



THE NEW

# MICHIGAN BULLETIN

SERVING FOR NEARLY 3 DECADES



Vol XXVIII 23

JANUARY 1-15, 2023

## NEW YEAR SPECIAL EDITION

### THE 411

JANUARY 13, 2023

John "T Bone" Paxton Presents the "Old Town Stompers" 6:00-9:00pm Roaring 20s Steak Night Celebration Urban Beat 1213 Turner Street for more information call 517-517-331-8440

JANUARY 15, 2023

"Classical Beet-Benefit for Ukrainian Orphans" at Urban Beat 3-6:00pm 1213 Turner Street for more info call 517-331-8440

JANUARY 15, 2023

"Jazz Spirituals, Prayers and Protest Concert" Fairchild Theater 3:00pm for more information call 517-353-5340

JANUARY 20-22, 2023

"Blue Man Group" Cobb Great Hall for ticket information call 1-800-WHARTON

JANUARY 31-February 5, 2023

"Jagged Little Pill" Cobb Great Hall for ticket information call 1-800-WHARTON

### WHAT'S INSIDE

New Years

TIMING IS OF THE ESSENCE

Words of Hope and Healing

### RIP



**Curshawn "Kaz Drumatik" Terrell**  
1982-2022



**Hiawatha Cromer**  
1932-2022



**Obit Pele**  
1940-2022



## Why most New Year's Resolutions fail and a new approach to consider

There's hope for your New Year's resolutions to stick this year — if you take a new approach.

A public health initiative called The Healthy Monday Refresh wants to inspire people to not just think of a New Year's resolution once a year, but instead to set goals every Monday and sustain them year-round, using key tools.

The Monday Campaigns, a nonprofit initiative based in New York City that's dedicated to starting the week off well so that people end chronic and preventable diseases, supports the movement.

"Research we've conducted with support from experts at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health points to the beginning of the week as the optimal time to promote healthy behaviors," Ron Hernandez, managing director for The Monday Campaigns, told Fox News Digital in an interview.

"The data suggest that intentions for healthy behavior are synchronized on a weekly cycle, with Monday being the day people are most 'open to buy' health."

Some 67 million American adults made New Year's resolutions to improve their health in 2021, according to surveys. Shot of a happy older couple enjoying a healthy lunch together. But of those who made healthy resolutions, 18% already failed by January and 41% were no longer on track with their top resolutions by July, according to a nationally representative survey by Data Decisions Group for The Monday Campaigns. Smart ways to form a new habit

"If we think about the

science behind habit formation, we can better understand why New Year's resolutions are not the most effective way to change a habit," Dr. Lama Bazzi, a psychiatrist in private practice in New York City, told Fox News Digital.

"Habits are a way for the brain to automate repeated patterns of behavior in order to ensure we use our awareness more efficiently throughout the day."

To change a habit, said Bazzi, we should examine the motivation that precedes the routine — and identify the reward from practicing that routine.

"For example, if I want to stop drinking alcohol on weekdays, I need to identify the cue (eg. a desire to decompress after work) that triggers the routine (eg. going to the local happy hour) and the reward (eg. relaxation and socialization)."

"Then, I need to consciously decide to replace the routine with another behavior from which I can derive similar satisfaction." Know why most New Year's resolutions fail

Many New Year's resolutions involve changing habits, said Bazzi — but often, many people don't "account for the fact that a habit cannot be eradicated but must be replaced with another habit."

She added, "Otherwise, I have removed a source of satisfaction from my life without replacing it with a more productive behavior — and I am bound to revert to my maladaptive habits when cued by bore-

dom, loneliness, or other negative emotions that often cue bad habits."

"I need to consciously decide to replace the routine with another behavior from which I can derive similar satisfaction."

New Year's resolutions also tend to fail because there's a lack of accountability.

"As you can imagine, I am far more likely to succeed if I plan for the change in routine and implement 'fail safes' to ensure I succeed along the way," Bazzi said.

"For example, before I change my routine, I would obtain a gym membership and elicit the support of friends, family, and coworkers."

Also, most New Year's resolutions are often vague — without a detailed road map to follow. "I am far more likely to succeed at improving my diet if I set concrete, discrete and specific goals and break them down into bite-sized pieces," Bazzi noted.



