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SAGINAW PUBLIC SCHOOLS APPLIES \$2 MILL STATE GRANT TO PARTNER WITH SVSU TO "GROW YOUR OWN" CERTIFIED TEACHERS

EDUCATION, PG 33

Julian Morris and Women of Colors receive Governor's Service Award



JULIAN MORRIS, FOUNDER OF S.W.A.G. MAGAZINE AND EVELYN MCGOVERN, PRESIDENT OF WOMEN OF COLORS

A Saginaw teen entrepreneur and a 30 year old women's group will be amongst the 42 recipients who will be honored at the 2023 Governor's Service Awards later this month. Established to recognize those who go above and beyond, the statewide awards have been presented since 1994.

While one local recipient is just beginning his community volunteerism and activism, another has been serving the community for three decades.

Julian Morris, founder of S.W.A.G. Magazine, received the Youth Volunteer of the Year award. Julian, an 11th grader at Saginaw High School, has become a strong community voice on issues such as education loss, youth mental health and American Rescue Plan Act funding. In the last few years, he has spent upwards of 300 hours volunteering with the Heads-Up Mentoring Program, helping young students learn to read and write. He also serves with Saginaw STEM as a peer mentor on STEM Saturdays, teaches writing workshops at Jessie Rouse Elementary School, hosts a book club at Arthur Eddy Academy, and created an after-school journalism program at Thompson Middle School.

Women of Colors (WOC), who celebrated their 30th anniversary this year, received the Community Impact Award. The grassroots nonprofit organization has served the Saginaw community since 1993. The organization is devoted to raising public awareness of substance use disorder prevention services and other public health issues through partnerships and collaborating with agencies and organizations dedicated to the well-being of the Saginaw community.

WOC Programs include the Students and Future Technology Program, Great Empowering Motivational Sessions (GEMS), annual Warm a Child for Winter Coat Giveaway, WOC Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Boot Camp, WOC Community Forums, Stronger Together, and Your Voice Your Choice – Youth Explosion annual event.

The Michigan Community Service Commission will host the 2023 Governor's Service Awards on Nov. 28, 7 p.m. at the Fox Theatre in Detroit. Admission to the event is free, but registration is recommended.



Melissa Villaseñor will headline 34th Annual Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Gala

LATINO BANNER, COVER

THE MICHIGAN BANNER IS A PROUD MEMBER OF:



Remembering Michigan Banner's Co-Founder RAE LYNN TINSLEY-BUCKLEY

| APRIL 6, 1953 - NOVEMBER 19, 2015 |



Rae Lynn Tinsley-Buckley was born in Saginaw, Michigan on April 6, 1953. She graduated from St. Joseph High School (Class of 1971) and went on to attend Delta College and Saginaw Valley State University where she earned a Bachelor degree in Business Management.

On July 14, 1979, she married Jerome Buckley. The two of them would form a partnership in life and in business, opening Wonderland Beauty and Barber Supply and years later, The Michigan Banner Newspaper.

Rae Lynn had a strong passion for local journalism but she was even more passionate about the youth in her community. She merged both of her interests and established the Michigan Banner Outreach, a program that educates at-risk youth in media literacy.

In 2017, Jerome Buckley established The Rae Lynn Tinsley-Buckley Scholarship to honor Rae Lynn. The annual scholarship is awarded to high school students in the Great Lakes Bay Region who intend to pursue a degree in Journalism, Communications or a related field from an accredited Institution.

Rae Lynn was a woman of great intellect, dedication and creativity who contributed immensely in making The Michigan Banner what it is today. So as we celebrate our 22nd Anniversary and think about our future, we do so while holding on to Rae Lynn's vision of educating and enlightening our communities through positive, inspiring and informative stories.

MICHIGAN BANNER

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MISSION

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

DISCLAIMER

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DEADLINES

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

SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

Mailed or e-mailed
Preferred format: Jpeg or PDF

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IN THIS ISSUE ▶

Youth Banner	4 - 7
Latino Banner	LB 1 - LB 6
Community	15
]Faith Based	28
Education	32
Sports	45

MICHIGAN YOUTH BANNER

VOLUME 5 • NUMBER 22



POWER OF SIMPLICITY

By DONIQUA SOVIA

I recall one day, sitting on my bed staring at a blank page in my journal for what seemed like a long time, but was really only a few minutes. I sat there in frustration. There I was; a writer, a poet, I was supposed to be good at putting words together so seamlessly and effortlessly and I had nothing. Not a thought, not an inspiration, not a line to get me started, no opinions, just air.

I started to write and each time got frustrated and would tear the page of my journal out and begin writing again. I did this a total of four or five times, before in a huff I yelled "WHY CAN'T I THINK OF ANYTHING GOOD TO WRITE?!" You see, I wanted this piece of writing to be profound, and make people think, and be deep and all that good stuff, but I had nothing.

I took a little break, and came back to stare at the journal again hoping something would pop into my mind. Nothing. So I decided to just write and whatever came out, that was it, I was done for the day. I wrote the poem; Rehearsals, and after I was done and re-read it to myself, I hated it. I didn't think it captured what I was trying to convey, even though I didn't know what I was trying to convey anyway.

Nonetheless, I kept it and decided to share it with some people in an app. It became a favorite. Many people wanted to hear it, and those who had heard it before wanted to hear it again. I was confused. Out of all the poems I've let these people hear, they want this one? It's just too simple and lacks creativity. You see what I was doing was underestimating the power that lies in simplicity.

I'm reminded of the famous song The Blood Will Never Lose Its Power, by Andrae Crouch. After writing it, he felt it didn't convey what he was trying to put out there and threw it away, someone convinced him to at least record it, and it went on to become one of the greatest songs in the Christian music world. Simplicity has power.

We're so quick to want to sound smart, deep, profound, give a new perspective, when really if we put it in a simple way, more people will be apt to want hear more of what we say, because we make it easy to understand. No matter how simple it may seem to you, just remember that simplicity can be the key that opens the door to success.



Seen on the scene: Jack and Jill of America, Inc., Great Lakes Bay Region Chapter kids received real life examples on the importance of civic participation and engagement. They were given a tour of the court, a discussion on the importance of voting and planning for legal education and a career in the law. They engaged with Magistrate Janey Lamar, the first Black female Magistrate of Saginaw County District Court, District Court Judge Terry Clark, Saginaw's first African American Judge, and Amos O'Neal, State Representative for Michigan's 94th District.



#VBMNATION

VICTORIOUS BELIEVERS MINISTRIES
YOUTH WEEKEND 2023

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LADY KENYATTA PRYOR, FIRST LADY

BREAKING NEWS

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ERINNA M. HINDS
SR. DIRECTOR OF MINISTRIES

SUN NOV 19 11AM
ELDER
TIRRELL MCCOY
REGIONAL YOUTH PRESIDENT
INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DEPT. COSIAC
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NOVEMBER 11-17, 2023
YOUTH SPIRIT WEEK

TEEN WORKSHOP
SAT | NOV 11
-Speaker-
Evangelist Erinna M. Hinds
Lunch 12:00pm-1:00PM
Open Gym 1:00pm-3:00pm

EVANGELISM DAY
SAT | NOV 18 | 11AM-1PM
Baynes Apple Orchard
5395 Midland Rd | Freeland, MI 48623
OVER - DINNER - JESUS

Youth Dept.
ACADEMY AWARDS
SUN | NOV 19 | 2:30PM
Semi-Formal Attire
Tickets - \$10 (w/meal)

YOUTH SUNDAY | NOV 19 | 11AM

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FEAT. ARTIST GRAYCE

Congratulations

to Jamal Robbins Junior's Collectables, Sa'Veya Jackson Exploring Bath Bombs, Kimora Kinnard Kimora's Shoppe, Shelby DelosSantos Shelby's Shoppe, Londyn Newton L&L Bowtique and Natalia Luke Natalia's Sweets D'light on being a finalists in the 3rd annual Dare to Dream competition sponsored by Kids Rule Now! and Duperon Education.



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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

