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### **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**



COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY, PG 22



Flint & Genesee Education & Talent seeks employers to hire teens this summer



SISD's Career and Technical Education Department Celebrates Robert Delgado as SCC's 2023 Alumni of the Year

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# **STARS celebrates new buses**



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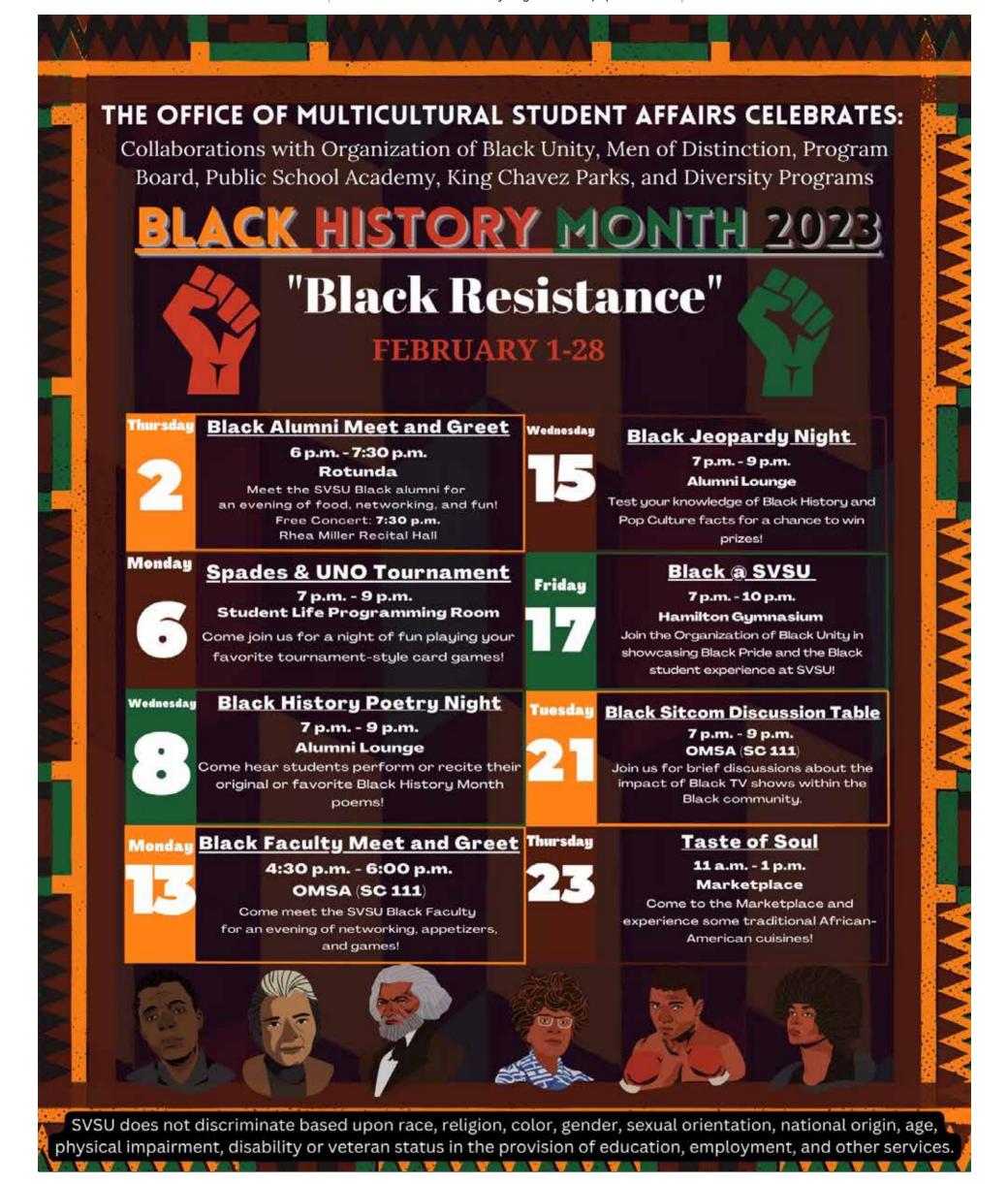
STARS (Saginaw Transit Authority Regional Services) celebrated the support of Congressman Dan Kildee, Mayor Brenda Moore, other elected officials and many community partners at a ribbon cutting for 8 brand new buses.

The vehicles represent a huge technol-

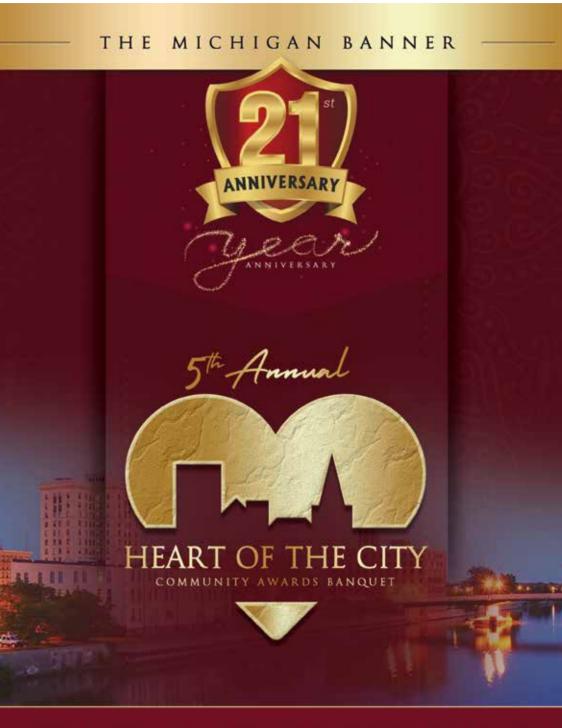
ogy upgrade, with HD cameras, destination announcements, fold-out lifts, automatic wheelchair securement, infotainment systems and air sanitizing equipment.

The celebration took place at the Potter Street Station, a building STARS hopes will one day serve as their new home.





#### **FEBRUARY 16, 2023**



JUNE 8, 2023

HORIZONS CONFERENCE CENTER

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#### MISSION

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

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

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Mailed or e-mailed Preferred format: Jpeg or PDF

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**FEBRUARY 1, 2023** 

ANNIVERSARY

# MICHIGAN YOUTH BANNER

# COPE With Hope

### **By DONIQUA SOVIA**

Many things happen in life, be it good, bad or ugly. It's the ugly and bad that cause us to lose hope, and it's the unexpected that causes us to question it in the first place. Death can have an noticeable scar on one's heart, emotions and mindset. Some cope with music, others with work, and others get into a downward spiral straight to drugs, prostitution, alcoholism, and the like. When we mention coping mechanisms it's often defined as certain behaviors, or patterns one may form to help ease the pain of the hurt felt on the inside.

I've been there myself in using coping mechanisms that didn't help but rather hindered, almost to the point of death. I've also used coping mechanisms that helped a great deal and left me feeling refreshed, revived, and ready to take on whatever came next. But the coping mechanism I found most rewarding and helpful was coping with hope. Coping with Jesus. Allowing Him to come in and destroy everything that was bad, ugly and damaging and make me whole.

I don't know what you have been through, who's hurt you, what coping mechanisms you tried, how many times you woke up due to ptsd, from someone you loved dearly doing something wicked to you, or how many people you trusted just to be let down by them time and time again, but Jesus is the answer. I encourage you to Cope with Hope, and let Jesus heal your heart.

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THE LATINO BANNER First Great Lakes Bay Regional Newspaper

**FEBRUARY 16, 2023** 



# **Dr. Love and So Much More!**



#### **By MONICA B. REYES**

I'm sure that everyone in the community has heard of the passing of a Saginaw Son, Frank "Sonny" Medel Jr. The beloved spinner of discs, LPs and the endless music soundtrack in our lives passed away suddenly on Monday, February 6, 2023, at Covenant Hospital with many families and friends surrounding and praying for him. He was 55 years old.

I can honestly say that no matter how you knew Frank, I'm pretty sure he affected your life in some positive way. Repeatedly I heard that Frank was loved by everyone. I kept hearing that they didn't know one person who didn't like Sonny

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and it wasn't an exaggeration. In preparing for this article, I read all the emails I received filled with anecdotes and different experiences that people from all walks of life had with Sonny.

When Frank was a little kid, he was always happy and a daring little guy. He tried to act shy, but he would give us besos (kisses) and hugs with his tiny arms. That's how his immediate family remember him.



FRANK MEDEL JR AT AGE 1

MICHIGANBANNER.ORG

As he grew up, he was still adventurous and by the time he was a teenager Frank

989-992-2600

was operating his own business as a DJ. His future was in "musica" (music) and bringing people together.

Frank "Sonny" Medel, Jr. served in the U.S. Marine Corps during Desert Storm 1990-91 and reached the rank of Corporal. He was employed at the Aleda E. Lutz Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center and served as an Assistant Security Dispatcher. His passion in life was serving and assisting veterans, helping them navigate how to get the proper care and help at the VA. His work didn't end at the VA. He worked with many nonprofit organi-

CONTINUES ON LB PG 1, FRANK "SONNY" MEDEL JR.



- 1

### **Continued from LB Cover, Frank "Sonny" Medel Jr.**

zations dedicated to serving veterans and their families. Frank was recognized by the Hispanic Latino Commission of Michigan as Veteran of the Year for his service to veterans across the state of Michigan.

Anthony Rubio, Disabled American Veterans State Commander said, "I alwavs considered Frank a veteran brother of mine." Rubio added that although they did not see each other day-to-day, "I knew that I could count on him when I needed it. Whether it was for a fellow veteran we were working with or myself, he was there. Frank's service to his country was exceptional and greatly appreciated. As a great American, he was called into service, and he accepted, never looking back. And he continued his calling once again for his fellow veterans and served dutifully at the VA hospital in Saginaw. At the Aleda E. Lutz VA facility many veterans' first contact was with Frank, making them feel safe and heard. We appreciate what Frank has done for his country, the Marine Corps, and his ongoing work with and for veterans. We all considered Frank Medel Jr. a true American Hero and he will be dearly missed."



FRANK MEDEL JR WITH ANTHONY RUBIO, DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS STATE COMMANDER

Frank founded TCT Entertainment on May 11, 1985, a DJ plus small business that grew to entertain hundreds of audiences in Michigan for 39 years. Frank was on a mission. He brought music to the masses as a DJ like no other. He was mixing, scratching, staged with great lights, bass bottoms, pyrotechnics, and an over-the-top show. I saw a lot of tributes for Frank this week and the influence his DJ business made on the community. It's true! Hundreds of people commented that "he played at my wedding, my quinceañeras, my anniversary," and I had others tell me that Frank played at generations of family events. One person told me that he was there for all the important family events. I heard the comment over and over again, "we all knew if Frank was the DJ there was going to be a party in the house!" Frank played at many clubs, the Mirage of Saginaw, El Farolito's, White's Bar, Wise Guys, Shenanigans, the popular Casa del Rey of old, and so many more around the state. He had a following that would go wherever he was playing and it always was a party.



FRANK MEDEL JR, REBECCA DELGADO-TRACY, ANDREA SANCHEZ, CRES HERNANDEZ, MONICA REYES AT CESAR CHAVEZ PREMIER FUNDRAISER IN SAGINAW

But more than that, Frank donated his services to many nonprofits in the area, for causes that made our region better including the Lights of the City Event, Cinco De Mayo parade and fiesta, and Rock the Block. He volunteered annually at Fiesta Tigers, a huge event at Comerica Park in Detroit. He helped out at many of the VA events and festivals throughout the community, including St. Joe's Festival, a traditional diversity gathering for all of Saginaw, and so much more.

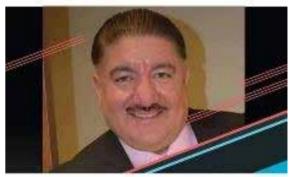
Longtime friend, Dana Tell, a Team One Credit Union executive, shared the meaning of his relationship with Frank.

"My Brotha! That is how we always greeted each other in person with a genuine hug, over the phone, or via text because that is what he was to me. No matter what community or social event was being planned or the group doing so, Frank's name was mentioned as a possible supporter or someone that we should include." Tell said.

"I could always count on Frank's willingness to support me in whatever I needed with his advice, feedback or just standing with me as a strong and proud Marine. For decades Frank's efforts to increase the awareness, acceptance, and advancement of Hispanic Americans and their culture have been recognized and admired across our nation and beyond. Frank used his distinctive voice and microphone to connect with people in ways that are immeasurable and will continue to resonate for generations to come."

