



# The Michigan Banner

Leading in Diversity for over 20 years



**PICS OF THE WEEK**  
SHS dominated Flint Hamady, 78-58, on March 15.

SUPPORT LOCAL JOURNALISM ▶▶▶

[MICHIGANBANNER.ORG/SUPPORTUS](http://MICHIGANBANNER.ORG/SUPPORTUS)

COMMUNITY



## A SALUTE TO AN ORDINARY WOMAN

COMMUNITY, PG 2



### The gold in giving

LB, COVER STORY



### Women's History Month Highlight: Ann Turpin Williams

COMMUNITY, PG 13

PRESENTED BY



NAMED BY RUNNER'S WORLD AS ONE OF AMERICA'S STELLAR ST. PATRICK'S DAY RUNS




SCAN TO REGISTER

# 50<sup>th</sup>

RUNNING OF

# St. Patrick's DAY RACES

1974 Bay City, MI 2023  
Bay Area Runners Club

## MARCH 18 & 19, 2023

MARCH 18<sup>TH</sup>  
B.A.R.C Fitness Expo  
Leprechaun Races



MARCH 19<sup>TH</sup>  
Irish Double • 8K Run  
5K Run • 5K Walk

THE MICHIGAN BANNER IS A PROUD MEMBER OF:



[WWW.BAYCITYSTPATSRACES.COM](http://WWW.BAYCITYSTPATSRACES.COM)



## CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

# A salute to an *ordinary* woman

When we think of Women's History, we focus our attention on those women who have discovered, created, transformed, or made significant impacts in the world of Science and Business. It's not very often that we take the time to celebrate women the world sees as "ordinary". The Michigan Banner takes this moment in time to recognize those quintessential mothers who made it possible for us to soar. They bore us, raised us, loved us, and prayed for us. Success would have only been a word, without those amazing mothers, grandmothers, and Big Mama's in our lives. The Village Legacy flowed through the bosoms and hearts of these nearly extinct matriarchs.

In this issue, we celebrate one of those ordinary women, Mother Voncile Bowen of Saginaw, Michigan. She was born June 9, 1925, in Evergreen, Conecuh-Alabama to Henry and Daisy Woodson. She was raised in Pensacola, FL by her elder sister after both parents died when she was only 6 years old. It was in Pensacola that she met the love of her life, John Bowen. He was a Navy man on liberty for a few days when they met. It was literally love at first sight. They soon married and moved to Michigan when John gained employment with General Motors in 1948, just before the great depression.

They lived in the 1st Ward upon their arrival in the city of Saginaw, which was customary for many blacks who were newly employed by General Motors. They were members of the thriving community that was created by good paying jobs and greater freedoms available away from the Jim Crow South.

Voncile fell in love with a small charismatic church on the corner of 12th Street and Farewell. It was simply called 12th Street Church. It was a lively church that was full of the Holy Spirit. Many were healed, delivered, and set free by the power of God that rested in that small building. The church later became Harris Temple Church of God in Christ and was the foundation of the black Pentecostal experience in Saginaw, Michigan.

It was there at Harris Temple that Voncile formed her personal relationship with God and fell in love with prayer. She and dozens of other "ordinary" women would



COURTESY PHOTOS

routinely meet at the church and pray for their husbands, families, and their communities. The 1st Ward was a thriving, colorful, safe, and loving community because these ordinary women kept spiritual watch over the streets of their community.

Years later, Voncile and her family moved to Carrollton, where they would eventually raise 10 children and leap into full-time ministry. John founded Lighthouse Church of God in Christ on Sherman Street. It was a small white building that John built with his own hands, right next door to the family house. It was in this place that Mother Voncile Bowen found her niche as the community prayer warrior. She fell in love with prayer and the intimacy with God, it provided. She prayed for barren mothers to have children. Prayed for the children when they were conceived. Prayed for them as they grew up in the community, for their sicknesses, run-ins with the law, and their peace of mind. When this ordi-

nary woman prayed, God answered!

When friends, neighbors and even entire families would fall on hard times, she opened her home to them and treated them like family. All were welcome. Race was not an issue. If they were hungry, hurt, or homeless, she'd nurse them back to their feet. Voncile had a very close friend who lived around the corner from her in Carrollton named Ameda Dallas. One day Ameda Dallas brought a little blind boy to meet Voncile so that she could pray for his sight. Voncile prayed for the young boy. She prayed that God would heal him and allow him the chance to run and play like the other kids. Ameda would often bring the young boy over to play with Voncile's children. That little blind boy never received his sight. However, he eventually picked a

**CONTINUES ON PG 13,  
AN ORDINARY WOMAN**

**MICHIGAN BANNER**

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

**CEO/COO**

Jerome Buckley  
publisher022@gmail.com

**PUBLISHER**

Jerome Buckley

**EDITOR EMERITUS**

Rae Lynn Buckley

**THE LATINO BANNER  
PUBLISHER**

Jerome Buckley  
thelatinobanner@gmail.com

**OMBUDSMAN**

Elaine Gregory McKenzie

**MISSION**

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

**DISCLAIMER**

The Michigan Banner and its staff are not responsible and will not be held liable for any mistakes, error, misspellings and false advertisements in part or whole that may be placed within its publication. Articles, information or comments printed in the newspaper are not necessarily the views or beliefs of The Michigan Banner newspaper. The Michigan Banner reserves the right to edit, change, or delete any information, or refuse to print any information, article or advertisement which is believed to be inconsistent with or conflicts with the mission of the newspaper.

**DEADLINES**

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

**SUBMISSION PROCEDURE**

Mailed or e-mailed  
Preferred format: Jpeg or PDF

**CONNECT WITH THE MICHIGAN  
BANNER ONLINE!**

www.michiganbanner.org  
Facebook.com/TheNewMichiganBanner  
Twitter.com/MichiganBanner



THE MICHIGAN BANNER

21<sup>st</sup> ANNIVERSARY

year ANNIVERSARY

5<sup>th</sup> Annual

HEART OF THE CITY  
COMMUNITY AWARDS BANQUET

JUNE 8, 2023 ♦ HORIZONS CONFERENCE CENTER

**IN THIS ISSUE ▶**

- Youth Banner ..... 4 - 5
- Latino Banner ..... LB 1 - LB 4
- Community ..... 11
- Faith Based ..... 30
- Health ..... 36
- Education ..... 38
- Sports ..... 48



# MICHIGAN YOUTH BANNER

VOLUME 5 • NUMBER 6



## WHERE OTHERS FEARED TO TREAD

By DONIQUA SOVIA

She is the epitome of life. The forerunner of generations, and the accelerator of movements that have spurred change, and altered the direction in which the world was turning. She owns strength, hones endurance and wades through adversity.

She has starved so others could taste freedom. She has been imprisoned so others could roam. She has flown so others could soar, and she has walked, that others may run. She was a cast-away, so others could cast a ballot.

She made space, for others to go to space. She's the example of intelligence. She's been the seed to revolutions. She's disguised herself, to blend in with the masses, only to rise up and demand the audiences. Her faith was her compass, as she looked to God as her navigator.

SHE is WOMEN....WOMEN is SHE. She went where others feared to tread. She blazed a trail, lit up the sky, showed up in the ring, took the prize, won the medal, gained the license, rewrote history, and added her signature. SHE is YOU.





## Teen Table Talk Financial Literacy Event Tues March 28th 11:30am-3:30pm



Here at the motto is "Helping People Help Themselves" we have strong ties to the community and provide many tools and resources on being self-sufficient. We want to promote and educate about financial responsibility, the importance of bank accounts, budgeting and money management.

Jonathan Jarrett-The State Bank 11:45am-12:45pm

Stacie Gath- The 4H Program 1pm-2pm

Tamara Tucker- YWCA 2:15-2:45pm

Delta College- 2:45pm-3:15pm

FUNDING PROVIDED BY A GRANT THROUGH  
MICHIGAN PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTE

**BWELL**  *Saginaw*



2824 PERKINS STREET, SAGINAW MI 48601

TEL 989.753.7741

INFO@SAGINAWCAC.ORG



**THE MICHIGAN BANNER NEWS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH AT&T**



# Our commitment to help bridge the digital divide

At AT&T, we're dedicated to bringing connectivity to millions of unconnected Americans. To achieve this goal, AT&T is investing \$2 billion from 2021-2024 to help address the digital divide.

From 2018-2020, we expanded coverage and improved connectivity in more communities by investing more than \$1.4 billion in our wireless and wireline networks in Michigan.

At AT&T, we're dedicated to doing our part to connect America.



© 2022 AT&T Intellectual Property. AT&T and Globe logo are registered trademarks and service marks of AT&T Intellectual Property and /or AT&T affiliated companies. All other marks are the property of their respective owners.





# Latino Banner

LIDER EN LA  
DIVERSIDAD

VAMOS ADELANTE

## The gold in giving

By HASANI ALI

Elvis Machul never had an easy life, yet it fueled him to always earn whatever he wanted in life. It reflects when you walk into his office at Labadie, located at 711 S. Euclid Ave., in Bay City, Mich., and you see his wall covered in plaques and awards.

With trophies on his desk and certificates piling up in his file cabinets, you know that you were talking to someone with a mission and that every award was another motive to go out and accomplish something else.

Machul has a winner's mentality with the heart to help those in need – the perfect combination for a leader.

“There’s nobody in my lane,” he said. “I say that respectfully, but when I wake up in the morning, my schedule is filled with objectives and projects that will take me well into the night.”

Chatting with Machul as he was sitting at his desk on his birthday, he chuckled about his hectic lifestyle as a community leader.

“Most finance managers go into their office, do their job and go home,” he said. “I don’t have that luxury. My day typically starts at 5:30 in the morning, then my day usually goes for 12-16 hours. My day is usually structured for eight hours, but then I have to put in extra hours for community work.”

As I looked at him in shock, he responded with a smile, knowing that it sounded absurd to the average person.

**CONTINUES ON LB PG 2,  
GOLD IN GIVING**



LATINO BANNER SPONSORED BY GREAT LAKES BAY HEALTH CENTERS & TEAM ONE CREDIT UNION





## Continued from LB Cover, gold in giving

“My schedule is nuts,” he said, chuckling.

Machul understands that being a leader is a God-given assignment. Whenever he signs up for another project, it is never for his own benefit.

“My job isn’t to just sign up for a leadership position for a plaque,” he said. “My job is to take all of the leadership and talent in the room and create something magnificent.”

Being involved in philanthropy for over a decade, Machul was in charge of all community projects, starting with his time at Garber.

He then took over as the Corporate Volunteer Manager and sat at the Board of Directors at United Way, where he helped initiate a program called, “Go Volunteer Now.”

Whenever there is an event involving community outreach, you can guarantee that Machul is there.

“If anyone needed a grant, then they would have to come through either Dow Chemical or United Way,” he said. “I would have to go to almost 80 events a year to represent either entity.”

While networking and meeting the leaders in the area, Machul was working on getting his master’s at the time at Northwood University where he received his MBA in Business administration.

Taken under the wings of mentors Jimmy Green and Monica Reyes, Machul was able to take his leadership to unconceivable heights.

Machul championed Habitat for Humanity for 10 years. He became Vice President for the Great Lakes Bay Hispanic Business Association. At the beginning of his tenure, he helped to initiate the Hispanic Leadership Institute in 2011.

Machul has also been a member of the Saginaw Chamber of Commerce since 2016.

His team has recently received a proclamation by the state of Michigan for a program called Christmas Angels, an organization that helps families in need around the holidays.

Christmas Angels has helped 863 children over the last six years.

“It’s been a blessing,” he said. “We were able to take a small idea of helping just ten families around Christmas time to just last year we helped 79 families and 174 children. This year we are going to help 1,000 families.”

When it comes to leadership, Machul specializes in helping out children. With no political undertones or anyone trying to lead a project out of ego, giving to children brings smiles and pure joy.

“There’s no bias when it comes to children,” he said. “There’s no political agenda or someone wanting to lead the charge to say that they were the leader. When you help a child in need, you simply make their life better, which makes them happy and that family happy as well.”

His community service doesn’t start off the clock, but his service is around the clock, beginning in his Labadie office.

“The goal is to challenge good everyday,” he said. “I don’t sell anything, I just help people. When a person comes to purchase a vehicle from me, I can be completely transparent. I show them my computer as we’re going through every step of the process. I have nothing to hide from anyone.”

Being in the automotive industry for 16 years, Machul understands that many of his clients may need assistance in getting approved for a vehicle. Rather than turning them away, he provides alternative solutions in order to help them get what they want at a reasonable price.

“We offer a credit repair program,” he said. “Because at the end of the day, it’s not just about buying a vehicle from me. If that person has a better credit score, then they can purchase a home, or get a personal loan, however they can better themselves financially, we were able to assist them in turning their financial situation around.”

Sitting at his desk, he recalls helping a young woman purchasing her first vehicle earlier in the month. She was referred to Machul by her grandfather, who he helped 15 years ago. In fact, Machul assisted in helping 50 people in that particular family purchase a vehicle due to his stable and superb reputation.

“When I came over to Labadie and I was signing my contract, I told them that

not only do you get me, but me as a community as well. So we have to support all of these community efforts.”

As a community leader, Machul also does his duty as a public speaker.

He spoke at a church recently and he was approached by a teenager after the service. Out of curiosity, he asked Machul about success and how he became so successful.

“I explained to him that I didn’t have anybody that looked like me to represent me,” he said. “I didn’t have anyone to come in that I could relate to, somebody who made mistakes and turned their life around. You can do exactly what I’m doing, as long as you give back like God said.”

