



# The Michigan Banner

Leading in Diversity for over 20 years



**PICS OF THE WEEK**  
28th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Event

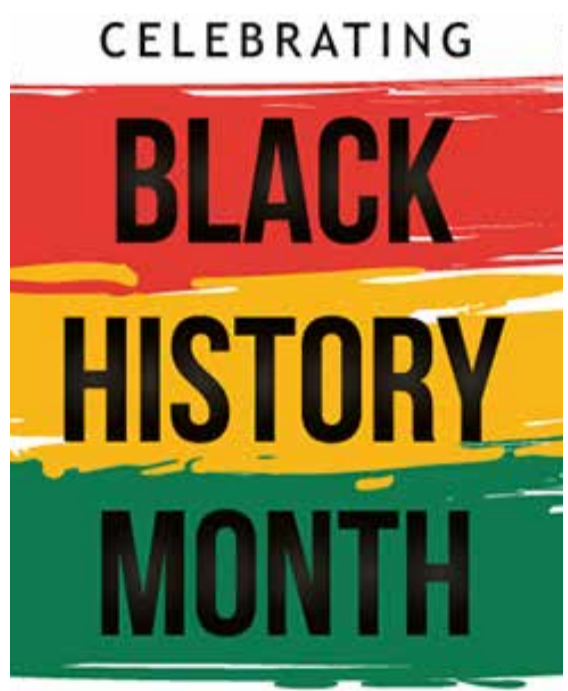
SUPPORT LOCAL JOURNALISM ▶▶▶

MICHIGANBANNER.ORG/SUPPORTUS



*Remembering*  
**REV. WILLIAM D. ALDRIDGE, JR.**  
 OCTOBER 8, 1954 -  
 JANUARY 17, 2024

MB, PG 54



FEBRUARY

THE MICHIGAN BANNER IS A PROUD MEMBER OF:



## Saginaw Mayor Brenda F. Moore delivers State of the City address



MAYOR BRENDA MOORE

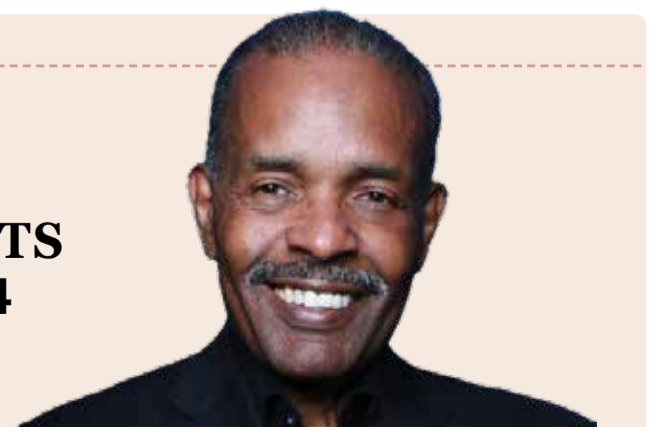
Saginaw Mayor Brenda F. Moore delivered her State of the City address on Thursday, February 1, 2024 at 7:30 a.m. at the Dow Event Center Red Room, 303 Johnson Street in Saginaw. The annual event is hosted by the Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce. The event was also streamed live on Facebook at [facebook.com/SaginawChamber](https://facebook.com/SaginawChamber).

During her speech, Mayor Moore provided an update on the City of Saginaw's accomplishments for 2023 and future goals for 2024.

To view the complete text of Mayor Moore's 2024 State of the City address, visit <https://www.saginaw-mi.com/Documents%20Center/Flyer/DRAFT-2024.pdf>.

## JOE MADISON, LEGENDARY RADIO HOST AND CIVIL RIGHTS CHAMPION, DIES AT 74

JUNE 16, 1949 – JANUARY 31, 2024





# Gamma Kappa Chapter of National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc. hosts Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Prayer Breakfast



COURTESY PHOTOS

On Saturday, January 27, 2024 Gamma Kappa Chapter of National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Incorporated held its first in-person Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Prayer Breakfast at the Trillium Banquet Center in Saginaw, Michigan since the pandemic. Theme: “We will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope”~Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The guest speaker for this community event was Dr. George Grant, Jr., the fifth president of Saginaw Valley State University and the first Black African American to serve in this capacity.

We were privileged to have our sisters from Gamma Delta Chapter of Flint, Michigan to celebrate with us.

Special Greetings were given by Saginaw City Mayor, Brenda Moore; State Senator of Michigan, Kristen McDonald Rivet. In the audience were community officials

and other clergy.

Approximately, 130 individuals were in attendance and were blessed to experience the visitation of the Holy Spirit through the fervent prayers of Pastors from local churches in the Saginaw community, spiritual songs, poems, and presentations from our youth. The Xinos of Gamma Kappa gave a heartfelt tribute to Dr. King. Former Kudos Jordan Simpson, the 2023 scholarship recipient, expressed his appreciation and is now a university freshman pursuing his degree in elementary education.

Congratulations and a big “Thank you” to the chair of this community event, Demona Reed, her committee, and the Ladies of Gamma Kappa Chapter of National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Incorporated.



**MICHIGAN BANNER**

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

**CEO/COO**

Jerome Buckley  
publisher022@gmail.com

**PUBLISHER**

Jerome Buckley

**EDITOR EMERITUS**

Rae Lynn Buckley

**THE LATINO BANNER  
PUBLISHER**

Jerome Buckley  
thelatinobanner@gmail.com

**OMBUDSMAN**

Elaine Gregory McKenzie

**MISSION**

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

**DISCLAIMER**

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

**DEADLINES**

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

**SUBMISSION PROCEDURE**

Mailed or e-mailed  
Preferred format: Jpeg or PDF

**CONNECT WITH THE MICHIGAN  
BANNER ONLINE!**

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



◆ Celebrating ◆  
**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

**LOCAL HIGHLIGHTS &  
ACHIEVEMENTS**



**COMMUNITY, PG 20-23**



**IN THIS ISSUE ▶**

Youth Banner .....	4 - 7
Latino Banner .....	LB 1 - LB 6
Community .....	15
Faith Based .....	31
Education .....	36
Sports .....	47



# MICHIGAN YOUTH BANNER

VOLUME 6 • NUMBER 3



## THE POWER OF MENTORSHIP

By DONIQUA SOVIA

“Be still Niecey, I’ve been down the road you’re trying to walk down.” Those words have stuck with me. They were spoken to me by my uncle during the course of our mentorship. I was at the height of my destruction; Self destruction that is.

I had one foot off the ledge of death, with the other half-way planted on the edge. In the Bible it says that He (God) will leave the ninety-nine to come find the one. It doesn’t matter where the one has traveled to, what they have gotten themselves into. How dirtied up by sins they’ve committed they are, He comes for them and pulls them back to join the others.

That’s what my uncle was doing. He was representing Jesus. He was displaying the parable of The Ninety Sheep. He came out looking for the one that wandered away, and off into the distance from where they were planted. Boy was I dirtied up. I mean I was into anything that was out to destroy me, and it lead me right to the edge of the cliff of death with one foot outstretched, and mind committed to jumping; then Jesus came.

My mind was rampant. My body sore. My face bruised, and my heart torn. My soul was wretched, and couldn’t take anymore. Then Jesus came and said; “Be Still niecey, I’ve been down the path you’re trying to walk on.” It calmed the anxiety, the fear, the doubt, the worry, the longing to be heard, and no longer misunderstood, and hoping someone would get me. Well, there he was; My Uncle.

**We’ve had quite the times. Good, bad and ugly. Never underestimate the power of mentorship. It’s not an easy task. The hours are long. The affirmations are repetitive. It can be frustrating when there seems to be no change; But hold on and pray and watch God use you to change a life. It took my uncle three years. Now look at who I’ve become.**





**Seen on the Scene: On Saturday, January 27, 2024, Women of Colors, First Ward Community Center, Saginaw CAC, and The Neighb partnered on a on the youth event, "Your Voice Your Choice!" at the Success Academy. The event featured Alge Smith, Dr. Trell "DONK" Webb, HBK Boom, Brooke Griffin and Dwayne Adway.**



COURTESY PHOTOS



# Ways teens can celebrate Black History Month



COURTESY PHOTO

## By MB STAFF

Teens can celebrate Black History Month in various meaningful ways that promote awareness, understanding, and appreciation of African American history and culture. Here are some ideas:

**Educate Yourself:** Take the time to learn about key figures in Black history, events, and movements. Read books, watch documentaries, and explore online resources to gain a deeper understanding.

**Organize a Book Club:** Start a book club with your friends or classmates focusing on literature written by Black authors. Discussing books together can provide valuable insights and perspectives.

**Create Art:** Express your creativity through art. Create paintings, drawings, or other forms of artistic expression

that highlight the contributions of Black individuals or depict important moments in Black history.

**Attend Events:** Look for local events, lectures, or performances that celebrate Black history. Attend virtual or in-person events to engage with the community and learn more about the cultural richness of Black history.

**Support Black-Owned Businesses:** Encourage your friends and family to support Black-owned businesses. Whether it's dining at Black-owned restaurants, shopping at Black-owned stores, or using services provided by Black entrepreneurs, your support can make a positive impact.

**Participate in Community Service:** Volunteer for community service projects that address social issues or inequalities. This is a hands-on way to contribute

positively and make a difference.

**Collaborate with School Clubs:** If your school has clubs or organizations focused on diversity and inclusion, collaborate with them to organize events, workshops, or presentations during Black History Month.

**Attend Museums and Exhibitions:** Visit museums or exhibitions dedicated to Black history. Many institutions offer special exhibits during Black History Month, providing an opportunity to explore and learn.

Remember, the key is to approach Black History Month with respect, openness, and a genuine desire to learn and celebrate the rich contributions of the African American community.

# Kingdom of Care Childcare & Preschool

## Celebrating Black History Month



BLACK HISTORY



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



# Our commitment to help bridge the digital divide

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

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

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



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





# Latino Banner

LIDER EN LA DIVERSIDAD

VAMOS ADELANTE

## On January 20, 2024 Saginaw Valley State University hosted the Michigan cultural showcase inaugural tour



Members of Mariachi Azteca de America



Ronda Garcia of Mariachi Azteca de America



Jonathan Palomar formerly of Mariachi Vargas



Jonathan Palomar formerly of Mariachi Vargas

COURTESY PHOTOS

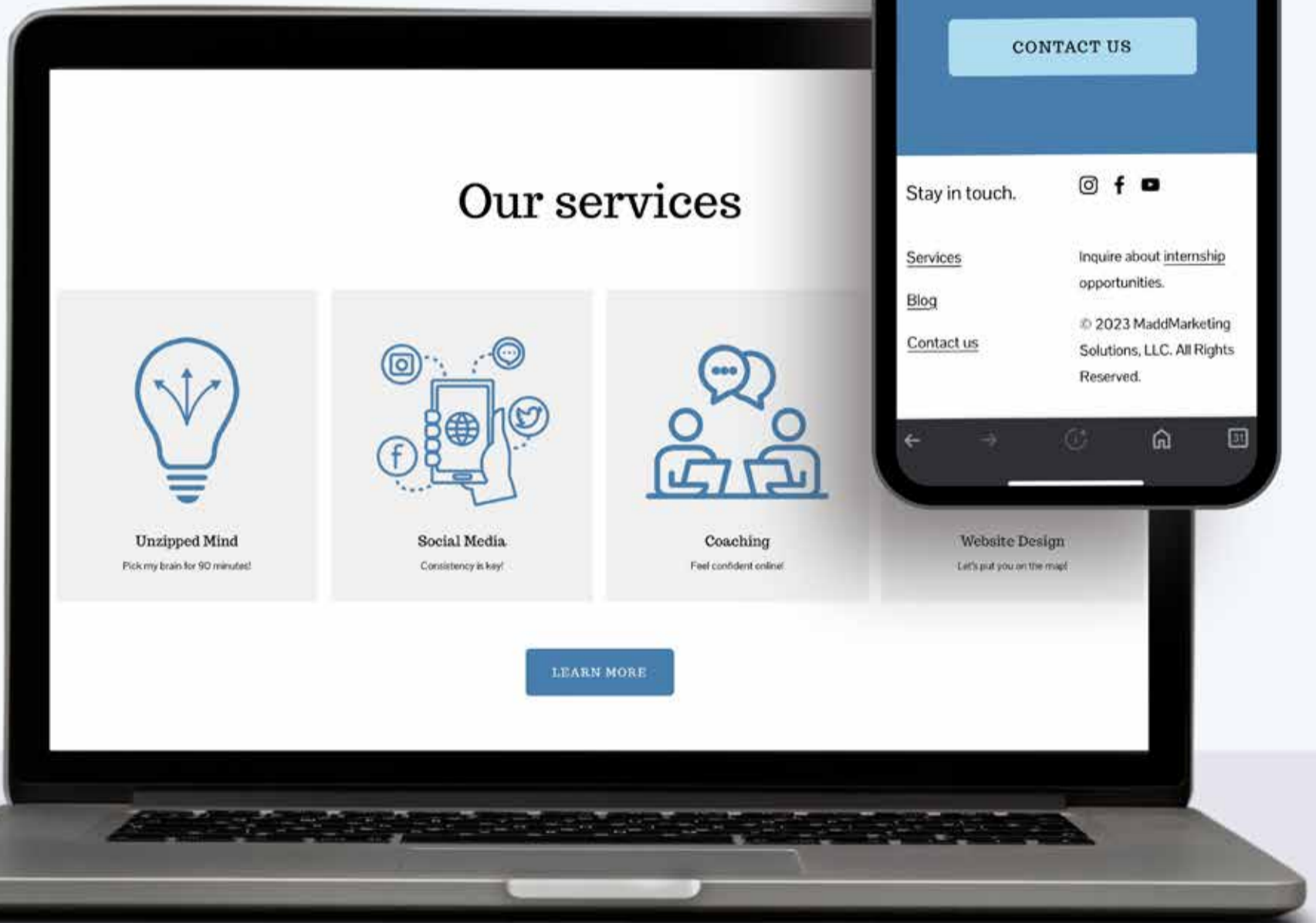
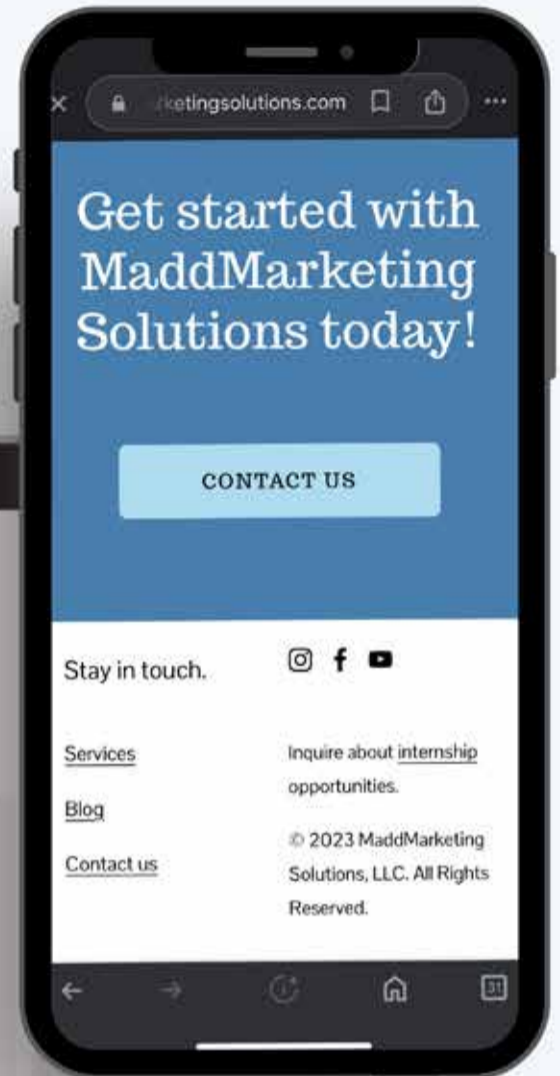
LATINO BANNER SPONSORED BY GREAT LAKES BAY HEALTH CENTERS & TEAM ONE CREDIT UNION