Think of each Monday as a mini New Year's

The Monday Campaigns suggests that if people want long-term results for their health goals, they should think of each

Monday as a mini New Year's.

"By turning a single New Year's resolution into regular 'Healthy Monday Resolutions,' people can create 52 opportunities to refresh intentions throughout the year, versus just one," Hernandez of The Monday Campaigns told Fox News Digital.

By holding ourselves accountable every week, we can examine our behavior "without judgment" — and make adjustments, say experts.

"This increased regular commitment may also help sustain healthy behavior over time."

The Monday Campaigns provides a free, five-week "New Year's Refresh Package" on its website. It offers a variety of activities to get on track with goals, as well as the help that may be needed to commit to them. "Smaller, more reasonable goals' work better

"First, with a Monday reset, you can set smaller, more reasonable goals and check in with yourself regarding your progress once weekly, instead of yearly with resolutions," Bazzi said.

She said that by holding ourselves accountable every week, we can examine our behavior "without judgment" — and make adjustments accordingly.

By taking smaller steps toward change, there's an opportunity to celebrate the small wins frequently — "which serves as a reward and replaces the reward derived from the undesirable habit."

Bazzi added, "Small chang-

es are the key to success." Know the 'fresh-start effect' and why it works

Behavioral scientist Katy Milkman, a professor at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and the author of "How to Change: The Science of Getting from Where You Are to Where You Want to Be," found that many people are better at setting new goals around "temporal landmarks," such as the start of the New Year, or what is called the "fresh-start effect."

"Our team conducted a nationally representative survey in 2021 with Data Decisions Group, and a higher proportion of respondents described Monday as an opportunity for a 'fresh start' over those who 'dread' Mondays," Hernandez told Fox News Digital. "More than 80% indicated that starting healthy behaviors such as physical activity or eating better on Monday would improve the likelihood of continuing the behavior for the rest of the week."

Researchers at Johns Hopkins University also found that Monday holds a special significance within western cultures and may serve as a valuable day to send periodic health messages.

"Small changes have an impact, not only on an individual level but on a global level," Bazzi noted. "By increasing our awareness of our habits and taking a few minutes, once a week, to celebrate our ability to transform and grow, we can strive toward greater change, every day," she said.

Anyone can learn more about the "New Year's Refresh Package" on the website [mondaycampaigns.org](http://mondaycampaigns.org).



MID-MICHIGAN

# Ypsilanti-area commissioner picked as new chair of Washtenaw County board



Washtenaw County Commissioner Justin Hodge speaks at the Juneteenth flag raising ceremony at the Washtenaw County Learning Resource Center on June 17, 2022. Ryan Sun | rsun@mlive.com

By Lucas Smolcic Larson | lsmolciclaron@mlive.com

**WASHTENAW COUNTY, MI** - With the new year comes new leadership — and new faces — on Washtenaw County’s top elected body.

The all-Democrat Board of Commissioners chose Justin Hodge, a University of Michigan clinical assistant professor of social work and Ypsilanti Township resident, as its next chair on Wednesday, Jan. 4.

After winning reelection in November, Hodge is entering his second term representing District 5, covering much of Ypsilanti Township and Augusta Township.

“I’m deeply humbled and honored by this. I know it’s an incredible responsibility, and I’m very grateful for all of you for placing your trust in me to be able to do this,” he said, after his fellow commissioners unanimously voted for him to take on the leadership position.

Hodge will step into the role filled for the previous two years by former Commissioner Sue Shink, now kicking off her first term in the state Senate. As a social worker, Hodge said he began his career working for a community mental health agency, an experience that educated him in the power of county government. “To the residents of Washtenaw county, I commit to doing everything in my power to help make our home a place where everyone has the opportunity to thrive,” he said.

Joining Hodge in a leadership position on the board will be Commissioner

Caroline Sanders, who was elected vice chair, also by a unanimous vote of the board. Sanders, an Eastern Michigan University administrator and Pittsfield Township resident, represents District 4, covering Pittsfield Township, a small piece of Ann Arbor and part of Ypsilanti Township, and is also entering her second term.

