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PIC OF THE WEEK
Ben Bailey and Gail Little attend Pastor Marvin Smith retirement celebration

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FEATURED



ARTHUR HILL PRINCIPAL RECEIVES STATEWIDE 'EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION' AWARD

EDUCATION, PG 35

SVSU-Ascension St. Mary's Hospital tuition agreement aims to boost educational opportunities for Ascension associates



COURTESY PHOTO

SAGINAW, MI – Ascension St. Mary's Hospital and Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU) are working together to strengthen the region's workforce and improve quality of patient care by increasing access to educational opportunities.

The two organizations today announced an agreement to offer eligible employees of Ascension St. Mary's Hospital, as well as

Ascension Standish Hospital and Ascension St. Joseph Hospital reduced tuition at SVSU. In addition, they announced a newly restructured Field/Spicer Fellowship in Science and Engineering at SVSU that will further expand opportunities in neurosci-

**CONTINUES ON PG 2,
SVSU-ASCENSION ST. MARY'S**



Dow Credit Union hosts ribbon cutting for Saginaw Branch

COMMUNITY, PG 15



5 Tips to eat well this November

COMMUNITY, PG 26

THE MICHIGAN BANNER IS A
PROUD MEMBER OF:



Cover Story, SVSU-Ascension St. Mary's Hospital

ence research and education.

“SVSU is pleased to partner with Ascension St. Mary's to provide greater access to educational opportunities,” said George Grant Jr, president of SVSU. “Both of our organizations recognize the need for a well-prepared workforce. Through this partnership, Ascension Michigan employees in Saginaw, Standish and Tawas City have the potential to expand and enhance their academic credentials so they can advance in their careers.”

Ascension Michigan's northern region health ministries have more than 2,100 associates providing care at their hospitals and health centers, placing them among the top employers in the Great Lakes Bay Region. Numerous professions serve at Ascension St. Mary's Hospital, Ascension Standish Hospital and Ascension St. Joseph Hospital, including physicians, advanced practice providers, nurses, clinicians, laboratory scientists to business, information technology, facilities management, food and nutrition, among many other fields. These professions align with the state's most in-demand careers as forecast by the State of Michigan. Through its undergraduate, graduate and certification programs, SVSU offers pathways to more than 35 of these “hot jobs.”

“We are excited to partner with SVSU to make educational opportunities even

more accessible to our associates,” said Stephanie Duggan, MD, FACEP, FAAPL, CPE, president and CEO, North Region, Ascension Michigan. “We have embraced SVSU students at Ascension St. Mary's Hospital for decades to complete clinical rotations and gain valuable experience. Many of our leaders attended SVSU to advance their education and achieve higher degrees in medical fields, business and leadership. This opportunity will further enhance access to affordable educational opportunities through SVSU so associates have the ability to advance their careers.”

Ascension offers a tuition reimbursement program to encourage associates to further their professional and technical skills. All eligible full and part-time associates can receive reimbursement for tuition and other eligible school and coursework fees following successful completion of educational courses or degree programs offered through accredited institutions like SVSU. The program provides associates with an opportunity to enhance job performance and satisfaction, and career advancement.

In addition to the tuition agreement, a fellowship program established at SVSU through the generosity of Dr. and Mrs. E. Malcolm Field will promote interdisciplinary work that bridges health sciences, biology, engineering and technology. The

Field/Spicer Fellowship in Science and Engineering will provide funding for a visiting research scientist; fellowships for SVSU faculty and staff; development of academic and research programs such as neuro nursing, neuropsychology and related areas of engineering; and guest lectures and symposia.

Dr. Field is a nationally renowned neurosurgeon and founder of Field Neurosciences Institute (FNI) at Ascension St. Mary's Hospital. Through his extraordinary work ethic and skill, he helped build Ascension St. Mary's Hospital into the region's most advanced neurological care center.

Through its collaboration with Ascension St. Mary's Hospital, the university continues to strengthen its ties to the healthcare community, fostering a mutually beneficial relationship that supports the growth and prosperity of both institutions and enhances the caliber of patient care and services available to the region.

Additional details about application procedures and tuition benefits will be made available to associates at Ascension St. Mary's, Ascension Standish and Ascension St. Joseph hospital through human resources and internal communication channels.



COURTESY PHOTO

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MISSION

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

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DEADLINES

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

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Preferred format: Jpeg or PDF

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MICHIGAN YOUTH BANNER

VOLUME 5 • NUMBER 21



POWER OF POTENTIAL

By DONIQUA SOVIA

It takes a someone special to see potential in you. I recall hearing about someone who kept getting in trouble with the law. Now, this person was far from a criminal, far from a trouble maker, but somehow was always in trouble.

Case after case she got was dropped. The last time she found herself facing a possession charge, a felony. It looked like it was over for her. Her mentor was furious. After all the talks, phone calls, and messages, she still just wasn't changing her ways. Instead of yelling, instead of cussing, he prayed. She was better than this.

She had potential. She had something special. She was to be a publisher, or a journalist, or atleast that's what he felt God was telling him about her. He got a phone call, it was his niece. He was quick to answer all while wondering "what in the world did she do now?!" Her charges had been dropped; again.

However, a suggestion was put into place rather than a sentence. Why? Simple; potential. Potential is a powerful thing. It's one thing for someone to see potential in you, it's a whole different thing when YOU know the potential you have and you use it.

The judge; saw potential. Her uncle; saw potential. Her? She knew of the potential and used it here and there but didn't know the power of it. Atlas, she knows. She's now in college studying for her undergraduate degree in Psychology with a concentration in Business Management, with plans to go to Harvard and become a lawyer and practice in two areas of law, as well as earning a certificate in Business Law at another college.

There's power in potential and the sooner you see it, and the quicker you use it, the more powerful and wiser you become.



Kakes the Great Popcorn Co. open inside SVRC Marketplace

Kakes the Great Popcorn Co., spearheaded by the young and talented 17-year-old chef Kaylynn Martin, is excited to announce the grand opening of their newest location at 203 S. Washington Avenue, inside the bustling SVRC Marketplace, on November 1, 2023, from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.

With a fresh and innovative take on gourmet popcorn, Kaylynn and her mother, Alesha Martin-Lane, have joined forces to bring a unique popcorn experience to Saginaw. From traditional to adventurous flavors, each bite promises a taste sensation that has been crafted with passion and creativity.

"We wanted to create a popcorn experience like no other," says Kaylynn Martin, head chef and product creator. "Every flavor we introduce has a story, a burst of creativity, and a touch of love."



Seen on the Scene: Kids Rule Now! Inc.'s 2nd Annual Awards Gala on Friday, October 20 at Horizons Conference Center



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9:00am - 12:00pm

1000 Tuscola St.
Saginaw, MI

This is a drive-thru pick up (only) event. The registration form must be provided the day of the event and the child must be present (in vehicle) to receive a coat.

For more information contact Women of Colors at 989-399-8775 EXT. 5 or ewmtoday@aol.com.



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.

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Latino Banner

LIDER EN LA DIVERSIDAD

VAMOS ADELANTE

Hispanic/Latino Commission of Michigan public commission meeting



COURTESY PHOTO

On Friday, October 27, the Hispanic/Latino Commission of Michigan held a public commission meeting in Detroit. During the meeting, the commission voted and passed several important items. The commission addressed a letter of gratitude to representatives and senators in support of the DRIVE SAFE legislation and extended support for Bradley R. Hall, Applicant for the Michigan Court of Appeals.

Key presentations were made by Steph-

anie Gilmore Lopez, President of Mana de Metro Detroit regarding Language Access. Additionally, Mika McAskill, Commissions Administrative Manager, provided the report from the Office of Global Michigan.

The following individuals participated in the public comment session:

- Rogelio Landin, President of LU-LAC Council 11054
- Angelo Kapp, from LLEAD Chapter Saginaw

- Boris Porrás Ríos, from LLEAD Chapter Flint
- Maricarmen Muñoz, Executive Director from LA SED
- Dale Freeman, Director of the Office of Migrant Affairs, MDHHS

Detroit Union Carpenters and Millwrights Skilled Training Center, along with Commissioner Jose Sanchez, hosted the meeting.

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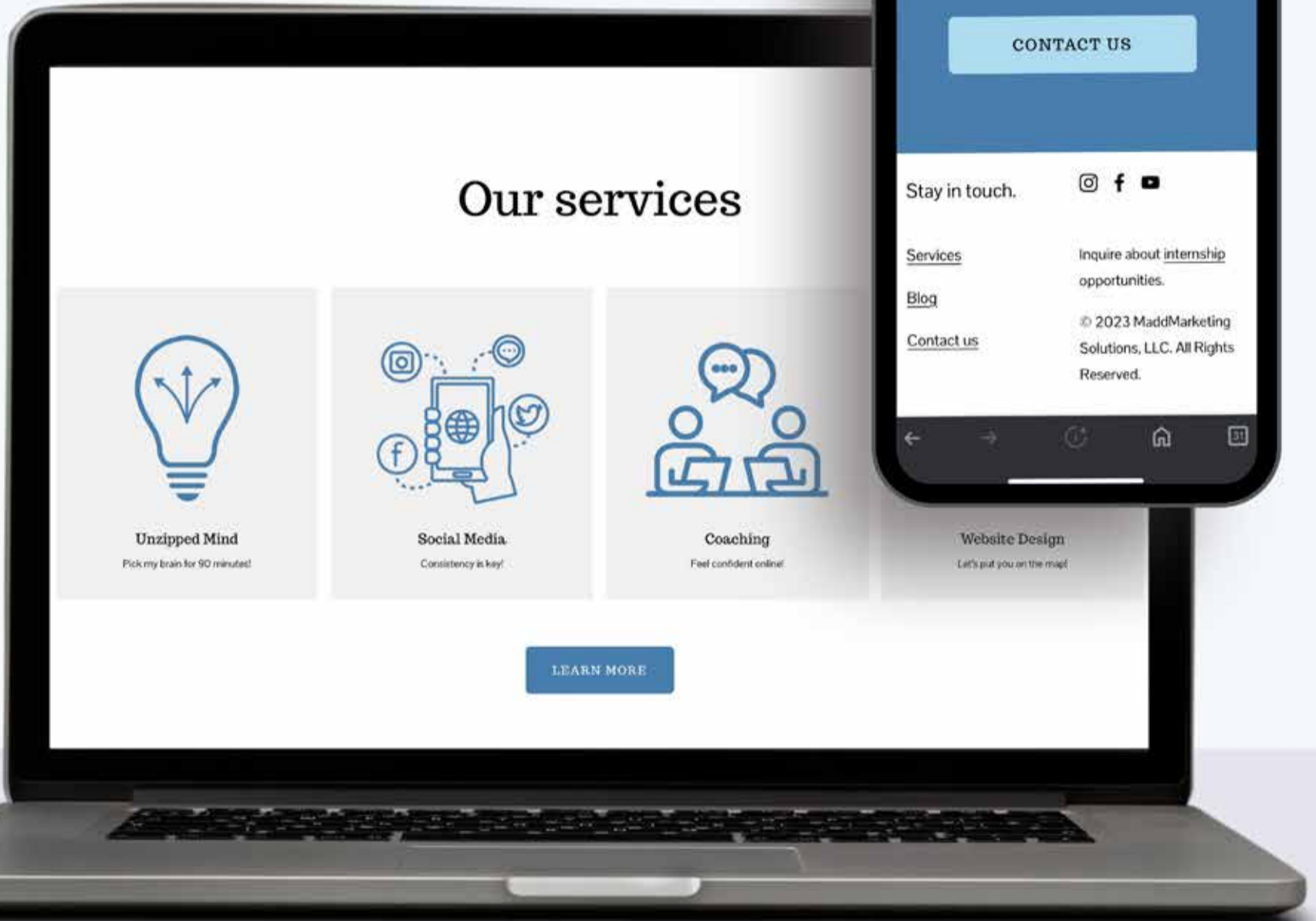
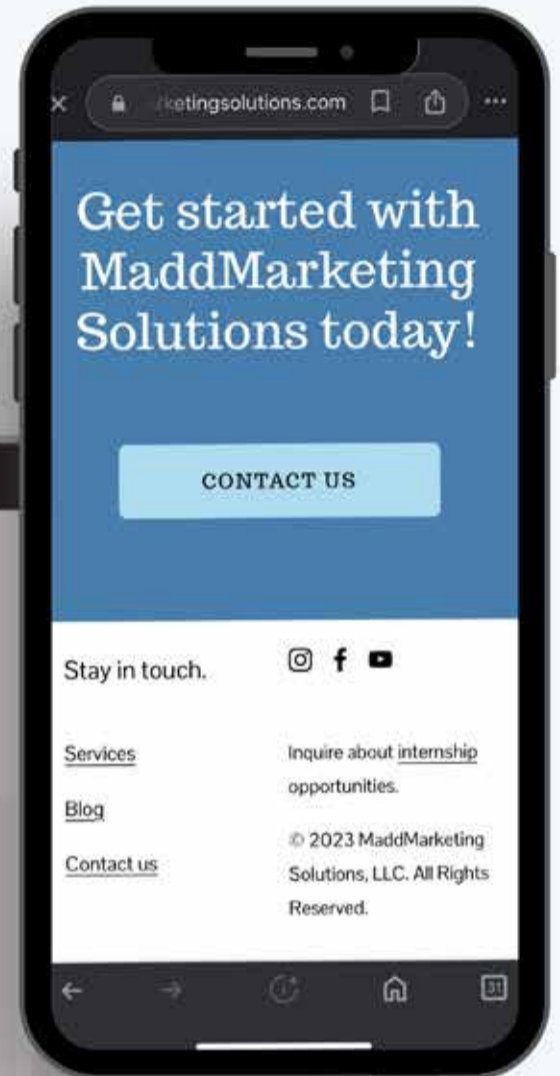
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Seen on the Scene: Carmelita's Family Store, 2365 S. Michigan Ave, held a soft opening on Friday, October 6.