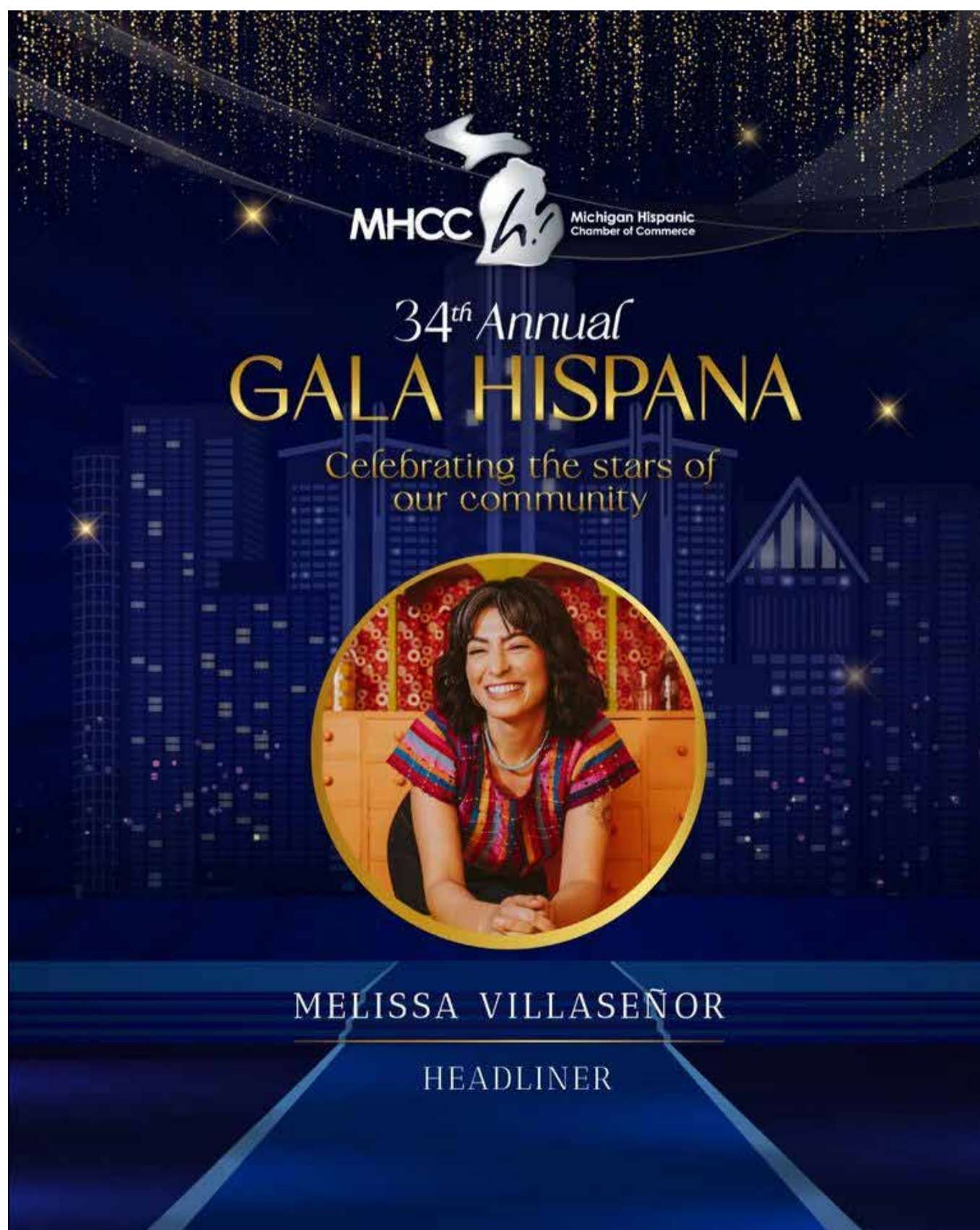
Melissa Villaseñor will headline 34th Annual Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Gala

On December 1, Melissa Villaseñor will headline the 34th Annual Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Gala Hispana at the MGM Grand Casino in Detroit.

Melissa Villaseñor is a stand-up comedian, actress, and impressionist who broke barriers by becoming the first-ever Latina cast member of Saturday Night Live. Melissa has voiced characters for Toy Story 4, Wreck It Ralph 2, Cartoon Network's OK K.O.!, Fox's American Dad and Family Guy. She has also filmed episodes for Comedy Central's Awkwafina Is Nora from Queens, HBO's Crashing and Barry, Freeform's Alone Together, and of course Saturday Night Live. Most recently, you can catch her as herself on Netflix's Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee, The Stand Up's on Netflix, and cat owner Karen in Netflix's Hubie Halloween.

Melissa made her start as a semifinalist on "America's Got Talent", and has continued to tour internationally - headlining stand-up comedy clubs and theaters for the past 10 years.

Melissa has been named one of Forbes 30 Under 30 and Rolling Stone's 50 Funniest People Right Now in 2017.



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



3rd Annual K?ONDA! *Holiday Bazaar*

Saturday, December 9, 2023

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

St. Helen's Shepherd Hall

2445 N. Charles St., Saginaw, MI 48602

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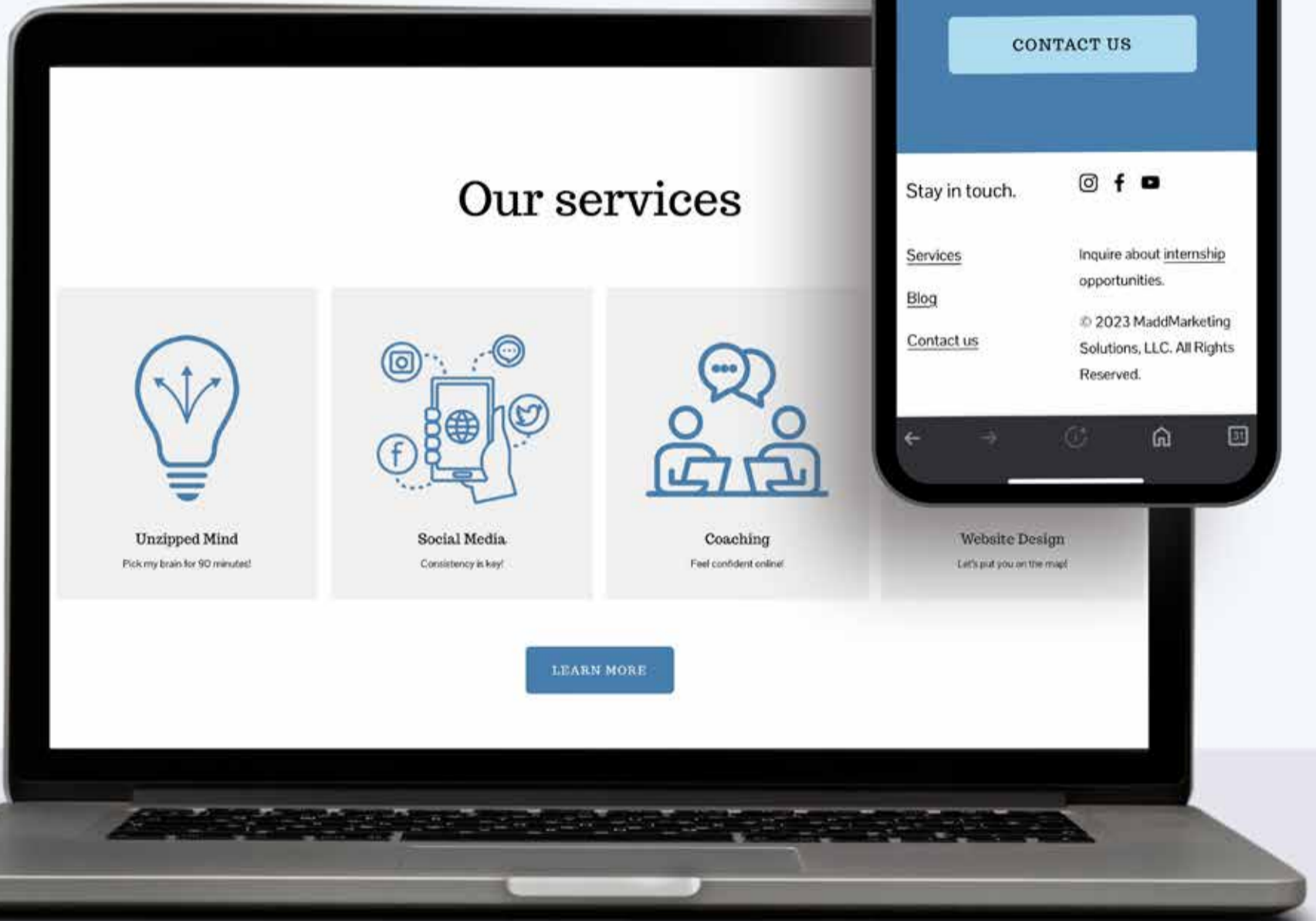
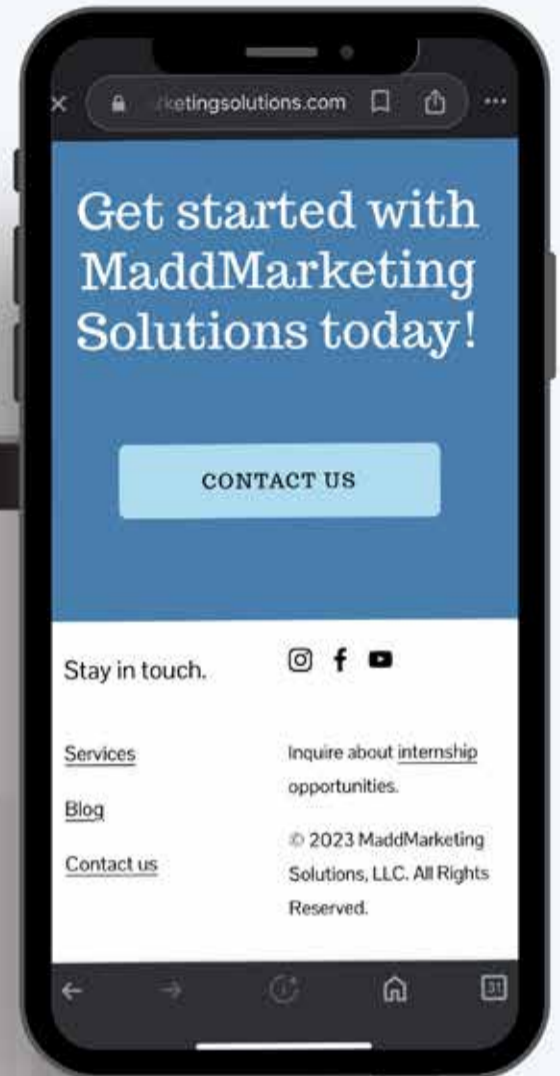
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Seen on the Scene: Adam Banda Gonzalez received Veteran of the Game acknowledgement on November 9, 2023 at the Saginaw Spirit Hockey game



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INDIGO DUDLEY AS MARIE IN RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S CINDERELLA

Pit & Balcony Community Theatre presents Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella

Pit & Balcony's 92nd season continues this November with Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella.

The well-known musical's script was updated in 2013 by Douglas Carter Beane who received a Tony nomination for his work. Updates to the script include new characters and some twists to the familiar story alongside popular Rodgers and Hammerstein tunes such as "Impossible," "In My Own Little Corner," and "Stepsister's Lament." Many people will remember the 1997 television version of the show starring musical icons Brandy and Whitney Houston.

"I am excited to present this version of Cinderella," says Amy Spadafore, Managing Director of Pit & Balcony and director of the production. "I, have strong nostalgia for the piece and the updates to the script

make a familiar story feel so timely and relevant. As a woman, I find it especially refreshing that Cinderella gets to take control of her own destiny in this revival with a subtle but strong twist to the original plot."

