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Women's History Month Highlight

Shanese Ross-Pierrie, MBA



SHANESE ROSS-PIERRIE

Shanese Ross-Pierrie is an award-winning leader with over 15 years of experience in the non-profit and higher education sectors. She was born and raised on the eastside of Detroit and is a proud product of the Detroit Public School system. Giving back to her community and being authentic to who she is drives her motivation.

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She is the current President of the CMU Black Alumni Chapter (CMUBAC). She has played an influential role in the chapter's official reactivation with the university in 2021. She has worked with the chapter and university to revitalize CMUBAC and plan Black alumni events such as the Black Alumni Homecoming Weekend, the Old School vs New School Greek Show, Black alumni swag fundraiser as well as programs & events in the Detroit area. Her goal is to continue to build a sustainable chapter, nurture relationships with stakeholders, and remain to be a conduit for alumni engagement. Shanese has been CMU's top Giving Tuesday fundraising ambassador for 2 consecutive years (2021 & 2022).

She is a part-time faculty member at Wayne State University in the Mike Ilitch School Business.

Shanese has received multiple awards and honors in higher education and for her community involvement such as the Spirit of Detroit Award, Emerging Leadership Awards, she is the 1st Champion of Diversity & Inclusion Honoree to name a few.

Shanese has a Bachelor of Science in Community Development from Central Michigan University and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Davenport University.

Shanese serves as the Director of University and Community Partnerships for Central Mich-



Anne Flegenheimer to be Named CAN Council Child Advocate of the Year

COMMUNITY, PG 13



Janey J. Lamar chosen to serve as 70th District Court Attorney/Magistrate

COMMUNITY, PG 13

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Lady Lakers Earn First Conference Title

SPORTS, PG 46



MESSAGE FROM THE PUBLISHER

Renewed Trust in The Process

I often think of these editorials as brief conversations with myself which I choose to share with The Michigan Banner readers with as much transparency as possible. I am cautious never to reveal individuals or information which may result in discomfort for any person or entity - including myself. So, I struggled a bit with using the word 'renewed' in the title of this commentary. For a renewal to occur, there had to have been a time when trust was lost, when faith was somewhat diminished. I am speaking of what I believe to be the renewal of Saginaw and the entire Great Lakes Region and throughout Michigan (Flint, Lansing, Jackson, Grand Rapids, Detroit). I have noticed an encouraging shift in conversations during meetings on both personal and professional levels. I see growth and development in areas where faith in a healthy and vibrant future was lost. I see faith and civic organizations crossing denominational and political lines to collaborate on behalf of the communities we serve. I see the outcome of the process coming to fruition and it has proven to be worth every step of the journey.



The 'Trust the Process' slogan is popular in sports, culture, finance (investments), and other areas where an individual, group, community, or larger entity may face challenging times and have to make tough and often unpopular decisions. The decisions made may not result in the desired outcome as quickly as wanted or needed. Good leaders find themselves on the chopping block when success is not immediate. The Philadelphia 76ers (of course I use a sports analogy) coined the phrase as somewhat of a team motto after their losing team received the gift of a coach with vision. Sam Hinkie was his name. It was the 2013/14 season. He set course, made a few really tough and unpopular decisions including questionable draft picks which he knew would not result in championship performances for at least two years. There was skepticism, lots of skepticism but soon, die-hard fans held signs with really silly slogans like, 'Right Now We're Stinky but We Trust Hinkie', ie they had decided to trust the process. They won more games than they lost that year and became better and better each season thereafter. Initially, no one could see what he saw but chose to stay the course, have faith in him and their beloved team and celebrate the small victories along the way. The process worked! The fans continue to use the 'Trust the Process' rallying cry now a full decade later.

Losing faith or trust in the process is not an overnight occurrence. It is a slow, subtle, and often barely noticeable process. While everyone's journey is unique, there are some similarities such as doubting the ability and/or intentions of decision-makers while choosing not to participate in the process. Some may bury their heads in the sand and act as if things will miraculously turn around without a viable plan. Others, who may have grown accustomed to looking at the bad in every situation might become the dreaded voice of negativity with more than enough complaints to go around but no realistic solutions to offer or discuss. If we are fortunate, we recognize how we have drifted from being active participants on the path of progress and have instead become obstacles to community success. We realize we no longer give of our time, resources (monetary, services, or other means of support). We come to this realization and make the courageous choice to self-correct.

Trust the process. Trust your own instincts as well. Saginaw and the Great Lakes Region have survived tough times. In the face of adversity, leaders throughout the community planned a sure and steady comeback from unparalleled levels of youth violence, unemployment, and seemingly out of nowhere, a worldwide pandemic which hit the state of Michigan with incredible intensity. We have risen to face these and other challenges with renewed faith in the process. We can't always agree on how to get there, but we are headed toward the same destination - a healthy and growing community with educational and employment opportunities for next generations. Great things are on the horizon. Through recent grant funded opportunities there will be additional growth and development in the city and throughout the region as well. This includes employment and recreation for youth, youth and family prevention education and training and other services designed to strengthen families. Now is a great time to recognize the need to teach and practice healthy communication and choose to fervently renew your faith in the process.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jerome Buckley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jerome Buckley
Publisher, Michigan Banner

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MISSION

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

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MICHIGAN YOUTH BANNER

VOLUME 5 • NUMBER 5



HE'S THERE

By DONIQUA SOVIA

When life gives you twists and turns, as it sometimes does. Take a break, you'll be ok, just don't ever give up. When a decision must be made, that you try to hide away, just remember God is there, and help is on the way.

When happiness inside you burns, and shows in the form of a smile, be sure to share, for Angels walk unaware helping you all the while. In travels be they near or far, whether you follow your intuition, you head or your heart, just know you'll make it to where you need, if it's Jesus you surely heed.

Jesus is the way to go, He's in your highs and in your lows, and even when unseen, He's surely there, in your life to love and care.





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Latino Banner

LIDER EN LA
DIVERSIDAD

VAMOS ADELANTE

John Quiñones' cancelled appearance at Delta College rescheduled for March 29



JOHN QUIÑONES

John Quiñones, ABC News veteran and the creator and host of What Would You Do? will speak in the Delta College Pioneer Gym on Wednesday, March 29 from 6 to 7:30pm, as a part of the President's Speaker Series. The event originally scheduled for Wednesday, February 22 was canceled due to severe weather.

The event entitled, "What Would You Do? Words of wisdom about doing the right thing," will focus on Quiñones' odds-defying journey from migrant farm work to broadcast journalism, the power of education, championing the Latino American Dream, and thought-provoking perspectives on human nature and ethical behav-

ior.

The Emmy Award-winning journalist, who has connected with audiences for more than 30 years at ABC News, the anchor desk at 20/20 and Primetime, has broken barriers in his life and career with the mantra of "never taking no for an answer."

Quiñones is the host and creator of What Would You Do?, the hidden camera ethical dilemma show that examines how people behave in a situation that requires them to either act or ignore it when directly faced with situations of racism, violence, hate crimes or other hot button cultural is-

sues. Over the span of 15 seasons, he has become "the face of doing the right thing" to millions of fans and has embraced the role through his keynote presentations and books.

In addition to his achievements and accolades, he was recently recognized with honorary doctorate degrees from David & Elkins College in West Virginia and Utah Valley University.

The presentation is free and open to the community. For more information or for disability-related accommodations, contact David Baskind at 989-686-9374 or Kim Klein at 989-686-9192.

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SVSU's Taste of Soul celebrates culture through food

Saginaw Valley State University will celebrate Black History Month with “A Taste of Soul,” a culinary celebration for the Great Lakes Bay Region. Featuring culinary guests Men of Bethel from Bethel AME Church in Saginaw, this year’s event will be held on Thursday, March 2 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Marketplace at Doan near SVSU’s Curtiss Hall.

Now in its 13th year, “A Taste of Soul” has become a Black History Month tradition at SVSU.

“The African-American community has a rich and diverse culinary tradition,” said Mamie Thorns, SVSU associate vice president and chief diversity officer for diversity, equity and inclusion. “We want to share our African-American culture with

SVSU’s campus and the wider community through this culinary experience.”

“A Taste of Soul” will feature a variety of traditional favorites, including fried chicken, catfish, and Southern desserts such as peach cobbler.

The event is open to the public; admission is \$11.50 or a meal card swipe for SVSU students, faculty and staff.

+ COMMUNITY

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Women's History Month Highlight

Marlana Cork, Director of Workforce Development, Bay Area Chamber of Commerce

Marlana is a lifelong resident of Saginaw County. She is a graduate of Bridgeport Community High School and Davenport University, where she received her Associates, Bachelors and Master's degree with a dual major in Business Administration/Business Management. She also holds a Workforce Development certification as a Global Career Development Facilitator.

Over the last 14 years Marlana has served in several capacities in Workforce Development in the GLB Region. She worked as a Career Manager and TAA Team Leader with Delta College/ Great Lakes Bay Michigan Works!, Admissions Representative with Davenport University, and as a Staffing Recruiter with Adecco Staffing, and now currently as Director of Workforce Development with the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce.

Marlana has always found a passion in serving others in her community. In 2018, she became a member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., and serves as the Assistant Treasurer. Since 2019, she has also served as a volunteer with the Great Lakes Bay Health Centers in the Great Lakes Bay Region. She is also a very active member within her church, Ephesus Seventh-Day



MARLANA CORK

Adventist Church-where she serves as a Sabbath School teacher and on the IT Team.