Sanders and Hodge will lead a board that after the November 2022 election is majority-minority, also with more women than men, observers assembled to congratulate newly sworn-in commissioners on Wednesday noted. The body stayed all Democrat for the third election cycle in a row, and county Clerk Larry Kestenbaum, serving his yearly duty sitting in the chair’s seat and running the meeting before Hodge’s election, reminded commissioners of that fact. “Not every point of view that exists in the county is represented here,” he said, urging elected officials to strive to represent the entire county and observing that the board’s power comes from its work as a collective.

“When you leave the room at the end of the meeting what’s accomplished is what the

group has accomplished,” he said.

That group will be comprised three faces who weren’t at the board table in December. They are first-time Commissioners Annie Somerville, a former Ypsilanti City Council member elected in District 6, and Superior Township resident Crystal Lyte, elected in District 2. Somerville is state Sen. Jeff Irwin’s chief of staff, while Lyte directs an EMU program serving formerly-incarcerated people pursuing degree programs and certifications. oining them and making a return to the county board is Commissioner Yousef Rabhi, representing Ann Arbor’s District 8. Rabhi, fresh off three terms in Lansing as a state representative, was first elected to the board as a 22-year-old University of Michigan student in 2010 and served six years before making the jump to state government.

On Wednesday, Somerville was elected as chair of the board’s working session, which takes place ahead of its regular 7 p.m. meeting and is normally a space for presentations and discussion without any votes taken. Commissioner Andy

LaBarre, representing Ann Arbor’s District 7 as the board’s most senior member, will serve as working session vice chair.

The four commissioners in board leadership positions typically work together between meetings to develop agendas, with the chair in charge of running the meeting, according to Hodge.

In an interview with MLive/The Ann Arbor News, he cited ensuring county residents have an affordable place to live as a key goal for the county board this year.

“We know that the county is not going to solve the affordable housing crisis on our own, we’ll have to do it with partnerships with local governments because they control zoning, but addressing the affordable housing crisis is going to be one of our top priorities,” he said. With the first meeting of the year normally reserved for organizational matters, like selecting leadership, approving board rules and making appointments to various boards and commissions, the county board will hit the ground running at its next meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 18.

## POETREE N MOTION

TIMING IS OF THE ESSENCE

© Dee Freeman

It is time to dislodge these Institutionally designed Systemic racist and unjust policies Embedded as yet the law of the land

It is time to have a seat at the table Where only old white men gather to Decide our fate and future... Let’s be in the room, speaking Truth for them to hear

It is time to have a change of narrative... A change in how we see the truth A change in how we hear the truth A change in how we feel the truth A change in how we tell the truth A change in how we walk the TRUE path

It is time to plant and cultivate The idea of Equity for all The idea of acknowledgment The idea of reconciliation The idea of strength in diversity The idea of equality

It is time the WHOLE of history gets an

Intentional re-write...for our history is America’s History...we want precise delineation Our history is indelibly intertwined Our contributions...coerced or not Browbeaten or not...Bludgeoned or not Bulldozed or not...Are integral parts of this nation’s success

It is time to use CRT to dismantle the southern whitewashed “Glorious time” of that vicious and horrendous time of Slavery It is time to debunk the myths and distorted facts Developed by sinister forces... religious Bigots and racists These were to reinforce repression, dehumanize and suppress It is time to set the record straight...

It is time to place markers, monuments and Flags to commemorate and memorialize my people It is time to provide historical data of the extensive Contributions made by my people

It is time to tell... The good, The bad, and The ugly! The blood drenched horrors The deep dark hatred The hard truths of yesteryear... Time is of the essence

It is time for us to stand up, speak up and open up! Open our minds, Open our hearts, Open our mouths! Open up to pay tribute to the ancestors Acknowledging their sacrifices of yesterday So that we might move forward today We extend gratitude to those... Who dreamed before us Who died before and for us... Making it possible for us to aspire life, liberty And the pursuit of happiness

Yet, In spite of it ALL... I am proud to say...we have made progress In spite of the TRAUMA In spite of the demeaning The FEAR tactics of... Beatings Burnings