The production features a cast of thirteen volunteers from the Great Lakes Bay Region. Hope Brown plays the title role and Indigo Dudley is featured as the Fairy Godmother. Rounding out the cast are Matthew Howe as the Prince, Yavaha Oglesby as the Stepmother, Emily Sweeney and Hillary Huebler as the Stepsisters, and Greg Allison, Ben Probst, Conner Weiland, Melanie Kratz, Michelle Mersy, Erin Palmer, and Elizabeth Reinhardt in various featured and ensemble roles.

Spadafore continues, "We have an energetic and talented cast that I know will

inspire audiences to feel in their hearts that nothing is impossible and anyone can be a princess - or a prince or a fairy godmother."

Performances of Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella run November 10-12 & 17-19. Friday and Saturday showings will begin at 7:30pm and Sunday's performances will begin at 3:00pm. The production is suitable for all ages and Pit & Balcony encourages audiences to dress in their finest prince or princess attire when they attend.

Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella is proudly presented in partnership with Spence Brothers Construction.

Tickets and more information can be found at www.PitAndBalconyTheatre.com or by calling (989)754-6587.

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DREA INSPIRES

with Andrea Buckley



Halfway done with adult swim lessons, and yesterday I entered the deep end of the pool for the first time. I was incredibly nervous when I could no longer feel my feet touch the bottom of the pool. Even with two life guards in the room and my swim instructor nearby, I grabbed the wall for dear life. I didn't realize how much my feet touching the bottom of the pool and my hand gripping the side of the pool served as a safety net for me. At this point, I've successfully swam in the shallow end for weeks now, but the deep waters was a new challenge. The cool thing is the same skill set I cultivated in the shallow, kept me alive and safe in the deep and my swim instructor knew I was ready. My mind, however, wanted the safety net and I was having a hard time trusting myself without it. It was scary, and I was able to laugh at myself and eventually let go of the wall and swam a little.

I'm excited to see what's next and taking home this life lesson: The same skills you are cultivating in the "shallow end," are the same skills you will need/fall back on in the "deep end." Trust yourself. You got this.

And if all else fails makes sure you have the right support around you (ie.lifeguards and trusted teacher), to guide you when you need it. There will come a time, however, where you have to just trust yourself. P.S. you are so lucky if you learned how to swim when you were a kid, such a malleable age to build habits. But, if you did not learn, it may not be too late!





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presents **FREE** Holiday Events for the Entire Family!



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 "Ringling 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





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COURTESY PHOTO

Social Security benefits will increase in 2024

By HILLARY HATCH
SOCIAL SECURITY PUBLIC
AFFAIRS SPECIALIST

More than 71 million Americans will see a 3.2% increase in their Social Security benefits and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments in 2024. On average, Social Security retirement benefits will increase by more than \$50 per month starting in January.

Federal benefit rates increase when the cost-of-living rises, as measured by the Department of Labor's Consumer Price Index (CPI-W). The CPI-W rises when inflation increases, leading to a higher cost-of-living. This change means prices for goods and services, on average, are higher. The cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) helps to offset these costs.

We will mail COLA notices throughout the month of December to retirement, survivors, and disability beneficiaries, SSI recipients, and representative payees. But if you want to know your new benefit amount

sooner, you can securely obtain your Social Security COLA notice online using the Message Center in your personal my Social Security account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. You can access this information in early December, prior to receiving the mailed notice. Benefit amounts will not be available before December. Since you will receive the COLA notice online or in the mail, you don't need to contact us to get your new benefit amount.

If you prefer to access your COLA notice online and not receive the mailed notice, you can log in to your personal my Social Security account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount to opt out by changing your preferences in the Message Center. You can update your preferences to opt out of the mailed COLA notice, and any other notices that are available online. Did you know you can receive a text or email alert when there is a new message waiting for you? That way, you always know when we have something important for you – like your COLA notice. If you don't have an ac-

count yet, you must create one by November 14, 2023, to receive the 2024 COLA notice online.

"Social Security and SSI benefits will increase in 2024, and this will help millions of people keep up with expenses," said Kilolo Kijakazi, Acting Commissioner of Social Security.

January 2024 marks when other changes will happen based on the increase in the national average wage index. For example, the maximum amount of earnings subject to Social Security payroll tax in 2024 will be higher. The retirement earnings test exempt amount will also change in 2024. Learn more at www.ssa.gov/news/press/factsheets/colafacts2024.pdf.

Be among the first to know! Sign up for or log in to your personal my Social Security account today at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. Choose email or text under "Message Center Preferences" to receive courtesy notifications.

You can find more information about the 2024 COLA at www.ssa.gov/cola.



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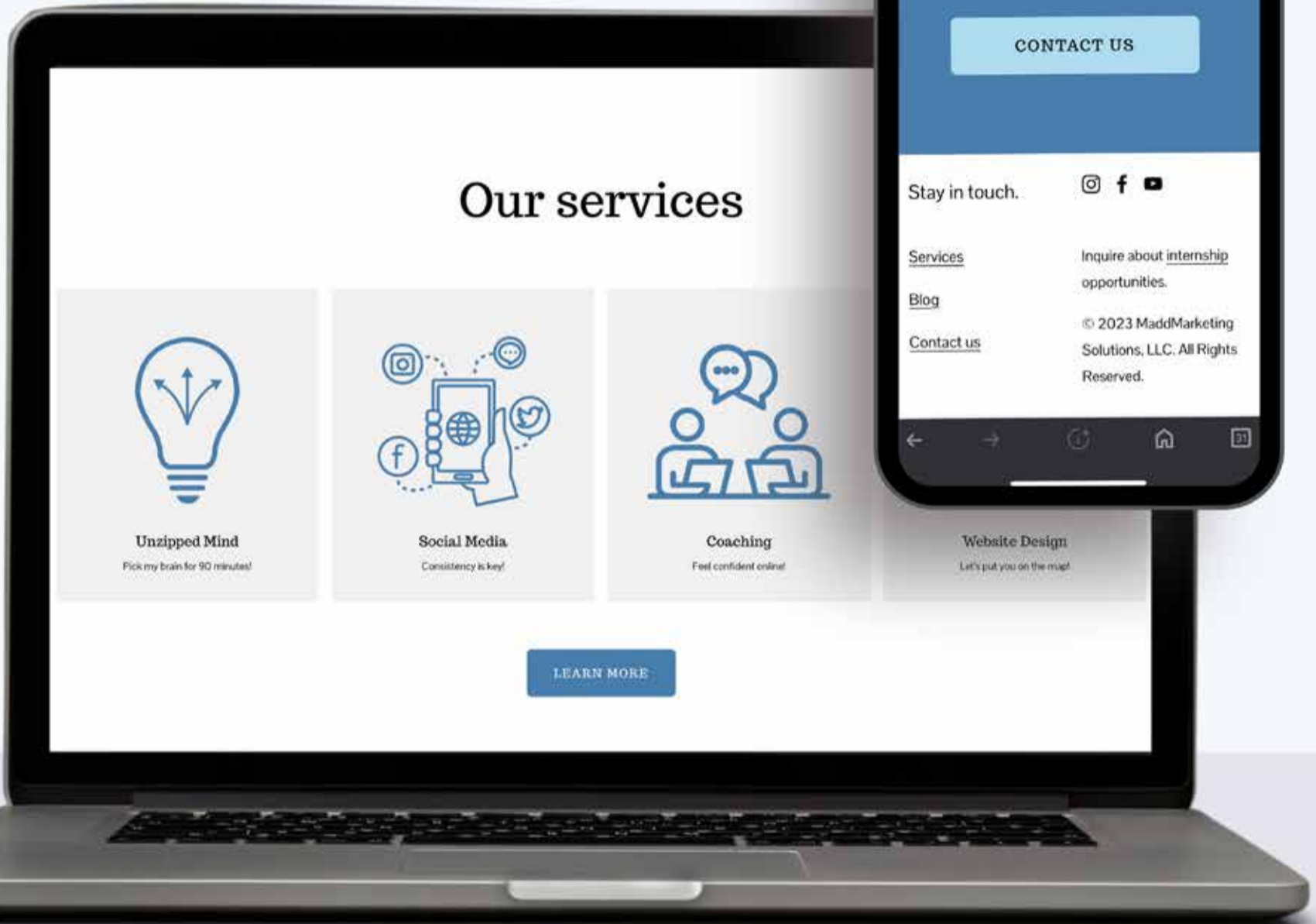
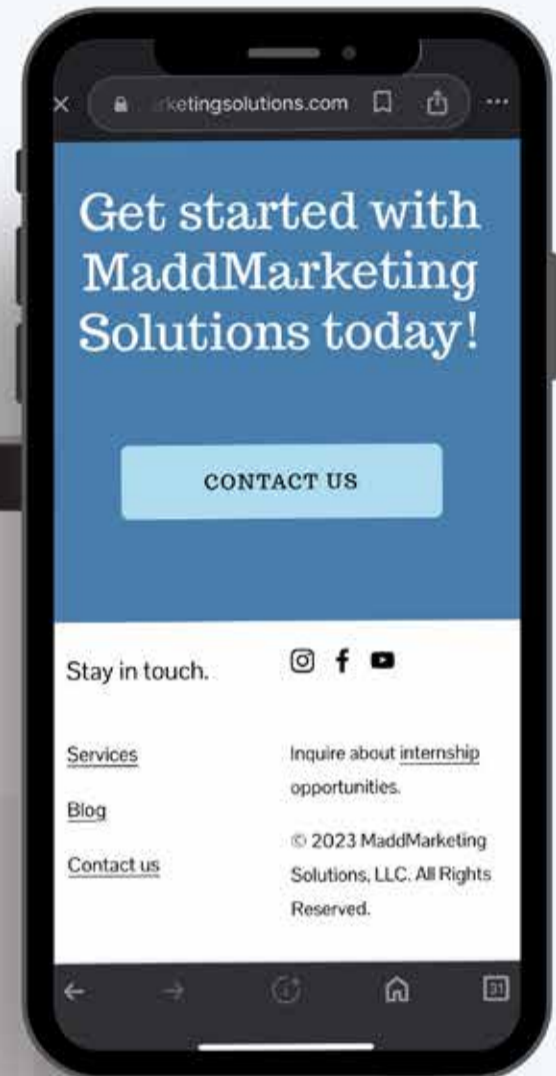
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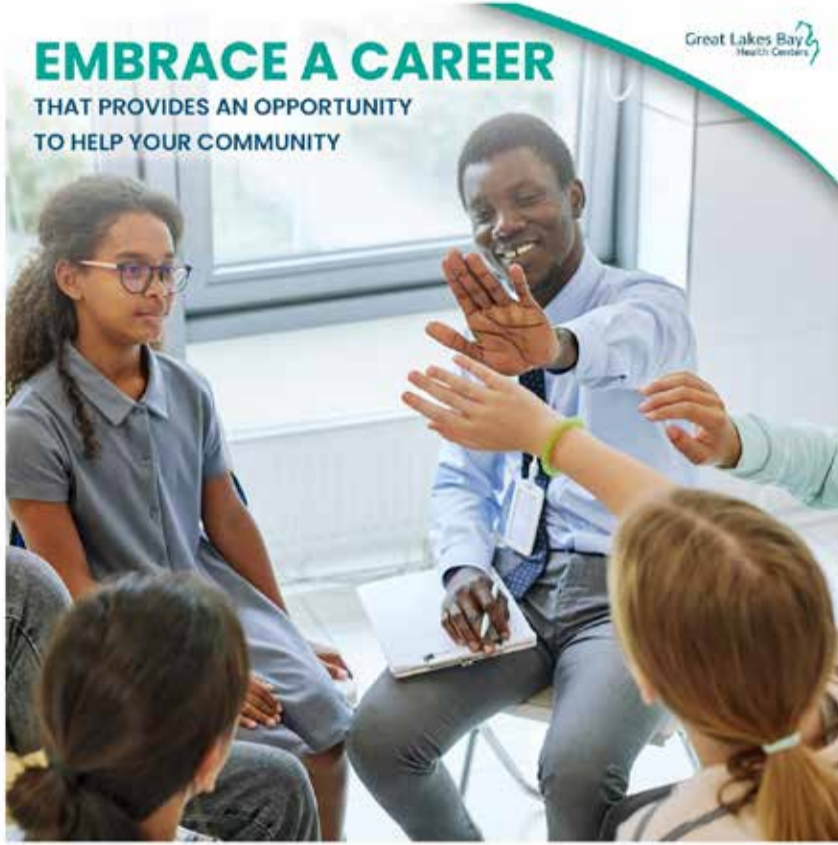


