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MELISSA HARRIS-PERRY TO GIVE KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT MLK JR. REGIONAL CELEBRATION

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A Christmas of hope for homeless veterans in the Great Lakes Bay Region

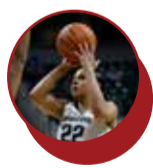


COURTESY PHOTO



LLEAD Saginaw focuses on education to empower Latino community

LATINO BANNER, COVER



Former Heritage star tops career high against Central Michigan

SPORTS, PG 46

In the true spirit of compassion and community, the Help Yourself Recover Project, a Saginaw-based non-profit organization, orchestrated a heartwarming Christmas celebration for homeless veterans and their families. Held at the Bay Valley Resort in Bay City, this inaugural event exuded the transformative power of unity and shared goodwill.

Endorsed by Michigan House of Representatives member Amos O'Neil and supported by Saginaw Mayor Brenda Moore, the initiative epitomized the essence of the holiday season—a time for collaboration, compassion, and the creation of lasting memories.

Welcoming close to 100 participants, which included 32 homeless veterans and their families, the festivities commenced with a delectable brunch, progressed to a memorable dinner, and culminated in a breakfast prepared by the skillful hands of Bay Valley Resort Executive Chef Mark Gloria.

The event boasted a vibrant array of activities, including karaoke, raffles, bingo, and card games, crafting unforgettable moments for both children and attendees alike. Adding to the festive joy, Santa Claus

CONTINUES ON PG 15, CHRISTMAS OF HOPE

THE MICHIGAN BANNER IS A PROUD MEMBER OF:



Leadership in times of crisis



By ERIC GILBERTSON
FORMER PRESIDENT OF SAGINAW
VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
(1989-2014)

Library shelves are filled with thick volumes analyzing leaders in times of historic crises. And while the term “crisis” is so often overused as hyperbole that it may no longer have any clear shared meaning, most would agree that the situation in our Country today does, in fact, fit the standard dictionary definitions: a “decisive moment,” a “time of danger or great difficulty,” a “turning point.”

So what does history teach us about those who would lead in such troublesome episodes?

Most crises develop and simmer over years or even centuries before erupting in a dramatic moment. Take, for example, the American Civil War in the 1860s; or the American Civil Rights movement that at long last captured public attention in the 1960s; or the relatively sudden Constitutional conflict in the early 1970s that now goes under the tagline “Watergate;” or the long-sought demise of legalized apartheid in South Africa in the 1990s.

Leaders in those moments made the critical difference: Abraham Lincoln, Martin Luther King, Jr., Gerald Ford and Nelson Mandela. If there was a common thread to their critical leadership it was a decision to lead with reason rather than anger and vengeance. Think about Lincoln speaking with not just eloquence but purpose and compassion at Gettysburg; King writing his compelling letter from the Birmingham Jail; Ford’s courageous but unpopular pardon of Richard Nixon – whose misdeeds were more tawdry than treasonous; and Mandela returning to South Africa with astonishing grace and forgiveness after years of cruel imprisonment on Robben Island.

There is so much anger in our Country these days; it seems to dominate our news and our conversations. And there is much to be angry about. I’m angry. I suspect so

are those of you reading this.

But history also teaches that anger is too often blinding, consuming. It clouds judgment and only breeds more of itself – until it eventually and inevitably leads to regret.

It’s interesting, and depressing, that so many of those seeking support for their political ambitions proudly boast that they will “fight” for this or that – to satisfy our selfish wants or to punish perceived or imagined villains. But one sage politician who I greatly admired once remarked that he wished candidates would pledge to “work” for worthy goals – not just to engage in constant and unsatisfying pugilistic contests in the political arena. He understood from long and sad experience that even “winning” a heated political fight most often only sets the stage for a reciprocal assault.

Working for goals in a democracy requires reason, discipline, patience and, when necessary, firmness. It’s not soft or craven. And it’s not just temporarily vanquishing the “other side” for short-term gain. It’s the hard but more effective work of persuasion.

Working, not necessarily fighting, for gains in a democratic system may be the only way to make lasting progress.

Today’s crisis – and the anger it has stirred among almost everyone – cries out for leadership that is calm and rational, that teaches how eventually we’ll all somehow have to get along if our experiment in democracy is to survive. Whatever is said and done now must keep that eventual coming together in mind if we are to be well led.

Our laws must be rigorously enforced, of course, and those who violate them must be held accountable. There is real evil that must be named and confronted; those who would promote it should be rebuked and marginalized. And we must tenaciously insist on rigorous truth-telling and reject those who manipulate passions with mendacity.

But these things must be done with calm and reason, and for the purpose of restoring and protecting sacred norms – not merely inflicting revenge.

There are causes that might bring us together, that can rally us for the common good. Surely people of good will can agree that a pandemic must be contained, that shared prosperity is in our enlightened self-interest, that invidious discrimination harms our fellow citizens and stains our ethic and our culture, that law enforcement

is necessary and needs help and guidance not sweeping condemnation, that our role in the larger world can and should be restored with respect for others while not surrendering our own interests.

These are goals that might begin to bring us together.

I once asked a football coach whether his team was experiencing tensions and divisions, as reports had indicated were plaguing other teams. “No,” he said, “we don’t have time for any of that because we’re too busy trying to win football games.”

Maybe he was on to something. Our differences and problems are real and harmful – but we can be made better if we’re joined in common causes that unite rather than divide us. We sorely need such common causes now.

And so we look to leaders for calm and thoughtfulness – even amidst all the emotional clamor for conflict and recrimination. But it’s not enough to expect the seekers of high offices to practice and exemplify calm and reason. That is too easy, and it abdicates our own personal responsibility to demonstrate character and decency where we live and work. We each lead in our own smaller venues – our workplaces and neighborhoods, churches and schools and, yes, even our own families. After all, children are watching and listening.

We all have a role – and a duty – to lead in our own way and to live out what Lincoln called those “better angels of our nature.”

King led with a compelling vision – a dream not yet realized but still perhaps achievable. Ford led with courage and perspective, placing the nation’s longer-term interests above his contemporary political popularity. Mandela led with an insistence on both truth and reconciliation, advancing democratic values and ideals in a fractured nation.

Our times demand such leadership – not just from celebrities but from all of us – to speak and act with reason and the loftier purpose of bringing neighbors and fellow citizens and families together. As Lincoln implored in 1865: “With malice toward none, with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us . . . bind up the nation’s wounds . . . to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations.”

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MISSION

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

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MICHIGAN YOUTH BANNER

VOLUME 6 • NUMBER 1



EXONERATE YOURSELF

By DONIQUA SOVIA

I've always been interested in law. At one point I was on the path to becoming a Police Officer, with the aim to become a Cold Case Detective. While that never came to be, my fascination for it never faltered.

I'd watch shows like the First 48, Forensic Files, Dateline, Cold Cases, and things of that nature, just soaking up any knowledge I could. Out of all the different types of cases, exonerations fascinated me the most. I was in awe at the compassion one held to fight for the innocence of another person, even if it was 20 years later. I watched many of those cases.

But the exonerations that got me hooked were the ones of those that were on death row. Imagine all the feelings one must have when the gavel hits after the words "Not Guilty" are spoken. This means that that person gets to walk free. Free from the charges that held them down, and pinned them to the word death.

What are your charges? What has you allowing Satan to hold you on death row? Jesus represented your case before the judge we know as God and said "Not Guilty." You're free! You're no longer on death row! You've been exonerated! So, walk in your freedom. For, man, child, teen, woman; Thou Art Loosed!



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New Year's Resolutions for kids and teens!

Setting New Year's resolutions can be a great way for teens to focus on personal growth and development. Here are some resolution ideas tailored for teenagers:

Academic Goals:

- Improve grades in a specific subject.
- Develop better study habits, such as creating a study schedule.
- Set a goal to read a certain number of books during the year.

Health and Fitness:

- Engage in regular physical activity, whether it's joining a sports team or finding a form of exercise you enjoy.
- Make healthier food choices and incorporate more fruits and vegetables into your diet.
- Focus on getting enough sleep each night.

Personal Development:

- Practice time management to balance school, extracurricular activities, and personal time.
- Develop a new skill or hobby, such as learning to play a musical instrument or mastering a new language.
- Work on building self-confidence and resilience.

Social Relationships:

- Strengthen existing friendships and make an effort to meet new people.
- Practice effective communication skills, both online and offline.
- Be more involved in social activities at school or in the community.

Technology Use:

- Set limits on screen time and focus on using technology mindfully.
- Learn a new technology-related skill, such as coding or graphic design.



Financial Awareness:

- Save a portion of any money received (allowance, gifts, etc.).
- Learn about budgeting and money management.

Community Involvement:

- Volunteer for a local charity or community organization.
- Start or join a community service club at school.

Mindfulness and Well-being:

- Practice mindfulness through activities like meditation or yoga.
- Set aside time for self-reflection to understand personal goals and values.

Environmental Consciousness:

- Adopt more eco-friendly habits, such as reducing plastic use or recycling.
- Get involved in environmental initiatives in the community.

Career Exploration:

- Explore potential career interests through internships, job shadowing, or informational interviews.
- Develop a resume and start thinking about future career goals.

Remember, the key to successful resolutions is to set realistic and achievable goals. Break down larger goals into smaller, manageable steps, and celebrate your achievements along the way. It's also important to be flexible and adapt your goals as needed throughout the year.



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Latino Banner

LIDER EN LA DIVERSIDAD

VAMOS ADELANTE

LLEAD Saginaw focuses on education to empower Latino community



COURTESY PHOTO

By **ABBIE PEDROTTE**

Saginaw’s chapter of Latino Leaders for the Enhancement of Advocacy and Development (LLEAD) had a busy year. Most notably, the organization, whose mission is to advocate for Latino residents and immigrant communities in the state of Michigan, elected a new board of directors: Christiana Malacara, Chapter Chair; Angelo Kapp, Vice Chair; Vanessa Guerra, Secretary; Ramon Teneyuque, Treasurer.

The new board hit the ground running

in 2023, successfully facilitating the distribution of bilingual books to over 90 children through their Readers to LLEADers project, organizing a free FAFSA workshop with Delta College, joining the Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (MHCC), and implementing three new committees to ensure that they can continue successfully hosting these community events.

“To accomplish the scale of work and change we want to see, it will take a team of people to accomplish,” says Chapter Chair Christiana Malacara.

The Welcome, Education, and Business Committees allow the group to divide and conquer. Members can join the committee that best aligns with their expertise and interests. Across the state of Michigan, LLEADs eight other chapters each have a particular area of focus. Since the beginning, the Saginaw Chapter’s focus has been on education. In the Education Committee, members develop and facilitate high-quality, innovative learning experiences through partnerships with local educational entities.

Focusing on partnerships with local businesses, nonprofits, and government entities, the Business Committee secures sponsors for and helps organize events in the community. The Welcome Committee focuses on member growth and development. Their role is to ensure members have the resources they need to enact change according to LLEAD’s mission. LLEAD is free to join and open to the public. Those of all backgrounds are encouraged to sit in on a meeting and learn about the kind of positive change that can come about when like-minded, good-hearted individuals share a common goal.

The group meets monthly, with the next meeting being held on January 11th at Delta’s Downtown Saginaw campus. The meeting begins with a networking social at 5:30 pm, and the meeting starts at 6:00 pm. A guest speaker will also be presenting.

2024 will be even more successful for LLEAD Saginaw. Events involving college students, leadership opportunities, the MHCC Tercer Jueves Networking Event in April, and a partnership with the Saginaw Art Museum are just a few things to look forward to. Stay in the know and find out more about LLEAD’s mission and how you can join by visiting the Saginaw Chapter’s Facebook Page or LLEAD.org.

