

# The New MICHIGAN BULLETIN.

Vol. XXIV No. 23

January 1-15, 2019

## The 411

Keeping The Dream Alive

JANUARY 2019

EVERY TUESDAY AND EVERY THIRD FRIDAY

Ballroom Dancing with Sterling Armstrong at Gregory's 2510 N. MLK Jr. BLVD. Lansing, MI for more info call 517-256-8051

JANUARY 15-20, 2019

"ANASTASIA"

COBB GREAT HALL for more info and tickets call 1-800-WHARTON

JANUARY 21, 2019

"34TH ANNUAL MLK JR. HOLIDAY LUNCHEON" 11:00AM Lansing Center for Tickets, Tables and other information contact Fonda Brewer, Manager of Ticketing at 517-410-2998

JANUARY 22, 2019

"BLACK HISTORY 101 MOBILE MUSEUM"

East Lansing Public Library 950 Abbot Rd, East Lansing, MI 48823 The event will be from 10:00 AM-6:00PM for more information call 517-351-2420

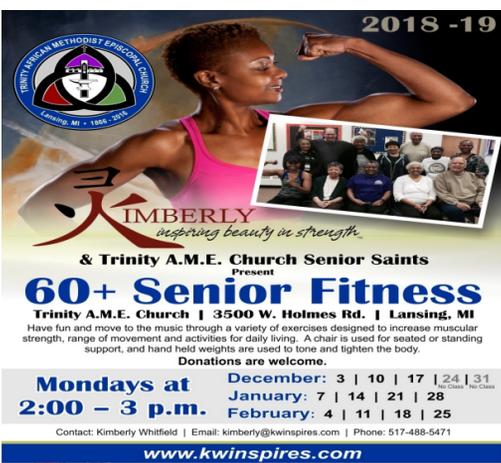
JANUARY 24, 2019

"JESSICA LANG DANCE"

COBB GREAT HALL for more info and tickets call 1-800-WHARTON

FEBRUARY 7, 21, 28, 2019

"MSU COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE SLAVERY TO FREEDOM LECTURE SERIES" Frederick D. Haynes III, Eugene Robinson, and Vernon Jordan will speakers at MSU's Kellogg Center 5:00PM for more information call 517-432-4979



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## R. I. P. Peggy Price

In Loving Memory Of  
Peggie Ann Price

A Tribute of Life

Sunrise: April 16, 1944 Sunset: December 26, 2018  
Wednesday, January 2, 2019 12:00pm  
Union Missionary Baptist Church  
500 S. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.  
Lansing, MI 48915  
Rev. Dr. Melvin T. Jones, Pastor

## MICHIGAN'S 1ST BLACK LT. GOVERNOR



Garlin Gilchrist II. Picture Courtesy of Bing.com

### Garlin Gilchrist II stands tall as Michigan's first Black Lt. Governor

Every inch of Garlin Gilchrist's 6-foot-8 frame stood tall as he was sworn in as the first black Lieutenant Governor of Michigan late Tuesday morning in Lansing on the steps of the State Capitol.

Gilchrist is the running mate of Gretchen Whitmer, who was sworn in as the 49th governor of the state of Michigan, making history as the state's second-ever female governor (Jennifer Granholm-2003).

Gilchrist, 36, opened by talking about his grandmother Doris, who was a social studies teacher in his hometown of Detroit. He said she was the first person to teach him about democracy when she walked him through the halls of the Michigan Capitol building years before he decided to run for office. "I think about her as we stand upon these steps this morning," Gilchrist said. "They are more than the pathway to the chambers of lawmaking and the halls of collaboration. They are the standing points that we as Michiganders gather upon every few years to

define the goals and promises our state will pursue."

Gilchrist said he stood on the Capitol steps due in part to "indigenous people", "immigrants", and "travelers" who planted seeds for his success.

"(We are) lifted by the dreams of grandparents like mine, who migrated here from Alabama, and Arkansas, and all across the world in search of opportunity," Gilchrist added. "Lifted here, in Michigan, where they came and found our pleasant peninsula that marks God's handprint. Lifted by the sweat of parents like mine, who as the first of their generation to go to college sacrificed to make real the promise of a middle-class life that could position their only child for success." Gilchrist also became the first black person to hold an executive office in Michigan since Richard Austin was Secretary of State in 1995 under John Engler.

He was born in Detroit, September 25, 1982 and moved to Farmington in 1989 where he graduated from high school in 2000. Gilchrist has a wife, Ellen, and 4-year-old twins Garlin Gilchrist III and Emily Grace.