Being in philanthropy for over a decade, Machul now understands what his mission is – to find other leaders to mold and shape in order to continue to build the community in the Saginaw area.

“Hopefully somebody will be able to take my spot,” he said, chuckling. “They will have to earn it, but it is theirs for the taking and to be a blessing to the community.”

As a Carrollton 1999 graduate, Machul was not sure where his future was taking him. His main focus was playing basketball.

Machul didn’t want to leave his mother while she was battling cancer, so he played two years at Delta College.

After her unfortunate passing, Machul decided to transfer and play the remainder of his career Whittenburg University in Springfield, Ohio.

Now with two children, one son playing basketball at Saginaw Valley State University, he’s instilling those same principles to make sure that children become the next community leaders.

“This has to keep going, even after I’m gone,” he said. “My wife and kids think I’m crazy for working so hard, but as long as God continues to bless me, then I’m going to continue to be a blessing for others and my children will do the same.”



# THE BEST SERVICE & SELECTION IN SAGINAW

CHEVROLET EQUINOX



TOYOTA TACOMA



**VISIT OUR QUICK LUBE**

**MON-FRI: 8AM-6PM  
SAT: 8AM-2PM  
FOR YOUR OIL CHANGE  
& TIRE ROTATION**



**SCAN TO VISIT  
OUR WEBSITE**

It's *Simpler* at SERRA



4200 BAY RD, SAGINAW, MI 48603

**CALL OR TEXT: (989) 790-0800**



## Home Equity Line of Credit

Put the equity in your home to work for you with a *special introductory rate as low as*

**3.99%<sup>APR\*</sup>**

**AND NO CLOSING COSTS\*\*  
OR APPLICATION FEE!**



Call us today at 888.288.3261 or online [TeamOneCU.org](http://TeamOneCU.org) to learn more about the benefits of a Home Equity Line of Credit or any of our other products.



\*APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Loan rate listed represents our best rate and is subject to change. Loan rates are based on credit approval. Not all will qualify for the best rate. Valid for HELOCs approved up to December 31, 2022. Special rate valid until June 30, 2023.  
\*\*\$50 annual fee, \$300 early closing fee if the HELOC is closed within 36 months. See Team One for details.

**HEALTHCARE**  
— FOR EVERYONE! —



In-Person and  
Telehealth Visits  
[GreatLakesBayHealth.org](http://GreatLakesBayHealth.org)

**Great Lakes Bay**  
Health Centers

989-921-5377

We Change Lives Because We Care



LA UNION CIVICA MEXICANA PRESENTS

The 44th Annual

Saginaw

Stefani Montiel



with

Eddie Gonzalez

CINCO DE MAYO

◆ FOOD TRUCKS

◆ LOWRIDERS

◆ INFLATABLE PLAYLAND

MAY 6, 2023

10 AM - 6 PM

Jolt Event Credit Union  
Event Park

- ◆ GRUPO DEZEO
- ◆ DJ JESSE SANCHEZ
- ◆ BALLET FOLKLORICO DE DETROIT
- ◆ INTERNATIONAL WRESTLERS

\$5.00 COVER 10 AND OVER  
KIDS FREE

PARADE: LINES UP AT HOYT PARK, BEGINS AT 10:30 AM AND HEADS NORTH ON WASHINGTON AVE

SPONSORS



Dedicated to the Memory of Frank Medel Jr. and Stevie "Chuck" Medel



## + COMMUNITY

CELEBRATING  
WOMEN'S  
HISTORY MONTH

## A Dream Fulfilled



From the very beginning the Lord had a plan for her life that would destine her for greatness albeit a life unimaginable to many at the time and even many today. The civil rights act had just passed the year prior and we were smack in the middle of a decade both exciting and scary alike. General Motors was pumping money through Saginaw like nobody's business and any given weekend you could find the community jamming to "Shotgun" by JR Walker & The All Stars or "Papas Got a Brand New Bag" by James Brown. Shantay grew up in the church as so many of us do attending Truevine Missionary Baptist and was a member of the choir and attending Sunday school amongst other things. She attended Saginaw Public Schools graduating from Saginaw High School and later attending Delta College where she obtained a degree in criminal justice. As a child she would fly to California to visit her grandmother and

told her mom, after admiring the stewardess at the time, that's what I'm going to be when I grow up. She moved to California to pursue her dream but given the political climate of the time and slow progression of African Americans visibility in certain job categories she moved back to Saginaw. There she obtained a job at consumers energy, married, and had a child doing what was still customary of women at the time. Her life seemed to be heading in a very secure but mediocre fashion and she refused to let that happen never losing sight of her dream in the aviation field. She saw an ad in the paper one day for airline stewardess interviews and instantly wanted to apply so she packed her things and headed to Texas for the interview where she secured not only the job but her dream however, there was one hiccup..... she had a child. She called her mother and explained the situation. Her mother, knowing the importance of following your dreams, quickly responded saying we'll help you in any way you need as this is a once in a lifetime opportunity. With that support Shantay started training with American Eagle which is a regional airline still in operation today. The training was grueling and there was so much more than pouring a drink or handing out cookies. She trained in all things safety including situation de-escalation, how to combat a terrorist, memorizing announcements, aircraft evacuation in under 90 seconds, and how to respond to numerous medical events.....all while keeping the pristine image of a stewardess. There even came a time when she had to do a water evacuation to which she didn't know how to swim so once again she called her mom for support. Her mom responded just hold your nose and jump in and the Lord will do the rest. She passed training with flying colors full of excitement and anticipation just to end up in small towns and working on 50 seater aircraft.....but she didn't care she was doing what she loved. She worked hard and soon transitioned to Northwest Airlines after hearing about it from a local friend which was now mainline with bigger aircraft, bigger cities,



and more opportunity. Northwest later merged with Delta Airlines where she currently is still employed. She's traveled to places such as Paris, Amsterdam, and Manila but has never lost touch with her roots in Saginaw. She often comes back to get her hair done by her mom at Reflections of U Too each time bringing back different stories and experiences from different places. Not only has she been a pioneer in her family but also in her community..... setting an example for the younger generation of another career field not even thought of by many in the community. In honor of women's history month we recognize the courageous trail blazed by Shantay Mckinnie.....after all, how many black female stewardesses do you know from Saginaw, MI.

She's grateful and honored to be asked to be featured in The Michigan Banner.



COURTESY PHOTOS

## + COMMUNITY

## CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

# Women's History Month Highlight

## Ann Turpin Williams

Ann Turpin Williams was born in Columbus, Ohio and grew up in Saginaw, where she attended Saginaw Public Schools and graduated from the former St. Stephen High School.

Ann retired from a 40-year career in broadcasting in September 2022. She took her first job in the business in the fall of 1982, as News Director at the former WWWS radio, now WTLZ, Kiss 107 FM. A friend who was a Saginaw News reporter had told her about the opening. Ann attended the University of Michigan, where she majored in French. She took several journalism classes, but wasn't sure she was qualified for the job. To her surprise, she was offered the position, and with no real experience in the field, became a one-person radio news department, anchoring the very early morning news and often covering events late into the evening. She was soon noticed by a reporter from WSGW while working in the field. He referred her to WSGW's General Manager, who invited her to discuss a reporting job at that station. Six months after starting in radio news, Ann became a reporter and anchor at WSGW, Newsradio 790, where she worked for 17 years and further developed her skills as a reporter, writer, editor and anchor. An ownership change at WSGW eliminated her position as Assistant News Director in 2000. Ann went on to be hired as an Assignment Editor in television news, at WEYI, NBC 25. She had been working there for five years, when new owners at that



ANN TURPIN WILLIAMS

station again left her unemployed. By that time, WSGW was also under new ownership, and she returned there as Assistant News Director in 2005, with a promotion to News Director in 2011.

During her career, Ann received numerous awards from the Michigan Associated Press, Michigan Association of Broadcasters, Detroit Press Club Foundation, The Michigan Education Association and the National Association of Black Journalists. She also served on

the Michigan Associated Press Media Editors Board for 8 years, including two years as president. An unexpected turn in her career came a few years before retirement, when Ann began filling in as co-host on WSGW's long-running Listen to the Mrs. weekday radio show. She later became permanent co-host for two years, also taping weekly segments that appeared on WNEM TV 5, prior to the show being taken off the air in 2020.



## CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

## + COMMUNITY

**Continued from pg 2, An ordinary woman**

harmonica and surprised the world with his voice singing gospel music. That little blind boy that Voncile prayed for was Little Stevie Wonder.

Voncile fell in love with Gospel music. She organized her children to form a church choir. It wasn't long before she noticed that her middle son Tyrone had a powerful voice that stirred the church every time he sang. He would sing from his head to his toes. The boy could sing! Her entrepreneurial anointing began to flow, as she had visions of a male chorus group of her own. She brought him out as lead and placed her sons (Jeff, Paul, Bryant) and grandsons (Willie-Maurice, Marlow, and Leon-Noel) behind him as a backup. She named them The Bowen Gospel Singers. They were a hit! They were soon being requested across the country. She served as their manager. They sang at churches, conventions, concert halls, and arenas with many of the greatest names in Gospel Music of the time: The Winans, The Hawkins, Shirley Caesar, and The Mighty Clouds of Joy. She was an entertainment mom-ager before they'd officially coined the term.

The demands of mothering ten children (John, Jr, Patricia, Dorothy, Geraldine, Elaine, Paul, Tyrone, Jeff, Brian, and Stacey) soon eclipsed her desire for entertainment success. She retired from managing the group but vowed that her offspring would do great things. That was the prayer of this ordinary woman.

Mother Voncile Bowen represents a time when ordinary women managed extraordinary things! In fact, it was their "ordinariness" that made them extraordinary! No acclaim, no fans, no fame. They were ordinary women who understood full well that the limitations of their time would not permit them to be great. However, they sacrificed their dreams and passions for those generations to come. Today we celebrate Mother Voncile Bowen and countless other "ordinary" women who nurtured and guarded our Saginaw Community.

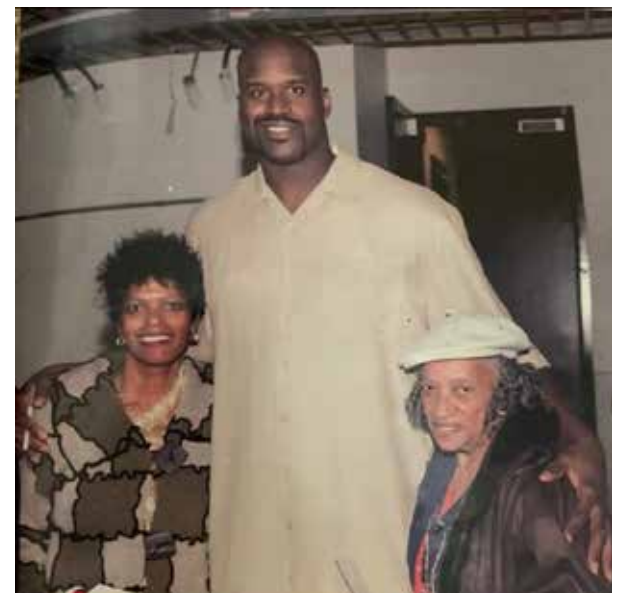
Mother Voncile Bowen's prayers never lost their power. In 2001, Voncile prayed for her grandson, Jason Richardson and he became the 5th Draft pick for The Golden State Warriors (NBA standout and two-time, Back-to-back Slam Dunk Champion). She became known as "Grandma" in



the NBA. She prayed and God answered. Here are some more of the fruits of this ordinary woman's prayers: John Bowen, Sr. (son) – Standout athlete (baseball), semi-professional tennis player, Patricia Prescott (daughter) - Licensed Barber, Minister, Dorothy Burns (daughter) – Pastor, Willie Maurice Prescott (grandson) – Elder, Master Sales Executive, Jeffrey Bowen (son) – Executive Managing Officer Boeing/General Motors, Elder, Jeffrey Bowen, II (grandson) – Executive Financial Investment Manager, Barry Merkerson (nephew) – Attorney, Paul Bowen (son) – Career Military US Army Special Staff Sergeant, International Pastor, S. Epatha Merkerson (niece) – daughter of sister-in-love the beloved Ann Merkerson of Detroit, MI, a film, stage, and television actor, received numerous high-profile accolades for her work, including an Emmy Award, a Golden Globe Award, a Screen Actors Guild Award, four NAACP Image Awards, two Obie Awards and two Tony Award nominations, Elaine Richardson-Cook (daughter) – Entrepreneur, Owner of Elite Divas, Author (Before Sun Rise), Geraldine Walker (Daughter) – Entrepreneur, owner of Sparkle Creations, Tyrone A. Bowen, Sr. (son) – Singer, Songwriter, lead and backup singer for Gladys Knight, Domonique (DAB The Ink) Bowen (grandson) – Executive Realtor, Brian Bowen, Sr. (Son) – Entrepreneur, Inventor, Charles Woodson (great-great Nephew) – Highly decorated NFL Hall of Famer

Cornerback, Odell (OJ) Walker (grandson) – Writer, Rapper, Entrepreneur, Owner King Beard & Company, Brian (Tug) Bowen (grandson) - an American professional basketball player for the Iowa Wolves of the NBA G League, Kareem J. Bowen (grandson) – Pastor, Former NBA Business Manager, Radio Personality (Straight Talk/Kiss WTLZ and United Shades of Gray/WSGW/WJOL-Illinois), Author, Entrepreneur, Community Advocate, Creator of The Man Up Forum which forged partnerships with President Obama's White, Walmart, Best Buy, Microsoft, and other global brands. Noel L. Burns (grandson) – Entrepreneur, Restaurateur, owner of The Rite Spot Restaurant, Candace Burns (great-granddaughter) - Candace Burns News Anchorwoman KPRC Channel 2 Houston, Trameka Rogers – Entrepreneur, Baker, owner of Heavenly Cakes Bakery, Dymond Perry (granddaughter) – Entrepreneur, owner Diar Diar Clothing Boutique, Eva Bowen -Dynamic and Accomplished Publicist, Strategist, Former TV Producer, Journalist, Oon-Air TV Lifestyle Presenter in the Greater Phoenix Area, Tyson Mitchell (great-nephew) – Corporate/Tax Attorney, Brittany Burns (great-granddaughter) – Medical Doctor, and so many others. This ordinary woman prayed, and God answered with extraordinary results.