Marlana and her husband Charles have been happily married for 19 years,

they have three sons-Trenton, Charles II, and Caleb, and one grandson Trenton Jr. Marlana loves attending her sons' sporting events from football to golf. In her spare time, she loves to read and relax (when the boys allow her to).

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

+ COMMUNITY

Janey J. Lamar chosen to serve as 70th District Court Attorney/Magistrate

Saginaw, MI – The Chief Judge of the Saginaw County Trial Courts and the Judges of the 70th District Court have selected Attorney Janey J. Lamar to be appointed as the Attorney/Magistrate for the 70th District Court.

The Attorney Magistrate serves in a quasi-judicial capacity as prescribed by statute under the direction of the Presiding Judge of the 70th District Court. The Attorney Magistrate presides over traffic civil infractions, some misdemeanors, civil actions, signs arrest warrants and search warrants.

Attorney Lamar becomes the 70th District Court first African American female quasi-judicial officer. She is native of Sag-

inaw. She attended both Saginaw High School and the Saginaw Arts & Sciences Academy. She is a 2010 graduate of Michigan State University, and a 2015 graduate of Loyola University New Orleans College of Law. She is a member of the State Bar of Michigan, United States District Court, Eastern District of Michigan and the State Bar of California.

Since 2017, she has been a solo practitioner in Saginaw representing clients in landlord-tenant dispute, family law matters and criminal and post-conviction matters. She is a member of the Saginaw Rotary Club, SVSU College of Health and Human Services Advisory Board and Women Lawyers Association of Michigan



JANEY LAMAR

Anne Flegenheimer to be Named CAN Council Child Advocate of the Year

On February 23, the CAN Council will honor Anne Flegenheimer as the 2023 Suzanne Greenberg Child Advocate of the Year during its 30th annual Mardi Gras Auction at Horizon's Conference Center in Saginaw. Since its inception, the award has honored outstanding individuals and groups for being extraordinarily committed to making the Great Lakes Bay Region a better place for our children.

As president of the region's Junior League in 2000-2001, she was instrumental in leading the organization to support – through significant gifts of funds, talent and time – the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program, which the CAN Council was establishing at that time. A staunch believer in the CASA program, Anne committed to becoming a CASA volunteer herself once her children were raised. True to her word, she completed the program's training and has since advocated for 13 children who have survived abuse or neglect. Along the way, she's been a trusted and valued mentor to fellow CASA volunteers and has served on committees focused on retaining trained advocates and recruiting new volunteers.



ANNE FLEGENHEIMER

Anne also valuably served the CAN Council as a fundraising volunteer for our \$3.2 million multiyear capital campaign that launched in 2014.

In addition to her involvement with the CAN Council, Anne has championed many other local causes including First Ward Community Center, Heritage High School, Hospitality House, Mid-Michigan Children's Museum, Saginaw Art Museum, Saginaw Valley State University Foundation and St. Mary's Hospital Foundation. Anne also is a beloved member of a local

philanthropic sorority.

Seeking to broaden her advocacy for children, Anne is pursuing a graduate degree in social work from the University of Michigan and is completing a yearlong internship with Child & Family Services. She's known for listening and leading with her heart and is extremely motivated to do her best in everything to which she commits. The Great Lakes Bay Region has been blessed by Anne's decades of service, and our children will continue benefiting from her passion, empathy and care for years to come.

CAN Council's 30th annual Mardi Gras Auction presented by Garber Automotive, and sponsored in part by Amigo Mobility, is a festive celebration encouraging the community to raise their bid paddles, voices, and critical funds for child abuse prevention education. While the event has sold out, the community can still contribute to its success by registering to bid virtually in the online auction opening Sunday, February 19 at cancouncil.cbo.io or give in honor of our Child Advocate of the Year through cancouncil.org.

+ COMMUNITY

Aghogho Edevbie named Deputy Secretary of State

LANSING, Mich. – Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson announced that attorney and voting rights advocate Aghogho Edevbie is joining her administration March 6 as Deputy Secretary of State.

“Aghogho is deeply committed to ensuring every voice is heard and every vote is counted and has a wealth of experience working to ensure our elections continue to be free, fair, secure, and accurate,” said Secretary Benson. “He will be an invaluable addition to my administration as we implement the new voting rights enshrined in our state Constitution, enact policies that build on the strengths of our elections system, and prepare for and carry out the 2024 election cycle.”

A graduate of the University of Michigan Law School, Edevbie has played a crucial role for more than a decade in protecting voters through his advocacy

for ballot drop boxes, early voting, and protections for election workers. For the last three years, Edevbie has served as the Michigan state director for All Voting is Local, a nonpartisan voting rights organization.

“I am deeply honored to join Secretary Benson and her team supporting Michigan voters and election workers,” said Edevbie. “Our democracy remains strong in Michigan and by working together to make nonpartisan improvements we can ensure democracy prevails for many years to come.”

As Deputy Secretary of State, Edevbie will lead the development and implementation of the administration’s election policy. He will also work on outreach and education through engagement with state and local elected officials, as well as supporting clerks and community organizations and leaders.



COURTESY PHOTO



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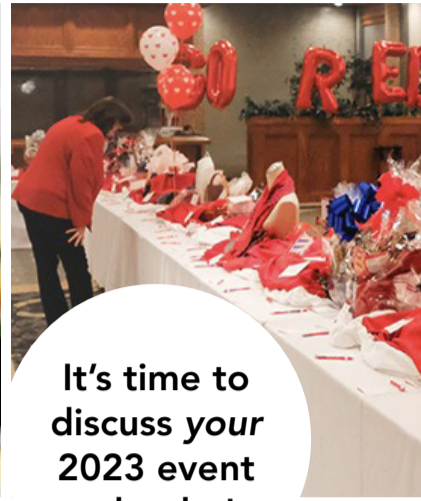
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What's for Dinner, Della?

BY DOLORESE FALL-GRANT

One hundred miles northwest of Accra, Ghana, sits Asuom, a village of surprising and beautiful contrasts. Asuom-style pasta with chicken breast is a very simple recipe that cooks in 10 to 15 minutes. You can use leftover pasta and it will turn out the same as fresh.



Hungry Man's Pasta Dinner

Ingredients

- One large chicken breast, sliced in thin strips and seasoned with salt and pepper
- Half a one-pound box of cooked whole wheat pasta (you will love this recipe, so save the other half for when you make it again)
- Three celery sticks, cut in large chunks
- One large onion, diced
- Four tablespoons of soy sauce
- Three tablespoons of olive oil, or regular oil if you are not booswah like me
- One teaspoon, paprika
- Garlic cloves, black pepper, oregano, fresh cilantro, to taste. Go heavy on the pepper, up to one teaspoon
- One chicken bouillon cube, or a teaspoon of the powder

Instructions

Boil the whole wheat pasta to al dente and set aside.
Heat large frying pan with oil to medium hot, and saute the chicken breast strips for five minutes
Add the cooked or leftover pasta and everything else into the pan. Heat and eat.
There you have it. And your hungry man might still be hungry after he finishes, so enjoy! Meanwhile, my grandkids couldn't stop eating this

+ COMMUNITY

IN MY HUMBLE OPINION



COURTESY PHOTO

This is A Time For New Beginnings



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

I don't know how your year is shaping up, but 2023 seems to be moving along quickly. It is already March and the first quarter is nearly over. Despite that, and whether you made new year's resolutions and are keeping them or not, this is

a time for new beginnings.

Later this month on the 20th, the northern hemisphere will enter the spring equinox. The event is called an equinox because in Latin that word means "equal night" and it is a time when the hours of day and night are equal. Spring is considered to be the season of new beginnings and rebirth with nature emerging from hibernation. In addition to new beginnings in nature, spring can also encourage new beginnings in our activities.

Beginnings can be difficult for people for many reasons. Two main factors that lead to our avoidance are fear of the unknown and a tendency to prefer something old and familiar. These fac-

tors may affect us even when new beginnings are proactive and positive. When we become aware of these factors, it will be easier for us to break down our difficulties and deal with the new beginnings and the changes they will require in better ways.

If you struggle with new beginnings, you are not alone. Many people see new beginnings as a scary proposition because it is a time of change, varying from small to large. Change is a transition from state A to state B. Are you think-

**CONTINUES ON PG 19,
NEW BEGINNINGS**

Continued from pg 18, New Beginnings

ing of starting a new job, moving house, dating someone new, becoming a parent, or changing your diet? These situations are all the beginnings of something new and include a transition from one situation to another. The unpredictability of a situation is what causes us to be fearful. Sometimes that fear can paralyze us and we miss opportunities because we are too afraid to take a step forward.

Here are 7 tips that can help us overcome that fear inspired by two sources, PickTheBrain.com, a website dedicated to self-improvement, and Counselling Directory which has over 16,000 qualified counselors listed with them.

1. Before you decide to do anything, take a deep breath. Life-changing events are not always easy or predictable but can be managed. If you take a few minutes to inhale deeply and exhale slowly it will decrease your level of stress and increase the feeling of calm.
2. Accept that change and uncertainty happen. Things will happen in our lives that impact us in ways we do not expect, but acceptance of inevitable change will go a long way toward helping us with new beginnings.
3. Understand your fears and write them down. Ask yourself, 'what exactly am I afraid of?'. Knowing what scares you will help bring about a sense of ownership, which will give you control over your worries. Doing this in writing can be therapeutic and will help you see what barriers you have so that you can start working on finding solutions.
4. Have a haven. Make sure you have a safe place to go when there is a big and intimidating event in your life. This safe haven can be with family or close friends, a place like a park, church, or museum, a hobby, working out, or just watching feel-good movies, or reading a good book. It is

very important to have someone or something healthy to turn to avoid becoming overwhelmed and stressed out, which could ruin your new start.