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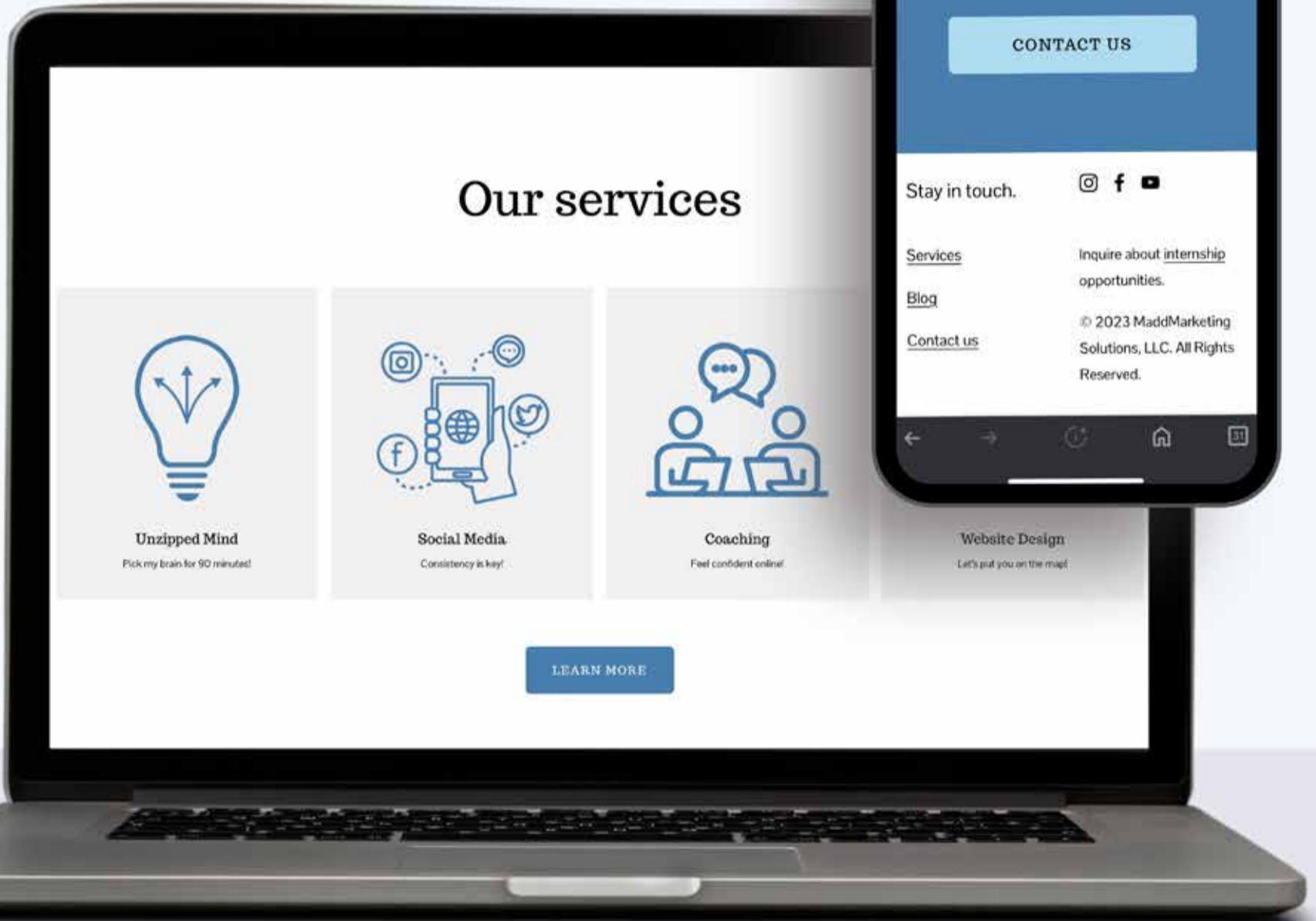
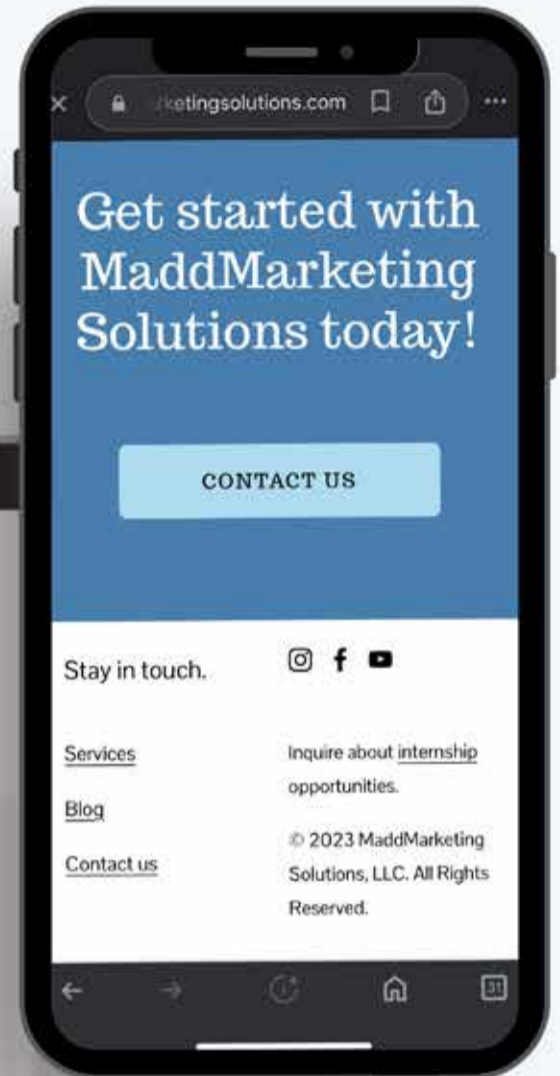
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Great Lakes Bay Hispanic Leadership is Recruiting for 2024

The GLBHLi is tailored for individuals seeking to cultivate skills and relationships essential for effective leadership. It offers a comprehensive program that readies and empowers future visionary leaders, fostering positive impacts on both their personal lives and the communities they serve.

Emphasizing personal development, cultural awareness, leadership growth, and community engagement, the program facilitates a transformative journey. Participants gain valuable skills and actively contribute to community welfare through volunteering activities integrated into the curriculum. This hands-on experience enhances their leadership capabilities. Moreover, the program enables participants to form a network of professional colleagues and regional relationships. It is a crucial support system as individuals progress in their careers and pursue life goals.

Structured as a year-long initiative with classes running from April to December, most of the program is conducted online via Zoom or on-demand. Additionally, five in-person courses in various regions provide unique opportunities for direct interaction. Seize the chance to elevate your future and earn a leadership certification by reviewing the attached agenda and submitting your application today.

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+ COMMUNITY

Continued from cover, Christmas of hope



and Mrs. Claus made a delightful appearance, much to everyone's delight. As a special treat, attendees were pampered with a lavish overnight stay at the resort, courtesy of the Help Yourself Recover Project.

George Crawley (Army, 1986) shared his heartfelt experience, stating, "Awesome, I love it. I went around the shelter to get everyone and got a chance to spend time with my son for Christmas."

Adding an extra layer of warmth, a pop-up shop allowed veterans to choose essential clothing items, from shoes and socks to hats and coats. The celebration reached its pinnacle with a spirited dance party, followed by a comforting breakfast the next day, leaving a lasting impact before attendees returned to their respective locations.

Bernad Abernathy (Army, 1972-1974 Vietnam) expressed his gratitude about the event, saying, "This is lovely. This is what the veterans needed during the holiday. We need more events like this."

This event aimed to forge enduring connections between homeless veterans and the local community. Born from a spontaneous "light bulb" moment and organized with short notice, it seamlessly addressed the urgent needs of homeless veterans, spanning mental health, substance abuse, and housing. The overwhelming support from the community not only ensured the success of the celebration but also inspired organizers to envision an even grander Christmas event in the coming year.

"I am truly elated to share that the event exceeded our expectations in every way. The outpouring of support from the community, the heartwarming moments shared among attendees, and the positive impact on the lives of homeless veterans all contributed to marking this occasion as a resounding success," said John Bowen, Director of the Help Yourself Recover Project.

Bowen emphasized, "This achievement not only showcases the unwavering dedication of our community but also underscores the unparalleled significance of family. With a multitude of Bowen family members actively on-site, generously dedicating their time and effort, the event seamlessly transformed into a true family celebration. This collaborative endeavor not only amplified its importance but also played a pivotal role in ensuring the over-

all success and fulfillment of the event."

Integral to the success of this endeavor was the generous support from community partners, including Logans Roadhouse, Timbers Bar & Grill, Sam's Club/#6663, The Potter's Touch, Bay Valley Resort, Texas Roadhouse, Platinum Wireless/Charlie's Corner, DIAR Company, Taco Bell, Goodwill, and other compassionate businesses in Saginaw.

The Help Yourself Recover Project is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to assisting homeless veterans in rebuilding their lives. Every contribution, whether monetary support or in-kind gifts, is invaluable and greatly appreciated.

For all inquiries, please contact Founder/Director John Bowen at (480) 729-1197 or via email at johnlloydbowen30@yahoo.com.



COURTESY PHOTOS

+ COMMUNITY



A look at New Year's resolutions



By **CRAIG DOUGLAS**
RETIRED EDUCATOR

As we get ready to usher in a new year, many of us turn to making New Year Resolutions. Exercise more / eat less are typical resolutions we hear about this time of the year.

Resolutions can be great if they are not interrupted or discontinued. If resolutions are stopped for whatever reason, children can see a different message than what we perhaps want to send. I remember when I was a kid my Dad decided to stop smoking. Just like that, he did it! A lot of adults back then smoked, and many tried to stop smoking but could not (or would not). Well, Dad DID quit and it made an impression on me.

For parents who would like to make “resolutions” a learning event, I found one idea on the web that make sense to me: To turn “resolutions” into “smart goals.”

“SMART” stands for **S**pecific, **M**easurable, **A**chievable, **R**elevant, and **T**imed. Let me explain by looking at a hypothetical smart goal. Let us say the goal is to read one autobiography each month. The goal I am describing is a pretty good example because we want to encourage reading, and nonfiction work is a great way to expand vocabulary and explore examples of people who have done exceptional things in their lives.

1st, the goal is specific because the book to be read is a type of nonfiction where the author tells his/her own story. Hopefully the story reveals determination, intelligence, or other traits that we like our children to emulate.

2nd, the goal is measurable. One book a month is twelve a year, and depending upon the age of the child and the thickness of the book, it seems clearly measurable.

3rd, achievable. Again, depending

upon the age of the child and the book's thickness, it seems achievable.

4th, the child would be allowed to choose an autobiography that is relevant to the child. For me, I love baseball, so I loved a Jackie Robinson autobiography. Robinson's story is one about overcoming fear and defying the odds. He showed grit and determination, and that is a great character trait for students to consider.

Finally, it must be timed because if it is not, there is a possibility that students will grow tired or even revolt against the goal. Such fatigue is not unheard of and should be worked through, if possible in the interest of future use of these or other goals.

You and I may make resolutions this time of the year, and it gives us a chance to show youngsters how to set goals that are specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and timed. In other words, a “smart” strategy to consider.

<https://news.web.baylor.edu/news/story/2023/make-new-years-resolutions-last-smart-goals>

The power of choice



By MB STAFF

So many things have happened this year – some genuinely positive and uplifting experiences and others not so much. Resolutions established at the beginning of the year were abandoned within a matter of weeks supported by self-talk consistently and convincingly making it clear that those written commitments could be accomplished without the level of focus and determination required to achieve success. The choice to resort to habits or behaviors which are nonproductive or barriers to success is often presented as ‘business as usual.’ What’s the worst that could happen if I choose to do nothing? Doing nothing at all - remaining in the same position, is indeed a choice. It means that there is a level of comfort or fear, both potentially debilitating, in the current condition which is likely to hinder progress or goal achievement. But what if I had stayed the course?

When discussing this article and the regret that frequently goes along with ‘what if’ with friends, I learned a few valuable lessons. What if I had chosen to follow through with plans in 2020 to enroll in SVSU to earn the twenty-four remaining credits needed to graduate with my bachelor’s degree? Based on company policy and benefits, my income would have increased substantially. What if I had chosen to adhere to the advice of a local financial ad-

visor given a few years ago and diligently deposited the recommended amount into savings each month? Recent (and costly) car repairs would not have put such a strain on the household budget. What if I had followed through with a promise to spend 20 minutes of our hour-long lunch break walking each day with a friend from work (instead, I started to lunch with a few co-workers who had no interest in walking)? My friend has lost 25lbs this year which has inspired healthier eating, looks great and reports her energy level is remarkable. In each example, choices were made to remain in the same life circumstance. Neither of them actually said to themselves or others, ‘I think I’ll remain in this situation for another year’. Choices were made which left everyone in the same position as in previous years, impacted their families, and to a great extent, affected their individual safety and well-being. The choices we make regarding self-improvement are far-reaching and can change the course of our future as well as the futures of others. There is great power and responsibility in choice.

Exercising the power of choice allows us to effect control over the trajectory of our future. In the three examples listed above, it is apparent that there are consequences for subconsciously choosing not to make a choice or decision. Inaction is still a choice. Positive outcomes are dependent upon present action or in-

action and will require focus, consistency and hard work. Thoughtful decision-making – choice – allows us to create rich and meaningful lives. Choice allows us to embrace the possibilities and challenges of ‘what if’ and construct environments wherein we live without regret because we gave up or didn’t try at all. We must be willing to learn from the inevitable instances where we did choose to try but didn’t achieve the desired outcome. The capacity to learn is a gift; The ability to learn is a skill; The willingness to learn is a choice. (Brian Herbert).

As a new year begins, I fully intend to exercise the power of choice. There comes a time in life when we must choose to turn the page, write another chapter, or simply close the book and move forward. Maybe things will go well – goals will be accomplished with ease. Perhaps, though there will be challenges and things may turn out poorly. The right choice is seldom the easy one. I then get to choose another path. I choose. Nelson Mandela said, ‘May your choices reflect your hopes and not your fears.’ What if I do choose to take that step into a brighter future? How will my life look if I see it through? What will it mean to my loved ones? No flowery resolutions – sound and achievable goals chosen to create a bright and sustainable future. Let’s have the courage to take the next step

+ COMMUNITY

Looking back at our
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2023

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COMMUNITY

BARBARA WALTERS, NEWS PIONEER AND 'THE VIEW' CREATOR, DIES AT AGE 93
COMMUNITY, PG. 12

Alpha Phi Alpha presents 27th Annual Dr. MLK Jr. Celebration
COMMUNITY, PG. 15

Consumers Energy donates \$300,000 to help Michigan veterans pay heating bills
COMMUNITY, PG. 18

Kildee secures federal funds for 15 Mid-Michigan community projects
POLITICS, PG. 24

WORKING TOGETHER, SHARING THE DREAM.
A Regional MLK Celebration
Wednesday, January 11, 2023 • 7 pm
In the SVSU Malcom Field Theatre
An Evening with Bakari Sellers

HAPPY 2023 New Year!

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COMMUNITY

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., Iota Chi Lambda Chapter 27th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Virtual Unity Celebration
COMMUNITY, PG. 12

CELEBRATED GOSPEL ARTIST MARVIN WINANS TO PERFORM AT SVSU FOR MLK REGIONAL CELEBRATION
ARTS & CULTURE, PG. 12

ABC News veteran John Quiñones to speak at Delta
L.A.T.O. COLUMN, PG. 15

Legislator, civil rights activist Bakari Sellers to give keynote address at MLK Jr. Regional Celebration
COMMUNITY, PG. 15

McCormac Saginaw's comeback kid
SPORTS, PG. 48

Community leaders honored with Drum Major Award
COMMUNITY, PG. 11

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. is a family man — a husband of one and a father of five, a native of Saginaw and graduate of Bishopwood High School.