We celebrate Mother Voncile Bowen and all the ordinary women who have nurtured, cared for, protected, and loved us extraordinarily. You are Women's History.



COURTESY PHOTOS



+ COMMUNITY

# HBA Home Show features building projects from local area high school students

Join us at The Home Show for a special Student Showcase featuring building projects from local area high school students! Throughout the weekend of March 18th and 19th, guests to The Home Builders Association of Saginaw Home Show can view student projects and vote for their favorite. The student or group with the most vote will win a special prize.

With the Student Showcase, the HBA Saginaw hopes to encourage students to be the next generation of building industry professionals to move the industry forward through growth, development, and innovation.

On Saturday, March 18th, guests to The Home Show can also see a live student build at 2pm. This live build showcases area middle school students as they work on a project with the supervision of area builders.



The Student Showcase and Live Build is possible thanks to our wonderful and generous sponsors: Carter Lumber, Dow Credit Union, and Designers' Touch Decorating.

High school students wishing to participate in the Student Showcase should call the HBA Saginaw office at 989-793-1120.

The Home Show will take place Saturday, March 18 from 9a until 7p, and Sunday, March 19 from 11a until 5p. The Home Show is the best event to see your dream home become a reality. Don't forget to enter the St. Paddy's Day Pot of Gold Raffle – to win \$500 – and seek out the many other prizes and offers our exhibitors will have.

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

Multicultural Academic Student Services seeks to promote a campus community that fosters the holistic development of multicultural students by providing support for their academic goals, while expressing genuine care for their personal development and well-being, advocating on their behalf and encouraging the full use of all university resources.

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

Simply put.....MASS is your home away from home.

**MULTICULTURAL ACADEMIC STUDENT SERVICES**  
CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

*Celebrate • Educate • Advocate • Activate*

**“Coming together is a beginning. Working together is progress. Growing together is success!”**

@MASS\_CMU  
@mass\_cmu  
facebook.com/CMUMASS

*Learn more about the Multicultural Academic Student Services office today!*

**Multicultural Academic Student Services (MASS)**  
103 E Preston St., Suite 112  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859  
Phone: 989.774.3945  
Fax: 989.774.1376  
Email: mass@cmich.edu

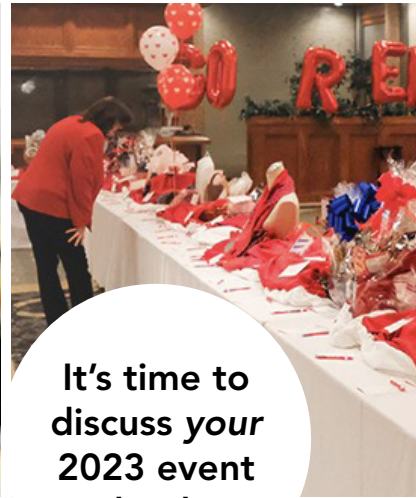
CMU is an AA/EO institution, providing equal opportunity to all persons, including minorities, females, veterans and individuals with disabilities (see cmich.edu/ocrie).



### Business & community events *beyond* compare.

When you choose HORIZONS, our team will customize the details for your business function to fit your unique needs and budget. Your event coordinator will be with you from start to finish, helping plan for every eventuality, and your personal banquet manager will be on hand during the event to ensure its success.

Get in touch with one of our event coordinators today!



It's time to discuss your 2023 event calendar!



**HORIZONS**  
ART OF HOSPITALITY

HORIZONS Conference Center  
6200 State Street | Saginaw, Michigan

(989) 799-4122  
inquiry@horizonscenter.com

horizonscenter.com @horizonscenter  
@HORIZONSconfctr @HORIZONSOGLBR

wildfire credit union

*it's about you... always*

www.wildfirecu.org

NCUA

The City of Saginaw and the Police Department and The Newbirthbc will Provide Professional Services and Oversight Staffing for the Violence Interrupter Program (VIP)

We're Searching for 3 Positions!! 1 VIP Executive Director - 40hrs a Week! 2 VIP Case Managers Part-time 20hrs a Week!! If Anyone is Interested Please Contact Bishop Larry Camel 989-798-6405 or Email LDCWIN@aol.com

Louise McKinnie  
Master Hairstylist/Owner

Tues.-Fri. 10-6  
Sat. 9-4

**Reflections of "U" Too**  
Salon, Barber Shop, Nails & Boutique  
Poochie's Enterprises Inc.

2103 Sheridan Ave.  
Saginaw, MI 48601  
(989) 753-4600  
louloumck@aol.com

Specialist in Healthy Hair



## + COMMUNITY

## CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

# Highlighting Delta College Faculty

## Dr. Loyce Brown



As the Director of Human Resources, Dr. Loyce Brown collaborates across Delta College to recommend, develop, and implement remedies to restore productive and healthy interactions amongst employees, customers, and students. In keeping with her family's tradition, Loyce is a public servant. She has served as a Board Member of the Power of Dad—a non-profit organization developed and dedicated to assisting young men without a positive male role model and for one of the local advocacy centers. Loyce has also volunteered her time and talents to coach new professionals and deliver educational and motivational talks and training to many local non-profit groups and organizations.

## Dr. Angela K. Guy-Lee



Angela K. Guy-Lee graduated from Wellesley College in Wellesley, MA, where she majored in American Studies and minored in African Studies. Angela received her second bachelor's degree in sociology from Eastern Michigan University. She earned a master's degree in sociology and a PhD in anthropology from Wayne State University. Her academic interests have consistently focused on race, gender, and health. Angela began teaching anthropology and sociology courses at Delta College in 2018. Angela and Curt (husband) have three daughters. Their oldest daughter, Austin, is a PhD candidate at the Univer-

sity of Pennsylvania. Sydney graduated from Spelman College in 2022 and will begin the MPH program at Emory University in September of 2023. Madison is a senior in high school.

## Dr. Kimberly Klein



Dr. Kimberly Klein is a Professor of Political Science at Delta College with extensive experience engaging students in civic action. She co-chairs Delta's involvement in The Democracy Commitment national initiative. This plan of action hosts numerous on-campus and community events, resulting in students becoming empowered to make a difference in their lives and the lives of others. In 2021, she received the League of Innovations Excellence award, recognizing exceptional teaching and leadership. Also, in 2021, she published an essay, Thinking Civically: Delta College Champions Community Engagement, under the title, Enhancing Performance: A Best Practices Guide for Innovations in Community Colleges. Klein earned her doctorate in Community College Leadership from Ferris State University in 2013.

## Dr. Lisa Lawrason



Lisa Lawrason, PhD, is a political science professor at Delta College, where she has championed civic empowerment of young adults for the past 16 years. Under her leadership, Delta College

has earned numerous national awards for voter engagement, including the 2020 All-In Campus Democracy Challenge for Best Action Plan (of community college nationwide) and highest voter registration (of community colleges in Michigan). Through the efforts of The Democracy Commitment at Delta College – and initiative she co-chairs – the college has earned the distinction of a “Voter-Friendly Campus” in 2018 and 2020. Her research on the effects of civic engagement experiences on young adults has garnered Delta College recognition in publications such as Diversity & Democracy, the Journal of Political Science Education and Community Colleges for Democracy. She is a co-recipient of the Laughner Award for Creative Change at Delta College and the recipient of the Daniel M. Asquino Civic Leadership Award, a national distinction. Her proudest moments, however, are empowering her students to create positive change on problems they identify in their communities. Speaking of the experience in her classroom in the fall 2021 semester, one student said, “I learned my voice I once felt was unheard can be heard.”

## Dr. Elsa Olvera



Dr. Elsa Olvera is an educational leader and performance coach with experience in grant writing, teaching, establishing partnerships in the community and student services. She has a strong commitment to student success with support tied to academic, co-curricular, and student learning outcomes at the K-12 and post-secondary level. She

**CONTINUES ON LB PG 17,  
DELTA COLLEGE**



## + COMMUNITY

## Continued from pg 16, Delta College

has over twenty years of administrative experience in education working with first-generation and marginalized populations demonstrating commitment to promote and enhance diversity and inclusion. Dr. Olvera is the Director for Educational Opportunity Center motivating students to enroll in college by providing one stop wrap around services at Delta College's Downtown Saginaw Center. She has assisted Delta with the MiBest project, MI Community College Association, providing resources to assist college leaders with student success initiatives, retention, and graduation for non-traditional students. An American Council on Education (ACE) Women's Network Institutional Representative at Delta supporting the national system of networks with the goal of advancing and supporting women in higher education. And Vice President Board Member for Saginaw Covenant Academy, an alternative high school servicing and advocating on behalf of youth to raise awareness that all children have the right to a pertinent education. Dr. Olvera is committed

to education, understands "one size does not fit all" and is prepared to go above and beyond to meet the needs of our students and surrounding community.

### Monica Hernandez-Alaniz



Monica Hernandez-Alaniz, M.A.L.L.P.C, AN Associate Counselor at Delta College, has served in many capacities at Delta and the community since 1999. She received her first masters in Professional Counseling from Central Michigan University in December 2009 and her 2nd Masters in Family Life Education/Family Studies from Western Michigan University in August 2012. In addition, she has received her Bachelor's degree in Family Life

Education from Spring Arbor University in 1998 and her Associates degree from Delta in 1995.

Monica has been involved in various community outreach events; has worked with youth in residential treatment centers, and has been involved in coordinating the Delta College Miss Mona Shelter Drive for the local women shelters in the Great Lakes Bay Region for 5 years. In addition, she has served on numerous community boards including Girl Scouts of Mitten Bay, League of United Latin American Citizens (L.U.L.A.C Saginaw Chapter), and Advocates of Latino Student Advancement of Michigan Education (A.L.S.A.M.E)

Monica is a proud single mother to two beautiful children, Racquel and Bryan. They are her inspiration to strive for excellence and motivation of helping others. She lives by the mantra: Its' ok to fail, but always learn from your mistakes and never allow your failures to dictate your future." As Caesar Chavez once said "Si Se Puede! Yes, We Can!"

## Highlighting Annie Boensch, Mayor Pro-Tem



ANNIE BOENSCH

Annie Boensch is a lifelong resident whose family lineage traces back to the 1800s in Saginaw's history. Her ancestor, Matthias Stoker, laid some of the city's first sidewalks. Another ancestor, Fred Dustin, is listed in the Saginaw Hall of Fame for his renowned contributions to the field of Archeological study. Herein lies the framework of Annie Boensch's devotion to the building and preservation of the city of Saginaw.

As a mother of two children, Annie has a dedicated interest in the continued reinvention of Saginaw and has served on the Downtown Development Authority and various other city boards and commissions. In 2010 Annie was elected Democratic Precinct Delegate and has experience working on various local and state legislative campaigns. Annie works closely with the public in retail, where she enjoys her daily interaction with the varied and diverse people of Saginaw.

Annie has served on City Council since 2011, and is grateful for the opportunity to serve the citizens of Saginaw. Annie has a strong love for the city and is proud to call it home.

CELEBRATING  
WOMEN'S  
HISTORY MONTH

# *Spectacular* weddings. Surprisingly affordable.

Your special day deserves to be everything you've always imagined. At HORIZONS, our event coordinators take care of all of the details to help plan the wedding of your dreams.

**Contact us today for a personalized consultation and tour.**

**Come see us at  
The Great Bridal Expo  
in Frankenmuth  
Sunday, January 29  
[uptownnorthmain.com](http://uptownnorthmain.com)**

Photo by: Ashley Nicole Photography

**HORIZONS**  
ART OF HOSPITALITY

HORIZONS Conference Center  
6200 State Street | Saginaw, Michigan

(989) 799-4122  
[weddings@horizonscenter.com](mailto:weddings@horizonscenter.com)

[horizonscenter.com](http://horizonscenter.com) [@horizonscenter](https://www.pinterest.com/horizonscenter)  
[@HORIZONSconfctr](https://www.facebook.com/HORIZONSconfctr) [@horizonsweddings](https://www.instagram.com/horizonsweddings)



# Home Equity Line of Credit

Put the equity in your home to work for you with  
a special introductory rate as low as

## 3.99%<sup>APR\*</sup>

**AND NO CLOSING COSTS\*\* OR APPLICATION FEE!**

Call us today at 888.288.3261 or online  
[TeamOneCU.org](https://TeamOneCU.org) to learn more about the  
benefits of a Home Equity Line of Credit or  
any of our other products.



\*APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Loan rate listed represents our best rate and is subject to change. Loan rates are based on credit approval. Not all will qualify for the best rate. Valid for HELOCs approved up to December 31, 2022. Special rate valid until June 30, 2023.  
\*\*\$50 annual fee, \$300 early closing fee if the HELOC is closed within 36 months. See Team One for details.



