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Welcome to J.A.C.K.S. —

Jackson Area Collaborative Knowledge Source. This community resource guide is designed to improve the lives of children and strengthen families in the Jackson community by providing fun and useful information.

Learn more at
www.jacksfamilyguide.com

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Jackson County Health Dept.
Jackson District Libraries
Jackson Furniture Outlet
Jackson Pack N Ship

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Schools
Jackson Symphony Orchestra
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Jackson Firefighters Launch Car Seat Inspection Program to Keep Local Kids Safe

By Aaron Dimick,
City of Jackson Public
Information Officer



Jackson area families wanting to ensure their children travel safely can take advantage of a new program from the Jackson Fire Department (JFD). Firefighters have launched the Car Seat Inspection Program, which will have crews checking car seats monthly for the rest of 2022.

The inspections are free, and no prior sign-up is needed. Jackson families are welcome to visit the Central Fire Station, 518 N. Jackson St., for the checks during the following days and times:

- Thursday, Nov. 10, 1-3 p.m.
- Monday, Dec. 12, 1-3 p.m.

Firefighters request parents or guardians bring their children and car seats to the inspection. Crews will look to make sure the car seat is in proper working order, fastened to the vehicle correctly, and is a safe fit for the child. A limited number of car seat replacements are available for free if firefighters find a seat is unsafe.


JFD is launching this program after the successful completion of car seat inspection training and a special event this summer that saw dozens of local families come to the fire station for inspections. This effort from Jackson firefighters is currently the only certified Car Seat Inspection Program in

Jackson County, and the first time JFD has offered a program like this.

Firefighter Matt Jabkiewicz says crews plan to continue the once-a-month inspections in 2023 with a permanent program. "A lot of parents may be surprised to learn that their child's car seat is not installed properly or could be dangerous in a crash," Jabkiewicz said. "This is a simple thing we can do to make sure children are as safe as they can be while on the road."


The Jackson Fire Department Central Fire Station is located at 518 N. Jackson St. Contact the fire department with questions about this program by calling 517-788-4150. A 2023 car seat inspection schedule will be released at the end of this year by the City of Jackson.





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Learn to Love Your Hometown

What’s the Best Part of Jackson? The People!

By Val Herr

My eldest son was married last week, and we were beyond thrilled when they decided to get married in his hometown. As with most weddings, it was more than a year of planning and preparation, but the entire weekend turned out perfectly! The bride and her family are not from Jackson, so we all worked together to shop locally whenever possible. We had people from all over the country arriving in Jackson for the wedding, and for the most part, we were able to connect out-of-towners with local Air B&Bs for their stay. During the course of the weekend, we also had the opportunity to highlight some of Jackson’s best



restaurants and venues. The rehearsal dinner took place at Grand River Brewery, the wedding was held in Ella’s beautiful historic farmhouse, and the reception was on the second floor of the County Tower Building. Big Guy Catering provided the food, and for those looking for breakfast

the following day, we recommended Roxy Café and provided Hinkley doughnuts. It was a true Jackson experience!

One of the out-of-town guests asked me what my favorite thing about Jackson was. Without hesitation, I said THE PEOPLE! It’s the people that make

Jackson great. Yes, we have amazing parks, restaurants, shopping, and more, but without the people, those things wouldn’t happen or transpire at the level that they currently do.

We needed storage downtown for the pies and, with one phone call, had a business open their fridge

to us. They not only let us store the pies overnight on Friday but made a special trip on Saturday to open the business for us so we could move the pies to the reception. Midwestern hospitality not only exists but thrives in Jackson, Michigan. All our visiting guests commented on how kind the people were everywhere they went. Jackson shone like the bright star that it is for all of those who came last weekend.

Thank you, Jackson! Thank you for being such a great place to live, work, play, and bring people. Thank you to the people of Jackson, that provided outstanding customer service to our guests all weekend long. Thank you, Jackson, for being so welcoming. And to all of the people in Jackson who choose to work, live, play, and provide services to others: thank you.





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Jackson County Animal Shelter's Adoptable Pets: Diablo & Sylvester