ABC News veteran John Quiñones to speak at Delta

Legislator, civil rights activist Bakari Sellers to give keynote address at MLK Jr. Regional Celebration

McCormac Saginaw's comeback kid

Community leaders honored with Drum Major Award

SAGINAW COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

JANUARY 16

VOLUME 21 • NUMBER 3
MICHIGAN BANNER
First Great Lakes Bay Regional Newspaper
FEBRUARY 1, 2023

21 The Michigan Banner
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SUPPORT LOCAL JOURNALISM • MICHIGANBANNER.ORG/SUPPORTUS • BLACK HISTORY MONTH

COMMUNITY

HONORING SAGINAW'S BLACK HISTORY: DEPUTY FIRE MARSHAL RALPH MARTIN
COMMUNITY, PG. 12

Wilson Goes Beyond The Strength
COMMUNITY, PG. 23

An Evening with A Civil Rights Icon Rev. Wheeler Parker Jr.
COMMUNITY, PG. 26

Students Protest for Coach Reed at Bethune Cookman University
SPORTS, PG. 41

Black History Month 28 Days of Inspiration

MI Hispanic Latino Commission Honors Manuel Lopez and Alberto Jimenez
L.A.T.O. COLUMN, PG. 1

Continues on PG. 3, BLACK HISTORY MONTH

SAGINAW COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

FEBRUARY 1

VOLUME 21 • NUMBER 4
MICHIGAN BANNER
First Great Lakes Bay Regional Newspaper
FEBRUARY 16, 2023

21 The Michigan Banner
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SUPPORT LOCAL JOURNALISM • MICHIGANBANNER.ORG/SUPPORTUS • BLACK HISTORY MONTH

COMMUNITY

THE UNSEEN HERO OF DETROIT: KENNETH DONALDSON
COMMUNITY, PG. 12

Hint & Genesee Education & Talent seeks employees to hire teens this summer
COMMUNITY, PG. 18

SISD's Career and Technical Education Department Celebrates Robert Delgado as SCC's 2023 Alumni of the Year
EDUCATION, PG. 19

STARS celebrates new buses

Dr. Love and So Much More!
L.A.T.O. COLUMN, JONAS STERN

SAGINAW COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

FEBRUARY 16

VOLUME 21 • NUMBER 5
MICHIGAN BANNER
First Great Lakes Bay Regional Newspaper
MARCH 1, 2023

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COMMUNITY

Women's History Month Highlight Shanese Ross-Pierrie, MBA
COMMUNITY, PG. 12

Anne Flegenheimer to be Named CAN Council Child Advocate of the Year
COMMUNITY, PG. 15

Janey J. Lamar chosen to serve as 70th District Court Attorney/Magistrate
COMMUNITY, PG. 11

Women's History Month Highlight Shanese Ross-Pierrie, MBA

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

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

Women's History Month Highlight Shanese Ross-Pierrie, MBA

Women's History Month Highlight Shanese Ross-Pierrie, MBA

SAGINAW COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

MARCH 1

VOLUME 21 • NUMBER 6
MICHIGAN BANNER
First Great Lakes Bay Regional Newspaper
MARCH 16, 2023

21 The Michigan Banner
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COMMUNITY

A SALUTE TO AN ORDINARY WOMAN
COMMUNITY, PG. 12

The gold in giving
L.A.T.O. COLUMN, PG. 15

Women's History Month Highlight: Ann Turpin Williams
COMMUNITY, PG. 11

50th RUNNING OF ST. PATRICK'S DAY RACES
MARCH 18 & 19, 2023

MARCH 18th B.A.R.C. Fitness Expo, Lapeer/Charlemagne Races
MARCH 19th Irish Double • BK Run • BK Run • BK Walk

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MARCH 16

+ COMMUNITY

Looking back at our Cover Stories in

2023

VOLUME 21 • NUMBER 4 MICHIGAN BANNER
First Great Lakes Bay Regional Newspaper APRIL 1, 2023



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Remembering Betty Jones
Midland's African American pioneer

FRANKLIN'S BOUT AGAINST JOSHUA BRINGS TITLE HOPES, CHANGES IN BOXING

John Quiñones visits the Great Lakes Bay area

SVSU to host climate change and civic engagement experts for lecture and fireside chat

Local AKA Chapter celebrates moms, students, and 61 years of service

SAGINAW COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

APRIL 1

VOLUME 21 • NUMBER 6 MICHIGAN BANNER
First Great Lakes Bay Regional Newspaper APRIL 16, 2023



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Remembering Robert Viera

SAGINAW REMEMBERS LEGEND BRIAN MORGAN

Vanessa Guerra appointed to the Hispanic Latino Commission of Michigan

Tri-Star Trust President & CEO Gene Pickelman to retire

Civil rights CAC leader kept a low profile for his public service and his personal good deeds

SAGINAW COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

APRIL 16

VOLUME 21 • NUMBER 9 MICHIGAN BANNER
First Great Lakes Bay Regional Newspaper MAY 1, 2023



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY (MAY 14) MICHIGANBANNER.ORG/SUPPORTUS

Local AKA Chapter celebrates moms, students, and 61 years of service

WILDFIRE'S MCCREY RETIRES, SCHABEL NEW CHIEF MARKETING OFFICER

Yeo & Yeo celebrates 100 years of helping businesses thrive

Gamma Kappa Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc. celebrates 100 years

The History of Cinco de Mayo

SAGINAW COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

MAY 1

VOLUME 21 • NUMBER 10 MICHIGAN BANNER
First Great Lakes Bay Regional Newspaper MAY 16, 2023



RECOGNIZING MEMORIAL DAY (MAY 29) MICHIGANBANNER.ORG/SUPPORTUS

Community members come together to clean up Saginaw at 'Team Up to Clean Up' Day

MICHIGAN'S LONGEST SERVING FLIGHT NURSE TO RETIRE

Sargeant Chloe Schaeding's graduation ceremony for DEOMI

Darvin Ham has silenced all critics, Lakers in Conference Finals

Alden and Vada Dow Creativity Foundation supports teacher efforts to enhance writing instruction

SAGINAW COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

MAY 16

VOLUME 21 • NUMBER 11 MICHIGAN BANNER
First Great Lakes Bay Regional Newspaper JUNE 1, 2023



RECOGNIZING MEMORIAL DAY (MAY 29) MICHIGANBANNER.ORG/SUPPORTUS

Henry and Ruth Marsh to receive 'Heart of Gold' award at the 2023 Heart of the City Awards

FRANK "SONNY" MEDEL TO RECEIVE 'HEART OF GOLD' AWARD

A social worker's passion for purpose

Regional Biennial Juried Sculpture Exhibition opens at Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum June 10

Dr. Stephanie Duggan of Ascension St. Mary's named among top women hospital Presidents and CEOs

SAGINAW COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

JUNE 1

VOLUME 21 • NUMBER 12 MICHIGAN BANNER
First Great Lakes Bay Regional Newspaper JUNE 16, 2023



SUPPORT LOCAL JOURNALISM + MICHIGANBANNER.ORG/SUPPORTUS

Saginaw Community Foundation awards Saginaw STEM \$25,000 Community Improvement Initiative grant

DELTA COLLEGE NAMES NEW DEAN OF TRANSFER PROGRAMS

SVSU Department of Nursing celebrates contributions of nursing professionals

Dawkins back in the game

2023 Heart of the City Award Banquet in pictures

SAGINAW COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

JUNE 16

+ COMMUNITY

Looking back at our Cover Stories in

2023

VOLUME 21 - NUMBER 13 MICHIGAN BANNER JULY 1, 2023

21 The Michigan Banner

HAPPY 4TH OF JULY! MICHIGANBANNER.ORG/SUPPORTUS

Tribute to Jim Letherer by artist Kevin Burdick and The Great Mural Project

MAYOR MOORE PROVIDES STATEMENT ON RECENT VIOLENCE IN THE CITY

LEAD organizes FAISA workshop

SYSU-Covenant tuition agreement aims to boost educational opportunities for Covenant employees

City of Saginaw fireworks information

Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce

JULY 1

VOLUME 21 - NUMBER 14 MICHIGAN BANNER JULY 16, 2023

21 The Michigan Banner

SUPPORT LOCAL JOURNALISM MICHIGANBANNER.ORG/SUPPORTUS

Seen on the Scene: C.A.P. partners with New Life Ministries to host Block Party

ALMA'S DR. KELLEY PEATROSS PARTOOK IN 2023 WOMEN LEADERS/ NCAA EXECUTIVE INSTITUTE

Mexican American Council President lobby DeLeon throws first pitch at Loons game

New exhibit opens next month at Saginaw Art Museum

Saginaw Spirit add Kayle Pinks, Jimmy Greener to business operations staff

Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce

JULY 16

VOLUME 21 - NUMBER 15 MICHIGAN BANNER AUGUST 1, 2023

21 The Michigan Banner

SUPPORT LOCAL JOURNALISM MICHIGANBANNER.ORG/SUPPORTUS

TIPS FOR GETTING READY FOR COLLEGE

Saginaw Art Museum and SESU team up to bring art to over 26,000 students

SYSU receives grant to help Midland County students launch businesses

Gospel Fest 2023

Remembering our loved ones

Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce

AUGUST 1

VOLUME 21 - NUMBER 16 MICHIGAN BANNER AUGUST 16, 2023

21 The Michigan Banner

SUPPORT LOCAL JOURNALISM MICHIGANBANNER.ORG/SUPPORTUS

FINANCIAL PLUS CREDIT UNION LAUNCHES FREE BILLBOARD CONTEST FOR MINORITY-OWNED BUSINESSES

A Taste of Saginaw 10th Year Anniversary Small Business Expo 2023

Ken Hoan named to Governor Whitmer's Growing Michigan Together Council

Michigan Association of Administrators of Special Education honors Saginaw ISD leader

Saginaw High School of '93 reunion

Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce

AUGUST 16

VOLUME 21 - NUMBER 17 MICHIGAN BANNER SEPTEMBER 1, 2023

21 The Michigan Banner

SUPPORT LOCAL JOURNALISM MICHIGANBANNER.ORG/SUPPORTUS

Urban Racquet Sports Foundation receive the 2023 national facility of the year award

SIMMS, AMONGST OTHERS, RECEIVES 2023 NAACP YOUNG PROFESSIONAL AWARD

Men must unite to stop the violence

Horizons brings distinctive catering live to homes and businesses

Delta College celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH 2023

Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce

SEPTEMBER 1

VOLUME 21 - NUMBER 18 MICHIGAN BANNER SEPTEMBER 16, 2023

21 The Michigan Banner

SUPPORT LOCAL JOURNALISM MICHIGANBANNER.ORG/SUPPORTUS

Saginaw duo brings mentorship, athletic training to elite athletes

Saginaw hosts third annual roundball classic

Covenant HealthCare announces Covenant Children's Hospital, honoring the past, present and future of medical care for children

Hosanna Lifeskills Center mental health awareness event

Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce

SEPTEMBER 16

+ COMMUNITY

Looking back at our Cover Stories in

2023

VOLUME 21 - NUMBER 19
MICHIGAN BANNER
First Great Lakes Bay Regional Newspaper
OCTOBER 1, 2023

21 The Michigan Banner
Celebrating 100 years of journalism

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FEATURED
Saginaw Promise welcomes Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian as "Keynote Speaker" for its "Power of a Promise" Fundraiser in November!

ADD THIS EVENT TO YOUR CALENDAR!
DR. NATASHA BAGDASARIAN IS COMING TO SAGINAW!

SVSU INSTALLS PRESIDENT GEORGE GRANT JR. IN ICCHIC CEREMONY

Samuel J. Shaheen, MD, to be honored with the Spirit of St. Vincent Award at Ascension St. Mary's Foundation Cornette Ball

CLUB OF THE WEEK
SAGINAW COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

OCTOBER 1

VOLUME 21 - NUMBER 20
MICHIGAN BANNER
First Great Lakes Bay Regional Newspaper
OCTOBER 16, 2023

21 The Michigan Banner
Celebrating 100 years of journalism

SUPPORT LOCAL JOURNALISM + + + MICHIGANBANNER.ORG/SUPPORTUS

FEATURED
2023 YWCA Great Lakes Bay Region Women of Achievement Awards

FOR SICKLE CELL AWARENESS, ONE DAD CAN AND WILL

Hispanic/Latino Commission of Michigan awards \$13,000 in Latinx student scholarships and honors local leaders

Saginaw Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. celebrates 55 years of sisterhood

CLUB OF THE WEEK
SAGINAW COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

OCTOBER 16

VOLUME 21 - NUMBER 21
MICHIGAN BANNER
First Great Lakes Bay Regional Newspaper
NOVEMBER 1, 2023

21 The Michigan Banner
Celebrating 100 years of journalism

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

ARTHUR HILL PRINCIPAL RECEIVES STATEWIDE 'EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION' AWARD

Dow Credit Union hosts ribbon cutting for Saginaw Branch

5 Tips to eat well this November

CLUB OF THE WEEK
SAGINAW COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

NOVEMBER 1

VOLUME 21 - NUMBER 22
MICHIGAN BANNER
First Great Lakes Bay Regional Newspaper
NOVEMBER 16, 2023

21 The Michigan Banner
Celebrating 100 years of journalism

HAPPY THANKSGIVING! MICHIGANBANNER.ORG/SUPPORTUS

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

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

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

CLUB OF THE WEEK
SAGINAW COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

NOVEMBER 16

VOLUME 21 - NUMBER 23
MICHIGAN BANNER
First Great Lakes Bay Regional Newspaper
DECEMBER 1, 2023

21 The Michigan Banner
Celebrating 100 years of journalism

HAPPY HOLIDAYS! MICHIGANBANNER.ORG/SUPPORTUS

FEATURED
SVSU receives six-figure gift to boost scholarship support

AN EDUCATOR'S LEGACY

REV. LOUIS "POPPA" BISHOP
Aug. 15, 1921 - Nov. 24, 2023

C.A.C. and H.E.L.P. host "Fresh Start" expungement clinic

CLUB OF THE WEEK
SAGINAW COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

DECEMBER 1

VOLUME 21 - NUMBER 24
MICHIGAN BANNER
First Great Lakes Bay Regional Newspaper
DECEMBER 16, 2023

21 The Michigan Banner
Celebrating 100 years of journalism

HAPPY HOLIDAYS! MICHIGANBANNER.ORG/SUPPORTUS

FEATURED
Karen S. Carter delivers commencement address to SVSU

SAGINAW BAY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ANNOUNCES HOLIDAY SUPERSTARS

La Unión Cívica Mexicana host 13th Annual Tamales Taste-Off

Family Affairs: Forrest follows in her parent's footsteps at Detroit Mercy

CLUB OF THE WEEK
SAGINAW COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

DECEMBER 16



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Cooking up change

Choosing homemade meals over restaurant dishes



By **ARIELLE BUCKLEY, MPH**
NUTRITIONAL SCIENCES -
DIETETICS
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

My new year's resolution is to choose homemade meals over restaurant dishes. For months, I've resorted to meal delivery to swiftly satisfy my hunger after a long day at work. When the clock struck five o'clock, I placed my online food order, and arrived home to a warm, flavorful meal at my doorstep. Although ordering from a restaurant is convenient, we can save thousands of dollars in 2024 by cooking at home. Here are two cooking methods you can use to save money in the new year.