Bombings Castorations Chains Draggings Mobs Lynchings Separations Shootings Slashings

We struggled through those racist injustices Which tried to relegate us to the lowest station of life Yet, our ancestors held fast and purged through the past So we might survive to position ourselves in the present To pursue possibilities of the future

Time is of the essence!! It is time! For transformation Of this Nation Time to Rise higher Time to reach further Time to live up to its creed Time to build on the glimmer of hope Time to straighten the arc of justice Time to heal this brotherly divide Time for restoration

It is time:

To eliminate the gridlocks To amend the constitution To be a full human being... Not just 3/5. To foster brotherly love... In our mind... In our heart...in our actions

It is time: To get the True God... the Creator back: Into our lives, our purpose for living, Into our schools and education Into our marriages...at the dinner table Into our finances Into our living room! Into the board room On the congressional board On the Supreme Court Bench In the Oval Office...into the world Time to swell that thin sliver Of justice into a broadband network of love For “Timing is truly of the essence”



SOUL II SOUL INFLUENCE: THE TABULA RASA 01032023

Pastor/Chaplain Pamelajune (Pj) Anderson, DMin.

Soul II Soul Spiritual Fitness Couch

Lt. Commander (RET) US Navy Chaplain Corps

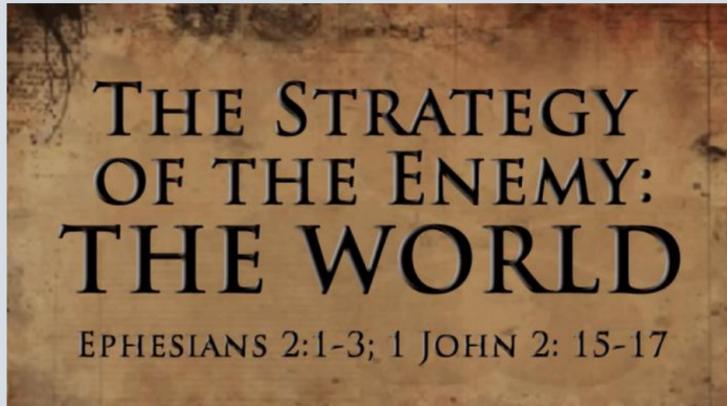
Certified Peer Support Specialist



BE STILL AND YOUR SOUL WILL SPEAK

<sup>2</sup>“You are my little children, so I am writing these things to help you avoid sin.

If, however, any believer does sin, we have a high-powered defense lawyer—Jesus the Anointed, the righteous—arguing on our behalf before the Father. I John 2:2. The Voice



Eternal God and Faithful Friend, Your goodness, capacity to forgive, and loving-kindness are beyond measure. As sinful as we are, Paul’s letter to the Christians in Colossae reminds us that God’s forgiveness is forever. Paul continues, “when Jesus died on the cross, He not only forgave everything we had

done in our past, He also committed Himself to forgive and forget every sin we would commit in the future.”

The word “sin” has virtually disappeared from the modern conversation. We call sin something else—a mistake, an addiction, a tendency, a wrong decision. But John calls the church to a radical holiness where those in the church will regularly remember their sins and seek God’s forgiveness. Not to beat up on ourselves or give way for someone else to badger us or for us to take advantage of cheap grace, but to realize the benefit of confessing our sins to God, who is faithful to forgive and forget them.

When I think of the Tabula Rasa, also known as “clean slate,” I think of the Resurrection that we live through every day and throughout the day. Rising to experience the newness of life. Rising above the fray. Rising first to spend time with God through meditation and reflecting on God’s goodness. Rising to leverage our influence on behalf of Jesus Christ. Knowing whatever I cannot do, God can do because of his power. Knowing whatever I do not know, God knows because of his Wisdom. Knowing that whatever God does in my life, I can trust that it is for my benefit because of his goodness.

If God is willing to forgive and forget, God will make it easy for us to do likewise.



Everyone is welcome. All denominations are encouraged to come and celebrate the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on his birthday.