Contributed by the
Jackson County
Animal Shelter

Diablo

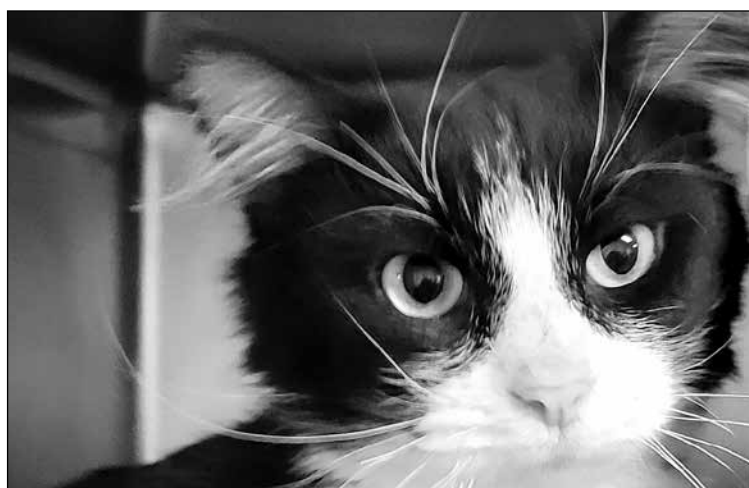
Meet Diablo, a handsome, two-year-old black and white stray who is possibly a mix of Retriever, Pointer, or American Staffordshire. Diablo is a happy soul with personality to spare. He is truly a friendly guy and gets along with almost everyone (except cats). Diablo loves playing catch, going for walks, and hanging out with his human. Dog adoptions require an application that can be found at <https://www.co.jackson.mi.us/DocumentCenter/View/8193/Dog-Adoption-Application-PDF>. Availability date is when the dog becomes JCAS property; any necessary medical procedures may delay an adoption. A

meet & greet with your dog is mandatory, and a cat room walk-through is available to test reaction. Dogs will go to approved applicants; the adoption fee is \$150 for medium/large dogs and \$250 for puppies/small dogs, including vaccinations, microchip, and sterilization.

Sylvester

Sylvester is a beautiful tuxedo cat, primarily black with white markings. He is five years old and has a medium-length coat. Sylvester came in as a stray who was sickly, and he is now doing much better and looking for his forever home. When you open his cage door, he is right there to greet you. He loves attention, purrs so much he will melt your heart, and has the most incredible green eyes. Meet him today at the Jackson County

Animal Shelter, 3370 Spring Arbor Rd., Jackson, Michigan. Cat Adoption Fees are \$60 for one cat and \$80 for two, including applicable tests, vaccines, and spaying/neutering. Any necessary medical procedures may slightly postpone an adoption. Visiting the shelter is always best, but you can also use the adoption form at <https://www.co.jackson.mi.us/DocumentCenter/View/8194/Cat-Adoption-Application-PDF>. All completed forms can be faxed to 517-780-4750 or emailed to animalshelter@mijackson.org. See our website for more information at [mijackson.org/579/Animal-Shelter](https://www.co.jackson.mi.us/DocumentCenter/View/579/Animal-Shelter), and find us on Facebook or view all pets on Petango.com-Shelter Details. Current Shelter Hours are M, Tu, W, F, 10:00-4:30, Thu 10-7, Sat 10-4.



Preparing Young Children for the Holidays

Contributed by
Community Action Agency

Holidays are an exciting time for families, but at the same time, they can be quite stressful. Changes in schedules, routines, and increased social demands create uncertainty for young children as they do not always know what to expect. With preparation and understanding, many of the challenges young children face can be avoided. Here are a few suggestions to help your family through the Holiday season.

1) Begin conversations that will spark interest in upcoming events. Look at pictures of your family celebrating past holidays. As you prepare for the holidays, giving your child a sense of control is essential. Make sure to include them in the planning process as much as possible. For example, allow them to help decorate the house or help plan the menu for a meal. Prior to an event, explain to your child where you are going, what you will be doing, and who will be involved. The more they are interested in and understand situations, the less uncertainty there will be.

2) Create and establish your own traditions. Be mindful that some situations may trigger anxiety and meltdowns in young children, and be prepared to remove your child from the situation if they become overwhelmed. Traditions that can be established with young children include cookie decorating, building a gingerbread house, shopping for decorations or presents, or visiting Santa. You can carve out time to teach children about your traditions or lessons, such as the joy of gift-giving.

3) Provide concrete, hands-on opportunities to cross off the days until the event. Create a visual countdown for your child as the holidays get closer. It is easier for young children to understand how far away an event is if they can visualize it. For example, cross off days on a calendar or create a paper chain and take off one loop daily.


Most of all, understand that holidays and celebrations create a lot of energy and are exciting times. Remember to focus on the joy and see the holidays through the eyes of a child.



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- Dinner
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LIVE LOCAL
COMMUNITY
COVERAGE



Immerse Yourself in The Four Seasons at the 2022 Jackson Symphony Orchestra Holiday Ball

Contributed by the Jackson Symphony Guild

If you haven't yet marked your calendars for this year's Jackson Symphony Orchestra Holiday Ball, you best do it soon. This year's ball, themed the Four Seasons, will take place on Saturday, December 3, at the Country Club of Jackson. Historically, the ball has been put on by the Jackson Symphony Guild Board, and this year promises to be the same.

The Jackson Symphony Guild functions exclusively for the benefit of the Jackson Symphony Orchestra. This dynamic group of volunteers works together on its signature event all year round. Funds are raised through membership dues and, most significantly, through the annual holiday ball. In addition to supporting the JSO, the JSO Guild provides scholarships to community youth and young

musicians to take lessons at the Community Music School, a program offered by the JSO. In past years, contributions totaled up to 9% of the JSO operating budget.