Steaming is a great way to cook your food quickly, while retaining key nutrients. Steaming is defined as preparing via vapor from boiling water. To steam your vegetables, you can use a steamer pot. Place your steamer basket in your pot. Add water in the pot until the surface of the water is just under the steamer basket. Place your vegetables in the steamer basket and bring water to a boil. Cover the pot and allow the steam to cook the vegetables. Cooking time will vary depending on the vegetable. Starchy vegetables like potatoes will take longer to cook. While non-starchy vegetables like broccoli will take less time to cook. Research shows that immune-

boosting nutrients like Vitamin C and Folate are retained more by steaming foods compared to boiling or baking.

When embarking on a journey to cook more at home, there are many cooking techniques you can choose from to best fit your busy lifestyle. If you are a busy bee like me, roasting could be the best way to prepare your food. Roasting involves cooking in an oven or over an open fire.

Foods that are typically roasted include proteins like chicken, turkey, and chickpeas or vegetables like brussel sprouts, squash, and potatoes. Roasted "one-sheet pan" recipes are made using only one dish. The clean up is easy and you don't have to stand over the stove waiting for your food to finish.

Try this savory Roasted Lemon Parmesan Broccoli recipe:

Ingredients

- 1 - 10 oz package of frozen broccoli
- 1 tbsp lemon juice
- 2 tbsp of olive oil
- 1 tbsp minced garlic
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1 tsp pepper
- 1/4 cup parmesan cheese

1. Preheat the oven to 450 degrees Fahrenheit.
2. Arrange the broccoli in a single layer on a half sheet pan.
3. Evenly spread the garlic, salt, pepper, olive oil, and 1/2 of the lemon juice, over the broccoli ensuring it is fully coated.
4. Transfer the seasoned broccoli to the preheated oven and bake for 30 minutes. 5. Remove from the oven and delicately drizzle the remaining lemon juice over the roasted broccoli so it is thoroughly distributed.
5. Sprinkle a layer of parmesan cheese atop the roasted broccoli and serve immediately.

A new year presents an opportunity to save money and learn another skill. Roasting and steaming are cooking methods that are low-cost and simple. Steaming your vegetables may help them retain nutrients and roasting is a great way to prepare vegetables if you are short on time. This January, return to the kitchen, to try one of these effortless cooking techniques. I guarantee it'll be worth it.





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+ COMMUNITY

Saginaw County Board of Commissioners selects new County Administrator



MARY CATHERINE HANNAH

After six months of searching, the Saginaw County Board of Commissioners has selected current Alpena County Administrator Mary Catherine Hannah as their next County Administrator.

“I am so thrilled for the opportunity to work with the Commissioners in Saginaw – I have learned so much about the great projects such as the Memorial Cup and Medical Diamond that are coming up. I am really looking forward to helping make them successful. Having had the chance to meet some of the leadership and other elected officials – I think we will have a wonderful and productive relationship. I am very excited to be stepping up to this role,” says Hannah.

Saginaw County Board Chairman Christopher Boyd added “The Board of Commissioners is thrilled to have Mary Catherine join Saginaw. We believe she is the perfect fit for our county and will foster an environment conducive to teamwork across all county departments.”

Mary Catherine grew up in Kalamazoo and has spent the last two years as Alpena County Administrator. She is a University of Michigan grad and has a law degree from University of Wisconsin Law School. Mary Catherine is expected to begin her 3-year contract in Saginaw County on January 22, 2024.



Opening comments from State Representative Amos O'Neal and Sheriff Chris Swanson



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The event will be held at:

UAW Local 699
1911 Bagley St, MI 48601
Saturday, January 13, 2024 between 12pm-4pm



Michigan prisons are under staffed and over populated!
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It's time to end mass incarceration!

IT'S TIME FOR GOOD TIME!

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For more information please contact Lisa@mijustice.org



Unable to attend?
Scan here to request your petition!



<https://gtballot2023.org>

CORRECTIONS

REP. O'NEAL, CHAIR
IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS

Fund Source	*FY 2022-23 Year to Date	Exec Rec FY 2023-24	Conference FY 2023-24	\$ Change	% Change
Federal	\$5.1	\$5.1	\$17.1	\$12.0	233.0
Local/Private	9.9	9.8	9.8	(0.1)	(0.8)
State Restricted	29.8	29.8	29.8	0.0	0.0
GF/GP	2,080.1	2,024.1	2,029.5	(50.6)	(2.4)
TOTAL (Adj Gross)	\$2,125.0	\$2,068.8	\$2,086.3	(\$38.7)	(1.8)

*Includes mid-year budget adjustments through February 8, 2023 and House annualized budget.

Note: The percentage change shown above reflects actual change before totals are rounded to millions. Numbers may not add up due to rounding.

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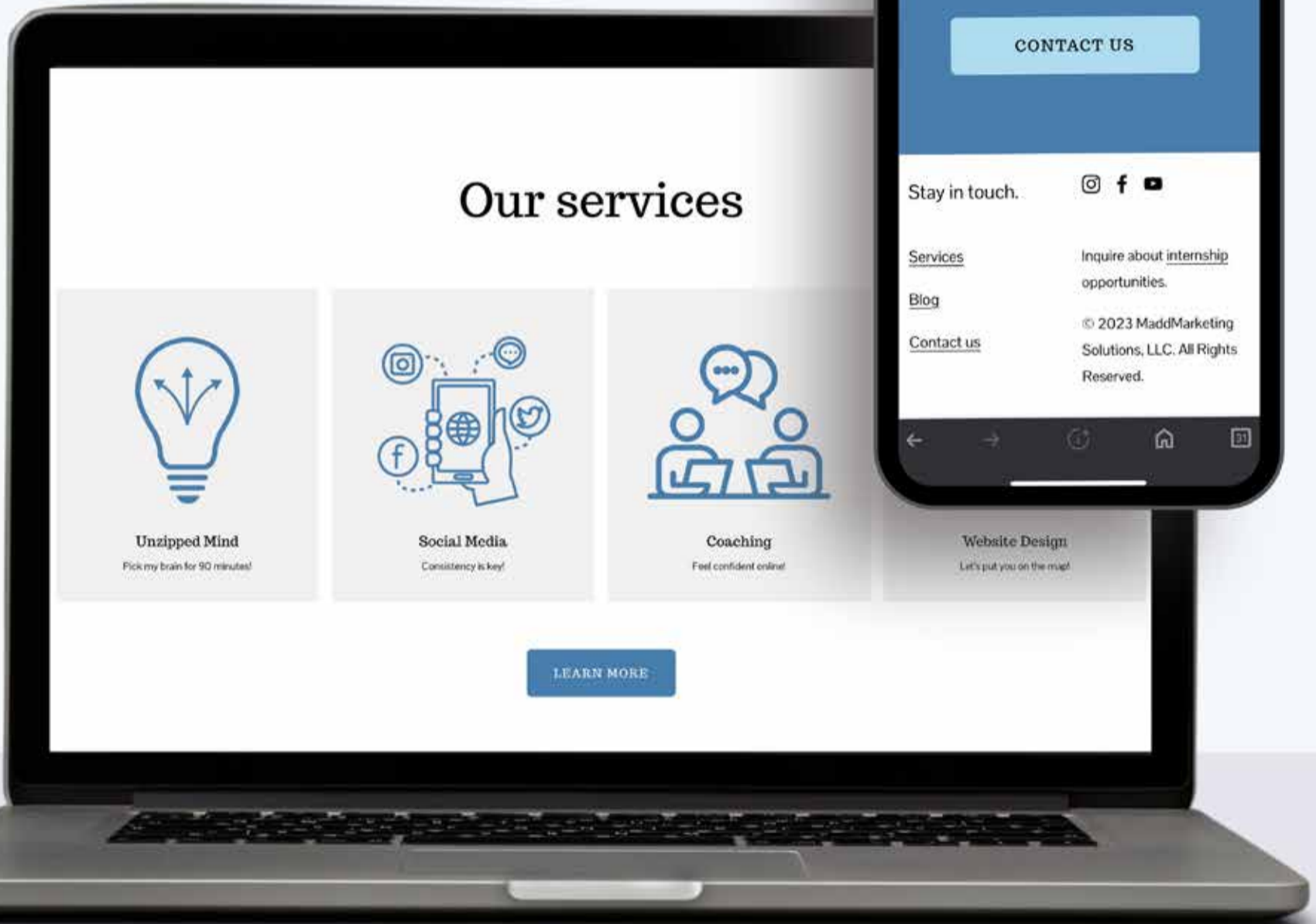
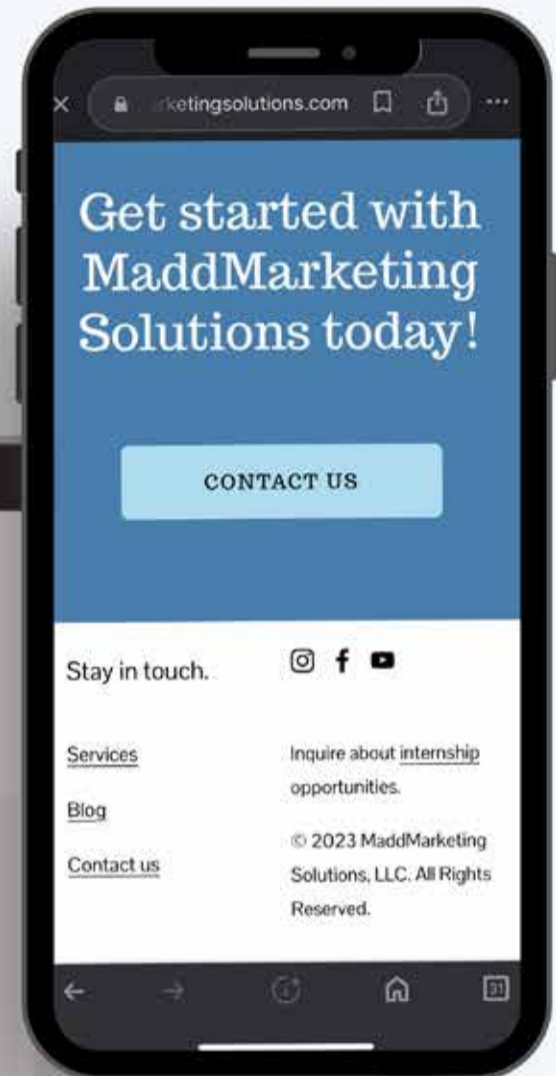
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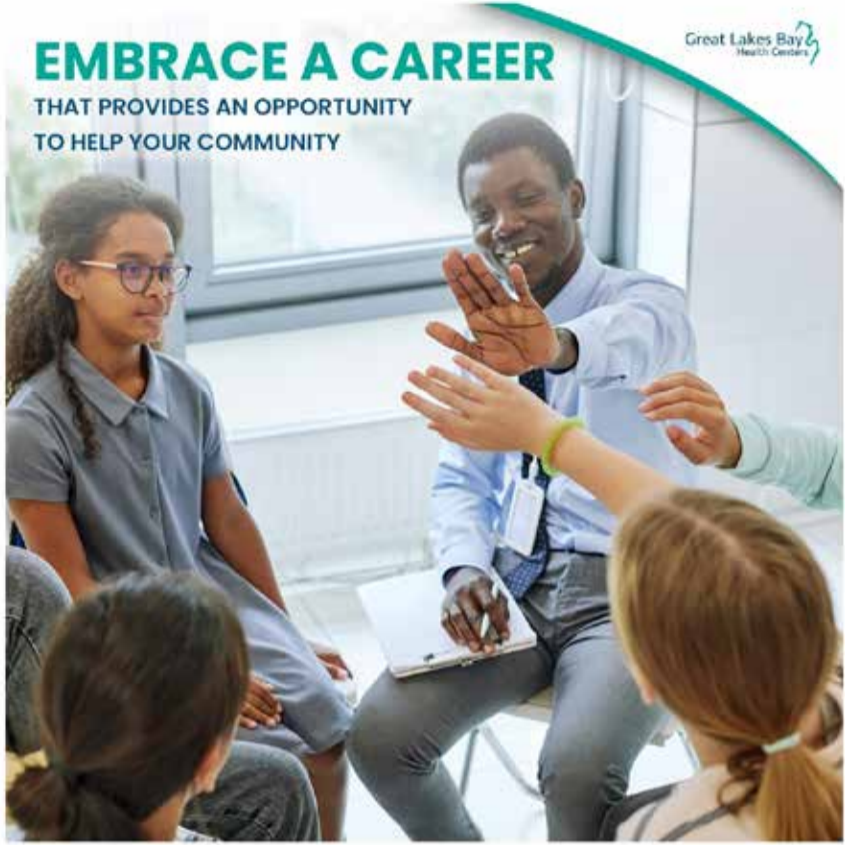
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+ COMMUNITY

Professor, author, media professional Melissa Harris-Perry to give keynote address at MLK Jr. Regional Celebration



MELISSA HARRIS-PERRY

Saginaw Valley State University has announced the speaker for the 15th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Celebration, which will be held at SVSU on Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2024, at 7 p.m. Award-winning author, sought-after public speaker and accomplished media professional Melissa Harris-Perry will join retired Saginaw Public Schools educator and active community volunteer Kermit Anderson Diggs for a fireside chat in the Malcolm Field Theatre for Performing arts in SVSU's Curtiss Hall. The Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Celebration is a collaboration of SVSU and the Bay Area, Midland Area and Saginaw community foundations.