Reverend Iris Cotton, Greater Lansing Clergy Forum  
Rev. MLK Jr. Committee Chair

IT TAKES A VILLAGE

5 PM  
SUNDAY  
JANUARY 15



OUR 2023 KEYNOTE SPEAKER



DR. LEE JUNE

Professor, Psychology  
Minister, Author  
Commissioner, Greater  
Lansing Dr. MLK, Jr.  
Holiday Commission



FOR QUESTIONS AND INFORMATION CALL 517-367-0644

EVENT ADDRESS:

UNION MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH  
500 S. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BLVD.,  
LANSING MI 48915

ATTEND ONLINE

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NGYOUTUBE9481



Celebration

Announcements

Mr. Party, The Ambassador of Celebration

Birthdays in JANUARY

- Mr. Randall Barron celebrates his birthday on January 7th.
- Ms. Brandi Day celebrates her 38th birthday on January 7th.
- Mr. Carson Reilly Mrazek celebrates his birthday on January 8th.
- Mr. Marion Shipman celebrates his 106th birthday on January 8th.
- Mr. Jeffrey Brown celebrates his birthday on January 9th.
- Ms. Angie Cooper celebrates her birthday on January 9th.
- Ms. Jessica Marcolini, on January 9, 2016, celebrated her 39th birthday with family and friends.
- Mrs. Helena Dubose celebrates her birthday on January 10th.
- Mr. Ernest Colwell celebrates his birth on January 10th. Keep the Faith!!!
- Mr. Mark Guy celebrated his 59th birthday on January 11th, family and friends.
- Ms. Julie Lundberg celebrates her 42nd birthday on January 11th, with friends.
- Mrs. Coral Brown celebrates her birthday on January 12th, with her loving husband Andy, daughters Aerimya, Miakoda and Son Sequoia.
- Mr. Mike Cole celebrates his birthday January 12th.
- Ms. Debra A. Warren celebrates her birthday on January 13th.
- Mr. Cornelius Lewis celebrates his birthday on January 13th. Right on Brother!
- Mr. Thomas Glast celebrates his birth on January 13th.
- Mr. Steven Childress celebrates his birthday on January 13th.
- Mr. Kobe Williams celebrates his 20th birthday on January 14th.
- “Happy Birthday - Kobe - I love you- Love Mom!”
- Ms. Beverly Lewis celebrates her birthday on January 14th.
- Dr. Eva Evans celebrates her birth on January 14th.
- Ms. Rosemary Glast celebrates her birth on January 14th.
- Mrs. Marta Barron celebrates her birthday on January 14th.
- Ms. Peach, Detroit native, celebrated her birthday on January 14, having graduated, Social Science degree from MSU, December 2016.
- Mr. David Washaw AKA Bill Gierke will celebrate his 55th birthday on January 15th, with family and friends
- Mr. Ernest Wallick celebrates his birthday on January 15th.
- Mr. Melvin Hackel celebrates his birthday on January 15th.
- Ms. Nichole Garvie will enjoy her 43rd birthday on January 16th, with her family and friends! “We love you forever!”
- Mr. Izaak Rodriguez celebrates his 18th birthday on January 16th.
- “Mommy loves you and will always be there for you!”
- Mr. Thomas Black Jr. celebrates his birthday on January 16th.
- Ms. Sharon Harris celebrates her birthday on January 16th.
- Mr. Bruce Mosley celebrates his birthday on January 16th.
- Ms. Misty Gonzales celebrates her birthday on January 17th.
- Mr. Gregory Eaton, celebrates his birthday on January 17th. (Gregory’s Soul Food). “Thanks Gregory, for schooling me!”
- Ms. Adrianna Hill celebrates her 18th birthday on January 17th.
- Ms. LA’shuan Jordan celebrates her birthday on January 19th.
- Ms. Rita Zala celebrates her birthday, with her husband, on January 19th.
- Mr. Jerry Gilkie celebrates his birthday on January 19th.
- Ms. Dorothy Dungey celebrates her birthday on January 19th.
- Ms. LaShawn Jordan celebrates 41 years of life on January 19th.
- Mrs. Rosa Moss-Hargrove celebrates her birthday on January 20th.
- Ms. Deana Schunacher celebrates her birthday on January 20th.
- Ms. Deborah Benson celebrates her birthday on January 20th.
- Ms. Danielle Phillips celebrates her 40th birthday on January 20th.
- Ms. Deanna Schunacher celebrates her birthday on January 20th.
- Ms. Kendra Horton celebrates her birth on January 21st.