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COURTESY PHOTO

New project will bring community gathering space, vibrancy to downtown Saginaw

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer joined the Michigan Economic Development Corporation to announce that a new public gathering space will soon be coming to downtown Saginaw with support from the Michigan Strategic Fund. One of several placemaking activities currently taking place in Saginaw, the Memorial Cup Legacy Project will serve to enhance the image of the city and commemorate the 2024 Memorial Cup taking place in spring 2024.

“The Memorial Cup Legacy Project underscores our commitment to supporting our neighborhoods as attractive places to live, work and play by transforming underutilized properties into productive spaces. This project is another step forward in our strategy to grow Michigan’s economy by helping communities across the state ‘make it’ in Michigan,” said Governor Whitmer.

The Memorial Cup Legacy Project plans to redesign and enhance a 300-foot section of Symphony Lane, a city-owned street near the Dow Event Center enter-

tainment district. The street will be rebuilt and transformed into a vibrant public gathering space with bump-outs and infrastructure for food trucks, electrical access, Edison-style street lighting, a pedestrian-friendly crossing, a Memorial Cup sculpture, lighting, landscaping and connections to the Dow Event Center.

The Michigan Strategic Fund awarded the city of Saginaw a \$1 million Michigan Strategic Fund performance-based grant in support of the project. The city of Saginaw is certified with MEDC’s Redevelopment Ready Communities program.

Earlier this year, the Canadian Hockey League (CHL) announced that Saginaw and the Saginaw Spirit hockey team will host the 2024 Memorial Cup games. The city of Saginaw is a key partner for this unique international event. In the 100-plus year history of the Memorial Cup, this is the first time it has been hosted in Michigan, and only the fifth time in the United States. The local regional economic benefit from the Memorial Cup games is

anticipated to be approximately \$20 million within the region.

This project is one of several that the city and community groups are undertaking to commemorate the Memorial Cup event. At the Henry Marsh Bridge (I-675), adjacent to Symphony Lane, a mural has been commissioned to honor the legacy and contributions of Mayor Henry G. Marsh. At Hoyt Park, additional park infrastructure will be installed to enhance the usability of the park. These signature placemaking projects ensure residents and visitors can be proud of telling the story of their city to an international audience.

“Major events like the 2024 Memorial Cup in Saginaw bring thousands of visitors and millions of dollars in economic impact to Michigan communities,” said Dave Lorenz, Vice President of Travel Michigan, part of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation. “These improvements will create a new public gathering space that will help Saginaw and Michigan’s Great Lakes Bay region shine on an international stage during the Memorial Cup, and will continue to draw visitors to the city’s riverfront and entertainment district for years to come.”

The project will also serve as a gateway to downtown Saginaw, and the improved entrance will enhance the image of the entire downtown business district. With the proposed improvements, Symphony Lane will become a community asset that will aid in the attraction and retention of quality talent by improving the quality of life in the city of Saginaw. Beyond the Memorial Cup, this project’s legacy will serve the community as a public gathering place for years to come.

Michigan continues to attract national and global attention for major sports attractions and events in the coming years, in addition to the 2024 Memorial Cup. In 2024, the NFL draft will take place in Detroit at Ford Field on April 25-27. On Saturday, April 3, 2027 the 2027 NCAA Men’s Final Four will take place at Ford Field, with the national championship game tipping off on Monday, April 5, 2027.

+ COMMUNITY



COURTESY PHOTO

Consumers Energy spending more than \$1 million to reduce bills and help people in disadvantaged communities

Consumers Energy has invested more than \$1 million this year in initiatives to improve quality of life and reduce bills for customers in historically disadvantaged communities in Michigan. The initial investment focused on several ZIP codes in Flint and surrounding areas and will be a playbook for work in future communities. The initiatives were completely free to customers and targeted essential health and safety improvements for homes and multi-family complexes.

“One of our priorities at Consumers Energy is to provide the energy our customers need, and to ensure we’re caring for all customers and communities we serve,” said Angela Thompkins, chief diversity officer and vice president of community affairs for Consumers Energy. “That means recognizing the unique challenges individuals or communities may face, and structuring the services we provide to ensure they can live safer and healthier lives.”

The program was designed in collaboration with environmental justice experts and advocates, including the Michigan Public Service Commission, community and local elected officials, and nonprofit agencies. The efforts included:

- Collaborating with the City of Flint to bundle upgrades by performing follow-up home energy analyses in homes receiving the city’s lead-based paint abatement assistance to improve quality of life and reduce energy usage and bills.
- Connecting residents with diagnosed respiratory conditions to energy and home upgrades using healthy building materials to improve air quality and reduce energy usage and bills.
- Targeting single and multi-family residences with a specific and expanded portfolio of energy efficiency upgrades, such as furnace repairs, weatherization, etc.

“We know that there are whole communities across the state that, after years of systemic and structural neglect and underinvestment, are home to hundreds or thousands of people facing shared barriers to economic and energy-access,” said Thompkins. “Our goal with this pilot has been to remove some of those barriers, and we look forward to expanding these

programs to other communities to continue making upgrades and lowering bills for the customers who need it most.”

The pilot program is only one of several initiatives Consumers Energy implemented in recent years for customers residing in historically disadvantaged communities. Consumers Energy recently received the Utility Star of Energy Efficiency Award from the Alliance to Save Energy for its work to install free Nest Thermostats for low-income and ALICE (asset limited, income-constrained, employed) customers in 2022. Smart thermostats save customers, on average, 10-15 percent on energy bills.

The company has plans to continue investment in Flint through 2024, as well as expand the program to other communities across the state. Customers who need help paying their bills or who would like more information about assistance programs should call 2-1-1, a free service that’s available statewide.

Consumers Energy is the principal subsidiary of CMS Energy (NYSE: CMS), providing natural gas and/or electricity to 6.7 million of the state’s 10 million residents in all 68 Lower Peninsula counties.

+ 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

+ FAITH BASED

MICHIGAN BANNER
SERMONETTE SERIES

By **MINISTER CAROLYN
CARTER TOWNSEL**

The season in which we are living in is full of difficulties, challenging and uncertain times, which include attacks from the enemy. Job put it this way, ***“Man that is born of a woman is of few days and full of trouble”*** (Job 14:1 KJV). However, Christ’s words, recorded in John 16:33, are priceless as He states, ***“I have told you these things in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”*** This statement provides a tremendous reassuring truth and reminds us that being a Christian does not protect us from trouble. In fact, when we made the decision to pick up our cross to follow Jesus Christ life became harder, not easier (Luke 9:23). Therefore, it is imperative as Believers to read, study, and meditate on the Word of God so that our Spirits are filled with His truth.

Trusting in God’s Word and remembering what He did for us at Calvary is the only way we can have joy in the midst of our difficulties “For God so

The Blood of the Lamb

*For God so loved the world,
that he gave his only begotten
Son, that whosoever believeth
in him should not perish, but
have everlasting life*

John 3:16 KJV

loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16 KJV). Jesus Christ did not just die on the cross and leave it at that, He willingly shed His Blood for you and me. Therefore, the Blood of the Lamb is not to be taken lightly, for there is power in the Blood. So, when we speak about the Blood of Christ, we’re talking about one of the most powerful acts proving God’s love for humanity.