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. Her areas of expertise encompass various facets of politics as well as public opinion and re-

ligion.

Harris-Perry was the first African American woman to earn a Ph.D. in political science from Duke University. She has served on the faculties of some of the country's most prestigious institutions. In 2012, Harris-Perry founded the Anna Julia Cooper Center, whose mission was to advance justice through intersectional scholarship, engaged teaching and intentional action. She continues to serve as president of the AJC Center.

Harris-Perry is the author of "Barbershops, Bibles, and BET: Everyday Talk and Black Political Thought" — which won the 2005 W. E. B. Du Bois Book Award from the National Conference of Black Political Scientists — and "Sister Citizen: Shame, Stereotypes, and Black Women in America." She has also been published in scholarly journals and magazines.

Harris-Perry served as the final host and managing editor of "The Takeaway," a daily, national public radio program and

podcast that ended earlier this year. She also co-created and co-hosted, with Dorian Warren, "Deep Dives," a special project of "The Takeaway." From 2012-2016, Harris-Perry hosted the television show Melissa Harris-Perry on MSNBC.

Harris-Perry earned a Bachelor of Arts in English from Wake Forest University and a Ph.D. in political science from Duke University.

In addition to the address by Harris-Perry, the Jan. 17 program will include 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. Officials also will announce the winners of the Drum Major Awards, which recognize members of the Great Lakes Bay Region who advance King's vision through their community involvement. The Martin Luther King, Jr. Regional Celebration is free and open to the public, but registration is requested.

+ COMMUNITY

Saginaw receives \$278,530 federal grant to improve road safety

Congressman Dan Kildee (MI-08) announced new federal funding for the city of Saginaw to help improve road safety.

The \$278,530 federal grant, awarded through the U.S. Department of Transportation's Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant program, will help Saginaw identify the streets with the most frequent and severe accidents, and develop a comprehensive action plan to improve road safety throughout the community.

"Every Michigan family deserves to feel safe in their neighborhood. I was glad to secure this funding that will help improve road safety in mid-Michigan," said Congressman Kildee. "In Congress, I will continue working with Republicans and Democrats to make our community a safer place to live, work and raise a family."

"Congressman Kildee understands the



COURTESY PHOTO

importance of providing safer roads and streets for all Saginaw residents and roadway users. Across the city, perhaps now more than ever, we desire our streets and neighborhoods to be safe, secure, and connected, both physically and socially. This has been and will continue to be a key priority for the City of Saginaw. We are thank-

ful to Congressman Kildee for his recognition and dedication to that goal and the funding provided through the Safe Streets 4 Saginaw Grant," said Saginaw City Manager Tim Morales.

This federal grant is the latest of Congressman Kildee's efforts to improve public safety in mid-Michigan. In November, Kildee secured nearly \$1 million to help two local schools train local law enforcement officers to prevent school violence and invest in stronger security systems. In August, Congressman Kildee highlighted \$4.3 million for mid-Michigan police departments to make critical equipment upgrades, improve police officer training and meet the public safety needs of each community.

Pit & Balcony Community Theatre presents Romeo & (Juliet) Julius

Pit & Balcony will kick off the new year with the classic Shakespearean tragedy, *Romeo & Juliet*, updated to reflect modern life and love stories.

Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* is a love story for the ages. Pit & Balcony's modern retelling is the love story of Romeo and Julius - one of the most romantic and devastating love stories in the theatrical cannon updated for a modern audience. The script, adapted by David Hundsness, retains the original story and language and has simply been cut for time. Hundsness gives his script freely and encourages directors to adapt it further to fit the vision of their productions.

"That's the beauty of Shakespeare," says Amy Spadafore, Managing Director of Pit & Balcony. "Because his works are in the public domain, it's a completely blank slate which gives the director the freedom to be really creative with their artistic vision. We've seen Shakespeare set in space, during the Civil War, and in the midst of the Suffrage Movement. Likewise, our production has been updated to reflect modern times and modern love stories."

Pit & Balcony's cast is made up of twelve community volunteers, seven of

whom are making their Pit & Balcony stage debuts. Felix Meisel and Liam Hamilton-Kraft play the titular characters, Romeo and Julius, respectively. The remaining cast includes Erica Close, Matthew Howe, Steven Axtell, Hannah Duford, William Campbell, Bre Sklar, Anna Beardsley, Sofia Morrone, Jonas Lawrence, and Quinn Nichols.

Director Chad William Baker says, "I think the fact that Shakespeare's plays are something that can be performed in so many different ways is why they remain so popular. The content is so relevant and the characters are so timeless, so regardless of whether we change a few pronouns throughout the script all the beauty and power of the story is still there."

Performances of *Romeo & (Juliet) Julius* run January 12-14 & 19-21. Friday and Saturday showings will begin at 7:30pm and Sunday's performances will begin at 3:00pm.

Romeo & (Juliet) Julius is proudly presented in partnership with EXP Reality.

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

Love Has No Boundaries

Romeo & (Juliet) Julius

By William Shakespeare
Edited and Adapted by David Hundsness

January 12-14
& 19-21, 2024

Call us at 989.754.6587
Or visit us at
PitandBalconyTheatre.com

PIT & BALCONY
THEATRE

MICHIGAN
ARTS & CULTURE
COUNCIL

NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT FOR THE
ARTS



WORKING TOGETHER. SHARING THE DREAM.

An MLK Celebration!



“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.”
Martin Luther King, Jr.

SAGINAW VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
Wednesday, January 17, 2024 • 7 p.m.
in the SVSU Malcolm Field Theatre

Melissa Harris-Perry Keynote Speaker



Professor Melissa Harris-Perry is the Maya Angelou Presidential Chair at Wake Forest University. She is author of the award-winning *Barbershops, Bibles, and BET: Everyday Talk and Black Political Thought*, and *Sister Citizen: Shame, Stereotypes, and Black Women in America*. Professor Harris-Perry is founder and president of the Anna Julia Cooper Center whose mission is to advance justice through intersectional scholarship and action.

- This event will feature:**
- Keynote Speaker
Melissa Harris-Perry
 - Presentation of the
MLK Scholarship Awards
 - Presentation of the
Regional Drum Major Awards

She served as the final host and managing editor of *The Takeaway*, a daily, national public radio program and podcast which aired on over 300 public radio stations across the country. From 2012-2016, she hosted the groundbreaking television show “Melissa Harris-Perry” on weekend mornings on MSNBC and was awarded the Hillman Prize for broadcast journalism. She served as editor-at-large for *Elle.com* and continues to serve as contributing editor for *The Nation*.

Register at svsu.edu/mlk

For more information, please visit svsu.edu/mlk or contact the Office of Diversity Programs at 989-964-4068.

Special thanks to our 2024 Sponsors . . .



Great Lakes Bay Region Partners . . .



SVSU will provide reasonable accommodations for those persons with disabilities. Individuals who wish accommodations should contact The Conference Center at SVSU at 989-964-4348 at least three days prior to the need. SVSU does not discriminate based on race, religion, color, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, age, physical impairment, disability or veteran status in the provision of education, employment and other services.



+ COMMUNITY



BUENA VISTA CHARTER TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS WERE AWARDED THEIR RRC PLAQUE AT A CERTIFICATION EVENT HELD ON DEC. 18

Buena Vista Charter Township receives certification as Redevelopment Ready Community

For its efforts in establishing a solid foundation to attract private investment and further build on municipality assets, Buena Vista Charter Township has been awarded the Redevelopment Ready Communities (RRC) certification, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) announced recently.

MEDC formally recognizes Buena Vista Charter Township as a Certified Redevelopment Ready Community in Michigan. Buena Vista joins an elite group of 71 Michigan communities in all corners of the state that have qualified as “thoroughly prepared” when it comes to planning and zoning to remove traditional barriers and promote opportunities for prospective investors. To see the entire list of Redevelopment Ready Communities, visit [here](#).

“Our mission at MEDC is to support Michigan’s strong economic momentum

and empower communities to establish a strong planning, zoning and economic development foundation,” said MEDC Executive Vice President of Economic Development Incentives and Services Michele Wildman. “Buena Vista Charter Township is well positioned to continue to implement its vision for the future and further improve the quality of life for its residents. We look forward to building upon our relationship with the township and supporting local economic development efforts.”

As an RRC participant, Buena Vista received a comprehensive assessment that measured current community and economic development practices compared to RRC best practice standards. The toolkit evaluates and certifies communities that integrate transparency, predictability, and efficiency into economic development practices. Certification status is a compel-

ling indicator that a community has removed development barriers and streamlined processes to be more competitive and attractive to investors.

“The future is bright for Buena Vista Charter Township, and we are excited to receive the Redevelopment Ready Community designation from MEDC,” said Buena Vista Charter Township Superintendent Torrie Lee. “This designation reaffirms the mission of the township to prioritize investment opportunities and reconfirms the goal to attract more economic development in the township. I’m

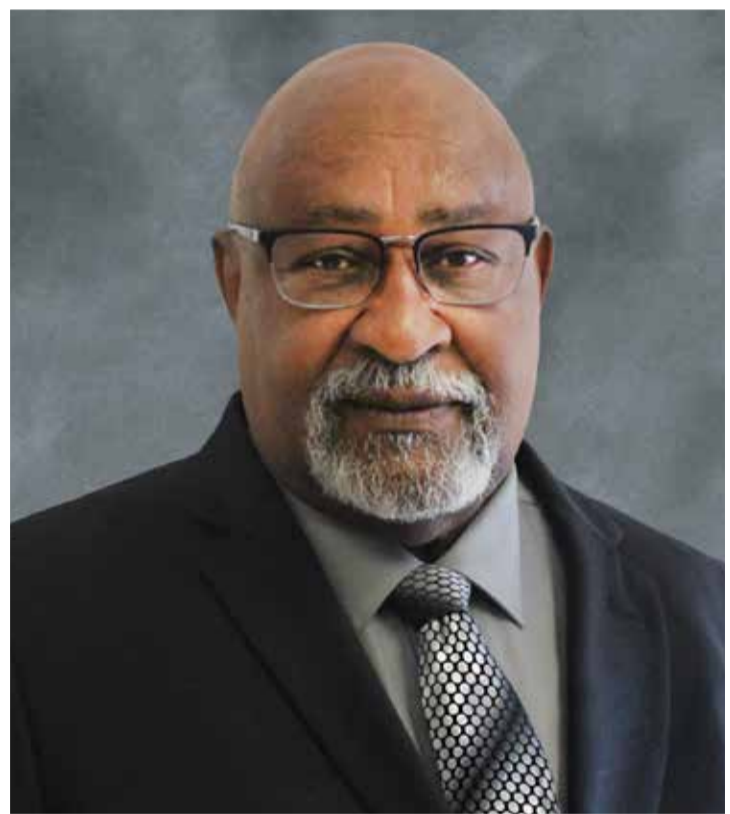
extremely grateful and thankful for the support of the board of trustees, commissioners, staff and residents who all continue to strive toward excellence. It took five years to reach this goal and we are extremely grateful.”

As a certified community, Buena Vista will have access to new tools to implement its community development goals as well as ongoing support and technical assistance from the Redevelopment Ready Communities team. Annual check-ins and updates will help ensure the Township continues implementing the best practices over time. Certification is active for five years before needing to be renewed.

“Attaining RRC Certified Designation grants Buena Vista a great opportunity to proactively engage township stakeholders in the prosperity of our community through best practices and policies,” said Buena Vista Charter Township Supervisor Dr. Christina L. Dillard. “With our focused commitment to restore, rebuild, and renew our beloved community, the RRC certification gives us the capacity, as well as the support, to effectively plan for the dynamic development of our township.”

+ 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

We have entered a new dawning, a new day, a new season that commences the beginning of a New Year. Therefore, as Christians, many see January 1 as a time to reflect on the goodness of God during the past year. In addition to remembering the Lord's grace, mercy, and love towards us as we shift into this New Year is always great, significant, and beneficial.

Yet as we transition into this New Year, looking back at the old year we understand there were difficult, challenging, painful, and stormy times where many thought they would not make it – "But God." A New Year allows one to access and reassess if there are any necessary changes that we need to make within our hearts, habits, directions, or in any other areas of our lives. Consequently, it is imperative to pray and allow the Holy Spirit to examine and eradicate those things in our lives designated to kill our purposes, thereby aborting our destinies.

Jeremiah 29:11 expresses, "**For I know the thoughts I think toward**

NEW YEAR!

New Me

"Although your former state was ordinary, your future will be extraordinary"

Job 8:7 CEB

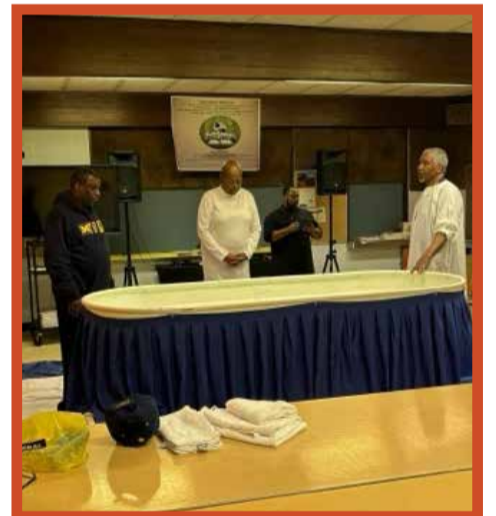
you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end, therefore, it is also a time to allow God to bring closure to where we have been and to prepare and pave the way for where He is taking us. Beloved, let this year be a higher and greater expression of ourselves with an intentional passion to pursue God by learning more about Him, growing in

Him, and deepening our relationship with Him. As we enter this New Year the weight, we put on ourselves to do the best and be the best, let us permit the Holy Spirit to be the one to direct the enrichment of our lives, and we will be able to see "**A New Year - A New Me.**"

Happy New Year & Blessings To All...

