



CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

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**CRT THRIVES:
BLACK HISTORY
ON THE RECORD
IN SAGINAW**

COMMUNITY, PG 11



PICTURED FROM L TO R: HENRY MARSH, BERNICE BARLOW, HARRY BROWNE, FRANCES CARTER, DAVID HALL, SHARON FLOYD

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Remembering Saginaw's Black Pioneers

As we celebrate Black History Month, The Michigan Banner would like to highlight 6 local Black Pioneers who have made significant contributions to the city of Saginaw.

HENRY MARSH

Henry G. Marsh is best known for serving as Saginaw's first black City Councilman and mayor during the civil rights era. He was only 38 years old in 1969 when he closed his career in elected politics, but he was a local leader both before and afterward, until his death in 2011 at age 89.

Mayor Marsh grew up in Knoxville, Tennessee. After Army service during World War II with combat in North Africa and Sicily, he achieved his 1950 law degree from Wayne State University and came to Saginaw to hang his shingle.

He became involved in local civil rights

and once joked, "When I came north, I immediately commenced to running my mouth."

In 1958, he was the founding organizer of the Saginaw Human Relations Commission, tackling bias in restaurants, retail stores, education and law enforcement. A top achievement as mayor during the close of the 1960s was approval of the city's fair and open housing ordinance, after a local banker had shown him a secret copy of a redlining map. He also paved the way for Saginaw's designation as a Look Magazine All-American City.

His post-council service was with more than two dozen worthy causes. The I-675 bridge is named in his honor, along with Saginaw Valley State University's Henry Marsh Institute for Public Policy.

**CONTINUES ON PG 2,
SAGINAW'S BLACK PIONEERS**



Out in the cold, coats give warmth

LATINO BANNER, COVER



Blactiquing's 'Black Hand Side' features the upside without ignoring the downside

COMMUNITY, PG 14



Delta College provided a Black History Month launch point

COMMUNITY, PG 20

FEATURED STORY

AMID SAGINAW CITY COUNCIL SQUABBLES, HERE IS THE REAL IMPACT

COMMUNITY, PG 26



Cover Story, Saginaw's Black Pioneers

BERNICE BARLOW

Bernice M. Barlow was elected president in 1968 of a struggling Saginaw N.A.A.C.P. and led the way to get the house in order, so that the local branch may celebrate its 103rd anniversary this year. She passed away in 2013 at age 95, and the N.A.A.C.P. established the Bernice Barlow Scholarship in her honor through the Saginaw Community Foundation.

The tribute was based on Barlow's 32-year career as a city elementary teacher, fulfilling her childhood goal and dream. This followed her 1945 graduation from Saginaw High School, later from Delta College, and finally with a masters degree from Michigan State University.

She was born in 1928 in rural Louisiana, and her family soon after headed north to Saginaw in pursuit of a better life. She started at Potter Elementary, which she attended as a child, followed by Jerome and Merrill Park. At the same time, her classroom peers elected her as the first African-American officer with the Saginaw Education Association teachers union, which at the time was nearly as controversial as the N.A.A.C.P.

As if those involvements were not enough, Mrs. Barlow also served on boards with oversight of Saginaw County Community Mental Health, the Saginaw Housing Commission and the League of Women Voters.

She proudly was a member of Eta Upsilon Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., including a tenure as Basileus.

HARRY BROWNE

Harry W. Browne is known among most younger Saginawians through Evans & Browne Funeral Home, located across I-675 from The Dow Event Center.

Older residents recall him as an original African-American social and political leader. He was 82 when he passed away in 1990, the day after Labor Day, which was symbolic because he was the first black president of both United Auto Workers Local 668 and the Saginaw Labor Council.

Harry Browne was a 1926 Saginaw High School graduate, rare at the time among all races, who became an autoworker only because the bigotry of the era halted him from a career in engineering. The racial roadblocks hit home when a Michigan State

University professor sneered at him and asked, in front of all the white students: "Hey Browne, what are you going to do -- open a shoeshine stand and operate it electrically?"

Therefore, he became a college-educated laborer in the First Ward's Grey Iron Plant, now Powertrain, and a groundbreaking union leader.

He was a pioneer on the Saginaw County Board of Supervisors, which led to the naming of Harry Browne Airport in his honor.

His founding of Browne's Mortuary was one of his many avenues to assist neighbors in need.

FRANCES CARTER

Frances Moton Carter made history in 1973 when she was appointed principal of Potter Elementary School, the first African-American to fill that role for Saginaw Public Schools, which was noted upon her death late in 2020 at age 92. Her future assignment to the West Side's Stone Elementary, all-white at the time, was equally groundbreaking. She later taught remedial reading at both Saginaw High School and at Arthur Hill High.

Her schooling started at Potter Elementary, at Central Junior High and at Saginaw High, graduating in 1946. From there she attained her teaching certificate from Central Michigan University and a masters degree from University of Michigan, also studying at Michigan State and the University of California.

These qualifications would have qualified her to become a district superintendent during today's times, but back then she was relegated to classroom teaching for her first two decades in Saginaw.

Still, she always remained modest and gave credit to her fellow and sister educators for their advice when she finally became a building principal.

Mrs. Carter's organization skills led to an array of leadership roles at Bethel A.M.E. Church and Bethel Federal Credit Union, eventually being honored as an African Methodist Episcopal deaconess,

DAVID HALL

David M. Hall enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1951, only three years after the military was integrated, and overcame barriers to advance to brigadier gen-

eral. He retired to Saginaw in 1992. His background propelled him into community leadership, mainly through Saginaw Valley State University, until he passed away two years ago at a spry age of 91, fittingly on the first day of spring 2020.

Hall grew up in Gary, Indiana, and graduated from Howard University, a notable historically black college, prior to his Air Force entry. Hall's career took his family to nations spanning the globe. Combined with retirement travel, he visited 41 countries.

When he settled in Saginaw, he taught management and business classes both at SVSU and at Northwood University, and he later was a founding board member for First State Bank.

He also was involved with the Saginaw NAACP, Saginaw Community Foundation, Boy Scouts of America, and the Castle Museum of Saginaw County,

David Hall was author of "The ABC's of Leadership" and co-wrote "Dare to be Different." He was buried with military honors in Arlington National Cemetery.

SHARON FLOYD

Sharon Wilson Floyd was one of Saginaw's most popular educators during her career from 1971 to 2000, as a language arts teacher at her alma mater, Saginaw High School. She added seven more years as the Saginaw School District's English and language arts coordinator, and she also became a Delta College adjunct faculty member, leading up to her passing last October at age 74.

She was the daughter of Pastor James "J.P." Wilson and his wife, Marthella, from Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church in the heart of Saginaw's First Ward, the city's first African-American neighborhood. She noted the historical significance of learning to read in church, citing racism that prevented her ancestors from attending school anywhere else. Her dream to become a teacher began when she was 6 years old.

Mrs. Floyd's college studies took her to Wilburforce University near Dayton, Ohio, founded in 1856 at the nation's first black college. She had been born in nearby Columbus before her family moved to Saginaw when she was a toddler.

Her longtime advice to parents was: "Read together. Read with your children. Read slowly and enunciate the words. That's how we bring forth the expression."

MICHIGAN BANNER

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

CEO/COO

Jerome Buckley
publisher022@gmail.com

PUBLISHER

Jerome Buckley

EDITOR EMERITUS

Rae Lynn Buckley

THE LATINO BANNER

PUBLISHER

Jerome Buckley
thelatinobanner@gmail.com

OMBUDSMAN

Elaine Gregory McKenzie

MARKETING MANAGER

Cynthia West-Edwards
publisher020@gmail.com

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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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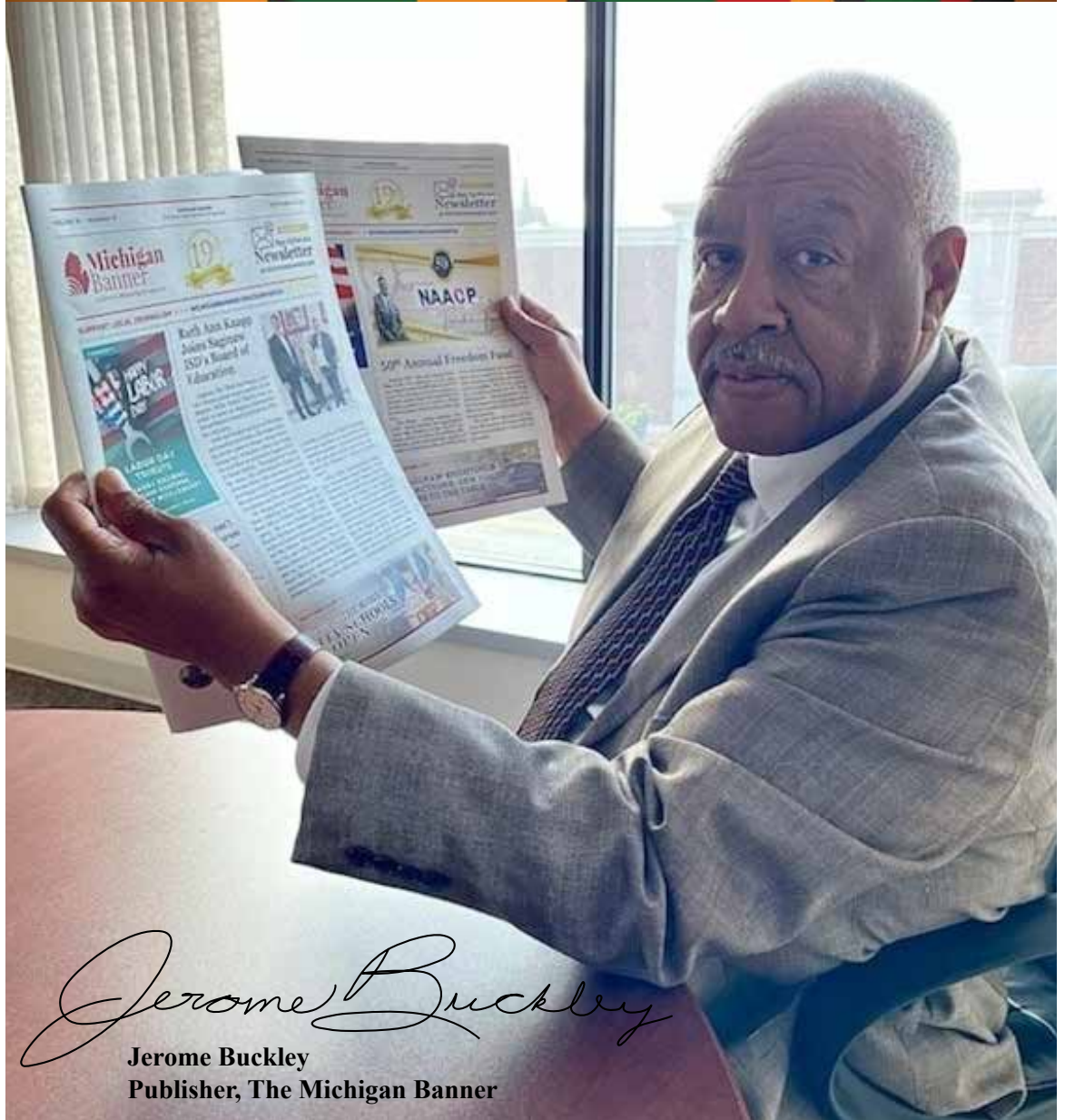
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Jerome Buckley

Jerome Buckley
Publisher, The Michigan Banner

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Latino Banner

LIDER EN LA
DIVERSIDAD

VAMOS ADELANTE



SVSU brings sculpture to MAC student artists

LB PG 4



COURTESY PHOTO

Out in the cold, coats give warmth

By MIKE THOMPSON

When they scheduled a children's coat giveaway for Jan. 29, managers of Saginaw's New Beginnings Ministries Outreach and the East Side Soup Kitchen didn't realize that the zero-degree morning would be one winter's most frigid days.

But that was the point, as families in need braved the bitter cold to select from more than 600 children's coats at the Hunger Solutions Center on East Genesee Avenue.

Organizer Claudia Delgado expressed the heartache of seeing South Side children sometimes walking without winter wear, heading for Jesse Rouse Elementary School. She joins her husband, Rev. Augustine Delgado, as co-pastors of New Beginnings at 710 Hess. Their South Side church was so overwhelmed last year that they enlisted this time with the soup kitch-

CONTINUES ON LB PG 2,
COAT GIVEAWAY

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



Continued from LB Cover, coat giveaway

en's larger, more centrally located drive-through area.

Two winters ago, Claudia was gathering donations from partner congregations and an array of local donors. She fiddled with some various Google searches for worthy causes, and Pittsburgh-based Operation Warm popped up with the big truckload.

"Jackpot!" was her first reaction of surprise and joy. The next step was to gather mittens, headwear, boots and socks to go with as many coats as possible. Donated stuffed animals and colorful storybooks helped to brighten the youngsters' smiles,

with many of the children running first toward the prizes before they headed toward the winter jackets, down-filled in nylon pastel colors.

"This is the best day ever," a little girl gushed.

The Delgados joined Diane Keenan, Soup Kitchen director, in offering thanks to the donors, all of whom have helped to build the growth of the annual event, thereby maintaining a strong link with Operation Warm for the future.

New Beginnings continues to develop a full calendar with everything from Easter

egg hunts to Halloween trunks-or-treats to back-to-school distributions of backpacks, which are of special significance to Claudia because she recalls going through childhood hardship in Killeen, Texas, where she grew up sharing a single backpack with a younger brother.

"Whatever it takes," she says, "by working together, we can make it happen."

For information, find New Beginnings at nbmo.org, visit their Facebook page or call (989) 327-0331.