## What's for snacking, Della?

BY DOLORESE FALL-GRANT

Maybe instead of betting money on all the March Madness basketball action, fans could wager who gets the last one of these! Sort of like the last slice of pizza, but these are better.

### Guyanese cheese straws

#### Ingredients

- 12 oz. (3 sticks) margarine
- 1 lb. flour (3 1/3 cups)
- Big bag, either 12 or 16 oz., grated extra sharp cheese
- 1/2 teaspoon mustard
- 1/2 teaspoon hot powder pepper
- 2 egg yolk for binding

#### Instructions

Rub margarine into flour.  
Add grated cheese, mustard, and pepper  
Add egg yolks to complete your dough  
Roll out about quarter-inch thick and cut into thin strips, of form rings  
Bake at 400 degrees for 7 to 10 minutes

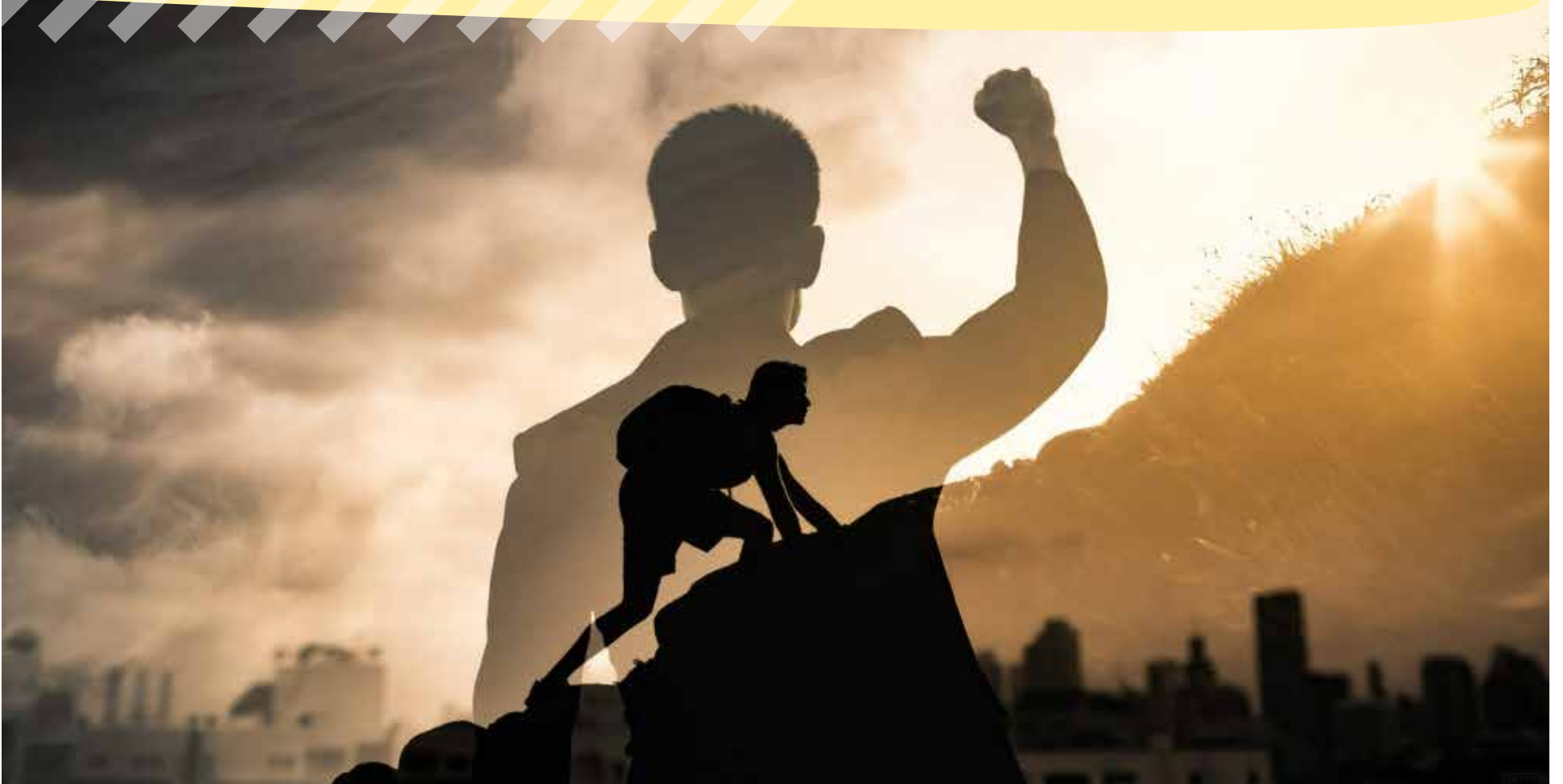


For your first batch, you may wish to experiment with a few at a time for various shapes and sizes



## + COMMUNITY

## IN MY HUMBLE OPINION



COURTESY PHOTO

# We shall continue to overcome



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

We Shall Overcome, as you probably know, stems from a gospel song that became the anthem of the American Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and '60s. What you might not know, which I didn't, is that it stems from more than one song, or who first sang it as a protest song. According to an article published by The Kennedy Center about the story behind the song, part of the melody is related to two European songs from the

1700s, "Prayer of the Sicilian Mariners" and "O Sanctissima". The lyrics stem from a gospel hymn published in 1901 by Methodist minister and composer Reverend Dr. Charles Albert Tindley called "I'll Overcome Some Day".

The next thing I learned surprised me even more. The modern version of the song, which was initially titled, "We Will Overcome" was first sung as a protest song by striking tobacco workers led by Lucille Simmons during the 1945-1946 Charleston Cigar Factory strike in South Carolina. Rev. Tindley's hymn was a favorite song of Simmons, "[but] she gave the song a powerful sense of solidarity by changing the 'I' into 'We' as they sang together", per the Kennedy Center article. I thought "wow, this could be one of my relatives".

In 1947, Simmons brought the song to Highlander Folk School in Tennessee, which was an adult education school

that trained union organizers, and later civil rights workers. She shared it with other labor activists there, including the school's music director, Zilphia Horton. Horton learned the song and later taught it to the nationally known folk singer, Pete Seeger who revised the lyrics "We will" to "We shall".

Ten years later, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was invited to the school's 25th anniversary as the keynote speaker. Part of the program included Pete Seeger who played his banjo and sang the song he had learned at Highlander, and he led the audience in singing it. When Dr. King left the event, he found himself humming the melody in the car, and he said to his

**CONTINUES ON PG 21,  
OVERCOME**



## Continued from pg 20, Overcome

companions, “there’s something about that song that haunts you.”

Today, with the issues facing African American history and literature, we need to harness that same spirit of solidarity that confronted one of the most complex and controversial issues in history, race relations, and achieved civil rights and voting rights for Black citizens. In doing so, we shall continue to overcome in my humble opinion.

This past February marked the first Black History Month since the “Individual Freedom Act” was made law in Florida in July 2022. The act is based largely on an earlier proposal for the “Stop WOKE” act. The law limits and prohibits how public schools and businesses discuss race and gender, and it has been challenged by a number of advocacy groups, including the ACLU of Florida and the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. In November, Chief U.S. district judge Mark Walker issued a temporary injunction preventing the law from being enforced in higher education.

In an email to Teen Vogue the ACLU of Florida stated, “The law will result in Black history being taught solely from a misleading, historically inaccurate perspective that excludes the voices and perspectives of many Black Americans. For example, new school lessons about Rosa Parks remove references to the Jim Crow laws that required segregation and even to the fact that Rosa Parks was told to move to the back of the bus because of her race. These changes minimize the role of systemic racism and segregation, instead making it sound like isolated bad actions.” This was published by Teen Vogue on 09 February 2023.

In the same publication, it mentions that Governor DeSantis’ administration created the law in an effort to stop “woke indoctrination” and ban the teaching of critical race theory (CRT) in K-12 schools and all public colleges and universities. CRT introduces a perspective of certain groups that are excluded in most current educational settings. It starts with the assumption that race is a social construct and that racism is systemic and not just

an individual prejudice. CRT is intended to equip students to deal with challenging issues like the legacy of slavery and racism by broadening the scope of their awareness and beginning discussions that aim to promote the dismantling of structural inequality.

Florida is not alone in censoring or outright banning Black history and culture in the classroom. According to an article by BET entitled, “Banning Black History” published on 17 February 2023, “At last count, 44 states have started debating whether to introduce bills that would limit what schools can teach about race, [and] American history”. Apparently, CRT is the thing that intimidates them the most. Six states in addition to Florida have laws that ban all or parts of Black history and they include Arkansas, Idaho, Iowa, New Hampshire, Oklahoma, and Tennessee. Sixteen other states have bans in progress.

The number one way to combat this dangerous campaign is to vote for different leaders, but that opportunity only happens on a four-year cycle, with the exception of New Hampshire and Vermont where governors serve two-year terms. In the meantime, African American athletes can think twice about playing for public universities in those states mentioned above. Without the many great Black athletes, those schools would not be as competitive and millions in revenue would be lost from television advertising. Americans should also stop spending tourist dollars in those states that are trying to suppress the fullness of our history, and faith-based leaders and corporations should push back as well.

Other ways are non-violent protests which are most effective in large numbers. It is a force for transformation, justice, and championing human rights. Mahatma Gandhi once said, “Non-violence is the greatest force at the disposal of mankind.” One of Martin Luther King, Jr.’s six principles of nonviolence is, “Nonviolence seeks to defeat injustice, not people. Nonviolence recognizes that evildoers are also victims and are not evil people. The nonviolent resister seeks to

defeat evil, not people.”

I also encourage parents to find alternative forms of education about Black history, like visiting museums, watching documentaries, and reading books with their children. When I was growing up I was fortunate that my father, God rest his soul, taught me about Black history at home, because it was not taught at school, K-12. The first time I was ever taught Black history in a formal setting was at university and that was in the one elective course available.

To bring it full circle, the arts, and in particular, music has always been a powerful tool to raise awareness and motivation for social change. During the ‘60s, music played an essential role in bolstering courage, inspiring participation, and fostering a sense of community that crossed color lines and cultural barriers. Popular White singers like Bob Dylan and Joan Baez used their names and musical talents to support the Civil Rights Movement. Even “We Shall Overcome” became a protest song among freedom movements around the world being sung by protesters in China, parts of Eastern Europe, India, Ireland, Lebanon, and South Korea.

In my brief, but fairly thorough research about Lucille Simmons, I could not verify her lineage and whether or not we are actually related. Nevertheless, I feel in my spirit that we are, and my wife, who is Zulu, told me in her culture if people share the same last name they are considered to be family. Therefore, I am honored to be related, by blood or just by last name, to one of the creators of this powerful struggle song, “We Shall Overcome”, which was deemed one of the most important American songs of the 20th century by National Public Radio.

Let us rally around this clarion call to overcome the current attack on Black culture, history, and literature. In my humble opinion, we shall continue to overcome, but only if we take action now individually and collectively. A luta continua (the struggle continues)!



## + COMMUNITY

## THE BIRD'S EYE VIEW

By JEROME BUCKLEY, II

## Never give up

*"The race is not given to the swift, nor to the strong. But to the one who endures until the end"*

- God

I recently had a dream that I was walking all alone on a dirt path that seemed to have no end. To the right of this path, I saw a very large cemetery and even though fear and helplessness tried to overtake me, I knew in my spirit that something amazing was awaiting me just on the other side of this dreadful place. The cemetery was a stone's throw away from where I stood but it was if an invisible fence or barrier prevented me from veering over into it. I was compelled to continue this lonely dirt path that seemed to have no end. As I walked, I remember crying and wanting to give up but something kept urging me to advance and I could not resist. The urge was magnetic, hypnotizing. Comparable to how a moth is mindlessly drawn to a flame that would ultimately cause its demise. I just couldn't give up. At a certain point, I came to a cross street of some sort that was on the left side of the path. There was a street sign present, but I couldn't make out the words. I recall looking down the cross street and noticing that my visibility was limited to only a few feet and darkness overtook the road. I turned away and continued walking. I could see parts of my life replaying like a movie. I saw my now adult children as adolescents, and it brought tears to my eyes. I saw remnants of my two failed marriages and all the mistakes that

were made. Regret was playing out in real time, and I did not appreciate the conjuring of these memories. I was beginning to feel my frustration boil over and I got angry at myself for allowing this "urge" to convince me to press forward and I began to scream and curse the predicament I had gotten into. I walked for what seemed like an eternity. With every fiber of my being, I felt the desperation and hopelessness of the gloomy cemetery on the right of my path. I tried not to look. I was broken, tired and I just wished I would die. I cried out to God but when the tears stopped flowing, I was still in the same place. Walking but felling stuck. Almost like marching in time. My legs were weary, and my breathing was labored. I was starting to get dizzy and thought I was hallucinating at what was before me. Out of nowhere, I had stumbled upon a paved road running directly through the middle of the cemetery! It was well lit and welcoming. It was my way out. It was my second chance. I took that road, and it led me directly through the gloomy cemetery to the other side, where I had never given up hope that something amazing was waiting on me. God was with me the whole time! Even when I called out to him and thought my cries went unanswered. There have been many times in my life that I have failed, been disappointed, hurt, backstabbed, you name it. One thing is for certain, I will NEVER take my eyes off of my creator. Just like I know He loves and protects me, you are an heir to the same rights. Just believe, press toward the mark, and NEVER GIVE UP!