As Frank's musical universe grew, he co-founded with Louie Garcia, President, the MidWest Tejano Music Radio, a digital radio station with a popular website. Frank became executive vice president. With the growth of the Internet the business became the leading Tejano station in the region, originating in Saginaw, Michigan. He also co-chaired the annual MidWest Tejano Music fest held at the Dow Event Center-Jolt Pavilion, attracting thousands of paying patrons from all over the state of Michigan for the biggest event of the summer.







CONTINUES ON LB PG 3, FRANK "SONNY" MEDEL JR.

### Continued from LB pg 2, Frank "Sonny" Medel Jr.

Frank and the team at MidWestTejanoRadio.com station worked as a nonprofit Hispanic/Latino music station that broadcast nationwide Tejano, conjunto and traditional Mexican music. Tejano music grew in listenership thanks to the on-air DJs and the support of their families. The station's mission is to assure that our young Latinos can continue to listen to and value the music of their heritage.

Frank was one of the founders and board member of the Great Lakes Bay Hispanic Leadership Institute since 2009. He contributed many hours volunteering and mentoring student ambassadors. In addition, he always handled lighting, entertainment, and visuals for every major event including the annual GLBHLI graduation attended by 400 to 500 guests each year.

Roxanne Chantaca of Roxanne y Los Compadres Mariachi group, shared that when she and her father started singing in Saginaw years ago, Frank's guidance and advice took the group to the next level. Through his connection and his own bookings, they began to get the group more gigs. He became their manager, agent, videographer and more. He was always so busy, but he still dedicated his technical expertise to add that special touch to the group's performances. Over the years Roxanne and Los Compadres have performed at numer-



CHRIS EASLICK, FRANK MEDEL, SR., ROXANNE CHANTACA, DAVID CHANTACA, SARAH SIMNITCH, FRANK MEDEL, JR.

ous festivals all over Michigan, colleges, universities, weddings and quinceañeras.

"He had so many connections that we had gigs every week," she said. "Frank's knowledge of music was impeccable. He could play any genre of music and please any crowd in from of him. I learned how to network and mingle from Frank."

Roxanne y Los Compadres stopped performing together about a year ago. Frank and Roxanne had talked about some recording projects this summer. "Ironic how things happen...performing without Frank 'Sonny' behind the scenes will never be the same," a somber Roxanne said.



CHRIS MUNDHENK, PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER OF THE GREAT LAKE LOONS

Another major contribution Frank Medel Jr. made was in bringing the La-

tino Loons to the Great Lakes Bay Region. Frank was one of three primary founders of the Dow Diamonds Latino Loons from 2012 to 2021 and in 2022 was part of the group, with Louie Garcia and Monica B. Reyes, that worked with the Loons staff to name and bring the COPA League to the Great Lakes Bay Region. The name for the team selected was Los Pepinillos Picantes del Norte (The Hot Little Pickles from the North), which celebrated the rich history of Mexican and Mexican American migrant farm workers in the Great Lakes Bay Region's agricultural community. Los Pepinillos Picantes del

Norte pays homage to their presence and contributions as laborers cultivating one of the region's signature crops – "el pepi-no" – the pickle.

Frank's family on both his parents' sides had worked in the fields, weeding

and harvesting the pickle, the major crop of the region. Honoring his heritage and that of many Latinos in the region, the pickle resonated as a familiar image to the Loons team, representing the livelihood of thousands of sun-bronzed hands who harvested and processed the crop in pickle factories in Saginaw.

"We are so saddened to learn of Frank's passing", said Chris Mundhenk, President and General Manager of the Great Lake Loons. "He was instrumental in launching Latino Loons nights at Dow Diamond and bringing the Loons Los Pepinillos Picantes del Norte initiative to life. We owe many thanks to Frank, his passion and endless positivity will be greatly missed," said Mundhenk as he acknowledged the success of the Great Loons, a unique collaboration among the corporate sports sector, civic supporters and the Saginaw Latino community for new enterprise.

Since his death, I received so many messages from his friends and people I didn't even know, saying they loved him and he was always so wonderful to their family, and all the wonderful fun and laughs they had with him. A lot of them shared stories of his generosity and acts of kindness. I knew he was a good guy. I knew he was kind. What I didn't know was that he was all this to so many people and such a big community. This is such a tremendous loss for our family and now I realize it is such a big loss to the entire community. Sonny worked with me as a partner on many projects in the community and as I wrote this, my goal was to share a tribute to my nephew. What ended up happening was, everyone knew he was a great DJ and entertainer, but I was able to share that Frank was more than a DJ and always was, in so many ways.

I have had the privilege of loving someone who epitomizes leadership, someone whose life reflects a heart of service and commitment to faith, family, friends, and certainly, enormous generosity. What a privilege it has been to be his Tía (Aunt). Thank you, Sonny, for setting an example we can all strive to emulate. Your friends and above all your family are better because of your love you showed all of us. I truly will miss our "Sonny boy", but so grateful for him, so grateful. **THE LATINO BANNER** Great Lakes Bay Regional Newspaper

**FEBRUARY 16, 2023** 

# 2023 Great Lakes Bay Hispanic Leadership Ambassadors Great Lakes B Hispanic Leadership MICHIGAN BANNER SAGINAW VALLEY Consumers Energy **Delta** College STATE UNIVERSITY. Count on Us Thanks to Our Sponsors Tope Row: Issac Delgado Henderson, Jamke Moncado, Jessica Yisa, Maricella Pena, Reynier Urdaneta Second Row: Tatiana Norris, Andrea Natalie Vela Rossman, Rene Fulgencio Jr., Miguel Torres Third Row: Immanuel Wright, Marolyn Valenzuela, Adam Castillo Botom Row: Hibert Herrera, Solon Gray, Reme Delgado, Alexandria Martinez, Veronica Flores

**FEBRUARY 16, 2023** 

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# 



By CRAIG DOUGLAS RETIRED EDUCATOR

At the start of Black History Month on February 6th, I sat in on a Spanish I class at Bay City Central High School taught by Mrs. Penny Hildinger. Mrs. Hildinger challenged her students to research independently, on the Internet, about an Afro-Latino figure from history.

"Afro-Latino" refers to a person who has mixed African American and Latin American origin or dissent. Perfect for a Spanish class!

A very long list of persons was offered to students to research; the list had to exceed fifty names. Among the names were Roberto Clemente and Miguel Cabera, two of Major League Baseball's heroes in my lifetime. For this essay I have selected the following two to highlight today, given the theme for 2023 "Black History Month" is "Black Resistance." Both of these individuals are strong examples!

**Julia de Burgos** (1914- 1953) had a short yet unique life of just 39 years. She completed high school and college by age 19 in order to teach school; perhaps this is why her story drew my attention.

Among de Burgos' highlights were the following:

• Emerged as a poet and activist, publishing three books and many poems, including Poema para-Mi Muerte (My Death Poem).



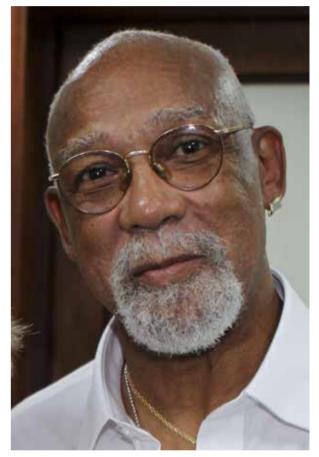
JULIA DE BURGOS

- Became a "Nationalist," centering her work to secure Puerto Rico's Independence.
- Served as Secretary General of the Daughters of Freedom, the women's branch of the Puerto Rican Nationalist Party. (Also, a civil rights activist for women and African/Afro-Caribbean writer.

**John Carlos** was a gifted athlete known for Track & Field, and in his day was one of the fastest human beings on the face of the earth. In 1969 he was timed at 9.1 seconds in the 100-yard dash.

Carlos was named to the United States Olympic team in 1968, and earned the bronze medal in the 200-meter dash.

However, he was stripped from the honor when he and teammate Tommie Smith both raised closed fists on the medal stand in defiance and in opposition to African American oppression in the United States. I was in high school at the time, and it was a very big deal on TV. People almost immediately took sides (either in favor of Carlos & Smith's protest or adamantly against them).



JOHN CARLOS

Two names from the past that readers may (or may not) have heard of before. That is one of the reasons we celebrate Black History Month, to highlight those persons from our past that have helped shape our future by their courage.

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#### **Resources:**

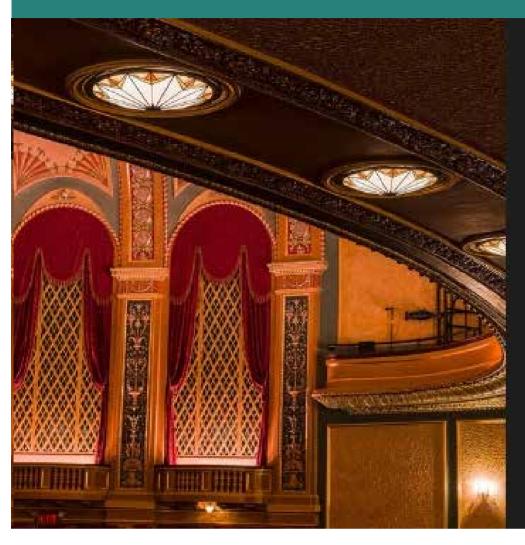
https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/ Afro-Latino

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Piri\_Thomas https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julia\_de\_Burgos https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John\_Carlos **FEBRUARY 16, 2023** 

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## = + COMMUNITY





### EAT GREAT WINTER FEBRUARY 19–21, 2023 TEMPLE THEATRE



# Eat Great Winter in Saginaw Restaurants Unveiled

Eat Great Winter announced the list of Great Lakes Bay Region restaurants that are set to appear at the historic Temple Theatre for Eat Great Winter in Saginaw. Scheduled for February 19 - 21, the event has partnered with 13 different businesses throughout the region to host the upscale, 8-course paired tasting dinner. The list includes 7 partners who are new to the Eat Great series of events. Among the businesses participating are Prost! Wine Bar & Charcuterie, Pasong's Café, Eastman Party Store, HORIZONS Conference Center, Timbers Bar & Grill, Jake's Old City Grill, Bavarian Inn, MI Table, O'MACARON, Patisserie, Coffee Chaos, The Saginaw Club and The Menu Manager.

"Eat Great Winter is proud to highlight several restaurants in the Saginaw area, as well as across the Great Lakes Bay Region," said Eat Great brand manager Cameron Wing. "We're always excited to welcome new restaurants to the Eat Great family; with 7 new additions, this year has been particularly exciting."

The Eat Great Brand was created with a mission to help highlight and grow the culinary and hospitality industries in the Great Lakes Bay Region, and Eat Great Winter aims to do exactly that.

"Our goal is to introduce Great Lakes Bay Region residents to new restaurants they haven't tried before," Wing said. "We hope that folks will find a few additional local favorites to visit on a regular basis."

Eat Great Winter takes on a new look this year – moving indoors to The Temple Theatre – but with the same experience and service you've seen in the past. The two-hour event will showcase three different areas of the historic venue for appetizers, dinner, and dessert. This year, with the addition of an optional fourth stop next door, ticketholders are sure to see a side of Saginaw they've not seen before.

The full 8-course menu will be unveiled at Eat Great Winter, though restaurants partner may drop hints as to what they will be serving on their social media platforms. All are encouraged to follow Eat Great Food Festival, as well as our Eat Great partners, on social media for more information.

Tickets are being sold on a per-table basis for \$600 (taxes and fees will apply). Reservations can be made at the available seating times of 5:30 pm, 6:00 pm, 6:30 pm, 7:00 pm or 7:30 pm. Tickets are selling quickly, so those interested in attending are encouraged to buy their tickets by visiting www.eatgreatfoodfestival.com.





COURTESY PHOTO

## **Corrections Officers Now Eligible to Attend Delta College Tuition-Free**

Corrections officers needing college credits are now eligible to attend Delta College, or any of the state's 31 community colleges, tuition-free under a new grant program administered by the Michigan Community College Association (MCCA).

Current state law requires state corrections officers to complete 15 college credits as a requirement for employment. To help officers complete this requirement, MCCA established the Michigan Corrections Officer Grant Program to support tuition and fees at any of its colleges. The Fiscal Year 2023 State Budget included the funding for the program.