+ FAITH BASED

Seen on the scene: New Birth Missionary Baptist Cathedral new candidates for Baptism, receiving Holy Communion for the first time in their new walk as born again believers in Christ Jesus. (Baptism candidates - Sterling Brooks, Bishop Larry Camel, Deacon Curtis Moore, Deaconess Margaret Dorsey, Donna ONeal Esther Benson, DeAnthony Avery, Dylin Avery, Kerngton Hopkins, Gabby Hopkins, Nicole Smith, Jaylen Braddock)



+ 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

Your 2024 success requires action today

By MEL AND PEARL SHAW

Are you planning for how you're going to work extra hard in 2024 to make your nonprofit a success? If you answer yes, we ask you to consider a different, more feasible course of action. We suggest you get to work immediately identifying people who can help you meet your goals so that you bring others into your vision, and don't spend 2024 flailing while trying to do the impossible.

Unless you are an established, well-funded, well-governed, in-demand, high profile nonprofit, chances are slim that you have the resources you need to grow. Consider the research coming out from Young Black & Giving Back. Here are two of their main points: Black-led and benefiting nonprofits do a lot with a little, with 76.7 percent of the nonprofits surveyed operating on a budget of less than \$500,000 a year;

nearly one third operate with just \$30,000 a year. And, these organizations manage largely with volunteers, with 43.5 percent operating without any paid, full-time employees, and 45.65 percent indicating that they didn't have any paid, part-time employees.

So, how does a nonprofit make it happen? Over the years we've learned that volunteers make it happen. And that has been reinforced over the past few years, more than ever. By "volunteers" we mean people who believe in your vision and who have the time, network, and resources to bring your vision to life. If you find yourself dreaming of the day when you'll have staff to do all that needs to be done, you will be dreaming for a good time. Remember: those with relationships, skills, and resources are almost always willing to help when asked to assist with a specific project.

We recommend working with volunteers who are willing to "own" a project and advance it on your behalf. That means they chart the course, engage others, and consistently share information with you, and ask questions. These are people you should not micro-manage: they are self-starters who can make things happen. They can

help with projects such as advocacy for and engagement with the people at the core of your vision. In terms of fundraising, they can take responsibility for critical areas such as data management; donor stewardship and communication; prospect identification, cultivation, and solicitation; defining donor benefits and opportunities; and defining fundraising priorities and goals.

In terms of building organizational capacity, they can take on projects such as identifying and securing the in-kind services and resources you need; creating a volunteer recruitment and management program; defining job descriptions for staff, recruiting employees, and creating an onboarding process; and developing processes for meeting management and reporting. Board recruitment is a critical function that well-connected people can help you with. In all cases, let your volunteers define their timeline and ask that they regularly share their progress with you.

Remember, it is your responsibility as a nonprofit CEO to make the time to meet with those who are supporting you. If you can't do that, then don't ask for help.



Copyright 2022 – Mel and Pearl Shaw

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

+ EDUCATION

SVSU to construct first university environmental research station on Lake Huron, following state budget approval

Saginaw Valley State University will build a \$10 million environmental science research station along the Saginaw River, near the river mouth with Saginaw Bay, following approval of \$7.5 million in capital outlay funding approved by the State of Michigan and signed into law by Gov. Whitmer on Monday, Dec. 18.

SVSU has a long history of partnering with the Bay County Health Department and other agencies to test water quality at public beaches. Federal agencies such as the U.S. Geological Survey and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and state agencies such as the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, and the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy are also partners with SVSU in studying and improving the watershed through the Saginaw Bay Monitoring Consortium.

“We are thrilled to construct the first university environmental research facility on Lake Huron and to build upon our relationships in the region that are contributing to improved public health and a better ecological understanding of our Saginaw Bay watershed,” said George Grant Jr, SVSU president.

“This facility will provide a standout learning laboratory for our students and faculty, and our partner agencies throughout the community. I would like to thank our regional legislative delegation for seeing the value of this project and supporting it through the capital outlay process.”

Grant mentioned state senators John Cherry, Kevin Daley, Roger Hauck and Kristen McDonald Rivet, as well as state representatives Brian BeGole, Timmy Beson, Matthew Bierlein, Graham Filler, Phil Green, Jasper Martus, Amos O’Neal, and Bill G. Schuette as among those who advocated for SVSU’s capital outlay request.

“When one of our state universities has the chance to attract top scientists, expand research capabilities, and benefit students at all levels, it’s smart to make

that investment,” said State Senator Kristen McDonald Rivet, Joint Capital Outlay Chair. “Funding approved for this new facility will help make SVSU a leader in environmental science and studies, spurring important collaborations, hands-on educational programs, and greater interest in the freshwater ecosystems that are so important to our local economy.”

The research station will be built in Bangor Township on the west side of the Saginaw River, south of the Department of Natural Resources boat launch, on property owned by Dow, opening opportunities for students from SVSU and surrounding K-12 schools.

“The supplemental bills will help uplift our students while strengthening SVSU’s environmental science programs. These investments will create more facilities for increased freshwater research, which will help to transpire a better understanding of our iconic Great Lakes,” said State Representative Amos O’Neal. “Today is a great day to be a Cardinal!”

Through its collaboration with the Saginaw Bay Monitoring Consortium, SVSU works alongside The Nature Conservancy, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, Central Michigan University, and private industry, including the Michigan-based firm LimnoTech.

SVSU also operates a mobile laboratory that travels to parks, K-12 schools and other venues to introduce science opportunities to young people. The lab has hosted around 19,000 visitors since it was introduced in 2016.

“The enhanced access to Saginaw Bay will enable us to drastically scale up our K-12 outreach through the Dow Science and

Sustainability Education Center at SVSU, and the improved experiential learning opportunities will better prepare our undergraduate students for employment and research positions upon graduation,” said Dave Karpovich, H.H. Dow Endowed Professor of Chemistry and director of the Saginaw Bay Environmental Science Institute at SVSU.

Community leaders expressed enthusiasm for the project and its potential to enhance recreation, commerce, and quality of life.

“This project is exciting! The Great Lakes are the largest freshwater system in the world,” said Magen Samyn, president and CEO of the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce. “Having a world-class research station with direct access to Lake Huron will create a positive economic impact on our region and can serve as a catalyst for more advancements.

“Bringing together research, education, outreach and collaboration, the research station will create more opportunities for all to explore right here in the Great Lakes Bay Region.”

SVSU will use \$2.5 million in existing capital reserve funds to cover its portion of the project cost. Construction of the 10,000 square foot facility is expected to begin in the fall of 2025.



DAVE KARPOVICH, H.H. DOW ENDOWED PROFESSOR OF CHEMISTRY AND DIRECTOR OF THE SAGINAW BAY ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE INSTITUTE AT SVSU, DRIVES THE SVSU RESEARCH BOAT ALONG THE SAGINAW RIVER, ACCOMPANIED BY FIVE SVSU STUDENT RESEARCHERS

SAGINAW PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DECEMBER 2023



Amazing Kid: Braylen Podleski (6th Gr)
Saginaw Arts & Sciences Academy
Nominated by: Mr. Doud

Braylen brings a positive attitude to class every day. He is willing to work in collaboration with any student keeping an upbeat attitude displaying an example of integrity. He remains focused on the tasks at efforts. He shows responsibility by being prepared for class and ready to learn.

BRAYLEN IS A SASA DRAGON!

DECEMBER 2023



Amazing Kid: Jayceen Allen (12th grade)
Saginaw High School
Nominated by: Ms. Trisha Baker

Jayceen is a pleasure to have in class. She is hard working, polite, helpful, and focused on success. She shows Trojan Pride every day with her positive attitude, respect, integrity, dependability, and efficiency.

JAYCEEN IS AMAZING!

DECEMBER 2023




Amazing Kid: Jayden Wilson (2nd Gr)
Jessie Rouse Elementary
Nominated by: Mrs. Jenn Mallory- Second Grade Teacher

Everyday, Jayden comes in ready to learn. He sets a great example for all of his classmates. He works very hard on his school work. He is always willing to help his classmates and his teacher. He is respectful and kind to all!

THANK YOU JAYDEN FOR BEING A SECOND GRADE SUPERSTAR!

December 2023



Difference Maker: Ms. Lynne George,
SPSD Guest Principal

Nominated by: Mrs. Tina Muñoz, Zilwaukee School Principal

Ms. George's commitment to SPSP as a Guest Principal has been unwavering. Year after year, she answers the call whenever there is a need for administrative coverage at a school. We cannot thank Ms. George enough for her time, commitment, and most importantly, her "heart" work spent working with our students, collaborating with staff, and meeting parents and school volunteers.

Thank you, Ms. George, for LEADING the way and MAKING A DIFFERENCE at Zilwaukee School!

DECEMBER 2023



SPSD DIFFERENCE MAKER

Difference Maker: Ms. Trisha Baker
SAGINAW HIGH SCHOOL
Nominated by: Mr. Michael Hight

Ms. Baker is always thinking of the kids first! She is the first to volunteer and she makes sure students have what they need to be successful everyday.

MS. BAKER IS THE OG SHS DIFFERENCE MAKER!

DECEMBER 2023




SPSD DIFFERENCE MAKER

Difference Maker: Ms. Savannah Nash
Chester Miller Elementary School
Nominated By: Mrs. Jeanine Kowalski- Principal

I am writing to nominate Ms. Savannah Nash as a true DIFFERENCE MAKER in the field of behavioral intervention and education. As the principal of Chester Miller, I have had the privilege of working closely with Ms. Nash, and I am confident in stating that she possesses exceptional qualities and dedication that make her well deserving. Savannah has consistently demonstrated a remarkable commitment to our students and their well-being. She embodies the following qualities: Compassion and Patience: She consistently displays an abundance of compassion and patience when working with our students. She creates a safe and nurturing environment where every child feels valued and supported. Unwavering Dedication: Ms. Nash has a keen eye for detail and a deep understanding of behavioral cues. She excels in assessing and identifying the needs of each student, allowing for tailored intervention strategies that lead to remarkable progress. Adaptability: Savannah is highly adaptable and responsive to the evolving needs of our students. She takes an innovative approach to addressing the diverse challenges presented in the classroom, finding unique solutions that promote student growth. Ms. Nash is an extraordinary individual whose dedication, compassion, and outstanding skills have had a profound and lasting impact on the lives of our students and the entire school community. She is a true difference maker in the field of behavioral intervention and education.

Student & Staff Recognition for Making SPSP an Exceptional Place!

SAGINAW PUBLIC SCHOOLS
wishes you
Merry & Bright
Holiday Season



Artwork Credit: Norah Amo, 8th Grade,
Saginaw Arts & Sciences Academy



HAPPY
HOLIDAYS



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 | (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 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 43, SISD

Continued from pg 42, SISD

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Early Head Start/Head Start Locations

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

Great Start to Readiness Program Locations

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

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

SAY HELLO TO

FREE TUITION.

Get Free Tuition through Michigan's Reconnect Scholarship Program
Delta College, in partnership with Michigan Reconnect, is offering free in-district tuition to qualifying Michigan residents who want to earn an associate degree or certificate.

Do you qualify?

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

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

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

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



SPSD WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULES

ARTHUR HILL HIGH SCHOOL

SAGINAW HIGH SCHOOL

SAGINAW ARTS & SCIENCES ACADEMY

SAGINAW UNITED

BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL

Dec 5	Detroit Prep	H	6:00
Dec 8	Traverse City Central	A	7:00
Dec 12	Frankenmuth	A	7:00
Dec 15	Grand Haven	H	7:00
Dec 27	Cass Tech Christmas Tour	A	TBD
Jan 3	Dow	H	7:00
Jan 5	Flowers Catholic	A	7:00
Jan 9	Grand Blanc	H	7:00
Jan 12	Davison	H	7:00
Jan 16	Carman Ainsworth	A	7:00
Jan 20	Wayne (Indiana)	A	7:30
Jan 23	Bay City Western	A	7:00
Jan 26	Midland High	H	7:00
Jan 30	Lapeer	A	7:00
Feb 2	Heritage	H	7:00
Feb 13	Mount Pleasant	A	7:00
Feb 15	Saginaw High	A	8:30
Feb 16	SHS @ Dow Ev Ctr	H	7:00
Feb 20	Bay City Central	A	7:00
TBD	DISTRICTS	TBD	TBD

COACH: ANTHONY DAVIS

BOYS JV BASKETBALL

Dec 5	Detroit Prep	H	4:30
Dec 8	Traverse City Central	A	5:30
Dec 12	Frankenmuth	A	5:30
Dec 15	Grand Haven	H	5:30
Dec 27	Cass Tech Christmas Tour	A	TBD
Jan 3	Dow	H	5:30
Jan 5	Flowers Catholic	A	5:30
Jan 9	Grand Blanc	H	5:30
Jan 12	Davison	H	5:30
Jan 16	Carman Ainsworth	A	5:30
Jan 20	Wayne (Indiana)	A	5:30
Jan 23	Bay City Western	A	5:30
Jan 26	Midland High	H	5:30
Jan 30	Lapeer	A	5:30
Feb 2	Heritage	H	5:30
Feb 13	Mount Pleasant	A	5:30
Feb 15	Saginaw High	A	5:30
Feb 20	Bay City Central	A	5:30

COACH: MARK OATES

BOYS FRESHMAN BASKETBALL

Dec 1	Hannanok	H	4:00
Dec 5	Traverse City Central	A	5:30
Dec 12	Frankenmuth	A	5:30
Dec 15	Grand Haven	H	4:00
Dec 27	Cass Tech Christmas Tour	A	TBD
Jan 3	Dow	H	4:00
Jan 5	Flowers Catholic	A	4:00
Jan 9	Grand Blanc	H	4:00
Jan 12	Davison	H	4:00
Jan 16	Carman Ainsworth	A	4:00
Jan 20	Wayne (Indiana)	A	4:00
Jan 23	Bay City Western	A	4:00
Jan 26	Midland High	H	4:00
Jan 30	Lapeer	A	4:00
Feb 2	Heritage	H	4:00
Feb 13	Mount Pleasant	A	4:00
Feb 15	Saginaw High	A	4:00
Feb 20	Bay City Central	A	4:00