5. Use positive language. Many times, when we fear something our language regarding that issue will be negative. Using positive language can help you see more options, which will improve your emotions and energy helping you overcome your fears. As the Bible teaches us, life and death are in the power of the tongue.
6. Embrace your learnings. Your life journey has provided some personal lessons that you should review and appreciate. Whether they were positive or negative experiences, the lessons they provide offer opportunities for personal growth.
7. Take help where ever you can. Many of us tend to think that asking for help, or accepting it is a sign of weakness. In actual fact, it is only logical to seek help or accept it when offered because we do not all have the same abilities and can't do everything by ourselves. By opening up and seeking help, you will find that others have dealt with your issue, which can help reduce fear and anxiety as you realize you are not the only one.

The second factor of preferring something old and familiar has to do with feeling uncomfortable outside of our comfort zones. New beginnings require a planned and sometimes unplanned departure from that so-called "comfort zone". The reason I say, 'so-called' is because sometimes our current situation needs to change due to it no longer being healthy or good for us, but we resist making a change because we have much less information about the new situation than the current one resulting in a greater sense of uncertainty. According

to The Jerusalem Post's article, "Why do we fear new beginnings?", "'comfort zone' is a bit of a misleading name - it's not always comfortable, but it's always more familiar, and what we don't know scares us."

Change is not only dealing with something unknown, but in most cases, it also requires giving up something old and familiar. Studies have shown that most people have a tangible and reliable preference for things that have been around longer and prefer the status quo to change. If something has managed to stand the test of time, it probably has at least some advantages over other things. Unfortunately, tradition and longevity, which are the opposite of new beginnings, are not always good predictors of what is best but hide forces like culture, marketing, persistence, habit, fashion, and more.

An article entitled, "Explained: Why We Don't Like Change" published by Huff Post states that, "Change and innovation require that we not only convince others that new can be good, but that we address their (often unconscious) assumption that what's been around longer looks, works, and tastes better."

At the end of the day, new beginnings cannot be avoided. They might come rarely by choice or by chance, and they can be big or small, but they will still happen to you. Don't always spend a lot of time overthinking every opportunity that comes your way and just make that first stride along the path that God has set before you. Everyone deserves a new start at some point and so do you. Use the tips above or your own tactics to overcome your fears and don't allow yourself to get stuck in a comfort zone. This is a time for new beginnings.

I will leave you with this encouragement from my favorite source of inspiration and wisdom. "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland." - Isaiah 43:18-19 (NKJV)

+ COMMUNITY



COURTESY PHOTO



Saginaw Arts & Enrichment Commission Seeking Nominations for All Area Arts Awards

The Saginaw Arts & Enrichment Commission is currently seeking nominees for its Annual All Area Arts Awards. Deadline for Nominations is March 31, 2023.

Nominees may be individuals, artists, volunteers, non-profit organizations, arts programs, businesses, media, or civic leaders from SAGINAW COUNTY. To be considered, a nominee must have achieved local, state, or national prominence in the visual, performing or literary arts; provided leadership in the development or promotion of arts education; or demonstrated a significant commitment to improving the quality of life in our community through

exceptional contributions to the arts.

Nominations may be made online at ArtSaginaw.org, by picking up a form in person at the Andersen Enrichment Center at 120 Ezra Rust Drive in Saginaw, or by calling 989.759.1362 to have a form mailed or emailed.

Completed nomination forms must be submitted online, postmarked or hand delivered to the Andersen Enrichment Center by March 31, 2023. Winners will be announced at the All Area Arts Awards on Wednesday, May 3. This year's event will include a celebratory reception, musical

entertainment and the awards, held at the Dow Event Center.

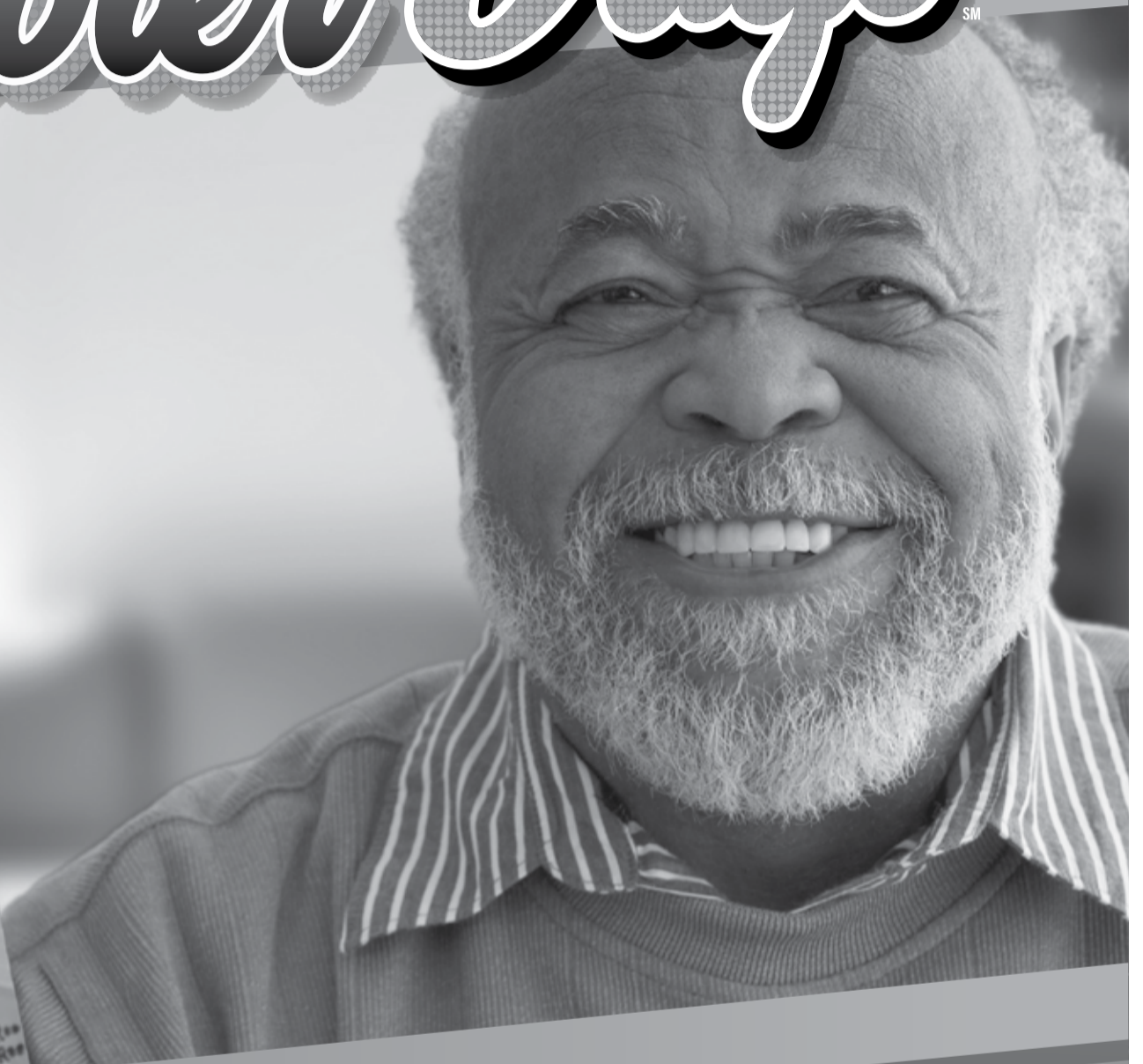
Prior award recipients include Saginaw African Cultural Festival, America's pianist Kevin Cole, Saginaw Choral Society, Friday Night Live concert series, actor Brian d'Arcy James, Japanese Cultural Center, Garber Buick, Ann Russel-Lutenske, Friends of Theodore Roethke, Major Chords for Minors, Wildfire Credit Union, Richardo Verdoni and many others.

For more information, contact the Saginaw Arts & Enrichment Commission at 989.759.1362.

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+ COMMUNITY



CHIPPEWA NATURE CENTER

Chippewa Nature Center Receives Saginaw Bay WIN Grant

Chippewa Nature Center (CNC), located at 400 S Badour Rd in Midland, has received a grant in the amount of \$19,800 from the Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative Network (WIN). The grant will be used to support the continuation of an outdoor education partnership between CNC and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

CNC and the USFWS will work cooperatively to restore wetland, grassland and pollinator habitat at outdoor classrooms on elementary, middle and high school lands throughout the 22 county Saginaw Bay Watershed. Habitat restoration projects will be restored through the USFWS's Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, and CNC will lead the State of Michigan curriculum and program development for each site. The projects will improve water quality, provide additional wildlife habitat, decrease the amount of degradation in these areas and educate students and the public on the importance of wildlife habitat, declining species and pollinators.

In partnership with WIN, Chippewa Nature Center and the USFWS we will be

able to provide funds and technical assistance to develop small outdoor education areas that contain native wetland and grassland habitats for use by teachers and students throughout the year. Each project will include a customized combination of a curriculum guide, lessons, supplies for the students to use when studying the habitats and teacher training. Interpretive signs will include site specific information.

CNC will provide a staff-facilitated program for up to eight classrooms at each school or teacher trainings to ensure that all educators have the resources they need to educate students and encourage new land stewards for several years to come. Approximately 3,000+ students will be educated in the new outdoor classrooms every year.

Funding for the Project was made possible by the generous support of The Conservation Fund and the twelve foundations and corporations that make up the Funders Network of the Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative Network. WIN is a volunteer organization that includes more

than 90 citizens and organizations and focuses on opportunities to better link the economic, social, and environmental wellbeing of Saginaw Bay communities in order to sustain and improve the region's quality of life.