"This grant program will make a huge difference for corrections officers needing to complete their education requirements," said MDOC Director Heidi Washington.

To be eligible for the Michigan Correc-

tions Officer Grant Program and free tuition, corrections officers must meet the following criteria:

- Be employed by MDOC
- Earned less than 15 college credits
- Received approval from MDOC for the program
- Enroll at a community college in Michigan

Delta College offers a convenient online 15-credit vocational corrections certificate made up of five courses:

- CJ 130 Introduction to Corrections
- CJ 132 Client Relations in Corrections
- CJ 135 Correctional Institutions and Facilities

- CJ 233 Criminology, Client Growth and Development
- CJ 238 Legal Issues in Corrections

"Corrections officers are critical to the safety of our communities and Michigan community colleges are pleased to make it easier for them to obtain the credit they need," said MCCA President Brandy Johnson. "Our colleges are located in every corner of the state, making them more accessible for learners working and attending classes at the same time. This grant program removes barriers to success for our state's corrections officers."

To learn more about Delta College visit delta.edu. To learn the program and how to apply, visit www.mcca.org/Michigan-Corrections-Officer-Grant-Program.



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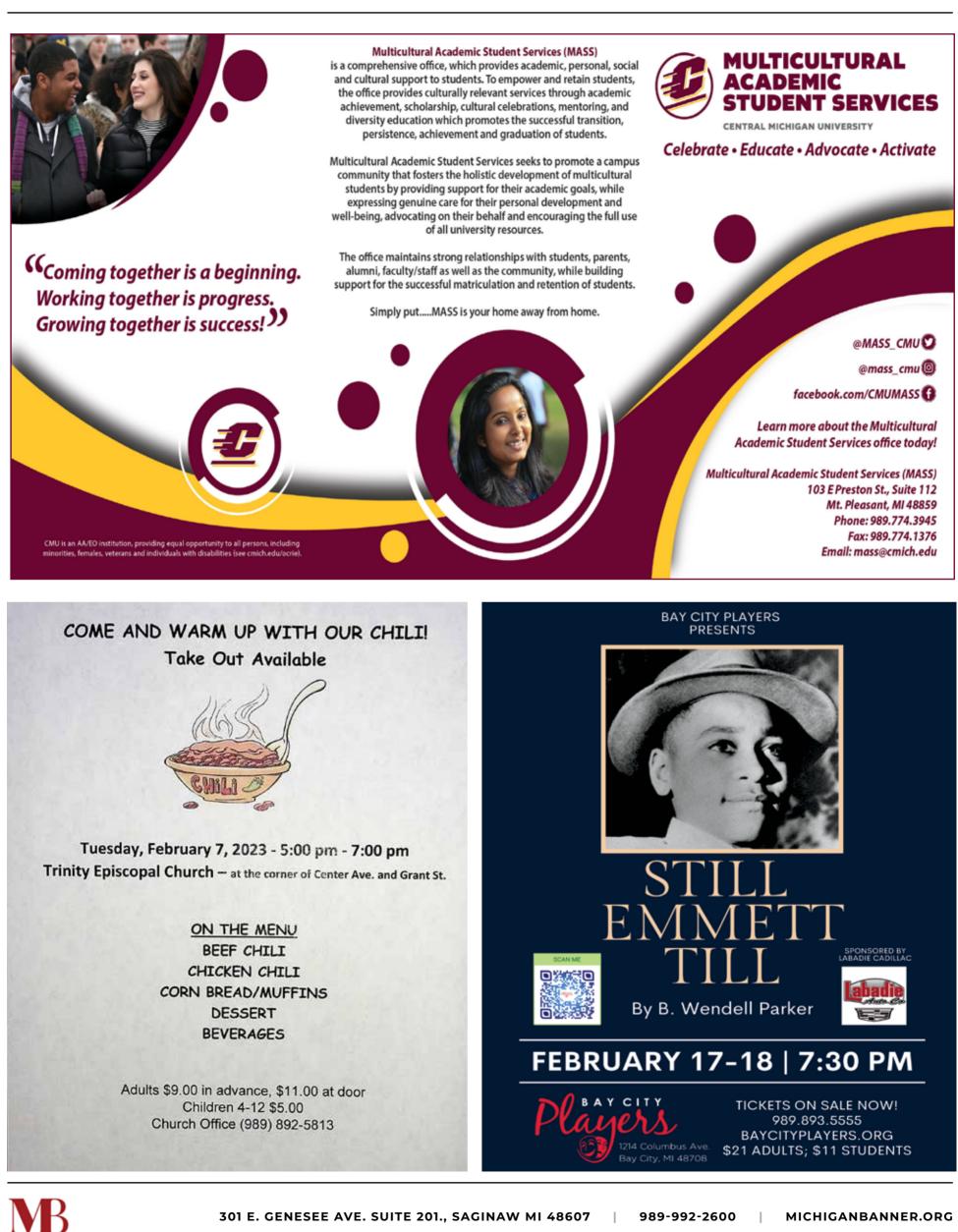
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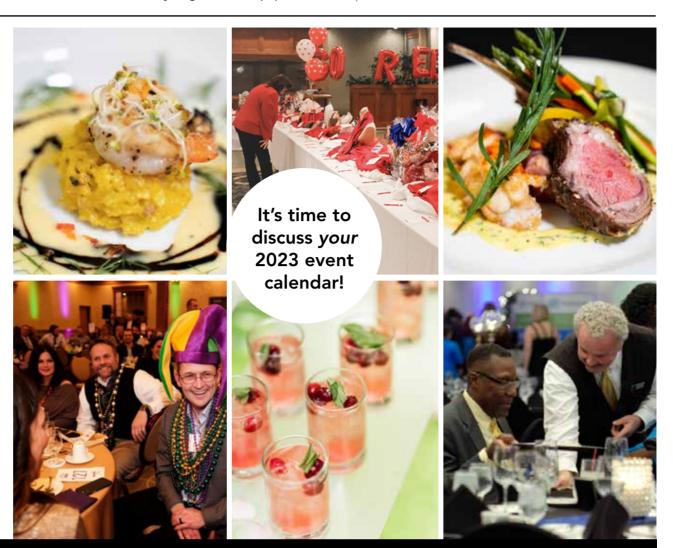
**FEBRUARY 16, 2023** 



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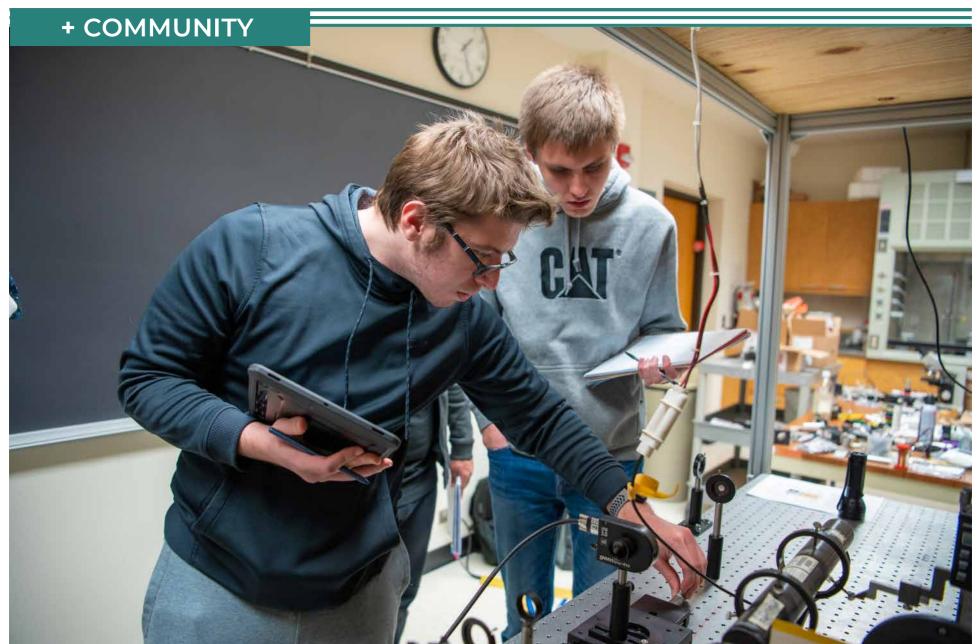
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### FEBRUARY 16, 2023



SVSU STUDENTS HAVE BEGUN USING A NEW LASER BEAM PROFILER THAT ENHANCES THEIR LEARNING AND CAREER PREPARATION

### SVSU physics department receives donation of optical equipment

Saginaw Valley State University was recently awarded a donation of optical equipment from Gentec-EO through the company's Laser Lab Awards program. Headquartered in Quebec, Canada, Gentec-EO is a worldwide supplier of instruments for the measurement of laser and terahertz equipment.

Chris Nakamura, SVSU associate professor of physics, applied for the award.

SVSU's Physics Department has long had a strong optics component. According to Nakamura, recent graduates from the SVSU physics program have gone on to work with optics and lasers in industrial research and development (R&D) or graduate study. The optical physics degree program gives students opportunities to study cutting-edge physics topics relevant to in-demand careers in optics, lasers and photonics. Nakamura said Gentec-EO's donation of a BEAMAGE-4M beam profiler will support the physics faculty's efforts to better train SVSU students with the best available optical technology used in research labs and industrial research and development (R&D) facilities.

"A laser beam's profile, or shape, matters a lot for many applications, like laser cutting, laser trapping and laser surgery." said Nakamura "Early methods of measuring the beam profile were time-consuming and error prone. Having this device will let our students make measurements in a faster, easier and more accurate way."

Nakamura said the new beam profiler will complement other equipment in use by SVSU physics students.

"We have a number of Helium-Neon lasers and diode lasers, and the beam profiler is useful for understanding their beam profiles," Nakamura said. "Presently we have two students working on senior research aimed at building a couple of lasers, and so being able to measure the beam profile for new home-built lasers is certainly something we're excited about."

The beam profiler will be used in a wide range of physics courses and labs at SVSU, as well as to support student senior research projects. Having access to better measurement technology at SVSU will help students build a greater level of technical expertise and better prepare for their future careers.

"Optics really has a strong laboratory component to it." Nakamura said. "We're always working to get the best lab equipment possible for teaching our students. So, we're very grateful for industrial support, like equipment donations, which really helps us a lot."

Learn more about SVSU's physics offerings at https://www.svsu.edu/physics.



#### **FEBRUARY 16, 2023**

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### + COMMUNITY



# 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

Instructions

- 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



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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### + COMMUNITY

### **IN MY HUMBLE OPINION**



# **Black History Month Made History**



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

We are all blessed to be here in February 2023, and it's proving to be an exciting month, especially if you're a football fan like me and more than 100 million others around the world. Super Bowl LVII (57), on Sunday, 12 February was even more spectacular than it was hyped to be and it ensured that Black History Month made history.

As you probably know, Black History Month started out as Negro History Week in February almost 100 years ago by historian, author, journalist, and the founder of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, Carter G. Woodson. Woodson chose the second week of February to celebrate the historic achievements of Black Americans so that it coincided with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass, the 12th and 14th respectively.

He popularized the long-neglected field of Black studies, including the African diaspora, in schools and colleges across the country and became known as the "father of Black history". Woodson was only the second African-American to obtain a Ph.D. from Harvard by 1912. One of his more famous quotes is, "At this moment, then, the Negroes must begin to do the very thing which they have been taught that they cannot do" from his 1933 book The Mis-education of the Negro.

Dr. Woodson's calling to establish academic studies of African and African-American history eventually influenced school sports programs. Thank goodness young Black football players started to do

### CONTINUES ON PG 23, BLACK HISTORY



### **Continued from pg 22, Black History**

what they were taught they couldn't do – namely, be the quarterback.

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, beliefs that were held over from slavery shaped the development of football in America. According to The Washington Post's recent article entitled, "It took until 2023 for two Black QBs to start in a Super Bowl. Here's why", Professor Emeritus David K. Wiggins, a well-known scholar of African American participation in sport, reveals through his work "how fans and coaches, as well as athletes, trainers, cultural anthropologists, psychologists, sociologists, physical educators, biologists, medical doctors and, later, sportscasters claimed that Black and White athletes had innate differences that made them better suited for different roles in sports." The majority believed that Black people were superior athletically and inferior intellectually.