COURTESY PHOTOS



Caralina Getger



Chris Jaime



Elizabeth Perez



Emilia Gutierrez



Autumn Reyes

Great Lakes Bay Hispanic Leadership Institute Class of 2020 - 2021



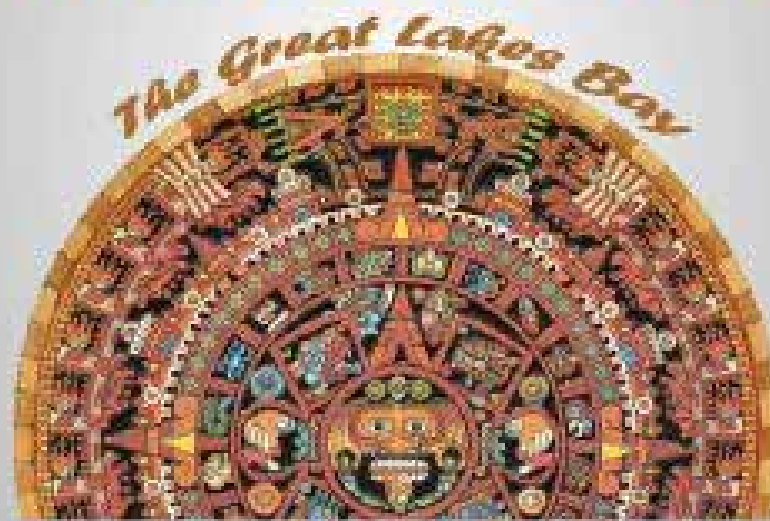
Elizabeth Reyes



Boris Porras-Rios



Alicia Shantz



Cecilia Maria Rutz



Dallas McGregor



Naomi Orozco Heredia



Kristin Brooks



Lisa Metropoulos



Shalana Bradley

SVSU brings sculpture to MAC students artist

By MIKE THOMPSON

Albert Jimenez is known among Saginaw artisans as someone who always is ready and willing to get involved with local group endeavors, and now he is working to make sure his Hispanic and Mexican-American community members are included.

A dozen students gathered after school on Jan. 24, with full pandemic precautions, for the inaugural monthly workshop in spacious surroundings at the Mexican American Council's MAC Center, 1537 South Washington across from Hoyt Park.

"The kids really liked it," Jimenez said. "Everyone was enthusiastic."

He explained that representatives of the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum at Saginaw Valley State University approached MAC with a desire to take action for Latino inclusion, a concern that matches his own. Fredericks, who died at age 90 in 1998, spent much of his career at Cranbrook Academy in Bloomfield Hills, near Detroit.

The first youth activity was, you guessed it, sculpting.

The next free-of-charge session is from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Monday, Feb. 19, for students 16 and younger. For information, visit the Mexican American Council's online page or call (989) 753-0500.



COURTESY PHOTOS

American Latino Veterans Association officially launched

HERNDON, Va. – The American Latino Veterans Association (ALVA) officially announces its launch as a national non-profit 501c3 charitable organization approved at the federal level by the IRS and at the state level by the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

ALVA focuses on four key pillars of activities. These include workforce development/job placement, entrepreneurship/business development, information on benefits/resources, and telling the stories of Latino contributions to our nation's military from 1776 to today through videos, podcasts, blogs and more. In addition, as appropriate, ALVA will support policies that benefit veterans and the Latino community and will organize events as needed. ALVA's mission statement is "To help Latino veterans thrive and recognize their indispensable contributions", which encapsulates the organization's zeal and purpose. ALVA launches with a powerful board of directors, advisory council, and partners, and will continue to develop its content/programs in the coming months.

"For far too long, the contributions of the Hispanic and Latino community to our



armed forces and our defense have been under-recognized and under-valued. Also, Latino veterans have had little targeted support to ensure they reach their maximum potential after their military service. That changes now with the launch of the American Latino Veterans Association," said ALVA Founder/Chairman/CEO, Danny Vargas. He added, "It has been my honor to serve my country and my community in a variety of ways over the years, and now is the time to ensure my fellow Latino veterans receive the support and acknowledgement they deserve and have earned."

ALVA membership falls into the following four categories: Veterans (and

transitioning active duty) and their spouses (free), Supporters, Sponsor-Partners, and Community Partners. Charitable donations can be made via ALVA's website and sponsorships/partnerships can be arranged with ALVA's CEO.

About American Latino Veterans Association (ALVA):

The American Latino Veterans Association (ALVA) is a registered 501c3 that exists to help American Latino veterans thrive after their military service, access the benefits they have earned, and enhance recognition of Latino contributions to our nation's defense since before its inception.

For more information on ALVA visit <https://www.alvavets.org> or follow us on our social media channels <https://www.facebook.com/alvavets> <https://www.linkedin.com/company/alvavets/> <https://twitter.com/alvavets> <https://www.instagram.com/alvavets/> ALVA YouTube Channel

Hispanic Marketing Council (HMC) honors Kellogg's with 2022 HMC Marketer of the Year Award

FAIRFAX, Va. – The Hispanic Marketing Council (HMC) announced that Kellogg's is the winner of the 2022 HMC Marketer of the Year Award. Kellogg's joins a prestigious short list of elite brands that have received the award, including AARP, Ford, McDonald's, Nestlé, Sprint, State Farm, Toyota and Walmart. Chief Marketing & E-Commerce Officer for Kellogg's North America Julie Bowerman will accept the award and discuss Kellogg's long-standing history of prioritizing the Hispanic market as a core marketing & communications strategy at HMC's 2022 Annual Summit. The session will take place on Wednesday, April 6 in New York City.

"Kellogg's has demonstrated multifaceted Hispanic marketing excellence," said HMC Chair Gonzalo Del Fa, president of GroupM Multicultural. "Not only have they increased their Hispanic budgets, but they also value their culture marketing

specialists and have reaped the rewards of leading with Hispanic cultural insights. They also understand that diversity, equity & inclusion (DEI) is not a replacement for responsible and intentional investment in Hispanic marketing. As they continue to strengthen their commitment to the Hispanic market, we are eager to see what's next."

To be considered for this prestigious award, companies had to demonstrate a top-down commitment to multicultural marketing and allocate spending commensurate with the Hispanic opportunity. In 2013, Kellogg's Hispanic program consisted of a digital multi-brand promotion. Today, Kellogg's has dramatically grown its Hispanic marketing efforts including a multibrand U.S. Hispanic Scale promotion (Gustos para todo Gustos), and Hispanic specific campaigns for CHEEZ-IT, Eggo, Pringles, Pop-Tarts, Frosted Flakes, among others. Through direct brand and

promotional support on a national level, Kellogg's supports these brands with a robust Hispanic advertising plan including broadcast television, radio, outdoor and digital, organic and paid social media, influencer marketing, community social purpose programs, scale tentpole promotions, shopper marketing, public relations and custom package designs. In fact, from 2018 to 2021 alone, Kellogg's increased its Hispanic media budget 40 percent.

"Kellogg's has been increasingly active in the U.S. Hispanic market since 2013, and our commitment has grown year over year with brand strategies led by Hispanic insights. We are proud our work has been recognized by the HMC and this further empowers us to continue our initiatives to support and elevate the Latino community, both within and outside our company," said Bowerman.

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BLACK HISTORY MONTH



WILLIE MCKETHER

CRT thrives: Black history on the record in Saginaw

By MIKE THOMPSON

Willie McKether has departed Saginaw for a major career in higher education, but he remains an unsung hero in his birth town.

His 500-page-plus doctoral dissertation is "Voices in Transition: African American Migration to Saginaw, Michigan 1920-1960." The intensive research project owns a home in the Hoyt Library upstairs history and genealogy room, along with audio tapes of interviews with 93 civic elders. The materials are paired with Roosevelt Ruffin's earlier "Black Presence in Saginaw, Michigan: 1855-1900."

Dr. Ruffin passed away in 1992, while Dr. McKether's career has uplifted him to

last year's appointment as a chancellor at Philadelphia's Thomas Jefferson University, following his tenure as the University of Toledo's vice-president for diversity and inclusion.

National debates over CRT, Critical Race Theory? Local black history won't be censored in Saginaw, thanks in large part to the efforts of these two Saginaw High School alumni.

Roosevelt Ruffin, a Michigan State University product, remains well-known as principal of the former North Middle School, as a singer and actor, and as a local advocate for health care and other worthy causes. Willie McKether, meanwhile, served as director of the USDA's Summer Food Service Program during the 1990s,

using those modest earnings to help pay his tuition for advanced diplomas at Saginaw Valley State University and then at Wayne State, where his five years of Saginaw research helped him achieve his PhD.

Saginaw's black population, as Ruffin reported, hovered no higher than mere hundreds from the middle 19th Century (think Goodridge Brothers photography) until 1926, when the ever-growing GM auto plants began mass-recruiting slavery ancestors from below the Mason-Dixon line. Blacks until then had been scattered across the city, with few barriers to choices of home locations.

The new pre-Depression arrivals, in teeming groups at the Potter Street Railroad Depot, aroused latent fears and biases among much of the white populus. That's where McKether picks up on the sometimes sordid history, with a black population that soared beyond 16,500 by 1960, the year prior to Henry Marsh's election as Saginaw's first black City Council member and future mayor. The 16,000 added African Americans were among 1.6 million nationwide who took part in what became known as the historical Great Migration.

McKether unveiled his print-video documentary in 2006 with an eye-opening explanation.

"People may believe that African Americans had better experiences after they departed the South," he said, "but I didn't realize the depth of racism that existed here -- people not able to eat at downtown restaurants, for example, and the limited economic opportunities outside of General Motors."

Stories flow, no holds barred

Many of the stories that McKether compiled will come as no surprise to Saginaw's black old-timers and their descendants. He begins with a petition that circulated among white residents during the 1926 watershed.

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SAGINAW BLACK HISTORY**

+ COMMUNITY

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ROOSEVELT RUFFIN

The circular, aimed at the City Council, in part stated: "We, the undersigned citizens and taxpayers of Saginaw, do hereby petition your honorable body for a hearing in protest against certain objectionable acts committed by some of the Negroes and Mexican people who have recently come into our city (and) whose acts are menacing the welfare of our community."

Signees also expressed fears regarding the safety of women and children, along with concerns about declines in property valuations.

McKether's assembled quotes, from Saginawians who mostly have passed away since then, address the gamuts of race relations, employment, housing, education and social life

- Florence Goines, student: "I really didn't know I was different than anyone else. It wasn't until third or fourth grade that a blonde little girl called me (a racial slur). I had not heard the word before, but it was just the way she said it that made me feel there was something wrong with being black."
- Martha Hardy, pioneering real estate agent: "We always knew there was a certain line, like across Potter Street, where the white people lived. It wasn't until after World War II that we could move and buy houses across the rail yard tracks, on streets like Astor and Carlisle and Carroll."

- Charles Bowman, WWII Tuskegee Airmen combat veteran: "When Duke Ellington and his band came to Saginaw, they couldn't stay at the Bancroft Hotel. They couldn't even go down to the restaurant, and so they stayed in black folks' homes."
- Jessie Daily, WWII veteran and volunteer with First Ward Center and the African Cultural Festival: "I came back to Saginaw with three battle stars, on a segregated train car with farm animals, and back at home we decided that we were going to go to every white (tavern) establishment to Saginaw. And we would sit there until they called the police to have us arrested, and go to jail as our way of trying to break these barriers."
- Willie Thompson, longtime Delta College educator and Saginaw school board member: "Primarily my father (Ernest Thompson Sr.) loaded iron, poured iron. The black workers had the dirtiest, noisiest jobs in the whole Grey Iron Foundry. I saw my dad doing those jobs and I felt tears, because that wasn't the way a human being was supposed to have to live."
- Pastor Roosevelt Austin, Zion Missionary Baptist Church: "Religion has been the salvation for black folks, not just in terms of spiritually saving our souls. We have learned to be tolerant and to accept the things we cannot change, but to become very involved in changing those things that we can."

Saginaw's legendary clergyman risked his then-young life organizing Louisiana voter registrations in 1951, four years prior to the Montgomery bus boycott, and he later joined Mayor Marsh on a newly integrated City Council. He added a pledge that still remains in place: "We're going to go down fighting and make things better for all people. Religion tells us that we all are people of God."

More history to assemble

So who, if anyone, will assemble Saginaw's black history from 1960 forward? "By looking back at historical times and events, maybe we can find some clues

to deal with today's issues," McKether said back in 2006, two years prior to Barack Obama's landmark election as U.S. president.

"Hopefully," he added, "My work will inspire young people to do these kinds of interviews with their grandparents, their parents, their other relatives, so that we may continue to build this sort of a collective history. We need to begin asking questions. We need to start writing more of this stuff down."

For example, 14-year-old publisher and journalist Julian Morris is taking the lead. He plans an upcoming research report in his S.W.A.G. teen magazine to explore the life of his great-grandfather. Rev. James Leroy Dorsey (1934 to 2005), was pastor of Greater Freewill Baptist Church, originally known at Fourth and Norman as "the church in the ground" for its low roof, prior to a 1970s move to Buena Vista's Irving Park Place. Julian will interview Pastor Dorsey's younger brother, Pastor Roy Manning of Corinthian Baptist Church at 10th and Lapeer.

Anyone who wishes to review the histories compiled by Drs. Ruffin and McKether may make arrangements by calling Hoyt Library, (989) 755-9827.

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African-American artifacts speak loudly

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+ COMMUNITY

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

LOCAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

By **MIKE THOMPSON**

SVSU will be hosting a number of Black History Month events where attendance will be limited to students, faculty and staff, in the interest of health and safety protocols. There will be one large event open to the public on Thursday, February 3 featuring two offerings.

Black History 101 Mobile Museum will be presented in Curtiss Hall's Groening Commons from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Join Dr. Khalid el-Hakim, Museum founder, for a lecture at 12 pm about this collection's artifacts of Black memorabilia dating from the trans-Atlantic slave trade era to hip-hop culture. (flyer attached)

In addition, the "Harold Neal and Detroit African American Artists: 1945 through the Black Arts Movement" exhibit at SVSU's Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum will be open Thursday 10 a.m. -5 p.m. Free refreshments and a drop-in art activity will be available. The exhibition explores the development of Detroit African American art in the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s, as artists responded to the Civil Rights, Black Power, and Black Arts Movements. The exhibit will be on view at the Museum from February 1 through April 16, 2022.