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Dow Credit Union hosts ribbon cutting for Saginaw Branch

Community leaders from across Saginaw County gathered at Dow Credit Union's new Gratiot Road location to celebrate the branch's runaway success and hold a formal ribbon cutting ceremony on Oct. 19.

"We would like to welcome Dow Credit Union into our county and to the Township," Eugene Seals of the Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce told several dozen attendees. "Let us give them a hand for growing here. Thank you."

After a series of remarks from credit union leaders, the credit union's managers officially cut the ribbon. As attendees helped themselves to light refreshments, many reflected on the scope of the undertaking.

"We continue to celebrate the opening of our branch here in Saginaw," Dow Credit Union Chairman Perry Holmon said. "Opening this branch allowed us to ex-

pand our presence here in the Great Lakes Bay Region, so we can better serve our existing members and attract new members as well."

The credit union arrived in Saginaw Township at the beginning of the fall with much fanfare. Following its Grand Opening Week festivities from Sept. 25-29, the branch reported a cumulative \$3.4 million in deposits. Since then, the figure has increased to over \$5.5 million. Moreover, 147 new members have joined, outpacing already-high expectations.

CEO Michael Goad said the expansion to Saginaw County was a logical choice for the credit union. Though the largest financial institution headquartered in the Great

Lakes Bay Region, Dow Credit Union had served its membership from a single branch throughout its 86-year history. The new location not only marks a historic expansion, it effectively doubles the credit union's footprint, welcoming more prospective members to award-winning products and services. According to Goad, Saginaw residents are already identifying Dow Credit Union as their best option to maximize earnings in a saver's economy.

As of October, Dow Credit Union's high-yield savings account carried annual percentage yields (APY) up to seven times

the national savings average, according to NerdWallet. Furthermore, its certificate of deposit (CD) rates ranked among the best in the nation, prompting commendations from Business Insider, Investopedia, The Wall Street Journal, and even CBS News.

"There's something good going on here," Goad said. "We're very thankful for the Great Lakes Bay region, all the neat things that are going on here, the great momentum, and the organizations in the area. We thank you for your part in it."



COURTESY PHOTO



**ADD THIS EVENT TO
YOUR CALENDAR!**

**DR. NATASHA BAGDASARIAN
IS COMING TO SAGINAW!**

The Saginaw Promise is honored to welcome **Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian**, as “keynote speaker” for their 2023 “Power of a Promise” Fundraiser Luncheon! **Since 2021, Dr. Bagdasarian has served as Chief Medical Executive. In this role, Dr. Bagdasarian provides overall medical guidance for the State of Michigan.**



**Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian,
MD, MPH, FIDSA**
Chief Medical Executive for the
State of Michigan

Dr. Bagdasarian is board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine in Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases and is a Fellow of the Infectious Diseases Society of America. She will speak on her role, national trends, S.T.E.M. Education, impact of Pandemic on the medical community, shortages and the importance of building a pipeline of medical professions in Michigan and Saginaw.

Scan QR
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Media Kit



SAGINAW PROMISE
“POWER OF A PROMISE”
Fundraiser Luncheon

Horizons Conference Center
Tuesday, November 7, 2023
(Doors Open at 11 AM)

Program starts at 11:30 AM

**Proceeds from this event will benefit Saginaw
Promise programming and scholarships.**

**For questions or information contact Deborah Sanchez at the
Saginaw Promise; dsanchez@saginawpromise.org or at (989) 755-0545.**

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COURTESY PHOTO

Saginaw Soup pitch competition to be held November 2 at CMURC

It's almost time for the Saginaw Soup Pitch Competition, and residents are reminded that they can help select this year's winner.

The entrepreneurial pitch competition will be held on Thursday, November 2 at 6 pm, at the CMURC at the SVRC Marketplace, 203 S. Washington Avenue. The event will highlight local entrepreneurs as they pitch their small business idea to a panel of judges and audience members. For a \$5 entry at the door, guests can vote for their favorite entrepreneurial idea. Free samples from local Saginaw restaurants will also be available for guests that evening.

The goal of Saginaw Soup is to support local entrepreneurs that have a dream and a vision for their business, but need help to bring it to fruition. Saginaw Soup's 1st place winner will receive a \$2,000 cash prize, 2nd place is a \$1,500 cash prize, and the 3rd place winner receives a free weekend pop-up space at SVRC Marketplace. The audience will vote for the People's

Choice winner, who will be given the total of entry fees collected at the door!

Saginaw Soup is a collaborative effort between Saginaw Future, Saginaw Economic Development Corporation, the Small Business Development Center, Saginaw Chamber of Commerce, CMURC, City of Saginaw and Saginaw DDA. The event is sponsored by Huntington Bank.

Cassi Zimmerman, Director of Planning and Economic Development for the City of Saginaw, commented on the event's efforts, "Saginaw Soup works to inform entrepreneurs and visionaries of the resources that are available to help develop their business idea. We walk these entrepreneurs through the development of a business plan, including hosting trainings on speaking about the problem they are solving, a marketing plan, competition, and financials. Entrepreneurs leave the program with the tools to stabilize and grow their business."

For more details, contact Rachel Morneau at Saginaw Future at (989) 757-2102.



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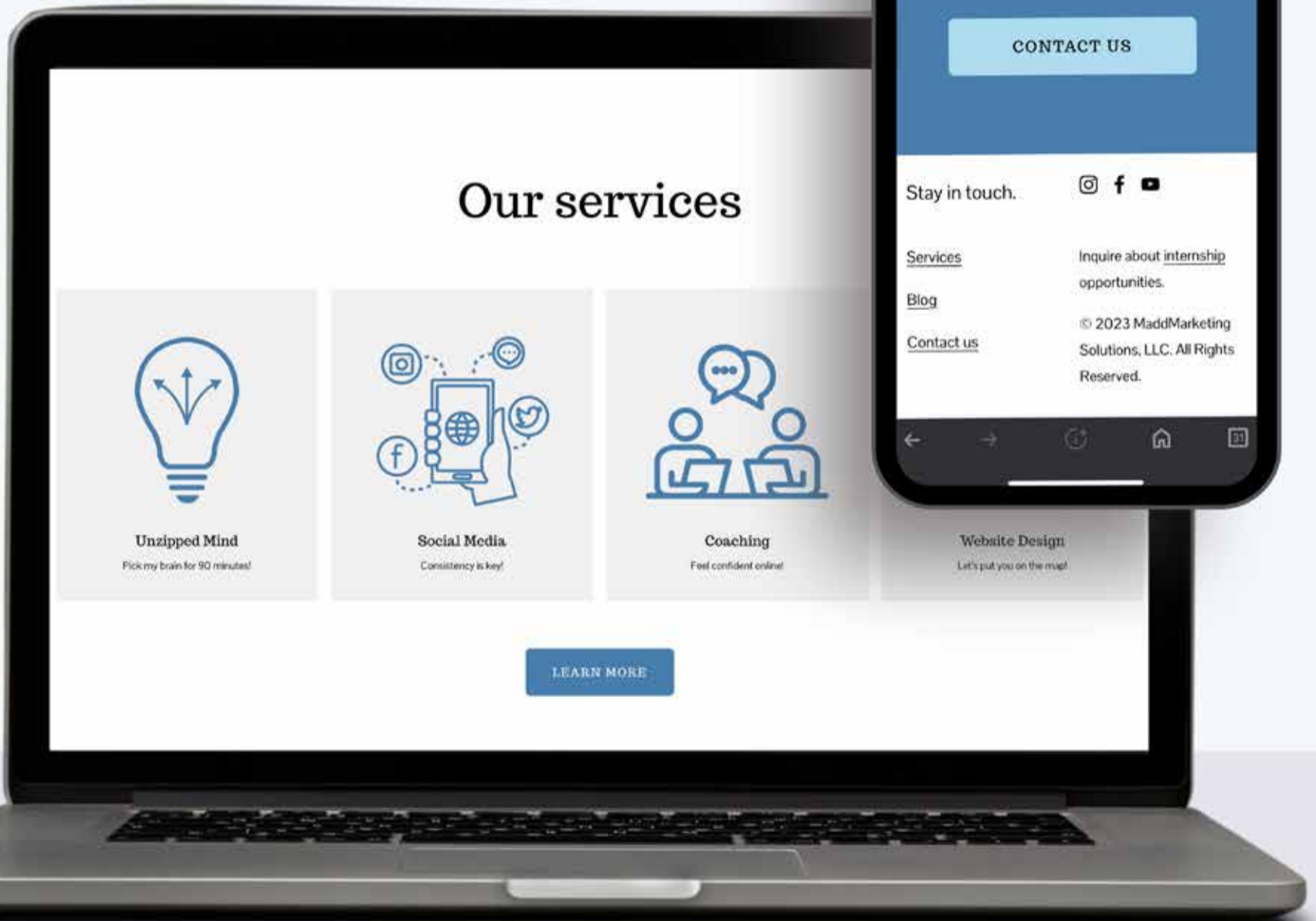
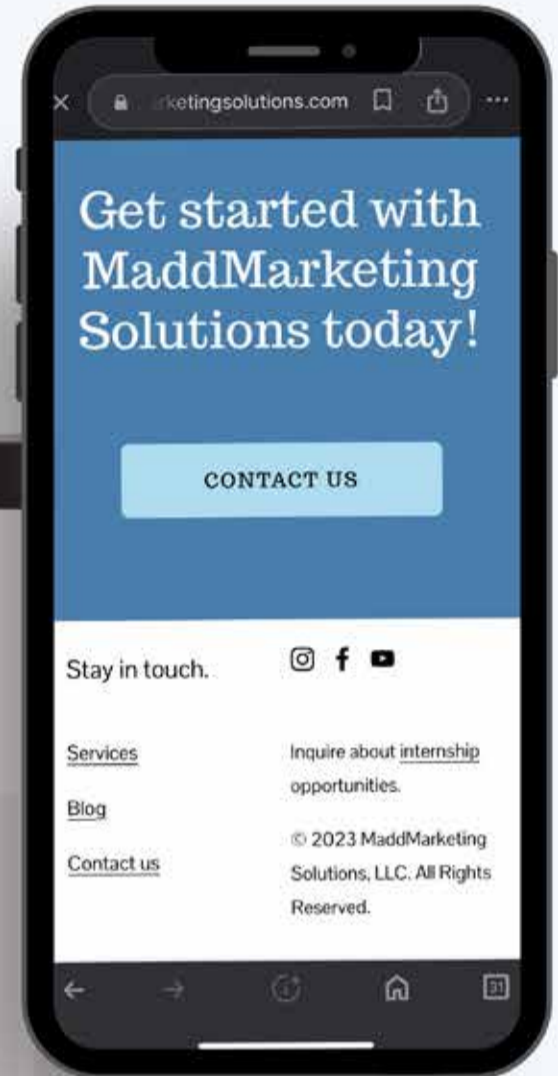
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Flint & Genesee 'Talent Tours' recognized by International Economic Development Council

FLINT, Mich., Oct. 2, 2023) – Less than a year after the Flint & Genesee Economic Alliance launched its Talent Tours program, the initiative has received recognition from the International Economic Development Council (IEDC). Specifically, the program has earned a 2023 Excellence in Economic Development Bronze Award in the category of Innovation Programs & Initiatives.