**MaddMarketing Solutions**  
@maddmkt

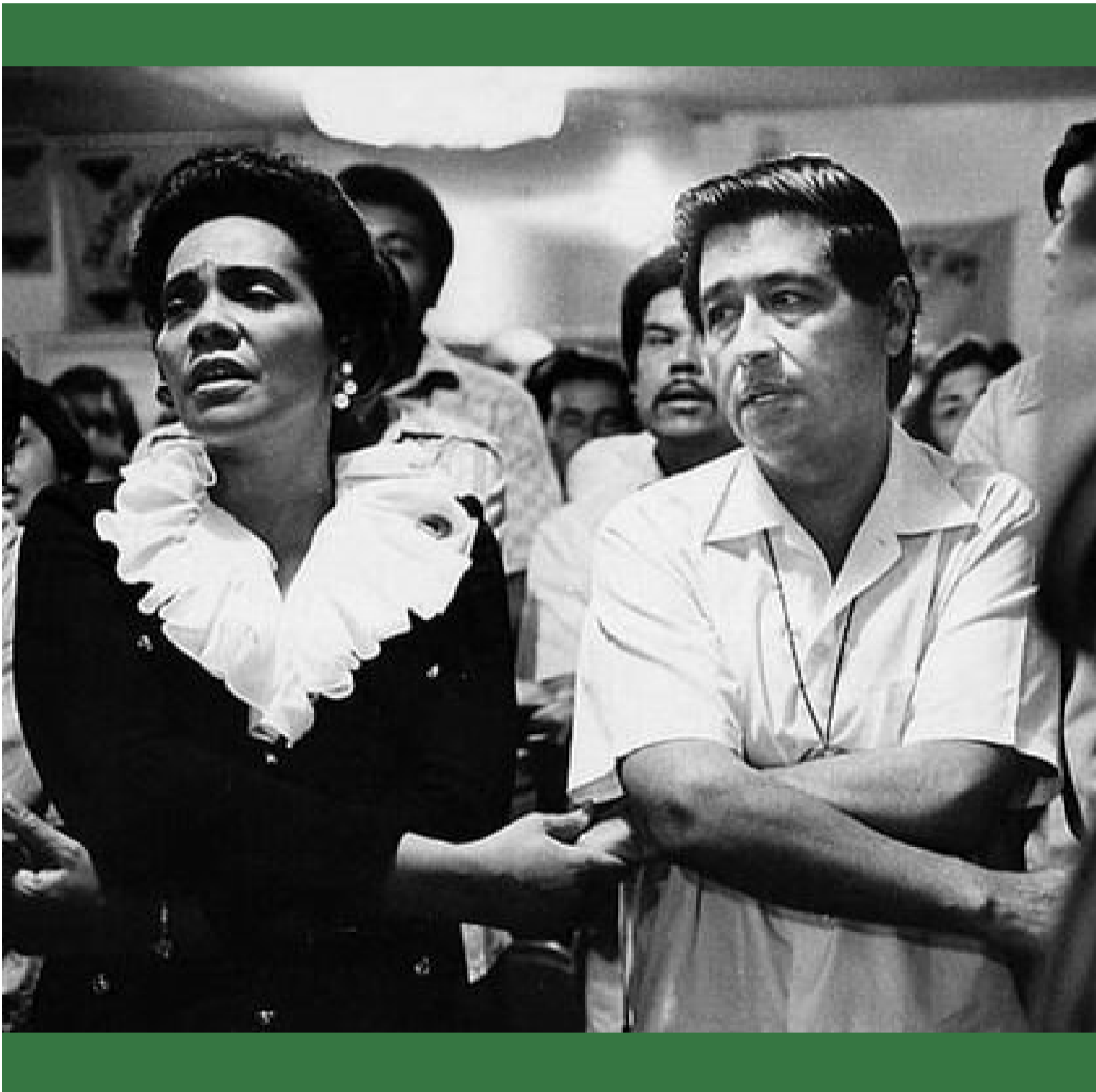


**Schedule Your Free Consultation Today**

[www.maddmarketingsolutions.com](http://www.maddmarketingsolutions.com)



# How Cesar Chavez supported and was inspired by the Black civil rights movement



CORETTA KING AND CESAR CHAVEZ IN 1972

By MB STAFF

Cesar Chavez, a labor leader and civil rights activist, played a significant role in the African American civil rights movement by aligning the struggles of Hispanic and African American communities, particularly through his leadership in the United Farm Workers (UFW).

Chavez recognized the common struggles faced by farmworkers, many of whom were African American or Hispanic. He actively sought alliances with African American civil rights leaders and organizations, understanding the importance of a unified front against systemic injustice.

Chavez and the UFW collaborated with prominent figures in the African American civil rights movement, including Martin Luther King Jr. Chavez and King shared a commitment to nonviolent protest and social justice. They jointly organized marches and protests to raise awareness about the plight of farmworkers and to advocate for labor rights.

Along with the UFW, Chavez organized successful boycotts and strikes to protest the unfair treatment of farmworkers. These actions gained national attention and support, drawing parallels with the African American civil rights struggle for equality and justice.

He used media and awareness campaigns to highlight the working conditions and challenges faced by farmworkers, emphasizing the need for solidarity across racial and ethnic lines. This raised awareness about the interconnectedness of various social justice issues.

Chavez spoke out against racial discrimination and inequality, advocating for fair treatment and equal rights for all workers, regardless of their race or ethnicity. His advocacy extended beyond the Hispanic community to encompass broader civil rights issues.

The UFW, under Chavez's leadership, engaged in legal battles to challenge discriminatory labor practices and improve working conditions. These efforts contributed to legislative changes that benefited not only Hispanic farmworkers but also African American workers facing similar challenges.

Chavez embraced an intersectional approach to social justice, recognizing the interconnectedness of various struggles. He understood that improvements in one area of civil rights and labor rights could have positive ripple effects on other marginalized communities, including African Americans.

Chavez was inspired by the principles of nonviolent resistance, a philosophy he shared with leaders of the African American civil rights movement. This approach helped build a broader coalition of support, appealing to individuals from diverse backgrounds.

Cesar Chavez's efforts contributed to a broader understanding of social justice issues, emphasizing the need for solidarity across racial and ethnic lines. His collaboration with the African American civil rights movement showcased the importance of recognizing and addressing the common struggles faced by marginalized communities in the United States.





# "Mobile Express Care"

## Bringing Healthcare to You!

**At Great Lakes Bay Health Centers, we believe that everyone deserves access to quality healthcare.**



Great Lakes Bay Health Centers Mobile Express Care services are available every 2nd, 3rd and 4th Monday's of the month. The mobile medical bus will be parked behind the Hearth Home located at 732 Hoyt Street in Saginaw. All are welcome! Most insurances accepted including Medicaid and Medicare. Sliding fee scale available if uninsured. Schedule your appointment today! Call 989-274-6444

**Walk-Ins welcome!**

### Our Provider:



Tiffanee Wazny Kohl,  
PMHNP-BC, FNP-C

### Primary Medical Care Services

- Physical Health Checks
- Acute Visits (cough, cold, sore throat, ear ache, etc.)
- Chronic Care (Diabetes, Hypertension, Asthma, etc.)
- STD screening/testing
- HIV screening/testing
- Hep C screening/testing
- Medication refills for GLBHC patients only. (No controlled medications)
- COVID-19 testing

Services available every 2nd, 3rd and 4th Monday of the month

**Call 989-274-6444**

732 Hoyt Street in Saginaw

**We Change Lives Because We Care!**

[www.greatlakesbayhealthcenters.org](http://www.greatlakesbayhealthcenters.org)



# ENJOY an easier way to pay

## with the Team One Visa® Credit Card.



Get your card now:  
Visit [TeamOneCU.org](https://TeamOneCU.org)  
or Call 888.288.3261



**MHCC** Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

**NFL**

# SAVE THE DATE

## Economic Forum

20TH ANNUAL BREAKFAST

**March 28, 2024**  
7:30 A.M - 12:00 P.M.

One Campus Martius, 16th Floor  
Detroit, MI 48226

**Keynote Speaker**  
**MARISSA SOLIS**  
Sr. Vice President  
Global Brand and Consumer Marketing,  
National Football League



[www.mhcc.org](https://www.mhcc.org)



Scan QR code and register



# Looking to trade in your vehicle for a more affordable monthly rate? Contact me Louie G



Auto sales consultant  
**Louie "Louie G" Garcia**  
Call 989-770-3078  
For an appointment



**YOU'LL DO BETTER AT**





## + COMMUNITY



COURTESY PHOTO

## Why writing and cursive remain relevant in a tech-driven age



By **JASMINE BUCKLEY**  
ELA TEACHER

Technology and screen time dominate our lives these days. It has become extremely easy to dismiss the loss of value in different educational matters, especially the importance of writing. Writing remains a foundational skill that not only enhances our communication but also plays a significant role in our cognitive development, creativity, and self-expression. Moreover, cursive writing, often considered a lost art, still holds value in our modern world.

Effective communication, whether personal or professional, relies heavily on writing. Well-crafted emails, letters, and documents convey thoughts and ideas

clearly, fostering better understanding and relationships. Writing allows us to articulate our thoughts, reflect on our experiences, and process emotions, making us more empathetic and introspective individuals.

Beyond communication, writing has significant cognitive benefits. Studies have shown that writing improves memory retention, enhances critical thinking, and develops problem-solving skills. The physical act of writing, especially in cursive, stimulates brain activity, boosting creativity and fine motor skills.

Cursive writing is another educational benefit that has slowly drifted away from many schools' curriculums. This is an unfortunate consequence of our society being led by the digitization of the world. There are many benefits that cursive writing provides for young and adult writers. Cursive writing, in particular, has been linked to improved hand-eye coordination, better comprehension, and enhanced focus. It also connects us to our historical roots, allowing us to read and appreciate documents and literature from the past. Sig-

nificantly, cursive writing remains an essential aspect of many cultures, preserving heritage and tradition.

### Delving Into The History of Cursive Writing

Cursive writing has a rich and fascinating history that spans thousands of years. Its origins can be traced back to ancient civilizations such as Egypt, Greece, and Rome, where it was used for both practical and artistic purposes.

In ancient Egypt, cursive writing was used for hieroglyphics, while in Greece and Rome, it was used for everyday writing and correspondence. The Romans developed the first true cursive script, known as "cursive Latin," which was characterized by flowing letters connected to one another.

During the Middle Ages, cursive writing continued to evolve, with the development of various scripts such as Gothic and Italic. The Italic script, in particular, became popular in the 15th century and was used by many famous writers and artists, including Leonardo da Vinci.

In the 18th and 19th centuries, cursive writing became more formalized, with the development of copperplate and Spencerian scripts. These scripts were taught in schools and became the standard for handwriting.

For many who grew up experiencing cursive in their school curriculum, it has been disheartening to observe newer generations not be offered that skill.

Writing remains a vital tool in our modern era, extending beyond communication to cognitive development, creativity, and self-expression. Furthermore, cursive writing has a rich and unique history that spans thousands of years. Embracing writing in its entirety, ensures a deeper connection to our past and a more well-rounded understanding of the world. It adds a layer of proficiency in writers and deepens one's professionalism. As we move forward, let us continue to cherish and cultivate the art of writing in all its forms.



## + COMMUNITY

## Secretary Benson, Michigan educators seek increased access to driver's education for high school students

Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson joined educators at Kearsley High School, one of just 38 Michigan schools that provide driver's education, to call for improved access to driver's education for high school students across the state and support for public schools looking to provide driver's training.

Secretary Benson and Michigan Education Association President Chandra Madafferri announced they are working to remove barriers to driver's education through two voluntary grant programs:

- A need-based grant to cover the costs of Graduated Driver License (GDL) Segments 1 & 2 and road testing.
- A voluntary grant program for public schools, particularly those in underserved geographic areas, to offset expenses associated with becoming a driver's education provider, including vehicle purchases and hiring instructors.

"Twenty years ago, the state of Michigan shifted the cost burden for driver's education directly onto teens and their families," Secretary Benson said. "Most private providers deliver quality instruction, but with the first segment of driver's ed costing as much as \$650, many families simply can't afford it. As a result, fewer teens are getting trained and licensed – especially those who are Black, Hispanic, or from low-income families. This year, we will work with educators and partners in state government to help more families afford driver's education and connect public schools with resources to offer programs for high school students."

In 2004, the State of Michigan eliminated the Driver Education Fund, putting an end to most school-based driver's education programs. An analysis of Department of State records shows that in 2000, 66% of eligible Michigan teens had driver's licenses. By 2021, that number had dropped to 56%.