The National Football League (NFL) was formed in 1920 and a few Black players were allowed to play, but from 1933 to 1946 Black players were banned altogether. When the league did start integrating, it took more than 15 years for all of the teams to desegregate. The bigoted and racist beliefs from slavery persisted and a practice known as "racial stacking" was the unwritten rule of the day. Black players were blocked from positions like quarterback, center, and inside linebacker, "because of the belief that such spots were too cerebral for Black men", as per the article from the Post. Talented Black quarterbacks that excelled in youth and college football got funneled toward playing wide receiver, running back, or cornerback in the pros.

Despite all of this, as we always do when faced with adversity, someone managed to overcome the system and his name was Marlin Briscoe. He was the first Black quarterback in the American Football League (today's NFC) in 1968, but he had to threaten to walk unless given a chance because he was drafted as a cornerback. His achievement in breaking through the color barrier didn't make it any easier for other Black players to follow him, unfortunately.

In 1969, eight-round draft pick in the AFL, James Harris, who was a quarterback

out of Grambling State University, joined fellow rookie O.J. Simpson in the starting backfield of the Buffalo Bills. Harris became the first Black quarterback to start a season in the history of pro football, and ironically, a few of his pass completions were to Marlin Briscoe who had been traded to the Bills and converted to the position of wide receiver. In 1974, after being traded to the LA Rams in '72, Harris became the first African-American quarterback to start and win an NFL playoff game. He was also awarded MVP of the NFC Pro Bowl game that season.

A few years later, one of the greatest quarterbacks of all time emerged from the University of Washington. He is none other than Warren Moon, and despite winning the Rose Bowl, being awarded MVP, and being named the Pacific-8 Conference Player of the year in 1978, he went undrafted in the NFL. Teams wanted him to play wide receiver or defensive back, but he refused. Remaining confident in his abilities, Moon opted to sign with the Edmonton Eskimos of the Canadian Football League (CFL) and led them to an unprecedented five consecutive Grev Cup victories. Now the NFL was interested in his QB skills, and he returned to the U.S. to play for the Houston Oilers in 1984 where he stayed for 10 seasons. In 1990, Moon led the league in passing yards and was named Offensive Player of the Year by the Associated Press. Warren Moon is the only Black quarterback inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame (Class of 2006). Unfortunately, Moon never made it to the Super Bowl, but one of his contemporaries and several others did.

In the same year that Moon was ignored as a QB by the league, another GSU quarterback made it (10 years after James Harris) as a first-round pick by the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in the 1978 NFL Draft. Doug Williams became the first Black QB drafted in the first round and led the Buccaneers to their first three playoff appearances in team history. 10 years later, Williams, now with the Washington Redskins, became the first Black quarterback to both start and win a Super Bowl and he was named MVP of the game.

Since then, there have only been seven Black quarterbacks that made it to the big

game, including the two that made history last Sunday by being the first African-American quarterbacks to start and face each other in a Super Bowl. Both from Texas, Philadelphia Eagles QB Jalen Hurts and Kansas City Chiefs QB and 2023 Super Bowl MVP Patrick Mahomes forced the world to reckon with the legacies of slavery and the racist ideas that underpinned it and continue to affect society. There was no comparison of race between the quarterbacks, only of their skills, abilities, and intelligence. One commentator for ESPN and former Detroit Lions QB, Dan Orlovsky said, "Great job of understanding what the coverage is" when speaking about Hurts' passing game, according to a Fox Sports article about the big game. Ever since the Chiefs defeated the San Francisco 49ers (my team) in Super Bowl LIV (54), Mahomes has been praised for his intellectual skills, even being called a unicorn by The Athletic stating, "Mahomes' intellectual skills are what make him unique".

+ COMMUNITY

In addition to the quarterbacks making history during the game, which includes Hurts breaking a 23-year-old record for most rushing touchdowns by a quarterback, becoming the first player to run for two touchdowns in the first half, and three rushing touchdowns in the Super Bowl, history was made before kickoff. In keeping with the tradition of more than 50 years of a military flyover during the national anthem, a US Navy four-finger formation of the most advanced fighter jets in the world buzzed the stadium, but for the first time by an all-female team.

Not only that, even Fox commentators, Greg Olsen, and Kevin Burkhardt made history when they called the Super Bowl for the first time in their careers. Justina Miles, a deaf American Sign Language performer, also made history as the first female deaf performer for the halftime show, which featured mega-star Rihanna performing a medley of her award-winning hits.

Super Bowl LVII was a victory for all who watched it, and it was fitting that Black History Month made history on Abraham Lincoln's birthday.



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**FEBRUARY 16, 2023** 



## The Unseen Hero of Detroit: Kenneth Donaldson

### By HASANI ALI

Sometimes, your greatest heroes are sitting right in your neighborhood. They are often hard to find because they may not wear a cape or maybe be visible on the scene at all.

However, it doesn't mean that they're not empowering lives behind the scenes.

Your unseen heroes make it possible to empower those that are seen. As the old adage goes, "even your hero needs a hero."

Kenneth W. Donaldson is that man for greater Detroit.

The President and CEO of the Black United Fund of Michigan, Inc. is a lifelong Detroiter with childhood memories of a city with two parent families, safe neighborhoods and vibrant schools where the entire family was engaged in early childhood education.

"I was raised in a two-parent household and five brothers, no sisters," Donaldson said. "Growing up, we were told that 1-of-4 African American were going to either be dead, in jail or on drugs by the age of 25 – all six of us turned out to be respectable citizens."

Starting out in Public Relations, Donaldson's character helped him rise through the ranks of the organization that eventually helped him eventually become president.

"The people you help and meet give you peace in your spirit," he said. "I won't get rich from this position, but I wouldn't trade it for the world. The wealth comes in the richness of being a resource for other people that look at you as a mentor."

Because of his upbringing, Donaldson credited his parents for the man that he has become today. Without the morals and principles given to him and his brother, Donaldson wouldn't have had the passion and dedication to help others who are looking to better themselves.

"My parents were very pivotal on how they raised our family and promoted how much they loved each other," he said. "They instilled that into us and my brothers and I are close to this day. We celebrate birthdays together, plan events and even invest our money together. We're always looking

### CONTINUES ON PG 23, DONALDSON

### + COMMUNITY

### **Continued from pg 22, Donaldson**

for a reason to come together as a family."

Because of his parents, he's now able to instill those same principles into his children (Kayla, Kenneth II and Kyana) with his wife, Joyce.

Donaldson's passion for family cohesion and stable communities led him to over 35 years of philanthropy, mentorship and community organizing. As the President & CEO of BUF of Michigan, a fiftytwo-year-old non-profit, Donaldson has helped to bring millions of dollars to Michigan's non-profit, community-based organizations that work toward a better tomorrow for metro Detroiters and throughout the state of Michigan.

"God didn't bless me to be blessed, he blessed me so I can be a blessing to others," he said. "So it hit me one day that I had to figure out how God was going to show me how to spread the love towards my community and be a blessing to others."

His efforts have helped to support over 1,500 non-profit organizations impacting the lives of tens of thousands of men, women and children.

While honoring Black History Month, Donaldson had a moment to reflect what Black history meant to him and for those around him. Stated that our history is something that you can't put a price on, nor should it ever be compromised.

"Black History to me is something that has unlimited value," he said. "The problem for a lot of us is that the unlimited value that we call our history goes untapped and that seems to hinder us when it comes to making progress. "If we could scratch the surface and see how African Americans have impacted this country, from its inception to current times, it's absolutely amazing."

Working with the Detroit community over the decades, Donaldson knew that it would take something of importance in order to change the current situation of the Detroit community and black communities around the country.

"We don't know our history," he said. "Black history to me is a time to remind our people to pay attention to where we came from and where we have contributed to today's society. We have a profound statement that goes, 'how will you know your future if you don't know your past?' It's the history that prepares us for the future."

Because he believes in that wholeheartedly, Donaldson teamed up with BUF to take the initiative to help the youth understand the importance of their own history.

BUF currently has an ongoing "Hidden Hero" contest for Black History Month. Detroit students are given the challenge to research, find and report on an untypical African American figure that's not usually covered in the curriculums of public schools.

"That's right, we want the unsung heroes in black history," he said. "We cover Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks, Frederick Douglass and Harriet Tubman every year. Let's find those men and women that we don't get to hear about. That way the students can find a person of their own interest and give them the ability to control their own narrative when it comes to our own history."

Donaldson graduated from Western High School and Western Michigan University with coursework at Wayne State University and Leadership Detroit XIV.

While interviewing with Mr. Donaldson, I had the opportunity to share with him the story of Bass Reeves, the first African American U.S. Marshal west of the Mississippi River.

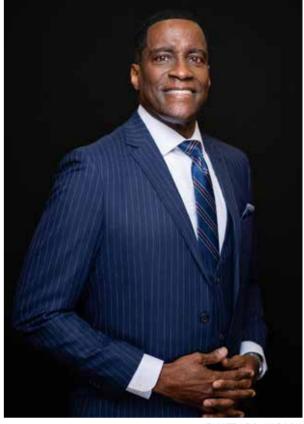
During his career as Marshal, he has arrested over 2,000 fugitives and thieves.

His performance as Marshal deemed him the name, "The Lone Ranger." This is where the original cartoon came from, only whitewashed.

Donaldson interjected immediately to make a point.

"And I bet you that not one little boy or girl cannot tell you who that person is," he said with a chuckle. "And it's because those types of stories do not get told to our children. Now imagine if you told that story to a little boy or girl and then they go tell everybody. Sometimes, we only have to hear a name one time and we know who that person is. Now that story of that person can be carried on and add another hero to our story."

With the mentioning of heroism, Don-



KENNETH DONALDSON

aldson's time as a president did not start so smoothly with BUF. In fact, his nomination came at the worst time – when the organization was about to shut down.

"I will never forget it," he said. "It was 11 o'clock at night and I received a phone call that I have just been selected to be the president of BUF. Though it was a joyous time, I had to remember that we were just given financial advice to close our doors."

And as any leader would do, Donaldson sprung into action to keep his organization afloat.

Within one year, Donaldson implemented an effective financial strategy that helped BUF save over \$100,000 in expenses.

"It's not a story that I would usually tell, nor do I usually like to brag about myself, but it was definitely one of my proud moments in life," he said.

During that time, Donaldson and staff decided to change the initiative of the organization from funding non-profits to youth empowerment.

Because of his amazing accomplishments, Donaldson was awarded as one of 100 Detroit Black Men of Greater Detroit.

He's surely a blessing to others and a hero to many.





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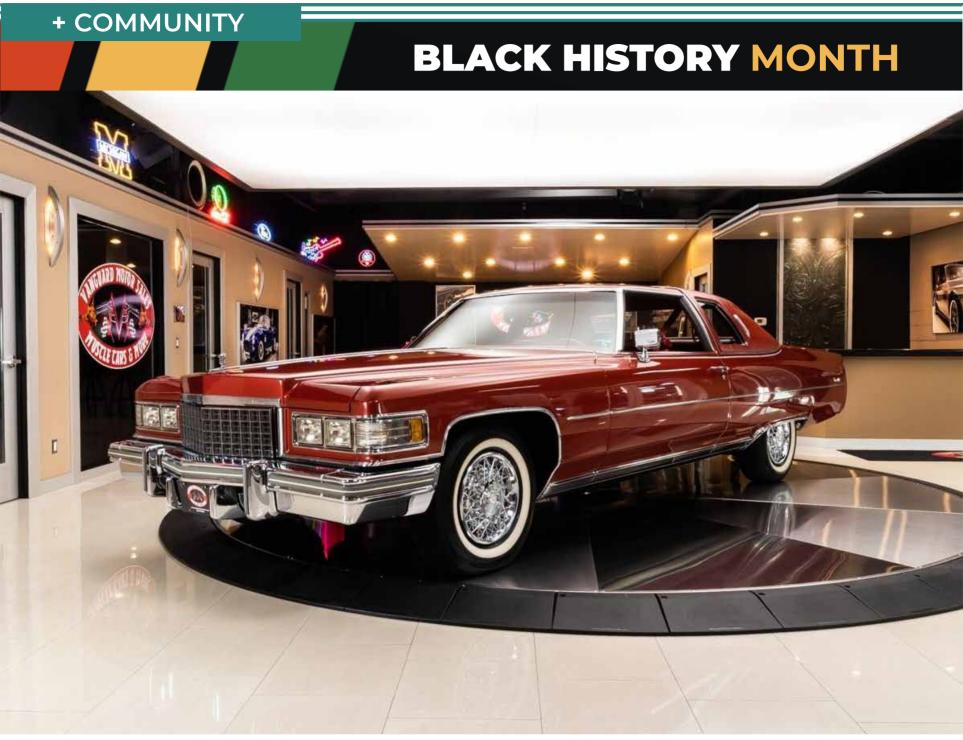
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FEBRUARY 16, 2023



1976 CADILLAC DEVILLE

## "A Black Man Can't Buy A Cadillac!"



**By JOAN L. WASHINGTON** 

My mother is 91-years old. To date taking care of her is my most challenging and ardent appointment in life, especially at bedtime. Mom sleeps with the lights on and the radio is always

### tuned to WJR.

She sleeps with her glasses on (I guess to see clearly in her dreams) and a winter's hat popped atop her head. Mom goes to bed clutching her purse, tugged firmly at her right side and her grippers in her left hand, every single night. She is heavily guarded by legions of toilet paper guards. She has toilet paper on her left side, toilet paper on the right side, toilet paper on the nightstand.