As is the long-standing tradition of the JSO holiday ball, the decorations committee will make the Four Seasons come to life. As guests enter the Country Club and make their way inside, they will be completely immersed in this year's theme.

In addition to stunning décor, the evening will include a scrumptious dinner. While dining, guests will be entertained by members of the JSO, playing excerpts from Vivaldi's Four Seasons. And if that's not

enough, there will be a live performance, "Jersey Boys" style, by local musicians.

But let's not forget the reason f o r

The silent auction will open online on Friday, November 25, and run through the evening of the ball. All bidding will be online, so you do not need to be at the ball to bid.

After the "Jersey Boys" drop the mic on their performance, the fabulous live auction will begin — led by none other than Jackson's own Tim Bos. The live auction will be followed by "Fund A Need,"

an opportunity to directly support a particular JSO program. Once the live auction is closed, the party starts up again with live R&B, Soul, Funk, and Ol' School Jams presented by Tony Fields

this "season." There will be a silent auction featuring amazing packages offered just in time for the holidays.



Music.

There is a raffle associated with the holiday ball, and tickets are currently available for \$20. There will be four prize drawings, each worth at least \$400, themed by season, including fun activities and an overnight stay at a local hotel. This year's raffle is being sponsored by Experience Jackson.

To purchase tickets to this phenomenal evening supporting the JSO and its many programs, visit the event website at bidpal.net/4seasons. You can also use the site to register to bid, get details on the raffle, and preview the silent auction. The JSO Guild looks forward to celebrating the Four Seasons with you!

League of Women Voters Members Work to Empower Voters

*By Fran Parker,
Former League President,
League of Women Voters
Jackson Area*

The League of Women Voters (which also has men in its membership) is a non-partisan, political organization. Its mission is to encourage informed and active participation in government, which is necessary to maintain our democracy.

Forms of engagement include increasing our understanding of major public policy issues. These may include taxation, voting rights, education, health care, basic human needs, economic and social problems that affect the general welfare, civil rights, use of our natural resources and protection of the environment, and relations with other countries.

Our studies of the issues rest on our principles that support fairness and equity to promote the overall health and strength of our country. For more than a century, this organization has helped people understand the issues that

citizens in our democracy have faced.

After an in-depth study on an issue, we come to a consensus across the nation, state, or community depending on the subject. After research and agreement, we can adopt a position and then are ready to speak to people in government to advocate for actions we see as needed.

Advocacy is one arm of the League of Women Voters, and education is another. In an election year, we hold forums at the local level for the public to hear from candidates from all parties, allowing them to present themselves to the voters and for the public to ask questions and evaluate the candidates they have seen and heard. We also provide printed information the candidates have provided in answer to our questions.

The League of Women Voters never supports or opposes candidates for office or political parties. We are non-partisan, but we work with elected officials of

any party on the issues that are important to us at any given time. So, we often support or oppose legislation depending on our collective position.

League membership is open to citizens (of any gender) 16 years or older. All League members are automatically members at the local, state, and national

levels. If you would like to help empower voters and think you might be interested in joining us, please go to our website www.lwvjackson.org.

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Who Qualifies:

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- Foster children
- Children with disabilities
- Families experiencing homelessness

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Community Action Agency is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

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greatstartjackson.org

HILLSDALE: (517) 257-9287
greatstarthillsdale.com

Financial Literacy as a Foundation for a Better Life

Contributed by Junior Achievement of the Michigan Edge, Serving Jackson, Lenawee, and Hillsdale Counties

Locally and nationally, people are dealing with the weight of financial insecurity. 29% of Americans say they do not have enough savings to cover just one month's expenses. The rise in inflation, coupled with flat wage increases, has caused more and more people to fall into this category than ever before. This insecurity is made worse by a lack of a solid foundation of financial education.

There is an urgent need to better prepare the next generation to have confidence and knowledge in their financial decision-making.

Junior Achievement is working to be a part of the solution by employing a pathways approach to teaching financial literacy to young people. By "pathways," we mean that JA Programs are designed to engage students on the subject over multiple grades throughout their K-12 years. We view financial literacy as "the other literacy." Just like reading and writing, we all deal with money on a near-

daily basis.

"Our goal is to impact the behavior changes needed to transform financial confidence and the capability of our young people to make informed decisions," says Connie Poisson, President of Junior Achievement of the Michigan Edge. "Knowledge in budgeting, savings, credit and debt, interest rates, and financial risk is critical for their future success."

We are excited about the recent Michigan legislation updating the high school curriculum to include a financial literacy course starting in 8th grade in 2023. Especially

since 80 percent of American adults wish they had a financial literacy course in school. And a recent survey indicates that 88% of adults support requiring personal finance education in high school (CNBC, April 27, 2022).

There is proof nationally that Junior Achievement programs are working:

- 68% of JA Alumni between the ages of 18 and 29 say that they are financially independent of their parents, compared to the national average of 34% of Americans in the same age range.