As I write this article, I am mindful of a story shared with me, by an awesome “Woman of God” name Mary Street from a small town called Benton-ia, Ms. although the author is unknown and the narrative is short, nonetheless, as you read it, you will find it to be an amazing and powerful story.

“A rattlesnake bit a sheep in the face some time ago. The deadliest snake that lives around here. The sheep’s face swelled up and hurt her terribly. But the old rattlesnake did not know the kind of blood that flows through the sheep. Anti-venom is made from sheep’s blood. The sheep swelled for about 2 days, but the blood of the lamb

destroyed the venom of the serpent. I was worried but the sheep did not care. She kept on eating, kept on drinking, and kept on climbing because she knew she was alright.”

As Christians, we must know and understand that the serpents of this life will frequently stretch out and bite us. They will inject their poison into us but they cannot overcome the Blood of the Lamb of God. Jesus Christ’s precious blood was the only acceptable sacrifice making it possible to remove sin, rather than to cover sin, and take the sting out of death. It is because of the Blood of the Lamb that; we have the unmerited favor of God, we are justified, we have the power to overcome the enemy, we are healed, spared from God’s wrath, and we shall have eternal life and can proclaim total victory.

My Beloved, His blood has just as much power today as it did over two thousand years ago. Therefore, do not worry about the serpent or the bite; just make sure that the Blood of the Lamb is flowing through your veins.

Blessings To All...

It's Time To Come Back To GOD
Though HIS Son, Jesus Christ!

RECONCILIATION Sunday

... be ye reconciled to God
- 2 Cor. 5:21b (KJV)

9:30 AM & **11:00 AM**
SUNDAY SCHOOL & MORNING WORSHIP

NOV. 19, 2023

at

NEW BIRTH

MISSIONARY BAPTIST CATHEDRAL

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Bishop Larry D. Camel, Pastor

Opportunities Will Be Provided To
Sign Up For A Free Thanksgiving Turkey
(Limited Supply of Turkeys Available • Pickup on Nov. 21st)



+ 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

Anti-scrooge joy promotion suggestions

By MEL AND PEARL SHAW

Are you a holiday scrooge? We hope not, but it can happen to the best of us. Sometimes it happens like this: we believe we have plenty of time before the holiday season begins, but a look at the calendar shows that Chanukah, Christmas, Kwanza, and New Years are almost here. Oh my! What is a nonprofit to do?!? Don't worry – there's still time if you act now.

Whether your lighting a candle on a menorah, a Christmas tree, a Kwanza Kinara, popping off fire crackers to bring in the new year, or a combination of these holidays, we've got suggestions for you. First, consider what you can do for others, and how you can be of service to those who are poor, cold, hungry, and/or homeless. That's number one. Start now by reaching out to other nonprofits so you can pool your resources and jointly give the food, coats, socks, and gloves that are in high demand as the nights grow cold. Contact your local food bank and other

“safety net” organizations and ask how you can be most supportive. It might be by providing financial support, hosting a coat drive, serving meals, or another way.

Through your organization's giving you will share joy with others. But you do that throughout the year, don't you? Sometimes we forget that our work brings joy. That joy can take the form of after-school activities for kids, hot meals for seniors, scholarships for college students, and healthcare access for families. One result of advocacy is joy. The same is true for scientific research, student mentoring, and open doors at museums, theatres, and concert halls.

People may not always associate your nonprofit with joy – but you can remind them. If you start now, you can create specially designed holiday cards with a message that shares the joy created by your organization. You can set aside time for board members, volunteers, and staff to place phone calls or send out personalized text messages thanking families for participating in their programs and donors for providing financial support.

Take it a step further, and set up a series holiday e-communications. Take time to personally recognize people of different faiths and the holidays they observe. Other joy-spreading ideas include creating and sharing special tokens of appreciation, and hosting a holiday party or special event. Engage your board members, staff and volunteers by designing special cards and notes they can mail to their friends and associates. Participating in community-wide events adds joy for all who attend and shows that you care about the activities others host. Finally, back to our first suggestion, use your resources to encourage giving to “safety net” organizations in your community. You can do this by including a paragraph and links to these nonprofits in the emails and letters you send out that share information about your nonprofit. We know your nonprofit's no scrooge... make sure others know it too. Take a moment to plan for how you will share joy and consider the needs of others.



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

+ EDUCATION



EDITOR'S NOTE: IN THE ATTACHED PHOTO, TIFFANNY BRANDEL, STUDENT SUPPORT SPECIALIST, GESTURES AS (LEFT TO RIGHT) JAMES TARR, DEAN OF SVSU'S COLLEGE OF EDUCATION; GEORGE GRANT JR, PRESIDENT OF SVSU; AND JULIE MILLER, PRINCIPAL OF HANDLEY ELEMENTARY, LOOK ON.

Saginaw Public Schools applies \$2 mill state grant to partner with SVSU to “grow your own” certified teachers

Saginaw Valley State University and Saginaw Public Schools are collaborating to increase the number of certified teachers in local classrooms, thanks to a \$2 million grant from the State of Michigan.

SVSU worked with Saginaw Public Schools to adapt the university's Accelerated Certification with Residency program to meet the unique needs of the urban school district. Through a combination of academic coursework and classroom teaching experience, Saginaw Public Schools employees who have completed bachelor's degrees can complete the requirements to become a certified teacher in about a year.

“This partnership is a great example of our commitment to the community we serve,” said George Grant Jr, SVSU president. “The students in this program are committed to staying and serving in the school district where they were already working, which enhances the education local students receive.”

SVSU worked to create a special cohort

of students that includes an emphasis on the unique circumstances of urban education.

“The partnership with SVSU will assist our district for years to come, in placing highly qualified teachers in front of our students,” said Ramont Roberts, superintendent of Saginaw Public Schools. “We are grateful for the work of Representative O’Neal and Senator McDonald Rivet in making sure that we have the necessary resources to fund the program. This is a shining example of true collaboration, and I am honored to be a part of it.”

Through the State of Michigan’s “Grow Your Own Teacher” funding initiative, the Saginaw Public Schools employees who enroll at SVSU will see all education expenses covered by the grant.

“Schools and students need good teachers now more than ever. ‘Grow Your Own’ is a smart, practical response to our teacher shortage,” said State Senator Kristen McDonald Rivet. “The \$2 million

we secured for this partnership will go a long way to help Saginaw Public Schools fill vital classroom positions.”

SVSU teaches some courses in Saginaw Public Schools buildings for added convenience, recognizing the time demands of busy working professionals.

“The ‘Grow Your Own’ program provides excellent experience and grand opportunities,” said State Representative Amos O’Neal. “SVSU’s partnership with Saginaw Public Schools is such a blessing to our school district, our students and our community. If you are thinking about getting certified as a teacher, I encourage you to apply. This \$2 million investment will help cover costs for those who seek to earn their teacher certification — there is no better time than right now.”

Saginaw Public Schools hosted a news conference Monday, Nov. 6 at the newly constructed Handley Elementary School to showcase the partnership with SVSU.



COURTESY PHOTO

Saginaw Promise... a scholarship to impact the future of Saginaw and its students!

Education is something that will last a lifetime and will open doors to life and career opportunities! The Saginaw Promise is working to affect Saginaw's future, its economy and quality of life by eliminating barriers to postsecondary education with information and a scholarship for students who live in the Saginaw Promise Zone.

- Scholarships may be used at technical/trade Schools, community colleges or universities to earn a program certificate or degree.
- Scholarships are available up to two years.
- Parental income or GPA are not considered. (Students must maintain the standards of the institution they enroll with.

- Students who complete the application have up to six years from high school graduation to use their scholarship.
- Visit www.saginawpromise for organizational and scholarship information and details or telephone the Saginaw Promise at (989) 755-0545.

Eligible Students:

Students must live in and graduate from a high school in the Saginaw Promise Zone (which consists of the cities of Saginaw, Zilwaukee, Kochville and that part of Buena Vista designated to the Saginaw Public School District) and students must meet the residency and school attendance requirements to apply

How to Apply?

- Complete the online Saginaw Community Foundation "Scholarship Application"—check off the Saginaw Promise and complete FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid-- when it becomes available online.
- Scholarship application deadline is February 9, 2024

Note: If you or know of someone who has completed the scholarship application and has used some or none of their Saginaw Promise scholarship, the student has up to six years from high school graduation to apply to use their Saginaw Promise scholarship. Telephone the Saginaw Promise office at (989) 755-0545 to determine your scholarship status.

+ EDUCATION



COURTESY PHOTO

An appeal for school volunteers



By **CRAIG DOUGLAS**
RETIRED EDUCATOR

One of the most rewarding experiences is to volunteer at a local school. Schools are short-handed right now, as widely reported in many news outlets. Capable adult volunteers are a welcomed sight!

There are many roles that volunteers can fill, and there are a few suggested steps to take to help streamline processes.

Typical volunteer roles include the following:

- Field trip chaperones- accompanying a bus load of students off to visit the Capitol or other educational venues is a wonderful way to give back. Typically chaperones will be assigned a small group to oversee.

Students are often friendly, cooperative, and talkative. Some are nervous, afraid of getting lost or being late. Chaperones are great “comforters” and can offer assurance that things are going well.