“We are thrilled to be recognized for our work in connecting underserved residents and returning citizens to local employers and job opportunities,” said Tyler Rossmassler, executive director of the Flint & Genesee Economic Alliance, a division of the Flint & Genesee Group. “The Talent Tours initiative turns the concept of a job fair on its head by bringing job applicants to the employers. It’s a great way to break down barriers, support local businesses, and empower community members seeking a second chance.”

According to Rossmassler, the initiative has brought together clients of Catholic Charities, Re-Connections, and St. Luke N.E.W. Life Center for tours of companies including Lear Corp., WGS Global, Clearview, and Curbco. Job seekers have the opportunity to hear from the human

resources department before touring the manufacturing floor or workspace.

The Economic Alliance also partners with GST Michigan Works! which provides job readiness and interview training leading up to the tours. Attendees come to the tour with a resume in hand and ready to interview for job openings on-the-spot, when possible.

So far, at least six participants have successfully found employment through the program.

“This program is a strong example of what can be achieved by collaborating with community partners,” Rossmassler said. “We turned to organizations that were already doing great work with residents and built upon that by leveraging our relationships with employers.”

Every year, IEDC looks specifically for economic development organizations, government entities, initiatives, and programs that have demonstrated consistent, exemplary performance in the economic development profession, leading the execution of projects that have a significant impact on revitalizing communities, and playing a major role in shaping and improving the practice of economic development.

This year’s award recipients were an-

nounced at the IEDC 2023 Annual Conference during the inaugural Recognition Night event in Dallas, Texas on Sept. 19.

“The Flint & Genesee Economic Alliance has raised the bar for excellence in economic development with its Talent Tours program,” said IEDC President and CEO Nathan Ohle. “This award is a testament to the Economic Alliance’s dedication to its residents and serves as a great example of how economic development can help transform a community for the better. It is IEDC’s honor and privilege to present the Flint & Genesee Economic Alliance with this award and recognize its leadership and innovation in the field of economic development!”

About the Flint & Genesee Economic Alliance

The Flint & Genesee Economic Alliance, a division of the Flint & Genesee Group, is the lead economic development organization for Flint and Genesee County. To build a more vibrant local economy, the Economic Alliance provides tools, resources, and guidance to local companies of all sizes and stages to support their growth. The division also promotes available sites, workforce, and unique assets to attract growth-oriented businesses to Genesee County. For more information, visit FlintandGenesee.org, and check us out on Facebook and LinkedIn.

About the International Economic Development Council

The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) is a non-profit, non-partisan membership organization serving economic developers. With more than 4,300 members, IEDC is the largest organization of its kind. Economic developers promote economic well-being and quality of life for their communities by creating, retaining, and expanding jobs that facilitate growth, enhance wealth, and provide a stable tax base. From public to private, rural to urban, and local to international, IEDC’s members engage in the full range of economic development practices. Given the breadth of economic development work, our members are employed in various settings, including local, state, provincial, and federal governments, public-private partnerships, chambers of commerce, universities, and a variety of other institutions. When we succeed, our members create high-quality jobs, develop vibrant communities, and improve the quality of life in their regions. Learn more at iedconline.org.



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Saginaw community food club & kitchen becomes reality in Saginaw

A new and different grocery store is coming to Saginaw in 2024, thanks to the hard work and support of local organizations and people passionate about reducing hunger, improving food access, and improving health outcomes in Saginaw.

According to newly appointed CEO Tina Swanton, the Saginaw Community Food Club & Kitchen is a nonprofit, membership-based, grocery store that will be constructed in 2024 at 1910 Fordney Street. Saginaw City Council approved the lease for the land Monday night. The site, formerly occupied by Big Brothers, Big Sisters, is located along a major STARS bus route to and from several of Saginaw's east and west-side neighborhoods without full-service grocery stores.

Under Swanton's leadership, the Food Club has already raised \$4 million of the \$5 million start-up funds it needs, including grants from the United State Department of Agriculture, ARPA funds from both the City of Saginaw and Saginaw County, as well as donations from several local organizations and foundations. Fundraising for the final \$1 million continues, with groundbreaking scheduled for spring 2024.

The Food Club will feel and act like a grocery store but with an innovative ap-

proach to pricing, Swanton explains. Members will shop with points – fruits and veggies listed as the fewest points, while snacks and processed foods higher points. Monthly memberships will range from \$12-\$16 using a sliding scale based on household income and size and points assigned based on number in the household.

The Food Club is modeled after a statewide network of food clubs, including locations in Grand Rapids, Ludington, and Holland, which have successfully helped members achieve healthier eating, consistent meals, and household stability. Swanton believes the Food Club will effectively address gaps in Saginaw's food system by:

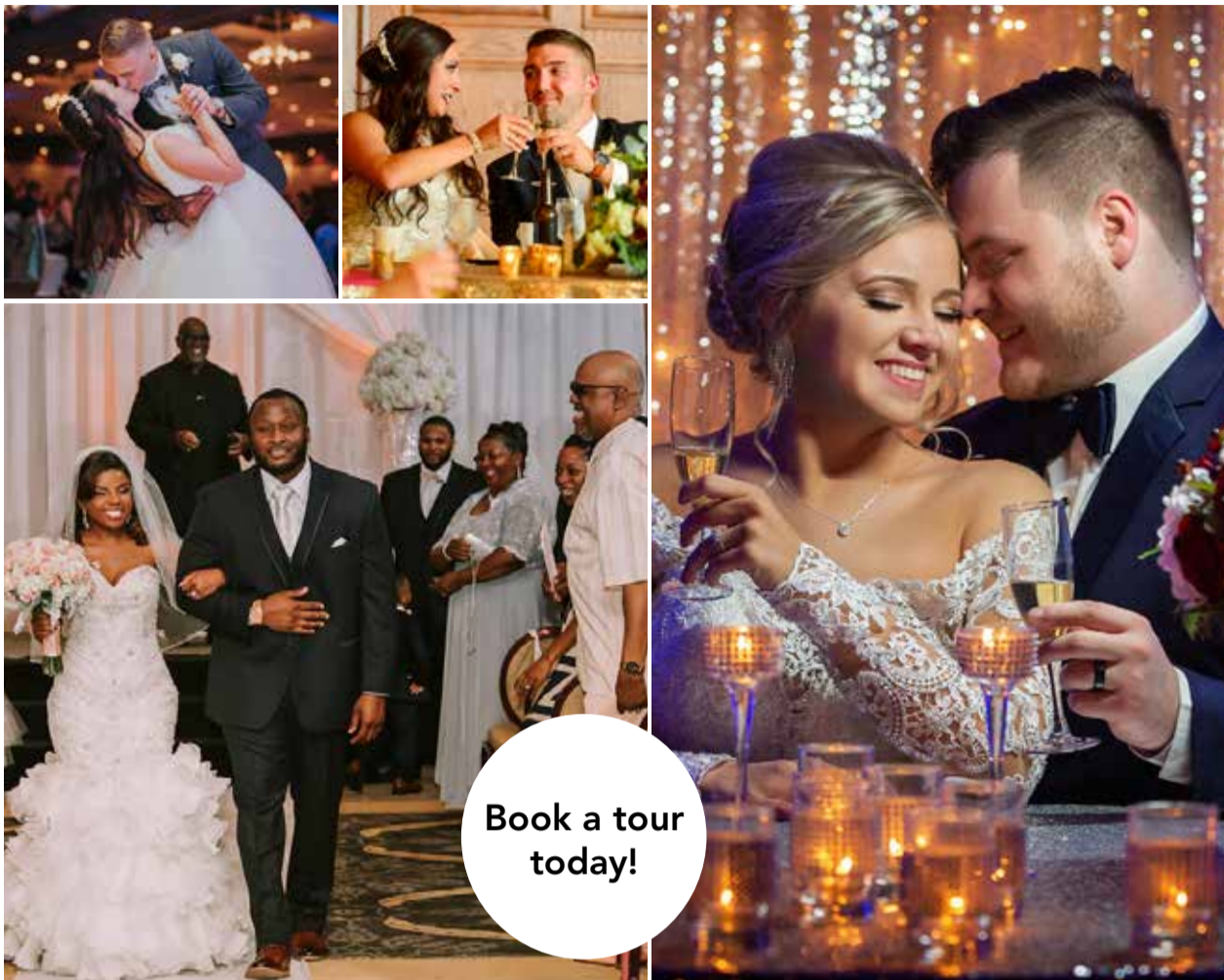
- Serving as many as 43% of Saginaw's households, where working adults struggle to meet basic needs like food, housing and transportation (referred to as the ALICE population).
- Providing healthy food access to Saginaw's "food deserts" in 48601 and 48602 where residents have few options other than highly processed foods at convenience markets.
- Helping families on food assistance, where data shows

about 80% use up funds within two weeks, leaving two weeks of food insecurity.

- Complementing emergency food pantries and giveaways by offering convenience, service, choice, and a voice in the customer experience by participating in a members committee.
- Educating members at demonstration kitchen stations about how to prepare and cook fresh produce and how to eat healthier on a budget.

Once construction is complete, the food club's annual operating costs will be supported by donated food, low-cost food from USDA and other vendors, local gardens, grants, foundation support, and membership dollars (which will be used to support operations, NOT to purchase food).

For more information about the Saginaw Community Food Club & Kitchen and to learn how to get involved or make a donation, visit www.saginawfoodclub.org. To see an operating food club in action, visit <https://communityfoodclubgr.org>.



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Friday, November 17, 2023 - 5:30 to 8:30 pm

Holidays in the Heart of the City

- 5:45-6:00** Lighting Ceremony at the **Water Treatment Plant** featuring Santa Claus and the Saginaw Youth Choir begins at 5:45 pm with lights going on at 6:00 pm
- 5:30-8:30** Food vendors offering hot dogs, pizza, popcorn, mexican cuisine, coffee, hot chocolate and more
- 5:30-8:30** Visit the **Japanese Tea House** (with Origami and Tea Ceremony demonstrations)
- 5:30-8:30** Open house at **The Montague Inn** with a Live Nativity performed on the front lawn by Nouvel Catholic Central High School
- 5:30-8:30** Open house at the **Mexican-American Council** with music, vendors and Mexican Sweet Bread
- 5:30-8:30** Free admission to the **Saginaw Children's Zoo** (\$2.00 carousel rides - ticket sales stop at 8:00 pm)
ZOOletide wreath raffle
- 5:30-8:30** **Andersen Enrichment Center** - WSGW/RAK Cookie House Competition, Hoyt Library Story Time and READ Association book giveaway
- 5:30-8:30** Downtown Saginaw Farmers' Market "Holiday Market" on the Andersen Enrichment Center lawn
- 5:30-8:30** **Borchard Park** in Old Town Saginaw - Santa, Castle Museum Cookie Hut and historic display, free pony rides
- 5:30-8:30** Special Events in **Old Town Saginaw** - Business Specials, Holiday Lights, Window Displays
- 5:30-8:30** ***Holy Cross Lutheran Church** - Court St. - Music, children's crafts, free cookies, hot cocoa, bake sale/bazaar
- 5:30-8:00** Free horse-drawn wagon rides on Ezra Rust sponsored by Frank N. Andersen Foundation, start at Andersen Center
- 5:30-8:30** Complimentary transportation over the Court St. Bridge provided by First Student
- 6:00-7:30** * **Michigan Avenue Baptist Church** concert performed by the Saginaw Strings and the Saginaw Area Concert Band
- 6:30-8:15** * **Holy Family Catholic Church** - Sacred Music Concert performed by St. John Vianney Choir and Holy Family Latin Choir
* (donations of new hats, gloves and scarves for infants to teenagers will be collected at both concerts)
- 6:30-8:30** Come "Touch-A-Truck" on Court Street between Michigan and Hamilton
- 6:30** **The Court Theater** FREE admission to "Home Alone" / Concessions available for purchase
- 8:30** **FIREWORKS** from Ojibway Island!