- 82% of JA Alumni agree they have a solid financial footing.

- 84% of JA Alumni agree that their JA experience helped with their financial literacy.

If you would like to be a part of the solution for the youth right here in town, we would love to talk to you. We are seeking volunteers to assist with reaching as many of our youth as possible to build a solid financial literacy foundation for them. Call 517.782.7822 or email Kate Fall, JAME Program Director, at kfall@jamichiganedge.com

Jackson District Library's 35th Annual Storyfest Celebration Kicks Off November 2nd

Contributed by Jackson District Library

Beginning Wednesday, Nov. 2, the Jackson District Library will kick off the largest annual storytelling festival in the state of Michigan - Jackson Storyfest.

The three-day festival, in its 35th year, will feature some of the most talented and renowned storytellers from across the United States and culminate in a finale showcase performance in downtown Jackson.

"The fact that Storyfest is in its 35th year speaks to how many people this festival has impacted, from students to adults, since the late 1980s," JDL Director Sara Tackett said. "We are excited once again to partner with local organizations and professional storytellers to bring a unique storytelling experience to the Jackson-area community."

In 1988, Jackson Storyfest came to life after Laurie LaZebnik visited the National Storytelling Festival in Jonesborough, Tennessee. LaZebnik returned to Jackson with a vision and a plan and, together with a group of volunteers, created a festival that has withstood the test of time.

"The festival started with pop-up sites around downtown Jackson, before growing into schools busing thousands of students to buildings in the downtown area, to finally

the current model, where Storytellers go to Jackson County schools," Tackett said. "Through donations from a number of local organizations and individuals and grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Michigan Arts and Culture Council, we've been able to grow year after year."

This year, the fun begins with Larry Casteberry hosting a free performance at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 2, at Vista Grande Villa, 2251 Springport Road, in Jackson. Attendees should RSVP for this performance by calling 517-905-1317 by 5 p.m. Monday, Oct. 31.

School performances begin Nov. 3, when storytellers share their storytelling talents in-person with area students in Pre-K to 8th-grade classrooms across Jackson County. Nationally-known storytellers, including Jenifer Strauss, Adam Mellema, Castleberry, LaRon Williams, and Jeff Doyle, will travel to local schools to spin their tales for students to enjoy and remember.

The Storyfest Showcase is set for 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 4, at the Jackson Symphony Orchestra's Weatherwax Hall, located at 215 W. Michigan Ave. in downtown Jackson. This year's showcase includes performances by Strauss and Mellema and is free and open to the public.

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Northwest Student Poetry

Contributed by Nick Gaffney,
Northwest Schools

My name is Nick Gaffney, and I teach English Literature and Composition at Northwest High School. Through working and talking with the students at Northwest, I've discovered that there are outstanding poets, storytellers, artists, and essayists at the school. The work of these brilliant students is so outstanding that I felt compelled to share it, and the Jackson Area Collaborative Knowledge Source helps to make that possible each month.



