million to the school in 2020, and Gov. Ron DeSantis held a news conference there touting the state's investment.)

Bethune-Cookman has faced a financial reckoning in the last decade. Six years ago, the university dipped into its reserves to pay for repairs after Hurricane Matthew. In 2021, the university received a \$108 million loan from the federal HBCU Capital Financing Project Program to refinance a dorm construction project that otherwise would have cost more than \$300 million.

Many families who send their children to the university are working class. Former Bethune-Cookman President Brent Chite said in 2020 that more than 90% of the students were eligible for Pell Grants, a federal aid program helping low-income households pay for college costs.

Andre Perry, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, said the consequences of Black institutions having lower amounts of wealth often show up in facilities and deferred maintenance.

"You can certainly hold people accountable," he said in response to a question about the outcry at Bethune-Cookman. "But we must understand the root causes of the subpar facilities. That's a lack of resources caused by decades of discrimination. Administrators might be part of the problem, but they are an undeniable part of the solution, as are the students, the alums and everyday citizens."

Some of the issues Reed identified at Bethune-Cookman are longstanding. While some HBCUs have touted extensive upgrades to their athletic facilities in recent years, student-athletes have said Bethune-Cookman lacked the basics.

In an YouTube interview with journalist Roland Martin on Monday, some football players alleged that they had to share helmets because the program lacked enough

for everyone on the team. There is no practice field; instead of running through drills on campus, the team prepares for games at a nearby stadium.

On Monday afternoon, a group of students gathered in front of the grave of Mary McLeod Bethune, who founded a school for Black girls in 1904 that would later become Bethune-Cookman University. Some prayed. Others had posters. At times, the group chanted, "Hey, hey, ho, ho. The board of trustees has got to go" as they marched across the campus to their destination, a statue of McLeod Bethune.

While Reed's comments mobilized many students, no one was more affected by his departure than the prospective and current members of Bethune-Cookman's football team.

Jeremy Greaves, a 17-year-old from Clewiston, Florida, arrived at the university this month as an early enrollee after Reed invited him to an official campus visit. The pending deal between Reed and Bethune-Cookman unraveled before Jeremy could start his first season.

Jeremy said he liked Reed's pitch of being part of an effort to transform a program that won just two games last season.

"That dream is gone right now," said Jeremy, who has participated in the recent campus demonstrations. "I can't control the situation right now. I do feel kind of helpless."

Kianna Huey, a 19-year-old sophomore from Orlando, participated in Monday's protest to urge the university to act more quickly on repairs. Her dorm has sections cordoned off due to hurricane damage. And she's frustrated that when the air conditioning goes out, students face the choice of dealing with the heat or opening their windows, which she sees as a potential safety risk for first-floor residents.

Huey said Bethune-Cookman was always on the list of schools she wanted to attend — but she wants the university to make improvements.

"I want us to be the best of the best that we can," Huey said. "We are an HBCU. We love our HBCU, but we want this change immediately."



PICS OF THE WEEK

On Saturday, January 28, Women of Colors hosted a free youth event for middle and high school age students, featured Dr. Trell Donk Webb.



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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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