- Mr. Justus Dodd celebrates his birthday on January 21st.
- Ms. Jennifer Peatross celebrates her birthday on January 21st.
- Mr. Paul A. Tyler celebrates his 55th birthday on January 21st.
- Ms. Christina “Beanie” Deleon celebrates her 33rd birthday on January 21st.
- Love from Ms. “Capitol City” and Jeanie.
- Ms. Shaquta Lee celebrates her 31st year of Life, January 21st
- Mrs. Sophie Flowers celebrates her birthday on January 22nd, with her loving husband Ron.
- Ms. Emma Swinton celebrates her birthday on January 22nd “Righton Sista!”
- Mrs. Jayme A. King celebrates her 43rd birthday on January 22nd with her husband Larry King II, son Larry King III and daughter Kaylee. GOD BLESS!!
- Mrs. Mattie Morris celebrates her birthday on January 22nd, with family and friends.
- Mr. Huguey celebrates his birthday on January 22nd.
- Mr. Stanley McNeely Jr. celebrates his birthday on January 22nd.
- Ms. Deann Vue celebrates her birthday on January 22nd.
- Mrs. Rebecca King celebrates her 37th birthday on January 23rd, with her loving husband Leroy and son Wyatt King.
- Ms. Motif Demyers celebrates her 38th birthday on January 23rd.
- Mr. Hugh Scott Sr. celebrates his birthday on January 23rd with family .
- Mrs. Mary Stephenson celebrates her birthday on January 23rd, with her husband John. She states, “She is 29 once more!”
- Ms. Kimberly Hetchler celebrates her 57th birthday on January 23rd. She has served in the National Guard for 30+ years, retired. She states, “My life and family is the Guard. I would like to thank my children Kristna and Andrew for supporting me through everything!”
- Mr. Robert “Bob” Farr celebrates his 77th birthday on the 23 of January.
- Ms. Alexis Henry celebrates her birthday on January 24th.
- Mr. Marshawn Blake, Lansing Fire Marshall, celebrates his birthday on January 24th. “To him, and all firefighters, thank you for the job you do!!!”
- Ms. Khlorese “Koko” Walton celebrates her 43rd birthday on January 25th.
- Ms. Carolyn Morgan celebrates her birth on January 25th.
- Mr. Ralph Riddle Jr. celebrates his birthday on January 25th.
- Ms. Mary Walker celebrates her birthday on January 25th.
- Ms. Alex Campanile celebrates her 27th birthday on January 25th.
- Mr. Chris “Blessed” Hicks celebrates his birthday on January 26th.
- Mrs. Cordree McConnell celebrates her birthday on January 26th, with her loving husband Bob.
- Mrs. Doris Grimes celebrates her birthday on January 26th. “We love you Mama!!! from all of your children.”
- Mr. Morocdzs Rush celebrated his birthday on January 26th, with family and friends. “Straight from Mississippi, Thank GOD for blessing me!” GOD Bless.
- Ms. Antrinette “LaShawn” celebrates her birthday on January 26th.
- Ms. Capucine Gast celebrates her 56th birthday on January 26th with Ms. Vicki Rose, lifelong friends born same hospital, 12 minutes apart!
- Mr. Ronnie Brown celebrates his birthday on January 27th. Right on Brother
- Ms. Stacy Sada celebrates her 51st birthday on January 27th.
- Mr. David Cole, To his memory, celebrated his birthday on January 27th with wife, Linda, family and friends; give the drummer some: you got it David! .
- Mr. Jay Townsley Jr. celebrates his birthday on January 27th. PraiseTheLORD
- Ms. Shyann Gilky celebrates her birthday on January 27th.
- Ms. Elizabeth Lopez celebrates her birthday on the 28th.
- Ms. Diane McEwen celebrates her birth on January 28th.
- Ms. Sheila Jones celebrates her birthday on January 28th.
- “Thank GOD for another year!”
- Ms. Kamiea Kimble celebrates her birthday on January 29th.
- Ms. Alethia Thomas celebrates her birthday on January 30th. “Your family loves you very much.”
- Mr. Leroy King celebrates his birthday on January 31st, with his loving wife Rebecca and son Wyatt King.
- Ms. Laura Warr celebrates her birthday on January 31st.
- Mr. C. Lamont Mitchell enjoys his birthday on January 31st.
- Mrs. Martha Bibbs celebrates her birthday on January 31st with her loving husband, Coach Jim Bibbs and family.