The move to private instruction has contributed to racial and income inequities. A 2012 nationwide study by the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, reported that only 29 percent of Hispanic teens and 37 percent of non-Hispanic Black teens



PARTICIPANTS AT TODAY'S NEWS CONFERENCE FROM L TO R: JULIAN MORRIS, SAGINAW HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT; LUCAS GROULX, KEARSLEY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT; JOSIE JUNIGA, KEARSLEY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT; SECRETARY BENSON; MEA PRESIDENT CHANDRA MADAFFERRI; ANDY NESTER, KEARSLEY HIGH SCHOOL DRIVER'S EDUCATION INSTRUCTOR; KEARSLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT PAUL GAUDARD.

had their driver's licenses by the age of 18, compared to 67 percent of non-Hispanic white teens. The same study found that only one in four teens in households with total incomes under \$20,000 a year had their driver's licenses before their 18th birthday. But where household income exceeded \$100,000, 79 percent of teens were licensed by the time they turned 18.

"Schools are an ideal place to provide driver's education - we know our students, we provide exceptional instruction, and are accountable to state standards," said MEA President Chandra Madafferri, a veteran teacher from Oakland County. "Overwhelmingly, Michigan educators and administrators I've spoken to want to see driver's education return to the schools as much as possible. I'm looking forward to working with Secretary Benson and lawmakers to implement programs that shift the cost burden away from families and eliminate some of the inequities keeping Michigan students out of the driver's seat."

"Kearsley Community Schools' comprehensive driver's education program is an important public service that helps our students learn the skills, knowledge, and attitude needed for safe driving," said Andy Nester, a driver's education instructor at Kearsley High School. "Our students are taught by experienced, qualified teachers they know and trust in their familiar school environment. My experience tells me that investing in public school driver's

education programs is an investment in safety and responsible behavior."

"I recently embarked on the exciting journey of getting my driver's license only to be confronted by the substantial financial burden that comes with driver's education," said Julian Morris, a junior at Saginaw High School. "It's an issue that not only affects me but affects teenagers all across the state. I recall sharing my experience with some of my peers only to hear 'at least you can afford to learn to drive.' Learning to drive should not be determined by affordability. It is a rite of passage and a fundamental step towards independence and responsibility. It opens the doors to education, employment, and essential life experience. Driving should not be a privilege reserved only for those who can afford it – access to driver's training ensures opportunities for teenagers regardless of their economic background."

The Michigan Department of State (MDOS) currently oversees 281 active driver's education providers, 38 of which are educational institutions. In 2023, just two of the school-based sites had a complaint or potential violation MDOS had to investigate, compared to 30 private driving schools that had violations. Secretary Benson shared that when there are complaints or violations at school-based sites, they are less severe and are resolved more quickly once identified.



+ COMMUNITY

# Unlocking hope for sexual assault survivors

## 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Charity Fundraiser hosted by Ana Luis Salon and Day Spa

Saginaw, Mich. – Child & Family Services of Saginaw is excited to announce that Ana Luis Salon and Day Spa is partnering with the Sexual Assault Center for the 18th Annual “Unlocking Hope” fundraising event. On Thursday, March 6, 2024, from 10am-7pm, all team members from Ana Luis Salon and Day Spa will be donating their time and talents. 100% of all dollars raised through their services will be donated to make a significant impact on the lives of those finding hope and healing from the trauma of sexual violence.

In addition to the great services of hair, nail, and spa service; guests will have the opportunity to join the Unlocking Hope Virtual Online Auction to bid on many exciting health and beauty items, gift certificates, gift baskets provided by generous donors in the community. 100% of the dollars raised from the auction will also be donated to Sexual Assault Center to continue its mission of “Building Better Lives” and to provide a path of emotional recovery and well-being for those who need it most.

Enjoy bidding from the comfort of your home on any mobile device. To register and participate, visit <https://www.32auctions.com/UnlockingHope2024>

To book your appointment call (989) 799-8900 or email [mail@analuisdayspa.com](mailto:mail@analuisdayspa.com).

Child and Family Services’ Sexual Assault Center has served the community since 1984 and is the only center in Saginaw providing FREE comprehensive services exclusively for survivors and their loved ones healing from the trauma of sexual violence. In addition to counseling services, the Sexual Assault Center provides crisis services, including a 24-hour crisis line, forensic nurse examinations, victim advocacy, support and resources.

# UNLOCKING

## CHARITY FUNDRAISER

Est. 2006

# HOPE



*Hosted and presented by:*  *Ana Luis* Salon & Day Spa

---

*Please join us ...*

## MARCH 6, 2024 • 10AM-7PM

1115 North Center Road • Saginaw, Michigan 48638

---

for our

*Fundraiser  
to Benefit*



CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES  
OF SAGINAW

Committed to Building Better Lives...  
for individuals and families as the leading resource  
for emotional recovery and well-being.

SERVICES

*By Appointment*

- Haircuts
- Hair Color
- Massage
- Facials
- Mani/Pedi
- Sugaring

ONLINE AUCTION

FEB 28 - MAR 6, 2024



DONATIONS

The Ana Luis  
Salon & Day Spa  
team will donate  
100% of all funds to  
Child & Family  
Services of Saginaw

---

*Pamper • Win • Give*

100% OF ALL FUNDS DONATED TO:

## CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES OF SAGINAW

To book your appointment,  
please call 989.799.8900, or email [mail@analuisdayspa.com](mailto:mail@analuisdayspa.com)  
or visit us on online at [analuisdayspa.com](http://analuisdayspa.com)





Louise McKinnie  
Master Hairstylist/Owner

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

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

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

Specialist in Healthy Hair

wildfire  
credit union

*it's about you... always*

www.wildfirecu.org

**BURT WATSON.COM**  
CHEVROLET  
FREELAND

Let me earn your friendship!

**Gabriel Nicholson**  
Sales & Leasing Professional

PHONE (989) 695-5366 ext. 141  
GNicholson@BurtWatson.com  
www.BurtWatson.com



+ COMMUNITY



COURTESY PHOTO

## Homemade Chicken Noodle Soup Recipe

By VALINDA CROSBY

My humble up bringing is where I learned to cook.

As a child, I would always be in kitchen with my mother and grandmother. That is when I started to love to cooking and being a homemaker. So today, I want to share one of my soup recipes that I like to cook for my family on a cold winter day.

- 1 whole chicken (or a whole rotisserie chicken)
- 8oz. bag of carrots
- 3 stalks of celery
- 1 lg. onion
- 2 - 10.5oz cans of cream of chicken
- 1 stick of butter
- 12oz. bag of egg noodles
- 32oz. of chicken broth
- Garlic power
- Onion power
- Salt and pepper to taste

In a large pot boil your chicken (approx. 30mins.) While the chicken is cooking, chop up your vegetables. In another pot add half a stick of butter, add your veg a sauté when your onions become soft, add the chicken broth and noodles. Debone your chicken and add to pot. Cook your noodles until they start to soften. Stir in your cream of chicken and the remaining stick of butter. Cook another 10 minutes.

Enjoy this soup with crackers, or with a grilled cheese sandwich.

Please, consider following me on my YouTube channel @ValindaCrosby4716. In addition to recipes, I share decorating tips, grocery hauls, and Inspirational content.



*You're Invited*

**1984** **40** **2024**

**MIDLAND (MI) ALUMNAE CHAPTER  
DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.**

PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATING

**FRIDAY | MARCH 15TH**  
RUBY RED FELLOWSHIP 7:00-10:00 PM

**SATURDAY | MARCH 16TH**

LUNCHEON  
11:00-2:00 PM  
KEYNOTE SPEAKER BRITTANI N. BLACKWELL,  
MIDWEST REGIONAL DIRECTOR  
DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.  
COST- \$40

PERFORMANCE BY THE DETROIT  
YOUTH CHOIR  
3:00-4:30 PM  
[HTTPS://CART.MIDLANDCENTER.ORG/](https://cart.midlandcenter.org/)

**RUBY RED RENDEZVOUS**

DINNER AND DANCE WITH JOHN LAWRENCE  
AND THE POWER BAND | 6:00-10:00 PM | COST \$60

**SUNDAY | MARCH 17TH**  
WORSHIP WITH US AT SUNRISE BAPTIST CHURCH 10:30-12:00 PM

To pay for lunch and/or dinner attendance & to make a donation of \$40.00  
or any generous multiple of \$40.00, Please visit <https://midlandmidst.org>  
**The Deadline for payment is February 10th.**

**TUESDAY | APRIL 23RD**  
ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

Contact Chapter at : [MidlandMIDST@gmail.com](mailto:MidlandMIDST@gmail.com)





# ★ Celebrating ★ BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## LOCAL ACHIEVEMENTS IN EDUCATION

- **Lady Margaret Haithco Groves** - 1st Black Teacher for the Saginaw Public Schools (1946)
- **Frances E. Carter** - 1st Black Principal in the Saginaw Public Schools (1965)
- **Adelaide Robinson** - 1st Black graduate from Saginaw High School (1898)
- **Ruben Daniels** - 1st Black Saginaw Board of Education Trustee (1967-1993) and 1st Black person to serve as President of the Saginaw Board of Education (1971 - 73)
- **Dr. Gerald D. Dawkins** - 1st Black Superintendent Saginaw Public Schools (2001-2008)
- **Charles Coles** - 1st Black Varsity Head Coach Saginaw Public Schools (1972-1982)
- **Jacqueline Creed Bowman** - 1st Black Homecoming Queen Saginaw High School (1965)
- **Marva McCray Gordon** - Homecoming Queen Buena Vista High School (1965)
- **Dr. Kayte Fearn** - 1st Black Principal Saginaw High School 1971
- **Pamela Stuckey** - 1st Black Homecoming Queen Arthur Hill High School (1985)
- **Nathaniel McClain** - 1st Black Principal Arthur Hill High School (2008)
- **Leola Wilson** - 1st Black Female to serve on Saginaw Intermediate School Board (1977-2019) and 1st Black Female to serve on SVSU Board of Trustees (2005-2013)
- **Sylvester Stephens** - 1st Black Male serve on Delta College Board of Trustee (1971-72)
- **Marcia Marsh Goffney** - 1st Black Female serve on Delta College Board of Trustees (1997-2001)
- **Wade McCree, Jr.** - 1st Black Male to serve on SVSU Board of Trustees (1966-67)
- **Lucille Turnstall** - 1st Black female faculty member at SVSU (1965-67)
- **Dr. Guy Lee, Jr.** - 1st Black male faculty, administrator & Dean at SVSU (1970-1995)
- **Paul Leek** - 1st Black to achieve tenure & Full Professor at Delta College (1970)
- **John A. Wagner** - 1st Black faculty member at Delta College (1961)
- **Joseph Powe** - 1st Black Male to serve on Saginaw Intermediate School Board (1985-2023)
- **Vivian Keys Brown** - 1st Black Female to serve as Superintendent Buena of Vista Schools (1996-2001)
- **Dr. James B. Smith** - 1st Black African American Superintendent in Saginaw County and 1st Black Male to serve as Superintendent of Buena Vista Schools (1978-1986)



After 38 years of service, Joseph W. Powe attended his final Saginaw ISD board meeting on June 12, 2023, commencing with a celebration of his years of service.



Ruben Daniels



Frances E. Carter







# ✦ Celebrating ✦ BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## LOCAL ACHIEVEMENTS IN POLITICS

- **Henry G. Marsh** - 1st Black Elected to Saginaw City Council 1961 1963 and 1st Black Male to serve as Mayor of City of Saginaw (1967-1969)
- **Dr. Joy Hargrove** - 1st Black Female elected to Saginaw City Council 1979 1986
- **Wilmer Jones Ham** - 1st Black Female to serve as Mayor of City of Saginaw (2001-2005)
- **Harry W. Browne** - 1st Black Male elected Saginaw County Board Commissioners (1951)
- **Marie Davis** - 1st Black Female elected Saginaw County Board Commissioners (1968-1972, 1974-1990)
- **Al Holiday Male** - 1st Black to serve as Chair of County Board Commissioners (1989-1990)
- **Brigitte Braddock** - 1st Black Female to serve Chair of County Board of Commissioners (2009)
- **Carl Williams** - 1st Black elected to 95th MI State House of Representatives (2001-2007)
- **Terry L. Clark** - 1st Black Saginaw County District Court Judge (1990-Present)
- **Darnell Jackson** - 1st Black Saginaw County Circuit Court Judge (2006-Present)
- **Michael Finney** - 1st Black Interim City Manager City of Saginaw (1986-1987)
- **Preston Wiley** - 1st Black City Department Head, Model Cities Department (1974-1975)
- **James Golden** - 1st Black Chief of Police City of Saginaw (1996-2000)
- **Warren S. Hurt** - 1st Black Fireman & Fire Marshall City of Saginaw (1947-1977)
- **Cal Nicholson** - 1st Black Police Officer & Detective City of Saginaw (1934)
- **Lee Martin** - 1st Black County Department Head Mental Health
- **Ebony Rascoe** - 1st Black Female command officer Saginaw County Sheriff Dept. (2017-present)

### HENRY G. MARSH



Henry G. Marsh, attorney, community leader and mayor served the people of Saginaw for over half a century. Born in Knoxville, Tennessee in 1921, he graduated from Knoxville College and Wayne State University Law School. He came to Saginaw in 1954 to practice law and quickly became a community leader.

Elected to Saginaw City Council in 1961, he became Saginaw's first black mayor in 1967--one of the first black mayors in the United States. He served during a time of change and for many his leadership was a steady force in a divided community. As mayor, he was successful in having Saginaw designated a Model City, making it eligible for federal urban aid funds. Under his leadership Saginaw was named an All-American City. He was accessible and responsive to the day-to-day needs of Saginaw's residents. When he was awarded the Arnold Boutell Award for distinguished public service in 1968, Marsh noted, "there is no mayor who is anything unless he has people help him do it."

When he left city council in 1969, the Saginaw News reported that Saginaw's City Manager Edward Pottoff stated: "we would be very foolish if we didn't insist that Hank Marsh continue in some way as a servant of the citizens of Saginaw." Mr. Marsh would remain active and devoted to his community and family until he passed away in 2011 at the age of 89.

His life-long service to the community was recognized with numerous awards and honors. The I-675 bridge over the Saginaw River is named after him as is the Henry Marsh Institute at Saginaw Valley State University. More importantly, he left a tangible legacy of leadership and change in Saginaw.