- Lunch/recess supervisors- many times an extra set of eyes can be of help in the lunchroom. It is amazing how difficult it is to open containers of food; helping a younger student open their milk carton is quite rewarding. And the playground can never have too many folks helping push swings and play catch.
- Guest readers and presenters- classrooms love to have visitors to read or share information about careers, college, or other life experiences.
- DADS in schools - fathers & grandfathers are invited to pick one school day each year to come to school for the day as a volunteer. Some Dads pick their son or daughter’s birthday to come in. It can be any day, and they can go to class or help out in the lunchroom

or playground. The purpose of DADS in schools is to infuse male role models into the school setting that often is dominated by female teachers in the elementary. The benefits to the DADS and grandfathers are immeasurable. Bay City’s Hampton Elementary School has operated this type of program for several school years.

Some suggested steps to take include reaching out to the local school of what their needs may be and what type of paperwork is needed. Most certainly volunteers should expect background or other checks as part of the process to become a “volunteer.”

Volunteers are rewarded with friendly smiles and appreciative comments. I find those who volunteer get as much out of the experience as they provide in their role.

Resource:

<https://www.dadsinschools.com/>



COURTESY PHOTO

Delta College, CMU announce teacher education transfer pathway

Delta College continues to make earning a bachelor's degree more reachable through its new transfer agreement with Central Michigan University (CMU).

This degree pathway provides a natural bridge from Delta College's Associate in Arts (AA) degree to CMU's Bachelor of Science in Education, (Early Childhood and Elementary Education) B.S. Ed.

Under this new agreement, students can continue their education by transferring their entire associate's degree to CMU, allowing students to complete half of their bachelor's degree at Delta's afford-

able tuition rate.

"Education is one of the top 10 programs selected by Delta students who plan to transfer," said Emily Clement, associate director of transfer partnerships. "With this transfer agreement, students have an easy way to continue their education with a great, local university. For even more flexibility, CMU offers this program online."

Delta continues to work with its university partners to create customized transfer pathways that maximize credit transfer and convenience.

In April, Delta partnered with Saginaw

Public Schools and Saginaw Intermediate School District for the "Grow Your Own" apprenticeship program to provide formal educational training to address and replenish the teacher shortage. This transfer agreement is another way for those students to earn their bachelor's.

CMU representatives are available on the main campus in the University Transfer Center in D102 to discuss this Off-Campus Teacher Education Program or any of their programs. For more information, contact Academic Advising at advising@delta.edu or 989-686-9330.

SAGINAW PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Exchange Partnership



Emmah Ndau, 5th Grade Math
Thompson Middle School



Kerina Okonko,
Middle & High School Science/ Math
Saginaw Arts & Sciences Academy



Sovaina Florette Bonilla, 7th Grade Science
Thompson Middle School



Etso Che, 6th Grade Science
Thompson Middle School

Welcome to Saginaw Public Schools! 2023-2024 International Teachers

Saginaw Public Schools has entered into a partnership with Saginaw Valley State University which allows SPSP to participate in an exchange program with students and staff members from the S.T.G. School in India and the Saginaw Arts & Sciences Academy. Each group of students and staff members will visit the respective schools and countries and exchange cultural ideas and educational practices. This is the first year that Saginaw Public Schools will be participating in the program.



Liyan Bao, Chinese
Saginaw Arts & Sciences Academy



Brandon Brieva, Spanish
Thompson Middle School



Jean Acosta, Spanish
Arthur Hill High School



Jorge Delgado, Spanish
Arthur Hill High School



Asante Ali, Geometry
Arthur Hill High School

Handley Elementary School Dedication

November 6, 2023

The collage features a central image of the school building with a large group of people gathered in front. Surrounding this are several smaller photos: a ribbon-cutting ceremony, a man speaking at a podium, a group of children and adults, and a group of three young boys in school uniforms. The background is decorated with confetti and the school's name.



STUDENTS AND VOLUNTEERS GATHER DURING THE REGIONAL SALES COMPETITION AT SAGINAW VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

College students honed skills at SVSU regional sales competition

Promising future sales professionals had an opportunity to demonstrate their skills and receive personalized training during a groundbreaking regional sales competition hosted by the Scott L. Carmona College of Business at Saginaw Valley State University in October.

Open to SVSU and regional university students, as well as recent graduates interested in SVSU's sales certificate program, the competition offered a unique opportunity for participants to test their skills in a supportive environment, while receiving advice and instruction from sales professionals.

"The Scott L. Carmona College of Business is committed to providing opportunities to our students that allow them to develop both professionally and personally," said Jayati Ghosh, dean of the Carmona College of Business. "The SVSU Regional Sales Competition gave the students an opportunity to learn from

professionals while honing their skills. For the employers of the Great Lakes Bay Region, it was an opportunity to meet the talented students."

On the first day of the competition, 12 students – nine from SVSU and three from Northwood University – received personalized training from the NBA Milwaukee Bucks inside sales team. The following day, the students participated in two competition categories: A tournament-style role play competition with three rounds and an elevator pitch competition. Representatives from SVSU employer partners assisted with judging both categories.

The role play scenarios were based on the training the student competitors received from the Milwaukee Bucks representatives. Chase Valuet, an SVSU marketing major from Sterling Heights, won first place and \$1,000. Macy Hawkes, an SVSU marketing/professional sales

major from Auburn, won the \$500 second-place prize. Gavin Glefke, an SVSU marketing/professional sales major from Chesterfield Township, in Macomb County, was awarded \$250 for third place. Northwood University student Brooke Englehardt took home the \$100 prize for fourth place.

Three students were awarded cash prizes for the elevator pitch competition. Northwood University students Julian Lee and Aidan Wheeler won first (\$300) and second (\$250) prizes, respectively. Macy Hawkes, the SVSU marketing/professional sales major from Auburn, took home third place and \$100.

The sales competition was made possible through an SVSU Resource Grant and support by corporate sponsors Morley Companies, Standale Lumber and Supply, VTC Insurance Group, Blue Wheel and Residential Home Health.

+ 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 39,
SISD**

Continued from pg 38, 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).

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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

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*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.

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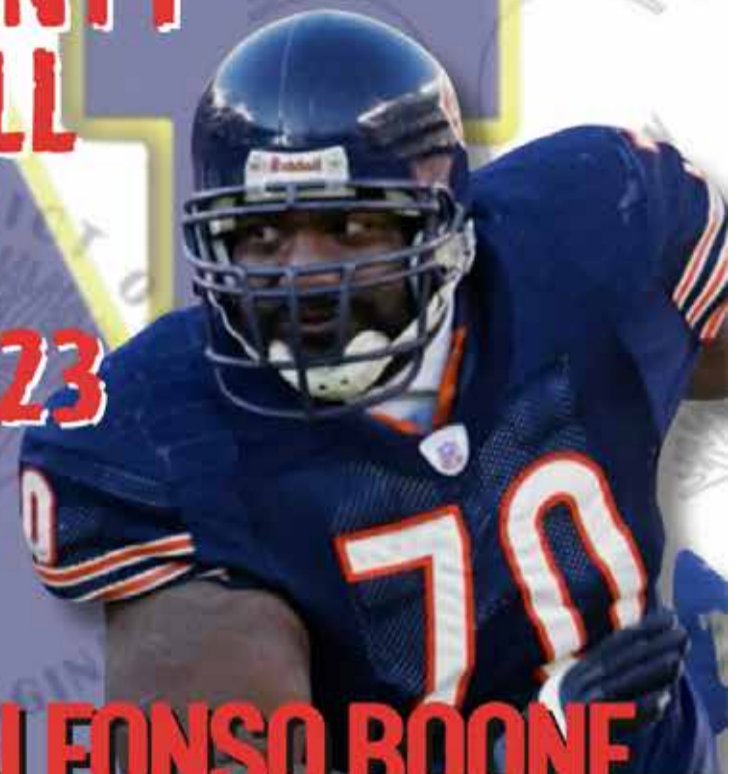
SPORTS HALL