I am exceedingly blessed because I still get to spend precious time with my

mom...toilet paper and all, for me she's worth her weight in gold. Now mom never fails to pull something unusual out of her hat. One day, just before Christmas, I was making the bed and she just randomly piped up and said,

"I worked for a rich man; he was a '**Big Business Man'** in his day. He just loved to just talk and talk and talk about one thang or the other. This was back when I was doing private duty nursing." I didn't say a word just let

### CONTINUES ON PG 27, CADILLAC



### **Continued from pg 26, Cadillac**

her talk. I just figured this was just some rambling, nonsensical conversation...nothing could have been farther from the truth.

"That man told me, he'd say "Mrs. Rubie! 'A Black Man Can't Buy a Cadillac!' It was a standing order from GM, to never sell a Cadillac to a Colored man, because it was a prestige and class thing. General Motors had a reputation to uphold and only wanted to sell whites with money and a professional status a Cadillac. Black folks were banned from owning one; a new one anyway...everybody knew that!"

Naturally I thought my mother had misunderstood, what the man said. I told her I had never heard of such an absurd and ridiculous notion. As many Black folks that I know that drive Cadillac's? And you are telling me this about GM? Her information really got me curious so I did some "penny research" and discovered mom and that old man were right!

According to an article I found published in "The Los Angles Sentinel" in July 2019, it gave a full account that substantiated the story.

"At the turn of the 20th century, the automobile entered the American scene. During that period there was a proliferation of car manufacturers. In 1903 alone, 57 companies came into existence and 27 went bankrupt. Over the years, numerous models were introduced that are now a distant memory. Studebaker and Hudson come to mind. But the Cadillac, introduced in 1903 is still going strong. However, at one point it was also on the chopping block, but was saved at the last moment.

The Cadillac was General Motors' top of the line and most expensive product. But the great depression of the 30s caused the automobile market, as a whole, to shrink drastically and the luxury segment to virtually collapse. In 1928, General Motors manufactured 1,709,763 vehicles of which 41,172 were Cadillacs. By 1933, GM production was down to 779,029 total vehicles.

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That year only 6,736 Cadillacs were sold, a decline of 84 percent.

Cadillac was losing so much money that it was obvious that management was

going to pull the plug. A meeting of the GM Executive Committee was called to do just that. During the meeting a man named Nicholas Dreystadt, who was not invited, knocked on the door and asked to be heard for just 10

minutes. Dreystadt was a gifted mechanic and had been put in charge of GM

Service Departments nationwide.

Dreystadt stated that he had a plan to make Cadillac profitable in 18 months. While traveling around the country visiting service departments, he had observed a significant number of African Americans in the service department at Cadillac dealerships. They were members of the tiny African American elite:

boxers, entertainers, lawyers, doctors, and ministers. At that time, it was GM's policy not to allow its dealerships to sell Cadillacs to Blacks. GM felt that it would not be good for the image of their luxury brand.

Dreystadt found out that Blacks were paying white men \$300 to purchase the cars for them. In today's market would equal \$5,331.68. Dreystadt urged the Executive Committee to go after this market. Why should a bunch of white men get several hundred dollars each when that profit could go to General Motors? The Board bought his reasoning and in 1934 Cadillac sales increased by 70 percent.

On June 10, 1934, Dreystadt was made Head of the Cadillac Division. Obviously, the purchasing power of African Americans has saved many corporations. Hopefully, one day we will use that purchasing power to save major corporations owned by us as well."

Learning this new information about Nicholas Dreystadt and how he and the African American community literally saved General Motors Luxury Cadillac is astounding! We never learned this in school! However, it opened my eyes, to "an Aha" moment for me. I finally figured it out the relationship between Black people and owning a Cadillac. GM created this exclusive **Brand** that represented prestige, success and respect based on one's achievements. However, GM declared, no matter how successful a Black person became, they could *never* own a Cadillac, because their success wasn't good enough.

My mother brought a brand new, Firemist Gold, Fleetwood Cadillac back in the day, just before I went off to college. As I look back, this was her time to shine...both her and dad. They worked hard all their lives, struggling together through good times and bad times, (and there were many) to raise up seven kids. My mother had reached the point in her life of "**prestige**," so she brought that Cadillac!

And the world knew it! I never had an affinity for a Cadillac, but now thanks to this article, I fully understand its value to her and my family. Isn't it so ironic? God surely must have a sense of humor.

The very people that GM shunned back in the 1930s, that weren't good enough to buy a Cadillac, were the very people that ended up *"saving the Generals Motors Brand!"* 

So the next time you see a Cadillac, understand the true economic power and influence that Black people have to once save Cadillac from the chopping block.

Thank you Nicholas Dreystadt!

**PAGE 27** 





COURTESY PHOTO

# Flint & Genesee Education & Talent seeks employers to hire teens this summer

Flint & Genesee Education & Talent's teen employment program, Summer Youth Initiative (SYI), is now accepting responses to its Request for Proposal (RFP) from local businesses and organizations looking for employees this summer.

"Traditionally, we have partnered with mostly nonprofits and schools to employ our SYI teens and we are looking forward to continuing those partnerships," says James Avery, director of Talent Development at Flint & Genesee Education & Talent. "At the same time, we are also hoping to expand the jobs that are offered by partnering with more for-profit employers in a variety of fields."

Last year, new businesses and organizations joined the SYI employer base including Elle Jae Essentials, a local skin and hair care business that recently opened a storefront in Flint; and Flint Fresh, a local nonprofit that focuses on creating a robust food system in Flint.

"We only hired three kids, but with everyone we interviewed, I was so impressed with the caliber of students," says Brian Schorr, executive director of Flint Fresh. "The program is a huge support for any business in greater Flint looking for talent."

Through SYI, participating employers can use funds to support wages for teen employees up to \$12 per hour.

For those interested in submitting an RFP but unsure where to start, a technical assistance meeting will be held Tuesday, Feb. 7 from 1-2 p.m. via Microsoft Teams.

Students will be hired to work dur-

ing the SYI Job Fair in May 2023 held at Genesee Career Institute. Partnering businesses and organizations will be required to attend the event to hold in-person interviews with qualifying teens.

Teens that are eligible to apply for SYI are graduates of the TeenQuest pre-employment and leadership training program run by Flint & Genesee Education & Talent. The program, which helps teens learn soft skills that are useful in any type of job, helps prepare students for the workforce.

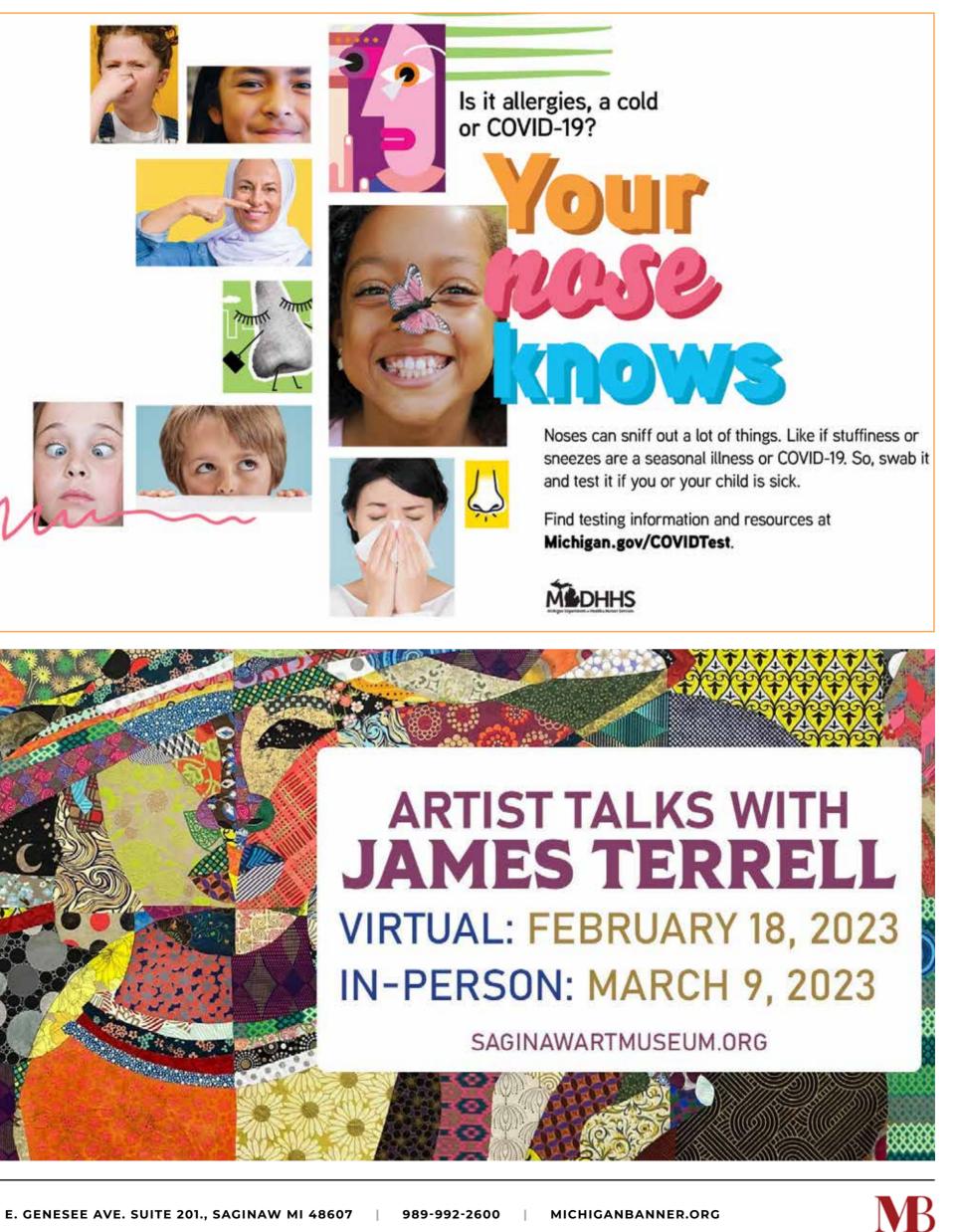
For more information on the program and to learn how your business can apply, visit EducateFlintandGenesee.org/Summer-Youth-Initiative/Employer-Involvement.



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**PAGE 29** 



## + 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



### MICHIGAN BANNER SERMONETTE SERIES



### By MINISTER CAROLYN CARTER TOWNSEL

When we look at what is happening in the world it is not hard to understand that we are living in unprecedented, and perilous times that are filled with chaos and disorder. That is looking outside, but when you come in from the outside and look on the inside of our homes, our personal spaces, and our sanctuaries we find that the same complexities that the world is having are the same problems, trials, and issues we (Christians) are having.

. Job 5:7 proclaims, "Man that is born of a woman has a few days and they are full of trouble," The specified warning from Job is dire, it comprehensively lets us know, without a doubt, as Believers we are not exempt from trials, troubles, or situations but we are to expect them. James asserts that the frame of mind we are to have when we encounter times of adversity is to, "Count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience" (NKJV). Essentially, God uses trials and difficult times to test our faith and develop spiritual maturity. As we go through times of trials and testing, we are prone to fixate on our pain and disappointment, but James admonishes us to shift, to recalibrate our focus from our discomfort and sufferings to rejoicing.