Chess

By Holliss Rumler

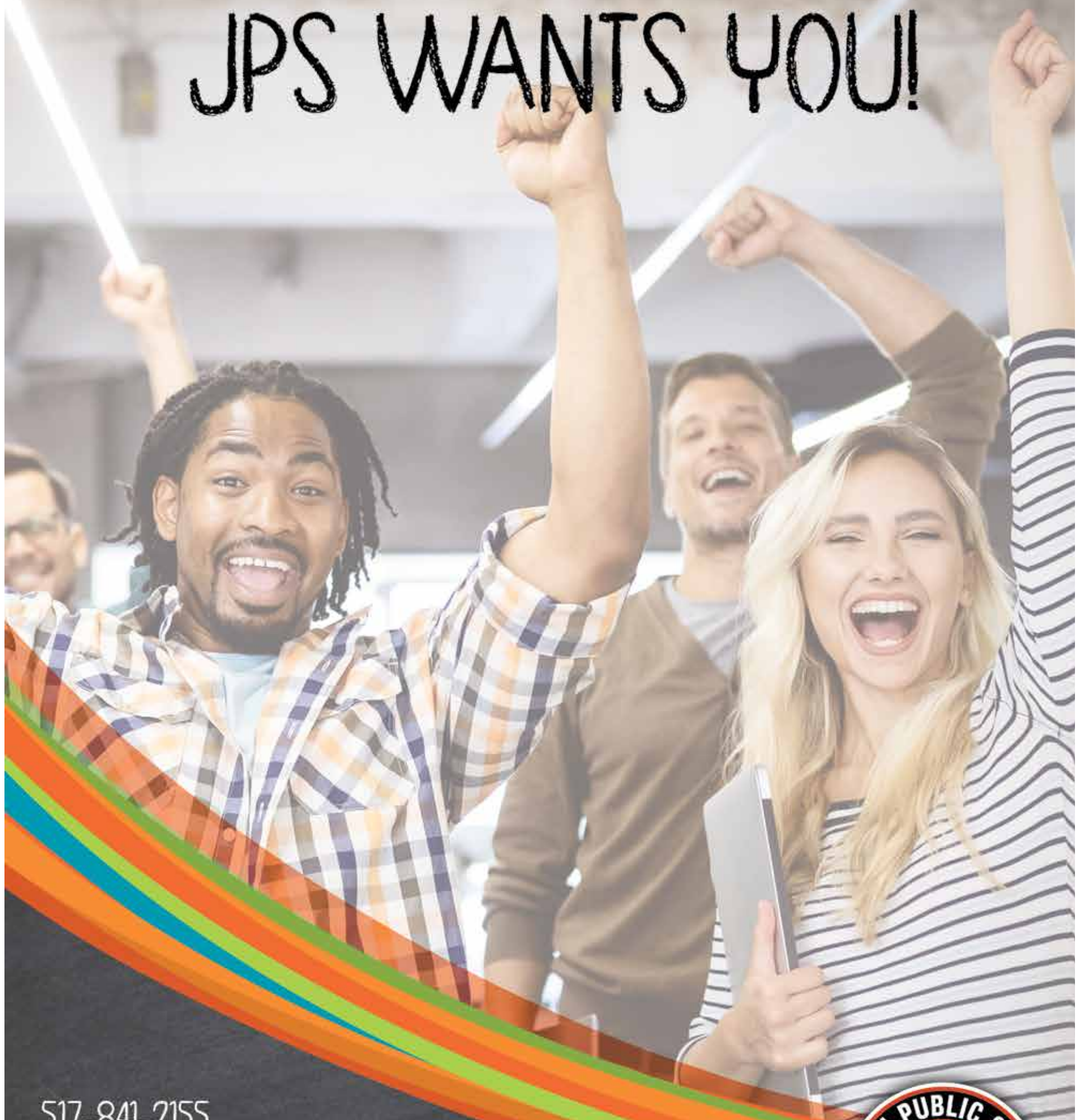
I hate chess
It reminds me of our time together
You made me believe I was the queen
Something you adored
and would always protect
But I was wrong
I was your pawn
I could only take one step at a time
On your time
Put in harm's way for your own gain
I was just a piece in your game
Something you could just throw away
I'll never know why out of the whole board
you thought that was my place
But checkmate
You lost anyways

Holliss Rumler is a Junior at Northwest high school. She enjoys being involved in many ways, such as through athletics, clubs, and volunteer work. Holliss has hopes of creating a change through both small and large efforts.

Scott Clow & Jenny Lewis
6am-9am Weekdays

Captain Steve
10am-2pm Weekdays

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College & Career Access Center, December Scholarships

Dell Scholars Program

Eligibility:

- U.S. citizenship
- Participating in a Dell Scholars approved college readiness program in grades 11 and 12
- Graduating from an accredited high school this academic year
- Earning a minimum of a 2.4 GPA
- Eligible to receive a Federal Pell Grant in first year of college
- Planning to enroll full-time in a bachelor's degree program at an accredited higher education institution in the fall directly after your graduation from high school

Description: The Dell program includes a support network made up of students, peer mentors, and the Dell Scholars staff to help scholars succeed. Dell created a financial award that is very flexible, so scholars can use their award money for the many costs that arise during their college career. We offer an online community to meet scholars where they are and connect them with fellow scholars. We are constantly evolving our program to serve our scholars through to college graduation. Today, the Dell Scholars program offers personalized, multifaceted support to our scholars that extends beyond the financial support of \$20,000, a laptop, and textbook credits. We offer students and their families services and solutions to address individual and systemic issues that can create major barriers to student success

Award: \$20,000
Deadline: December 1, 2022
Application: <https://www.dellscholars.org/scholarship/>

The Barbara Lotze Scholarship for Future Physics Teachers

Eligibility:

Applicants must declare their intent to prepare for, and engage in, a career in physics teaching at the high school level and must, at the time the scholarship funds are received, be:

- a U.S citizen, pursuing undergraduate studies at an accredited two-year college, four-year college or a university. (or a high school Senior accepted for such enrollment).
- pursuing, or planning to pursue, a course of study leading toward a career in teaching Physics.

Applications can be sub-

mitted online and will be considered for recommendation to the Board of Directors at each AAPT Winter Meeting. Applications containing all required materials (see website for details) will be considered for recommendation at the winter meeting of the AAPT Board of Directors.
Award: \$2,000
Deadline: December 1, 2022
Application: <https://www.aapt.org/programs/grants/lotze.cfm>

Car Covers \$1000 Scholarship

Eligibility:

Any student enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate degree program in Fall 2022 or Spring 2023 at any accredited American college, university, or trade school.