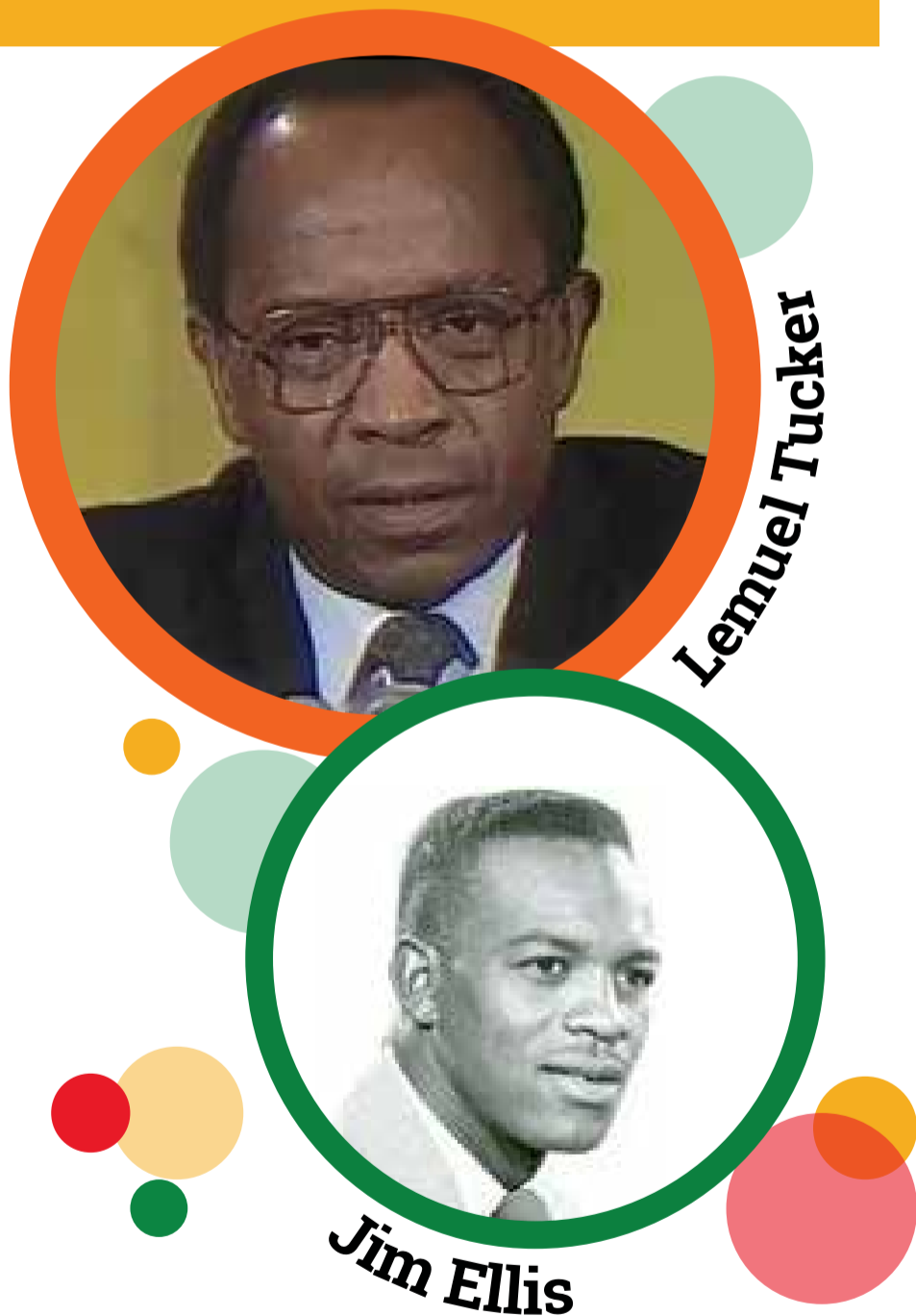


✦ Celebrating ✦


# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## LOCAL ACHIEVEMENTS IN BUSINESS

- **Rosena Moton Ford** - 1st Black Registered Nurse (1946)
- **William Atwood** - 1st Black Business owner Real Estate & Sawmill (1861)
- **Ruben Daniels** - 1st Black to serve on Bank Board of Directors Michigan National (1974-1993)
- **Laval Perry** - 1st Black Owner of New Car Dealership All American Ford (1988)
- **Thornton H. Westbrook** - 1st Black Operated funeral home which later became Elsie Black's (1929)
- **Thelma Poston** - 1st Black Female to operate real estate firm in Saginaw (1973)
- **French Morgan** - 1st Black Attorney to practice law in Saginaw (1878)
- **Sam Jones** - 1st Black GM Plant Manager (1981-1994), GM Site Manager (1994-1995), GM Director of Manufacturing Asia Region (1996-1999)
- **Jim Ellis** - 1st Black MSU College All American & Professional Athlete (1951)
- **Lemuel Tucker** - One of the 1st Black television network reporters (1965)
- **Charles Dunn** - 1st Black foreman & supervisor U.S. Post Office (1948-1986)
- **Dorothy N. Allen** - 1st Black Director of Saginaw Co. Child Receiving Home (1979-1996)
- **Shirley Barry-Ward** - 1st Black cashier hired by A & P Grocery (1962)
- **Lavinia M. Saunders** - 1st Black Medical secretary at Veterans Administration Hospital (1953-55) and EEO Representative for State of Michigan & Ohio (1955)
- **Horace Davis** - Michigan's 1st black general manager of an all white Bay City Country Club (1969-1992)







✦ Celebrating ✦

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## HISTORY OF BETHEL AME CHURCH

### SAGINAW'S 1<sup>ST</sup> BLACK CHURCH

In 1867, Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church was founded by a small group of six Christians who had a desire to fellowship together. As is the case with many churches in the formative stage, those seeking to start or “plant” a church usually begin by worshipping together in the home of one of the members. The group who planted Bethel met in the home of Mr. & Mrs. Allen Ford on North Fourth Street. As the years passed, membership increased significantly, requiring the purchase of three different structures to house the burgeoning congregation.

The Rev. Isaiah Snelling was assigned to the pastorate at Bethel in March of 1954 by the Bishop George W. Baber. Rev. Snelling, a man of discernment and great vision, was an outstanding administrator and pastor. Though Rev. Snelling died only a few months after the groundbreaking ceremonies for the new edifice in October 1966, his faithfulness to his God-given dream and his indefatigable spirited led to the Bethel we know today.

The Rev. Harold C. Huggins was appointed by Bishop Joseph Gomez as the pastor of Bethel in March 1967. Rev. Huggins was, surely, inspired by God to continue the expansion and building program begun by Rev. Snelling. July 2, 1967—in the middle of Bethel’s Centennial Year—is a day which the membership



holds dear, for on that historic day the congregation processed to a new church where a service of dedication was led by Bishop Gomez. Rev. Huggins and the people of Bethel moved forward with tenacity and strength, willingly following God’s plan for His church. Phase II of Rev. Snelling’s dream was completed in 1970; Phase III was completed in 1978. October 1980 brought Rev. Clarence G. Robinson to Bethel as pastor. Accepting the challenge to take Bethel to even higher heights in Christ, Rev. Robinson broke ground for Phase IV of the expansion program in June 1987.

In October 1988, Rev. Delano L. Bowman

was assigned to the pulpit. Pastor Bowman and the Bethel family completed construction of the \$1.6 million dollar educational center and dedicated the structure on August 27, 1989. The cornerstone was laid on July 1, 1990, with Bishop James Haskell Mayo as the chief celebrant.

Throughout Bethel’s expansion program, the congregation and its leaders continued to follow God’s lead, attempting to do His work by encouraging people everywhere to seek the Lord and the saving grace available only through Him. In June 1997, Rev. P. David Saunders was assigned to lead Bethel into the new millennium. With his belief that “Love Conquers All”, Pastor Saunders encouraged the membership to express the love of Christ in their everyday activities.

Also, in 2017 Rev. Saunders reached retirement age. After 41 years in the ministry and 35 years of pastoring, he ceremoniously retired at the 131st Session of the Michigan Annual Conference. Bethel enjoyed his superb leadership for 20 of those years. Furthermore, the “P. David Saunders Endowment Fund” was established, in recognition of his hard work and dedicated service to Bethel.

Effective September 3, 2017, Bishop John Franklin White assigned Rev. Dr. Dennis E. Laffoon to pastor Bethel.





## Business & community events *beyond* compare.

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

Get in touch with one of our event coordinators today!



**HORIZONS**  
ART OF HOSPITALITY

HORIZONS Conference Center  
6200 State Street | Saginaw, Michigan

(989) 799-4122  
inquiry@horizonscenter.com

horizonscenter.com | @horizonscenter  
@HORIZONSconfctr | @HORIZONsofGLBR

# ENJOY an easier way to pay

## with the Team One Visa® Credit Card.



Get your card now:  
Visit [TeamOneCU.org](https://TeamOneCU.org)  
or Call 888.288.3261

**TEAM ONE**  
CREDIT UNION

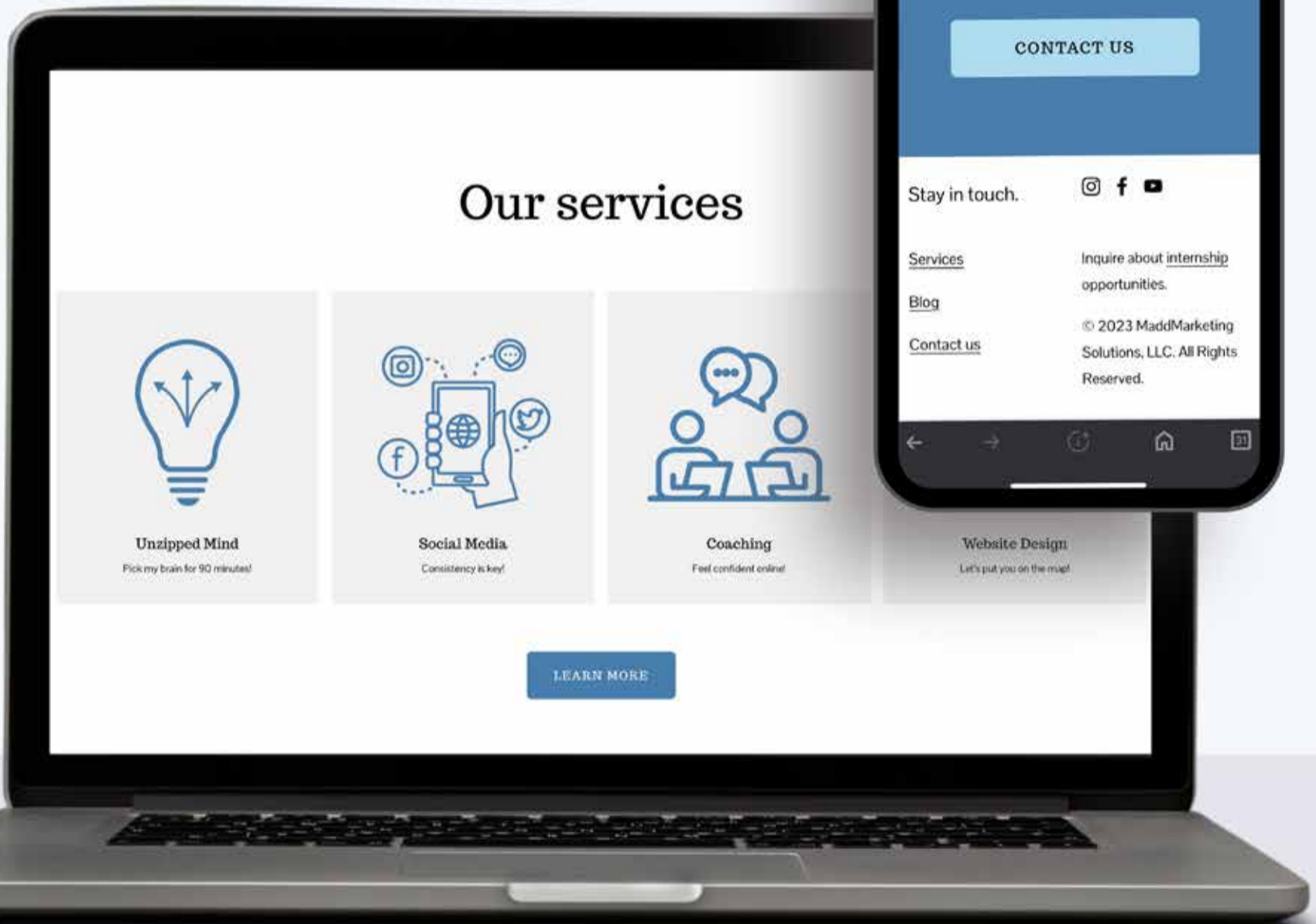
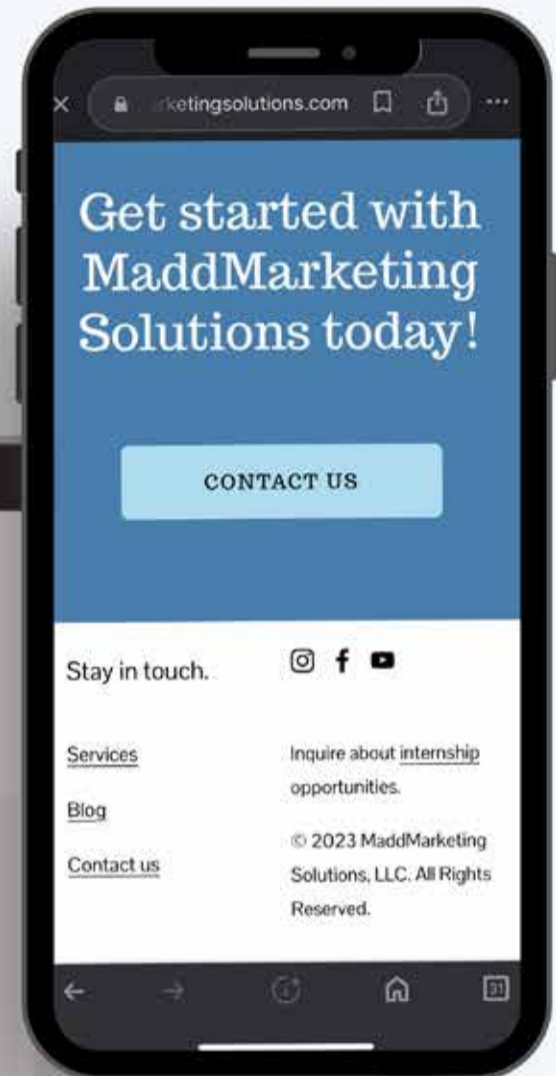
NCUA VISA PLUS







**MaddMarketing  
Solutions**  
@maddmkt



**Schedule Your Free Consultation Today**

[www.maddmarketingsolutions.com](http://www.maddmarketingsolutions.com)



## + COMMUNITY

# Artificial Intelligence

**By MB STAFF**

An oxymoron is a figure of speech that combines two contradictory terms. Terms such as awfully good, bittersweet, deafening silence, or same difference are examples of how the English language can be used to emphasize a point or just for style. Oxymorons can help to hold interest in reading almost any subject matter and can make everyday conversations more entertaining. There is a term, an oxymoron, which is the subject of intense review which has already altered the world view in the growing field of technology. There is great scrutiny regarding the need for establishing laws to govern the uses, advancements, and potential abuses of Artificial Intelligence (AI). AI refers to the intelligence of machines or software, as opposed to the intelligence of humans. In part, it is a field of study that develops and studies intelligent machines.