In our passage of Scripture, we find an unnamed woman who has suffered for 12 years from a particular type of bleeding. It has often been translated as "hemorrhaging" which

# A Faith That Never Fails

And He said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole, go in peace and be freed from your suffering

Mark 5:25-34

means to lose blood consistently and constantly over a long period of time. This lets us know that this woman has not only heard about trials, troubles, and circumstances but she knows about them, because she was experiencing them. She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. Therefore, she not only understood what it was to walk in frustration, and desperation, she also knew what it was to live with something that is not giving life but taking life. Not only was her life gradually fading away, but the Jewish law declared her to be ceremonially unclean due to her bleeding condition (Leviticus 15:25-27). This meant that she could not enter the temple for Jewish religious ceremonies, and whatever or whoever she touched became unclean. Subsequently, she was isolated and disengaged from everybody and everything that she cherished and loved.

As we watch her actions, we see her faith, and she teaches us how to preserve in dark and challenging times. First, she teaches us, that we must come to the resolve that it does not matter what people think or say about you. This woman has been ostracized, marginalized, and criticized but it did not matter to her, because she needed something that nobody could give to her, but Jesus. It was her faith that stood up against the obstacles that she was facing and spoke, "If I could just touch the hem of His garment, I shall be made whole." Hebrews 11:1 state, "Now, faith is the substance to hope for, and the evidence of things not seen" (KJV). This woman's faith and determination were of great worth in the Lord's sight, "But without faith, it is impossible to please him, for he that cometh to God must believe that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Hebrews 11:6 KJV).

Secondly, to have a faith that never fails requires action. James 2:26 expresses faith without works is a dead faith because the lack of works reveals an unchanged life or a spiritually dead heart. How we live reveals what we believe and whether the faith we profess to have, is a living faith. Regardless, of this woman's physical pain, financial losses, along with knowing that she could not change her condition, she had the fortitude not to guit but instead she held on to her faith and pressed her way. Despite the trials, we may find ourselves in, it is imperative that we act on what we believe – that is to do what we are able to do in our trials, problems, or situations because "Faith without works is dead."

+ FAITH BASED

The Bible says, when this woman had heard of Jesus, she joined the crowd and pressed her way. It is then that we first see her faith in action. She continues in the posture of action as she reached out and touched the Hem of His garment. This nameless woman made a faith connection it was a connection that the disciples could not see, but one Jesus felt, when the virtue left His body and He responded by saying, "Who touched me?" As she reached out and touched Our Lord and Savior - the Bible says, "Immediately her blood flow stopped." We are being reminded as we go through various trials, problems, and or situations we are not to lose sight or hope but declare we will "Walk by faith and not by sight" and believe God for great things, trust God to do the supernatural and the impossible, in our lives. To have our faith in God, is to possess "A Faith That Never Fails." And when our faith connections touches Him – He will decree "Thy faith has made thee whole."

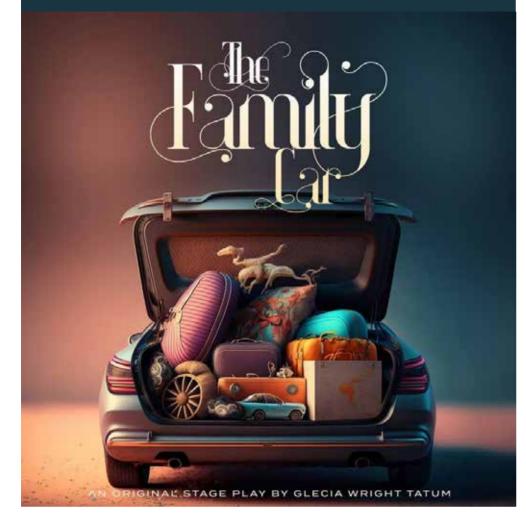
**Blessings To All** 



#### **FEBRUARY 16, 2023**

### + FAITH BASED

CASTING CALL FOR "THE FAMILY CAR" CALLING ALL DANCERS, ACTORS, and SINGERS. Call 989-332-1405 for more information





It is with heavy hearts that New Birth Missionary Baptist Church confirms the passing of Mr. Thomas W. Dortch, Jr., dedicated member, leader, and current board Chairman of New Birth.

Chairman Dortch will be remembered as an influential social, cultural, and political leader for the past 50 years, as well as one of the most effective and successful businessmen in the history of Georgia.

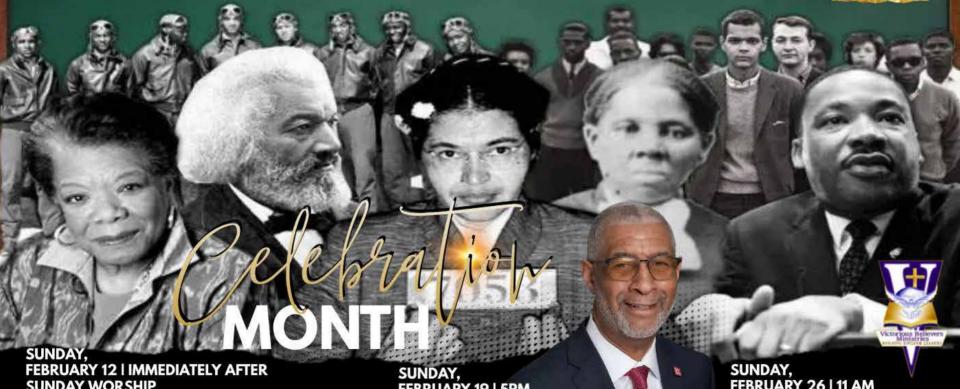
Statement from Dr. Jamal Bryant:

"Chairman Thomas is a once-in-a-lifetime gift to New Birth, Atlanta and the world. He is an icon of business and literally the blueprint for how you fuse moral character, vision and ambition. He leaves an unparalleled legacy of leadership and mentorship, bringing value to every space he occupied and with every person he encountered.

His impact on New Birth is undeniable and will last forever. We are grateful for and inspired by his leadership, his loyalty, and his immense contributions to our ministry. We celebrate his life and praise God for all that Chairman Dortch accomplished on behalf of others during his life. Well done, Mr. Chairman.'

NEWBRIH

### **BLACK HISTORY MON** HONOR BLACK HISTORY



"A Taste of Africa" Taste various authentic African dishes as we celebrate diversity, African American Heritage, and Black History. Annual Black

History Program

Afrocentric Sunday Morning Worship Please wear your African Attire.

MB

f 2 0 /VBMnation 624 S. Outer Dr. | Saginaw, MI | 989.755.7692 | Admin. Asst. Chris V. Pryor, Pastor

Speaker: Dr. George Grant, Jr., President SVSU

**FEBRUARY 16, 2023** 

#### MICHIGAN BANNER First Great Lakes Bay Regional Newspaper

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### **FEBRUARY 16, 2023**

# + CHURCH DIRECTORY

### В



**Bethel AME Church** Rev. Dennis Laffoon 535 Cathay St. Saginaw, MI 48601 989-755-7011



**Bethlehem Temple Church** of the Apostolic Faith



**Bread of Life Harvest Center** Senior Pastor Rodney J. McTaggart 3726 Fortune Blvd. Saginaw, MI 48603 989-790-7933



**Christ Disciples Baptist Church** Founder Pastor Eddie Benson Pastor Genevieve Benson 3317 Lapeer Street Saginaw, MI 48601 989-754-2444

**Christ Fellowship Baptist Church** Rev. Robert Davis, Jr. 818 N. Washington Ave. Saginaw, MI 48601 989-754-4435 PastorD818@gmail.com



**Christ Image Community Church** 5501 Gratiot Rd Saginaw, MI 48638 (989) 759-9161 christimage.us







faithharvestministry.org office@faithharvestministry.org



**Faith Ministries Church** Dr. Anthony Revis 3420 E Ashman St. Midland, MI 48642 989-837-7777 faithministrieschurch.org





**Glimpse Of Hope Ministries** Pastor Leslie D Lewis 2211 S. Outer Dr. Saginaw Michigan 48601 989-755-9237 g.ministries@aol.com

**Grace Chapel Church** Pastor James Nelson 2202 Janes Ave. Saginaw, MI 48601 989-755-3212

**Greater Williams Temple** 608 E Remington St Saginaw, MI 48601 989-755-5291



### **Holy Communion Gospel** Center Pastor Charlene Washington

1245 E. Genesee Saginaw, MI 48607 989-752-3993



**Jacob's Ladder Bishop Dempsey Allen** 1926 Fairfield Street Saginaw, MI 48602 989-799-6601

Life in Christ Ministries Pastor Dennis Cotton, Sr. 2915 S. Washington Road Saginaw, MI 48601 989-401-4465 LifeInChristMinistries07@ gmail.com

### Μ

**Messiah Missionary Baptist** Church Pastor Otis Washington

2615 Williamson Road Saginaw, MI 48601 989-777-2636 Fax: 989-777-2640 messiahmbc@att.net messiahsag.org

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

**Mt. Olive Baptist Church** Pastor Marvin T. Smith 1114 N. 6th Street Saginaw, MI 48601 989-752-8064



#### New Beginnings Deliverance Ministry Pastor Roy & Evelyn Baldwin

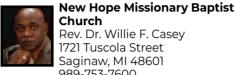
2609 E. Genesee Saginaw, MI 48601 989-777-8272 Pastorbaldwin@charter.net



New Birth Missionary Baptist Pastor Larry D. Camel Saginaw, Michigan 989-327-1755



Center Pastor Ron Frierson 2395 S. Outer Drive Saginaw, MI 48601 989-752-8485







New Mt. Calvary Baptist Church Pastor Alfred "AJ" Harris Jr. 3610 Russel St. Saginaw, MI 48601 989-754-0801

### Ρ

**Prince of Peace Baptist** Church Pastor Robert C. Corley Jr. 825 North 24th Street Saginaw, MI 48601 989-754-2841

### R

**Radiant Church of God** Pastor Adolfo & Erlinda Martinez 708 W Genesee Ave. Saginaw, MI 48602 989-401-2134 www.radiantchurchofgod.org



**Full Gospel Baptist Church** Pastor Carolyn L. Wilkins 2320 Sheridan Avenue Saginaw, MI 48601 989-395-3142



Saint Paul Baptist Church

Rev, Dr., Vincent D. McMillon 120 North 15 St. Saginaw, MI. 48601 stpaul2@yahoo.com Facebook: St Paul MBC Family Connection



### Second Baptist Church

Pastor-Elect Marcelle T. Smith 1770 W. Youngs Ditch Rd. Bay City, MI 48708 989-893-8631



# **Transforming Life Ministries**



Saginaw, MI 48601



Pastor Paul E. Broaddus



### **United Missionary Baptist**

Church Rev. Cedric Nickson 4290 Lamson Street Saginaw, MI 48601 Church: 989-759-9411 Pastor 810.223.2987

### V



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

### W



World Outreach Campus of Greater Coleman Temple Ministries Supt. H.J. Coleman Jr. 2405 Bay Rd. Saginaw, MI 48602 989-752-7957

### Ζ



**Zion Missionary Baptist** Church

Pastor Rodrick Smith 721 Johnson Saginaw, MI 48607 989-754-9621







## + FUNDRAISING GOODTIMES

# We can't remain isolated

### By MEL AND PEARL SHAW

Fundraising and nonprofit life are full of intrigue, twisted paths, pure luck, genius, generosity, and more. This is the fifth in an occasional series of fictional fundraising stories.

Transforming the future of Monroe-Smith College meant Ruby would have to step into her own power in a new way. She couldn't ask the college to do what she was cautious to embrace. Known to her peers as fearless, Ruby rarely made an uncalculated move: her fearlessness came from preparation, and the proactive answering of the perennial question "what if?"

That morning while riding up the elevator with her boss, Ruby asked him to join her for lunch with President Taylor of Monroe-Smith. "I'd like you to meet him in his new role. I believe you worked with him during his time in Congress, but this is something different." Mr. Johnston responded with a smile. "I'd love to. We weren't always on the same page, but I depended on him - we all did. Get it set up and I will be there."

Ruby called President Taylor right

away. "Jimmy, we got Mr. Johnston for lunch - what day are you free?" President Taylor laughed, "Ruby, I'm never free... " Ruby interrupted him with a laugh of her own, "You can make time for the CEO of Edison Electric. Now which day is better?"