## SPEEDBUMPS

What on Earth am I running from?

Is it hot?

Do I got a gun?

Though my legs move in stride,  
I seem to stutter step  
I reach inside for inner strength,  
But I have nothin' left.

I have this pain in my brain,  
It got me goin' insane  
I know the LORD is on my side,  
But demons call my name.

What do I do?  
I got a heavy cross on my shoulders,  
Do I stand?  
Or fall screaming help me Jehovah?

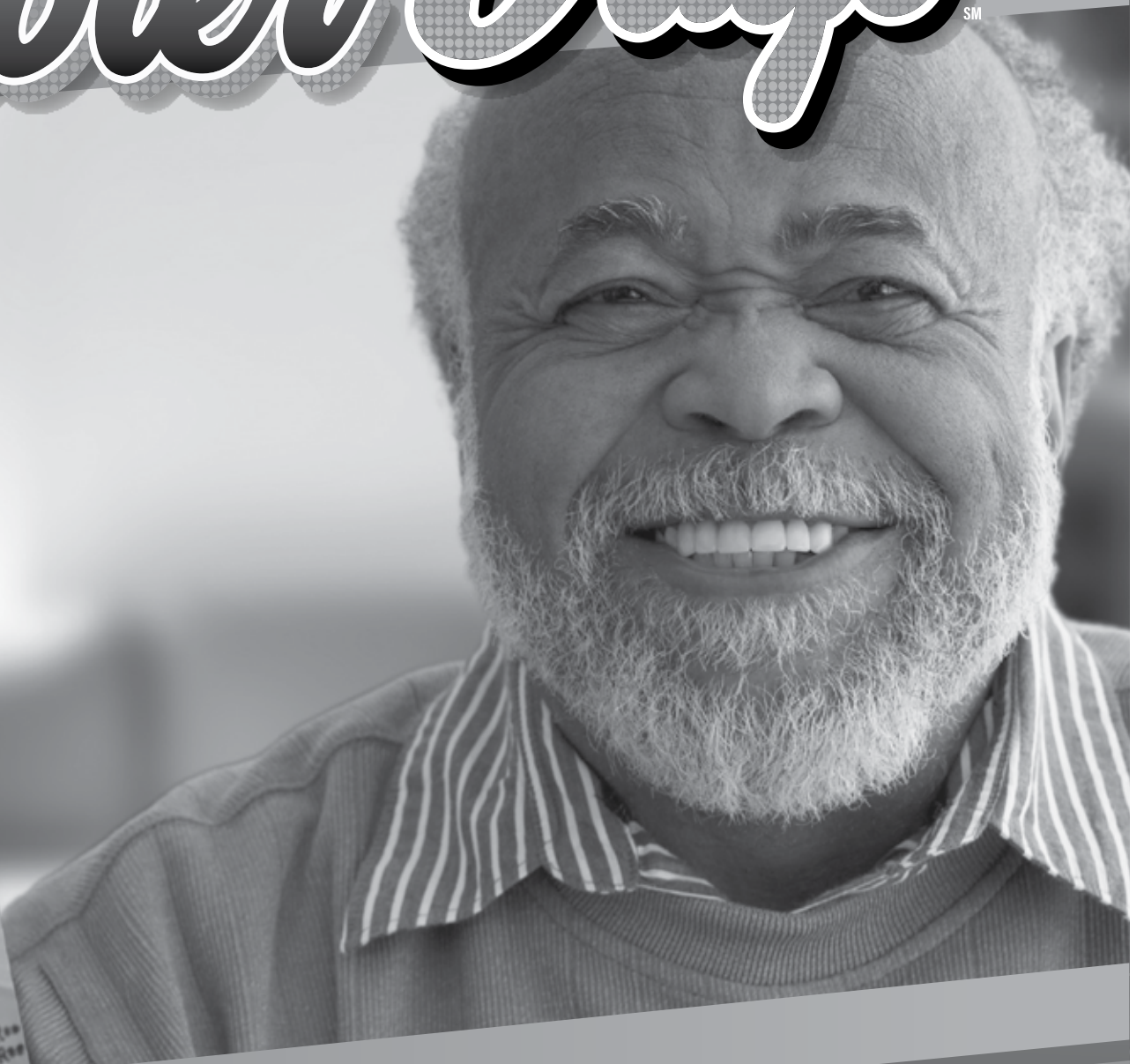
My only option is to continue to be a man and stand,  
All the problems in my life, put in God's hands;  
And although tough times continue to be,  
I can happen to life or life can happen to me.



# Daily 3&4™

# Double Days™

**A Chance To  
DOUBLE Your  
Box & 2-Way  
Prizes!**



Now for a limited time in March, random Daily 3&4 Box and 2-Way tickets will print with a **DOUBLER** message. Lucky players with these tickets will **double** their winnings. Drawings are twice a day, seven days a week at 12:59 pm and 7:29 pm. Visit your favorite Lottery retailer and play Daily 3&4 today. What's your number?



APPLIES TO BOX AND 2-WAY BETS ONLY. STRAIGHT, 1-OFF AND WHEEL BETS ARE EXCLUDED FROM THIS PROMOTION. Odds of winning: Daily 3: Straight: 1 in 1,000; 3-Way Box: 1 in 333; 6-Way Box: 1 in 167; 1-Off Straight: 1 in 1,000; 1-Off One Digit: 1 in 167. Daily 4: Straight: 1 in 10,000; 4-Way Box: 1 in 2,500; 6-Way Box: 1 in 1,666; 12-Way Box: 1 in 833; 24-Way Box: 1 in 416; 1-Off Straight: 1 in 10,000; 1-Off One Digit: 1 in 1,250. Knowing your limits is always the best bet. Call the Michigan Problem Gambling Helpline for confidential help at 1-800-270-7117.







**Sammy Coleman**  
Sales Professional

## New & Preowned Vehicles



711 S. Euclid Ave. | Bay City, MI 48706

### Contact Sammy

Cell: (989) 714-6868

Office: (989) 460-0325

sammy.coleman@labadieauto.com

*"Your transportation Ambassador." - Sammy*

# THE BEST SERVICE & SELECTION IN SAGINAW

CHEVROLET EQUINOX



TOYOTA TACOMA



### VISIT OUR QUICK LUBE

MON-FRI: 8AM-6PM

SAT: 8AM-2PM

FOR YOUR OIL CHANGE  
& TIRE ROTATION



SCAN TO VIST  
OUR WEBSITE

It's *Simpler* at SERRA



4200 BAY RD, SAGINAW, MI 48603

**CALL OR TEXT: (989) 790-0800**







**HEALTHCARE**  
— FOR EVERYONE! —

In-Person and  
Telehealth Visits  
GreatLakesBayHealth.org

Great Lakes Bay  
Health Centers

989-921-5377

We Change Lives Because We Care



**Book a tour  
today!**

*Spectacular* weddings.  
Surprisingly affordable.

Your special day deserves to be everything you've always imagined. At HORIZONS, our experienced coordinators take care of all of the details to help plan the wedding of your dreams.

Complimentary to all weddings at HORIZONS:

- › Professional event planning
- › Beautifully accented ballrooms
- › White knee-length linen and napkins
- › China, silver and stemware
- › Wedding cake cutting and serving
- › Ballroom setup and cleanup
- › On-site security and ample free parking

**More than a venue ... your planning partner.**

HORIZONS is much more than a venue ... we're your dream wedding planning partner. Our experienced in-house hospitality professionals will create an exceptional experience for you and your guests – with stunning linen and floral designs, our renowned cuisine and exceptional service.

Whether you envision an intimate affair or an elaborate, themed event, we've done it all. Our unique, versatile facility features a dozen distinct venues spread over 40,000 square feet – offering infinite configurations to take you and your guests from ceremony to cocktail hour to the reception. Off-site catering is also available.

**HORIZONS**  
ART OF HOSPITALITY

HORIZONS Conference Center  
6200 State Street | Saginaw, Michigan

(989) 799-4122  
weddings@horizonscenter.com

horizonscenter.com @horizonscenter  
@HORIZONSconfctr @horizonsweddings



## + COMMUNITY

# Legacy of Theodore Roethke to be celebrated throughout Great Lakes Bay Region

## SVSU sponsors triennial Theodore Roethke Poetry & Arts Festival

Saginaw native and Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Theodore Roethke will be celebrated during the Theodore Roethke Poetry and Arts Festival, a triennial celebration of one of the 20th century's most influential poets. Sponsored by Saginaw Valley State University, the festival runs from Friday, March 17-Wednesday, March 22 and includes a variety of events and activities throughout the Great Lakes Bay Region.

"We're delighted to reinstate the Festival," said Carlos Ramet, associate dean of SVSU's College of Arts and Behavioral Sciences and chair of the 2023 Festival. "We postponed it because of COVID-19, but we're back with a full range of activities celebrating the arts in our area and promoting the work of Theodore Roethke, Saginaw's native son."

One of the highlights of the Festival is the Theodore Roethke Memorial Poetry Prize award ceremony honoring Patricia Jabbeh Wesley, winner of the 2022 Roethke Memorial Prize for Poetry. This prestigious national prize has been awarded every three years since 1968. It is given for a book published in the previous three years that has made an important contribution to American poetry. The ceremony will be held on Tuesday, March 21 at 7 p.m. in SVSU's Rhea Miller Recital Hall.

SVSU is partnering with businesses and organizations in the region to bring a rich lineup of events, listed below. All are free of charge and open to the public, funded in part by a grant from the Michigan Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

- Poetry Slam, Friday, March 17 from 6:30 p.m.-9 p.m. at the Marshall Fredericks Sculpture Museum at SVSU – Open to adults, college students and high school students with cash prizes to the top three winners. Live music and refreshments will round out the evening.
- Roethke House Tours and Poetry



PATRICIA JABBEH WESLEY, WINNER OF THE 2022 ROETHKE MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR POETRY

Reading, Saturday, March 18 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Theodore Roethke Home Museum, 1805 Gratiot, Saginaw – Guided tours of Roethke's childhood home, followed by the River Junction Poets reading original work and discussing Roethke's influence on the region's longest-standing poetry group.

- "Ted (Roethke) Talk and Brew," Sunday, March 19 from 6 p.m.-8 p.m. at Oracle Brewing, 122 N. Michigan Avenue, Saginaw – Local writer Jeff Vande Zande will speak on "Theodore Roethke: Facing the Dragon: How Roethke Epitomizes Nietzsche's Journey of the Artist." Oracle Brewing will debut three special craft beers related to Roethke's poems, which will be available for purchase.
- Concert Band Tribute to Roethke, Monday, March 20 at 7:30 p.m.

at First Presbyterian Church, 805 Center Avenue, Bay City – SVSU's Concert Band and the Bay City Western Concert Band will perform in this historic church, which was built in 1893.

- Theodore Roethke Memorial Poetry Prize Ceremony, Tuesday, March 21 at 7 p.m. in SVSU's Rhea Miller Recital Hall – Recipient Patricia Jabbeh Wesley will read selections from the collection of poems "Praise Song for My Children: New and Collected Poems," which won her this award, as well as sign books following the event.
- Jazz and Poetry at the Live Oak, Wednesday, March 22 from 7 p.m.-9 p.m. at Live Oak Coffeehouse, 711 Ashman Street, Midland – The SVSU Jazz Combo and creative writing students will perform.

Throughout the month of March, the Zahnow Library at SVSU will feature a Roethke Display in the Roberta Allen Reading Room, located on the fourth floor of the library. In addition, the SVSU Writing Center will sponsor a "Write Like Roethke" poetry contest for area high school students, with prizes to be presented at an event later in the month.

For more information about the Roethke Festival or any of the events listed here, visit [www.svsu.edu/roethke](http://www.svsu.edu/roethke) or contact Carlos Ramet ([ramet@svsu.edu](mailto:ramet@svsu.edu); 989-964-4042).

*Theodore Roethke*  
POETRY & ARTS FESTIVAL



+ COMMUNITY

# SPOTLIGHT // Inez Hinton Summerall



## Celebrating 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday!

When born, we don't get to choose our parents, but my brother and I are fortunate to have Inez as ours. Although she was a single mother, she fostered an environment of love and respect for us. While growing up, as with many of my friends we shared our mothers. This made us have many places in the Projects we could call home.

For 54 years, she has provided me guidance, support, and encouragement in becoming the person I am today. Therefore, I would like to recognize her during Women's History Month.