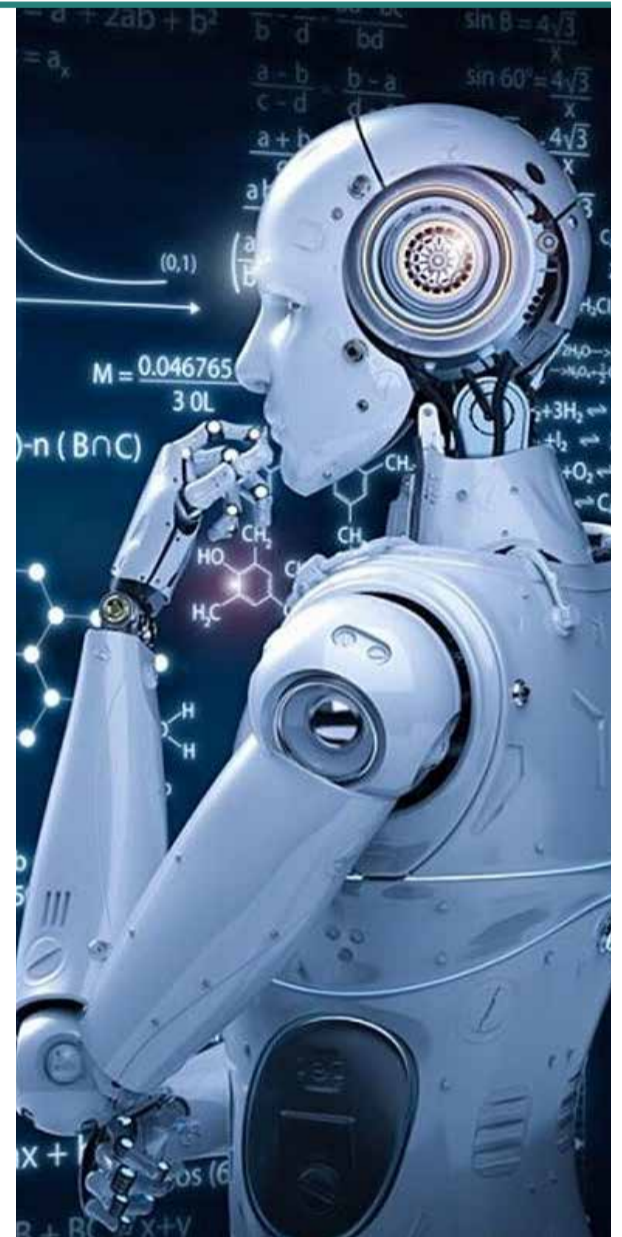
By definition, artificial refers to something that is fake, false, a mockery, simulated or a pretense. Conversely, intelligence refers to aptitude, brains, cleverness, and abilities. Two very contradictory terms. This article won't delve into the scientific aspects of AI but will use the oxymoronic term as an analogy of a phenomenon currently causing a rift in our ability to communicate with civility and productivity as an end goal. One can combine bits of information and data from varying and sometimes opposing points of view (artificial), wrap them up in a neat package which appears to be sound (intelligence) and sway those who may be less informed on a particular topic into behaviors that defy logic. People consuming the artificial information presented under the guise of intelligence, people who would otherwise condemn individuals and/or groups behaving contrary to their own moral code have been found to join in on the artificial remedy or solution. They do so to their own detriment and to the detriment of families and communities in need of solutions to real life challenges.

Other forms of intelligence such as Social and Emotional Intelligence, if well-developed, can provide balance in think-

ing and decision making when faced with options which seem counter to one's principles. Social intelligence was initially described as 'The ability to understand and manage men and women, boys and girls – to act wisely in human relations.' Thorndike (1920) It was later defined more extensively as, 'the ability to get along with people in general, social technique or ease in society, knowledge of social matters, susceptibility to stimuli from others of a group, as well as insight into the temporary moods or underlying personality traits of strangers.' Vernon (1933) Emotional intelligence focuses on understanding one's own emotions, learning to master oneself, and using this knowledge to guide one's behavior.' Gardner (1983) This emotional intelligence, mastery of oneself, enables us to use the critical thinking skills necessary to recognize and refute the 'artificial' messages currently wreaking havoc on a grand scale. Our ability to navigate life depends heavily on our level of social and emotional intellect.

These basic skills, social and emotional intelligence, are instilled and developed from very early childhood and refined throughout our lives. They shape who we are, how we develop character. 'Good character is not formed in a week or a month. It is created little by little day by day.' (Heraclitus of Ephesus) The old idiom of having learned everything I need to know in kindergarten, rings true. How we look upon and treat ourselves and others begins long before the first words are spoken. It is during these developmental stages that we begin to establish and practice the principles which govern our day-to-day decision making – our character. People of character do the right thing even if no one else does, not because they think it will change the world but because they refuse to be changed by the world. Well developed social and emotional intellect enhances the likelihood of individuals developing strong and healthy character traits.

Artificial Intelligence is here to stay and will become an even greater force in our lives as time goes on. As with all scientific advances, there will be guard rails in place to maintain safety and well-being



COURTESY PHOTO

in the use of the technology as it develops. Well-developed social and emotional intelligence will help us to recognize the real from the fake. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said, 'Intelligence plus character – that is the true goal of education.' It's challenging work, but we can strive to develop in intelligence and character. We can practice an enhanced level of emotional intellect in our decision-making. We can also be diligent in our efforts to teach children to recognize real intellect from the artificial. Let us pause long enough to distinguish the difference between the two in our individual positions on topics of importance in our lives and the lives of those we care about. A natural consequence of consuming the artificial is being often wrong but never in doubt. The time for self-reflection is now. The opportunity to self-correct is available to each of us. 'Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can. The ball is in your court.' Arthur Ashe –



# Working together, sharing the dream

By HASANI ALI

Though accomplished, successful and influential, political commentator Melissa Harris-Perry spent the first 10 minutes of her opening monologue trying to give a brief explanation of who she was as a person as she was the keynote speaker for the Martin Luther King Day Regional Celebration back on Jan. 17.

Who is Melissa Harris-Perry in her own words?

That was the question that the MSNBC television personality started with as she got comfortable in her seat at the Saginaw Valley State University Malcolm Field Theatre for Performance Arts in Curtiss Hall.

“At the moment, I am very excited to discover that I am cold,” she said jokingly as she’s used to warmer climates. “But if I were to describe myself, I’m a college professor, that’s what I’m known for and that’s what pays the bills, but I look at myself more like a teacher.”

Acknowledging that the age range of the audience was quite diverse, Harris-Perry got creative when it came to relating to the students in the audience.

“I’m the Ms. Frizzle of political science,” she said. “Just ready to hop on the school bus with 25 young people (from kindergarteners to college kids) ready to engage in the American project.”

As the conversation went on and Dr. King’s legacy was being examined and celebrated, the Duke (first African-American woman to earn her Ph.D. in political science from the university) graduate mentioned quite a few times that she does her best to “stay awake and not asleep” when it comes to addressing what really happened during his era and Civil Rights movement.

A major part of her rhetoric was tackling the kid-friendly version of Dr. King that the school curriculum and mainstream media tends to feed everyone – painting the picture that the entire Civil Rights movement was nonviolent and pivotal moment that ended the racism in America with a simple speech.

“The entire movement was violent, bloody in fact,” she said. “Take a look back at those photos where the police were beating the activist, spraying them with a water hose or sticking the police dogs on them. The speech was just an effect from all the violence that ensued from the movement.”

Harris-Perry is always in awe when listening to students recite the famous, “I Have A Dream” speech by the late Dr. King. Not in remembrance of the notable Civil Rights leader, but hearing the unedited version of the speech.



MELISSA HARRIS-PERRY

“It’s so awesome that we finally get to hear the speech in full context,” she said. “We always get the Hallmark, cookie-cutter version of it.”

She noted that American history loves to freeze Dr. King in 1963. His legacy stops after the March in Washington D.C., as if he was immediately assassinated afterwards, which is not true.

One context that is never mentioned about the famous speech noted by Harris-Perry was that Dr. King never intended to talk about the dream.

King was the keynote speaker at the March for Jobs and Justice to speak about the African Americans’ economic plight, but the crowd became restless.

In a quick attempt to win the crowd back, gospel singer Mahalia Jackson advised to Dr. King to, “tell them about the dream.”

That’s how Dr. King was able to move a nation with Black America’s cry for justice and equal opportunity.

Keeping the topic relevant, the volunteer moderator Kermit Anderson Diggs asked Harris-Perry if she believes that she shares the dream in her work in the political space, but the best-selling author had a different sentiment.

“I don’t know if I can say that I am sharing the dream,” she said. “But hopefully I am sharing the work.”

Harris-Perry went on to talk about motherhood and how sharing some of the work is instilling certain morals and principles into her children.

Growing up as a rebel, one of the things that she had to realize was her children were going to be just like her—hence realizing that there may be a reason for having rules in place.

“I accidentally raised two girls that are not rule followers as I taught them to always question authority,” she said with a smile as a rhetorical question was to ensue. “But guess who’s the first person of authority that they are going to question?”

With election season being right around the corner, Harris-Perry was asked about former president Donald Trump, his antics and why he’s the main character in so many news stories.

“Donald Trump saved cable news,” she said. “Whoever told you that Trump was terrible for cable TV are absolutely lying to you. He’s great for TV. The ratings soared when he was running for president as he would say the wildest things and we were able to be there for all of it.”

Harris-Perry went on to further articulate how Trump’s portrayal as a villain is what set a blaze to the political atmosphere with the constant coverage and the analysis of his rhetoric.

After joking with the students about demanding extra credit for being in attendance, her last words to the audience is to always tell the authentic story of Dr. King.

In addition to the address by Harris-Perry, the program included the presentation of regional scholarship awards by the Bay Area, Midland Area and Saginaw community foundations to high school seniors who have embodied Martin Luther King Jr.’s ideals.

Harris-Perry is the Maya Angelou Presidential Chair in the Department of Politics and International Affairs and the Department of Women, Gender and Sexuality at Wake Forest University in North Carolina.

She is also the founder and president of the Anna Julia Cooper Center, whose mission is to advance justice through intersectional scholarship, engaged teaching and intentional action.

As the author of “Barbershops, Bibles, and BET: Everyday Talk and Black Political Thought,” Harris-Perry was awarded the W. E. B. Du Bois Book Award from the National Conference of Black Political Scientists in 2005 — and “Sister Citizen: Shame, Stereotypes, and Black Women in America.”

Harris-Perry was the final host and managing editor of “The Takeaway,” a daily National Public Radio program and podcast that ended earlier this year. From 2012-2016, Harris-Perry hosted the television show Melissa Harris-Perry on MSNBC.



**GriefShare**

## Grief Support Group

*Help and encouragement after the death of a loved one*

A GriefShare support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. At this 13-week group, you'll receive valuable guidance and tips, leading you to relief, comfort, and peace of mind.

**Contact Us Today**

Sundays 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.  
February 4 – May 5, 2024  
Hopevale Church, 989-793-3122 x26  
4873 N. Center Rd, Saginaw  
hopevale.org/griefshare

[griefshare.org](http://griefshare.org)

**Great Lakes Bay Health Centers**

## "Mobile Express Care"

Bringing Healthcare to You!

At Great Lakes Bay Health Centers, we believe that everyone deserves access to quality healthcare.



Great Lakes Bay Health Centers Mobile Express Care services are available every 2nd, 3rd and 4th Monday's of the month. The mobile medical bus will be parked behind the Hearth Home located at 732 Hoyt Street in Saginaw. All are welcome! Most insurances accepted including Medicaid and Medicare. Sliding fee scale available if uninsured. Schedule your appointment today! Call 989-274-6444  
**Walk-ins welcome!**

**Our Provider:**



Tiffanee Wazny Kohl,  
PMHNP-BC, FNP-C

**Primary Medical Care Services**

- Physical Health Checks
- Acute Visits (cough, cold, sore throat, ear ache, etc.)
- Chronic Care (Diabetes, Hypertension, Asthma, etc.)
- STD screening/testing
- HIV screening/testing
- Hep C screening/testing
- Medication refills for GLBHC patients only. (No controlled medications)
- COVID-19 testing

Services available every 2nd, 3rd and 4th Monday of the month  
**Call 989-274-6444**  
732 Hoyt Street in Saginaw

**We Change Lives Because We Care!**  
[www.greatlakesbayhealthcenters.org](http://www.greatlakesbayhealthcenters.org)

**“MY LEGACY IS ABOUT GREAT PATIENT CARE.”**

**Regina Chenevert**  
*Respiratory Therapist*



**Join the family at Covenant HealthCare.**

When talking with Covenant HealthCare employees, one word always comes up: family. The close teamwork and respect among our people are what keep Covenant employees here, year after year. They love working for the region's leading hospital, providing extraordinary care and working with the area's finest healthcare providers. Join us and become a part of our family.

Apply at  
[CovenantHealthCare.com/Careers](http://CovenantHealthCare.com/Careers)





## SVSU to bring David Rosenthal, musical director and keyboardist for Billy Joel, to campus

Saginaw Valley State University and the SVSU Foundation will host the long-time keyboardist and musical director for Billy Joel for an evening of reflections and musical selections. “An Evening with David Rosenthal: Stories from the Road” will take place Tuesday, Feb. 13, at 7:30 p.m. in the Rhea Miller Recital Hall in SVSU’s Curtiss Hall. This event is free and open to the public; however, for planning purposes, registration is requested.

Rosenthal began working with Billy Joel in 1993 and has joined Joel on numerous tours since then, including the “Face 2 Face” tours with Elton John. For the past 10 years, Rosenthal has been an integral part of Joel’s record-breaking Madison



DAVID ROSENTHAL

Square Garden residency.

With a distinguished career spanning four decades, Rosenthal has achieved broad-based success as a musical director, keyboardist, synthesizer programmer, producer, composer, orchestrator and

touring professional. In addition to Joel, he has collaborated with Bruce Springsteen, Elton John, Enrique Iglesias, Robert Palmer, Richie Blackmore and Rainbow, Cyndi Lauper, Alicia Keys and many others.