Saturday, November 18 - 11:00 am

Annual Christmas Parade "Ring in the Holidays"

** Route begins in Downtown Saginaw traveling south on South Washington from Johnson, then west on Ezra Rust Drive to Ojibway Island **

Grand Marshal - Tom Trombley

Vice President and Chief Historian of the Castle Museum of Saginaw County History

Girls on the Run 5k 'Reindeer Run' (run/walk) - Registration and Festivities held at Saginaw YMCA 9:00 am;
Runs begin and end at Andersen Enrichment Center. Reindeer Run (open to all runners) 10:30 am; Girls on the Run 5K 10:35 am;

Morley Plaza on S. Washington Avenue will have the Saginaw Public Schools reviewing stand and visits with Santa before the parade
Free parking 8:00 am to 2:00 pm provided by **EZ Park** at the corner of N. Washington and Johnson Avenues

Holiday Party at Hoyt Library 1:00 to 4:00 pm

WSGW/RAK Cookie House Competition continues at **Andersen Enrichment Center** 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
Downtown Saginaw Farmers' Market Holiday Market at **Andersen Enrichment Center** 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Makers Market at the **SVRC Marketplace** Saturday, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Old Town Saginaw Businesses Open until 5:00 pm



+ HEALTH

5 Tips to eat well this November



By **ARIELLE BUCKLEY, MPH**
PUBLIC HEALTH NUTRITIONIST

'Tis the season where families commune over holiday dinner, expressing gratitude and celebrating seasonal blessings. Family recipes passed down through

generations are brought to life in the kitchen and served for all to enjoy. In African American households, a traditional holiday dinner may include a delicious turkey, dressing, cranberry sauce, yams, macaroni and cheese or collard greens. Each dish is filled with love, sprinkled with joy and cooked to perfection. When indulging in these holiday meals, it is important to ensure your plate is nutrient rich and balanced.

Here are 5 tips to ensure you and your family eat well this November:

Tip 1: Try Something Orange, Something Blue, Something Old, Something New

Adding a new food item to your plate helps you consume a variety of nutrients. Choose colorful foods like an orange or blue sweet potato, green or purple cabbage, or a red or yellow bell pepper. These foods are rich in antioxidants that reduce the risk of disease. They also contain Vitamins A and C, which help boost your immune system during the fall season.

10 colorful side dishes to serve this year

- Spinach, tomatoes and onions
- Black eyed peas
- Collard greens

- Okra and tomatoes
- Sweet potatoes
- Green beans
- Red beans and rice
- Corn on the cob
- Red skin mashed potatoes
- Roasted carrots

Tip 2: Grab a Smaller Plate

When dinner time arrives, grab a small plate to ensure you don't overeat. Practice mindful eating by listening to your body's fullness cues. After finishing one plate, sit for 5 - 10 minutes to allow time for your stomach to send fullness signals to your brain. If you are still hungry, don't hesitate to grab another plate.

Tip 3: Stay Hydrated

Prior to dinner be sure to drink plenty of water throughout the day. Sometimes your body can confuse thirst with hunger, so be sure to drink at least 64 oz daily. Proper hydration can also help with digestion, dissolving and transporting nutrients for use in the body.

Tip 4: Dessert Responsibly

After dinner, you may be tempted to try every dessert. However, cakes, pies, and cookies contain sugar that increases inflammation and risk of disease. It is okay to indulge during the holidays. But consider splitting your dessert with a family member or savoring desserts by eating slowly to prevent overindulgence.

Tip 5: Be Kind to Yourself

The next few months will be filled with many opportunities to eat good food. Enjoy these moments with your loved ones and don't fear the dinner table. You can be well and enjoy this holiday season by remembering to incorporate colorful vegetables, plenty of water, while also limiting sugar and large portions.



COURTESY PHOTO

+ HEALTH



COURTESY PHOTO

50% of local infant deaths so far this year likely sleep related: Saginaw County's doctor sounds an alarm

In the first 8 months of 2023, 7 Saginaw County infants have died before their first birthday due to unsafe sleep practices. These deaths sadden Delicia Pruitt, MD, because they are not only tragic and accidental – they are preventable. As a practicing physician, medical director for the Saginaw County Health Department, and mother of four including a set of twins, Dr. Pruitt is eagerly seeking assistance from the public to spread the word about the importance of infant safe sleep -- especially to parents disconnected from traditional support systems and mainstream media messaging.

Dr. Pruitt asks you to share these “Sleep Aware...Because We Care” guidelines – judgement free -- with anyone you know who has a baby under 12 months of age:

- **BABY SLEEPS ALONE** in a **SAFE** place for every sleep.
- That means preferably a crib, bassinet, or pack ‘n play with no pillows, blankets, toys, stuffed animals or bumper pads.

- Resist the temptation – no matter how tired you are – of feeding or calming your baby and letting them fall asleep with YOU in bed, on the couch, or in a lazyboy-style chair.
- Don't let babies sleep unattended in a car seat.
- Baby and young siblings should not sleep in the same crib.
- Keep baby's sleep space where you can see and hear them. Share your room, not your bed!
- Use a wearable blanket or footed sleeper to keep baby warm. Weighted blankets/sleepers/swaddles should not be used.
- Stop swaddling the baby when they exhibit signs of attempting to roll (typically occurs around 3-4 months, but may occur earlier).
- Remind everyone who cares for your baby how to keep baby safe while sleeping.

“We need parents, grandparents, friends, neighbors, churches, social service agencies, doctors, first responders, hospitals and the health department – everyone -- working together to promote awareness of safer sleep practices,” says Dr. Pruitt. “Let's pass on information, not judgement. We all know how hard parenting can be. Together, we can help prevent a tragedy for a family.”

Infant sleep-related deaths remain a leading cause of mortality among infants in the United States. In Michigan, an infant succumbs to an unsafe sleep environment every three days.

If you, or someone you know, is struggling to provide a safe sleep environment for a baby, please reach out to the Saginaw County Health Department at (989) 758-3845 or bwellsaginaw@saginawcounty.com.

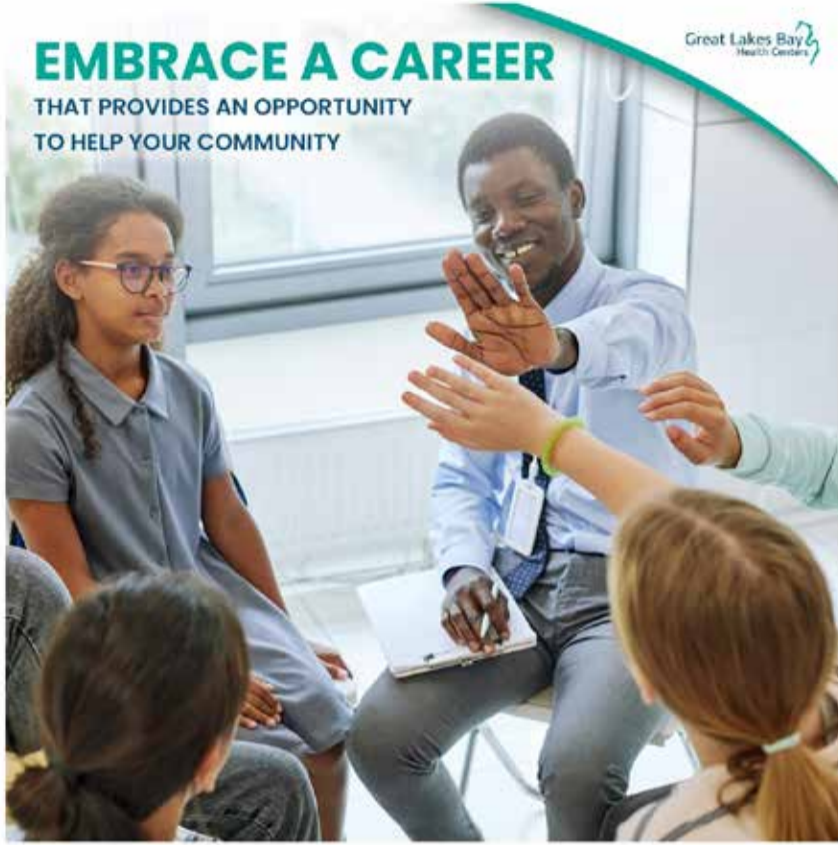


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COURTESY PHOTO

Michigan launches process for the Comprehensive Health Care Program contract for Medicaid Health Plans

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) launched a competitive procurement for the Comprehensive Health Care Program contract for Michigan's Medicaid health plans, which combined serve 2.2 million Michiganders receiving coverage through Medicaid and the Healthy Michigan Plan.

“Through this rebid process, MDHHS will select Medicaid health plan contractors with the experiences, capabilities and commitment to deliver an equitable, coordinated and person-centered system of care that will ultimately provide Michigan residents with a healthier future,” said MDHHS Director Elizabeth Hertel.

The rebid is part of MIHealthyLife, an initiative launched in 2022 to strengthen Medicaid services through new Medicaid health plan contracts. Input from nearly 10,000 enrollees and family members, health care providers, health plans and other community partners informed the creation of five MIHealthyLife strategic pillars:

- Serve the Whole Person, Coordinating Health and Health-Related Needs.

- Give All Kids a Healthy Start.
- Promote Health Equity and Reduce Racial and Ethnic Disparities.
- Drive Innovation and Operational Excellence.
- Engage Members, Families and Communities.

The MIHealthyLife initiative guided design of Comprehensive Health Care Program changes embedded in the Medicaid Health Plan contract rebid. An informational webinar is available on the MIHealthyLife home page describing these priority program changes in more detail:

Prioritizing health equity by requiring Medicaid health plans achieve National Committee for Quality Assurance Health Equity Accreditation.

- Addressing social determinants of health through investment in and engagement with community-based organizations.
- Increasing childhood immunization rates, including increasing provider participation in the Vaccines for Children program.
- Adopting a more person-centered approach to mental health cover-

age.

- Ensuring access to health care providers by strengthening network requirements.
- Increasing Medicaid Health Plan accountability and clarifying expectations to advance state priorities.

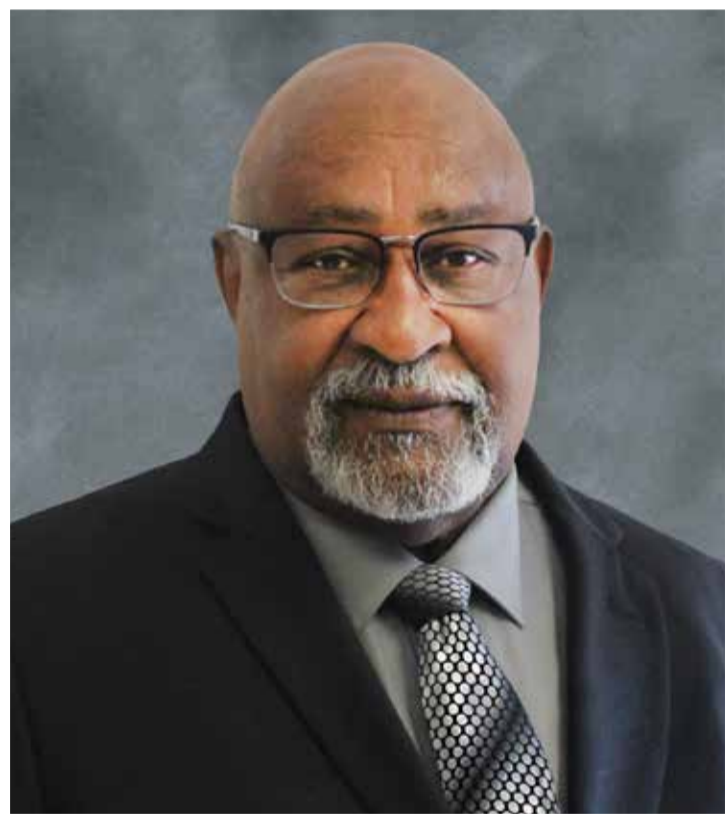
The Medicaid Health Plan request for proposals is posted to the SIGMA system. Responses from bidders are due on Jan. 16, 2024. Bidders are to submit any written non-rate related questions regarding the request for proposal by Nov. 17, 2023, and rate-related questions by Dec. 1, 2023. Interested bidders are encouraged to refer to the Proposal Instructions for additional information regarding questions submitted and deadlines. MDHHS will post answers to bidder questions on the SIGMA system by Dec. 14, 2023. Medicaid Health Plan contracts resulting from this rebid will begin on Oct. 1, 2024.

The State of Michigan reserves the right to change dates or any other information deemed necessary.

Visit the SIGMA website for more information on the system.

+ FAITH BASED

SPONSORED CONTENT



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

Join us at Ministry Without Walls

By **PASTOR JOHN DUNN**
MINISTRY WITHOUT WALLS

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

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

Our vision is for Ministry Without Walls to be:

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

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

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

Our ongoing teaching and seminars will include:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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NOVEMBER 18, 2023

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CONFERENCE 10:00 - 12:30 PM

+ FAITH BASED

MICHIGAN BANNER
SERMONETTE SERIES

By **MINISTER CAROLYN CARTER
TOWNSEL**

There is an age old question that all of humanity will eventually ask; "Who am I?" The world defines and identifies people by their profession or vocation. Such as, "I am a professor," or "I am an attorney" but one's profession or vocation is not who they are; it is what they do. Identity defined by Oxford Dictionary is, "The fact of being who or what a person or thing is." Therefore, as a Christian knowing who you are is vital to your wellbeing.