Black History Month Calendar

Because of the pandemic, many February events are restricted to selected audiences. The following are open to the general public, free of charge unless designated,

Tuesday, Feb 1

5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Black History Month opening celebration, introduction of exhibits for artifacts, for African masks and for the Saginaw N.A.A.C.P., all continue though the month, Saginaw Arts Museum, 1126 North Michigan. Info, (989) 754-2491.

Wednesday, Feb. 2

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. -- "Celebrating Saginaw's Cultures: Building Unity Through Diversity," prize-winning works by Saginaw city arts students, Andersen Enrichment Center, 120 Ezra Rust Avenue. Continues through end of month. Info, (989) 759-1382.

Thursday, Feb. 3

10 a.m. to 3 p.m., "Black History Mobile Museum," with founder Khalid el-Hakim for a noon lecture, SVSU Curtiss Hall. Info, (989) 964-4123.

10 a.m. to 5 p.m., "Harold Neal and Detroit African American Artists: 1945 through the 1970s," exhibit exploring the civil rights movement, SVSU Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum. Continues through April 16. Info, (989) 964-7115,

Saturday, Feb. 12

1 p.m. to 3 p.m., "The Black Hand Side," artifacts that are mainly positive but some derogatory, with Kevin Jones and Blak-tiquing artists, Saginaw Art Museum, 1126 North Michigan. Info, (989) 754-2491.

Monday, Feb. 21

6 p.m., "Race: The Power of an Illusion, The House You Live In," discussion of mortgage redlining, co-sponsored by the Delta College Black Faculty and Staff Association, the Saginaw NAACP Branch and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. Online. Contact Brandell Adams, brandelladams@delta.edu, (989) 686-9396.

Monday, Feb 28

11 a.m. to 2 p.m. "Food for the Soul," sample tasting, \$12, Buena Vista Community Center, 1940 South Outer Drive. Info, (989) 752-1675.

+ COMMUNITY

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



COURTESY PHOTO

Blactiquing's 'Black Hand Side' features the upside without ignoring the downside

By MIKE THOMPSON

With African American artifacts there are highlights and low points, the same as in overall Black history, as Kevin Jones leads a half-dozen Saginaw artists prepare for the opening of "The Black Hand Side" exhibit at the Saginaw Art Museum.

Paintings, portraits and other art pieces generally are positive. Church-going families, for example, are illustrated in their Sunday-best dress clothes and finery. Children in one-room schoolhouses are attentive and enthusiastic. These are artistic renderings of notable contributors to the U.S. black experience

Then come the negative depictions. Posters and product labels with outright slurs. Exaggerated physical depictions. Always the lips, it seems. What was up with that?

"We try to tell the whole story," Jones says. "At the same time, we keep the ostentatious items along the two external walls. But when you go inside the display, it will be almost impossible to find anything that is offensive. People will be overwhelmed with joy. We have named the inner room as 'Big Momma's House. It's a celebration of black creativity and Afro-futurism, where the past, present, and future are rei-

magined in the same space and time."

Indeed, it was Kevin's grandmother, Lula Bell Hardy, "who sparked my interest in collecting older items." She passed away two years ago at age 98, fittingly during Black History Month.

An exhibition open house is set for 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 1, at the museum, 1026 North Michigan, with a followup artistic talk by Jones and other contributors at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 12. Both events are free and open to the public. The showcase will remain through April 8. A Saginaw N.A.A.C.P. historical exhibit also is on display.

Too much for one day?

Some of the 400 items came from family members and friends, as they became aware of Kevin's passion for collecting. Others were acquired from his relentless visits to antique shops, even flea markets, near and far. He has more than 5,000 items in his entire collection.

Four hundred items? Jones estimates he has made at least 20 trips to the museum since New Year's to unload, and that's not counting the visits by his project partners. And it's not so simple. These for sure are "handle with care" items.

Patrons need not be concerned with stopping to observe 400 separate exhib-

its. Many artifacts are smaller, such as salt shakers, and meant to be observed as a collection.

Still, he says, the collection is so wide-ranging that enthusiasts may wish to plan multiple visits during the nine-week exhibit span. His come-back-again outlook reflects his ultimate goal of establishing a permanent 12-month community centerpiece.

Aim to discover

Jones is willing to explain matters off the cuff, but he prefers to capture the importance in a prepared statement.

"The Black Hand Side is an interactive art installation that peeks through the prism of race to explore American history and experiences from American descendants of slavery" he writes.

"The reclaimed treasures acquired from antique shops range from the most celebratory dedications of Black people to the most vile and grotesque. To simply observe these historic testaments as whimsical or intriguing art, the viewer turns a blind eye to real and enduring atrocities. Yet, in choosing to look at its Black hand side, lessons of resiliency, triumph, joy, and determination—in spite of challenges and injustices—become clear. It's why poet Maya Angelou wrote, 'And Still I Rise' (1978).

"The Black Hand Side is an ode to Malik el-Shabazz's pilgrimage to Mecca, as depicted in Spike Lee's 1992 film, 'Malcolm X.' It's centered around a Kaaba-inspired, cubed-shaped structure that pays homage to Big Momma's House, a space where tired souls return for healing, community, remembrance, and reverence.

"The black-magic colored walls adorn imagery that depicts experiences with racism, but also Black tenacity and endurance. The inside is curated with an Afro-futuristic flair that showcases Black culture, as imagined at Big Momma's house."

Kevin's partners for The Black Hand Side exhibit are Nyesha Clark-Young, DeV Vaughn Collins, Trel Frazier, Corrin Grooms, Antaios Hayes, Patrick Hayes, and other Michigan-based artists, creators, and collectors.

To register for the exhibition open house or to obtain more information, visit the Saginaw Art Museum online.



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High School Seniors (and previous high school graduates who have used only one year of their Saginaw Promise scholarship) are asked to **complete the Saginaw Community Foundation (SCF) scholarship Application** (be sure to check off the Saginaw Promise Scholarship) and **FAFSA**, which enables students to be reviewed for additional scholarships and federal funding.

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+ COMMUNITY



DOLORESE GRANT-FALL

'The Nabe's' Miss Dolores is back in the kitchen

By MIKE THOMPSON

When Neighborhood House still was open, the most frequent question among young and old was, "What is Miss Dolores cooking today?"

The community center's head cook, Dolores Grant-Fall, became beloved at the South Side community center. This was not only for her ability to transform donated and surplus food items into a form of soup kitchen fine dining, but also for her welcoming charm and for the sweet Guyanese accent of her South American coastal homeland.

She had immigrate with her family to New York City for a better life, but as she became a mother with a busy household in Harlem, she desired a slower small-town surrounding similar to her own childhood near the Caribbean shoreline. A family relative and local arts activist, Lynn Presley,

introduced her to Saginaw. And among The Nabe's patrons, Dolores's move to Saginaw soon led to full tummies.

Neighborhood House was closed 14 months ago amid budget shortfalls at Lutheran Social Services, renamed "Samaritas." Supporters have teamed up in a rescue campaign that remains ongoing.

At the same time, Dolores has been engaged in her own personal recovery effort, a so-far successful fight against cancer. Her vibrant self and sense of humor are back. (Witness her "masking" on her Facebook page during these past few weeks.) Now she aims to one day return to work, hopefully in the same Nabe cafeteria kitchen that she always embraced as her second home.

A Michigan Banner suggestion is beginning to simmer. If Dolores Grant-Fall can saute surplus foods into succulent specialties, or chop day-old Kentucky Fried

Chicken leftovers with veggies for a fantastic rice medley, what could she do with some of the finer items that we sometimes bring to our own kitchens?

Her first tip is, never try to reheat whole pieces of KFC. Yuck.

And her first recipe follows. Move over, Mister Food on TV's noon news. Mizz Food, the Queen of Cuisine, has arrived.

Cooking the Best Oxtails

- Two pounds of oxtail
- One tsp black pepper
- One tsp salt
- One bell pepper
- One onion
- One pack of onion soup mix
- Six garlic cloves
- Fresh thyme
- Two bay leaves
- Smokey paprika
- One bottle of dry white wine, or two bottles of Heineken beer
- One beef bouillon cube
- One tsp of red pepper flakes

Wash and season oxtail pieces with pepper and salt. Smoke for about an hour on your grill. If you don't wish to endure the winter outdoor cold, you may use one of the indoor grills seen on TV, but it might not be the same as being from your back yard.

When the grilling is completed, transfer the meat to a skillet with the chopped onion, bell pepper, garlic and all other ingredients. Don't forget the white wine or the beer. Cook on the stove for 20 minutes, then roast in the oven for another hour, or until tender. The onion soup mix should be able to thicken up on the meat.

Enjoy with rice, mashed potatoes or grits, and the veggie of your choice.

Calories? Who cares. With the price of oxtails skyrocketing so high, we are serving a guilt-free feast.

+ COMMUNITY

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline adapts 3-digit dialing code

988 has been designated as the new three-digit dialing code that will route callers to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. While some areas may be currently able to connect to the Lifeline by dialing 988, this dialing code will be available to everyone across the United States starting on July 16, 2022.

When people call, text, or chat 988, they will be connected to trained counselors that are part of the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline network. These trained counselors will listen, understand how their problems are affecting them, provide support, and connect them to resources if necessary.

The current Lifeline phone number (1-800-273-8255) will always remain available to people in emotional distress or suicidal crisis, even after 988 is launched nationally.

The Lifeline's network of over 180 crisis centers has been in operation since 2005, and has been proven to be effective. It's the counselors at these local crisis centers who answer the contacts the Lifeline receives every day. Numerous studies have shown that callers feel less suicidal, less depressed, less overwhelmed and more hopeful after speaking with a Lifeline counselor.

For ways to support your local Lifeline network crisis center, visit our Crisis Centers page at www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/our-crisis-centers.

988 is not yet active across all communications access points in the United States. If you or someone you know is in crisis now, please call 1-800-273-TALK (8255) to be connected to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline or visit Vibrant Emotional Health's Safe Space for digital resources.



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DROPPING
GEMSWITH
LAMONIQUE MAC

LAMONIQUE MAC

Saginaw author and editor publishes from the heart

By **MIKE THOMPSON**

Anyone who grew up with LaMonique Green in Saginaw during the 1970s and '80s might be astonished to learn the status she has achieved.

She has become a successful author, a writing and publishing mentor for others, and now editor of her own publication, GEMS Magazine, which stands for Godly Entrepreneurs and Marketers.

She even owns her own pen name, LaMonique Mac, and she keeps up her Saginaw connections after a 2016 move to Tuscaloosa, home of the University of Ala-

bama. Her first 32-page volume of GEMS now is online, bringing more details and permanence to her podcasts of the same name, reflecting the religious beliefs that she regained and embraced as a young adult.

She describes herself as a troubled troublemaker during her childhood and teen years, even using the slang "bad" in its original meaning to describe her behavior and her own self. These youthful indiscretions included skipping classes, of course.

So how did she ever become a pro at writing, professional and prolific?

"Ever since I was a child, I've always

hidden my true personality inside of my writing," LaMonique says. This included times when she felt unhappy and confused, using an ink pen and a spiral notebook put it all down on paper, prior to the era of ever-present phones and PC's.

"People would be amazed at the things I wrote because my potential didn't line up with my otherwise poor choices," she says. "I loved surprising others with my talent and intellect through my writing. The

**CONTINUES ON PG 19,
LAMONIQUE**

Continued from pg 18, LaMonique

shocked looks on their faces and their reactions were priceless. Even though I was bad, there was something kind of innocent about me."

She summarizes, "Now that I am an adult, I write because I know it is my God-given talent. I have a passion inside of me that spurs me on to share what God has placed in my heart."

Challenges along the way

Saginaw's future author grew up as a mixed-race child during the 1980s, when this was a more rare attribute than nowadays. She possessed ADHD, attention deficit hyperactive disorder. Furthermore, her mother, while loving and supportive later in life, was a product of the drug culture, and LaMonique was born with residue in her fetal system, a forerunner of the so-called "crack babies."

She would curl up and write about all of these aspects, not as everyday diary items, but when she felt a need to spill her emotions. An example was when a white classmate at the West Side's Kempton Elementary School, which was mostly segregated back then, repeatedly slurred her as a "half breed." This later was a factor in creation of her signature "Mixed Girl Series" trilogy of novels, autobiographical to the extent that her lead character is "Lamonica," calling upon her spiritual faith to overcome obstacles.

Few modern-era aspirants will land Random House contracts unless they already are celebrities, and so she taught herself to self-publish online. In the process, she felt inspired not to look upon sister and fellow authors as rivals, but to assist them in jumping through the same find-an-audience hoops that she has faced. The embodiment of this outlook is found in her new magazine, in which she refers to chunks of positive advice as, "Dropping GEMS."

As she markets her works and recruits clients for mentoring, she describes herself in an array of ways:

- "LaMonique Mac is an inspirational writer and entrepreneur, dispersing beams and sometimes flares of light to the counted-out and passed-over people of the world."



LAMONIQUE MAC AND HUSBAND, TERRY COOPER

- "Through Holy Spirit-inspired words written in everyday language, her message is simply this: You haven't reached your last station in life."
- "In its simplest form, 'Writing to Market' means to write what is wanted by the customer or the reader."
- "I help you get your book out of your heart & mind, into a saleable format."

Dropping out, dropping in

As a child, LaMonique attended Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church, one block from the North Fifth Street home of Gertha Green, a babysitter who emerged as her loving caretaker. Later, prior to her move to Tuscaloosa, she was a congregant at New Covenant Christian Center.

Her high school years ended when she became a teen mother to the first of her four children, and she eventually attained a G.E.D. in 1996, but she remained a self-described "party girl" who would dress in youth gang apparel and lived for a spell at the Saginaw City Rescue Mission. She says her true transformation took place with a visit from a door-to-door evangelist from First Baptist Church, which was best known at the time for sending a bus into the First Ward to transport younger chil-

dren to the campus facility in Bridgeport.

She recalls, "Here we were, my girlfriend and myself, black girls in blue-jean overalls, hair covered in doo-rags, and we were accepted into their church. I was changed from that day moving forward."