Twelve area foundations and corporations work together as a Network to financially support WIN projects. The Funders Network includes: Bay Area Community Foundation, Consumers Energy Foundation, Harry A. and Margaret D. Towsley Foundation, Midland Area Community Foundation, Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation, Saginaw Community Foundation, The Dow Chemical Company Foundation, The Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation, The S.C. Johnson Fund, the Cook Family Foundation, the C.S. Mott Foundation, and the Saginaw Bay Foundation.

More information about WIN is available at www.saginawbaywin.org. Learn more about CNC at www.chippewanature-center.org.

+ COMMUNITY

Black-owned small businesses in Saginaw can apply for CMURC's Lift ME program

CMURC is accepting applications for local business owners to become a member of the first all-Black cohort at CMURC. Black owners can apply for CMURC's Lift ME program, an entrepreneurial program focused on accelerating Black-owned small businesses in Saginaw County.

According to the CMURC website, the program will help members develop a custom work plan, designed to accelerate their business with trackable milestones. They will engage in monthly workshops with peer discussions to build community connections, develop skills, and collaborate with other program participants, and they will have the opportunity to network with executives, local business owners, and community members.



COURTESY PHOTO

Businesses will be promoted across multiple sectors that make up the CMURC membership ecosystem and members will have access to technical assistance that supports the continued growth of Black owned businesses.

To be eligible for the Lift ME program, participants must identify as Black and

must own a for profit, pre-established businesses within Saginaw. Franchisees or businesses affiliated with a national chain are not eligible for this program.

To apply, fill out the online form at <https://www.cmurc.com/liftme>. Applications close on March 31.

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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

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

+ FAITH BASED

IT IS GOD'S PLAN

Minister Sharron Carter Bacon is a teacher of the gospel of Christ.

In Saginaw, where she grew up and graduated from Saginaw High School in 1975, she's known as a salon owner who created beautiful hairstyles that befit her clientele. She opened her first salon in Saginaw at the age of 22. She is the daughter of the late Albert and Irene Carter.

Her ministry and hairstyling skills now work together to bring the word of God to many.

But Minister Bacon did not initially know that that was God's ultimate plan for life

"The goal of my ministry is to fulfill God's plan and purpose which is to bring clarity and understanding of the gospel to everyone," said Minister Bacon who now leads Greater Believing Faith Outreach Ministry, an Atlanta-based church founded by her late husband Elder Arthur L. Bacon.

The story of GBF is itself evidence of God's handiwork.

After years of working - her husband worked with the city of Atlanta and she ran her salon - the couple decided in 2005 to heed a greater calling from God.

At the time, they were attending Salem Bible Church but Elder Bacon had a vision to start a ministry that would serve the community as well as the broken in spirit and in heart

"We had a greater thirst for the Word of God and wanted to walk in obedience to that thirst," Pastor Bacon recalled. "It was a greater calling on our lives to go out and share the good news of the gospel with others."

In the midst of founding their church, the Bacons created a Mission Statement that lays out their vision:

- Promote a worship environment where there is always prayer praise and worship, and the spirit of love.
- Teach the divine Word of God.
- Proclaim abundant life through faith and standing on the promises God's Word.

- Promote spiritual growth.
- Foster unity and fellowship.
- Encourage evangelism and discipleship.

While the Bacons have kept their promise of outreach to the community, Pastor Bacon said the church also has been a beacon of strength and guidance for she and her children, Monique, Jasmin and A.J., as well as her beautiful grandsons Casen and Ethan.

The church is involved in numerous activities and events that are responses to world problems.

In March 2020, just as the global COVID pandemic was emerging, Pastor Bacon started a daily prayer line that she still leads today.

"Many people join the prayer line for healing, deliverance, miracles, blessings and restored life," she said. "We pray with expectation for the manifestation of God's Word."

The church also hosts an annual Women's Day Conference in the summer.

"It's a chance for women of God to come together to fellowship in the spirit of love by the fresh anointing of the Holy Spirit," Pastor Bacon said.

It's also a wonderful chance for participants to not only to drink in God's Word but dine on sumptuous food prepared by Pastor Bacon's daughter Jasmin who is a cater and the delicious peach cobbler made by Pastor Bacon's brother Kenny Carter who also serves as a deacon in the church.

The church also has a weekly Wednesday Bible study.

In addition to ministering to her own congregation, Pastor Bacon has been a guest speaker at other women's conferences.

"I am grateful to be used by the power of God to bring Glory to his name that I may fulfill the calling I was created for," Pastor Bacon said. "It's all a part of God's plan as I faithfully stand on his Holy Word: Jeremiah 29:11 and Romans 8:28."x



MINISTER SHARRON CARTER BACON

Pastor Bacon's favorite scriptures:

"For I know the plans that I have for," declares the Lord, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.' " - Jeremiah 29:11

"And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose."

- Romans 8:28

+ FAITH BASED

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

MICHIGAN BANNER
SERMONETTE SERIESBy MINISTER CAROLYN CARTER
TOWNSEL

So, you have messed up, I have messed up, we all have sinned and now we cannot stop the tormenting voice in our ears telling us “You are no good, look at what you have done, and you call yourself a Christian.” The accusations go on and on, with each one becoming stronger and provokingly magnified. Progressing to intensified interrogation, “How could you?” “What are you going to do, when they find out what you did, and who you really are?”

Such fierce accusations come from Satan the accuser of the brethren, who is relentless in his attacks and his allegations that repetitively bombards Christians of their past and present sin(s), as he tries and sometimes succeed to torment the believer(s) with his onslaught of accusations. Satan is also consistently and constantly accusing the children of God, to God without ceasing. This along with other devices of Satan amplifies and solidifies that God is his chief enemy, who embraces hatred for all that God is including His love, grace, mercy, and forgiveness that He has given to sinful humanity.

The accuser of the brethren’s sole mission as he stands before God pointing and leveling charges against us the believers, is to wound and pierce the heart of God.

The Accuser of The Brethren Will Be Silenced

For the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night

Revelation 12:10b

Why? Because God has judged and condemned him for rebelling against Him. Consequently, Satan does all that he can to get back at God. The greatest way he can do this is to turn the hearts of people away from God and shrewdly guide them to sin and follow his ungodly path.

As Satan brings forth the sins of believers and throws them up into God’s face, he is inferring this and more:

- that the death of His Son Jesus was wasted and useless, it was not worth the price if believers are going to trample the blood of Christ underfoot.
- that Christians have no regard for being obedient to God, if they did, they would not sin.
- that the love believers profess to have for Christ and God is hypocritical and shameful.

Our adversary wants to remind Christians of their failures and sins and persuade them that they are worthless and not fit to be in the family of God. While Satan accuses believers’ day and night, his accusations are always proven erroneous, and thanks be to Jesus Christ, our Savior and our Advocate **“But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world”** (1 John 2:1-2). Paul says in Romans 8:33-35, **“Who shall**

lay any thing to the charge of God’s elect? It is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?”

So, you have messed up, I have messed up, and we all have sinned for the Bible said. **“For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God”** (Romans 3:23). Therefore, it is true no matter how hard we as Christians attempt to live righteously, the bottom line is we will sin. But when we do, **“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness”** (1John 1:9 KJV). When we confess our sins to him, we must trust that His grace and mercy will renew and transform us. This does not eliminate the fact that we will still have to contend with Satan’s accusations in our earthly lives. He is the ruler of this world until Jesus returns, but the good news is our accuser has a final destination where he will be tormented in hell forever. In knowing this we can rejoice that soon and very soon **the accuser of the brethren will be silenced.**

Blessings To All



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Pastor Craig Tatum

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M

Messiah Missionary Baptist Church
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messiahsag.org



Ministry Without Walls
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3783 Mannion Road
Saginaw, MI 48603



Mt. Olive Baptist Church
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Pastor Paul E. Broaddus
2930 Janes Street
Saginaw, MI 48601
989-752-0751

U



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

V



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

W



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

Z



Zion Missionary Baptist Church
Pastor Rodrick Smith
721 Johnson
Saginaw, MI 48607
989-754-9621

+ FUNDRAISING GOODTIMES

Define the roles or someone else will!

Part one of a two-part series

By MEL AND PEARL SHAW

Fundraising is 90% preparation. Roles and responsibilities are a part of that preparation. In fact, defined roles and responsibilities for staff, consultants, board members, and volunteers help ensure that your fundraising activities run smoothly. When team members know their roles and responsibilities, they are more inclined to take action. No one person is being asked to do it all; each has a specific role to play. Roles and responsibilities should be documented and presented to prospective volunteers when they are invited to join your fundraising.

This takes time. Ideally, roles and responsibilities should be documented in your fundraising plan. If you haven't already done so, take a moment for this work. It is important and greatly increases volunteer (and staff!) retention and productivity. It is much easier for people to meet the mark when they know what it is. Here are some questions to consider as you create fundraising-related roles and responsibilities.

What are the skills, experiences, connections, and personal attributes that a volunteer, committee member, or staff person needs to possess? What is this person or committee expected to accomplish or produce? If there is a

fundraising goal that you expect an individual to meet, what is the amount of that financial goal? If it is a marketing or communications goal that supports fundraising, have you made it clear that marketing and communications activities need to positively impact fundraising?

For example, does your communication team understand the importance of placing op-ed pieces, purchasing ad space, or sending out an e-newsletter shortly before you begin to solicit year-end donations? Are members willing to work closely with the fund development team to create awareness and excitement for upcoming fundraising events? Are they prepared to communicate the impact your institution will make this year as a result of meeting a specific fundraising goal?