As a Christian knowing who you are in Christ is vital to your well-being and understanding that, your identity is not rooted in what you do, but who you are. Who you are originates from and established by the source from which you come from. Consequently, the source from which you come from is God. **"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him, male and female he created them"** (Genesis 1:27), and **"The LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living soul"** (Genesis 2:7 NIV). These Scriptures not only validate you are like God, but you are of God. As a result of God being your

Your Identity Is In Christ

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new"

2 Corinthians 5:17

source He delivers and defines your identity, potential, ability, and durability. Your identity in God commences with you understanding who He is, what He says about Himself, and what He says about you.

One of the most important revelations you can get from the Word of God that will change the way you think, live, and cause you to rise above adversity is recognizing your identity in Christ. Second Corinthians 5:17 (KJV) expresses, **"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."** When you surrendered your life to Christ, there were significant differences in your lives prior to your salvation. One of those changes was a new identity.

Before you were in Christ, you were destined for death and destruction. Now that you are destined for eternal life (1 John 2:25). Before Christ, you were bound for despair, degradation, and poverty.

In Christ;

- You are ordained to have life and have it more abundantly (John 10:10).
- You are new creatures (2 Cor. 5:17).
- You are the righteousness of God (2 Cor. 5:21).
- You have been healed (1 Peter 2:24).

- You have been made rich (2 Cor. 8:9).
- You are accepted (Eph. 1:6).
- You are free from the power of sin (Rom. 6:20-22).
- You are the head and not the tail (Deut. 28:13).
- You can do all things through Christ who strengthens us (Philippians 4:13).
- You will fear no evil for the Lord is with you (Psalm 23:4).

As you embrace who you are and whom God has called you to be as you live, move, and have your being in Him is liberating. This liberation empowers you to be free and stay free from the snares, schemes, and the power of the enemy because you know who whose you are (Source), who you are (Identity), and why you are (Purpose). In addition to comprehending your identity in Christ we will be stronger, our faith will be greater, our prayer life will be enhanced, and we will walk in a new level of authority.

Therefore Beloved – Know, accept, embrace, and walk boldly in your identity in Christ!

Blessings To All.....

+ CHURCH DIRECTORY

A



Agape Faith Bible Training Center

Rev. Dr. Joseph Rodriguez
8121 Dixie Highway
Birch Run, MI 48415
(989) 777-3200 Ext. 20

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

Rev. 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



Glory House Ministries

Pastor Jim House
3660 Hermansau Rd.
Saginaw, MI 48603
(989) 752-4769

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

Pastor Dennis Barlow
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 Beginnings Ministries

Pastor Augustine Delgado
701 Hess Avenue
Saginaw, MI 48601
newlife3881@gmail.com



New Birth Missionary Baptist

Bishop 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

Do we really need a budget? Part one of a mini-series on nonprofit budgeting

By MEL AND PEARL SHAW

Isn't it enough to secure the funding you need to operate your nonprofit? Do you have to be involved in the organization's budgeting process? Here's what we have learned: budgeting doesn't have to be dreaded, avoided, or a "good enough" estimate. We are collaborating with John Bazzanella, COO of Tennessee Nonprofit Network, to bring you information you can use to strengthen the budgeting process at your nonprofit. Whether you are a grassroots organization or an established and successful nonprofit you have to project revenue and expenses and manage your cashflow. Like fundraising, you can't delegate this responsibility to someone else and have them "take care of it." Incorporating the budgeting process into all aspects of an organization creates solutions, avoids disasters, and builds sustainability.

Here's what we know: fundraising is all about securing the resources that a nonprofit organization or institution needs to deliver on its mission and vision. Budgeting helps you project how much you will need, where it might come from, and how (and when) it will be spent. John Bazzanella shares his guidance on budgeting to help you get started with the process and to take your budgeting process to the next level. Here are two questions we asked him to start our conversation.

Are there standards an organization should follow in developing an annual budget?

There are common priorities for a budget to meet, but the unique value of a budget is that as an internal guide it does not have to follow reporting standards required of

financial statements. An organization can adjust every aspect of a budget to best fit their needs and generate information that is meaningful to that nonprofit. In terms of commonalities, a budget should provide an understanding of how an organization generates and distributes its resources. Projections for each allow an organization to plan for and monitor the relationship between revenue and expenses. The budget should include all relevant activities of the organization; integrate as much reliable data as possible; cover a specific time frame; and be approved by the board. This last item is important for engaging the organization's governance in setting financial direction or at least affirming what is recommended from staff.

What are the biggest challenges that nonprofits encounter in terms of budgeting?

There are some simple challenges that often trip us up in budgeting. The challenges I see most often are nonprofits trying to make a budget perfect and then rigidly adhere to it throughout the year. Another

is trying to build a budget without enough data or without understanding all their expenses, especially indirect costs. I also see organizations struggle when they overestimate revenue or choose to add revenue, often without engaging fundraising staff, rather than adjusting expenses. Along those same lines, I've seen nonprofits be challenged when they don't involve enough people in the process. When there's staff and board participation you have more complete information, more buy-in, and more eyes checking the work to reduce or catch errors.

Next installment: working with an annual budget.



JOHN BAZZANELLA



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 or call (901) 522-8727.

+ EDUCATION



KASYDRA GOODE-TIBBS

Arthur Hill principal receives statewide 'Excellence In Education' award

Kasydra Goode-Tibbs, principal of Arthur Hill High School, has been honored with an Excellence In Education award from the Michigan Lottery.

Known for building connections with students, Goode-Tibbs says getting to know the students in her building is one of the most rewarding things about her job.

“Being an educator has many challenges, but it is very rewarding and valuable work. One of my favorite things to do as the principal at Arthur Hill is observing and visiting classes to engage with students in their element. Having those discussions and taking a genuine interest in students helps me get to know them and their interests and goals.”

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

school year.

Winners of the weekly award receive a \$2,000 cash prize. At the end of the school year, one of the weekly award winners is selected to receive the Lottery's Educator of the Year award and receives a \$10,000 cash prize.

Goode-Tibbs was nominated for the award by a student who spoke about the impact the principal has had on the school.

“When I first started out in high school, I was a very shy and quiet person. Not only was it my first year as a high school student, but it was also Ms. Tibbs first year as principle at Arthur Hill High School. In that first year, I learned a lot from her. She helped me come out of my shell and more importantly she helped me get over my anxiety. Her impact was not just felt by me. At Arthur Hill High School, when you take a health class you get a major

baby project where you take a robot baby home over the weekend. With this project there comes a fee of about \$5. Out of the goodness of her heart, she paid the fee for every single student taking one home. It doesn't stop there. Any student can email her and set up a time to sit down and talk with her. She also is very kind to her staff. Every holiday season she goes out of her way to buy all the staff, from the teachers to the custodians, a gift bag full of gift cards and candy. She really makes a big difference at Arthur Hill.”

Goode-Tibbs earned a bachelor's degree from Central Michigan University and a master's degree from Saginaw Valley State University. She has been an educator for 29 years, the last three as principal at Arthur Hill High School.

+ EDUCATION



FAFSA stands for “Free Application for Federal Student Aid.”

COURTESY PHOTO



By **CRAIG DOUGLAS**
RETIRED EDUCATOR

The window for completing FAFSA 2024-25 will open in one month on December 1st, a couple of months later than last year. There are other relatively minor changes in the form, but basically FAFSA remains much like last year’s form.

FAFSA is important because it attempts to measure a family’s ability to pay for college. The documentation may reveal a financial need that could qualify the student for significant scholarships aimed to assist families to pay for college. Sometimes this is welcomed news that would not have been discovered otherwise.

Here are some considerations for families and FAFSA.

- While the application “opens” on December 1st, the deadline to apply may be February, March,

or slightly later depending upon the institution. Students should check with scholarship deadlines for precise deadlines.

- There is plenty of time to apply..... yet the truth be told, the sooner it is filed, the better. Imagine thousands of students in Michigan (and nationwide) needing to funnel their specific information into a system, almost at one time. The system can sometimes be overwhelmed, so the sooner it is completed, the better.
- Take advantage of expertise offered by others who work with FAFSA on a regular basis Many schools have “nights” dedicated to helping small groups of seniors complete the form, privately, in a group setting. Some high schools design a “FAFSA Night” and invites one of Delta College’s financial aid experts to make a presentation. This is a terrific way to reduce frustration and to assure accuracy in completing the “paperwork” online.
- How does FAFSA work? FAFSA collects data (e.g. family size) that is used with income to estimate a family’s ability to contribute for

college expenses. The information is used to determine whether a student qualifies for federally funded assistance such as a Pell grant, subsidized loan, or work-study.

Also, FAFSA may be used as qualification for other need-based scholarships. Some of these may be offered by the college or university. Others may be offered through a local foundation or other agency. The State of Michigan has a huge program called, the Michigan Achievement Scholarship. It is non-competitive and is open to all Michigan high school seniors who complete the FAFSA.

Like income tax “paperwork,” filing an accurate form is vital....and having help in doing so makes perfect sense.

Best wishes to all applicants!!!

Resources:

- <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>
- <https://finaid.umich.edu/2024-2025-fafsa-changes>
- <https://www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid/programs/michigan-achievement-scholarship>



ANDY CARLSON

Saginaw Township Community Schools' resource officer named outstanding school officer

Saginaw Township Community Schools Resource Officer Andy Carlson was awarded the Outstanding School Officer Award by the Crime Prevention Association of Michigan (CPAM). The award was given at the CPAM's annual conference in Traverse City and Carlson was nominated by Saginaw Township Police Sargent Chris Fredenburg.

Officer Carlson has been a School Resource Officer for five years and acts as a mentor and protector for Saginaw Township's Heritage High School, as well as the private high school in the community.

"The STCS family is so proud of Andy

Carlson for this wonderful recognition! His calming presence, genuine interaction with our students, dedication to impacting kids' lives above and beyond the school day, and professional expertise provide an invaluable resource to our students, staff members, and families," said Superintendent Bruce Martin. "I rely heavily upon his judgement as we plan scenarios and respond to situations in the life of our district. I can't think of a more deserving recipient for this honor."

CPAM was founded in 1973 through the leadership of the Michigan State Police and law enforcement officers from several major police departments. Their mission is

to provide and promote crime prevention, education, training, technical assistance and professional development to crime prevention practitioners to improve the quality of life in Michigan communities.

The Saginaw Township Community Schools (STCS) is comprised of eight elementary, middle and high schools within Saginaw Township, Michigan, and serves nearly 4,600 students. The mission of the district is to educate, guide and challenge all students to develop lifelong learning skills necessary to successfully contribute and compete in a rapidly changing global society

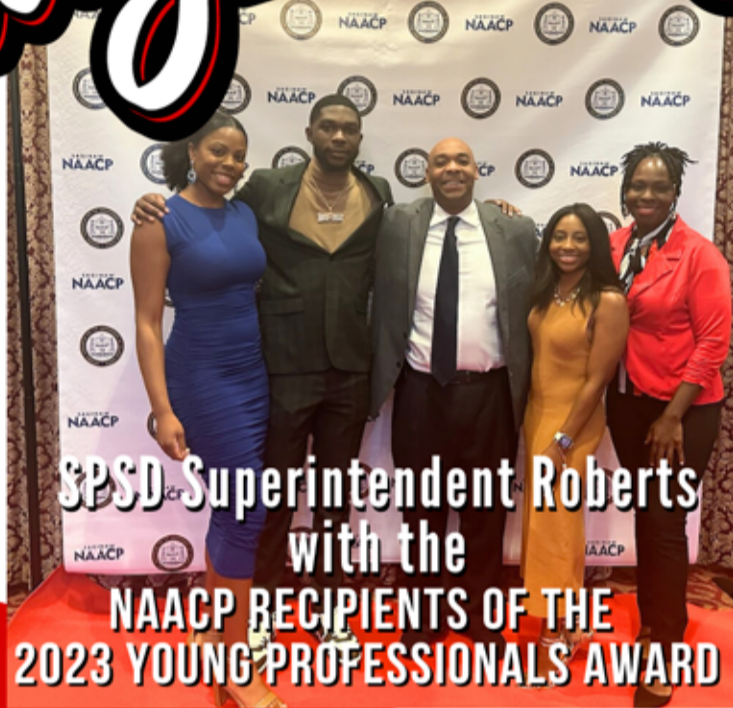
Congratulations!