Rosenthal is a graduate of Berklee College of Music. He has won numerous gold and platinum album awards and has been nominated for Grammy Awards three times.

“Stories from the Road” is made possible by the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Visiting Artists and Scholars Endowment at SVSU, which was established to enrich our regional cultural and intellectual opportunities.

## 50 positive and encouraging messages your child needs to hear



By **EMILY MANNING**

Raising confident, capable and emotionally resilient children is our primary goal as parents. We want nothing more than to give our children the confidence to take on the world, which is why it’s important to lay the foundations from an early age with some of these positive and encouraging messages.

Boost your child’s self-esteem and build their confidence by sharing positive and affirming messages every child needs to hear – introduce them in your home and see real changes in no time!

1. I’m grateful for you.
2. I’m proud of you.
3. I understand.
4. You’re right.
5. I forgive you.
6. That’s a great question.
7. You decide.
8. I know you did your best.
9. That’s a great idea!

10. You make me happy.
11. You are kind.
12. I love spending time with you.
13. Thank you for helping me.
14. You make me smile.
15. I missed you while you were at school.  
(Keep the conversation going with these great and engaging questions to ask your kids about school)
16. I believe you.
17. I believe in you.
18. Your opinion matters.
19. You are clever.
20. I’m listening.
21. Can you show me how to do that?
22. You are important.
23. You can change your mind.
24. You are a good friend.
25. You are strong.
26. It’s okay to make mistakes.
27. You can do it.
28. Thank you for sharing.
29. You’ve got this.
30. You’re so funny!
31. I can see that you’re working hard.
32. Your imagination is wonderful.
33. Can you explain it to me?
34. Our family wouldn’t be the same without you.
35. How would you do it?
36. You can tell me anything.
37. I love your hugs.

38. Good thinking.
39. I appreciate it when you...
40. That was a good decision.
41. I trust you.
42. Thank you for helping.
43. I love being your parent.
44. You don’t have to be perfect to be amazing.
45. Just be yourself.
46. What will we do together?
47. Go play and have fun.
48. Thank you.
49. I love you.
50. What do you think?







## Your *dream wedding* destination.

Our creative team delights in making your vision come to life so you and your guests will experience an unforgettable day. Start planning your dream wedding today with HORIZONS.

**HORIZONS**  
ART OF HOSPITALITY

HORIZONS Conference Center  
6200 State Street | Saginaw, Michigan

(989) 799-4122  
weddings@horizonscenter.com

🌐 horizonscenter.com    📌 @horizonscenter  
📱 @HORIZONSconfctr    📷 @horizonsweddings



# + 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

If you really want to know where your heart is, look at what you do with your money. Checking your credit card statement, your checkbook, and your bank account will not only disclose to you where you are spending your money, but will also make it crystal-clear as to where your heart is.

Beginning in Luke 12:22-24, we find Jesus teaching His disciples that **life is more than food, and the body more than clothes**. He then asks them to consider how He provides for the ravens and if He provides for them, how much more valuable are they than the birds. He is conversing with His disciples then, but He is speaking to us now. Jesus is encouraging us as well, to put our treasures in what is going to matter most in eternity. This is what He specifically expresses to His disciples in Luke 12:33, when He states, **“Sell your possessions and give it to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will not be exhausted, where no thief comes**

**near and no moth destroys.”** After conveying this statement He lets them know, **“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also”** (Luke 12:34).

This is not to imply that money is evil, nor is it to insinuate that as Believers we should not save, invest time or efforts into earthly things. However, it is important that we comprehend that earthly treasures are tools and ultimately belong to God and we are to steward them wisely (Luke 16:10-13). God knows that the Believer has needs, and as Believers, we are to trust God and His ability to meet the need for food, clothing, and all of life’s necessities. The Christian’s primary focus regarding life is to be upon the Kingdom of God and the work God has assigned to each person.

Jesus made three great promises and one significant warning concerning this matter. The initial promises begins with God promising to provide the necessities of life (food, clothing, possessions etc.) for the one who seeks God first. **“Seek ye first the kingdom of**

# Follow Your Money and You Will Find Your Heart

*“For where your  
treasure is, there your  
heart will be also”*

Luke 12:34

**God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you”** (Matthew 6:33). Secondly, God will give the Kingdom to His **“little flock,”** those who sincerely seek God’s Kingdom first and trust Him to care for them. **“You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it”** (John 14:14). The third promise that God gives is that His treasures do not age, fail, nor corrupt; neither can they be stolen. **“For what is our hope, our joy, or the crown in which we will glory in the presence of our Lord Jesus when he comes? Is it not you?”** (1Th 2:19). Jesus also intensely warns His followers without a doubt; their hearts would be where their treasure is.

Beloved, after taking the time to check your accounts that allows you to follow your money, where did you find your heart?

**Blessing 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

# Building your fundraising team for 2024

By MEL AND PEARL SHAW

*Some of us have a tendency to do it alone. There's a sense of triumph that accompanies the phrase "I did that." But doing it alone can also be a lonely and unsuccessful path. That is especially true in fundraising. Here's our anti-dote to the fundraising blues: build a team.*

If you're an executive director or CEO seeking to grow your organization eight types of people should be represented on your fundraising team. The first is you. That's right – you have to be part of the team. Are you committed to raising funds for your organization or are you expecting someone else to do it? Will you – and can you – provide the leadership and the vision? The next person you need is your board chair. Do you have a relationship with the chair of the board? Do they understand what you are trying to do? Do you understand their vision and why they are willing to lead the board? Do the two of

you have a shared commitment to the nonprofit and its goals? Consider your board chair your primary ally and take time to strengthen this important relationship with open lines of communication and timely sharing of information.

In terms of engaging staff, engage your right-hand person. At a large organization that could be the chief of staff, in a smaller nonprofit it could be an assistant or program leader. What's most important is that this person serves as your "ambassador" across the organization. You will also need a major donor on your team, someone who is willing to reach out to others who could make a major gift. Add a community stakeholder to help engage the community and address the political and social implications of your fundraising. Don't forget to include your family on your team. They need to understand the long hours you may end up working: they should believe in what you are trying to do and give you moral support.

Back to your staff, your team requires the involvement of the CFO or other

person who handles the money. This person brings deep knowledge of the organization's financial position, projections, and cash flow management. They will play an important role in creating realistic budgets and in sharing requested financial information with donors. Consider your CFO as the person who keeps you honest: they will tug at your sleeve when you try to "spend a dollar twice." Finally, a communications expert will help you educate and motivate people, especially those who could make or influence a gift. Consistent marketing and communications increase people's awareness of your nonprofit and its impact. Remember, it is hard for people to give when they don't know you.

We always recommend adding a ninth member to the team when possible. That member is a fundraising consultant who can share the ins and outs of fundraising. You'll want someone you trust, who understands your culture, and who can guide you. We hope you'll ask us to be part of your team!



Copyright 2022 – Mel and Pearl Shaw

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



## + EDUCATION



COURTESY PHOTO

# Students can apply to the Michigan Achievement Scholarship



By **CRAIG DOUGLAS**  
RETIRED EDUCATOR

The Michigan Achievement Scholarship is being offered to all graduating seniors who qualify. The program is in its second year, and everyone can apply. It is a scholarship that is not competitive because it is based upon financial need as de-

termined by the FAFSA form that must be submitted to be considered.

FAFSA stands for Free Application for Federal Student Aid). It is completed online and is often done by the student and his/her parents, together. Some high schools have seminars that assist in the process. The application has been streamlined this year to make it less challenging and more efficient.

For students who qualify, the award is based upon the schooling desired. For four-year colleges and universities, it may be as high as \$ 5,500 each year at public and \$ 4,000 each year at a private institution. For a qualifying student at a Community College, they may receive up to \$

2,750 per year. There are limitations for the total moneys received over the course of three, four, or five years.

It is a program with no risk to apply and potentially, a large reward. Last year many students took a pass and did not apply. I urge that this not happen again during the current round of applications.

### Resource:

<https://www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid/programs/michigan-achievement-scholarship/informational-session>



**+ EDUCATION**

# Nurturing a love for reading in the face of declining proficiency



COURTESY PHOTO

**By AZANA JONES**

The proficiency in reading stands as a valuable, yet often overlooked asset in comprehending the diverse aspects of the world that surrounds us. The journey toward literacy begins for children around the age of three and four as they begin to gain the foundational building blocks necessary to read. During this developmental phase children learn the alphabet including letter names and sounds. They also begin to engage in "reading" familiar stories. This cognitive development progresses until approximately second or third grade. By this time, students are expected to have the necessary skills to tackle longer and more advanced books independently. Ideally, educators aspire for students to cultivate a genuine love for reading, savoring the multitude of benefits that it has to offer.

Though this is proven to be true, the unforeseen challenge of imparting essential reading skills emerged during the global pandemic leaving educators to navigate uncharted territories. Forbes reported that "students in the Northeast and

Midwest witnessed the most significant drop [in test scores post-pandemic]—a seven-point decrease in reading." Forbes reported this to be a "disconcerting revelation." A separate study published by the New York Times reinforces this, noting that reading scores experienced the largest decline in over three decades. Particularly alarming is the observation that "while many 9-year-olds can demonstrate partial understanding of what they are reading, fewer can infer a character's feelings from what they have read." This statistic highlights a potential gap in critical thinking skills, emotional intelligence, and comprehensive understanding. This poses a threat to a student's overall learning journey and academic success. Addressing these challenges is critical to producing nurturing well-rounded, skilled individuals, who will be ready to tackle any learning challenges they may face in life.

It is a widely acknowledged notion that the love for reading commences at home. Recent data from a 2023 National Education Association (NEA) study indicates a decline in adults reading for pleasure—dropping from 52.7% in 2017 to 48.5%. Fostering a reading culture at home be-

comes crucial in addressing this decline. Parents, as primary role models, can positively influence their children's reading habits. A visit to the local library can open up a world of possibilities. It offers not only an extensive array of books, but also events and programs that facilitate the cultivation of a love for reading. Celebrating a child's reading milestones is also equally important in maintaining their enthusiasm for reading.

Additionally, as Black History Month approaches, there is an opportunity to diversify reading choices and support black authors along the journey to fostering our love for reading. Notable authors such as Kiley Reid, Leila Mottley, Charmaine Wilkerson, and Diana Evans offer compelling and engaging books for adults, while Mahogany L. Browne, JaNay Brown-Wood, Siman Nurali, Sharon M Draper, and Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow are excellent choices for young readers. Encouraging a rich and varied reading experience can contribute significantly to the development of a lifelong love for reading. This in turn will foster an enhancement of literacy skills and a well-rounded education.



# SAGINAW ARTS & SCIENCES ACADEMY

1903 N. NIAGARA ST., SAGINAW 48602



## Admissions INFORMATION NIGHT



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2024 • 5:30 PM

Join us to learn about our  
gifted and talented programs  
for students entering 6th-12th  
grades in the Fall of 2024



Explore Experience Create



### Handley Elementary

PROGRAM FOR THE GIFTED & ACADEMICALLY TALENTED  
1300 PASSOLT ST., SAGINAW 48602  
989.399.4250

## Accepting Applications Now!

FOR THE 24/25  
SCHOOL YEAR

## Admissions

### INFORMATION NIGHT

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2024 • 4-5 PM

THEATRE DANCE 2D/3D ART FOREIGN LANGUAGE BAND CODING/COMPUTER DESIGN ROBOTICS/ENGINEERING MUSIC/VOCALLS



HANDLEY'S MAKING HISTORY WITH SAGINAW ARTS + SCIENCES ACADEMY CREATING A K-12 GIFTED + TALENTED CAMPUS





# THE POWER OF THE PROMISE DEPENDS ON ALL OF US!

Support the Saginaw Promise with a  
gift to its 2023 Community Campaign!

The Power and ability of the Saginaw Promise to affect  
change through postsecondary education, depends on  
community partners, donors, sponsors and volunteers.

Since 2012, the Saginaw Promise has awarded  
**\$1,227,714** in scholarships to **695** scholars.



The Saginaw Promise asks you to invest in Saginaw and its students with a gift  
of support to the Saginaw Promise today! The Saginaw Promise is working to  
provide the opportunity for and to eliminate barriers to postsecondary education to  
impact the future of Saginaw, its economy and the lives of its students. **Please join  
us as a community partner with your gift of support!**

To donate visit:  
**<https://form.jotform.com/221173527315147>**  
or visit the Saginaw Promise website  
or contact our office at **(989)755-0545.**

*Thank You*

It takes a village...all of us to care for our community and our children....

Saginaw Promise | [www.saginawpromise.org](http://www.saginawpromise.org) | (989) 755-0545







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](http://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

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](http://www.sisd.cc) and select "Join Our Team!" at the top right corner of the

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

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

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

### Early Head Start/Head Start Locations

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

### Great Start to Readiness Program Locations

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

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



# 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](https://delta.edu/reconnect) | 989-686-9093



## SAGINAW PUBLIC SCHOOLS IS EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE



# Eric Gordon

Principal of  
Saginaw United High School



### MR. GORDON'S JOURNEY TO THE PHOENIX

Saginaw Public Schools is pleased to announce that Eric Gordon, has been selected as the principal of Saginaw United High School.

Mr. Gordon has over 24 years of experience as an educator in various roles, beginning his career as a classroom aide at Heavenrich Elementary School. Following that experience, Mr. Gordon became a teacher, Dean of Students and Assistant Principal at Central Middle School. Mr. Gordon also served as the Principal of Arthur Eddy Academy where he led the transformation efforts to pull the school out of low performing status. He is currently the Principal at Saginaw High School.

Mr. Gordon's educational training and credentials includes an Associates' Degree from Delta College, a Bachelor Degree of Arts in Math and Science from Saginaw Valley State University, and a Masters Degree in Educational Leadership from Saginaw Valley State University.

During his tenure as Principal, Mr. Gordon has increased student academic achievement on state and local assessments, increased graduation rates and improved the overall school culture and climate.

Mr. Gordon is a Saginaw native, who has grown into a transformational leader through the experiences garnered in Saginaw Public Schools. These experiences have fed his passion, commitment, and focus as it relates to educating students. Supportive, demanding, hardworking and results driven are all words used to describe his leadership. He is excited to galvanize all stakeholders toward the one goal of ensuring that all students at the new Saginaw United High School leave READY to be competitive in a 21st century economy.