CELEBRATING  
WOMEN'S  
HISTORY MONTH

WOMEN OF COLORS

30<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY Celebration

SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 2023  
DOORS OPEN - 6:00 PM  
RITA'S CAFÉ  
(110 N Washington Ave, Saginaw, MI)

\$50 PER PERSON | \$75 PER COUPLE

PLATED DINNER // LIVE SILENT AUCTION  
ENTERTAINMENT FROM LEVEL JACKSON & CHET ALLEN

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT KRISTI PHILLIPS AT 989-988-2083 OR KRIS4WOC@GMAIL.COM  
OR VICKI HILL AT 989-737-8179 OR GOSPELLADYVH@YAHOO.COM

SAVE THE DATE SAVE THE DATE SAVE THE DATE SAVE THE DATE

THE TEMPLE THEATRE  
AT THE SHARREN PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

AN ORIGINAL STAGE PLAY BY GLECIA WRIGHT TATUM  
WITH CO-WRITERS TWANNIE GRAY AND ARIEL POMPEY

The Family Car

SEEING, HEARING, AND UNPACKING MENTAL HEALTH IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY

SAT. MAY 27 5:00PM

TEMPLE THEATRE  
201 N WASHINGTON AVE.  
SAGINAW, MI 48607

PRESENTED BY EVOC PRODUCTIONS WOC SBI MPH



**MAY 6**  
2023

HEALTHFORMATION 4 U PRESENTS

6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
*Smooth*  
JAZZ-N-R&B

BENEFIT CONCERT

*James Owens*  
**FEATURING**  
**STERLING BROOKS, JIM**  
**& NIKELL JOHNSON**

DOW EVENT CENTER  
303 JOHNSON ST, SAGINAW, MI 48607

MUSIC BY DJ SWEET RAY

DOORS OPEN | HORS D'OEUVRES | SHOW STARTS  
@ 4PM | @ 5PM | @ 6PM

TICKETS \$50 IN ADVANCE | \$55 AT THE DOOR | CASH BAR  
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL (989) 272-1772 | (989)992-5309



+ COMMUNITY

# STARS begins jobs route to Hemlock Semiconductor

This week STARS rolled out a route to Hemlock Semiconductor called the HSC Silicon Express. This route will include round-trip service to the STARS Plaza (615 Johnson St.), the Ricker Center in Buena Vista Township, the Walmart parking lot on State Street, ending at Hemlock Semiconductor. This service is available to the public for \$5 each way. Hemlock Semiconductor assists employees with bus fare costs for the route. The route departs from STARS at 6AM and 6PM 7 days a week.

“STARS is excited to start this new Public/Private partnership with such a large and regionally important employer. HSC is yet another example of a company which stands to benefit greatly by partnering with local transit services,” said Glenn Steffens, STARS Executive Director.

Those interested in more information on STARS jobs transportation should visit <https://saginaw-stars.com/services/jobs/>. Hemlock Semiconductor employees should reach out to the HSC HR Department for more information about employee discounts.



JAMIE FORBES, STARS DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

## This winter... KEEP YOUR COVID-19 VACCINES UP TO DATE »



Help protect yourself, your family and the community by keeping your COVID-19 and flu vaccines up to date. Let's enjoy all the togetherness we can this winter. Find a vaccine location near you at [Michigan.gov/COVIDvaccine](https://Michigan.gov/COVIDvaccine).



[Michigan.gov/COVIDvaccine](https://Michigan.gov/COVIDvaccine)



# + FAITH BASED



MINISTRY WITHOUT WALLS - 3783 MANNION RD, SAGINAW, MI 48603

## Join us at Ministry Without Walls

By **PASTOR JOHN DUNN**  
MINISTRY WITHOUT WALLS

Ministry Without Walls recently returned to our building at 3783 Mannion Road with a new vision. The last couple of years, the direction of the world, and the pandemic starting with Covid have all certainly become eye openers. After seeking God for His direction and His will, we are expanding our vision. Today, we clearly understand that the Church is our community.

The assignment that God has given to us is to “Break Down Walls”, bringing both spiritual and those who work in the community together.

Our vision is for Ministry Without Walls to be:

- A place where the Spirit, Soul and Body becomes whole
- A place where resources are available to those in need
- A place where church, volunteers

and community professionals work together to accomplish the will of God.

- A place where love flows, and judgement is absent
- A place where privacy is protected
- A place where safety is a priority
- A place where the whole person is important

Our ongoing teaching and seminars will include:

- Outreach
- Growing Spiritually
- Mental Health
- Healthy Living
- Finding Purpose
- Money Matters
- Entrepreneurship
- Boys to Men
- Women of Wisdom
- Discipleship

We understand that the mission field is not a country far away. It is around the corner, down the street, in our community. We also know that the vision given to us will not be easy to accomplish. We know that we can not do it alone. It will take a “village”.

We are committing our resources, time, talents, people, and our connections to tear down the “walls of the church”.

If our vision is connecting with you on some level and it appeals to you and sounds like something you might want to be a part of, we invite you to join us at 11:00 on Sundays to meet us personally so we can answer any questions you might have.

God bless You, come experience for yourself, Join us!!

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



## + FAITH BASED



LECRAE

## Grammy Award winning artist Lecrae will bring his 'Church Clothes' Tour to Saginaw

Rapper Lecrae, known for lyrics that reflect his Christian faith, will be hitting the road with the 'Church Clothes' tour, paying homage to his mixtape series which spanned nearly a decade. The Grammy Award-winner took to Instagram on Monday (January 16) to

announce the 25-date tour, which will stop in Saginaw on Tuesday, May 2 at 7:00 pm at the Dow Event Center.

Before the Grammys, before releasing the #1 Album in the country (Anomaly, 2014), Lecrae dropped arguably

the most seminal project in his catalog, Church Clothes. XXL said, "It's impressive how he's able to deliver a message without being preachy", calling Church Clothes "a prime example of the reach of hip-hop music and culture." The people spoke even louder downloading the project 100,000 times in 48 hours. People rocked with the mixtape because it was the first time someone planted their feet simultaneously in the streets and the Church without compromising.

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

On Church Clothes 4, the mission remains the same for rapper, CEO, New York Times Best-Selling author, investor, and activist: To represent faith and Hip-Hop with an Unashamed edge that challenges the Church to live up to its potential and encourages the Culture to reconcile with its Savior. In this entry, Lecrae gives his listeners an opportunity to see what it looks like to reconstruct a vision of faith despite the large-scale shift toward mistrust and disillusionment with Christianity in the wake of America's racial tensions.

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

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



## + FAITH BASED

## CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

MICHIGAN BANNER  
SERMONETTE SERIES

By **MINISTER CAROLYN CARTER  
TOWNSEL**

There was a little boy traveling on a plane that was experiencing violent turbulence. As the plane was going up and down, nose diving, and rocking and reeling from side to side the young boy was playing and having fun. The lady sitting next to the young boy was terrified and could not understand why and how the boy could be acting this way, when the possibility of crashing was a reality. After observing the young boy for a while, she could not take it any longer saying, "little boy please stop it!" Don't you understand son, we are in danger of crashing and dying, how can you continue to play and have fun, and act as if nothing is happening?" The young boy looking up at the lady with sincere eyes and putting his hand on the lady's hand saying, "Ma'am my father is the pilot." The young boy knew his father was the pilot, and he had no doubt that his father was in control, therefore everything was under control.

In our text we find Elijah entering into a fiery trial. At the beginning of the chapter, he is appearing before King Ahab, predicting that a drought and famine would come upon the Northern Kingdom of Israel. It was under King Ahab's

## What Will You Do?

*And the ravens brought him bread and flesh in the morning and bread and flesh in the evening; and he drank of the brook. And it came to pass after a while, that the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land*

**1 Kings 17:6-7 KJV**

leadership that the people became wicked and worshipped in the spirit of idolatry, turning completely away from God, serving Baal. Baal was thought to be the god of fertility-the god of the dew and rain, and of the sunlight. All the ingredients that caused the crops to grow and flourish. This allowed the men not only to be productive and fruitful but to provide abundance to their lives.

After Elijah told King Ahab, "As the Lord God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word" (KJV), God instructs Elijah to go and hideout at the brook Cherith because King Ahab would try to hunt him down. At Cherith, God sent ravens that brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, Elijah drank fresh water from the brook. Despite being hunted by King Ahab, Elijah trusted God and watched as He took care of him and his needs day in and day out. Philippians 4: 19 states, "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Elijah witnesses the Power, Provision, and Protection of God.

However, a shift occurs the ravens stopped bringing the bread and meat and the brook of Cherith dries up. The ques-

tions that I am sure besieged Elijah are the same questions that assaults us as Believers when our brooks dry up What will you do if your job cuts your hours and now you have more bills than you do money? What will you do if you get sick and you can't seem to get well? What will you do when you can't track God, will you still trust Him?

You see it is easy to say, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not to your own understanding but in all thine ways acknowledge him, and he will direct thy path," when you see Him bringing the bread. But what will you do when your brook dries up -will you be like the young boy and keep doing what you were doing before the meat stopped coming and the brook dried up, because you know that your Father is in control, therefore everything is under control? Will you wait and see the Power, Provision and Protection of God?

The primary question is simple and remains the same, "What Will You Do?"

Blessings To All

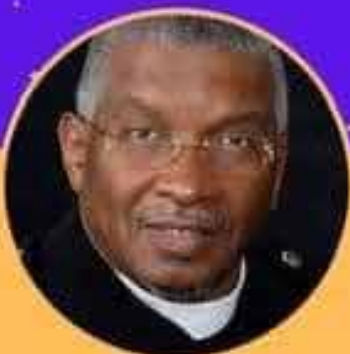




GREATER RENAISSANCE  
BAPTIST CHURCH  
*Showing Love and Sharing Truth*

1535 S WARREN AVE SAGINAW, MI 48601

# MARCH MADNESS REVIVAL 2023



**BISHOP LARRY CAMEL**  
New Birth Baptist  
Cathedral  
March 8th



**PASTOR ERNEST REED**  
Greater Solid Rock  
Baptist Church  
March 15th



**PASTOR TERRY RANDOLPH**  
Gethsemane Missionary  
Baptist Church  
March 22nd



**PASTOR SAMUEL BERRY III**  
Macedonia Missionary  
Baptist Church  
March 29th



**HOST PASTOR  
CHARLES W LEVY SR.**

**EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT  
IN MARCH STARTING  
MARCH 8TH  
6:30PM**



# + CHURCH DIRECTORY

**B**



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



**Bethlehem Temple Church of the Apostolic Faith**  
District Elder Curtis E. Johnson, Pastor  
3521 Webber St  
Saginaw, Michigan 48601  
989-755-8381



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

**C**

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

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



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

**F**



**Faith Harvest Church**  
Bishop Ronald E. Chipp  
1734 N. Mason  
Saginaw, MI 48602  
989-799-4200  
faithharvestministry.org  
office@faithharvestministry.org



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

**G**



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

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

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

**H**



**Holy Communion Gospel Center**  
Pastor Charlene Washington  
1245 E. Genesee  
Saginaw, MI 48607  
989-752-3993

**J**



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

**L**

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

**M**

**Messiah Missionary Baptist Church**  
Pastor Otis Washington  
2615 Williamson Road  
Saginaw, MI 48601  
989-777-2636  
Fax: 989-777-2640  
messiahmbc@att.net  
messiahsag.org



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



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

**N**



**New Beginnings Deliverance Ministry**  
Pastor Roy & Evelyn Baldwin  
2609 E. Genesee  
Saginaw, MI 48601  
989-777-8272  
Pastorbaldwin@charter.net



**New Birth Missionary Baptist**  
Pastor Larry D. Camel  
3121 Sheridan  
Saginaw, Michigan  
989-327-1755



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



**New Hope Missionary Baptist Church**  
Rev. Dr. Willie F. Casey  
1721 Tuscola Street  
Saginaw, MI 48601  
989-753-7600



**New Life Baptist Ministries**  
Dr. Craig Tatum  
1401 Janes Ave.  
Saginaw, MI 48601  
989-753-1151  
newlifelcm.com

**New Mt. Calvary Baptist Church**

Pastor Alfred "AJ" Harris Jr.  
3610 Russel St.  
Saginaw, MI 48601  
989-754-0801

**P**

**Prince of Peace Baptist Church**

Pastor Robert C. Corley Jr.  
825 North 24th Street  
Saginaw, MI 48601  
989-754-2841

**R**

**Radiant Church of God**

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



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

**S**



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



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

**T**



**Transforming Life Ministries**  
Pastor William Brown  
523 Hayden  
Saginaw, MI 48601  
989-754-9573



**True Vine Baptist Church**  
Pastor Paul E. Broaddus  
2930 Janes Street  
Saginaw, MI 48601  
989-752-0751

**U**



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

**V**



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

**W**



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

**Z**



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



## + FUNDRAISING GOODTIMES

# Define the roles or someone else will!

## Part one of a two-part series

By MEL AND PEARL SHAW

*The board of Just Our Luck Youth Services is not happy with the organization's fundraising results. The board chair pounds her fist on the table, declaring, "I am sick and tired of hearing excuses every year. We never meet our fundraising goals. Something has to be done." Trying to distract from where she believes the conversation may be headed the executive director interrupts with, "we would hit our goals if the board would give and fundraise. You can't expect staff to do everything." Quickly the board chair retorts, "Well then, why do we have staff?" Oh, this is going to be a round of finger pointing. Where will it end, and what will most benefit the young people served by Just Our Luck.*

If you've been part of a discussion such as the above, you know that changing an organization's fundraising program can be contentious, and too often isn't addressed until reality cannot be avoided. When you come to this crossroads, we suggest taking positive action: put your fundraising program

under new management. This shifts the focus from who is responsible for what has happened in the past, to what can be done differently going forward. Get out of the same-old-same-old nonprofit fundraising mode and treat your fundraising shop as if it is a new, proud, startup ready to take on the world. Organize your fundraising as you would organize the launch of a new business. Make promises to your donors and funders – and get busy fulfilling them.

Here are things your fundraising team should be able to deliver. The most important is accessibility. You simply cannot be too busy to communicate with current or prospective donors and funders. Be accessible and intelligent: know what you are raising money for and why. Add the following to the mix: accurate data management, an engaged and committed board, higher skilled administrators and staff, and increased transparency and accountability. Prioritize creating a

donor friendly environment that offers donors and funders more ways to invest and become engaged. Create up-to-the-moment special events that are new and fun – no more of the same old chicken dinner and silent auction. Double up on that creativity and pour it into your stewardship program. Banish the days of a thank you letter and gift receipt followed by another solicitation. Engage the young talent that surrounds your organization and ask for their opinions on how to make donors and funders feel valued and appreciated. Draw in creatives and those who are focused on the bottom line. Then share the responsibility for implementing what you agree on. Importantly, you may need to seek out an individual with a higher level of fundraising and fund development experience to run your program. Someone who can both look at the big picture and advance the details. When things are going as planned you need to take corrective action. It just might be that you need to operate under new management.