COACH: ANTONYO DAVIS

BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL

Dec 05	Flint Community	A	7:00
Dec 07	Davison	H	7:00
Dec 09	Grand Ledge HS**	A	7:00
Dec 15	Det King	H	7:00
Dec 16	East Kentwood	H	4:00
Dec 21	Warren Fitzgerald	H	7:00
Dec 27	Det Cass Tech Tour	A	4:15
Dec 28	PH Northern **	A	5:15
Jan 09	BC Western	H	7:00
Jan 12	Grand Blanc	A	7:00
Jan 16	Midland	A	7:00
Jan 19	Powers Catholic	H	7:00
Jan 23	Heritage	H	7:00
Jan 26	BC Central	A	7:00
Jan 27	Romulus	A	5:00
Feb 02	Mt Pleasant	H	7:00
Feb 06	Midland Dow	A	7:00
Feb 10	Davison Tour	A	TBD
Feb 13	Lapeer	A	7:00
Feb 16	Arthur Hill	H	7:00
Feb 23	Carman Ainsworth	H	7:00

COACH: JULIAN TAYLOR

BOYS JV BASKETBALL

Dec 05	Flint Community	A	5:30
Dec 07	Davison	H	5:30
Dec 15	Det King	H	5:30
Dec 16	E Kentwood	H	2:30
Dec 21	Warren Fitzgerald	H	5:30
Jan 09	BC Western	H	5:30
Jan 12	Grand Blanc	A	5:30
Jan 16	Midland	A	5:30
Jan 19	Powers Catholic	H	5:30
Jan 23	Heritage	H	5:30
Jan 26	BC Central	A	5:30
Jan 27	Romulus	A	3:30
Feb 02	Mt Pleasant	H	5:30
Feb 06	Midland Dow	A	5:30
Feb 13	Lapeer	A	5:30
Feb 16	Arthur Hill	H	5:30
Feb 23	Carman Ainsworth	H	5:30

COACH: BRIAN TENNANT

BOYS FRESHMAN BASKETBALL

Dec 05	Flint Community	A	4:00
Dec 07	Davison	H	4:00
Dec 15	Det King	H	4:00
Dec 16	E Kentwood	H	1:00
Jan 09	BC Western	H	4:00
Jan 12	Grand Blanc	A	4:00
Jan 16	Midland	A	4:00
Jan 19	Powers Catholic	H	4:00
Jan 23	Heritage	H	4:00
Jan 26	BC Central	A	4:00
Jan 27	Romulus	A	2:00
Feb 02	Mt Pleasant	H	4:00
Feb 06	Midland Dow	A	4:00
Feb 13	Lapeer	A	4:00
Feb 16	Arthur Hill	H	4:00
Feb 23	Carman Ainsworth	H	4:00

COACH: BRIAN TENNANT

BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL

Dec 5	Caseville	A	7:30
Dec 6	St. Louis	A	7:30
Dec 13	Charlton Heston	A	7:30
Dec 15	Owensville	H	7:30
Dec 16	Audges-Sims	A	8:00
Dec 21	Akron-Fairgrove	Jr	7:30
Jan 3	Burton Atherton	H	7:30
Jan 9	Calvary Baptist Acad	H	7:30
Jan 11	BC All Saints	A	7:30
Jan 16	Beekmantown	A	7:30
Jan 17	Charlton Heston Acad	H	7:30
Jan 18	Wayne	H	7:30
Jan 23	Castville	H	7:30
Jan 25	Kinde North Huron	H	7:30
Jan 31	Montrose	H	7:30
Feb 4	New Lothrop	H	7:30
Feb 9	Piscannong	H	7:30
Feb 13	Audges-Sims	H	7:30
Feb 20	Montrose	A	7:30
Feb 22	Calvary Baptist Acad	A	7:30

COACH: JAMMAL HESLER

GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL

Dec 5	Caseville	A	6:00
Dec 6	St. Louis	A	6:00
Dec 13	Charlton Heston	A	6:00
Dec 15	Owensville	H	6:00
Dec 16	Audges-Sims	A	7:30
Dec 21	Akron-Fairgrove	H	6:00
Jan 3	Burton Atherton	H	6:00
Jan 5	Flint Southwestern	H	7:00
Jan 9	Calvary Baptist Acad	H	6:00
Jan 11	BC All Saints	A	6:00
Jan 16	Beekmantown	A	6:00
Jan 17	Charlton Heston Acad	H	6:00
Jan 19	Vassar	A	6:00
Jan 23	Caseville	H	6:00
Jan 25	Kinde North Huron	H	6:00
Jan 31	Montrose	H	6:00
Feb 2	Wade	A	6:00
Feb 5	Piscannong	H	6:00
Feb 13	Audges-Sims	H	6:00
Feb 15	Flint Madison Acad	H	6:00
Feb 20	Montrose	A	6:00
Feb 22	Calvary Baptist Acad	A	6:00
Districts			TBD

COACH: BRIAN TENNANT

BOYS JV BASKETBALL

Dec 5	Caseville	A	4:30
Dec 13	Charlton Heston	A	4:30
Dec 21	Akron-Fairgrove	H	4:30
Jan 3	Burton Atherton	H	4:30
Jan 5	Flint Southwestern	H	5:30
Jan 9	Calvary Baptist Acad	H	4:30
Jan 11	BC All Saints	A	4:30
Jan 16	Beekmantown	A	4:30
Jan 17	Charlton Heston Acad	H	4:30
Jan 19	Vassar	A	4:30
Jan 23	Caseville	H	4:30
Jan 25	Kinde North Huron	H	4:30
Jan 31	Montrose	H	4:30
Feb 4	New Lothrop	H	4:30
Feb 9	Piscannong	H	4:30
Feb 13	Audges-Sims	H	4:30
Feb 20	Montrose	A	4:30
Feb 22	Calvary Baptist Acad	A	4:30

COACH: BRIAN TENNANT

GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL

Dec 13	DeWitt	A	6:30
Dec 15	Chesaning	A	6:30
Dec 19	Clio @ SHS	H	6:30
Dec 21	Mt Pleasant @ AHHS	H	7:00
Jan 2	Dow	A	7:00
Jan 5	Powers Catholic @ SHS	H	7:00
Jan 9	Grand Blanc	A	7:00
Jan 12	Davison	A	7:00
Jan 23	BC Western @ AHHS	H	7:00
Jan 26	Midland High	A	7:00
Jan 30	Lapeer @ SHS	H	7:00
Feb 2	Heritage	A	7:00
Feb 5	Reese	A	7:30
Feb 16	Carman Ainsworth @ Dow Ev Ctr	H	6:00
Feb 19	Traverse City Central	A	7:00
Feb 26	BC Central @ SHS	H	7:00
Feb 27	Carrollton @ AHHS	H	7:00
Feb 28	Bay City Western	A	7:00
TBD	DISTRICTS	TBD	TBD

COACH: EUGENE SEALS

GIRLS JV BASKETBALL

Dec 13	DeWitt	A	5:00
Dec 15	Chesaning	A	5:00
Dec 19	Clio @ SHS	H	5:00
Dec 21	Mt Pleasant @ AHHS	H	5:30
Jan 3	Dow	A	5:30
Jan 5	Powers Catholic @ SHS	H	5:30
Jan 9	Grand Blanc	A	5:30
Jan 12	Davison	A	5:30
Jan 23	BC Western @ AHHS	H	5:30
Jan 26	Midland High	A	5:30
Jan 30	Lapeer @ SHS	H	5:30
Feb 2	Heritage	A	5:30
Feb 5	Reese	A	6:00
Feb 15	Carman Ainsworth @ AHHS	H	4:30
Feb 19	Traverse City Central	A	5:30
Feb 20	BC Central @ SHS	H	5:30
Feb 27	Carrollton @ AHHS	H	5:30
Feb 28	Bay City Western	A	5:30

COACH: MONIQUE TURNER

GIRLS FRESHMAN BASKETBALL

Dec 21	Mt Pleasant @ AHHS	H	4:00
Jan 3	Dow	A	4:00
Jan 5	Powers Catholic @ SHS	H	4:00
Jan 9	Grand Blanc	A	4:00
Jan 12	Davison	A	4:00
Jan 23	BC Western @ AHHS	H	4:00
Jan 26	Midland High	A	4:00
Jan 30	Lapeer @ SHS	H	4:00
Feb 2	Heritage	A	4:00
Feb 19	Traverse City Central	A	5:30
Feb 20	Bay City Central @ SHS	H	4:00
Feb 29	Bay City Western	A	4:00
TBD	DISTRICTS	TBD	TBD

COACH: ERIC BRADDOCK

COMPETITIVE CHEER

Jan 6	Midland	A	TBA
Jan 13	Perry	A	TBA
Jan 18	Owosso	A	TBA
Jan 20	Monroe	A	TBA
Jan 27	Powers	A	TBA
Feb 3	Shepard	A	TBA
Feb 9	Montabella	A	TBA

COACH: FREEDOM LEE

WRESTLING

Dec 7	Frankenmuth	A	6pm
Dec 9	E Jackson Tour	A	TBA
Dec 22	Lapeer Tour	A	TBA
Jan 4	Powers Catholic	H	6pm
Jan 6	Saginaw County	A	TBA
Jan 10	Lapeer/Davison	H	6pm
Jan 13	SSC Invite (Girls)	A	TBA
Jan 17	Carman Ainsworth	A	6pm
Jan 20	Mt. Morris (Girls)	A	TBA
Jan 27	SVL Tournament	A	TBA
Feb 2	Midland High (Girls)	A	TBA
Feb 7	Team Districts	H	TBA
Feb 10	Individual Districts	A	TBA

COACH: ANGEL RODRIGUEZ

BOWLING

Dec 3	Lansing	A	11:00
Dec 10	Bay City Central	A	11:00
Dec 16	Dow	A	6:00
Jan 5	Mt. Pleasant	A	5:30
Jan 6	Davison	H	6:30
Jan 12	Lapeer (Boys)	A	10:00
Jan 13	Davison (Girls)	A	10:00
Jan 16	Grand Blanc	A	5:30
Jan 19	Midland High	A	5:30
Jan 20	Bay City Western	A	1:00
Jan 22	Flint Powers	A	5:30
Jan 27	Lapeer (Girls)	A	10:00
Jan 27	Lapeer (Boys)	A	10:00
Jan 30	Carman Ainsworth	A	5:30
Feb 1	Bay City Central	A	5:30
Feb 3	Heritage	A	1:00
Feb 13	Grand Blanc	A	5:30
Feb 17	Bay City Western	A	1:30
Feb 23	MSAA Team Regional	TBA	TBA
Feb 24	MSAA Ind. Regional	TBA	TBA
Mar 1	MSAA Team Finals	TBA	TBA
Mar 2	MSAA Ind. Finals	TBA	TBA

COACH: PHIL VERDUSCO

SAGINAW PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FINAL SHOWDOWN

IAA

VS



CELEBRATION RECEPTION

**SAGINAW PUBLIC SCHOOLS IS EXCITED TO INVITE
PAST BOYS & GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL PLAYERS
TO A CELEBRATION RECEPTION - BEFORE THE GAME**

FEBRUARY 16, 2024-

[HTTPS://WWW.SPSD.NET/ARTICLE/1360022](https://www.spsd.net/article/1360022)





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



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



SAGINAW INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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





About Saginaw ISD HE/EHS

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

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

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

pregnant women and their families.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Source: www.saginawheadstart.org



Sabrina Beeman-Jackson

Saginaw ISD Head Start/Early Head Start Program Director

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

Joe Baca, former Dem. California Congressman

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

MI Tri-Share
CHILD CARE

SAGINAW ISD
SERVE • INNOVATE • EMPOWER

MWC
MICHIGAN WOMEN'S
COMMISSION



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

Current Partners

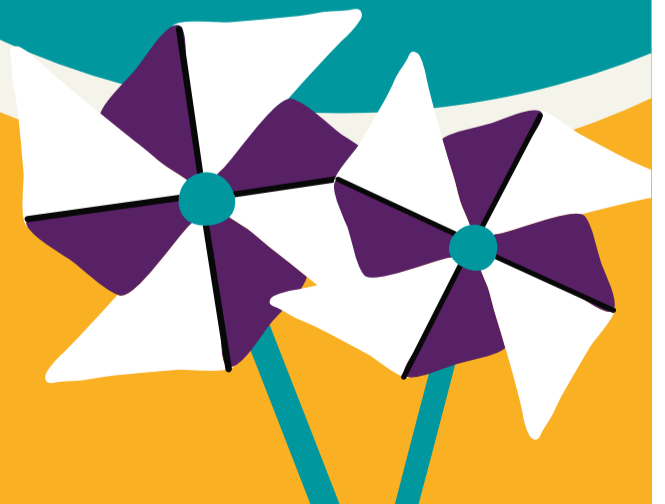
- Au Gres-Sims Schools
- Bay Arenac ISD
- Children's Discovery Academy
- Gratiot Isabella RESD
- Hemlock SemiConductor
- Ready, Set, Grow
- Saginaw ISD Head Start
- Vantage Plastics

Current Childcare Providers

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

SIGNING UP AS AN EMPLOYER:

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



+ SPORTS



COURTESY PHOTOS

Former Heritage star tops career high against Central Michigan

By HASANI ALI

Former Saginaw Heritage star Moira Joiner was quick to make a statement to elevate her level of play by earning another career high.

Joiner, who scored 26 points against DePaul Nov. 30, topped that in leading Michigan State to a 91-67 win Sunday over Central Michigan University.

Head coach Robyn Fralick also earned her 200th career win as a coach.

“Overall, a great team win for us today,” she said. “I was proud of us. We were a little shorthanded. I thought Central Michigan played really well, gave us a good game, and I thought we showed some good fight.”