If you are asking an individual or committee to take responsibility for a project such as "fundraising from local faith organizations," be sure to break the project into multiple tasks that can

be tracked over time. These tasks are at the heart of roles and responsibilities.

Be specific. What are the time frames associated with each expectation? Is this person or committee expected to attend meetings? If so, which meetings and how often? Which staff members, volunteers, or committees are expected to collaborate, and for what purpose? Who does this person or committee report to? (Who do they turn to for guidance, suggestions, and resources?) Are there reporting requirements? If so, are these verbal, written, or electronic? What is the frequency? Who is the report given to?

Use your answers to these questions to create a one-paragraph description of the purpose of the position or committee, its financial (and non-financial) goals, and a list of specific tasks. Documenting the roles and responsibilities of people involved in your organization's fundraising is the first step in their success. People really can't say "yes" unless they know what you want them to do.



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

+ HEALTH

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



ANGELIA WILLIAMS

Highlighting Angelia Williams

“I was raised in the deep south, just outside of Tallahassee, in a home with my parents, my grandmother and my aunt. We all lived in the same house. My aunt was a home economics teacher, so at home, we had rules. My sisters and I always talked about how, during dinner, my great aunt would sit there and watch us and say, ‘No talking at the table. Uncross your legs. Go get your shoes.’ You couldn't be at the table barefoot. On Saturday night and Sunday,

we had to put the white linen on the table with the sterling silverware and the china. The dessert, a special fruit cup. We moved here when I was 10, but I remember the rituals for Saturday night.

We moved to Saginaw because at the time, my father was a school teacher making \$150 for a family of six. But all of my mom's siblings lived here and worked at GM, and we moved so he could work there,

too. He was promoted right away to the foreman at Malleable.

I graduated from St. Stephen's High School and then went to Michigan State for pre-med. But I got tired of dissecting maggots and getting D-minuses, so I changed my major to nursing. Then I had to wait two years to get into nursing school at Michigan State, so I transferred to Florida A&M, which is my alma mater and the family legacy.

After Florida A&M, I came back here for one or two years and worked at St. Mary's, then I moved to Ann Arbor and worked at St. Joe's for about six or seven years. Then I met this person I thought I was in love with and moved to Miami.

We divorced after 10 years, but during that time, I got my master's in nursing and I became a nurse practitioner for 10 years. I ran school-based health centers in Miami and came back here just after my divorce. I just got tired of living there. I think 9/11 changed me, too, and I didn't have any family down there.

Initially, I came back just to visit with no intentions of staying. But 20 years later, this is where I am: starting new programs through Great Lakes Bay Health Centers.

I started the school-based health programs at Saginaw High and Arthur Hill High Schools. Then I started the only Ryan White HIV Program through Great Lakes Bay Health Centers. That's here in Saginaw and provides specialized HIV care. We're the only Ryan White funded program north of Flint until Traverse City. So, it's been an exciting adventure.”

– Angelia Williams, Senior Vice President, Great Lakes Bay Health Centers

Originally published on <https://www.facebook.com/cityofsaginawgovernment>. Republished with permission.



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+ EDUCATION

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



VERONIKA DRAKE AND NATALIA KNOBLOCK

SVSU faculty receive prestigious grant to host summer institute for K-12 educators

Saginaw Valley State University English professors Natalia Knoblock and Veronika Drake have been awarded a grant of nearly \$150,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to develop and implement a two-week, residential summer institute for K-12 educators.

The institute, titled “Language and Linguistic Prejudice Related to Race, Ethnicity, Gender, and Identity,” aims to address the contradiction between how many people renounce discrimination related to race, ethnicity, gender and identity, but may continue to hold discriminatory beliefs about language.

Up to 25 participants from across the country will come to SVSU’s campus as part of the grant.

The institute will emphasize the ways many commonly held beliefs about the nature and function of language are discriminatory, and it will suggest more equitable and inclusive approaches to language in the classroom.

“We are honored to have received this funding and are beyond excited to bring

K-12 educators to the Great Lakes Bay Region,” said Drake.

Drake and Knoblock will lead the summer institute; four leading experts will also serve as guest scholars. Teaira McMurry from The University of Alabama at Birmingham, Trini Stickle from Western Kentucky University, Megan Figueroa from the University of Arizona and co-host of the popular linguistics podcast Vocal Fries, and David Peterson from the University of Nebraska at Omaha each will lead a session during the institute.

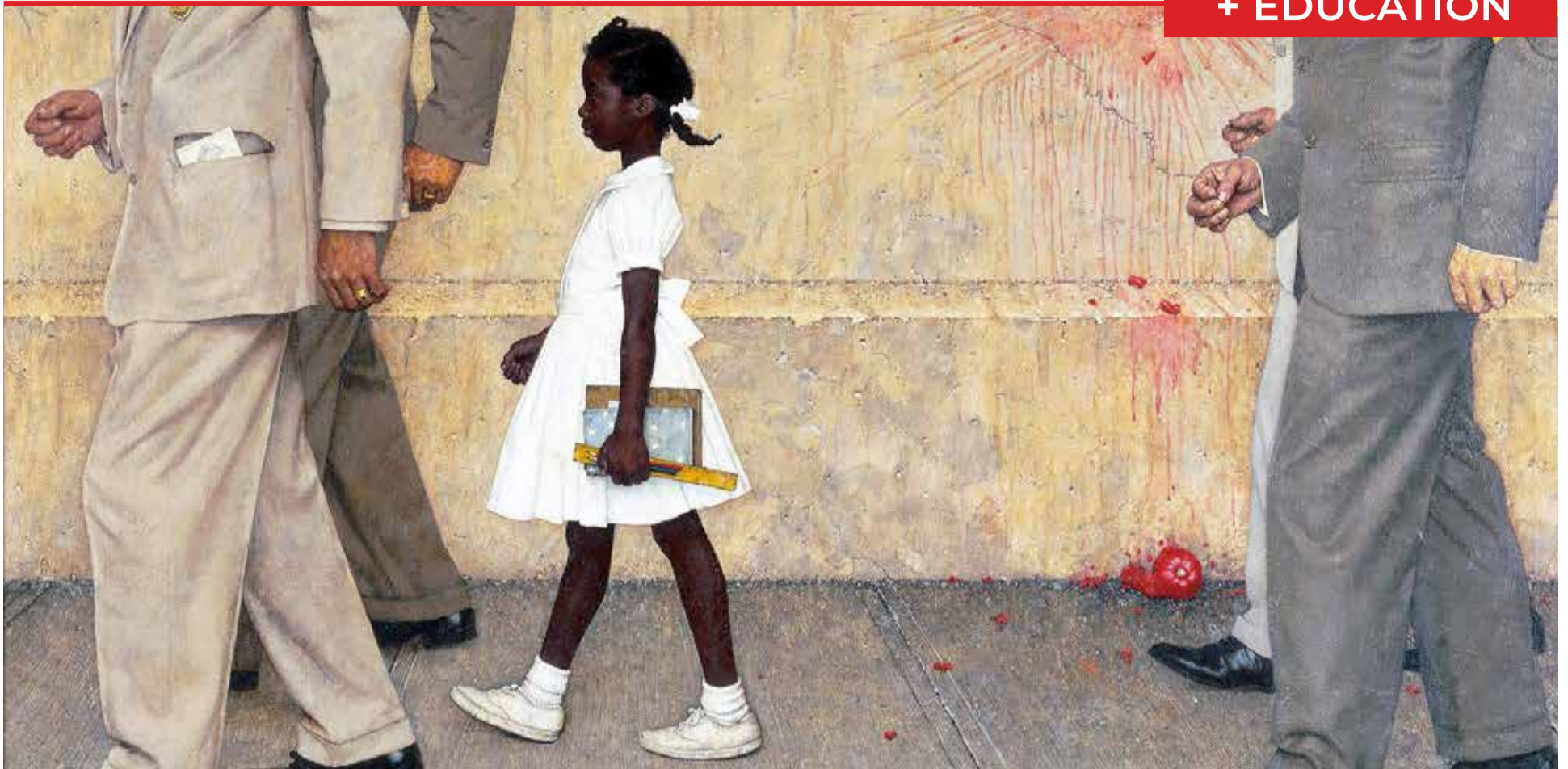
“Negative assumptions about people who speak anything other than what is considered ‘standard English’ are so widespread and so entrenched,” Knoblock said. “Such negative views feed into linguistic prejudice and linguistic discrimination and can lead to disparate achievements and learning outcomes for K-12 students.”

The institute will take place at SVSU from July 16-28. It is open to K-12 educators from across the United States. Interested teachers can apply at <https://www.svsu.edu/summerinstitute/application/>.

Applications will be accepted until Friday, March 3. Successful applicants will be informed by April 3. The NEH grant covers participant stipends; each participant will receive \$2,200 to help offset travel and housing expenses. Participants have the option to stay in SVSU residential facilities, which have earned the “best dorms” rating of any public university in the United States.

More information can be found on the institute’s website, <https://www.svsu.edu/summerinstitute/>.

“The Language and Linguistic Prejudice Related to Race, Ethnicity, Gender, and Identity” institute at SVSU has been made possible in part by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities: Institutes for K-12 Educators. In this funding cycle, 16 of 49 applications received funding. A full list of NEH grant winners can be found at https://www.neh.gov/sites/default/files/inline-files/NEH%20grant%20awards%20August%202022_0.pdfvfv



COURTESY PHOTO

Trailblazer Ruby Bridges and her Teacher



By **CRAIG DOUGLAS**
RETIRED EDUCATOR

**At the Michigan Banner we
celebrate Black History
all year long.**

A lesson for Black History is offered by the courage shown over sixty years ago by a young student, Ruby Bridges. Thank you to Eastern High School teacher Traci Whyte for reminding me of this landmark situation involving Ruby and her teacher, Mrs. Barbara Henry.