# Saginaw Public Schools

## WILD about Pre-K



Check It Out  
↓



## Register Now

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



### Items Needed For Enrollment

- Child's Birth Certificate
- Up-to-Date Shot Record
- Health Appraisal/Physical
- Health Insurance Card
- Proof of Income
- Proof of Residency
- Photo ID

### To Complete Registration

→ Appointment Required ←

Call (989) 399-6750 or visit  
[michiganpreschool.org](http://michiganpreschool.org)

SIGN UP!

SCAN ME



## Register Now





**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](mailto:etaylor@sisd.cc).



# SAGINAW INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT

3933 Barnard Road, Saginaw, MI 48603  
(989) 399-7473 | [www.sisd.cc](http://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](http://www.saginawheadstart.org)

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

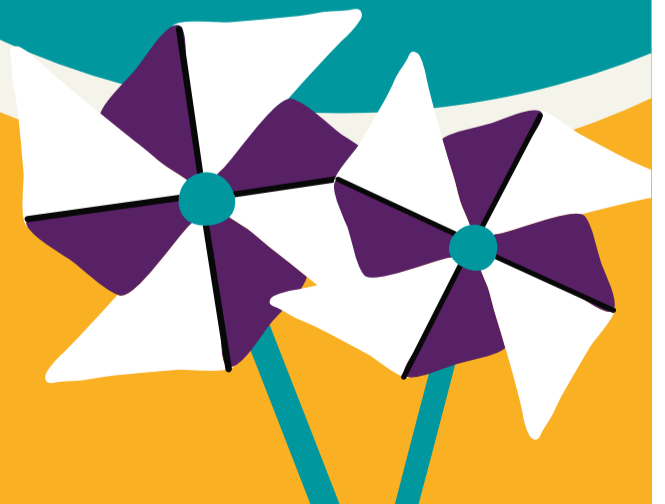
- Au Gres-Sims Schools
- Bay Arenac ISD
- Children's Discovery Academy
- Gratiot Isabella RESD
- Hemlock SemiConductor
- Ready, Set, Grow
- Saginaw ISD Head Start
- Vantage Plastics

**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](mailto:etaylor@sisd.cc).





## + SPORTS



TRE GARRETT

# Former Bridgeport star scores 1,000 career points as SVSU upsets no. 13 Ferris State

By HASANI ALI

Saginaw Valley State University now has two Saginaw natives that have reached the 1,000-point mark this season.

Tre Garrett is the second Cardinal to hit the milestone as SVSU upset No. 13 Ferris State, 99-89 on Jan. 27.

Similar to junior Freddie McIntosh, who scored his career high of 35 points on his way to 1,000 last week, Garrett also hit a career high of 32 while reaching the milestone.

Though the former Bearcat has a repu-

tation as one of the top defensive players in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC), he has the ability to be an offensive weapon as well.

Because of his efforts, the 6-foot-3 guard was named GLIAC Offensive Player of the Week.

Garrett also set career high in free throws made with 17 out of 24 attempts. It was his second 30-point game after scoring 31 en route to SVSU's win over Lake Superior State.

Junior guard Toodles Seal added 16 points for the Cardinals against Ferris,

with former Saginaw High star Freddie McIntosh adding 20 points and five assists.

SVSU (11-7 overall, 4-5 GLIAC) has finally snapped its 13-game losing streak to Ferris State (16-4 overall, 6-3 GLIAC).

Seal finished with 26 points after going 6-of-9 from beyond the arc. Both his three-point makes and attempts were a career-high.

Seal's 26 points were just three points from his career-high in that category that he set earlier this season. He added seven rebounds to his stat line as well. McIntosh was the third in a trio of SVSU players to score 20+ points in the game after shooting 7-of-18 from the floor for 20 points.

He also led the team in assists with five and hauled in three rebounds. Senior forward Dylan West recorded nine rebounds, five of which were on the offensive side of the ball.

SVSU jumped out to an early 9-0 run in the first half to gain a breathable lead which eventually helped them keep their lead all the way through regulation.

Garrett made a free throw at 15:28 of the first to give the game its first double-digit deficit (15-5). An 8-0 run by Ferris State cut the deficit to three points, 26-23, with 8:17 left before the halfway mark.

Seal responded with a three-point jumper that sparked a 6-0 run and pushed the lead to nine points with 6:47 remaining in the first half. The advantage extended to 17 points in the final five minutes and grew to 22 points at halftime (57-35).

Saginaw Valley State used a 6-1 run to widen the gap to its furthest point, 63-36. FSU battled back to cut the margin to eight points in the final two minutes.

The Cardinals will be on the road next week as they will take on Purdue Northwest on Thursday, Feb. 1 at 7 p.m. Following, SVSU will head to Kenosha, Wis., to finish the season series against Parkside on Saturday, February 3. Tipoff is at 4:00 p.m.



## + SPORTS



FREDDIE MCINTOSH

## Former Trojan standout reaches 1,000 points at SVSU

By **HASANI ALI**

Former Saginaw High School star Freddie McIntosh reached two milestones at Saginaw Valley State University – scoring 1,000 career points while also setting a new career high with 35 points.

He came into the game only needing six points to reach 1,000. On top of that, McIntosh led the second half with 11 points on his way to scoring his third 30-point game in his career.

Despite the accomplishments from the junior guard, the Cardinals suffered a nail-biting 82-81 loss at Davenport University back on Jan. 22.

“They ain’t hear me the first time... Allow me to reintroduce myself,” McIntosh said on Facebook the night after the game.

The Panthers had a difficult time containing McIntosh as he was active all over the floor. He went 11-of-21 (52 percent) shooting, 4-of-7 from beyond the arc, and 9-of-11 from the free throw line.

McIntosh also contributed five rebounds, four assists, and a steal.

Senior Tre Garrett added 17 points in the losing effort. Garrett went 7-of-13 shooting and pulled down seven rebounds

for the Cardinals. Sophomore Curtis Jackson had a nice night at the point, dishing seven assists in the contest.

SVSU (9-6, overall, 2-5 GLIAC) had to play catch-up early as the Panthers hopped out to a 7-2 lead in the opening three minutes of the game.

McIntosh drilled a three-point jumper to cut the deficit to two points before a 5-0 run by Davenport, extending the lead to 12-5 with just over four minutes expired in the first half.

An 8-0 run later in the half built a 22-9 lead for Davenport with 10:47 remaining in the half. McIntosh was fouled on a jump shot that he made and completed the and-one to cut the lead to 10 points.

The Panthers (6-10 overall, 2-5 GLIAC) maintained a double-digit lead for most of the remaining time in the first half, taking a 41-30 advantage into the locker room at the half.

Davenport extended the lead to its widest margin of 16 points in the opening 4:30 minutes of the second half.

Garrett tallied 13 of his 17 points in the second half to contribute to the late-game push for SVSU. McIntosh made two free throws before junior Maurice Anderson

hit two three-point jumpers that began and ended an 8-0 run that closed the gap to nine points with just over 13 minutes remaining in the game.

Garrett scored five-straight points and McIntosh capped an 8-0 run with another three that put the deficit to 63-56 just south of the halfway mark of the final half.

The Cardinals wouldn’t get closer until a series of free throws followed by a dunk by sophomore Kevonne Taylor put the score at 77-73 in the final minute of play.

SVSU was forced to preserve time and foul, and the Panthers made just enough of the free throws to hold onto the lead. McIntosh hit another shot from distance that cut the lead to 82-79 before Taylor hit a layup to complete a 5-0 run in the closing seconds, but the Cardinals ran out of time to complete the comeback.

The Cardinals will host two games in GLIAC play. Lake Superior State University will be coming to town on Jan. 25, tip-off is at 8 p.m. No. 12 Ferris State will follow on Jan. 27, tip-off is at 3 p.m.



# Sherrone Moore becomes Michigan's first African-American head football coach

By HASANI ALI

Everyone witnessed the emotional postgame interview that had Sherrone Moore in tears as the Wolverines skated past No. 13 Penn State 24-15 back in November.

"I want to thank Coach Harbaugh," he said as he was bursting into tears. "I (expletive) love you man. I love the (expletive) out you man. This win is for the university, the president and our AD. We have the best players, university and alumni in the country. I love you guys. These guys did it."

He put senior running back Blake Corum in front of the camera as he was next to be interviewed and walked away in tears.

The passion in that man's eyes as the pressure was on to serve as the interim coach told the entire story.

Head coach Jim Harbaugh was serving another suspension that season for alleged sign stealing. The previous three-game suspension was for a recruiting violation for buying a recruit a cheeseburger.

Moore was basically the head coach for a third the season and was 4-0 during that time, including wins over Ohio State and Penn State.

The offensive line coach and coordinator helped propel the Wolverines to a national championship where they hailed as victors over Washington, 34-13.

Harbaugh was hired to become the head coach of the Los Angeles Chargers two weeks after winning the national championship and the University of Michigan knew exactly who they wanted to take his place.

"The only person I would want to do the job," Harbaugh wrote in a text message. "I have 100 percent conviction that he will make us all very proud!!!"

Moore is given a shot to be the successor of Harbaugh who has finished his nine-season run with college football's winningest program.

"We're hungry for more," Moore said during his press conference as he was introduced as the head coach of the Wolverines.



SHERRONE MOORE

Athletic Director Warde Manuel had discussed Moore's future with Harbaugh before his departure was evident. The choice was quite clear when it was time to select a candidate.

"Jim talked effusively about Sherrone before the season, after the season and in our conversation on Wednesday and really gave me the insight why he was our choice," he said.

With that, Moore becomes the first African-American head coach at the University of Michigan football program—first time as a head coach.

"If you work your tail off, dreams can come true," he said.

Harbaugh told The Associated Press that Moore is a smart, hard-working teacher who makes a strong connection

with players, staff members and families.

According to ESPN.com, Moore's contract is for five years with a base salary of \$500,000 and \$5 million in additional compensation in year 1.

His salary and additional compensation will each increase by two percent in the subsequent years, and Moore will receive \$500,000 per contract year if he remains head coach for the entirety of the year.

He also can earn up to \$3.5 million in bonuses, including \$500,000 for winning a conference championship and \$1 million for winning the national championship. His buyout starts at \$5 million and decreases by \$1 million each year, down to \$1 million in the final year of the contract.



## + SPORTS



TY RODGERS

## Rodgers playing major minutes at Illinois

By HASANI ALI

Saginaw has basketball talent on display across the country in the NCAA. Look no further than the Big Ten to see where some of the city's top talent has landed and how well they're contributing.

For sophomore Ty Rodgers, he's really coming into his own as he's producing more and more for the Fighting Illini.

At the beginning of the season, the state champion from Grand Blanc High School was featured in a promotional video produced by the University of Illinois.

Rodgers had much to say while driving in his car on the way to the first practice of the season.

"It's year number two and I feel like I'm a veteran in this program already," he said. "I'm super excited with what we have going on and where the year is going to take us."

Standing at 6-foot-6, the Saginaw native has added ten pounds to his frame as he wanted to be a tougher player this season.

"I kept my muscle mass the same,

which I did while adding some muscle," Rodgers said. "I got the baby fat off of me and I feel faster due to all of the hard work I put in during the offseason."

Quite frankly, the work has been paying off tremendously.

Rodgers scored in the double-digits for the first time of the season with ten points back on Nov. 10 versus Oakland University.

He dropped 10 points again versus Valparaiso on Nov. 17.

His production was a bit slow during the first half of the season, but began picking up after the Christmas break.

Fortunately for his family, friends and fans back in Saginaw, they were about to witness it for themselves.

Rodgers was one of the leading scorers with 15 points during Illinois' 71-68 win over Michigan State. He went 6-of-8 from the floor and 3-of-4 from the free throw line.

Senior Coleman Hawkins and graduate student Marcus Domask also topped the day with 15 points apiece.

A crowd of 50 people drove down to

Ann Arbor to watch Rodgers in person against the Wolverines.

He showed out again with 15 points, going 6-of-13 shooting and 3-of-6 from the free throw line in a 88-73 win over Michigan.

"I just needed to be aggressive and take what the defense has given me," Rodgers said during the postgame interview. "They tried to stick the five man (center) on me and just had to play tough and find a way to the basket while still facilitating for my team."

One of his mentors attended the game and enjoyed what he saw from the young talent.

"Ty Rodgers was out there getting active," said Greg Lawson, father of Davison star Greg Lawson Jr. "He's really learning his way to the basket and he knows that he has to do it for his home city."

Illinois (14-4 overall, 5-2 Big Ten) sits third in conference play and has won 7 of the last 10 games. They will be taking on Northwestern, Indiana and Ohio State in its next three games.



## + SPORTS



DETROIT LIONS

## Tale of two Lions as Super Bowl dreams fumbled

By HASANI ALI

It was the moment that Detroit fans were all waiting for.

Only thirty minutes remained until the Lions were able to shed that old skin of the old dynasty that many people knew for decades.

For weeks, the naysayers were constantly on television bad-mouthing Detroit as if they have not made any effective change over the past three years.

The Lions were not supposed to be real contenders, let alone win the NFC North division. Head coach Dan Campbell and his team, after going 9-8 last season, were expected to stumble to Green Bay or Minnesota.

Yet, the Lions exceeded expectations for everyone.

The Lions were 12-5, won the division and managed to win two playoff games, mirroring the 1991 Lions, that ironically lost the NFC championship to the Washington Redskins, 41-10.

It was a moment where the Lions had

the opportunity to prove that they were not a fluke and true NFL contenders.

Detroit started the NFC championship swinging. Scoring on the first two possessions and only allowing San Francisco to score once in the first half.

A missed field goal by the 49ers in the first quarter gave the perception that Lady Luck was on the side of Detroit last Sunday.

With a comfortable 24-7 halftime lead, what could possibly go wrong? Having the luck that the Lions typically have during a big game, everything.

The momentum shifted immediately with an “unlucky” catch by Brandon Aiyuk in the third quarter to get the 49ers within the five-yard line. That set up a touchdown catch by Aiyuk a couple plays later.

Since that incident, everything was completely San Francisco.

With 27 unanswered points in the fourth quarter, Detroit began looking like the same old Lions – building a huge lead only to have it squandered in the second half.

Why? Because that’s exactly what happened.

Campbell was heavily scrutinized for not converting on two big fourth down possessions twice instead of taking six points in the second half.

However, it wasn’t the play calling that made the conversions unsuccessful, rather the receivers failed to catch the ball in open field.

The Lions did manage to score late in the fourth quarter to make the game closer, 34-31. Yet, it wasn’t enough to take the game over or send it into overtime.