OF FAME

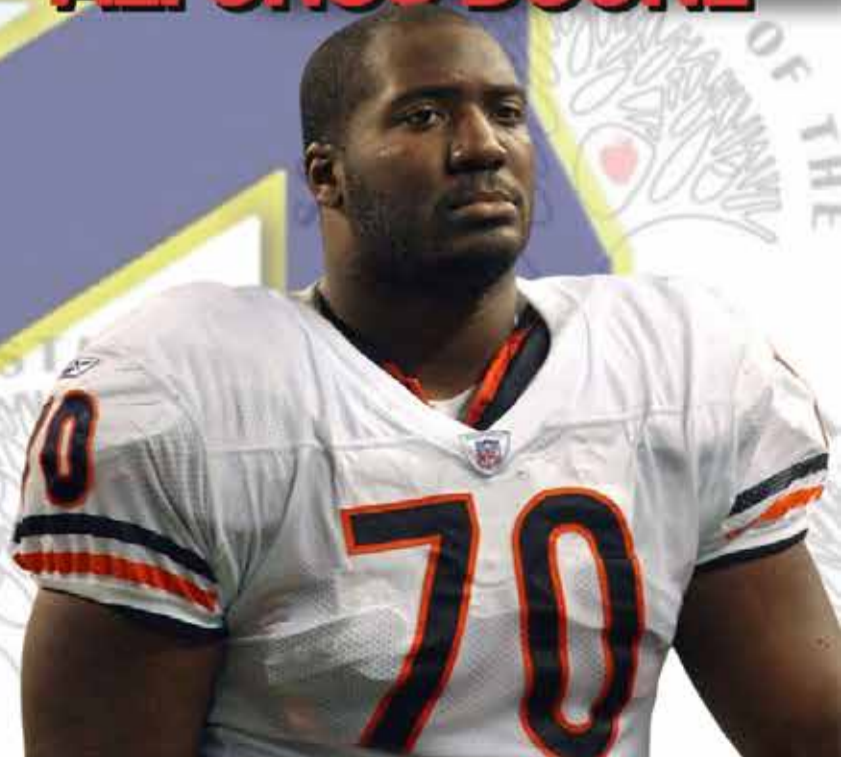
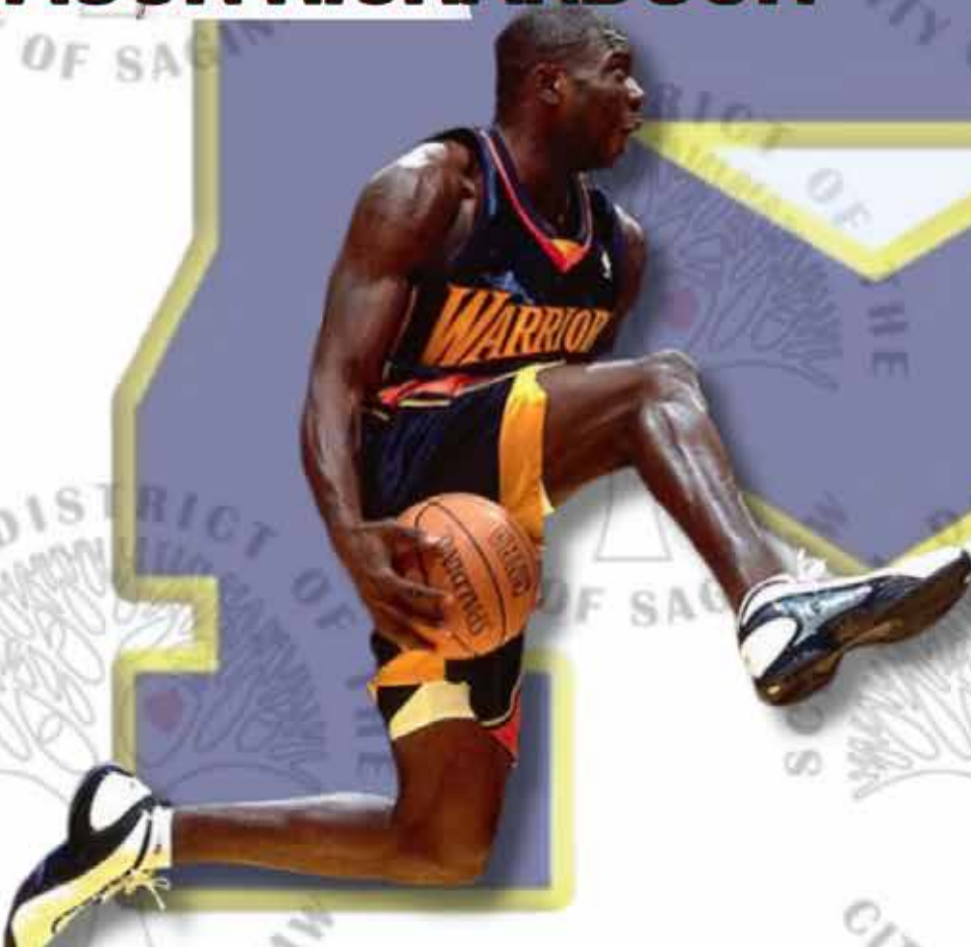
CLASS OF 2023



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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

SAGINAW ISD
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EARLY HEAD START

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MWC
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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

CMU is one game away from bowl eligibility, plays Ohio University Wednesday

By HASANI ALI

With two games left in the regular season and the CMU Chippewas are just one game away from going bowling.

Central Michigan (5-5, 3-3 MAC) plays its second consecutive road game, this time to Ohio (7-3, 4-2 MAC) for its 11th overall game and third MACTion game during its 122nd season of college football on Wednesday at Peden Stadium. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. ET.

CMU and Ohio meet for the 35th time in series history with CMU holding a 27-5-2 overall advantage. CMU has claimed nine of the last 10 and 16 of the last 20 in the series. CMU has won each of the last six meetings dating back to 2011, and four straight games played in Athens. Central Michigan is 12-3-1 all-time vs. Ohio in Athens.

The Chippewas are in a three-way tie for second place in the Mid-American Conference West Division with Western Michigan and Northern Illinois with identical 3-3 records.

Toledo is perfect in the MAC, standing at 6-0 while Ball State and Eastern Michigan are tied for fifth place with 2-4 records.

After Wednesday, CMU and Toledo will face off for the final game of the season.

According to CMUChippewas.com, Central Michigan enters Wednesday's night's game following a 38-28 road loss at rival Western Michigan. Central Michigan battled back from a 14-0 second quarter and 21-7 halftime deficits with touchdowns on three consecutive possessions in the third quarter. The Chippewas led the game 28-21 heading into the fourth quarter, but WMU scored 17 unanswered points to claim the victory.

With five victories in 10 games, Central Michigan has already surpassed its win total from the 2022 season. Central Michigan needs one more victory to become bowl eligible for the third time in four years under Head Coach Jim McElwain.



COURTESY PHOTO

In its first MACTion game this year, Central Michigan won a 37-31 home victory over Northern Illinois on snowy Halloween Night. The Chippewas rushed for a season-high 331 yards, 7.0 yards per carry, and tied a season-high with four rushing touchdowns. CMU took a commanding 24-3 halftime lead and held off the visiting Huskies the rest of the way.

Junior running back Marrion Lukes led CMU with a career-high 202-yard rushing performance that included a 46-yard touchdown run in the second quarter. Lukes averaged 9.6 yards per carry in the game and finished the evening with a career-best 254 all-purpose yards (52 kickoff return yards).

For his efforts, Lukes was named the MAC West Division Offensive Player of

the Week. Redshirt sophomore Jase Bauer was responsible for three touchdowns, on the evening including runs of nine and one yards respectively, and threw for another touchdown on a 20-yard pass to Mitchel Collier. Bauer finished with 106 rushing yards of his own, his third career 100-yard rushing performance, and completed nine of 16 passes for 116 yards and a touchdown.

Even though Northern Illinois accumulated 506 yards of total offense, CMU's defense held the Huskies to an incredible 0-10 on third down conversions. With NIU driving, CMU's Nahree Biggins intercepted a pass to seal the victory.

With the win, CMU improved to a perfect 4-0 at home and snapped a three-game Northern Illinois win streak in the series.

+ SPORTS



LADY PIONEERS SOCCER TEAM

Lady Pioneers soccer team earns fourth national runner-up finish

By HASANI ALI

Delta College has been so close to bringing home the gold.

The team has become a national powerhouse within the last seven years and is just a championship away from becoming a dynasty.

For the fourth time in six years, the Delta College women's soccer team finished second to one, bringing home yet another runner-up finish from the NJCAA Division III national championships in Gastonia, North Carolina.

The No. 1-ranked Pioneers fell in a tough 1-0 decision in Sunday's national final to No. 2 Dallas College-Brookhaven, which celebrated a national championship three-peat.

"It was a great run with great kids,"

Delta coach Damon Amey said. "I know it's tough right now. However, later on when they look back on this, hopefully they will recognize the great accomplishment they have made for us this year."

According to MLive.com, Brookhaven got an unassisted first-half goal from Sayer Taylor then made it stand in an all-out defensive duel. Delta outshot Brookhaven 11-9 in the contest but couldn't put one past the keeper for the first time this season.

The Pioneers posted an eye-popping 23-1 record on the season, running the table for the Michigan Community College Athletic Association championship along with regional and district crowns.

Delta punched its ticket to the title game with a 3-0 win over Suffolk County College in the semifinal as Rhianna Schermerhorn

scored two goals and Kaylee Shattuck added one. Arizona Cray and Grace Szczepanski each tallied an assist while Tristen Cross registered the shutout in goal.

That gave Delta its third crack at Brookhaven with a national championship in the balance. But, as it did in 2019 and 2021, Brookhaven emerged victorious and now owns five national titles in seven years – and the dynasty status that Delta is so close to claiming.

The Pioneers have reached NJCAA Division III final four seven seasons in a row, winning it all in the COVID-altered 2020-21 campaign. But they've also felt the sting of losing in the grand fi-

nale four times.

"For us, it's about the journey just as much as it is about the chance to play for a championship," said Amey, who sports a 117-8-5 record in seven seasons as head coach. "I am so very proud of these girls."

The Lady Pioneers were merciless during the regular season with averaging almost five goals a game with 12 total shutouts, including four games almost scoring in the double digits.

Delta College was only scored on seven times during the regular season.

An almost complete perfect season came with astounding statistics. The Lady Pioneers had 127 total assists, compared to the conference average of 83.

Delta College scored a total of 135 goals for the entire season (including playoffs), compared to the conference average of 87.

Coach Amey knows how much work that the team has put forth and couldn't have been more proud.

"I don't know what else you could ask for from this phenomenal bunch of ladies," he said. "They execute everything perfectly and were still able to go above and beyond."

+ SPORTS



DELTA COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL TEAM

Delta College volleyball takes sixth at 2023 NJCAA Division III Championship

By HASANI ALI

When a team receives an invitation to a national tournament, it's best to prove every time why your team belongs there.

Delta College volleyball team did just that.

The Pioneers held their own among the top teams in the country, coming home with a sixth-place finish in the NJCAA Division III volleyball championship at Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

According to MLive.com, Delta (16-6) finished second in the MCCA Northern Division with a 9-3 record, earning it an invitation to the big show in just its second season as a varsity program.

Coach Angie Compton's crew quickly made a statement, knocking off Harper College 3-1 in first-round action. Kayla Baase slammed 18 kills in the win while Haley Hunt and Ashlee Lenhard – a pair

of Essexville Garber products – tallied 13 kills and 12 kills, respectively.

The Pioneers saw their national title dreams halted with a 3-0 loss to Dallas Eastfield in the quarterfinals. Hunt had seven more kills and Sarah Wilkinson notched 11 digs in the contest.

Delta came back in the consolation bracket to defeat Monroe College-Bronx 3-0 as Baase knocked 24 kills and Lenhard 10.

The Pioneers fell to the College of DuPage 3-1 in the fifth-place game, with Baase delivering a 20-kill, 13-dig performance and Hunt coming through with 11 kills and four blocks.