The story began in New Orleans, Louisiana, in November 1960, when Ruby Bridges was just 6 years old. She became the first Black student to enroll at the all-white elementary, William Frantz Elementary School.

In 1954, just six years before, the United States Supreme Court issued its ruling that segregated schools were unconstitutional. “Brown v. Board of Education was one of the cornerstones of the civil rights movement, and helped establish the precedent that “separate-but-equal” education and other services were not, in fact, equal at all.”

There were other examples of students becoming the first to attend an all-white school, but perhaps none more dramatic than Ruby Bridges. She displayed courage by walking into the school with an escort of four US Marshalls among chants and slurs that would frighten anyone of any age.

Credit for safely enrolling her goes to many, but most of all to her teacher, Mrs. Barbara Henry. A Caucasian, Mrs. Henry taught Ruby for more than a year in a class of one; the first day was so chaotic they stayed in the principal’s office all day.

“Even though there were mobs outside that school every day for a whole year, the person that greeted me every morning was [my teacher], a white woman, who actually risked her life as well....and”I had never seen a white teacher before, but Mrs. Hen-

ry was the nicest teacher I ever had. She tried very hard to keep my mind off what was going on outside. But I couldn’t forget that there were no other kids.”

Soon they moved into a classroom (alone), and only later did Ruby gradually become a student among other students.

It is hard to imagine the environment back then.

And the many heroes of the situation had to include Ruby Bridges, of course, and her teacher Mrs. Barbara Henry.

Ruby has become a Civil Rights activist and lives in Tylertown, Mississippi. She is a great example of this year’s theme for Black History Month, “Black Resistance.”

Resources:

<https://www.history.com/topics/black-history/brown-v-board-of-education-of-topeka>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Frantz_Elementary_School

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ruby_Bridges

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barbara_Henry

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Problem_We_All_Live_With

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Saginaw Public Schools

SAGINAW PUBLIC SCHOOLS MEET PRESIDENT BIDEN

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+ EDUCATION

SPONSORED CONTENT



COURTESY PHOTO

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

To impact the future of a community, its 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

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.saginaw-promise.org or telephone (989) 755-0545.



+ EDUCATION



COURTESY PHOTO

SPONSORED CONTENT

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**CONTINUES ON PG 43,
SISD**

Continued from pg 42, SISD

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Early Head Start/Head Start Locations

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

Great Start to Readiness Program Locations

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

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

+ EDUCATION

Michigan Lottery: For Fun. For Schools!

Every time you play the lottery, it's a win for Michigan. Each purchase benefits K-12 education, gives a lift to local businesses, and supports companies that employ Michigan residents. For every \$1 spent on Lottery, 61 cents goes to prizes, 28 cents goes to the School Aid Fund, 9 cents goes to retailer and vendor commissions, and 2 cents is used for Lottery operations.

Since it began in 1972, the Lottery has contributed more than \$27 billion to support public education in Michigan, with more than \$6 billion of that coming in the last four years. Fiscal Year 2022 marked the Lottery's fourth straight contribution of more than \$1 billion to support public education.

Almost 11,000 businesses throughout Michigan earn commissions on the sale

of Lottery products as licensed retailers. Lottery sales provide a year-round revenue stream for small and large businesses alike. In the last decade, more than \$2.4 billion in sales commissions and bonuses have been paid to these businesses.

In addition to contributing to the School Aid Fund, the Lottery recognizes outstanding educators with the Excellence in Education awards. The Michigan Lottery established the Excellence in Education awards in 2014 to recognize outstanding public-school educators across the state during the school year.

One outstanding educator is selected each week and receives a \$1,500 cash prize plus a \$500 grant to their classroom, school or school district. One of the weekly award winners will be selected to receive the Lottery's Educator of the Year award

and will receive a \$10,000 cash prize.

Each winner also will receive a plaque and be featured in a news segment on the Lottery's media partner stations: WXYZ-TV in Detroit, FOX 17 in Grand Rapids, FOX 47 in Lansing, and WNEM-TV, Saginaw.

All public-school employees may be nominated for the awards, which recognize educators who go "above and beyond" to make a difference in the lives of children. To nominate a public-school educator, go to <https://www.michiganlottery.com/excellence-in-education>.


We recognize the challenges facing educators today, and the Lottery is proud to support Michigan public schools and the important work they do. In 2023, we look forward to another successful year and support for public schools across the state.


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CLASS OF 2022

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CHILD'S SPOT CALL
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OUR KIDS, OUR COMMUNITY
AND OUR FUTURE!

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



Sabrina Beeman-Jackson

Saginaw ISD Head Start/Early Head Start
Program Director

About Saginaw ISD HE/EHS

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

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

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

pregnant women and their families.

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

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

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

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

Office Hours

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

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

Source: www.saginawheadstart.org

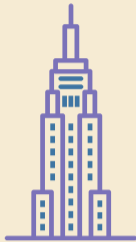
“Head Start graduates are more likely to graduate from high school and less likely to need special education, repeat a grade, or commit crimes in adolescence.”

Joe Baca, former Dem. California Congressman

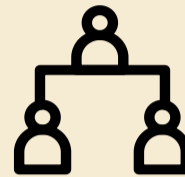
“Our mission is to provide high quality services, developing school readiness and family empowerment for prenatal to age five children and families by working in partnership with parents and the community.”
-Saginaw ISD HE/EHS

MI Tri-Share CHILD CARE

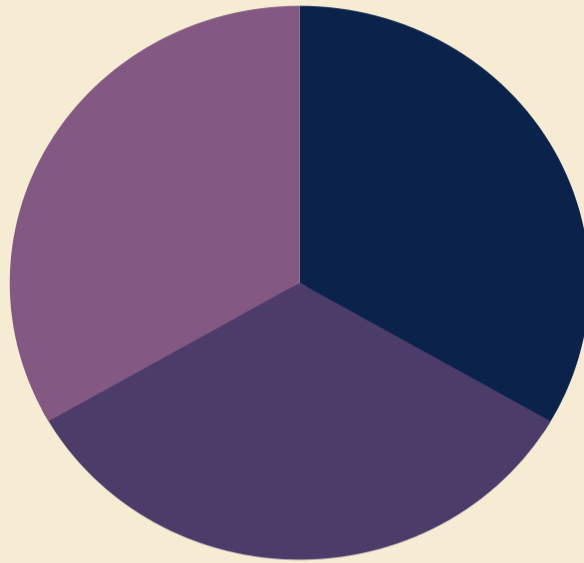
State of Michigan
33.3%



Employer
33.3%



Cost of child
care is
shared



Employee
33.3%

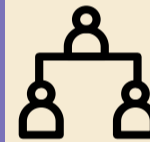


The MI Tri-Share Pilot (Tri-Share) is an innovative public/private partnership that shares the cost of child care equally between employers, employees, and the state of Michigan.

Overview

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

Benefits



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



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



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

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





SAGINAW PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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**WEDNESDAY,
MARCH 22, 2023
5-6 PM**



+ SPORTS



COURTESY PHOTO

Lady Lakers Earn First Conference Title

By HASANI ALI

Head coach Lance Maney has been waiting on his opportunity to coach at the collegiate level.

As a small-towner with big hoop dreams, he wanted to show people from his hometown that dreams can go as big as you can create them.

From his time playing club basketball at Central Michigan University to coaching boys' varsity basketball Shepherd, Maney soaked up as much coaching knowledge as he could as he slowly climbed the ranks.

He gained more coaching experience in south Florida, but had to return home because of the pandemic.

"I had a good time while I was in Florida," Maney said. "I had to come back home due to Covid-19, but apparently there was an opportunity waiting for me once I came home."

Even with coaching elite AAU basketball teams, Maney wanted to develop the skills of ball players from all walks of life.

"During my time, kids from my area wouldn't get the same exposure as they would coming from a big city," he said. "But with social media being as big as it is, they can get the exposure to go play at the next level, now it's my job as a coach to develop their skill so that they can get that exposure, showing that they can compete at the next level."

Of course, it would only serve him

right to start his collegiate coaching career at the school where he had his playing career.

Mid-Michigan College has helped him build relationships, from the athletes he associated with during his time at the school from the future athletes that he's working with at basketball camps.

"Obviously playing here and being in my hometown kind of makes it a little bit more special feeling," Maney said. "Being from the area, I've worked with some of the girls in the past when they're in high school and stuff. So I'm

**CONTINUES ON PG 47,
LADY LAKERS**

Continued from pg 46, Lady Lakers

not coming in completely blind and having some relationships obviously helps.

When Maney was awarded the coaching job last July, he had high expectations for his team. It's apparent that the ball club has exceeded those expectation and are eyeing conference championship gold.

The 2022-23 basketball season has been indeed a magical season for the Mid Michigan College women's basketball team. This season will be memorable one for the ages.

In fact, the season ended in near perfection.

Heading into the final week of the regular season, the Lady Lakers (22-3) are on the cusp of making history. Mid Michigan are undefeated (11-0) in conference play and won 12-straight games in a row.

The Lady Lakers were supposed to hit the road to take on Muskegon Community College on Feb. 23, but the game was postponed due to weather.