Jared Goff finished the game going 25-of-41 passing for 273 yards and a touchdown. David Montgomery led the rushing attack with 15 carries for 93 yards and a touchdown. Gibbs followed with 12 carries for 45 yards and a touchdown.

Rookie tight end Sam LaPorta led the receiving core with nine catches for 97 yards.

“We did some really good things today, but it wasn’t enough,” Campbell said. “It was tough, it was really tough.”

Brock Purdy led the way for the 49ers going 20-of-31 passing for 267 for a touchdown and an interception.

Christian McCaffrey led in rushing with 20 carries for 90 yards and two touchdowns. Wide receiver Deebo Samuel led the aerial attack for San Francisco with eight catches for 89 yards.

Before anyone starts pointing fingers and blaming personnel, understand what this ball club has been able to do in a course of three years.

The Lions have won their first divisional title in the NFC North, carried on the backs of Goff and a handful of rookies.

This is still a young team. To accomplish what they have in such a short amount of time is astounding. This may be a significant sign that we have a coach that’s staying with us long term and a solid core that’s going to be good for years.

Also, coach Campbell isn’t going to change for anyone. He’s built the identity for this team and it will continue to remain what it is until the leaves.

Give these guys the flowers they deserve for this season.



## + SPORTS



MOIRA JOINER

## MSU Star Joiner scores 1,000 points

By HASANI ALI

Former Saginaw Heritage star Moira Joiner has accomplished something that only elite talent would ever bear witness to last Wednesday.

Her 14 points not only put her over the 1,000-point mark, but also helped the Spartans take down Purdue, 97-70.

The fifth-year senior has totaled 1,009 points in her career thus far, becoming the 30th Michigan State University player to reach 1,000 points.

MSU's Women's Basketball Team's Facebook page wasted no time celebrating with Joiner with this quote, "1,000 is a lot of points! We love celebrating you, captain!"

The 5-foot-10 guard is averaging 15 points a game this season and is shooting 40 percent from the 3-point line.

Joiner went 6-of-11 shooting from the floor, including 2-of-3 from beyond the arc in Wednesday's win.

Theryn Hallock and Tory Ozment set career highs coming off the bench for MSU, with Hallock scoring 24 and Ozment 23.

MSU is now 6-1 on the season when

five or more Spartans net double-digits.

Her 14 points puts her back on track in double-figures after her streak of double-digit scoring was halted at 19-straight games dating back to last season by scoring single digits for the first time this season with seven points last time out at Minnesota

Joiner has scored 10+ points in 18 of the 19 games this season and in 21 of her last 23 career games overall. She has posted double-figures in 47 career contests, leading all active Spartans.

Her 3-pointer with 6:39 remaining in the first quarter was Joiner's fifth point of the game and 1,000th of her MSU career.

That 3-pointer was one of two, making it her 11th game where she drained two 3-point baskets from behind the arc – she has 50 in total this season.

Joiner only needs 18 more 3-pointers to reach MSU's single-season top 10 list, as Tori Jankoska (2014-15) and Lindsay Bowen (2005-06) are tied for the No. 9 spot with 68 3-pointers.

According to MSUSpartans.com, the two triples Wednesday night gives Joiner 177 career 3-pointers, holding solid at the No. 6 spot on MSU's career 3-pointers list,

Joiner needs just six more for the No. 5 spot held by Kalisha Keane (2007-11) with 183 treys.

Along with the 1,000 points in her career, Joiner also has 457 rebounds, 221 assists and 140 steals.

Joiner led the Hawks to back-to-back state championships in 2018 and 2019, averaging 21 points, 8.4 rebounds, 4.5 assists and 4.0 steals a game as a senior.

The Spartans (14-5 overall, 4-4 Big Ten) are gearing up to face their in-state rival in Michigan (14-6 overall, 5-3 Big Ten) on Saturday, Jan. 27 at noon at the Breslin Center.

With the Big Ten remaining steady in competition, MSU is currently sitting in a 3-way tie for sixth place while Michigan is in a tie for fourth place.

As part of Alumni Day, MSU will celebrate the 10th anniversary of the 2014 Big Ten championship team.

That team was led by head coach Suzy Merchant and had a 23-10 record.



## + SPORTS



COURTESY PHOTO

## Welcome home, Monte Morris!

By **HASANI ALI**

Michigan's 2013 Mr. Basketball always had a lifelong dream of wearing the red, white and blue Pistons jersey after leading Flint Beecher to a state title.

It took ten years to make it happen, but perhaps it came at the perfect time.

The Flint native missed the first 43 games due to injury (lower back and thigh), which resulted in a platement-rich plasma injection to spur healing – incurred during the rehabilitation from the back injury.

“Man, I feel good,” Morris said regarding his health.

Monte Morris made an immediate impact when he made it on the court, helping the Pistons to a 113-106 win over Charlotte last Wednesday.

He was limited to 11 minutes but still managed to score seven points, three assists and three rebounds.

The Pistons' record is now 1-0 with Morris added to the roster.

Looking at the team, it would have been difficult to convince anyone that the team would have a 4-39 record. The team looked more agile and lively on both sides of the ball.

“I was so hype on the bench,” Morris

said. “It was hard for me to be like that when I was in street clothes because I couldn't go out and fight with my guys. It's fun. It's contagious.”

The former Buccaneer wasted no time making his mark, draining a 3-point shot on his first possession when he checked in with 4:02 left in the first quarter and, three possessions later, working into the mid-range area to drain a 10-footer.

Morris had to be checked back into the game by head coach Monty Williams during a timeout after the Hornets went on a 9-2 run early in the third quarter to wipe away a five-point Pistons lead.

His ability to handle the ball and not so quick to turn it over played a major key in the Pistons win. Normally, those 9-2 runs would turn into 20-point runs due to the Pistons having several possessions resulting into turnovers.

According to DetroitPistons.com, The Pistons sit 29th in the NBA in turnovers (15.6) and last in opponents points off turnovers (19.7). Over Morris' six-year NBA career, he's averaged an absurd 1.1 turnovers per 36 minutes against 5.6 assists.

“I don't go out there not trying to turn the ball over. I just make the right play,” Morris said. “I try to throw it to the jersey (of) whoever's open. I'm here for a reason and just helping the team grow in that. If that's my role, then I'm going to play that 110 percent.”

Coach Williams is grateful to have Morris in the rotation. He understands that his veteran expertise would be something to lean on moving forward during the rest of the season.

“He just knows how to play,” Williams said. “He has his own pace. You can see what he was doing in pick and roll. His pace, to hold the guy off and create the pocket space for our bigs to catch and then his threat of him knocking down a shot is huge for us. His poise and his experience is something we desperately need.”

The Pistons are now 6-40, but are still in last place in the league.



REMEMBERING  
OUR LOVED ONES....REV. WILLIAM D. ALDRIDGE, JR.  
OCTOBER 8, 1954 - JANUARY 17, 2024

Reverend William D. Aldridge, Jr., was born at St. Mary's Hospital on October 8, 1954. He was the oldest of the triplets born to Rev. William D. Aldridge, Sr. and Mary Viola Eugene "Jean" Erby Aldridge. The triplets were the first to be born at St. Mary's Hospital.

Billy was baptized at an early age by his father at the Christ Community Church, where he sang in the youth and gospel choirs and served on the youth usher board. He attended every function at CCC. He truly developed a church habit.

Billy attended Salina Elementary School with his triplet sisters, Demona and Leona. They had to split them up because the staff didn't know who was doing what! At Webber Junior High Billy belonged to the Orchestra under the direction of Mr. Jack Ergo. As with most of the Aldridge children, everyone had to take piano lessons from Mrs. Aldridge. He was one of the children who picked up the gift and continued playing the rest of his life.

He and his triplet sisters graduated together from Saginaw High School, class of "72". After graduation, Billy and his sisters attended Eastern Michigan University, where he met Edith Dee Henderson in 1974 and married in 1975. To that union they were blessed with three beautiful daughters: TaMara "Tammy" Denine, Tiffani De-Ann, and Towana Denise.

While on campus, he attended Shiloh C.O.G.I. C., Ypsilanti, Michigan. He gave his life to the Lord and became a campus evangelist. Billy led 100's of people to Christ, including his two triplet sisters and his baby sister, Audrey.

From 1976 to 1988, he was a member of the International Gospel Center, Ecorse, Michigan, under the leadership of the late Apostle Charles O. Miles, Sr. During that period, he was an Apostle attendant, evan-



gelist, director of the mass choir, and sang and coordinated the United Brothers of Deliverance who traveled with the Apostle all over the country and the Islands.

From 1975 to 1987, he worked for Michigan Consolidated Gas Company as a journeyman pipefitter. If family needed any plumbing or handyman work completed, he was the person to call. He could almost fix anything.

In 1996, he moved to Grand Rapids, MI, where he met and married Constance V. Croom, which added an additional daughter to his life, Corinthia Croom. They attended New Life C.O.G.I.C., under the leadership of Rev./Elder Robert Dean (now Bishop Dean) from 1996 to 2003. He served in the outreach and hospitality ministries and coordinated marriage and family seminars. He was also the church musi-

cian. He started his own ministry in Grand Rapids called Deliverance Outreach.

Rev. Aldridge was a devoted member of St. Luke CME Church where he was an Associated Minister, ordained Deacon in the C.M.E. Church, minister of music, Superintendent of Sunday School and Bible Study teacher, Trustee Board vice-President, van and bus driver and anything else that needed to be done. He was faithful to all his responsibilities and never failed to pay his tithes and beyond.

He was the site coordinator for the Good Neighbors' Mission and was a faithful driver to support his sisters, Pastor Leona Glenn and Pastor Joyce Seals, in their Summer Program, which is in its 22nd year.

He also was a church musician for Bethlehem Baptist under Pastor E.W. Bothuel and New Fellowship C.O.G.I.C, under Pastor Bobbie Price.

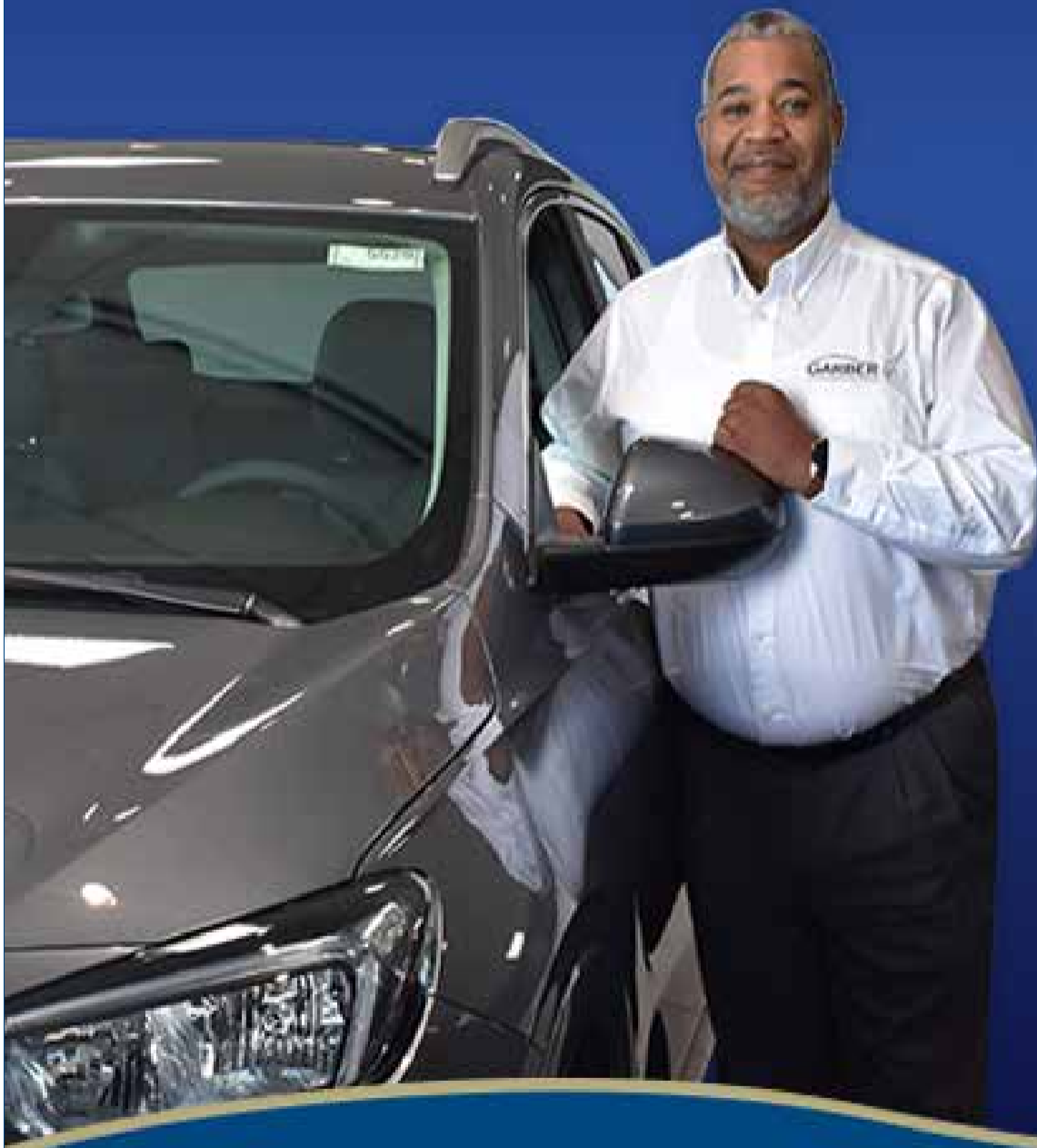
He leaves to cherish memories: daughters, Tiffani D. Aldridge, Towana D. Aldridge, and Corinthia Croom; grandchildren, Brianna, Jalen, Amari, Amani, Mariah, Taj, and Tyce; sisters, Joyce (Dr. Eugene) Seals, Carolyn (Terry) Pruitt, Mary McDonald Barnes, Demona (Glenn) Reed and Audrey Parker; god-daughter, Alicia (Jah'Liyah); best friend/brother, Robert Thomas and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins other relatives and friends.

Rev. William Demone Aldridge, Jr. was preceded in death by his daughter, TaMara (Tammy) Aldridge; parents, William D. Aldridge, Sr. and Mary Viola Eugene Erby Aldridge; sisters, Ouida Aldridge and Leona Glenn.



The Great Lakes Bay Region Does Better With

**GARBER**  
BUICK SAGINAW



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

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





**We**

*empower.*

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



**SAGINAW VALLEY**  
STATE UNIVERSITY®

#WeCardinal

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



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