CONGRATS!
ARSHEN BALDWIN
ARTHUR HILL HIGH SCHOOL
MTSS SPECIALIST



Congratulations
JENNIFER L. SMITH
ARTHUR HILL HIGH SCHOOL
ELA TEACHER



SPSD Superintendent Roberts with the NAACP RECIPIENTS OF THE 2023 YOUNG PROFESSIONALS AWARD



CONGRATS!
NICHOLAS HERD
ARTHUR HILL HIGH SCHOOL
LONG TERM SUBSTITUTE



CONGRATS
EDDIE THIGPEN III
JESSIE HOUSE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
4TH GRADE TEACHER

Pictured: Indigo Dudley (Saginaw United Volley Ball & Track Coach), Eddie Thigpen III (Rouse Teacher), Supt. Roberts, Jennifer Smith (AHHS Teacher) & Arshen Baldwin (AHHS MTSS Specialist)

Congratulations!



to the
Saginaw Public Schools' Staff Selected for the
2023 Michigan Teach for America Fellowships

Early Career Educator Fellowship

- Abigail Massung
- Kennedy Danforth
- Kimberly Newman
- Jennifer Smith
- Katelynn Jacob

Aspiring Leaders

- Trisha Baker
- Julie Kolobaric
- Debra Wyatt-McCain
- Dana Heyl
- Crystal Luckyado
- Arshen Baldwin
- Peggy Connors
- Veta Taylor
- Leticia Whitehead

Systems Leader

- Rachel Reid

National Board Certification

- Rebecca (Becky) Wilkins
- Jared Morningstar
- Jan M. Jeske
- Lori Hall
- Sarah Walsh
- Lisa Ewald
- Christine Dine
- James V. Rhoden



Teach For America

On the Shores of Michigan: Repercussions of Climate Change on the Mitten State



COURTESY PHOTO

The Delta Political Forum Series is hosting, “On the Shores of Michigan: Repercussions of Climate Change on the Mitten State” at 10am on Wednesday, Nov. 8, in room S105 on Delta’s main campus.

This deliberative-dialogue style event

will address the impact of climate change in Michigan and the Midwest. It will focus on effects on tourism, agriculture and industry.

The panel will include Peter Sinclair, environmental and energy specialist/

activist; Sara Beth Keough, Geography Department Professor and Chair at Saginaw Valley State University; and Steven Holty, Sustainability Team Leader at Hemlock Semiconductor and liaison to the governor’s Council on Climate Solutions. The forum will be moderated by Delta College Physics Professor Aurelian Balan and students in the Environmental Club.

“With wildfires in Canada creating poor air quality, once-in-a-lifetime hurricanes and record heat in parts of the country, the effects of climate change are all around us,” said Kris Nitz, Delta College biology professor and event organizer.

Remote viewing will be available in Room 123 at the Delta College Midland Center and in Room 101 at the Downtown Saginaw campus.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Mark Balawender, Delta College philosophy professor, at 989-686-9486.

SVSU Board approves additional security cameras, other campus improvements

The Saginaw Valley State University Board of Control approved spending up to \$1.1 million to install additional security cameras throughout campus, along with other upgrades to SVSU facilities, during the Board’s regular meeting Monday, Oct. 23.

As part of ongoing efforts to enhance safety and security, SVSU will install nearly 200 additional security cameras and the necessary infrastructure during 2024. SVSU currently has nearly 300 security cameras in place across campus.

Other improvements approved by the Board include:

- Replacing the lighting used in the Malcolm Field Theatre for Performing Arts, Rhea Miller Recital Hall and Black Box Theatre at a total cost of \$1.25 million. The upgrades will allow SVSU students



COURTESY PHOTO

to learn on the most modern equipment, while also improving the patron experience.

- Renovating the locker rooms for the SVSU volleyball and women’s soccer teams at a project cost of \$1.15 million.
- Replacing the air handling system and installing air conditioning for

Hamilton Gymnasium, which will cost \$800,000.

- Replacing the chiller piping for the Doan Science East building for \$300,000.

In other action, the Board:

- Approved the confirmation of Board members to Waterford Montessori Academy, a previously authorized charter school.
- Received and accepted the annual audit conducted by Andrews Hooper Pavlik PLC.
- Approved SVSU’s capital outlay plan for 2025-29.
- Approved the implementation of a new enterprise resource plan (ERP) system.
- Approved a land acknowledgement statement.

+ 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 37, SISD

Continued from pg 36, SISD

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Early Head Start/Head Start Locations

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

Great Start to Readiness Program Locations

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

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

SAY HELLO TO

FREE TUITION.

Get Free Tuition through Michigan's Reconnect Scholarship Program

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

Do you qualify?

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

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

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

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



SAGINAW PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Student: Koda Lamont Jones (7th Gr)
ZILWAUKEE SCHOOL

Nominated By: Mrs. Stacy Metiva, Administrative Assistant

Koda is a very pleasant young man. He always greets me by my name when he comes in to school. He puts his backpack behind the counter and always asks each time if it is off or pick it up. He addresses me everyday before he leaves. Telling me to have a good night or a good weekend. I have spoken to a few of his teachers and they too say what a great student he is.

KODA IS JUST A JOY TO HAVE HERE AT ZILWAUKEE SCHOOL!!



Difference Maker: Ms. Ashley Bangert
Saginaw Arts & Sciences Academy

Nominated by: Mrs. Cindy Tennant, S.A.S.A. Athletic Director

Ashley is the SASA Varsity Volleyball Coach and is doing an Awesome Job. She goes above and beyond in her coaching responsibilities. She develops and fosters relationships with her team and holds them to a higher standard.

THANK YOU, COACH BANGERT FOR BEING AN AMAZING DIFFERENCE MAKER!

CELEBRATES STUDENTS & STAFF

Student & Staff Recognition for Making SPSSD an Exceptional Place!

SAGINAW PUBLIC SCHOOLS

NATIONAL PRINCIPALS MONTH

OUTSTANDING PRINCIPALS LEAD EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS



+ EDUCATION

Saginaw ISD Superintendent Dr. Jeffrey Collier named 2024 MASA Superintendent of the Year



DR. JEFFREY COLLIER

The Saginaw Intermediate School District (ISD) is proud to announce that Dr. Jeffrey Collier, Superintendent of Saginaw ISD, has been named the 2024 Michigan Superintendent of the Year by the Michigan Association of Superintendents & Administrators (MASA). This prestigious accolade was unveiled during a surprise presentation at the Saginaw ISD Board of

Education meeting on Tuesday evening. Dr. Collier stated, "I am deeply humbled to be recognized by the Michigan Association of School Administrators (MASA) as the 2024 Michigan Superintendent of the Year. However, this recognition is a reflective testament of the transformative servant leadership provided to our community by the entire team of committed

educators throughout Saginaw ISD. This award also indicates a sample representation of the incredible collective efforts of superintendents and thought partners throughout the State of Michigan who work to advance positive opportunities and outcomes for all students, regardless of zip code. Thank you to MASA for this honored recognition, and thank you to all who have provided support, trust, and belief in my collaborative styles of leadership and vision."

Michigan's Superintendent of the Year award is presented annually by MASA to a superintendent who has shown tremendous effort and dedication to enriching the lives of students and the community as a whole. After an open nomination and application process, the annual award winner is selected by a panel representing education stakeholders across the state. Collier received seven separate nominations for this year's award, including testimonials from current staff, stakeholders, and previous colleagues and educators he has mentored. Dr. Collier is the first ISD Superintendent to receive this honor in the award's history. "Dr. Collier's leadership has been transformative in our educational community," said Mark Whelton, Bridgeport-Spaulding Community Schools Superintendent and award nominator. "He recognizes the critical role that local school districts play in the overall success of our educational system and goes above and beyond to offer support, guidance, and resources."

"I've known Dr. Collier a long time, having worked with him as both a district leader and now in his current role, and can absolutely say that he truly is a transformational leader," said MASA Executive Director Dr. Tina Kerr. "He has an innate ability to always work in true partnership with those around him, and his unwavering commitment to his team, the local school districts in Saginaw County, and public education across the state is evident and admirable. We are very proud to have

**CONTINUES ON PG 45,
COLLIER**

Continued from pg 44, Collier

Dr. Collier representing Michigan as this year's Superintendent of the Year."

Collier has more than 24 years of educational experience across multiple levels and districts. In July 2020, he was named the Superintendent of Saginaw ISD, which encompasses 12 local public school districts and five public school academies that serve approximately 26,000 students from birth to age 26. Prior to leading the ISD, Collier spent eight years as the Superintendent of the Au Gres-Sims School District. He was also a building principal at Tawas Area High School and a middle school assistant principal at Bay City Public Schools.

"He has been a supporter, confidant, friend, resource, and mentor," said Chris Ming, Superintendent at Au Gres-Sims School District and one of Collier's nominators. "Dr. Collier knows firsthand the demands of not just the superintendency, but also of having limited resources, human and otherwise, at your disposal in a small district, and he leads by example with his service mindset." Under Collier's leadership, Saginaw County successfully passed a Special Education Millage in 2022 – the first time in 48 years that such a measure was approved. The millage was passed at the statutory maximum level for special education and is expected to be an investment of at least \$88.5 million over the next decade for special education programs in school districts within the ISD. The millage has had a transformative effect on the ISD's capacity to fund essential special education programs and provide increased supports for some of its most marginalized students across the county. In addition to Special Education, "Dr. Collier has an unwavering commitment to instruction and learning in Saginaw County that is nothing short of inspiring. His visionary leadership has paved the way for innovative programs and initiatives that profoundly impacted outcomes for all learners," said Saginaw ISD Executive Director of Instructional Services Victor Bugni.

"Dr. Collier isn't just content with the status quo," said Dr. Stephen Bielow, Superintendent at Bay City Public Schools and another of Collier's nominators. "His reputation as a disruptor attests to his forward-thinking approach, prioritizing

innovative leadership designs that break barriers. This ensures that institutions aren't just functioning under his guidance – they are thriving."

Collier's work has also focused on addressing the critical educator shortage. He was one of 12 founding members of the Talent Together program – a collaborative consortium that aims to attract and train future educators by pooling resources and expertise – and currently sits on the organization's Governing Board. Collier and his team also pioneered the creation of the first Teacher Apprenticeship program in Michigan to provide aspiring teachers with hands-on classroom experience while earning a stipend. In working on this issue statewide, Dr. Collier also prioritized creating an environment at Saginaw ISD where both staff and students can flourish. This emphasis on fostering a conducive atmosphere as a cornerstone of employee attraction and retention has spurred numerous organizational capital improvement projects. "Jeff's involvement in various campus capital projects, including the renovation of the Millet Learning Center and the Transition Center project, highlights his dedication to providing state-of-the-art facilities that foster collaborative leadership and adaptability in a post-Covid educational landscape," remarked Saginaw ISD Deputy Superintendent Scott Sawyer.

Effective communication is also a large part of Collier's leadership. This past year, he led his team to launch the "Our Story" program, which aims to capture the "magic moments of awe" happening every day in education but that are not often shared. "One of the standout qualities of Dr. Collier is his earnest dedication to enhancing school communications. Under his leadership, we have experienced a transformative approach to how we tell "Our Story" both within our district and to our larger community with transparency, authenticity, and collective authorship," said Saginaw ISD Chief of Staff and Communications Supervisor Coty Kuschinsky. The campaign has shared over 1,500 positive narratives from more than 100 individuals since January. Beyond his role at Saginaw ISD, Collier also serves on various boards, including the Saginaw County Board of Public Health, Saginaw Community Foun-

ation, and Saginaw Valley State University's (SVSU) External Advisory Board, SET SEG Foundation, Hartley Foundation Board, and SVSU's Board of Fellows. "Dr. Collier's commitment to cooperation among neighboring ISDs and school districts has promoted knowledge sharing and best practices, ultimately benefiting students throughout the region," said Ruth Coppens, Saginaw ISD Board President and one of Collier's nominators. "His leadership has not only elevated Saginaw ISD but has also had a ripple effect on the entire educational landscape."

Collier is a lifelong learner with a rigorous educational background. He most recently earned his Doctor of Education degree in November of 2021 from Central Michigan University. He also holds both an Education Specialist and Master of Education degrees from Saginaw Valley State University. He began his post-secondary education at Delta College, earning an Associate of Arts degree before transferring to Michigan State University to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree.