However, you can make that 13 wins in a row as the Lady Lakers won their first MCCA conference championship in convincing fashion as they rolled through Alpena Community College on Sophomore Night, 106-44.

"They ladies bought in and we're winning because of it," Maney said in an interview. "It's tough (for the sophomores) to listen to new guy when they've been here longer than me, but they bought in and now they're being rewarded."

Mid Michigan College average 26.5 points per quarter and held the Lady Lumberjacks to less than 13 points per quarter.

Sophomore Bailey Vissman led the way with 20 points for the Lady Lakers.

According to The Morning Sun, they also recently moved into the National Junior College Athletic Association's

top-25 poll, ranking 20th nationally. With three regular-season games left on the docket the Lakers only need to win once to secure the conference crown, thus they're in the conference driver's seat going forward.

For first-year head coach Lance Maney the season has been one he'll remember forever as it's been a lot of work and a lot of fun.

"Everything has been clicking and we have continued improving all season," said Maney. "I knew we were going to be good, a lot of things have gone right for us."

Mid Michigan College came into the season with a veteran roster, thus experience and leadership were already there. The addition of a couple new faces and a relatively injury-free campaign have also benefitted the Lakers greatly in 2022-23.

The last time the Lady Lakers were handed a loss was Jan. 4 against Jackson College, losing 72-62. They had a 31-30 lead a halftime, but they were outscored 25-14 in the third quarter.

Mid Michigan struggled shooting during that game, going only 35 percent (23-of-65) while the Jets shot 50 percent 28-of-56.

Mid Michigan also struggled from three-point land, going 30 percent (8-of-27) while Jackson College stayed consistent in the 50 percent (5-of-10) range.

Sophomore Olivia Nelson led the way for the Lady Lakers, finishing the game with 14 points while sophomore Alexys Carlstrom added 13 points.

Statistically-speaking the Lakers feature one of the most potent offenses in the country as they rank 15th nationally in points per game (76 points), eighth in 3-point field-goal makes per game (8.5), 12th in 3-point field goal percentage (33.7 percent) and 10th in free-throw percentage (71.9 percent). Defensively, they also rank 14th in

points-per game allowed (53.4) and 18th in steals per game (12.7). All in all the numbers add up to a successful team and that's exactly what MMC has been this winter.

Mid Michigan was dominant in their 89-45 victory against Kirtland Community College on Feb. 18. The first quarter was quite slow, only holding onto a 16-6 lead at the end of the first quarter.

However, the Lady Lakers began to pull away as the game continued.

The Firebirds' highest scoring quarter was the third, totaling 18 points while the Lady Lakers extended their leagued with 29 points.

Mid Michigan went 32-of-79, shooting 40.5 percent from the field while Kirtland Community College went 18-of-56, shooting 32 percent.

Though both teams went 33.3 percent from three-point range, the Lady Lakers went 12-of-36 while the Firebirds shot 5-of-15.

Mid Michigan were nearly perfect from the free-throw line, going 13-of-14.

The Firebirds struggled offensively, with only four assists, 10 free-throw attempts and 28 turnovers.

Sophomore Satori Griffin led the way for the Lady Lakers, finishing the game with 21 points. Sophomore Brooke Brauher trailed with 18 points and freshman Caitlyn Walter added 16 points.

Freshman Racquel Du Breuill was the leading scorer for the Firebirds with 21 points. Freshman Paige Lofquist trailed with 13 points and freshman Kennedy Johnson added eight points.

The Lakers close the home season out at Morey Courts Saturday when they host Alpena CC at 4 p.m. They then close the regular season out on the road at Bay College on Feb. 28.

+ SPORTS



COURTESY PHOTO

Their first loss came from Brother Rice, 56-45 Motor City Roundball Classic in Ferndale. Brother Rice is currently No. 2 in Division 1.

Grand Blanc stumbled again in the following game in a nail-biter against North Farmington, 54-50.

Most of the games during the 16-win streak were won in convincing fashion, defeating opponents by 10 points or more.

The closest game that the Bobcats were able to pull away from was a 53-50 win over Rockford back in January.

Bobcats Perfect in SVL Conference Play... Again

By HASANI ALI

Grand Blanc reigns supreme again after having zero blemishes in the Saginaw Valley League conference for the second straight year after beating host Mount Pleasant 62-37 Friday night.

The Bobcats sit at 20-2 overall.

Senior and league MVP R.J. Taylor led the Bobcats with 23 points, going 9-of-12, nine rebounds and five assists.

Senior Joe Nemecek contributed seven points, two rebounds and two steals for the Bobcats. Robert Williams, Donnie Huddleston, Bryce O'Mara and Trevon Johnson all added six points apiece.

Taylor has signed and will be attending the University of Northern Iowa in the fall to play point guard for the Panthers.

Grand Blanc has won 16 straight games (12-0 in the SVL) entering Thursday's

showdown with Beecher (16-3) at the Dort Financial Center. Both teams are ranked among the top teams in their respective divisions.

Grand Blanc is No. 4 in Division 1 and Beecher is No. 3 in Division 3.

The Bobcats are hosted by SVL Coach of the Year, Tory Jackson, a well-earned accolade after taking over the team and keeping them in the playoff race for the state title during his first year.

"Blessed, God has placed me here for a reason," Jackson said in a Facebook post. "Great group of young men at all three levels here at Grand Blanc with one of the best group of coaches. Players that work hard, plus coaches that care and the best group of parent support equals success. This doesn't happen without everyone playing their part. Let's keep working fellas!"

The only two losses that the Bobcats suffered were within the first five games of the season.

Jackson and the Bobcats were able to earn a bittersweet victory against Heritage in conference play, 58-51.

It was a game of vengeance as Jackson was wrongfully terminated as head coach at Heritage shortly after his hiring a couple years ago over alleged illegal contact of players from other schools.

A notable blowout was shortly before Grand Blanc took down Mount Pleasant. The Bobcats cruised past Midland in the game prior, 92-50.

Grand Blanc won their first state title back in 2021 with a victory over Ann Arbor Huron, 45-36. The Bobcats appeared again in the state finals last season, but fell short to Warren De La Salle, 67-58.

It's not a surprise to see Grand Blanc back in the hunt for the state title and would not be surprised if the team made a third appearance in the finals.

"We're here to continue building up the program," Jackson said. "Another state title would be proof that we have something special over here."

Jackson is a two-time state champion as a player at Buena Vista High School.

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COURTESY PHOTO

Bearcats Captures TVC Eight Title

By HASANI ALI

It's been a while since we've heard some roaring from Bearcat country.

The finally came to an end as Bridgeport has enough to roar about going into the playoffs, beating Bay City John Glenn, 86-58, to finish off the Tri-Valley Conference 8 championship.

"It lets people know that Bridgeport basketball is still here," Bridgeport coach Kevin Marshall said. "We were just in the oven baking."

Bridgeport finished the season with an impressive 18-4 record, 13-1 in Tri-Valley Conference 8 play. Freeland finished second with an 11-3 record. The former defending conference champions were the only team in the conference to defeat Bridgeport.

Since reaching the Final Four in 2021, the Bearcats went two seasons without winning a conference title, going 8-13 last season.

Senior DT Winters stated that the

team had some internal issues that had to be resolved going into the next season.

"We had attitude problems last year," he said. "We came into this season hungry after last year. We came into this season locked in."

Winters led the Bearcats Friday, scoring 16 points with 7 rebounds, 7 assists and 4 steals.

Marshall expected Bridgeport to rebound from its disappointing 2021-22 season.

"We weren't good ... that's the truth," he said. "But I know what we had. I know we struggled last season. With my dad passing, my heart probably wasn't in it either. We were a team that didn't have an identity. We didn't know who we were. We didn't have true leadership."

"But we knew what we had coming this year. The young guys came through. We knew what we could do. This team is something. They did it."

During the second half of the season, had a stumble by dropping back-to-back

games to Freeland and Saginaw Nouvel. However, Bridgeport was able to bounce back and win its last six games after a major regroup.

That includes Friday's 86-58 win over a John Glenn team that gave Bridgeport problems in the first meeting before falling, 61-51.

In the second matchup, Bridgeport took a 17-13 lead after one quarter and built it to 42-24 at halftime, coasting to the win.

On Senior Night, six players hit double-digit scoring. Winters and Khalil Cliff led the charge with 16 points each. Torry Burt scored 14, with Fransco Lee, Zalyn Martin and Jhirnea Harris adding 12 points each. Martin added 8 rebounds.

"We had players who were up-and-down, but this year some really took on leadership roles," Marshall said. "Winters was one, and so was Fransco Lee, who's only a junior. But they came in this year and became leaders for us."

John Glenn sophomore Sean Wesolek scored 15 points with 8 rebounds to lead the Bobcats, with Hayden Ruff coming off the bench to add 14 points. Brady Rogers followed with 9 points.

Bridgeport has finished all of its regular season and has no games in the final week of the season.

The Bearcats will begin preparing for the Caro district tournament, which also includes Birch Run, Caro, Clio and Frankenmuth.

"We didn't plan on having the last week off, but we played in so many tournaments in January ... we didn't have an off week in January," Marshall said. "We're going to bringing in some adult teams, some former players to go after the players, rough them up a little bit."

"But mostly, we're going to let them rest. They deserve a little rest."

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COURTESY PHOTO

The XFL is Here to Stay, And I Love It!

By HASANI ALI

What?!

You're telling me that I don't have to wait until the fall to enjoy high-quality football immediately after the NFL season is over?

Dang skippy.

Fans have been waiting for the third revision of the Xtreme Football League. Originally debuting in 1999, WWE owner and chairman Vince McMahon wanted to bring a different feel to football in the most unconventional ways.