Copyright 2022 – Mel and Pearl Shaw

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



# + HEALTH



FLIGHTCARE

## Ascension St. Mary's and Covenant HealthCare to partner for air emergency transportation

Starting March 8, 2023, Ascension St. Mary's and Covenant HealthCare will begin a partnership for emergency air medical transportation services provided by FlightCare.

Covenant is entering a preferred provider agreement with Ascension St. Mary's FlightCare, which is operated by MedTrans, a member of the Global Medical Response family.

"It's the patients who truly benefit from this healthcare partnership," said Beth Charlton, president and CEO of Covenant HealthCare. "Air transportation is a key component in responding to emergency medical situations. Our mission is to ensure services are available to patients who need them. Initiating this local collaboration made sense as we continue to fulfill

our mission."

FlightCare was established in 1987 and is located at Ascension St. Mary's Hospital in Saginaw. FlightCare transports patients throughout Michigan's lower peninsula and is dedicated to providing quality patient care to critically ill or injured individuals from accident scenes and interhospital transport. The team consists of pilots, flight nurses, flight paramedics, mechanics and more. For infants with critical needs, the Covenant Transport Team lends their expertise to support the safe transfers to the Covenant Regional Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (RNICU). The Covenant RNICU is a 55-bed unit, certified to provide the highest level of care for babies in mid to northern Michigan.

"FlightCare has flown thousands of

patients over the course of their years of dedicated service, led by a highly-skilled medical team, some who have been with the program since inception," said Stephanie Duggan, MD, FACEP, FAAPL, CPE, regional president and CEO, Mid/North Region, Ascension Michigan. "Highly trained and experienced in critical care and advanced lifesaving skills, the FlightCare team is committed to providing each patient with the care they need, when they need it."

Ascension St. Mary's and Covenant have a history of partnering for local emergency medical services. In 1994, the two organizations established Mobile Medical Response (MMR) in an effort to provide a high-performance emergency medical service system in Saginaw County.





# Expert rehabilitation is CLOSE AT HAND.



IAN GONZALES, MD



BABATUNDE BABALOLA, MD



KEVIN ORLOSKI, MD



MARGARET SNOW, MD



JENNIFER WEEKES, MD



M. SOHAIL JILANI, MD

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

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

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



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



## + EDUCATION



HERITAGE HIGH SCHOOL

# Saginaw Township Community Schools places bond proposal on May ballot

Saginaw Township, MI – The Saginaw Township Community Schools Board of Education has approved placing a \$242.9 million bond proposal on the May 2, 2023 ballot. If approved by voters, the bond will finance improvements at all school facilities. The bond will also provide revenue for demolishing three aging circular classroom pods and constructing a new Academic and Arts facility at Heritage High School. The gyms, pool, and cafeteria will remain at Heritage High School.

The comprehensive bond proposal is designed to make necessary upgrades and renovations across the school district, that exceed the scope and funds of our sinking fund. The bond proposal requires a 5.75 mill tax increase which will cost the average Saginaw Township Community School District homeowner in a \$100,000 home with a taxable value of \$50,000, \$287.50 per year, or \$23.95 per month. Some homeowners will pay more, but most homeowners will pay less than \$23.95 per month.

District Superintendent Bruce Martin said, “the proposed updates to school facilities focus on enhancing student safety

and security while upgrading and renovating school facilities, which average 64 years old. The updates will meet the learning needs of today’s students and keep us competitive with school facilities in neighboring school districts.”

“A big piece of this bond proposal relates to Heritage High School,” Martin added. “Three existing instructional pods will be replaced with a new Academic and Arts facility. This new facility will be attached to the fourth pod, which includes a gym, pool, cafeteria, and CTE classrooms. This change will improve the current learning environment while enhancing school security.”

Board of Education President Arik Smith said the bond proposal addresses aging infrastructure across the school district and ensures that the facilities are in good physical condition. “Voter approval of the bond proposal will help protect the community’s investment in our schools,” he said. “Our community must invest now to upgrade school facilities, provide modern security and safety and continue Saginaw Township Schools’ reputation for providing quality education programs.”

Projects in the bond proposal focus on three main areas:

1. Upgrading safety and security;
2. Improving the learning environment; and,
3. Updating interior and exterior facility infrastructure (roofs, boilers, HVAC, site, etc.).

Superintendent Martin said that the school district will share information about the bond proposal through direct mailings, social media, the school district website, community and staff presentations, and the news media to ensure that the community is well-informed and that answers are provided to questions people have.

Information about the bond proposal is available now on the school district’s website and will be updated continually through election day. Martin invites all residents to visit [www.stcs.org](http://www.stcs.org) and click on Bond Election Info or to contact him directly at [dbmartin@stcs.org](mailto:dbmartin@stcs.org) with any questions.



## + EDUCATION



THE MICHIGAN LEARNING CHANNEL

# Resources for parents and teachers



By **CRAIG DOUGLAS**  
RETIRED EDUCATOR

In researching Black History Month profiles, two themes were in common with most of them: Resilience and Education.

First, some may call resilience, “grit.” Whatever term you choose, it is evident when people are strong and push through situations that are hard or have obstacles in front of them. Fears are replaced by courage. Resilient people are fearless!

Second, education played a huge role in turning lives, as well. Some battled through elementary or high school. Most were college graduates. Some earned Ph.D. degrees.

That brings me to today’s topic: Resources for Parents and Teachers. To be informed and educated, you need resourc-

es. Students can find them on their own, and in many cases parents and grandparents want to know where they can for resources, as well.

Where can you go for resources to help young people in your lives? The truth is, there are MANY, MANY resources. The best resources are at the child’s school. Educators who know the child are best suited to help him/her.

Other resources are readily available and often are free through the web. May I offer two suggestions in this essay that I believe are reliable and can apply to a wide range of students of all ages and abilities.

1. For specific subjects, consider The Michigan Learning Channel.(MLC)

Evolving from the pandemic out of the need to help students who were isolated at home, the MLC has sustained for two years now and has emerged as a free resource for parents and teachers of children of all ages.

Take for example, writing. What if your student could use a boost in writing

book reports, essays, or other narratives, the MLC has a resource for you to consider sharing. I viewed part of a video is that is on MLC’s website online and available cost-free; it is called, MLC Free Write. It offers coaching points to young writers that help with overcoming ‘writer’s block.’. Practical advice is offered in nearly all of the videos stored at the MLC website that can help a student with specific subjects.

2. For social- emotion support, consider a couple of options. “

Where can parents and grandparents for help and support? Consider that parenting comes along with no owner’s manual!

The MLC has support for social-emotional learning, too. Again, all students, wide range of ages.

Another resource I discovered on the web is the website, [firstthingsfirst.org](http://firstthingsfirst.org).

The website is full of videos and information; much of it geared toward parents and archived for future review. Cost-free.

An example that caught my eye was “children learn through play.” It describes why playtime matters (e.g., playtime sparks imagination and creativity) and how playtime puts an emphasis on the actions of “learning” instead of content. Coming from the pandemic, this resonates with me.

The point of all if this is, we need to find the right “tools” for our collective “tool box.” These are resources to be used when needed, to help promote learning. The combination of “resilience” and “education” fuels learning, and a “grow mindset” is the result we are seeking, for learners of all ages.

#### Resources:

<https://thinktv.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/historically-black-colleges-and-universities-video/making-black-america-through-the-grapevine/>

<https://www.michiganlearning.org/show/free-writes/>

<https://www.firstthingsfirst.org/resources/children-learn-through-play/#>



# WILD about Pre-K!

## Register Now

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

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

**Saginaw Public Schools**

# SAGINAW PUBLIC SCHOOLS MEET PRESIDENT BIDEN

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



## + 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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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

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



+ 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.

Is Your Child A Future

# Hall of Fame Inductee?

## SAGINAW PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**Enrolling Superstars Today!**





John Decker  
Arthur Hill High School

Charles Rogers  
Saginaw High School

Ron Rummel  
Arthur Hill High School

LaMarr Woodley  
Saginaw High School

CONGRATULATIONS!

SAGINAW COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2022

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



**Keeping Kids First**  
#saginaWesome  
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](http://www.saginawheadstart.org)

Source: [www.saginawheadstart.org](http://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***

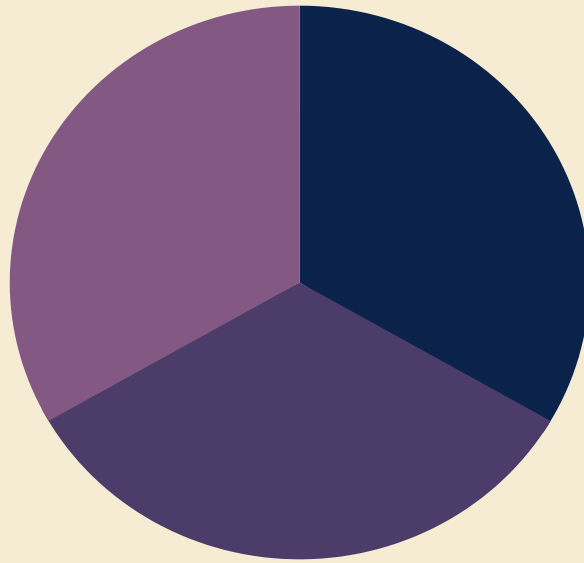
**HEAD START & EARLY HEAD START**

**FREE PRE-SCHOOL**  
Enrollments for 0 to 5 year olds  
Call: **752-2193** or  
Visit the Claytor Head Start Building at:  
3200 Perkins  
Saginaw, MI 48601  
**REGISTER NOW!**  
Saginaw County Free Pre-School Partnership

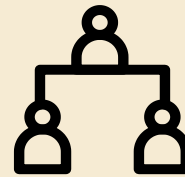


# MI Tri-Share CHILD CARE

State of Michigan  
33.3%



Employer  
33.3%



Cost of child  
care is  
shared

Employee  
33.3%

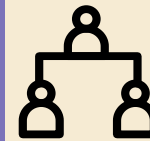


*The MI Tri-Share Pilot (Tri-Share) is an innovative public/private partnership that shares the cost of child care equally between employers, employees, and the state of Michigan.*

## 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

# CLASS OF 2036 KINDERGARTEN

## SIGN UP!

### SITES:

- Arthur Eddy 399-4300
- Herig 399-4350
- Kempton 399-4600
- Loomis 399-4750
- Merrill Park 399-4800
- Chester Miller 399-4850
- Rouse 399-5000
- Stone 399-5100
- Zilwaukee 399-5200

Handley 399-4250\*

*\*ATTEND 3/24 TO SCHEDULE TESTING  
OR CALL TO SCHEDULE TESTING*

**PLAN TO ATTEND THE SIGN UP  
(3/24) OR USE THE  
QR CODE TO REGISTER**



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





## + SPORTS



LIONEL BALDWIN

# Baldwin makes historic run as state qualifier

By HASANI ALI

Around this time of the year, basketball tends to be the main sport that get covered during tournament time.

However, Lionel Baldwin is embracing his own March Madness on the mat, instead of on the court.

Baldwin has quite the accomplishments in his wrestling career at Arthur Hill. He is a district champion, a regional runner-up and a two-time state qualifier.

The Lumberjacks 285-pounder won his opening bout, a 5-1 decision over Holt's Connor Crepeau, before dropping his quarterfinal to De La Salle's Gjon Nikollaj on a 6-5 decision. But in the consolation bracket he bounced back, picking up a 7-2 decision against Monroe's Adrian Rincon to stay in the hunt for third place. He can finish no worse than eighth.

Baldwin won two matches at the state tournament this season.

"I mean, that was amazing," Lionel Baldwin said. "I got my first win at state last year, I was really confident that this time I came through. God's been on me, glory be to God for that match. I can't do it without Him, it was great."

Arthur Hill's head coach Angel Rodriguez recaps the experience at the tournament and what Baldwin's first win meant to the program.

"The first one felt good, we felt we were getting to our attacks," he said. "The second one kind of got out of our hands, but it's OK. Now we've got to go place. Now we've got to climb the ladder. Our goal was top-two, so we've got to place top-three now."

The legacy doesn't stop with Lionel. His younger brother qualified for states at

165 pounds.

"He's been a big influence on me. He's the reason I started wrestling," Michael Baldwin said. "He convinced me to wrestle and I can't wait to watch his last bouts."

The young Baldwin sophomore lost the first-round bout to Jack Nilson from Utica on a 6-2 decision. However, the sophomore regrouped and won the first consolation match with a 6-2 decision over Grand Haven's Bode Wilson.

Michael Baldwin did fall short in his second consolation match, however, a 7-5 loss to Holland West Ottawa's Owen Foster, in which Foster jumped out to an early 4-1 lead and held on despite Baldwin scoring some late points.

Feeling like he was so far behind, Baldwin reacted quickly and took some risks to help him get back in the match.

"I wanted to go for a big move," he said. "That was a mistake, I should have just kept scoring points. It felt like a pretty big lead he had on me."

Michael Baldwin is only in his second year of wrestling. Last year, he didn't make it out of districts, but he has made it passed districts and was able to make it on the big stage.