In addition to the surprise presentation at Tuesday's board meeting, Collier will be formally recognized at MASA's 2024 Midwinter Conference in January in Detroit, Michigan. A \$1,000 student scholarship will also be presented and donated to Saginaw ISD in his honor by this year's Michigan award sponsor, Williams & Company.

As Michigan's 2024 Superintendent of the Year, Collier is now in the running for the national Superintendent of the Year award from the American Association of School Administrators (AASA). AASA will convene a Blue-Ribbon Selection Committee to select four national finalists in December. In January, the four finalists will participate in a national briefing and interviews at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.. The National Superintendent of the Year will be announced in February at the AASA National Conference on Education in San Diego, California, where all State Superintendents of the Year will also be honored.



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



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



SAGINAW INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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





About Saginaw ISD HE/EHS

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

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

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

pregnant women and their families.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Source: www.saginawheadstart.org



Sabrina Beeman-Jackson

Saginaw ISD Head Start/Early Head Start Program Director

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

Joe Baca, former Dem. California Congressman

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

MI Tri-Share
CHILD CARE

SAGINAW ISD
SERVE • INNOVATE • EMPOWER

MWC
MICHIGAN WOMEN'S
COMMISSION



The MI Tri-Share Child Care Program (Tri-Share) is an innovative approach to increasing access to high-quality, affordable child care for working families, with the cost of child care shared by an employer, the employee, and the State of Michigan.

Current Partners

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

Current Childcare Providers

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

SIGNING UP AS AN EMPLOYER:

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



+ SPORTS

Arthur Hill football celebrates 50 years, unbeaten, unscored on

By HASANI ALI

The 1973 Arthur Hill High School football team is the epitome of flawless victory.

Debated to be one of the greatest football teams of all time, these Lumberjacks (back then called the Hillites), coached by George Ihler, are celebrating 50 years of an undefeated season.

Going 9-0 that season was not the impressive part. The Lumberjacks averaged 49.2 points per game for better than a point-a-minute production.

Arthur Hill did something special by becoming the first Class A school to go undefeated and unscored upon since 1933. The offensive side of the ball only committed three turnovers during the entire season – one fumble and two interceptions.

To add more prestige to the offense, Arthur Hill scored 48 of the 54 times (89 percent) they had possession of the ball.

Terry Eurick finished the epic season with 984 rushing yards and 13 pass receptions for 365 yards and 24 touchdowns. The senior halfback was voted MVP by his teammates unanimously.

The late Ron Rummel followed with 16 touchdowns and 625 rushing yards on 74 carries. He also completed 31 of 70 passes for 808 yards. He also threw 11 touchdowns.

Linebacker Guy Pelkey, standing with his 5-foot-11, 185-pound frame, led the defense with 55 tackles while Tim Jank (5-foot-11, 195 pounds) recorded 50 tackles on his own.

The Lumberjacks had 13 players selected to the All-Saginaw Valley League Team – eight offensively and five defensively.

The two best teams on their schedule that year were Bay City Handy, who were the defending state champions at the time and Flint Northern. Both teams finished 6-3 that season, but were both beaten by Arthur Hill by a combination score of 74-0.



ARTHUR HILL HIGH SCHOOL 1973 FOOTBALL TEAM

Going into week 7, Flint Northern was ranked no. 2 in the state at the time, but was rolled by the Lumberjacks, 34-0.

According to an article from FootballScoop.com, Arthur Hill was deemed state champions by an AP vote compared to the playoff system. Two players went on to play at the University of Notre Dame, one went to the University of Nebraska and another attended Central Michigan University.

Coach Ihler topped off the season by earning season honors, such as Coach of the Year from the AP, UPI, Detroit New and Detroit Free Press. He was also named the National High School Football Coach of the Year. Lastly, he received the, “Who’s Who in National High School Athletics” award.

During their 45th year anniversary

reunion in Saginaw, the players had fond memories of assistant coach Ed Periard addressing the team after such a stellar season.

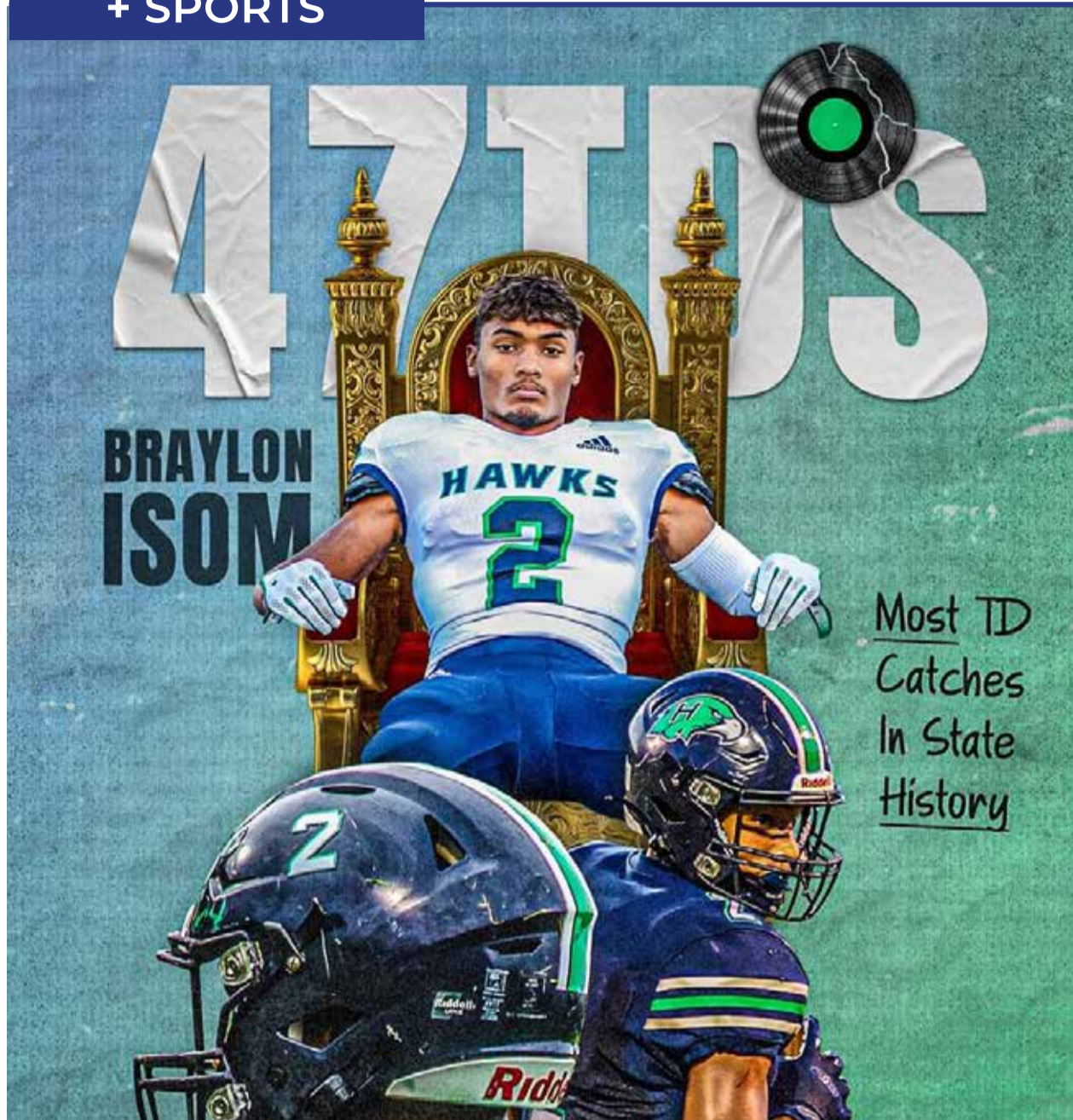
“You’re not going to fully appreciate what you just accomplished until 20-25 years from now,” he said.

Coach Ihler and many players are still in disbelief on how magical the season was.

“Heck, even after all these years it still may not have sunk in for many just exactly how special that season was.”

Arthur Hill’s 1973 varsity football team was the first induction class of the Saginaw County Sports Hall of Fame in 2002. Periard was inducted in 2003, Ihler and Eurick followed in 2007. Offensive lineman Paul Walderzak was the last inductee in 2016.

+ SPORTS



BRAYLON ISOM

Isom breaks MHSAA's touchdown record

By HASANI ALI

Saginaw football has been the home to many legends.

Charles Rogers, LaMaar Woodley, Clifton Ryan and Stu Schweigert have all created astounding memories around Saginaw County and then went to wow the fans of the NFL after stellar college careers.

The city is still quite known for developing basketball talent. However, many of the athletes around the area are working to put Saginaw football on the map.

With Saginaw High School and Arthur Hill combining to make Saginaw United, the oldest Michigan rivalry will have to

be put aside in hopes of making the city school more competitive across the state and to build more memories for the city.

Yet, the city continues to produce more quality football players that are making waves in college recruiting and state records.

Records are meant to be broken and the time has come.

Heritage senior wide receiver Braylon Isom has surpassed Ithaca's JT Jones for most touchdown catches in the state.

He caught his 46th and 47th TD passes during the last game of the season en route of a 57-12 win against Saginaw United.

At halftime, Isom had 170 career catches, 3,116 yards and 47 touchdowns in his career.

He caught a 16-yard touchdown pass in the first quarter for the 46th of his career. Isom broke J.T. Jones' (Ithaca) record of 45 he set in 2001.

"His ability to stretch the field opens the offense for the rest of us," Heritage head coach Justin Thelen told MLive last week. "He's pretty incredible. He deserves the record."

Though the 6-foot-3, 195-pound receiver was silent on social media after breaking the state record, those around him were quick to acknowledge his accolades.

"My neighbor is cooler than yours!" said Cameo Francetic-Lynn via Facebook. "I remember when you with little scrawny arms. I blinked and something happened. Your heart and dedication to training is an amazing example to these kids coming up behind you. So proud!"

Isom has verbally committed to the University of Miami Ohio back in April. He chose to become a Red Hawk over Bowling Green, Toledo, Central Michigan and Eastern Michigan.

"All the relationship I built with the coaches made it feel like home," said Isom. "I am very excited to be playing here on Saturdays."

Last season, the three-star prospect recorded over 1,400 receiving yards and 20 touchdowns, solidifying him as an AP first team all-state receiver.

He is also ranked no. 18 in the state according to 247Sports.com.

Heritage went 6-3 during the season, ranking no. 3 in the Saginaw Valley League (Blue) Conference. After a hot start with two consecutive wins over Mount Pleasant and Lakeland, the Hawks had some trouble with their foes from the Flint area.

Heritage lost to Grand Blanc, 53-33 and another to the 9-0 SVL champions of Davison, 37-22.

A three-game winning streak ensued with convincing wins over Lapeer, Carman-Ainsworth and Midland Dow before being stopped by Flint Powers Catholic Central, 72-42.

They will be hosting Traverse City Central in district play on Oct. 27.

+ SPORTS



COURTESY PHOTO

Jase Richardson, son of Spartan legend Jason, commits to MSU

By HASANI ALI

Like father, like son.

Michigan State head coach Tom Izzo will have another chance to coach a Richardson for the Spartan program.

Jase, from Miami Fla., is a four-star, 6-foot-3 guard that verbally committed to MSU on Oct. 15, three weeks after his visit.

He is currently ranked no. 28 overall in the nation according to ESPN, no. 6 as a guard.

According to 247Sports.com, Richardson had previous visits to Stanford and Cincinnati back in May prior to his MSU

visit.

He also had solid offers from Alabama, Cincinnati, San Diego State, and USC. This would be the third commitment for the 2024 class.

"From the moment I stepped on campus for my official visit there was a real connection with the players and coaches. It felt like family," he said in an ESPN interview. "I remember my first visit to Michigan State, I was 7 years old. It was my dad's reunion on winning the national championship."

MSU's class was ranked no. 27 in the nation, but that will be subject to change

with this commitment made later on in the month.

Jase joins fellow ESPN 100 prospects Kur Teng, ranked no. 39, and Jesse McCullough, ranked no. 98, in Michigan State's 2024 class.

Last season, MSU ranked no. 4 in Big Ten play after going 11-8, 21-13 overall.

Nov. 16 is when the season tips off for the Spartans, starting with James Madison coming to the Breslin Center.

The Spartans are no. 4 in the preseason rankings for the upcoming season behind Purdue, Duke and Kansas.

After this season, MSU could lose guards Tyson Walker and A.J. Hoggard while Jaden Akins could look to the NBA. Richardson and Jeremy Fears, who was ranked No. 27 in the 2023 class, will help fill their shoes.

Izzo coached his father, Jason, during the 1999-2000 season where the Spartans won the national championship against Florida.