Soon after, she encountered her husband-to-be, Terry Cooper, who was visiting family in Saginaw from his home in rural Alabama. His farm-reared upbringing, personality and outlook was ideal to keep her grounded. After two decades in Saginaw he was ready to return home, with auto assembly plant jobs newly available in Tuscaloosa. She has been more than happy to join him, first out of devotion, and for friendships among writers and artisans in a college-town setting.

They honored their 25th wedding anniversary last fall, and she wrote, in part:

"Today, I'm reminded of just how amazing my support system is. I'm so appreciative of the encouragement my husband gives me. Not only that, but he's worked with me to allow me to have a writing career and a publishing business full time without working a regular 9-to-5. God is ordering my steps and Mr. Tee is holding my hand on the path. Plus he's the cover designer for many of my clients' books, y'all.

"Who is your support? Who's in your corner? Shout them out."

Today, countless clients are shouting out LaMonique Mac's name.

+ COMMUNITY

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Delta College provided a Black History Month launch point

By MIKE THOMPSON

Saginaw's history of Black History Month begins at Delta College.

Willie Thompson was the driving force in 1971, shortly after he joined a leadership team at the still-new school that already featured John Pugh and Lou Oates, among other notables.

The annual reckoning, launched by journalist Carter Woodson, remained one week at the time. Delta organizers recruited topical speakers who included Dick Gregory, a mentor for our new adoptee, Joe Madison. Featured entertainers ranged from Ramsey Lewis and his jazz trio to Saginaw's own Larry Reynolds with The Dramatics.

A full-page promo featured a sketch of an African American man, headlined, "Is he part of the American Dream? We think so."

Thompson looked back two decades later, in 1991, while he strived for a balance between past, present and future

"Actually," he said, "with the state of mind the young males are in today, we need black history emphasized more than ever. We are losing them to the streets."

This was 31 years ago.

Professor Thompson added, "In fact, it doesn't all have to deal with history. We also have to face up to all the current problems in the community."

Aim to gain inclusion

One factor that has remained the same, 1971 or 2022, is critics asking, "Well, then, all things being equal, why don't we have a White History Month?"

The first answer remains that white history already is addressed 12 months per year, so he took note of events such as the Bavarian Festival, the Greek Festival, Cinco de Mayo and St. Patrick's Day. He simply speculated, what's the difference?

A step farther, Thompson explained that his own latest leisure book was a history of Frankenmuth being formed.

Patricia Caldwell, longtime director of



WILLIE THOMPSON

Delta's Ricker Center, entered the conversation.

"We hear so much negative said about African-Americans," she asserted, "but we are a very positive group of people, and our contributions to this society are far greater than most people realize."

Events soon expanded to a full month, which led to a sort of conspiracy theory, mostly in jest but with that ever-present edge. Had February had been chosen because it's the shortest month, even during leap years? Most who took this tack were winking eyes, fully aware, of course, that Woodson's framework had started with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln (Feb. 12, 1809) and Frederick Douglass (est. Feb. 14, 1817 or '18).

A chance to speak out

One result of Black History Month was that legendary local leaders felt more emboldened to speak their pieces during their elder days.

For example, Ruben Daniels recalled his 1967 campaign to be elected as Saginaw's first black Board of Education member.

"Some of the whites tried pin me down as a school busing advocate," Daniels said. "They just tried to crucify me, but I held

my tongue. I was on the board for a number of years before I really unloaded on race issues."

In the end, he acknowledged, the no-busing compromise of open enrollment also fell short, because the intended ethnic roads across the river became one-way streets.

He also told how he aimed to purchase a home near Sixth and Janes, which during the 1930s still was an all-white area. He asked his wife Elizabeth, "sounding more white," to phone the realtor.

"Liz promptly was provided the asking price, monthly payments and tax estimates," he recalled. "Then she asked whether blacks would be allowed to move into the area. She was assured, 'No ma'am, you need not worry about that.'"

He chuckled while he retold, as his way of reconciling, and then shared seriously that his spouse had to cool his anger to talk him out of heading straight back home to Oklahoma. Saginaw came that close to losing Ruben Daniels.

Henry Marsh, first black City Councilman and mayor, reflected on his 1968 push that attained narrow referendum approval for a City Charter fair housing provision.

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DELTA COLLEGE**

+ COMMUNITY

Continued from pg 20, Delta College

A local banker already had secretly shown him a map in Second National's offices, with red lines drawn to illustrate the Saginaw version of nationwide race-based bias in mortgage lending.

"Ten percent of the community has been forced to live where the other 90 percent say it should," he said, upon passage of the landmark new law. "Now the 90 percent will feel as the 10 percent always have felt."

Marsh also reviewed a first 1958 result of his organizing the Human Relations Commission. Plans were to segregate Daniels Heights public housing, with blacks on the First Ward Center side of the Fourteenth Street tracks and whites on the other, until the HRC raised a public stir.

'Back in the Day'

Many Saginaw accounts also came to light via Black History Month. The Rev. Cornelius Monroe of the original Christ Community Church was the pioneering African American candidate in 1947, 1949 and 1953.

Pastor Monroe spoke out: "The First Ward can't help being branded a slum district, because we don't get our share of improvements. We have been ostracized and kicked aside. We pay taxes and we want something for our money."

The northeast side had yet to benefit from the paved streets that enhanced other parts of town. Monroe, who finished in the middle of the pack in all three of his election bids, issued a challenge at a candidate forum.

"Some streets look worse than a chicken yard," he said, with a warning: "Don't drive your own car. Get a truck."

Following are samples among the volumes of highlights and lowlights:

- **Rhea Browne Hearin**, Harry Browne's sister: "I was the first Negro to work there (in Consumers Power's downtown headquarters) in 1927, but I wasn't allowed to enter the office part. My job was to dust the appliances and show them to customers. If somebody wanted to buy something, then I had to go get a salesman. And my

white school classmates had always told me, 'Rhea, you're the one. You have the brains.' "

- **Norm Osborne**, on being forced to form his own 1920 Boy Scouts den: "It hurt me when they didn't want me because of my color. I guess I was a little bit more hardened than I had thought." He also recalled a separate window for his dealings with his newspaper route.
- **Winnie Clark**, on integration of Saginaw's teacher ranks during the late 1940s: "When we came to the meeting and sat down, the white teachers got up and moved away, like we were stinking or something. I said to my friend, 'Look what you got us into.' She answered, 'Get used to it.' The colored teachers saw what was happening, and so they all came and made a circle around us."

- **Nellie Jo Brooks**, original queen mother of the Saginaw African Cultural Festival: "The bowling centers were segregated, even though we were paying up to \$1,000 per team in fees and dues. I said, 'Taxation without representation is tyranny. You aren't going to use my money for something I can't participate in.' Still, it wasn't until the 1950s that the ABC (American Bowling Congress) finally made changes."
- **Dick Gregory**, speaking at a Delta College event, 1975: "Information is power. As long as they give you bad information, you have bad power. We have to show that the white folks can't beat us upside the head, where it counts. There's a lot of water in the ocean, but it can't sink the ship unless it gets inside."

(The Michigan Banner wishes to thank the Castle Museum of Saginaw County History for research assistance.)



SAGINAW MAYOR HENRY MARSH (CASTLE MUSEUM)



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OPPORTUNITY AWAITS IN FLINT & GENESEE

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‘Why invest here?’ answered boldly, compellingly with Flint & Genesee Economic Alliance’s new website

FLINT – Flint & Genesee Economic Alliance, a division of the Flint & Genesee Group, has a new resource in its business attraction and retention toolbelt. DevelopFlintandGenesee.org is a dedicated website for marketing Genesee County to companies – locally, nationally and internationally – as an ideal place to invest and grow their businesses.

Economic Alliance, Genesee County’s lead economic development organization, markets the county’s locations, buildings, sites, talent and other assets to companies looking to expand operations. It works to spur job growth and capital investment by established businesses based in Flint and Genesee County that are eyeing expansion as well as companies outside the region that have identified opportunities here.

“DevelopFlintandGenesee.org helps make the case in a beautiful and compelling way for why a business should consider an

investment in Flint and Genesee County,” said Tyler Rossmassler, Economic Alliance’s executive director. “Additionally, for those companies and their representatives not from here or unfamiliar with our county’s assets, the website provides an excellent primer as well as a tool for more detailed conversations, whether they occur in-person, on the phone or on Zoom.”

Among its features, DevelopFlintandGenesee.org allows visitors to conduct an online search of more than 500 available commercial and industrial properties in Genesee County. It includes a 3-D rendering tool to help site selectors visualize how a new facility might fit on a vacant lot. A data center provides the latest information on the county’s population, industry and workforce. The website also includes information on a variety of quality-of-life factors that influence companies’ investment decisions, such as community profiles,

housing costs, education, health care and recreational options.

Local small business owners and entrepreneurs, and businesses interested in and engaged in government contracting will also find much to like about DevelopFlintandGenesee.org, Rossmassler said. Resources for those business audiences are housed under tabs “Small Business Help Desk” and “PTAC” (Procurement Technical Assistance Center), respectively.

DevelopFlintandGenesee.org broadens the Economic Alliance’s identity as Genesee County’s economic development organization, following the Flint & Genesee Group’s rebranding efforts unveiled in April 2021.

“The website really helps refine our outreach and communications with current and prospective clients,” said Rossmassler. “It’s a great addition to our retention and attraction efforts.”

+ COMMUNITY

IN MY HUMBLE OPINION



COURTESY PHOTO



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

The new year is still young, as am I at heart on the verge of my 57th birthday. Shout out to all the Aquarians! Seeing that we are only in the second month of the year, there is still plenty of time to plan for a successful outcome. One of the most important things I have learned in my years as a businessman, husband, and father is that communication is the key to success.

Success means different things to different people, and it most certainly is not restricted to more money and possessions. It can mean a healthy and happy relationship to a parent or spouse, good grades and a diploma or degree to a student, getting a great job or promotion to an employee, making a positive impact on a community to a pastor or civic leader, or making progress in any area of life. The Oxford Language Dictionary defines success as, “the accomplishment of an aim or purpose.”

My definition is getting positive results in a balanced lifestyle that incorporates God, health, home, work, and recreation.

The key, or keys to success have been a topic of discussion, and perhaps debate for decades if not centuries. Some of the more well known keys include education, goal setting, planning, mission statement, discipline, persistence, being coached, and investing in relationships. Many of these keys require communication to be effective.

In my professional career as an architect, construction manager, project manager, executive, and founder of several businesses with more than 30 years of experience under my belt, I found that good communication was essential to achieving success. As a student of architecture at U.C. Berkeley’s College of Environmental Design, I would not have graduated and been granted a degree without demonstrating good communication skills, including listening, speaking, writing, visualizing, and presenting. After completing a design assignment, we, the students, were required to present our designs to the professor, the entire class, and on special occasions visiting professors and/or professionals at a critique, or crit for short. We had to communicate our ideas and solutions clearly, concisely, and engagingly to a room filled with those mentioned. After presenting, we had to defend our projects in an open

session of comments, questions, and criticism from the audience. The entire process was grueling at times, and I saw students get crushed, cry, and even end up quitting the program all together after an intense crit session. My education taught me early on about the importance of communication.

As an architect in the San Francisco Bay Area, one of the first things I would do with a new client is meet with them to get a brief of what their vision and complete requirements were for the project (e.g. building, renovation, or remodel). This required active listening, feedback, and writing to capture the brief accurately. As a construction manager, I would establish a communication chain of command starting with me, the client, the architect, the general contractor, sub-contractors, and suppliers to ensure delivery of a high quality, technically accurate project on time and on budget.

Project management is similar but on a broader scale because I am capable of managing virtually any process and not just construction. For example, in South Africa where I am now based, I was the lead Project Manager for Manchester United F.C.’s pre-season tour of the coun-

**CONTINUES ON PG 25,
COMMUNICATION**

+ COMMUNITY

Continued from pg 24, Communication

try that included a delegation of 100 people flying from England to South Africa, with then coach Sir Alex Ferguson, the players, management, and media. The 11-day tour featured Man U playing two sold out friendly matches in World Cup stadiums against local premier league teams in two cities and other activities all in celebration of Nelson Mandela Day. The entire project ran seamlessly and was a resounding success largely because of the highly professional and well coordinated communication process between all stakeholders.

As an executive and founder of several businesses in architecture, entertainment, hospitality, project management, and e-commerce, my ability to communicate has been essential to establishing the vision and mission, directing and motivating staff, reporting, executing projects, and acquiring business. In my first entertainment company, J.A.K.E. Productions, I used to tell my team that while we produce concerts, sports events, music videos, TV

shows, and more, our real business is writing proposals and doing presentations, because without them we would not have work. Effectively communicating our concepts and ideas is what made the company successful for more than 15 years.

In my personal life, my wife and I attribute the health and happiness of our marriage to good communication between us. She helped me, because of her qualities, to be more expressive with my feelings and not bottle them up. We are always honest with each other, have no secrets between us, and share everything, as best friends and spouses should. We do our best to transfer these traits and qualities to our five children by demonstration and encouraging them to do the same.

Communication is the key to success, but don't just take my word for it. Some of the most successful people in history are or were great communicators. I will mention many of them in alphabetical order. Abraham Lincoln, Aristotle, Barak

Obama, Bill Clinton, Bob Marley, Confucius, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, Franklin D. Roosevelt, George Foreman, Henry Ford, Jack Welch, John F. Kennedy, Jomo Kenyatta, Kamala Harris, Kenneth Kaunda, Kofi Annan, L. Ron Hubbard, Lee Iacocca, Malcolm X, Marcus Garvey, Margaret Thatcher, Martin Luther King, Jr., Maya Angelou, Michelle Obama, Mohandas Gandhi, Muhammad, Muhammad Ali, Nelson Mandela, Oprah Winfrey, Patrice Lumumba, Robert Kennedy, Sam Walton, Shakespeare, Socrates, Ted Kennedy, Thomas Sankara, Warren Buffett, and Winston Churchill. If some of these names are new to you, it might be an opportunity for you to look them up and be inspired by the power of communication.

Last, but by no means least, is Jesus Christ of Nazareth. He was such a great communicator that His words have lasted for more than 2,000 years and influenced billions of people from everywhere in the world and all walks of life.