"He's going to be a great kid to build around," Rodriguez said. "I've got two more years with him. I've got some kids that are going to build with him, so it's going to be great for the program."

Upon beating Wilson, Michael Baldwin joined his brother in being victorious at Ford Field.

"I told my coach I was going to start pulling the trigger, shooting the first 30 seconds of the first period," he said. "My offense was working, my big move worked for me."



## + SPORTS



COURTESY PHOTO

## Henry Ford College enjoys sweet district 3-Peat

By HASANI ALI

Everything was all fun and games for Henry Ford College on the way to securing its third district championship against Hocking College at Mott Community College.

Head Coach Chris Shepard did the best he could to keep his team composed during the second half, but couldn't help to crack a few smiles and join in on the fun as the Hawks won in convincing fashion, 89-73.

"Hocking did a better job in the second half, but it seemed like in the first half they just missed shots that they would normally make," Shepard said, who was also named NJCAA District B Coach of the Year. "They put some pressure on us, but we're normally pretty good on defense once we're locked in."

Henry Ford was in control the entire game.

The Hawks took a commanding 49-29 lead in the first half. Turnovers were

costly for the Hawks (Hocking College), as Henry Ford was able to convert 20 points off turnovers.

In the one-sided performance, the largest lead for Henry Ford was 22 points.

Assistant coach James Payne is familiar with this territory, but understands that there's still plenty of basketball to play and that the team is looking to get past the Elite Eight after not being successful the past two seasons.

"We need to remain focused," he said. "We've don't this before, which is great, but we need to stay locked in. For us to get over this hump, we have our point guard (Jackson) back as our commander and he was injured last season. With him leading the team, we should be able to get past the Elite Eight."

Sophomore Chris Peoples opened up the second half with a putback layup as the Hawks (Hocking College) trails, 51-35.

Sophomore D'Quarion Cole hits the lofty layup, draws the foul and converts

the and-one, 56-39 as Henry Ford is working to maintain their lead.

With 16 minutes remaining, Sophomore Trevell Adams drains a 3-pointer from far, narrowing the gap for Hocking College, 58-45.

Henry Ford switched to a 2-3 zone to challenge Hocking College to score from outside of the paint.

Later in the game, there was a four-minute stretch where both teams went scoreless. The six-foot-eight freshman Dennis Asoro put an end to that drought with an easy putback bucket off the glass after a rebound.

The Hawks (Hocking College) still found themselves trailing, 67-53.

There was a major opportunity to take over the game, but shots did not fall for Hocking College. After gaining five possessions off of Henry Ford turnovers, Hocking College attempted five 3-pointers, missed all five.

Henry Ford called a 30-second timeout to regroup with 7:17 remaining in the game.

Asoro scored four consecutive points for Hocking College, one on a putback and the other came from an alley-oop.

Hocking College still in the fight, 75-62 with 5:13 remaining in the game.

Freshman Caleb Bates put a nail in the coffin with hitting three 3-pointers as Hocking College tried to stay in the game.

"We just needed to make a good run," said redshirted freshman Curtis Jackson. "We made our run early as we knew that they weren't going to give up, but we put it on them enough where they had to play from behind."

Sophomore and tourney MVP D'Juan Seal led the game with 30 points for Henry Ford. Cole chipped in with 14 points and two players added 12, Bates and sophomore Tyler Mack.

Adams led the way for Hocking College with 14 points. Asoro added 12.



## + SPORTS



COURTESY PHOTO

## Lady Lakers earns first regional championship

By HASANI ALI

Head coach Lance Maney can finally relax as the pressure has been lifted after a 69-65 win over Lakeland College for the regional championship.

“Feels pretty good being a champion,” he said. “I felt the pressure when we got into districts, and they wanted to go nationals. It’s awesome to have a plan and to watch your plan be executed all the way through.”

As the Lady Lakers are heading into the national tournament, Maney and his team simply wants to enjoy the process and take on more competition.

It seems like everything is coming together as some of his players actually recruited him to become the coach at Mid Michigan, having existing relationships with the players as either a trainer or a coach of their AAU team.

“I feel like the pressure is off now,” he said. “We made it to nationals and now people are starting to follow the program.

We’re just getting started so we’re setting the bar high early and we’re continuing to set our expectations and we’re exceeding them throughout the season.”

Mid Michigan College were invited to compete for the MCCA State Championship hosted at Mott Community College as they were ranked no. 1 in the MCCA Northern Conference.

The Lady Lakers were trailing at half-time, 32-24. However, an impressive comeback for Lady Lakers put them on top and securing a win over Kalamazoo Valley, 68-57.

Satori Griffin led the way for Mid Michigan College with 16 points, six rebounds, and two steals. Bailey Vissman also chipped in 15 points.

The Lady Lakers met Jackson College as they looked to win their first ever MCCA State Championship.

Six players scored in double digits in the onslaught of Jackson College. Leading the scoring was 21 points by Satori Griffin. Off the bench, Couper Agema scored 18 points. Brooke Brauher scored 13 points

and added 7 rebounds. Olivia Nelson, Bailey Vissman, and Alexys Carlstrom all scored 11 points to round out the double digit scorers.

The Lakers finished the season MCCA Northern Conference Champions, MCCA State Tournament Champions, NCJAA Regional Champions and compiled a record of 25-4 and 13-1 in conference play.

They’ll look to earn a bid in the NJCAA National Tournament when they play Thursday, 3/9 in the first round of the NJCAA Great Lakes District A Tournament.

Maney had high expectations for himself as a coach. He knew most of his players coming in and it took a bit of convincing for the sophomores to buy in, but we wanted the experience to be enjoyable for the players and they build the program.

“I have a unique perspective when it comes to coaching, he said. “I heard the complaints and gripes when it came to the players and their relationships with their coaches. I’m treating this like a Div. 1 program. We had volunteer strength and conditioning coach, but workouts were new to the players. And we also had preseason training, which was more intense than usual. I’m treating them as if they were at CMU or any other program.”

Prior to getting back to practice, Maney is going to meet with his players to check their temperaments as they prepare for Selection Sunday.

“The first thing I’m going to do is check with the team,” he said. “We made it to nationals and now we need to maximize this experience and leave nothing on the table.”



COURTESY PHOTO



## + SPORTS



COURTESY PHOTO

## Trojans advances to regional championship

By HASANI ALI

Saginaw was too big, too fast, too strong.

Though Shepherd had some help down low from their big guys and a few favorable calls from the officials, it didn't stop the Trojans from advancing to the regional finals as they defeat the Bluejays, 47-33.

Head coach Julian Taylor had to keep his team composed as they began to panic as their aggressive play turned into excessive fouls and the basket not being too friendly in the first half.

"We had stopped playing Saginaw basketball," he said. "We've known all

season that we don't get the calls in our favor so we just have to play our game instead stooping down to level of our opponent."

Shepherd started in a 2-3 zone defense immediately.

After a couple of stops, Kam Williams hit a 3-pointer for Shepherd to points the first points on the board.

DaRon Sherrman went on a personal 5-0 run to help tie the game and eventually take a 5-3 Saginaw lead.

The Trojans went a 9-5 run as Shepherd went scoreless in the first quarter for nearly three minutes.

Mitch Walters stepped up for the Bluejays, going on his own personal 5-0 run to close the gap, only to trail 15-10 at

the end of the first quarter.

Shepherd went on their own 7-3 run to start the second quarter, Williams topping it off with a 3-pointer from the right arc to reduce the lead to one, 18-17.

Another 4-0 Shepherd run gave the Bluejays their first lead of the game, ahead 21-18 with 1:30 left in the half.

Saginaw didn't stay down too long.

After sinking a couple a free throws to bring the lead to one, Javarie Holliday sinks a floater with 5 secs to go in the half to give Saginaw the lead, 22-21.

The Trojans jumped out on a 10-3 run in the third quarter. Torrion Stevenson finished the run with a steal and a two-handed jam, keeping Saginaw's lead, 32-24.

Saginaw struggled from behind the arc all night, especially Taelor Lowery. Yet, he finally caught one from the right arc, to start the fourth quarter and the three-ball began to pour down for Saginaw.

D'Laurence Clark sank a three-ball on the following possession.

The Bluejays did scramble to try to make some fast buckets. However, the Trojans ate the majority of the clock and scored a quiet 15 points to seal the win.

Saginaw will face Flint Hamady today at Caro High School for the regional championship. The Hawks defeat Bridgeport in the prior game.

"I told them that our shots are not always going to fall," Taylor said. "We just had to run our offense and be patient. One game you may be hot and all of your shots. The next game may not be same, but we have to play our game regardless."

Taylor also commented on the better defensive display in the second half.

"We played a lot better defense in the second half as we started to close out on their shooters," he said. "We contested their shots and made them put the ball on the floor."





## PICS OF THE WEEK

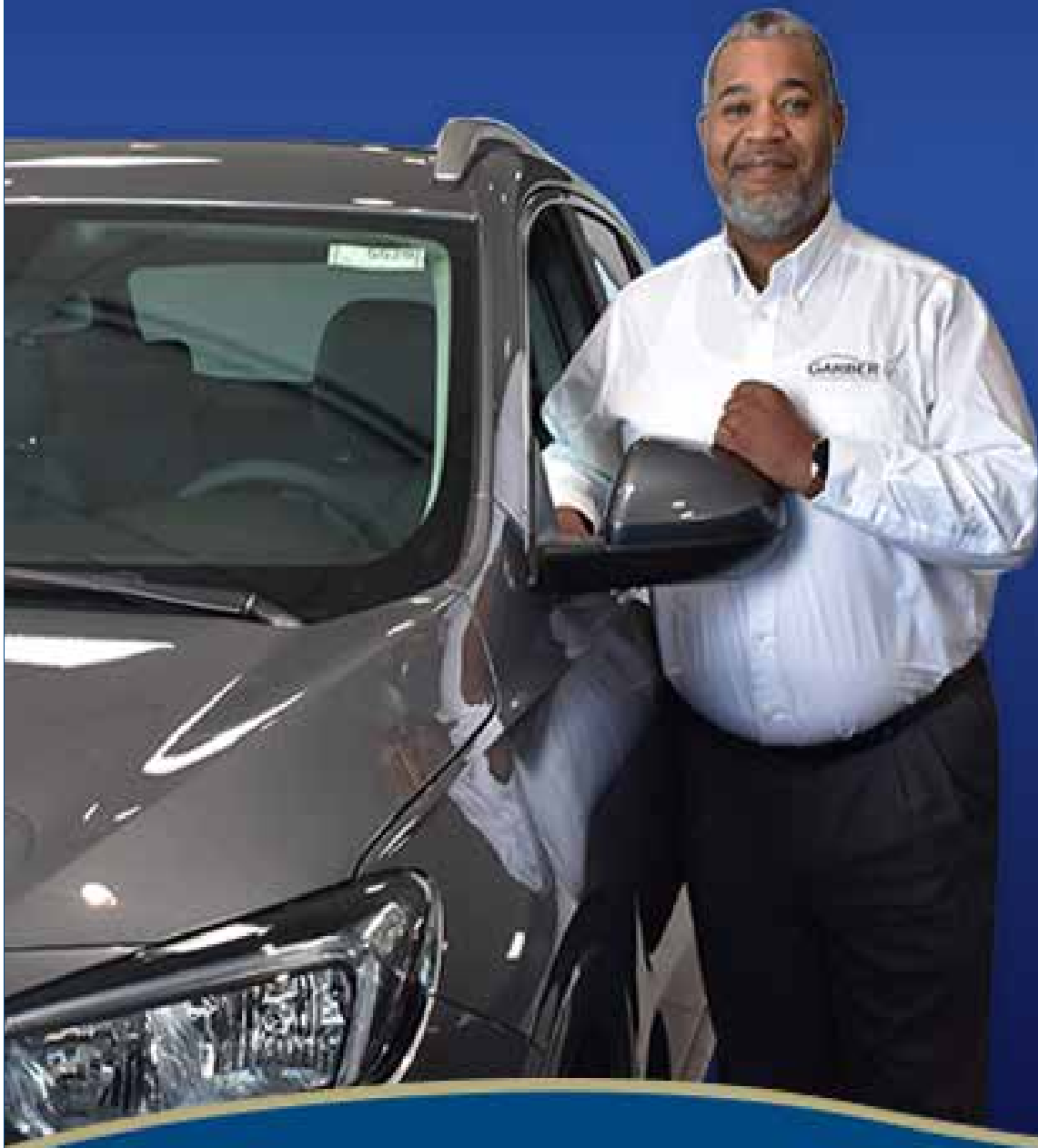
SHS dominated Flint Hamady, 78-58, on March 15 to clinch another regional crown. The Trojans continued their Division 2 tournament run, bouncing back from a 30-point defeat late in the regular season instead of folding their tents.





The Great Lakes Bay Region Does Better With

**GARBER**  
**BUICK SAGINAW**



“When you want a great car or truck come see **The Wright Guy** for the job!”

**John Wright**  
[jwright@garberbuick.com](mailto:jwright@garberbuick.com)  
989-497-4444, ext. 1615  
[GarberBuick.com](http://GarberBuick.com)





**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.***



**SAGINAW VALLEY**  
STATE UNIVERSITY

#WeCardinal

[svsu.edu/opportunity](https://svsu.edu/opportunity)



7400 Bay Road • University Center, MI 48710 • (800) 968-9500 • [admissions@svsu.edu](mailto:admissions@svsu.edu)