Description: Some people obsessively keep their cars clean. Others take their cars to the shop every time they hear a strange noise. Those with expensive cars may even get a cheaper car for their daily driving and only drive their luxury vehicle on special occasions. We're looking for your thoughts on the best ways to make a car last forever. A \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded for a winning essay on the topic "How to Make Your Car Last Forever"

Award: \$1,000
Deadline: December 15, 2022
Application: <https://www.carcovers.com/resources/scholarship/>

Burger King Scholarship

Eligibility:

- Candidate must be living in the United States, Canada or Puerto Rico
- Must be graduating high school Seniors (U.S. and Puerto Rico), graduating from grade 12 (Canada) or graduating from home school education in the U.S., Puerto Rico or Canada
- Must have a cumulative high school grade point average of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale, or the equivalent
- Plan to enroll full-time, without interruption, for the entire 2022-23 academic year at an accredited two- or four-year college, university or vocational-technical school in the U.S., Canada or Puerto Rico

Description:

The BURGER KING McLAMORE Foundation is a U.S. based 501(c)(3) public nonprofit that believes without education you limit

your potential to be your own way. It is our mission to create brighter futures by empowering individuals and feeding potential through education and emergency relief.
Deadline: December 15, 2022
Award: Range from \$1,000 to \$50,000
Application: <https://scholarshipamerica.org/scholarship/burger-king-scholars-program/>

Eastern Michigan University Presidential Scholarship Competition

Details: Eastern Michigan's Presidential Scholarships are awarded competitively using the application process detailed below. Qualified students apply to receive our largest academic award. In addition to completing the application process, interested prospective students will need to meet the following criteria:

- Be officially admitted to EMU as a traditional incoming Freshman for Fall 2023
- Applicants must have at least a 3.5** cumulative GPA and 25 composite ACT or 1200 SAT
- Visit campus on or after January 1, 2022 (Approved visit programs include official campus visits and virtual visits)
- Complete application information (detailed below) by December 15, 2022.
- Students must register for the Presidential Scholarship by December 15, 2022.
- * Registration will become available in August 2022.
- Once registered, you will receive an email with our required supplemental application.

Award: Full Ride (valued at approximately \$73,600 over four years.)
Deadline: December 15, 2022 - Early Application Suggested!
Application: <https://www.emich.edu/admissions/undergraduate/psc.php>

Foreclosure.com Scholarship Program:

Requirements:

- Minimum 800 words
- Maximum 2,000

Essay Topic:

You've likely heard the famous quote before, "Those who do not learn history are doomed to repeat it." The United States housing market can be unpredictable, volatile and cyclical. We've seen recent "ups" like the early 2000s and major "downs" like the Savings & Loan Crisis of the late 1980s

and the devastating Foreclosure Crisis several years ago. Knowing what we now know, what measure(s) would you suggest (or what protections would you put in place) to prevent another housing disaster that would preserve homeownership and ultimately the national economy?

Consider all levels of the market, including consumer (home buyers / sellers / owners), lenders (banks) and government (policies / bills / programs) as you map out an original, forward-thinking plan to avoid (at the very least minimize) mistakes from the past. Or, conversely, is another housing disaster simply inevitable? Provide factual evidence (references are strongly encouraged) to support your original plan / argument.

Award: Top award is \$5,000. Second through fifth place will receive \$1,000 each
Deadline: December 15, 2022 at 11:59 p.m. ET
Application: <http://www.foreclosure.com/scholarship>

Minority Scholarship in Classics and Classical Archaeology

Eligibility:

The Committee on Diversity in the Profession of the Society for Classical Studies (SCS) invites applications from minority undergraduate students from across North America for a scholarship to be awarded for Summer 2023. The purpose of the scholarship is to further students' study of classics or classical archaeology with opportunities not available during the school year.

Eligible proposals might include, but are not limited to, participation in classical summer programs or field schools in the Mediterranean or language training at institutions in the U.S., Canada, or Europe.

Description:

Candidates will be judged on the basis of:

- Their academic qualifications, including demonstrated ability in fields that prepare a student for further study in Classics or archaeology
- The quality of their proposal
- Demonstration of financial need.

Requirements:

- A letter describing your career goals and plans for summer 2023, with a prioritized list of programs to which you will apply. How

would the proposed program help you achieve your future goals? Examples include, but are not limited to, completing a major or minor in Classics; preparing for post-baccalaureate work or graduate study; preparing to teach at the K-12 level or to enter a profession related to Classics or archaeology in, for example, museums, libraries, or publishing

- The application must be supported by two letters of recommendation. At least one letter of recommendation must include a statement indicating that this is an appropriate candidate for the purposes of this scholarship.
- One page summary of the projected or actual budget
- An official transcript

Award: a maximum award of \$4,500
Deadline: December 20, 2022
Application: <https://classicalstudies.org/awards-and-fellowships/minority-scholarship-classics-and-classical-archaeology>

The Top Ten List Scholarship

Eligibility:

- Must be at least 13 years of age.
- Must be a legal United States resident.
- Must be a resident of one of the 50 United States or the District of Columbia.
- Must be enrolled in an accredited post-secondary institution of higher education by Fall 2024.