After helping lead Michigan State to the title in 2000, Jason was selected by the Golden State Warriors in the fifth round in the 2001 NBA draft.

He spent 14 seasons in the NBA for five different franchises, averaging double figures in scoring in all but one season and winning back-to-back NBA Slam Dunk Contests in 2002 and 2003.

Jase chose MSU because of the authenticity of Izzo. He told Richardson that he earned an offer off his own merit, rather than the connection that he has with his father.

"Coach Izzo is a genuine person," Richardson said. "He tells you what you need to hear. He keeps it real. We have built a connection and trust. More importantly, he told me if my dad did not play at Michigan State, he would still recruit me and want me. That meant a lot to me.

Though Jase earned the scholarship on his own merit, he may be wrapped up in the nostalgia of East Lansing.

"He would tell me stories about my dad. He told me he broke two shooting machines in one season because he used them so much. He said my dad still owes him a shooting machine."

+ SPORTS



EMIR MARSHALL

Marshall wins King of the Jungle boxing tournament

By HASANI ALI

It was just another weekend for Emir Marshall.

Two weeks ago, the 14-year-old traveled to Grand Rapids along with coach Joe Mendez and 14-year-old Jovan Kimball for the King of the Jungle tournament, hosted by the National Latino Association.

Despite having all of the waiting for the fights, the pair came out with some huge wins, including Marshall winning the tournament overall, winning the pre-tourney fight and two in tournament play.

“We were the last fight of the night and it was a real needed win,” Mendez said.

“There were 27 fights before us and we were anxious to get out there and I didn’t want him worn out by the time his fight came, but he came out and did what he had to do.”

Marshall was the winner of the tournament after a third-round stoppage against a fighter from Beast Boxing Gym in Chicago.

Kimball, who fought at 120 pounds, went 1-1 at the tournament and is now sitting at 8-2.

“Overall it was a great tournament,” he said. “Couldn’t ask for a better turnout. They did really well with waiting until their fights and they seem a bit wore out

from fighting for the past few weekends.”

Mendez noted that Marshall, fighting between 110-115 pounds, has only been boxing for less than a year and a half, but has exceeded the expectations as an experienced fighter as he is currently sitting with a 8-4 record.

“Where has this guy been at?” Mendez mentioned he was asking him in the corner. “He was doing a really good job executing.”

Marshall was excited about winning the tournament, yet didn’t let the hype go to his head as he’s preparing for another fight.

“It was just another batch of fights for me,” he said. “I think that I’m doing really well as I’m just starting out. Doing a lot of good things for a beginner and I just want to keep that momentum going.”

Marshall and Mendez both learned something about the Saginaw native’s boxing abilities.

“Even though he was the skinnier fighter most of the time, he was the stronger fighter,” he said. “His right uppercut and left hook did really well for him, then he would come with the overhand and just couldn’t miss.”

Mendez is prepared to push Marshall to the limits as the Gideon Boxing Gym is getting ready to take a small hiatus after they host the Halloween Boxing Bash, which is on Oct. 28.

“We’re in the preseason right now,” Mendez said. “We’re going to take a break after this next fight as we get ready to fight during the season. Once the season is over, we’ll take another break and then we will get ready for Golden Gloves in the spring.”

As the two fighters are getting around the state and making a name for themselves and the gym, Mendez is not surprised by the recognition that the club is getting from other programs.

“It means what we’ve already known,” Mendez said jokingly. “Our program has a mindset of creating winners. We’re not here to have fun. Fun is a by-product of winning as nobody wants to lose. That’s why we have fighters like Emir beating boxers that are more experienced and he has been with us for more than a year and a half.”

“

I WOULD FIRST LIKE TO SAY THANK YOU TO JIM CRANE AND FAMILY FOR GIVING ME THIS OPPORTUNITY OVER THE LAST 4 YEARS. IT HAS BEEN A TREMENDOUS HONOR TO BE THE LEADER OF THIS BALLCLUB.

THANK YOU TO THE FANS FOR THEIR UNWAVERING PASSION. THE AMOUNT OF LOVE I'VE RECEIVED IN MY TIME IN HOUSTON HAS BEEN UNMATCHED.

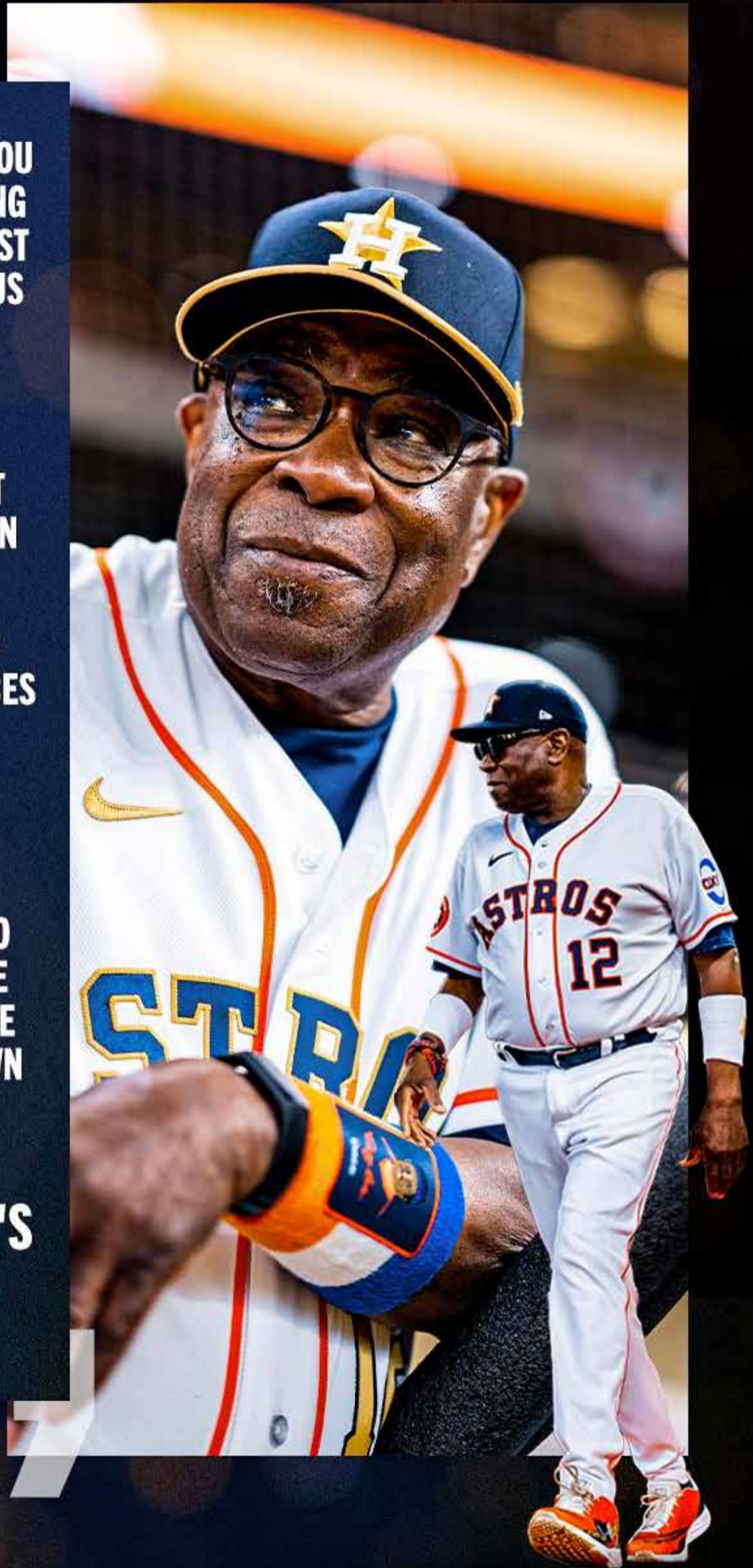
THANK YOU TO ALL MY PLAYERS AND COACHES FOR THEIR MANY SACRIFICES ON OUR MULTIPLE PURSUITS TO A WORLD SERIES TITLE. YOU ALL GAVE ME ALL YOU HAD EVERY DAY AND THAT'S ALL I CAN EVER ASK FOR.

LASTLY, I WANT TO SAY THANK YOU TO ALL MY FRIENDS AND FAMILY. I HAVE IMMENSE GRATITUDE FOR ALL OF THE LOVE AND SUPPORT YOU HAVE SHOWN ME THROUGHOUT THE YEARS AND I CAN'T SAY THANK YOU ENOUGH.

THIS ISN'T A GOODBYE, IT'S SIMPLY A SEE YOU LATER.

Dusty Baker
DUSTY BAKER

”





PIC OF THE WEEK

Ben Bailey and Gail Little attend retirement celebration for Pastor Marvin Smith at Horizons Conference Center.





We empower.

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



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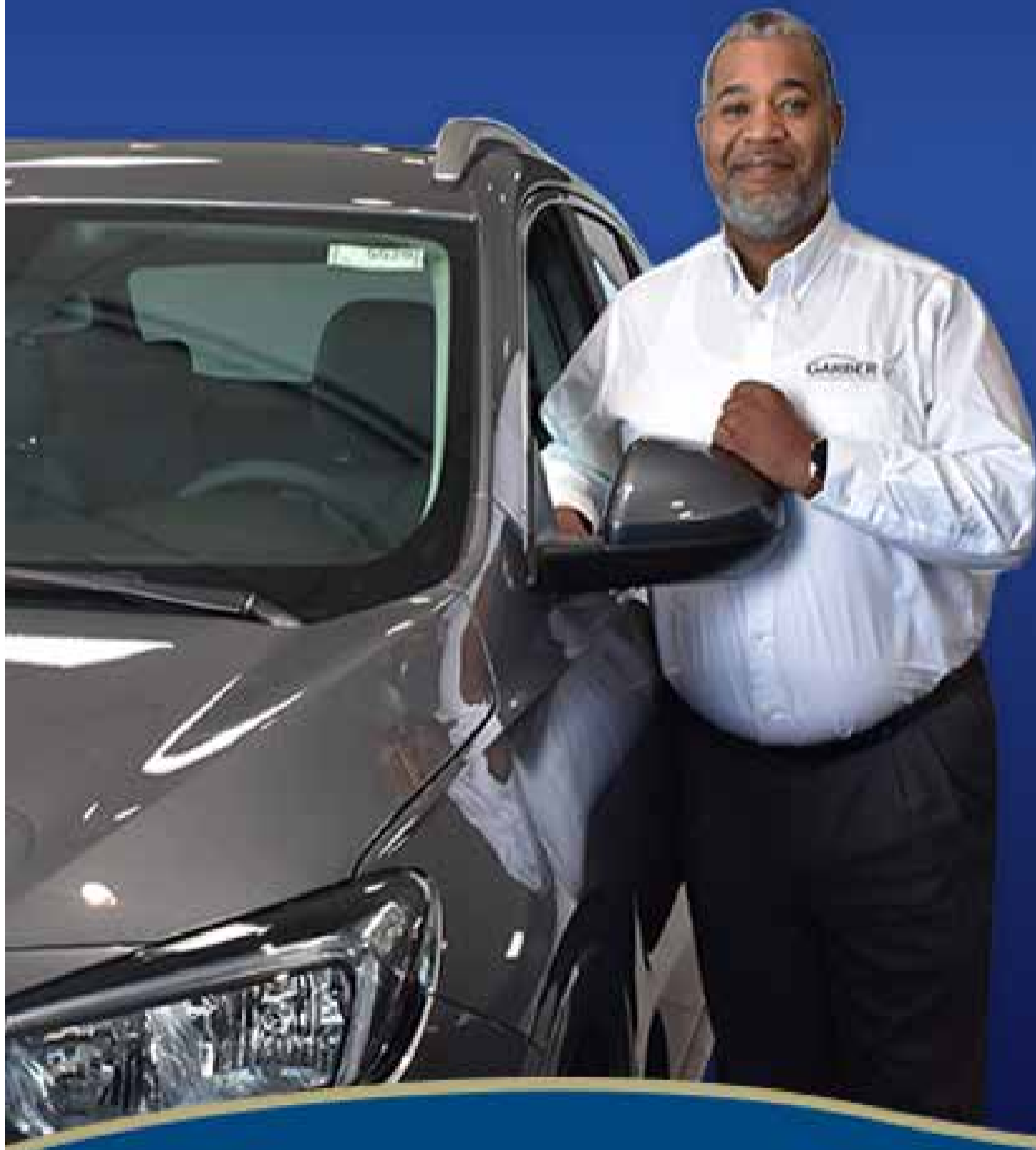


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