President Taylor was taken a back. "Ruby, I'm happy to host him, but shouldn't we wait until we are more organized?" This was Ruby's cue. She quickly replied, "Jimmy, you should know better than anyone that you don't wait until you need something to rekindle a relationship. I just want you two in the same room. There's no ask. Just lunch and a quick tour of the campus. I doubt he's ever been anywhere on campus but the student center. "

"Okay, I'll leave this to you and my team..." the president replied, thinking he was done with the call. "Oh, that won't work. We need to work on the message, identify which students can join the tour, which faculty offices we will 'stop by.' You have to be fully involved in this. You can't "pop in" unprepared. You are the president, you have a vision, and you need to welcome this city's stakeholders onto the campus. We cannot afford to remain isolated." Ruby drew a deep breath and continued. "Jimmy, I put myself out there to get this meeting: you have to do your part. Monroe-Smith is where it is because too many of us have been too focused on doing 'more important things.' We've been so busy being busy and important that we've forgotten what's important: relationships, community, shared vision, and forward motion. Jimmy," she asked, "are you in, or do I need to step back and let you do this your way?"

President Taylor was surprised. He didn't expect such a call first thing in the morning. "Ruby, I need you...." Again, Ruby interrupted him, "Does that mean you're in?" President Taylor sighed, "Yes Ruby, I'm in." With that Ruby chirped a warm good bye and hung up the phone. She had a lot of lists to make, people to call, and not a moment to spare.



Copyright 2022 – Mel and Pearl Shaw

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



**FEBRUARY 16, 2023** 

# = + HEALTH ==



CAROL SCHMIDT

# Ascension St. Mary's Hospital Performs its First Tricuspid Valve Clipping in the Region

New medical technology and techniques continue to evolve and generate lifesaving advancements to treat heart conditions. At Ascension St. Mary's Hospital, their first tricuspid valve clip was recently performed by Safwan Kassas, MD, interventional cardiologist and medical director of the structural heart program.

Ascension St. Mary's Hospital participation in a Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved clinical trial of an alternative treatment for tricuspid regurgitation provides an opportunity to patients who meet clinical criteria. Current treatment options are medication therapy and openheart surgery.

"Non-surgical intervention and therapy of cardiac valves has revolutionized the way we treat patients and has created a positive impact on people's lives," says Dr. Kassas. "Symptomatic severe tricuspid valve regurgitation is a common valvular disease that makes it hard for individuals to live a normal day-to-day life. It can progress to heart failure and become life threatening. Now, we are able to perform advanced procedures to repair heart valves without the need for open heart surgery."

Tricuspid regurgitation is a type of heart valve disease in which the tricuspid valve between the two right heart chambers doesn't close tightly enough, allowing blood to leak back into the upperright chamber of the heart. Over time, this makes the heart work harder to pump blood through the body. Individuals may experience fluid buildup in the body, fatigue, shortness of breath, heart murmur or irregular heartbeat that can lead to heart failure.

Tricuspid transcatheter edge-to-edge repair (TEER) is a low-risk, minimally invasive, non-surgical treatment option for symptomatic patients with severe tricuspid regurgitation. These individuals are typically at high risk for open heart surgery and are not seeing improvement from medical therapy alone.

"With the success achieved in recent years with other transcatheter valve repair approaches, such as for mitral valve repairs and transcatheter aortic valve replacement, there is great promise in improving treatment options for patients with advanced tricuspid regurgitation who can't have surgery," says Dr. Kassas. "Individuals that couldn't be treated in the past due to their surgical risk are now able to be considered for this treatment, and hope restored for them to enjoy a more normal life with family and friends."

For more information about heart health, including structural heart conditions, call (989) 907-4198.



# Expert rehabilitation is CLOSE AT HAND.





BABATUNDE BABALOLA, MD









M. SOHAIL JILANI, MD

A team of physiatrists with specialized training and experience in rehabilitative care have joined Dr. Sohail Jilani, medical director of the Mary Free Bed at Covenant HealthCare Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Program.

Our inpatient program now serves children and adults with complex conditions, such as brain injuries, multiple trauma and spinal cord injuries. Outpatient services include follow-up care for former inpatients as well as treatment for common diagnoses, including back pain and disorders of muscles, tendons and bones.

For more information and referrals, please call 989.583.2720 (Outpatient Practice) or 989.583.2817 (Inpatient Rehabilitation).



MaryFreeBedatCovenant.com 700 Cooper, Suite 1100, Saginaw, MI 48602 GPS Address: 1100 Cooper, Saginaw, MI 48602





## $\equiv$ + EDUCATION $\equiv$

## SVSU recognized as a top producer of Fulbright Scholars, enriching student learning

Saginaw Valley State University has earned national recognition for its leadership in international and intercultural education. The U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs named has named SVSU a Fulbright Top Producing Institution for U.S. Scholars. This recognition is given to the U.S. colleges and universities that received the highest number of applicants selected for the 2022-23 Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program.

Two SVSU faculty members – Andrea Frederick, professor nursing, and Natalia Knoblock, associate professor of English – were selected for Fulbright awards for academic year 2022-2023. Among colleges and universities in Michigan that do not grant doctoral degrees, SVSU is the only institution to produce more than one Fulbright U.S. Scholar.

Frederick spent three months at Edinburgh Napier University in Scotland working to launch an interprofessional educational simulation for students and faculty of the School of Health & Social Care. She said the experience has enhanced her teaching at SVSU.

"My research at Edinburgh Napier University informs my interprofessional work at SVSU with a more nuanced appreciation of problem solving through the diversity of international partnership," Fredrick said. "At SVSU, I want our students to understand that in the diverse interprofessional health care world, which they will soon enter, there are many approaches to improving patient outcomes. I encourage them to take the opportunity to engage and learn from the differences."

Knoblock, who specializes in socio-linguistics, was invited to teach at the National University of Colombia in Bogota, where she worked to establish a professional connection with the Colombian university and taught linguistics courses, among other activities.

"It was a privilege to work with students and faculty at the National University of Colombia," Knoblock said. "I felt that I positively contributed to their scholarly experience and was enriched by the fellowship as well. I hope SVSU and the National University develop a cooperation program and continue professional contacts which would be beneficial to both schools."

Fulbright is the U.S. government's flagship international educational exchange pro-



ANDREA FREDERICK AND NATALIA KNOBLOCK

gram. It is also among the largest and most diverse exchange programs in the world. Since its inception in 1946, more than 400,000 participants from all backgrounds and fields – including recent university graduates, teachers, scientists, researchers, artists, and others, from the United States and over 160 other countries – have participated in the Fulbright Program. Fulbright alumni have returned to their home countries to make an impact on their communities thanks to their expanded worldview, a deep appreciation for their host country and its people, and a larger network of colleagues and friends.

"On behalf of President Biden and Secretary of State Blinken, congratulations to the colleges and universities recognized as 2022-2023 Fulbright Top Producing Institutions, and to all the applicants who were selected for the Fulbright Program this year," said Lee Satterfield, assistant secretary of state for Educational and Cultural Affairs.

"Thanks to the visionary leadership of these institutions, administrators, and advisors, a new generation of Fulbrighters – changemakers, as I like to say – will catalyze lasting impact on their campus, in their communities, and around the world."

The Fulbright program is supported at

SVSU through the office of Sponsored Programs. The university recognizes the value of the Fulbright U.S. Scholars program and encourages faculty to apply for awards.

The Fulbright Program was established over 75 years ago to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries. While the primary source of funding for the Fulbright Program is an annual appropriation made by the U.S. Congress to the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, it benefits from additional support from foreign partner governments, non-governmental organizations, private organizations, corporate partnerships, and individual donors. Importantly, U.S. and foreign host institutions provide support as well.

Fulbright alumni work to make a positive impact on their communities, sectors, and the world and have included 41 heads of state or government, 62 Nobel Laureates, 89 Pulitzer Prize winners, 78 MacArthur Fellows, and countless leaders and changemakers who carry forward the Fulbright mission of enhancing mutual understanding.

For more information about the Fulbright Program, visit https://fulbrightprogram.org/



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## Saginaw Intermediate School District's Career and Technical Education Department Celebrates Robert Delgado as Saginaw Career Complex's 2023 Alumni of the Year

Saginaw Intermediate School District (Saginaw ISD) is pleased to celebrate Robert Delgado as Saginaw Career Complex's (SCC) 2023 Alumni of the Year. SCC Culinary and Hospitality Instructor, Julie Ivan, nominated Mr. Delgado, who graduated from Arthur Hill in 2008 and began his time at SCC studying graphic arts before discovering his passion for the Culinary Arts and Hospitality program. Today, Mr. Delgado owns Robbie D's Food Truck and Restaurant in Old Town Saginaw and serves on the Culinary Advisory Board for SCC. "Robert is an outstanding example of what CTE can do to help someone's dream and career come true. He is hard-working and always gives credit to SCC in every interview about his business," said Ms. Ivan.

In 2023, Mr. Delgado will begin participating in the SCC work-based learning program by providing students in the Food and Hospitality program an opportunity to gain experience at Robbie D's for two weeks. "CTE is an essential component of workforce development, providing young people in our community with a path toward high-demand occupations. The level to which SCC alumni mentor our next generation is exceptional," explained Saginaw ISD's Executive Director of CTE, Jenny Geno. To provide even more practice and experience for current SCC students, Mr. Delgado volunteers as a guest judge and classroom speaker.

Mr. Delgado remembers his time at SCC fondly by sharing, "SCC impacted

my life tremendously because if it wasn't for the Food and Hospitality class, I don't think I would have discovered my love for cooking. Ms. Ivan taught me a lot that I still remember today, and she always answers any questions regarding the food industry." In the future, Mr. Delgado plans to franchise Robbie D's and have multiple restaurants and food trucks across the United States.

To honor Mr. Delgado as the SCC 2023 Alumni of the Year, Saginaw Public School District will host a special luncheon at the on-campus student restaurant at SCC on February 22, 2023. To learn more about SCC or Robbie D's, please visit https:// www.spsd.net/scc/ and https://www.robbieds.com/.







COURTESY PHOTO

### Saginaw Promise...An Investment in Postsecondary Education to Change a Community and Lives

To impact the future of a community, it's economy, quality of life and the lives of its students through postsecondary education, could be an overwhelming task, but with support from individuals, foundations, organizational and corporate donors, the Saginaw Promise is working to eliminate barriers to postsecondary education through information and scholarships. The Saginaw Promise's mission is to affect Saginaw's economy and quality of life by promoting and supporting a culture of postsecondary education for all of its graduating students through information, programming and awarding of "last dollar" scholarships as a means to retain and grow Saginaw's population to support current businesses and attract new businesses with a well-trained and educated workforce. Saginaw Promise believes in the power of postsecondary education to be a "change agent", one that will impact the future of Saginaw and the lives of its students. Positive change in Saginaw will benefit surrounding communities and the entire Great Lakes Bay Region.

Since first forming, the Saginaw Promise has seen high school graduation rates increase, drop-out rates decrease, FAFSA completion grow and Saginaw Promise scholars earn program certificates and degrees! Since 2012, the Saginaw Promise has awarded \$1,182,799 in scholarships to 662 students.

Saginaw Promise Scholarship Overview:

- The Saginaw Promise Scholarship is for students who live in and graduate from a high school in the Saginaw Promise Zone.
- "Saginaw Promise Zone" is made

#### + EDUCATION

up the cities of Saginaw, Zilwaukee, Kochville and that area of Buena Vista that is designated to the Saginaw Public School District.

- Students are required to complete the online Saginaw Community
  Foundation application and attachments. The Online scholarship application will open November
  1, 2023 and must be completed by
  February 10, 2024.
- Students must complete FAFSA.
- When completing the scholarship application--Students must check off Saginaw Promise and answer two questions regarding years of school attendance and residency in the Promise Zone.
- Parental Income is not considered.
- GPA is not considered (Students must maintain standards of institution they enroll with).
- Saginaw Promise Scholarship is available up to two years (two semesters per academic year)
- Student must complete application within two years of high school graduation and will have up to six years to use their scholarship following high school graduation.

To support the work of the Saginaw Promise with a donation or to learn more about the organization visit www.saginawpromise.org or telephone (989) 755-0545.





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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 environments 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



#### + EDUCATION

Great Start to Readiness Program Lo-

**Bridgeport-Spaulding Preschool** 

Building Blocks Childcare &

Carrollton Early Childhood

**Chesaning Union Schools** 

EduPlay Discovery Center

Francis Reh Public School

Hemlock Child Development

Michigan Child Care Centers, Inc.