\*Anniversaries

Mr. Claude and Mrs. Woodia Browne were married January 3rd. “to God be the Glory

\*Announcements

Mr. Party Website: [www.mrpartycelebrationservice.com](http://www.mrpartycelebrationservice.com)

Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/mrparty1985](http://www.facebook.com/mrparty1985)

Celebration Gram – A Class Act: Have your special message delivered by Mr. Party for that special someone or special occasion!

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Call: 517-391-4849 or Email: [mrparty1985@gmail.com](mailto:mrparty1985@gmail.com) Please send the information about you, your family or friends celebrating the Events of Life: Celebration Announcements Please let us know if you have anyone to celebrate!

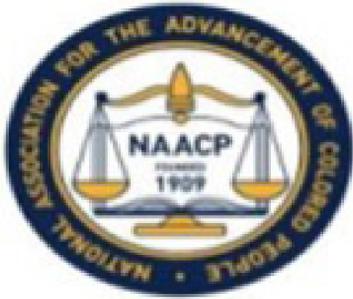
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**NAACP.**

Lansing Branch

### Lansing Branch NAACP to Swear-in New President

Ceremony for President Harold A. Pope and other elected officers to take place Thursday

LANSING – Longtime NAACP member and Lansing resident Harold A. Pope has been elected president of the Lansing Branch NAACP. The swearing-in ceremony will be at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 5 at the former Otto Middle School located at 500 East Thomas Street. All of the branch officers will receive the Oath of Office at the ceremony with participation of the executive committee and other branch members.

Pope, a Lansing resident since 2008, has served in various capacities on the Lansing Branch including vice president, chair of military and veteran affairs and as parliamentarian. His main goals are to grow the branch's membership and work with the Greater Lansing community to eliminate disenfranchisement within Black communities and other marginalized groups. "I'm looking forward to working with the new officers and executive commit-

tee members as we continue to grow this branch," Pope said. "I am keenly focused on retaining current members and growing our younger membership both in the branch and within its Youth Council. I'd also like to see those members that haven't been as active return to help our efforts to fight for democracy. I am fired up and ready to serve."

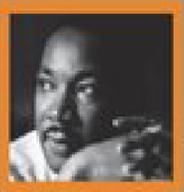
Carrie Owens, a Lansing resident since 1964 and a longtime Lansing Branch member, feels optimistic about the new leadership and the direction of the branch.

"We are grateful for our new officers and various committee members and their commitment for the next two years," said Owens, a retired educator. "We need to demonstrate that we deserve all of the equal rights, privileges, justice and freedom for all people."

In addition to Pope, the new officers include First Vice President Versey

Williams, Second Vice President Melvin Coleman, Third Vice President Derrick Knox Jr., Secretary Yolanda Bennett, Treasurer Nicole Evans, and executive committee members Dr. Pamela June Anderson, Robbin Bell, Fonda Brewer, Sharon Civils, Haywood Edwards, Dr. Lee June, James McCurtis Jr., Melvin McWilliams, Dan Segalman, Dr. Lee Taylor, Toni Wheeler and Winston Williams.

Founded in 1909, the NAACP is the largest and most pre-eminent civil rights organization in the nation. On April 14, 1919, the Lansing Branch was chartered under the leadership of Branch President C.A. Campbell. Lansing Branch is one of 2,220 branches in the association with the mission to secure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights in order to eliminate race-based discrimination and ensure the health and well-being of all persons.



**DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.**

*38th Annual Day of Celebration*

**JANUARY 16, 2023**

Join us at the Lansing Center  
333 E Michigan Ave 11:00 AM

For more details visit

[mlkmidmichigan.com/day-of-celebration](http://mlkmidmichigan.com/day-of-celebration)