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A gift that will make a difference beyond the Holiday season!
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Since 2012, the Saginaw Promise has awarded \$1,072,000 in postsecondary education scholarships to 609 students...its goal is for every graduating student to earn a program certificate or degree.

Support postsecondary education for the future you want for Saginaw and its students.
Donate to the Saginaw Promise today!
Thank you!

+ COMMUNITY

Amid Saginaw City Council squabbles, here is the real impact

By MIKE THOMPSON

Followers of Saginaw City Council proceedings are talking and gossiping about showdowns and shouting that took place Jan. 24 regarding appointments to a new advisory group for ARPA, the federal American Recovery Plan Act, which is sending nearly \$2 billion across the nation for pandemic relief.

City Hall's one-time share is pegged at \$52 million, and the 15 appointees are assigned to make suggestions for the largest federal windfall in local history, although the council will keep the final say-so.

However, another more quiet development that occurred prior to the stormy conclusion may prove far more important in the long run for efforts to address local challenges in housing, education, youth activities, medical care, mental health, abandoned properties, and beyond.

Council members agreed to explore a pitch from City Manager Tim Morales for a contract with Changepoint, a national consulting firm which is assisting Wayne County and dozens of other communities, large and small, in managing their grant funds. The Saginaw County Board of Commissioners last fall approved up to \$925,000 to enlist the same company's advice.

Morales said he will provide specifics and will recommend a vote when the council next meets on Monday, Feb. 7.

Skirmishes among elected officials may come and go, but ARPA decision-making looms as a multi-year process, possibly extending the funds all the way into calendar 2026.

"This all is new to us, and we still don't know all the details," Mayor Brenda Moore said in a Michigan Banner interview. "It's true that money for consultants would be money that otherwise could go for programs within the city. At the same time, if we don't find experts and we violate federal guidelines for how to spend the ARPA monies, we possibly could wind up with no funding at all. And so it's like a Catch-22, danged if you do and danged if you don't."

Moore and Morales elaborated that the consultant arrangement, if approved,

would be on an as-needed hourly basis, the same as the county board's arrangement.

Congressman Dan Kildee, a Flint Democrat, told The Banner last summer that the ARPA guidelines, which he helped to write, are meant to be as simple as practical. He also said he and his staff stand prepared to resolve any differences or misunderstandings between local officials and federal bureaucrats. For that matter, the Michigan Municipal League may offer insights.

"I'm not sure if the council will go ahead with this, or how it might work," Moore said. "I just want to make sure all of our options are available."

Much ado about not much

Regarding the soap opera aspect of the council meeting, storm clouds started to form when Michael Flores and Monique Lamar Silvia questioned the eligibility rules for various advisory appointees, such as conflicts of interest in seeking ARPA funds, or lack of city residency.

Annie Boensch, the council's senior member with 11 years experience, whispered that the two first-term members could have questioned Morales privately in advance instead of prolonging the meeting and possibly embarrassing the nominees in question.

Silvia overheard and loudly told Boensch, "If you're going to talk about me, say it (directly) to me." Moore shouted back as she called for order, and both apologized within moments.

Members afterward agreed it had been a negative show.

Still, this scenario hardly ranks among the most explosive events ever within Council Chambers, which we will describe sans profanity as The Banner is a family-oriented publication.

There was the 2004 midnight firing of then-manager Deborah Kimble on a 5-4 vote. There was the 1989 incident in which a protesting drunken landlord called members "a bunch of (blanketty blanks)" and then, upon being expelled by the police chief, fired rifle shots from a side parking lot through the second-floor rear window.

Specifically, one of those past occasions also started with whispering. This was when Councilman Robert Loucks in 1975 said he overheard Ed Potthoff, the city manager, mumbling. Loucks called for a point of order, asserting, "The manager just now called me a (blanketty blank). He didn't think I heard, but I demand an apology." Potthoff responded, "I wish to apologize for my remarks. I was wrong to describe Councilman Loucks as a (blanketty blank). What I should have said was, LYING (blanketty blank)."

Back then, meetings were each and every Monday. Nowadays, with a biweekly schedule, there exists a bit more time for wounds to heal.

Appointee listings

Moore recommended the ARPA appointees from among 26 applicants. Non-residents were eligible if they are leaders of city-based enterprises or nonprofits, or even if they are linked to a funding applicant. Silvia, and mainly Flores, were taking issue with these provisions as being too permissive.

Flores has been an isolated lone wolf on several previous matters, but he was not part of the Jan. 24 verbal fireworks.

The appointees, in alphabetical order, are:

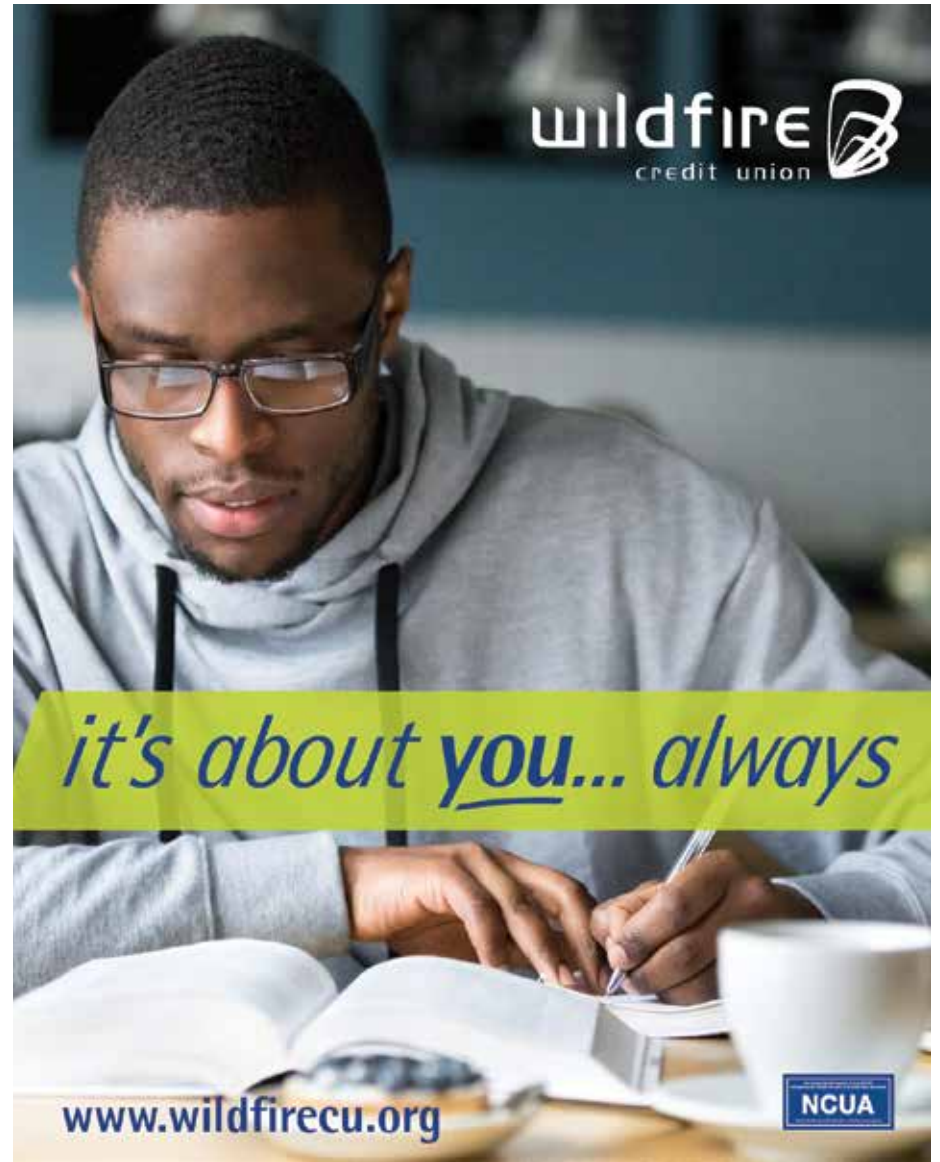
- **Kevin Albosta**, Covenant HealthCare finance vice-president
- **Jeffrey Bulls**, co-founder of Community Alliance for the People, a grassroots activist group.
- **Pastor Hurley J. Coleman Jr.** of World Outreach Campus Church
- **Fenobia Dallas**, City Planning Commission chairwoman and a Saginaw Valley State University writing professor
- **James Doane**, retired financial planner and former City Council member

**CONTINUES ON PG 26,
SAGINAW CITY COUNCIL**

Continued from pg 26, Saginaw City Council

- **James A. Hernandez**, SVSU financial aid advisor
- **Grady Holmes Jr.**, former Buena Vista Township manager and past Ezekiel Project director
- **Veronica Horn**, Chamber of Commerce president and CEO, spouse of state Sen. Ken Horn, a Frankenmuth Republican
- **Reneé Johnston**, Saginaw Community Foundation president and CEO
- **Christina Jones**, a founding leader of the Houghton-Jones Neighborhood Association (named for the school, not for herself)
- **Sharon Leamon-Case**, Ascension St. Mary's Hospital operations vice-president
- **Amy Spadafore**, Pit and Balcony Theatre managing director
- **Tina Swanton**, Michigan Health Improvement Alliance employee and former YMCA outreach specialist
- **Cal Talley**, recent co-chairman of ALPACT, Advocates and Leaders for Police and Community Trust
- **Valerie Toney**, County Mental Health support coordinator

Coleman, Jones, Spadafore and Swanton are among members linked to groups seeking ARPA grants.



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| Reservations | Cooking Positions | Fun Center |



+ HEALTH



COURTESY PHOTO

MDHHS issues order ensuring nursing homes across the state offer on-site COVID-19 vaccination to protect residents

LANSING – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has issued an epidemic order to further protect residents in nursing homes across the state by ensuring residents have the opportunity to get up-to date on COVID-19 vaccines at the nursing home where they reside.

"With the Omicron variant rapidly spreading across our state and cases of COVID-19 continuing to remain high, we want to make sure our most vulnerable Michiganders are protected from the virus," said Elizabeth Hertel, MDHHS director. "The COVID-19 vaccine is our best defense against the virus, and we want to ensure everyone has the opportunity to get up to date."

Under the order, nursing homes must offer on-site doses of COVID-19 vaccines to residents who are not up to date as of Jan. 20, 2022, within 30 days of the effective date of the order.

Nothing in the order requires nursing

home residents to get vaccinated. Nursing homes are encouraged to provide informational materials about COVID-19 vaccines so that residents can make informed choices. Materials can be located on MDHHS' Long-Term Care COVID-19 Plan website.

For residents who are unable to make their own medical decisions, nursing homes are required to contact the individual legally authorized to make medical decisions on behalf of the resident and make them aware of the availability of COVID-19 booster doses on site.

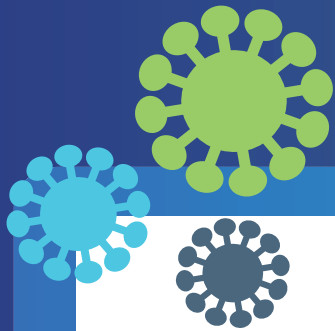
Nursing homes must document a resident's consent or refusal of an offered COVID-19 vaccine. For residents who are unable to make their own medical decisions, nursing homes must document the consent, assent or refusal of the offered COVID-19 vaccine made by a person authorized to make medical decisions on behalf of the resident.

Skilled nursing homes were among the first groups offered vaccination in De-

cember 2020 when the COVID-19 vaccine became available. First and second doses have been offered at 100% of the facilities in the state, with 74% of eligible Michigan nursing home residents having already received their booster dose. Nearly 2.6 million booster and third doses have been administered in the state, with nearly 1 million of those doses provided to Michiganders ages 65 and older.

Under previous executive directives signed by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, the state of Michigan has prioritized booster doses for residents in long-term care facilities, including nursing homes and adult foster care, and has been working to expedite delivery of third doses of the Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines to residents who have compromised immune systems.

The latest information is available at Michigan.gov/Coronavirus and CDC.gov/Coronavirus. To learn more about the COVID-19 vaccine, visit Michigan.gov/COVIDVaccine.



Great Lakes Bay Health Centers

www.GreatLakesBayHealthCenters.org

Great Lakes Bay Health Centers has touched more than **118,000 LIVES** during the COVID-19 crisis – in patient care and community outreach with testing and vaccines.

55,884
COVID-19 TESTS
ADMINISTERED
IN 2020-2021 (AS OF JUNE 3, 2021)

Great Lakes Bay Health Centers (GLBHC) began offering community COVID-19 testing in March 2020 outside centers in Saginaw, and expanded to Bay City and Bad Axe. During the summer and fall, we partnered with churches and other community partners to bring testing to neighborhoods with “popup” events. We shifted testing to drive-thru access and do not require a doctor’s note or symptoms. Staff supported this effort on every level, including making calls to share test results. GLBHC added free Influenza community clinics through the fall of 2020. Volunteers have supported testing and vaccines.

15,091
COVID-19 VACCINE DOSES*
ADMINISTERED
IN 2021 (AS OF JUNE 3, 2021)

The Moderna vaccine was first made available to GLBHC staff in January 2021. Through the winter, staff worked with local health departments to administer vaccines to school professionals. The centers started receiving direct shipments of vaccines in March 2021, and began offering appointments to patients. GLBHC also began planning pop-up events at churches and other locations to access hard-to-reach populations. By April, the vaccine team had set up drive-thru vaccine clinics in Saginaw and Bay City and weekly clinics at the UAW Hall in Saginaw. Soon the public could access the vaccines without an appointment. Outreach continues into the summer, with young adults and teens becoming a focus.
**individuals each receive two doses*

TOTAL GLBHC PATIENTS SERVED IN 2020:



50,270 PATIENTS

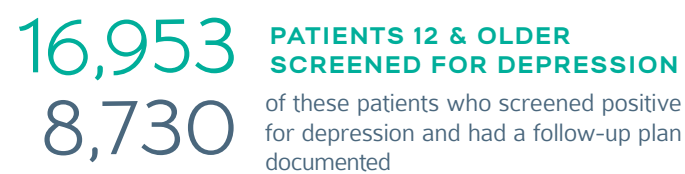
RECEIVING MEDICAL, DENTAL, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE AND OTHER VISITS

The COVID-19 shutdowns required centers to limit in-person visits in March-May 2020, but we never closed. Within two weeks, GLBHC had telehealth visits operational to stay in touch with patients. Before 2020, there were no virtual visits offered.