**Roaring Lions Learning Center** 

Saginaw Preparatory Academy

• Arthur Eddy Academy

Henry Doerr Early

Herig PreK & B/ATB

Kempton PreK & B/ATB

Jessie Loomis Preschool

Saginaw Public Schools

Childhood

Merrill Community Child

**Development Center** 

Latchkey and Preschool

**Preschool Center** 

Center

Academy

Programs

Birch Run Area Preschool

cations

#### 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

Rouse PreK

Merrill Park PreK

- Stone Preschool
- Zilwaukee Prek & B/ATB
- St Charles Children's Center
- Wee Care Christian Children's Center

<sup>1</sup>Head Start Program Information report (2019-2020); Kids Count Data Book (Michigan, 2021); U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics (2020); Great Start Readiness Program State Evaluation Annual Report (2019-2020).



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#### 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

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."

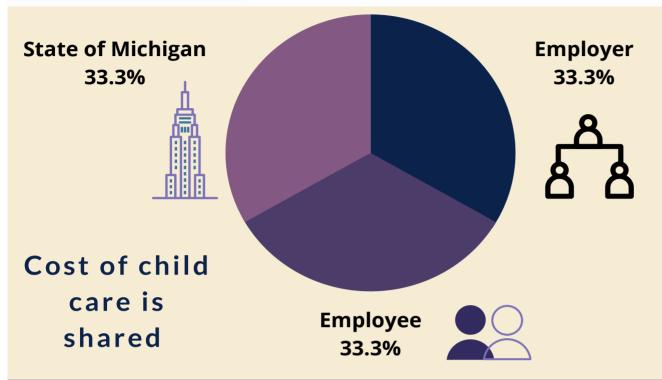
Joe Baca, former Dem. California Congressman

"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





## CHILD CARE



## **Overview**

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

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

## Benefits



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



#### For working parents,

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



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





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**FEBRUARY 16, 2023** 



COURTESY PHOTO

## Lt. Governor Gilchrist celebrates Michigan Reconnect success with Delta College visit

On February 2, Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist II visited Delta College's main campus to celebrate Michigan Reconnect's ongoing success on its launch's second anniversary.

The scholarship program, the most significant effort in state history, ensures that Michiganders 25 and older without a degree can receive a tuition-free opportunity to earn an associate degree or skills certificate at any of Michigan's public community colleges, including its three tribal colleges. In her 2023 State of the State address, Governor Gretchen Whitmer proposed lowering the age to 21, opening the opportunity to roughly 400,000 more Michiganders.

During the tour with President Michael Gavin and Delta College officials to highlight the additional support of the initiative, Gilchrist visited the welding engineering technology and computer numerical control (CNC) programs to speak with students and instructors.

Afterward, Gilchrist had a round-table discussion with students on their individual experiences, pathways to future employment options, and how the state can provide diverse support to students based on their various needs.

"Everybody's situation is different, and one thing I know that I appreciate about Delta and sister institutions is trying to figure out how to make this work and make it fit and the puzzle pieces are going to look different for some people who use a different kind of support," Gilchrist said. "But I know I'm very confident in our partnership at the state level with a college like Delta that we can figure it out. My commitment is that we will stay committed to that."

Of the 2,332 Delta students who enrolled in either the Future for Frontliners or Michigan Reconnect programs: 6% are in skilled trades, 38% are in health careers, and 56% are in other parts of the college. Since its launch in February 2021, more than 114,000 Michigan residents have applied, with more than 24,000 scholarship participants enrolling in community colleges and more than 2,000 participants receiving their degree or skills certificate.

Written by Ashley Terrell, Delta College Writer





COURTESY PHOTO

## **Dodgers Announce 2023 Loons Coaching Staff**

MIDLAND, Mich. – The Great Lakes Loons, in conjunction with the Los Angeles Dodgers, are excited to announce the team's 2023 coaching staff.

Daniel Nava will take the reigns to become the 10th manager in the 16-year history of the Loons. The former big leaguer begins his third year coaching in the Dodgers organization after managing the ACL Dodgers in 2021 and serving as bench coach for Single-A Rancho Cucamonga in 2022.

Nava, 39, played parts of seven seasons in the Major Leagues and won a World Series title in 2013 as a key contributor for the Boston Red Sox. Nava finished eighth in the American League in batting average (.303) in that championship season for Boston. He famously hit a grand slam on the first pitch he saw in his Major League debut in June of 2010 for the Red Sox. His final professional season as a player was in 2019 with the independent Kansas City T-

#### Bones.

Joining Nava as a newcomer to the Loons coaching staff is Hitting Coach O'Koyea Dickson. Dickson, 32, returns to Dow Diamond in a coaching role after spending the 2012 season as a player with the Loons. He was drafted in the 12th round of the 2011 draft by the Dodgers, and made his Major League debut with the club in 2017. 2023 marks Dickson's second year coaching in the Dodgers organization after he worked with Nava with Single-A Rancho Cucamonga in 2022 as the team's Hitting Coach.

David Anderson returns for a second season as Pitching Coach with the Loons after leading the pitching staff to the most wins in the Midwest League in the regular season last year. Anderson, 28, led the 2022 Great Lakes pitching staff to the top of the Midwest League in opponent average (.216) and the staff also topped the league in strikeouts. 2023 marks Anderson's third year coaching in the Dodgers organization after serving as pitching coach for the ACL Dodgers in 2021 before coming to Midland last season.

Richard De Los Santos also returns for a second year on the coaching staff after serving as Assistant Pitching Coach last season. This year, Anderson and De Los Santos will share the title of Pitching Coach. The 38-yearold De Los Santos had a nine-year minor league career as a

right-handed pitcher, mostly in the Tampa Bay system. De Los Santos played a portion of the 2005 season for the Southwest Michigan Devil Rays in Battle Creek, who would be purchased in 2006 by the Michigan Baseball Foundation and become the Loons in 2007.

Former Loon Elian Herrera is back for a third season as the bench coach for Great Lakes. Herrera, a four-year big leaguer, begins his fifth season as a coach within the Dodgers' organization. The second baseman played over 20 games with the Loons in a span of two separate seasons, including the inaugural 2007 Great Lakes Loons, along with nine other future Major Leaguers.

Rounding out the staff are newcomers Ikuo Kato (Athletic Trainer) and Joe Manno (Affiliate Development Associate). Ethan Quarles will return as the Performance Coach as well.

The Loons begin the 2023 campaign on Friday, April 7 at Dow Diamond against the Lansing Lugnuts.

Written by Eric Bach





COURTESY PHOTO

## Chiefs Escape The Super Bowl as Champions, 38-35

#### **By HASANI ALI**

It was a tale of two halves at State Farm Stadium in Glendale, Ariz., as the Kansas City Chiefs skated by the Philadelphia Eagles with a game-winning field goal, 38-35.

Quarterback Patrick Mahomes told reporters during the post-game interview that it took a joint effort from everyone in order to make a comeback.

"Everyone knew that it was going to be a joint effort to get back into the game in the second half," he said. "It took every single one of us and we did exactly what needed to do."

Less than 12:30 remaining in the half on a 2nd & 11, the Eagles tried to set up the wide receiver screen to AJ Brown but KC sniffed it out.

Nick Bolton picked up a fumble from Jalen Hurts and ran it back for 40 yards to tie the game at 14 with 9:39 remaining.

It was the first turnover for Philly this postseason.

The Eagles offense was able to eat a lot of clock during the ensuing drive.

Hurts' 28-yard run converted a 4th and 5 from the 50 on yard line on a QB draw, which brought him to KC's 11-yard line.

Eagles were able to get a fresh set of downs on 4th and 3 after they were able to catch the Chiefs offsides.

Hurts took it up the left side behind the tackle for a 4-yard touchdown, putting the Eagles up 21-14 with 2:20 left in the game.

Philadelphia ran 12 plays for 75 yards.

On 3rd and 15, Mahomes comes off the field hurt after re-irritating his high-ankle sprain after a clean tackle from T.J. Edwards as he scrambled out of the broken pocket with 1:22 remaining in the half.

Hurts was able to convert the first down on 3rd and 1. Hurts was hit at the line of scrimmage, but his receivers came behind him and pushed the pile forward for four yards.

Jake Elliot nailed a 35-yard field goal. 24-14 at halftime.

Mahomes went 8-of-13 for 89 yards and one touchdown. Isaiah Pacheco led the rushing attacks with five carries for 28 yards. Travis Kelce led with three receptions for 60 yards and one touchdown.

Willie Gay Jr. and Justin Reid led the defense for the Chiefs with five tackles apiece.

Hurts lead the way for the Eagles with 17-of-22 passing for 183 yards, 11 carries for 63 yards and two rushing touchdowns.

AJ Browns brought down three huge catches for 74 yards and one touchdown while DeVonta Smith followed with six catches for 55 yards.

Edwards led the Eagles defense with four tackles at the half.

Philadelphia dominated the time on the field in the

first half, limiting Kansas City to eight offensive minutes and 22 plays during the first half while the Eagles were on the field for 22 minutes and 40 plays.

The Eagles stayed risky, going 6-for-10 on third down and 1-of-1 on fourth down. Kansas City only had six first downs in the first half.

Kansas City answered quickly in the second half, 24-21. Pacheco, the 7th round rookie, punched in the two-yard touch-down.

The third quarter stayed pretty as far as scoring after the Chiefs scored early.

Philadelphia was able to convert another 4th and 1 with less than three minutes remaining as the line pushed Hurts forward for another first down on Kansas City's 19-yard line.

Elliot nailed a 33-yarder after a failed drive to keep the Eagles ahead, 27-21 with 1:45 remaining in the quarter.

The Chiefs wasted no time answering on the ensuing play.

Mahomes connected with JuJu Smith-

#### CONTINUES ON PG 51, SUPER BOWL



#### + SPORTS

#### **Continued from pg 50, Super Bowl**

Shuster on a wheel route, a 20-yard pass that landed Kansas City on the Eagles' 12-yard line.

Kadarius toney answered with a 4-yard touchdown, coming into motion and jetted out on a whip route, with nobody in the area to defend against him.

Chiefs took the lead, 28-27.

Kansas City's 60-yard punt return from Toney set up the Chiefs offense inside the 10-yard line. It was the largest punt return in Super Bowl history.

Skyy Moore ran the same exact play that brought Toney into the endzone, but on the left side this time, commanding a bigger lead, 35-27.

The action didn't stop as Philadelphia answered right away as Hurts sprinted into the endzone for a touchdown and Smith came down with the 2-point conversion pass, tying the game at 34.

Hurts tied the Super Bowl record for

the most rushing touchdowns with three, tying with Terrell Davis from the Denver Broncos.

Mahomes came up with a huge play, making a 28-yard scramble up the middle with a little over two-minutes remaining in the game.

He was still nursing the ankle sprain, but was still able to make a play.

The Chiefs caught a break on 3rd and 8. Defensive back James Bradberry was called for a controversial defensive holding as Smith-Shuster was trying to get away on a whip route.

Harrison Butker drains a 27-yard field goal directly down the middle to take the lead and the win with eight seconds left in the game, 38-35.

"Patrick Mahomes and all those guys around them, really got the job done," said head coach Andy Reid.

This is his second championship with

Kansas City, defeating his former team. Reid coached the Eagles for 14 seasons, winning six NFC East titles, five NFC title games and one Super Bowl appearance.

Kelce jumped in front of Mahomes during the interview and wanted to make a statement to those that did not believe in the Chiefs.

"Not one of you believed that we would be here," he said. "Not a single one of you thought that we were going to make it here and win. Everyone counted us out. The next time the Kansas City Chiefs say that we're going to do something, you better put some respect on our name!"

Mahomes had a different second half, totaling 21-of-28 for 182 yards and three touchdowns. Kelce totaled six catches for 81 yards and one touchdown.

Hurts finished the night 27-0f-37 for 304 yards. He also had 15 carries for 70 yards.





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## **PICS OF THE WEEK**

## On February 2, Mayor Brenda Moore delivered the Saginaw State of the City and County Address



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## Ne empower.

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-onone attention she received from her professors at SVSU.** 

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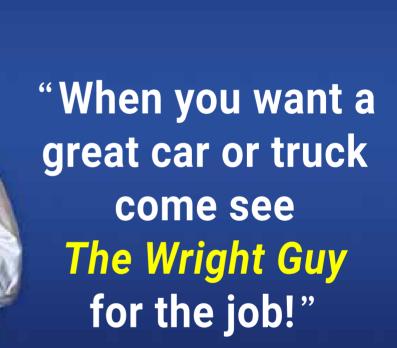


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