Delta College started off strong, winning the first set with a score of 25-15. However, DuPage responded in the second set, narrowing the gap and winning with a score of 25-22. DuPage continued their dominance in the third and fourth

sets, winning with scores of 25-17 and 25-21, respectively, to secure the victory.

Looking at the individual leaders for Delta College, Kayla Baase stood out with an impressive performance. Baase recorded 20 kills, the highest number for her team, and contributed significantly to the team's offense. She also had 13 digs, showcasing her defensive skills. Baase accumulated a total of 24.5 points throughout the game, making her a key player for Delta.

Haley Hunt also had a notable performance for Delta, recording 11 kills and 4 blocks. She played a crucial role in the team's defense and helped to limit DuPage's offensive opportunities. Sarah Hauck was another standout player for Delta with 34 assists, demonstrating her ability to set up her teammates for successful attacks.

“Our girls really showed up in this tournament and gave themselves a reason to pat themselves on the back,” said head coach Angie Compton. “These ladies pulled through and competed with the best of them. Now they know that they can compete with the best and that should give them the motivation to go into next season with the mentality of being one of the best.”

The Lady Pioneers were at the top of the conference with a 9-3 record. Four Pioneers were honored with MCCA volleyball honors – Baase, Lenhard, Hauck and Wilkinson.

Delta College had four shutouts during the regular season while most of the games were won convincingly. The team were at the top of conference while averaging 11.8 kills 11 assists and 18 digs per set.

+ SPORTS



DESIREE SPIVEY

Spivey inducted into 2023 Women's Football Hall of Fame

By HASANI ALI

Desiree Spivey always knew that she belonged on the football field after watching the Detroit Demolition play as a little girl.

Her dream was to wear the orange and black uniform with the silver "D" on the white helmet.

It didn't turn out that way as the team played its final season in 2009, but another opportunity followed immediately after.

Who knew that this opportunity would turn the Detroit native into a Hall of Famer?

She is currently in Monterrey, Mexico, playing in the United Bowl Tournament

with the USA women's national football team while being honored as a Hall of Fame inductee.

The banquet was held on Nov. 12.

Spivey tried out for the Detroit Dark Angels in 2016. Not knowing what to expect, she went to the tryout expecting not to do well as she had never played the sport before.

Head coach Keith Thomas noticed how talented she was and knew that she had to be on the field one way or another.

"She had raw athleticism that just needed some tweaking," he said. "Once she learned the basics and truly understood the game, her playing ability really began to take off.

The 5-foot-5, 185-pound linebacker has a nose for the football. Spivey has led defensively in tackles while playing for Detroit, Toledo (Reign) and Denver (Bandits).

"Desiree was always first to the football," said defensive coordinator Darnell Brice from Detroit. "No matter how big the offensive line was, she would find ways to get off her blocks and cause a scene wherever the football was."

Spivey helped the Dark Angels make their first trip to the WFA's national championship in 2019 with a major upset against the Pittsburgh Passion.

Detroit fell short to the St. Louis Slam 28-7.

"It wasn't the ending I was expecting but it was still such an amazing experience," Spivey said. "We really turned the team around and we understood what it took to have a winning program."

She did earn championship gold in the USWFL with the Detroit Prowl earlier this year.

Born and raised in Detroit, Spivey graduated from Frank Cody High School as a Multisport Athlete with Honors in 2003.

She excelled at basketball, track, volleyball, and softball. She went on to Siena Heights University on scholarship playing varsity basketball.

Her talents and leadership earned her the important role as captain and defensive player awards from 2003-2007.

She graduated with her Bachelor's degree in Liberal Arts in 2008. After college, she started a career at Stellantis formally known as Chrysler working as a hi-lo driver.

Spivey has been an impact player in Women's Football Alliance for the Detroit Dark Angels, Thee Toledo Reign, in the WNFC for La Muerte De Las Cruces, Denver Bandits, Kansas City Glory, Detroit Prowl, and an All-Star for American Football Events USA playing both running back and linebacker.

Her talent, enthusiasm and love for the game soon became apparent. Spivey became a two-time WNFC All-Pro selection, two-time WFA All-Star, a five-time AFE Team USA All-Star and a five-time AFE Team USA World Champion.

+ SPORTS



COURTESY PHOTO

Michigan Baseball Foundation grant application now available

The Michigan Baseball Foundation (MBF) is proud to announce the opening of the 2024 Grant Application. Grants are available for registered 501c3 organizations that focus on youth-related activities or economic development. Applications must be for specific projects or initiatives the organization is undertaking in 2024 and not for general operations. Primary consideration will be given to organizations in the Midland, Bay, Saginaw, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Genesee, Isabella, Tuscola, Huron, Arenac, Ogemaw, Sanilac, and Iosco counties. The application will close on February 16th, 2024.

The Michigan Baseball Foundation (MBF) began in 2006 as a nonprofit organization created to bring professional

baseball to the Great Lakes Bay Region. The vision was much broader than baseball. The idea was to use America's favorite pastime to create a social enterprise to support communities throughout the region. MBF, a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, was born from this philanthropic ideal.

MBF has partnered with the Great Lakes Loons to provide substantial financial support to nearly 400 organizations, encompassing bussing grants on school kid's days, donations, contributions to economic development, and various grants totaling nearly \$1.4 million to non-profit organizations in the Great Lakes Bay Region. In 2023, we continued our charitable giving with grants awarded to 17 non-profit organizations across 7 counties in the

region totaling \$89,157. Grants are funded by ticket sales to Great Lakes Loons games, 50/50 raffle sales during Loons games, and direct contributions to the foundation.

Grant applications can be completed online: <http://michiganbaseballfoundation.org/grants/>. All applications must be received by the Michigan Baseball Foundation via the website, before Feb. 16th, 2024.

Grant recipients will be notified by the end of April 2024. Recipients will also be asked to respond to the Michigan Baseball Foundation Board of Directors on the success of the project for which the grant was

For more information contact Jessica Gillespie at 989.837.6144 or gillespie@loons.com.



PIC OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to Dante' Davis and Saginaw STEM for receiving the Meijer Gives Award!





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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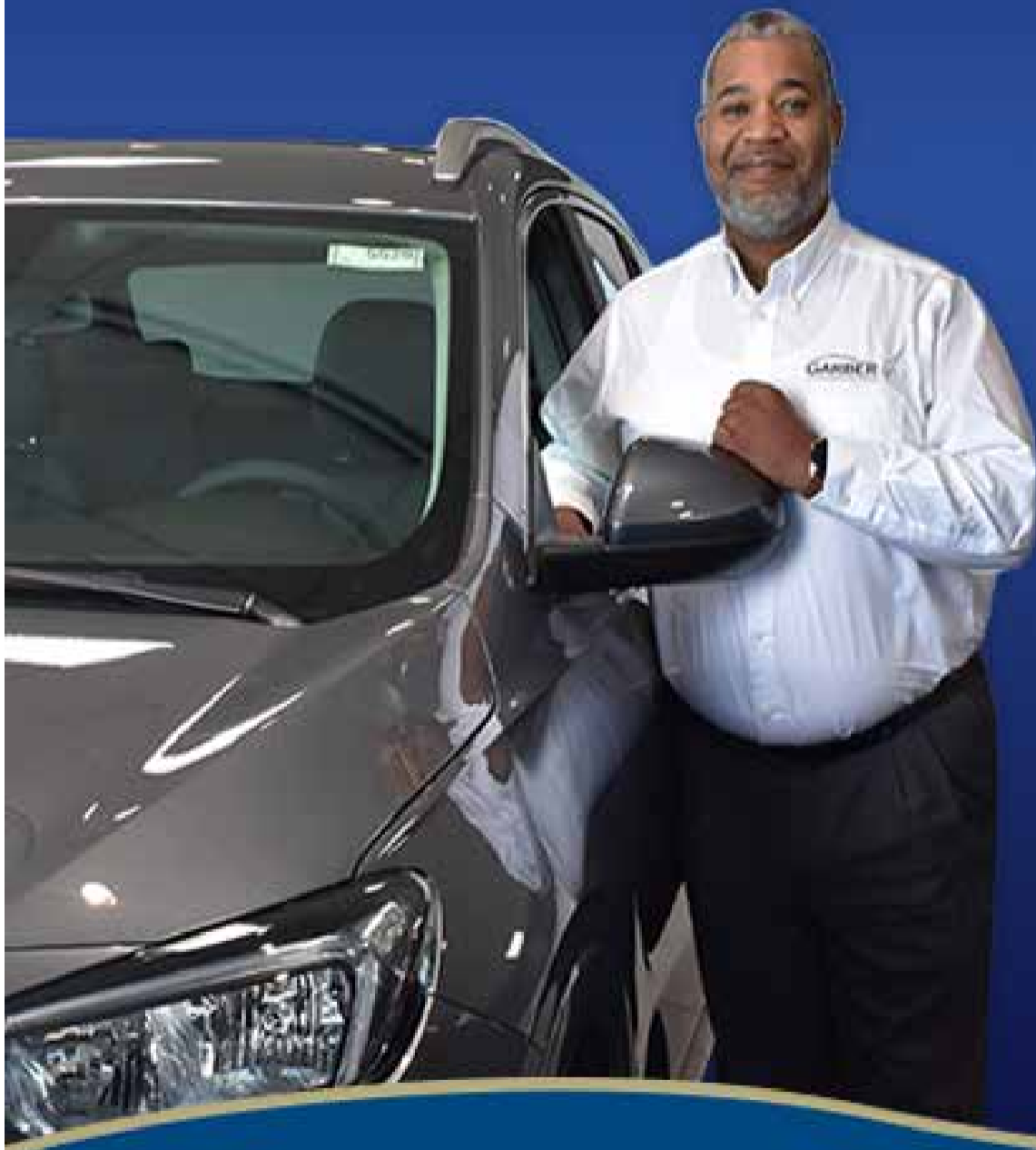
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