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

COVID increased stress and demand for behavioral health services in 2020. Staff reached out to schools and saw increased referrals for children and teens.



DENTAL CARE

GLBHC dental centers were some of the only dental clinics open during quarantine to emergency care for patients experiencing pain or infection.



CHRONIC HEALTH MONITORING = BETTER OUTCOMES

During quarantine, GLBHC used grant funds to provide at-home monitoring kits to patients with COVID symptoms. The kits included blood pressure monitors and pulse oximeters to track oxygen levels. Telehealth visits were a lifeline for care management nurses to keep in touch with patients with chronic health conditions. Pharmacy staff made medication deliveries. A new Respiratory Clinic allowed staff to safely care for patients with COVID symptoms in person.



“Bridging the Behavioral Health Disparity Gap”

Women of Colors (WOC) Offers \$50 VISA GIFT CARDS

Discuss your experiences with Behavior Healthcare Services



WOC seeks African Americans who have had Mental Health and Substance Use services and have not received follow-up care within the last 5 years.

Qualified participant(s) will be invited to participate in an interview to discuss their experiences and will be paid a \$50 VISA gift card upon completion.

Must be 18 years of age or older and reside in Saginaw County to participate



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ENDOWMENT FUND

For more information call WOC at (989) 399-8775 Ext. 5

+ HEALTH

Food Bank continues Flint mobile pantries in February

LANSING – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) will continue to provide nutritious food by the truckload to Flint residents throughout February. MDHHS has provided the Flint mobile food pantries since February 2016 in partnership with the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan in Flint.

"Ensuring that families have access to nutritious food is a top priority of my administration," said Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. "I applaud MDHHS and our partners from the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan for putting Michiganders first and continuing to provide this valuable resource to the people of Flint. Together, we can help families thrive and continue building on our economic momentum."

February's mobile food pantry distribution will have plenty of delicious, vitamin-rich produce and proteins, including grapefruit, potatoes, apples, ground turkey and cheese.

February dates for distributions are:

Asbury United Methodist Church, 1653 Davison Road.

- Tuesday, Feb. 1, at 10 a.m.
- Tuesday, Feb. 8, at 10 a.m.
- Tuesday, Feb. 15, at 10 a.m.
- Tuesday, Feb. 22, at 10 a.m.

Greater Holy Temple, 6702 N. Dort Hwy.

- Thursday, Feb. 3, at 10 a.m.
- Thursday, Feb. 10, at 10 a.m.
- Thursday, Feb. 17, at 10 a.m.
- Thursday, Feb. 24, at 10 a.m.

South Flint Food Kitchen (conducted by End Times church), 3410 Fenton Road

- Friday, Feb. 4, at 11 a.m.
- Friday, Feb. 11, at 11 a.m.
- Friday, Feb. 18, at 11 a.m.
- Friday, Feb. 25, at 11 a.m.

Bethel United Methodist Church, 1309 Ballenger Hwy.

- Monday, Feb. 7, at 10 a.m.
- Monday, Feb. 14, at 10 a.m.

Monday, Feb. 21, at 10 a.m.

Monday, Feb. 28, at 10 a.m.

American Muslim Community Services, 4800 S. Saginaw St.

Saturday, Feb. 12, at 9 a.m.

Flint residents can also pick up free nutritional food at the three Flint Help Center locations:

Bethel United Methodist Church, 1309 N. Ballenger Highway, open from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mondays; Asbury United Methodist Church, 1653 Davison Road, open Tuesdays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; and Greater Holy Temple, 6702 N. Dort Highway, open Thursdays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

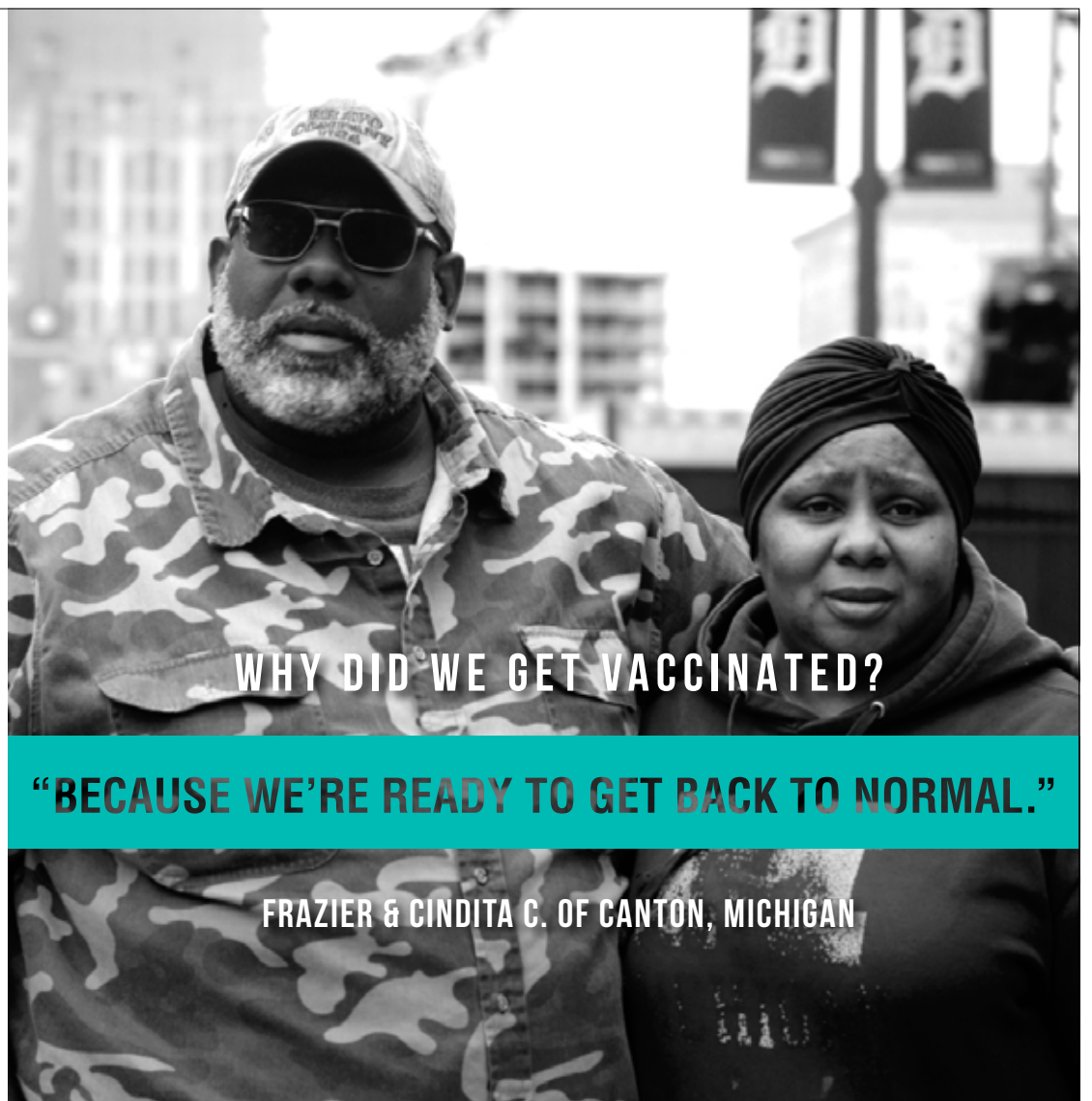
Information about additional food distributions will be announced as they are scheduled. To check food distribution schedules, visit the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan website at FBEM.org and find the updated schedule on the Mobile Pantry Distribution page, or call 810-239-4441.

The COVID-19 vaccine will help us get beyond this pandemic.

There are so many things Cindita and Frazier missed in the last year: celebrating big holidays, going to movies, being with friends and family. They hunkered down in the house, life just stopped. They saw firsthand how COVID took away strong, vibrant lives. Which is why they believed it was so important to get vaccinated to get back to normal.

The vaccines have been tested for safety and are trusted by doctors.

Find your vaccine at Michigan.gov/COVIDvaccine. Call 211, or text your zip code to 438829.



WHY DID WE GET VACCINATED?

“BECAUSE WE’RE READY TO GET BACK TO NORMAL.”

FRAZIER & CINDITA C. OF CANTON, MICHIGAN



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M. SOHAIL JILANI, MD

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

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

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



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

+ EDUCATION



COURTESY PHOTO

High on the agenda, a new school name

By MIKE THOMPSON

Selection of a name for Saginaw's new unified high school remains on a fast pace, even while construction is delayed.

Online surveys are wrapping up, and complaints have emerged about the questions and the timelines. Superintendent Ramont Roberts responded by telling an audience that the poll results are only one method of gathering feedback.

In other words, there still remains the pre-internet, old-time path to public participation, That's by attending a Board of Education meeting and signing up to speak in person. The next two sessions are at 5:30 p.m, on upcoming Wednesdays, Feb. 9 and Feb. 16.

Board members are aiming to make a decision by March for the combined Saginaw High and Arthur Hill High, in time for construction to begin this summer at the current site of the Saginaw Arts and Sciences Academy, SASA. An opening was scheduled for September 2023, but the date is pushed back a full year to September 2024.

At this point, a football team combining athletes from The High and The Hill already has been named "Saginaw United," and that moniker also is a survey fi-

nalist. However, Trustee Ruth Ann Knapp has told parents she is concerned that the acronym for Saginaw United High School would be SUHS, which may cause some pupils -- kids being kids -- to refer to new five-story showcase as "SUCKS." Her possible alternative would be Saginaw Riverfront High School, SRHS, which Ms. Knapp suggests would not be prone to any slang.

Other survey finalists are Saginaw Central High School, SCHS, or Saginaw Valley High School, SVHS.

An online petition to keep a Saginaw High School name for the new citywide facility has attracted more than 800 online signatures, a higher number than 721 for the district's own survey. Advocates would rename SASA for Arthur Hill, because that's where the academy will relocate. But board members increasingly are designating Roberts to speak for them, and the superintendent has asserted that the idea is "divisive" and based on "false information."

February's pair of meetings may finalize whether or not the "keep Saginaw High" campaign remains alive.

The developments of the past 15 months are rooted from the 2020 presidential election, which gave 60-40 voter

approval for \$100 million in districtwide infrastructure. Most homeowners, along with rent-paying tenants, will pay hundreds of dollars per year until some time during the 2040s.

Another top item is to build a new Handley School on Arthur Hill's vacant land, adjacent to the relocated SASA, which would combine K-12 for gifted and talent pupils. A portion of Saginaw High is slated for conversion to a middle school, providing an East Side balance with Thompson Middle on the West Side.

Two years ago, millage supporters called for an end to battles pitting Saginaw High versus Arthur Hill., even as student counts at both fell 50 percent below capacity. Advocates asserted that we already are behind the times, branding Saginaw as the only Michigan city that has failed to move to consolidate. Opponents countered that the plan is too expensive and that school leaders needed to make more use of buildings that are vacant.

The 60 percent approval would be described as a landslide for a winning president, as hundreds of past school-tax foes have either moved from the city or have passed away.

+ EDUCATION



COURTESY PHOTO

2022 selected top education issues



By **CRAIG DOUGLAS**
RETIRED EDUCATOR

With a new calendar year underway, it is an opportunity to assess what some of the top issues of 2022 are in education.

One source for such a list is the online publication out of Detroit called, “Chalk beat.” They interviewed educational leaders from Educational Trust Midwest and Michigan State University among others to gauge what some of the educational priori-

ties to expect in 2022 and beyond. “Chalk beat” shares good work and thoughts to ponder, and I would like to summarize it for you.

Here are four educational issues at the very top of their list:

#1 - COVID and the pandemic- how will a rebound look?

COVIDS is coming upon a second anniversary, yet the pandemic’s impact remains to be seen.

How will students bounce back? Teachers and other educators?

The losses in learning are deep. How quickly can achievement gaps be closed?

Or will the gaps remain? If so, will economic barriers enter in? Will state officials measure and sanction schools who fail to meet the standards they establish?

LOTS of questions related to the pandemic!

#2 - Funding in support of education- how will COVID-relief dollars work to help support education? Will monies be used to support teachers and other staff? Or will they go for infrastructure? Or perhaps for students to “catch up” in the lessons missed out? Will voucher-like “scholarships” surface again as resources for parent to use for private as well as public schools?

#3 - Staffing shortages- Right now there are widespread shortages..... will they continue? What about recruitment? Compensation?

#4 - The race for governor- How will “education” be debated leading up to the primary and general elections? How will Governor Whitmer be challenged on the subject, “education,” and should she be re-elected, will there be a shift in the support her support for education? If the Governor is not re-elected, how would her successor treat education?

These issues are impacted by the pandemic...and how the pandemic is going at the time may shape the discussion. Certainly, related topics (e.g., masks and vaccinations) will come up in 2022 (and beyond).

What issues do you feel will surface in 2022? Are they local, or are they statewide or national? What solutions do you have to offer to address them?

Resources:

<https://detroit.chalkbeat.org/2022/1/10/22877249/michigan-schools-big-issues-2022-pandemic?emci=22d42a29-1173-ec11-94f6-c896650d923c&emdi=76253c4b-b873-ec11-94f6-c896650d923c&ceid=323951>

Online application opens Dec. 1, 2021

apply for Scholarships

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== Class of 2021 ==

649 AWARDS 396 STUDENTS

\$889,650

TOTAL 2021 SCHOLARSHIP DOLLARS AWARDED

Since awarding our first \$500 scholarship in 1987, the Saginaw Community Foundation has awarded college scholarships to area students totaling more than \$7 million, thanks to our generous donors. Each year, over 300 college-bound or career and technical education students benefit from our scholarship awards.