Description:

There are many scholarships and colleges that want to know the number one thing you want people to know about you. Just one? That's it? "But, I'm amazing," you say. We hear you, and we know that it's tough to narrow down your awesomeness into one measly reason.

So, inspired by David Letterman and his top ten lists, we created the Top Ten List Scholarship. With so many awards based on grades and extracurricular activities, this unique scholarship gives you the chance to show us what's truly special and different about you. Get creative, be serious, or tug at our heart strings.

Award: \$1,500
Deadline: December 31, 2022
Application: <https://www.unigo.com/scholarships/our-scholarships/top-ten-list-scholarship>

Imagine Planet Gets a New Home

By Jean McKim,
Imagine Planet

Well, we did it! We are now moved and open at 730 Tomlinson, the old Tomlinson Elementary School site. We share the space with Isaiah's Hub, Together We Can Make a Difference, the Priceless Gift Store, Maker-space, Grow Jackson, and others. Look for the door on the street side displaying our logo. We are now open

from 12 pm to 5 pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, and are closed on Wednesday and Sunday. We are able to schedule outreach programs in the mornings or after closing time.

Our gift shop is open with new items, including 3-inch amethysts for \$6 and beautiful pyrite, peacock ore, and various jewelry items. Don't forget our

many items priced for a dollar - the perfect stocking stuffer or small gift!

In the chaos of the move, someone donated a Crocodile Skink. This unusual-looking lizard hails from Papua New Guinea. They grow to about 4 inches in length and can live four to five years. They look like a dragon from "How to Train Your Dragon," but handling stresses them

out, making them more of a "look but don't touch" pet. They require high humidity and temperatures and spend most of their time on the tropical rainforest floor, burrowing in the leaf litter to make little nests. For sustenance, they eat small insects and worms.

In December, we will have another big move to more space, and we will be breaking out our astronomy,



geology, marine life, and many other exhibits. As always, check out our Facebook page or webpage (imagineplanet.net), or stop and see us today!

Jackson District Library Director, Sara Tackett, Announces Retirement

Contributed by
Jackson District Library

This month, Jackson District Library Director Sara Tackett announced her intention to retire after serving in various roles at JDL for the last 24 years. Her last day will be December 16.

Tackett started her employment at JDL as the youth services coordinator in 1998 after working for nine years as a children's librarian at the Hunterdon County Library in Flemington, New Jersey. She served as JDL's assistant

director from 2012 to 2016 and began her stint as director in March 2016.

Tackett led the district library through initiatives at several branches - including the Brooklyn Branch renovation, restoring bookmobile services to all of Jackson County, and the recent relocation and renovation of the Spring Arbor Branch, among others. In 2016, Tackett led the library in a successful millage campaign that resulted in a passing vote in every municipality in Jackson County.

Navigating the coronavirus pandemic was one of the biggest challenges she faced as director, Tackett said, but ultimately highlighted library staff and their dedication and tenacity.

"I will miss the staff at the library the most," Tackett expressed. "Over the years, their hard work and creativity have led to the library being seen as an important asset to the community. All of us working together to continue to provide library services for the last two years speaks to everyone's dedication to Jackson

County."

Collection Service Manager, Lorraine Butchart, served as JDL's interim director in 1998 and was responsible for hiring Tackett. Butchart said the first task Tackett was given was to "get librarians out from behind the desk and into the community," a task Butchart says Tackett took to heart.

Tackett currently serves on the Business and Professional Women's Club of Jackson, the Community Action Agency Board of Directors, the Jackson Collaborative Network, the Hu-

man Services Collaborating Alliance, the Henry Ford Allegiance Health Institutional Review Board, and the Rotary Club of Jackson, among others.

"Under Sara's leadership, JDL has an outstanding reputation among library staff statewide," Butchart said. "She leaves JDL in better condition than when she walked in the door."

Tackett said she plans to travel and spend time with her husband Mike and their family in retirement. The couple plans to stay in Jackson.

Jackson Catholic Schools Early Education November Activities

By Kelli Schweizer,
Jackson Catholic Schools

Engage your children this November with fun activities that help nurture essential skills!

Developing Fine Motor Skills

1) Free The Pumpkin - Wrap a mini pumpkin with rubber bands and have your child "Free the Pumpkin."

2) Pin A Feather On The Turkey - Tip a strainer upside down. Tape any image of a turkey onto the

front and ask your child to place feathers in the holes of the strainer.