The 27-point game was Joiner’s fourth 20-point game of her career, giving her 12

consecutive double-figure games dating back to the 2022-23 season.

She knocked down a career-high seven 3-pointers, including five in the first half. Joiner made 9 of 19 from the floor, including 7 of 15 from the 3-point line, adding six rebounds, three steals and two assists.

“Big credit to Mo (Moira) Joiner, I just thought every time the momentum of the game would change, she’d make a big play,” Fralick said.

She was deemed a co-captain, along with senior guard Taryn McCutcheon. MSU has not elected captains for their team since the 2019-2020 season.

The graduate student had missed much of the 2021-2022 season with concussion symptoms, but made up for all the missing time with career-highs in every category last season.

Fralick also credited her team for keeping their composure as CMU began to make a run in the second half. She praised the versatility of her players as many were able to step up from the bench and contribute.

“The way we play is the way we practice,” she said. “I think it’s hard to just change the way you play, and there’s a trust in that, there’s a pace in that, there’s a seamlessness in that. I think we finished with 29 assists, so it’s hard to be able to change the way you play. We just need to be able to play the way we like to play and be able to do it for longer periods of time.”

CMU fell to 1-7.

MSU, now with a 10-2 record, came out as the victors of the Cherokee Invitational in North Carolina right before Christmas.

Fralick believes that her team is definitely gaining steam as the program progresses. Her plan is coming into fruition as she’s working to build the team identity while building a program of her own.

“Culturally, we always talk about our five core values,” she said. “That’s be a great teammate, manners matter, trust, toughness and commitment and those are things we talk about every day. I always say, easy to talk about but hard to do, and they challenge all of us. As humans, we’re always in pursuit of getting better and those help us and guide us to constantly remind us of that. In regards to basketball, there’s just a style that we play. I think really good basketball players and really good basketball teams have automatic habits. The game is fast and fluid and as spectators and coaches we can sit there and pause it and say this, this, this, but the reality is the game is fast and fluid, so you have to have good habits and you have to be good at things that happen all the time, so that’s what we try to be good at.”

The Spartans cruised through the tournament, starting with an 83-76 win against Richmond and a cruising 105-66 win against Coastal Carolina.



Gus Macker Basketball

2024 Tournament Schedule

Feb.	24-25	Mt. Pleasant, MI (Indoor)	July	6-7	<i>4th of July</i>
March	23-24	Carlsbad, NM		13-14	Norwich, NY Sault Ste Marie, MI
	30-31			20-21	Iron Mountain, MI Newaygo, MI Corning, NY
April	6-7			27-28	Hermitage, PA Wakefield, MI Flint, MI
	13-14		August	3-4	Belding, MI
	20-21	Hobbs, NM		10-11	Midland, MI Jamestown, NY
	27-28	Mt. Pleasant, MI @ CMU		17-18	Brooklyn Park, MN
May	4-5			24-25	Otsego, MI
	11-12			31-1	<i>Labor Day</i>
	18-19	Gwinn, MI	Sept.	7-8	Grand Rapids, MI
	25-26	<i>Memorial Day</i>		14-15	Moberly, MO
June	1-2	Mescalero, NM Traverse City, MI		21-22	
	8-9	Gaylord, MI	October	5-6	
	15-16	Ludington, MI		12-13	Alamogordo, NM
	22-23	Waverly, OH Jackson, MI	Nov	2-3	Mt. Pleasant, MI (Indoor)

+ SPORTS



COURTESY PHOTO

Former Gator tight end finds home at EMU

By HASANI ALI

Former Florida tight end Jonathan Odom is headed to the MAC West to finish his football career as a graduate student with two more seasons of eligibility remaining.

After playing in the Swamp for four years, Odom will be looking for more of a stable role on the field at Eastern Michigan, according to an announcement put out on Twitter Friday night.

"Shock the world," Odom posted on his Twitter account.

Odom overcame an injury via ACL tear suffered last December and was ready for

action by the start of the regular season. However, he went down again with another injury after just four games. He took the advantage of the presenting opportunity of redshirting before the transfer.

According to GatorsWire.com, his departure leaves Florida with four scholarship tight ends on the roster. Senior Keon Zipperer will return after missing all of 2023 with a knee injury, redshirt freshmen Arlis Boardingham and Hayden Hansen appear primed to break out even more as sophomores and Tony Livingston should get more snaps in Year 2. Four-star commit Amir Jackson is set to join the program too.

Odom is leaving a crowded position room to become a bigger fish in a smaller pond. Blake Daniels led all tight ends on the team with 149 yards and is out of eligibility. Jere Getzinger hauled in 15 receptions for 79 yards and a touchdown.

Through 25 games with Florida, Odom totaled 16 receptions for 144 yards and two touchdowns.

The son of former Gators All-American offensive tackle Jason Odom and product of Tampa (Fla.) Jesuit, Odom joined UF as a member of the 2020 recruiting class and broke into a rotational role in his final two seasons with the program.

"I will be completing my degree, graduating from the University of Florida and walking this December," Odom said in his transfer note. "As many who have followed my journey know, I have had many ups and downs but one thing I know is I gave this University and team everything I had every time I stepped on the field, and will forever be grateful for what it has done for me."

Fans were shocked of the news as to where he landed as he was speculated and rumored to replace Brock Bowers at the University of Georgia.

Bowers is set to enter the 2024 NFL draft.

He's the third Florida player to announce a transfer destination this offseason, following quarterback Max Brown (Charlotte) and wide receiver Caleb Douglas (Texas Tech).

Florida's roster possesses four scholarship tight ends entering the 2024 offseason: Senior Keon Zipperer, who medically redshirted the 2023 campaign due to a major knee injury suffered during the spring, redshirt freshmen Arlis Boardingham, Hayden Hansen and true freshman Tony Livingston.

Eastern Michigan (6-7 overall, 4-4 MAC) suffered a horrendous 59-10 loss against Southern Alabama in the 68 Ventures Bowl at Ladd-Peebles Stadium in Mobile, Ala.

Sophomore quarterback Cam'Ron McCoy led the offense, going 12-of-27 passing for 73 yards and an interception. Also rushed for 13 carries for 72 yards and a touchdown.

+ SPORTS



COURTESY PHOTO

Lions clinch first divisional title since 1993

By HASANI ALI

The last time the Detroit Lions won a divisional title, quarterback Jared Goff wasn't born yet. Bill Clinton was president of the United States and the country was first introduced to Beanie Babies.

Detroit was in the NFC Central Division at the time as the North Division was not created until 2002.

The second-longest drought in NFL history (next to the Cleveland Browns, who hasn't won a division title since 1989) has finally ended after three decades.

"It's cool, it really is cool," Goff said during an ESPN interview. "Being able to really reflect on it like we did something that [hadn't been done by] team after team after team for 30 years. This 2023 team did it and broke that streak and we will guarantee a home playoff game. But, yeah, we've got some work to do next week and the following and see where we go."

The former Rams star quarterback

threw for 257 yards and a touchdown and rookie Jahmyr Gibbs rushed for 80 yards and two touchdowns.

Though the usual suspects had a normal performance offensively, it was the interception by Ifeatu Melifonwu on the Lions' 5-yard line that stopped the Vikings final drive and potential to score and seal the victory.

It was Nick Mullens' fourth interception of the game, first career interception for Melifonwu.

"It was about time. That was my first career interception, and thank God for that," Melifonwu said. "I was in a post, and I saw Justin Jefferson in the middle, then I saw the quarterback and I jumped it. When Kerby Joseph got two earlier, it was a matter of time. My time was coming."

According to ESPN.com, Lions receiver Amon-Ra St. Brown also finished with his eighth 100-yard receiving game this season, tying for the most in the

NFL. He ended with 12 receptions for 106 yards and a touchdown. He admitted to feeling speechless after the back-and-forth battle.

"It was really important for us. I mean 30 years is a pretty long time when you think about it," St. Brown said. "I mean for us, we knew it. It was on our fingertips. It was here. This was a chance. We couldn't let it slip."

Coming into the game, Goff said the current Lions team didn't have to carry the weight of the last 30 years with the division-title drought.

However, coach Dan Campbell, also a former Lions player, made it a priority to help the guys comprehend the once in a lifetime opportunity they had in front of them with the chance to accomplish this season-long goal.

"I'm proud of everybody. This has been a long time coming," Campbell said. "Look, I'm proud of all the Lions fans out there that have been dying for this for years, man. That's for you, too. I know it's been a long time. You deserve that. And it's not over. That's just one."

After the win, Campbell welcomed team owner Sheila Ford Hamp and president Rod Wood into the locker room.

He called up offensive lineman Taylor Decker, the longest-tenured Lion, and Pro Bowl center in front of the team to be recognized after experiencing years of agony within the franchise before this moment.

"It means everything," Ford Hamp said. "It's amazing."

Spirit snaps 4-game winning streak to Greyhounds, 5-2

By HASANI ALI

The Saginaw Spirit were looking to expand their winning streak to five games, but ended falling short to Sault Ste. Marie, 5-2 last Thursday night at the Dow Event Center.

Greyhounds' Marco Mignosa and Jack Beck each scored two goals and Michael Misa notched a goal and an assist. Charlie Schenkel started for the Greyhounds in the win stopping 32 of 34 shots, while Andrew Oke and Nolan Lalonde combined for 20 saves on 25 shots.

Saginaw struck first with Michael Misa firing a hot shot glove side after collecting a pass, piercing through the goalie's glove.

The Greyhounds immediately responded 47 seconds later after a drive to the net by Brenden Sirizzotti, tying the game, 1-1. Sirizzotti earned his 15th goal of the season.

Sault Ste. Marie's Gibson flung a pass across to Jack Beck who tipped the puck toward the net but wide. Gibson retrieved the puck and backhanded a pass to Marco Mignosa.

His shot caught goaltender Andrew

Oke off guard and found an open spot in between his blocker and pad, finding the back of the net for the 2-1 lead.

Mignosa secured his 13th goal for the season.

Saginaw trailed Sault Ste. Marie 2-1 at the end of the end of the first period, though outshooting the Greyhounds, 16-9.

Sault Ste. Marie (23-8) continued their scoring ways 2:48 into the second period. The play began with Saginaw taking the puck away from the Greyhounds in the Spirit defensive zone.

According to SaginawSpirit.com, a stretch pass up the boards was picked off by Spencer Evans who turned and shot the puck off the glass. The puck rebounded out to Jack Beck, who drove to the net and snapped a shot between the legs of Andrew Oke and into the net for Beck's 12th goal of the year.

The Spirit took advantage in the closing seconds of the first penalty when Michael Misa flung a pass around the boards to Dean Loukus. While skating with the puck near the near boards, Loukus fell but was able to push the puck to Zayne Parekh

standing near the blue line.

Parekh received the pass, skating in toward the left circle, and let a shot rip short side. The shot beat the glove of Schenkel and pierced the netting for Parekh's 13th goal of the season and bringing the Spirit to within one.

A clean reception by Beck, and a quick wrist shot on the move, helped find an open hole past goaltender Nolan Lalonde for Beck's second of the game and a 4-2 Greyhounds lead.

Marco Mignosa would add an empty net goal to set a 5-2 final with shots being 8-5 for the Spirit in the final frame and 34 to 25 overall.

Saginaw is currently second in the west division, trailing behind the Soo. The Spirit has won 7 of their last 10 games.

The Greyhounds have won 9 of the last 12 games.

The Spirit (20-10-0) are back in action on Saturday, December 30th to play the Windsor Spitfires at the Dow Event Center. Puck will drop at 7:05 p.m.

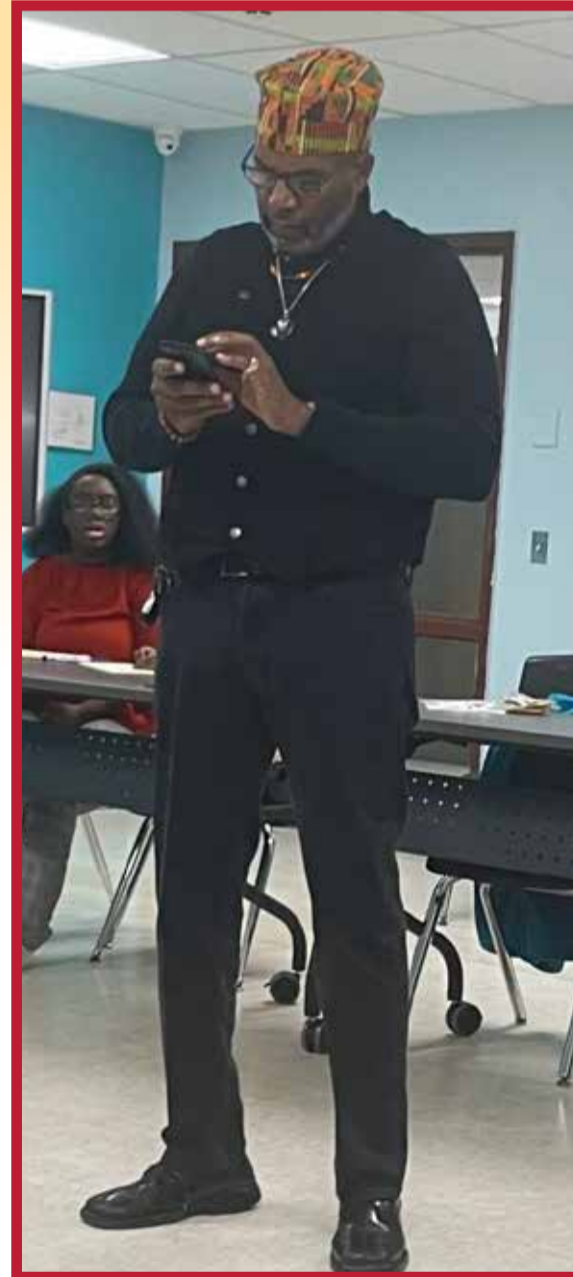


COURTESY PHOTO



PIC OF THE WEEK

Saginaw African Cultural Festival celebrates Kwanzaa!



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