Our single application process makes it easy to potentially qualify for one or more of our 235+ scholarships. **Applications will begin being accepted Dec. 1, 2021 and must be submitted by Feb. 15, 2022.** Visit saginawfoundation.org/site/scholarships/ for more information or call (989) 755-0545.



Saginaw

community foundation

1 Tuscola St. • Suite 100B
Saginaw, Michigan 48607
(989) 755-0545
saginawfoundation.org



+ EDUCATION



**Saginaw
Promise**

A Scholarship for Students who
live and graduate in Saginaw!



Saginaw Promise provides a college scholarship for students who live in and graduate in Saginaw

Scholarship application deadline is February 15, 2022

SAGINAW – Saginaw Promise is investing in the future of Saginaw and the lives of its students through postsecondary education information and a scholarship. The Saginaw Promise is an organization working to affect positive change in Saginaw through a “residence based” scholarship; a benefit for families who live in Saginaw. The Saginaw Promise is an economic initiative intended to affect Saginaw’s economy and quality of life by promoting and supporting a culture of postsecondary education for all of its graduating students through information, programming and a “last dollar” scholarship.

The Saginaw Promise scholarship benefits students who reside in and graduate

from a high school in the Saginaw Promise Zone (cities of Saginaw, Zilwaukee, Koshville and that area of Buena Vista designated to the Saginaw Public School District). While supporting higher education, the scholarship is also intended to stabilize and grow Saginaw’s population, support an educated workforce, attract new businesses and affect the overall economic environment in Saginaw, surrounding communities and the entire Great Lakes Bay Region.

Since 2012, the Saginaw Promise has awarded scholarships in excess of \$1,072,000 to 609 scholars. The Saginaw Promise scholarship may be used at community colleges, universities and techni-

cal/ trade schools in the State of Michigan for tuition and mandatory fees only and is renewable up to two years. How to apply: Students must complete the online Saginaw Community Foundation scholarship application at <https://goapply.akoyago.com/SAGINAW>. Deadline is February 15, 2022. The Saginaw Promise scholarship is renewable up to two years and must be applied for annually. Students must also complete FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) at <https://fafsa.ed.gov/>. For details, information about the Saginaw Promise and its scholarship, visit www.saginawpromise.org or telephone (989)755-0545.

+ EDUCATION



COURTESY PHOTO

Fast Start™ Job Training Opportunities

UNIVERSITY CENTER – In response to local employer workforce needs, Delta College is offering two short-term job training programs: Chemical Process Operator Fast Start™ and Manufacturing Warehouse & Logistics Fast Start™.

“These critical roles support the supply chain and ensure regionally produced products can make it out the door to the businesses who need it,” said Jennifer Carroll, director of Corporate Services for Delta.

Without these roles filled, businesses will struggle to meet growing demand. Delta efficiently trains people to ensure they have the skills employers say they need to be successful on the job. Because of the unique partnerships with employers and Great Lakes Bay Michigan Works!, Delta College Fast Start™ program completers are guaranteed an interview and a path to immediate employment.”

Register to attend a free face to face information session with representatives from Dow, Dupont and HSC on Wednesday, January 26, at 10am - 12pm at the Great Lakes Bay Saginaw Service Center. Call 833-531-1945 for more information.

Chemical Process Operator Fast Start™

In 13 weeks, you can learn the skills you need to become a full-time Chemical Process Operator with starting pay

rates from \$16.91–\$24.67 per hour plus benefits.

- Guaranteed job interview. Hiring rates for individuals who complete training exceeds 90%.
- Requirements for training: high school diploma or GED, 2 years of manufacturing/skilled trades/technical experience, Level 5 score on Accuplacer math skills test

Course length: 13 weeks, Monday – Friday

Class time: 8am – 4:30pm

Format: 50% hands on in chemical process lab, 50% classroom personal instruction

Class size: 10 students or less

Cost: \$5,400

Credential earned: Chemical Process Operator Fast Start™ Certificate of Completion and you will earn 23 academic credits toward the Chemical Process Technology AAS degree at Delta College

Classes begin: March 28

Application deadline: March 18, 12pm

For more information or to apply visit Delta.edu/faststart or email training@delta.edu.

Manufacturing Warehouse & Logistics Fast Start™

In eight days, you can learn the skills you need to become a full-time Warehouse and Logistics technician with starting pay rates from \$14–\$16 per hour plus benefits.

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Course length: 8 days, Monday – Thursday

Class time: 8am – 4:30pm

Format: 60% classroom personal instruction, 30% hands on lab or fork truck training, 10% on-line learning

Class size: 10 students or less

Cost: \$1,900

Credential earned: Manufacturing Warehouse & Logistics Fast Start™ Certificate of Completion, OSHA 10 Manufacturing Safety Card, and Fork Truck Certification

Classes begin: March 21

Application deadline: March 11, 12pm

For more information or to apply visit Delta.edu/faststart or email training@delta.edu.

About Fast Start™ Training

Delta College Fast Start™ training programs are offered when area employers project open jobs. Programs have been developed for many roles, including chemical processing operator, solar manufacturing and customer service representative.

More than 1,110 people have been trained through the programs with full-time job placement rates at more than 90 percent, making the program effective at addressing talent needs.

For more information, email training@delta.edu.



Sabrina Beeman-Jackson

Saginaw ISD Head Start/Early Head Start Program Director

About Saginaw ISD HE/EHS

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

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

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

pregnant women and their families.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Source: www.saginawheadstart.org

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

Joe Baca, former Dem. California Congressman

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

+ BUSINESS



BRANDON HARRIS

Saginawian stays home and works amid the pandemic

With young adults, sometimes it seems that half from Saginaw have moved to Atlanta.

Brandon Harris is among the few who have headed back in the North Pole's direction, even though the sour COVID-19 economy has steered him to selling for yet another furniture chain within the past 22 months.

He's confident that Gardner-White on Tittabawassee Road will serve as the proverbial third-time charm after the closures of Art Van, and then Love's Furniture.

He's an example of thousands in mid-Michigan who are bouncing back, sometimes over and over, during the unprecedented pandemic.

Atlanta is nice also

His family moved to suburban Atlanta in 2005, after he had finished his freshman year at Saginaw High School, following his childhood times at Heavenrich Elementary and at Central Middle. He achieved his diploma at Marietta's Sprayberry High School.

All was outstanding. Then, a few years later, in 2012, his plans for an extended

visit back to Saginaw became a permanent stay.

"I missed home more than I had realized," Harris explains, adding that in spite of hard times, he finds Saginaw a more secure place to find work and to support his four children with his fiancée, Michelle Erwin.

With his eternal optimism, he sums up the latest new career avenue.

"Gardner-White has been a presence around the state of Michigan since 1912," he pitches.

"We are family-owed," he adds, with "we" already entering his work vocabulary.

In closing, it's time for Brandon to become more specific: "We have plenty of furniture in stock, the best inventory within 90 miles. Our customers come from all over the region and beyond, even from as far north as Rose City."

Shutdowns, not slowdowns

He previously would have provided a similar positive review of Art Van, where he was a sales associate for more than three years before the sudden liquidation of all of its franchises in March 2020, which just

happened to be the same month as the onset of the pandemic's shutdown.

Brandon stuck around for the brief stint with Love's, which also died at the close of 2020. In this case, he saw the writing on the wall through such shortcomings as shoddy delivery services.

While others headed for state unemployment with the \$300 weekly federal add-on, he buttoned down with Spectrum customer service early last year, before Gardner-White came along to rescue the huge showroom north of Fashion Square Mall.

For all of the sales qualities he now displays, Harris did not envision himself making a living in retail sales.

"I always wanted to be a sportswriter and a columnist," he notes.

In fact, upon his return from Atlanta he enrolled at Delta College for an associates degree in journalism and emerging media, and he won a top prize for an article urging higher attendance at basketball games, both men's and women's, in the school's cavernous gymnasium. But at the same time as his reporting emerged, the print media's nosedive had reached bottom, and so sales became his alternative.

"I had never worked on commission," he says, "but I learned that I have the skill-set. There was a learning curve, of course, and it took some time to get adapted. First, you have to have confidence, because if you don't believe in the product, you can't expect your customers to feel trust. Next, you need to possess listening and observation skills. If you see that someone is fiddling with their car keys, for example, you know you are facing a challenge in getting through to them."

He also has found time to volunteer as a reading tutor in Saginaw school. In 2015, he applied for a vacant Board of Education seat during tumultuous times in the district, and he was prepared to serve through thick and thin. Still, his top priority with Michelle remains the upbringing of Brandon Jr., Brooklyn, Brielle and Michael.

Any or all of them may grow up to see greener pastures elsewhere, but Brandon Harris envisions that he will stick and stay.

He summarizes, "Saginaw still has so many good things going for it."

+ BUSINESS

CMS Energy names Norm Kapala as Vice President of Generation Operations

CMS Energy, and its principal subsidiary Consumers Energy, today announced Norm Kapala, currently executive director of fossil and renewable generation, will be named vice president of generation operations, effective February 1, 2022.

Kapala will lead the company's fossil-fueled, hydroelectric and renewable generating units as we transition through the Clean Energy Plan.

"Norm has been a committed supporter of our Clean Energy Plan. His strong relationship with our co-workers and Union leadership equip him to successfully navigate Generation Operations through its next phase of transformation," said LeeRoy Wells Jr., senior vice president of Operations at CMS Energy and Consumers Energy. "He embodies our culture and is a great leader to ensure safety and reliability across our plants."

Kapala joined Consumers Energy in 2008 and has held leadership roles within the plants starting as an engineer, working his way up to site manager and finally to executive director of fossil and renewable generation for the entire company. Norm earned a Bachelor's in mechanical engineering from Michigan Technological University and a Master's in manufacturing management from Kettering University. He also served in the United States Marine Corps Reserve and Navy Reserve throughout college.

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



NORM KAPALA

SVSU will feature over 65 employers at summer job and internship fair

SAGINAW – Saginaw Valley State University will host its Summer Job & Internship Fair on Tuesday, Feb. 1 from noon to 3 p.m. in SVSU's Curtiss Hall.

The Summer Job & Internship Fair will spotlight over 65 employers pursuing part-time and full-time employees for winter, spring and summer 2022 seasons. These companies are looking to meet students of all majors for co-ops and internships.

"The upcoming job fairs are an excellent opportunity for employers to meet face to face with talented students at SVSU to discuss potential internship and employment opportunities," said Jim Dwyer, executive director of SVSU Career Services.

CED, Enterprise and Frankenmuth Insurance are the sponsors for this event.

Dwyer said the job fair provides an opportunity to connect employers with tal-

ented students.

"SVSU understands the strain that the workforce is facing and is positioned to connect our talent to hiring employers," he said. "Students will get first-hand experience in demonstrating their ability to effectively communicate their qualifications to over 65 employers from multiple industries."

"It is one of many exciting opportunities we are cultivating to make sure our students are ready to enter the workforce upon receiving their degree in their chosen field."

Visit the SVSU Career Services website to register for the Summer Job & Internship Fair and for a list of employers. Professional attire is recommended for attendees.



COURTESY PHOTO

+ FUNDRAISING GOODTIMES

Using your data...

By MEL AND PEARL SHAW

Does your data inform your fundraising?

Making meaningful fundraising management decisions requires access to the right data. You can't strategize if you don't know your pool of donors and prospective donors.

Data is the backbone of nonprofit fundraising. You need to know who gave, when they gave, how much they gave, why they gave, and who/what was the reason or driver for their giving. Without this, you and your organization are shooting in the dark and jeopardizing your nonprofit's financial health. With this column we share things to consider no matter what role you play. Whether you are a data analyst, fundraiser, board member, volunteer, or CEO you should feel comfortable asking about the organization's data: it can be your NorthStar, pointing you in the right direction.

Let's get started with the data you are collecting – or not collecting. What data is important and what no longer needs to be tracked? How current is your information? Which records can be discarded? What information should you be tracking, but are not yet recording? Can you run reports showing lapsed donors; or changes in the size of gift by donor year-over-year. What about unsolicited prospects, or unusual gifts which you know won't be repeated this year?

Data informs your reports. What reports can you run from your system that will inform fundraising planning and evaluation? Which ones are you running but not using? Do you have easy access to dashboard data that can inform decision making?

Data and people. Is your staff (and/or volunteer base) cross trained in data in-



COURTESY PHOTO

put and report generation? Who can enter data, view it, or run reports? What about accessibility and security: who has access to what and how do you control that? Who manages the data? Importantly, how confidential is your fundraising data?

What about your technology? Do you have the right configuration of easy-to-access and easy-to-use technology? What does it cost you to operate? What does it cost you to not have a system that supports your operations? Does your CRM (customer relationship management) system integrate with our systems used within your organization? Is it easy (or even possible) for you to reconcile with finance and other departments?

Other things to consider. Be sensitive to the organizational capacity and infrastructure of your nonprofit. You don't

want a system that records more data than you can manage, with reports that are too complex. You also want to make sure your system isn't too simple. You want a system that supports a real-time dashboard of critical data points. Here's one reason: you don't want to wake up in November to learn that 30% of those who gave last year haven't yet given for the current year.

The bottom line. You cannot expect your leadership team or volunteers to put in place a fundraising strategy and plan with access to current, meaningful data. While too often overlooked, data is one of the most important things a development team can manage.

It is not enough to have data – you have to use it.



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

+ CHURCH DIRECTORY

B



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



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



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

C

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

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



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

F



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



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

G



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

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

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

J



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

L

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

M

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



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 Life Changing Ministries
Pastor Otis Dickens
2312 S. Washington Ave.
Saginaw, MI 48601
989-755-3650



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



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



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



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

New Mt. Calvary Baptist Church
Pastor Alfred "AJ" Harris Jr.
3610 Russel St.
Saginaw, MI 48601
989-754-0801

New Way Ministries
Pastor Dwight & Princess Dobbins
29200 Shiawassee St.
Farmington Hills, MI 48336
(248) 987-2434
thenewwayministry.org

P

Prince of Peace Baptist Church
Pastor Robert C. Corley Jr.
825 North 24th Street
Saginaw, MI 48601
989-754-2841

R



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

S



Saginaw Valley Community Church
Pastor Richard Sayad
3660 Hermansau
Saginaw, MI 48603
989-752-4769



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

St. John Ev. Lutheran Church
Pastor Carl Ballard
915 Federal Avenue
Saginaw, MI 48607
989-754-0489
stjohnlutheranelcasaginaw.weebly.com

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

+ SPORTS

Recent SVSU track and field graduate earns prestigious NCAA “Top 10” honor

SAGINAW – A former Saginaw Valley State University track standout was named to the NCAA’s 2022 Today’s Top 10 list. Lauren Huebner, a two-time graduate of SVSU, was recognized along with nine other recipients at an honors celebration on Wednesday, Jan. 19, during the NCAA Convention in Indianapolis.