With players having nicknames like "He Hate Me" or "Death Blow" really gave the game an interesting twist.

McMahon really wanted to venture out and make a name for himself outside of the WWE.

The league failed after its first season

and McMahon attempted revamp the league 20 years later. However, disaster struck again as the league had to shut down due to COVID-19 back in 2020.

It wasn't a complete disaster for some. In fact, the short stint that the league had was just enough for players to catapult to the next level.

Because of his stellar performance with the Houston Roughnecks, quarterback PJ Walker earned a 1-year contract with the Carolina Panthers and eventually became a starter for the program.

In all, the league did show some promise! It just took a couple of business-minded people to really get it over the hump to make it a stable league.

Dwyane "The Rock" Johnson and his ex-wife Dany Garcia partnered together to purchase the league from McMahon later that year and turned it into something magnificent.

Never in a million years would I see former NFL players like A.J. McCarron or Paxton Lynch would grace the gridiron again, nor seeing NFL legend Hines Ward as a head coach.

When watching a football game where the St. Louis Battlehawks are trailing behind the San Antonio Brahmas 15-3 with less than three minutes remaining in the game, you wouldn't think that a comeback would be anywhere possible, right?

Wrong!

When you have the choice of one, two or three-point conversions after a touchdown?!

You can't ask for better "non-traditional" rules that would allow former Alabama standout A.J. McCarron make a comeback and pull off a 18-15 win over San Antonio.

The uniforms are vibrant, the rules are twisted and the games are exciting to watch! Even the commentary gave it the same feel as a typical NFL game. Each game as averaged 12,000 fans, according to ESPN.

Not to mention the season kicked off two weeks after the Super Bowl. So normal football fans didn't have to skip a beat.

This league shows some serious potential.

If more fans can get behind it and the league begin to expand to more regions, then it can be a serious contender against the NFL.

Being as the standalone league after withstanding competition from the AFL or the USFL (which has now revamped), the NFL may finally met its match.

Not to mention that the league gives a chance for disgruntled NFL fans to enjoy something new, especially for those who have boycotted or protested participating in anything NFL related after some controversial decisions that the league has made that may have been deem unfair.

Spring came early for us football fans!

+ SPORTS



COURTESY PHOTO

SVSU Sweeps GVSU on Senior Night, 66-64

By HASANI ALI

What's the best way to send off your seniors during their final home game?

How about sweeping Grand Valley State University for the first time in school history?! The Cardinals were about to pull off a nail-biter against the Lakers in GLIAC conference play, 66-64. Seniors Darnell Hoskins Jr., Delano Smith, James Toohey and Tyler Witz can head into the playoffs with confidence.

Head coach Randy Baruth has always been harsh on his seniors, but within good reason.

"I always tell the guys that I am always critical of my seniors, especially when they don't step up," he said. "But I'm also going to be the guy to compliment them when they do step up and in this game, they stepped up in many different ways. These

guys really know how to compete."

GVSU did try to pull away early, starting the game on a 8-2 run and a 9-2 run halfway of the first half. With 7:11 left in the half, the Lakers opened up a 10-point lead before Smith answered with a 3-point bucket.

Smith managed to sink a layup before the halftime buzzer. The Lakers went into halftime with a 37-34 lead.

Sophomore Freddie McIntosh dropped a bucket and was able to cut the GVSU lead to two points with less than 17 minutes remaining.

Smith drew contact and the and-1 basket to tie the game at 56 with 7:22 remaining.

The Cardinals finally took their first lead of the game in the second half with 3:52 remaining in the game with a tip-in layup from Witz to put SVSU ahead, 62-61.

SVSU was able to keep the lead and pull off the win.

Smith led the way for the Cardinals, going 8-of-17 shooting for 22 points. He also came down with eight rebounds.

McIntosh followed with 11 points, going 3-of-5 from 3-point land. Witz added 10 points and nine rebounds.

Jake Van Tubergen led the Lakers with 16 points and 12 rebounds for a double-double.

Overall, the Cardinals went 26-of-54 from the field and 9-of-16 from the charity stripe, but struggled with the deep ball, going 3-for-10.

As Baruth is into his 10th season with SVSU and working with these seniors for nearly half of his time there, he understands that the team will feel different once those lockers are empty, but they should have left their mark on the program.

"They have a responsibility to our program, to show the young guys what's expected on our team," he said. "I think this is first time as a program we've swept GVSU in the regular season and those guys really earned it."

The win snapped a three-game losing streak and the Cardinals did secure the South Division Championship.

SVSU now sits at 18-10 overall and 12-8 in conference play.

The Cardinals will play next in the GLIAC Postseason Tournament starting Wednesday. SVSU will be the No. 4 seed in the tournament and host a rematch with No. 5 seed Grand Valley State. Time will be announced when available.



PICS OF THE WEEK

On February 25, The Ezekial Project held their 26th annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Prayer Breakfast at Horizons Conference Center.



Deacon Willie Haynes
President, The Ezekial Project
New Mount Calvary Baptist Church



Pastor Amy Terhune, Saginaw First
United Methodist Church



Rev. Dr. Charles Coleman,
Pastor of New Faith Temple COGIC



Pastor Thomas Brown, Jr.
Rhema Worship Cathedral COGIC
Chair of the Religious Leaders Table,
The Ezekial Project



Minister Mike Maike,
Shield of Faith Ministries



Hon. Terry L. Clark, 70th District
Court Judge, Saginaw County



First Lady Claudia Delgado,
New Beginnings Ministries



Pastor Joyce Seals,
The New Christ Community Church



Pastor Roy Sims,
9th St Community Church

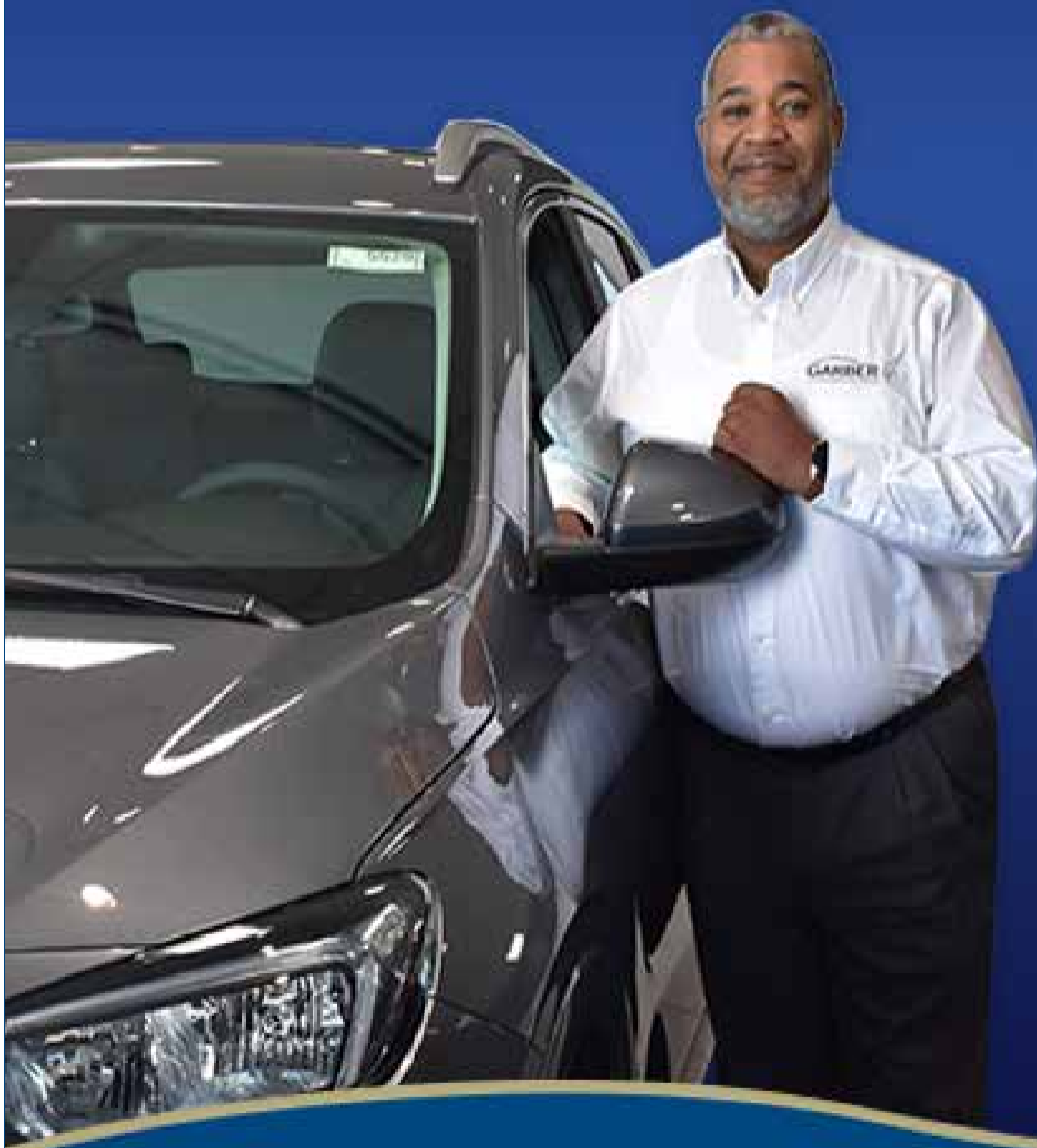


Rev. Dr. Hurley Coleman, Jr., Pastor of
World Outreach Campus



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We

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-on-one attention she received from her professors at SVSU.***



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