Sensory Experience

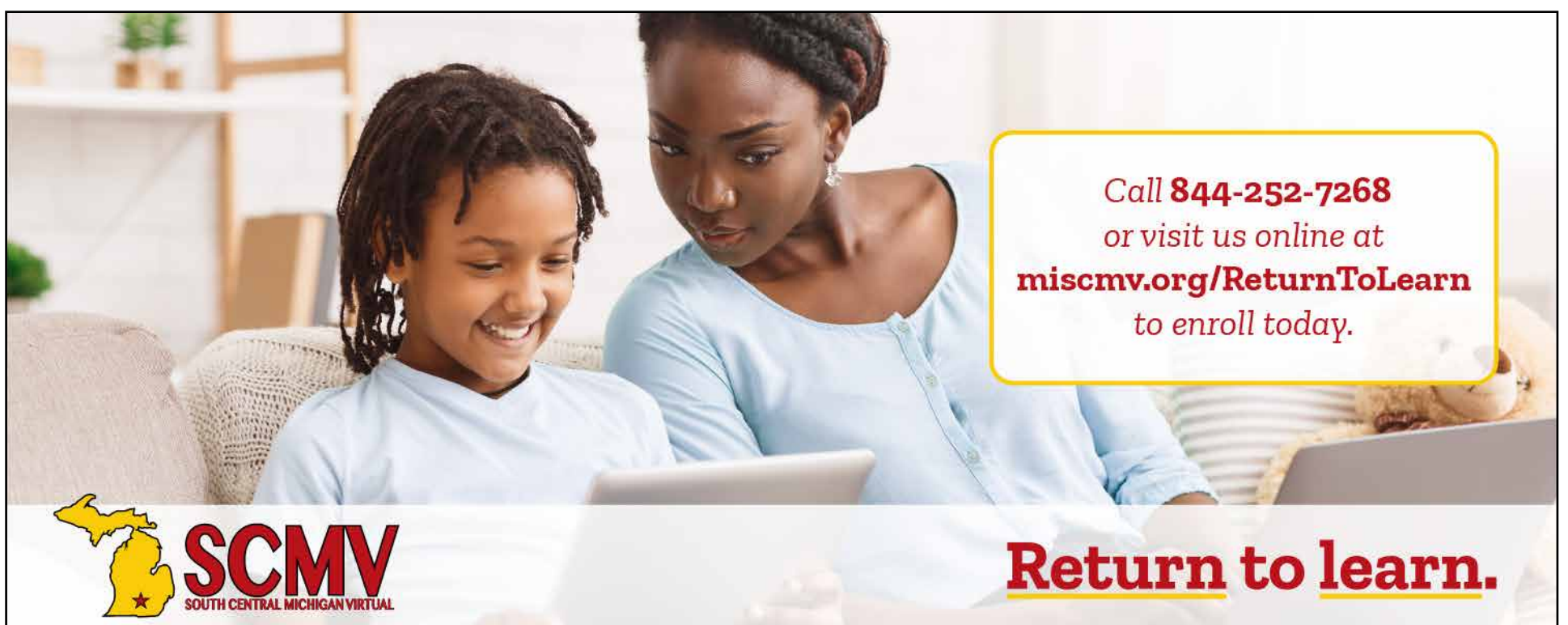
1) Fall-Themed Sensory Bin - In a bin, add dry beans and lentils to fill the bottom. Then use your imagination! Try adding in some fall leaves, mini pumpkins, pinecones, acorns, sunflower seeds, artificial apples, and more. Give your child some spoons and bowls to play in the mixture. Try adding a little pumpkin spice for extra sensory play!



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STEM

Build a Turkey House - Using only toothpicks and mini marshmallows, have your child build a house for a turkey. You can print out a small turkey online and use it to guide how large you'd like them to make the house.



Call **844-252-7268**
or visit us online at
miscmv.org/ReturnToLearn
to enroll today.

Return to learn.

Join the 30-Day November Walk

By Theresa Horne, CPT



Let's take a hike! Beginning November 1, we will be starting 30 days of walking.

Walking has many benefits, including:

- Maintaining a healthy weight and losing body fat.
- Preventing or managing various conditions, including heart disease, stroke, high blood pressure, cancer, and type 2 diabetes.
- Improving cardiovascular fitness.
- Strengthening your bones and muscles.
- Improving muscle endurance.
- Increasing energy levels.

And yes, those are great, but when you combine the Kingdom Strong 30-Day Walking Journal, you also nurture your spirit and soul. With guided journaling prompts, this extra tool in your kit can help you develop your mind, body, and spirit.

You can get your copy of

the Kingdom Strong 30-Day Walking Journal today on Amazon to help you along your journey. If you don't have a copy, I still invite you to commit to walking with me for 30 days. I will be giving extra tips in the new community. You can join in following along here at <https://app.heartbeat.chat/kingdomhealthclub/invitation?code=7E8478>.

I look forward to hearing all the wonderful things that we discover as we walk.

Check out the link, and let me know if you're in!

As Theresa approached 40 years old, weighing 330 pounds, she made the decision to have weight loss surgery. It led her on a journey of seeking wholeness and healing - body, mind, and soul - as she learned her weight was not only about food.

Theresa has always supported women and families as they embrace and step into their strength. Her passion is to assist others as they embrace their God-given strengths, assignments, and passions. You can follow Theresa @sisterhoodofstrong on Instagram, TikTok, or Facebook.



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