The award recognizes former student-athletes for success in the classroom, competition and community. Huebner, a Saginaw native, is the first SVSU student-athlete to be named an NCAA Today’s Top-10 Award winner.

Huebner graduated with a Bachelor of Science in rehabilitation medicine in May 2020 and a Master of Science in occupational therapy in December 2021. She is preparing for her certification and licensing exams in the near future.

When she was exploring colleges, Huebner knew she was interested in the health care field, especially occupational therapy. After looking into SVSU’s accelerated degree program for occupational therapy, receiving an offer to run track at SVSU and touring campus, she knew the university would be a perfect fit.

“I came to tour campus and I fell in love with it for the first time. I saw all the beautiful buildings and housing and food and everything...I think it just was a perfect match for me from the start” she said.

In a long and successful athletic career, Huebner cites winning her first national championship at the 2019 NCAA Division II National Championships as her proudest moment. With that victory in the heptathlon, she became only the fifth student-athlete in SVSU’s track and field program to claim an NCAA national title and the first since Paul Markel in 2001.

“That was the first time that I really felt like all the hard work that I put in had finally paid off.”

At SVSU, Huebner earned numerous regional and national accolades for her athletic achievements:

- Two-time NCAA Division II national champion – in 2019 for the outdoor track and field

heptathlon and in 2021 for the outdoor 4x400-meter relay title

- Five-time U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association Individual First-Team All-American
- Google Cloud Academic All-District team for the 2018-19 academic year
- College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Academic All-America honors in 2019 and 2020
- U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association All-Academic honors in 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021
- Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Commissioner’s Award in 2019, 2020 and 2021

For her academic prowess, Huebner appeared on the Saginaw Valley State President’s List five times for earning a 4.0 GPA in a semester.

Huebner credits her coaches, teammates and occupational therapy faculty for her success.

“Everyone was very supportive anytime I had to miss classes for traveling, practice, or things like that. I felt very supported academically.”

She is also thankful for support from her family.

“My mom never missed a track meet and seeing my family travel across the country to watch me compete in nationals is very meaningful to me.”

Huebner’s individual success contributed to team success, which she considers among her greatest athletic achievements: helping the track and field team rise in the NCAA Division II Track and Field Championships to place fifth in the nation during her final season.

“Coming into college, I just wanted to do well for myself. Over time, I realized that my putting in the work and doing everything that I can really helps encourage or inspire and builds a culture at practice. I really made it a point to do everything that I could to be successful, and I think that



LAUREN HUEBNER

positivity and that attitude is contagious. Athletes currently on the team picked up on that and then all of our recruits coming in picked up that culture of success,” Huebner said.

A leader on and off the track, Huebner’s advice to student-athletes is a mantra from the track and field team’s practices: Trust the process.

Huebner explains, “Trust the process. Focus on what you need to do and what you know you need to do and give your best effort. It will get you where you want to be, both academically and athletically. If you put in the work and you do what you know needs to be done, you’ll get the results.”

In addition to her athletic pursuits, Huebner served as treasurer of the SVSU chapter of Pi Theta Epsilon, an occupational therapy honor society, and the community service chair on SVSU’s Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. She volunteered with the Toni and Trish House in Auburn, which is an organization serving terminally ill patients, and the Ascension Lutheran Church Back to School Fair to provide school supplies, clothing and food to families in need. Huebner also tutored at the Writing Center on campus.

MICHIGAN YOUTH BANNER

VOLUME 4 • NUMBER 3



Interesting Black History facts and fun activities to do while learning - with your parents

By CYNTHIA WEST-EDWARDS

The month of February is also known as Black History Month. This is a time that was established a long time ago to give people, like you and me, an opportunity to celebrate or recognize those outstanding African Americans who made a significant contribution to our history. One day, it might be You!

Do You Know how it all started...? Well, this began years ago in 1926, when Dr. Carter G. Woodson who was an American historian, author and journalist, initiated the first recognition, "Negro History Week." He saw a need to do this, because

black history was not being taught in schools or colleges at that time.

This was a great start, but, guess what happened years later? Well, in 1970, a group of Black educators, like your teachers, and a group of Black students at Kent State University wanted to expand black history to a full month! This required time and great effort, because making a change wasn't easy, but finally, in 1976, the goal was achieved. The President of The United States, Gerald R. Ford, Jr., agreed and said yes! Black History Week officially became Black History Month.

Now, you might hear in discussions if we should observe black history just one

month out of the year or all 365 days of the year. There has even been several initiatives such as the PBS Connect 360° aimed at bringing awareness and activities to help celebrate black history all year-round.

You might remember Tom Joyner of The Tom Joyner Morning Show, who was a national radio host before he retired. Well, he started the saying, "365 days black," which means we are black everyday, not just one month. Mr. Joyner started the segment "Little known black history facts,"

**CONTINUES ON PG 45,
BLACK HISTORY**

Continued from MYB Cover, Black History

which he aired daily to teach his listeners something about black history everyday.

There's just too much black history to limit it to one month. To get you started learning and having fun while doing it, here are a few activities to do with your parents or teachers help, all year long.

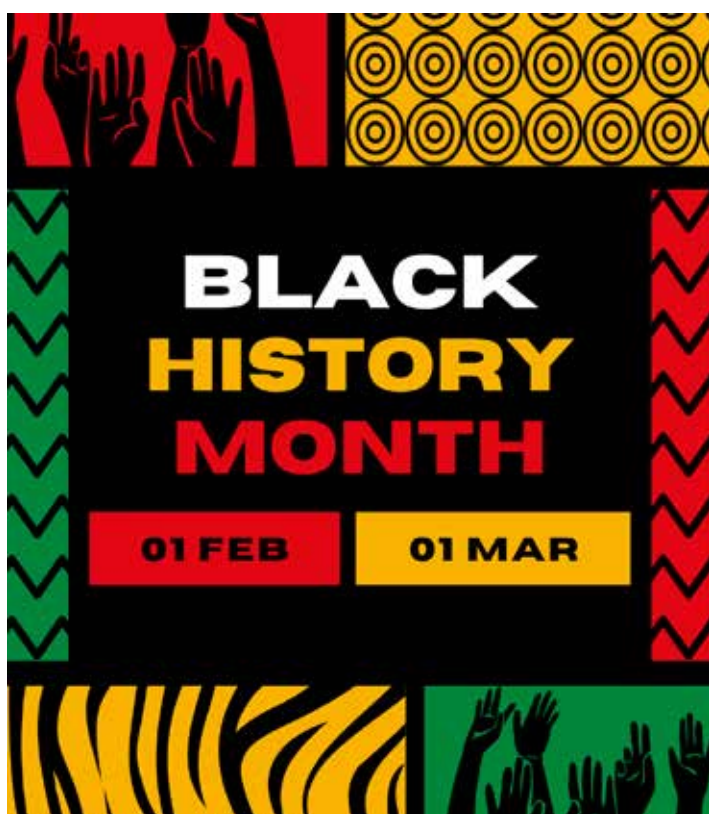
1. **Printable Black History Month Worksheets- this link provides several fun educational worksheets you can download and print.**

<https://www.education.com/worksheets/black-history-month/>

2. **Learn something new- Research African American Artist-Here's a list to get you started:**

<https://www.weareteachers.com/african-american-artists-creativity/>

- Alma Thomas
- Jacob Lawrence
- Aaron Douglas
- Elizabeth Catlett
- Faith Ringgold



3. **Read books with Black characters in honor of the young hero Marley Dias.**

Dias is a young activist who started the #1000blackgirlbooks campaign as a sixth grader. She has compiled an excellent guide to books with Black girl characters .

4. **Google Soul food or African recipes to cook and enjoy**

Suggested samples are:

- Candied yams
- Fried okra
- Black-eyed peas or red beans and rice
- Corn Bread
- Pound Cake

5. **Celebrate Black History's Greatest Inventors -Choose inventors and these fun activities to learn more about them:**

- Research Garrett Morgan, inventor of the traffic light
- Activity-Make a Traffic Light snack.

Materials:

Graham crackers
Peanut butter or chocolate frosting (Sample is frosting)
Red, yellow and green M&Ms craft sticks

- Spread peanut butter or frosting on a one quarter piece of graham cracker. Place this on the top of a craft stick. Place the m&m's in the pattern of a traffic Light. Snacks can also be made without the craft sticks.

- Draw, make or paint a traffic light - using colored construction paper.
- Research George Washington Carver, agricultural scientist – he developed several products using the peanut and other crops.
- Activity -Make homemade peanut butter.

Materials:

4 cups of shelled peanuts
1/3 cup canola oil
1 teaspoon salt
1/4 cup sugar
Measuring spoon
Measuring cup
Food processor
Knife
Crackers
Paper plates

Instructions:

1. Have kids help you shell the peanuts and place them into the food processor or blender.
2. Measure and pour the vegetable oil into the food processor.
3. Have another student volunteer add three pinches of salt.
4. Turn the food processor on and blend ingredients. You may need to stop every now and then and scrape the sides. If the peanut butter looks too hard, then add a little oil at a time until it becomes smooth.

Learning can be fun!

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PICS OF THE WEEK

On Saturday, January 29, Women of Colors hosted a Youth Explosion that featured Saginaw Native and 6-time Emmy Award Winning Producer, De'Niel Phipps. Phipps is pictured below with Kiss 107.1 Gospel Lady Vicki Hill and Julian Morris, owner of Swag Magazine.



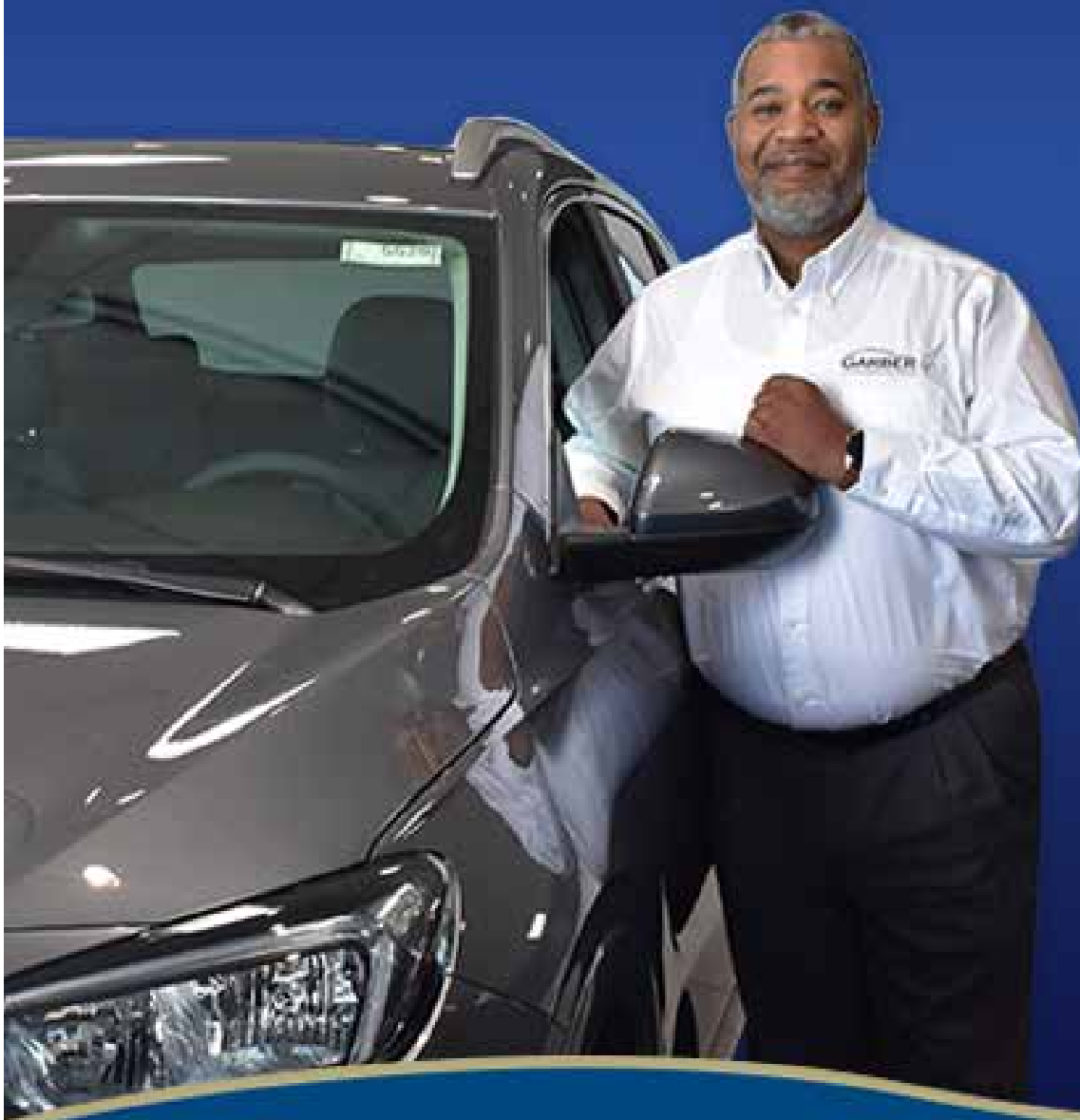
FACEBOOK.COM

The Great Lakes Bay Region Does Better With

GARBER
BUICK SAGINAW



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



John Wright
jwright@garberbuick.com
989-497-4444, ext. 1615
GarberBuick.com



We

empower.

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



SAGINAW VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY

#WeCardinal

svsu.edu/opportunity



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