Gilchrist's background is in progressive politics and computer programming. He used to work for Microsoft, was a political organizer for [MoveOn.org](http://MoveOn.org), and managed social media for Barack Obama's first presidential campaign.

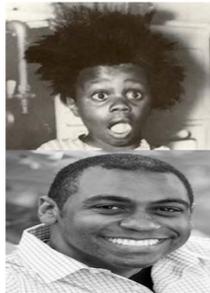
In 2017, he ran for Detroit city clerk in and was endorsed by a range of left-leaning groups, including Our Revolution, which grew out of Sen. Bernie Sanders' 2016 presidential run. He lost his run for city clerk by 1,482 votes out of nearly 100,000 ballots, but out-raised his incumbent opponent Janice Winfrey by more than 10-1. Before that, he ran Detroit's Innovation & Emerging Technology department under Mayor Mike Duggan. Those attending the ceremony included Whitmer's predecessor, Republican Rick Snyder, and Democratic former Govs. Granholm and Jim Blanchard. Others sworn in included Dana Nessel as attorney general and Jocelyn Benson as secretary of state. The last time Democrats jointly assumed control of the top four offices was 32 years ago. Article courtesy of the Michigan Chronicle's Branden Hunter.

### Black Marriott exec was compared to 'Buckwheat,' told to dance for colleagues: Lawsuit

A former sales executive for Marriott Vacations Worldwide alleges in a lawsuit that he was asked to dance during meetings as entertainment for other employees and that a photo of the character Buckwheat was used to represent him during a team building exercise.

Daryl Robinson is suing for unlawful race discrimination, unlawful race harassment, failure to prevent race discrimination and harassment and retaliation for opposing forbidden practices.

Robinson began working in February 2017 as a sales executive with Marriott selling time shares to vacation properties. He says he was the only



Daryl Robinson pictures by Getty Images

African-American employee in the office.

In the suit, filed in Los Angeles Superior Court on Thursday, Robinson alleges that he was asked on multiple occasions to dance by a director of sales during sales meetings, usually to music by Michael Jackson.

On another occasion, the director of sales complimented most of the staff by saying "we have a good-looking crew" or related comments, according to the lawsuit. The director of sales then looked at Robinson and allegedly said, "Daryl looks ready to breakdance." At another meeting, when Robinson did not submit a baby photo of himself to use for a team building exercise centered around how well employees knew one another, a colleague displayed a photo of "Little Rascals" character Buckwheat and asked the team: "Who do you guys think this is?"

Robinson says he had already informed his colleague who was collecting the photos that he did not have one to submit and that as the only African-American in the office, his photo would be easy to identify.

Robinson alleges that he was told by this colleague that if he did not provide a photo, she would use an image of Buckwheat. Robinson claims that he told her that the character was stereotypically racist, degrading to African-

Americans and would be inappropriate and offensive to him if she used it but she did anyway. Robinson walked out of the meeting after the photo was shown and his two supervisors apologized, the suit states.

Robinson also claims that he was not given a cubicle like the other sales representatives and instead, worked out of a "cramped" storage closet that had no air conditioning. The work space was half that of his colleagues, the suit states. He claims his co-workers even wondered aloud if he was put there because of his race, according to the suit.

Robinson's suit says his doctor put him on a medical leave because of his anxiety. Robinson determined that he could no longer work for the company and "was forced to give up his employment," the suit states.

Marriott Vacations Worldwide spokesman Ed Kinney told NBC News on Wednesday: "We are aware of the allegations of this suit but as a policy, do not comment on legal issues and matters." An attorney for Robinson could not be immediately reached.

Robinson is seeking unspecified compensatory and punitive damages, according to the lawsuit. Article by Janelle Griffith, a breaking news reporter for NBC News

### Trump Administration Proposes a 50% Cut SNAP Benefits for USDA Food Boxes The Program would affect 16.4 Million Households 81% of SNAP Recipients

Donald Trump released his fiscal 2019 budget proposal it included a proposed overhaul to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), typically referred to as food stamps.

Under the proposal, SNAP recipients would begin to receive some of their benefits in the form of a package with groceries inside.

Donald Trump's [new fiscal year 2019 budget](#) includes a radical proposed change to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, typically referred to as food stamps, that would see part of the program turn into a meal-delivery service.

As part of the budget, the Department of Agriculture — which runs the SNAP program — would send basic food items to households receiving more than \$90 a month in SNAP assistance in boxes.

"Under the proposal, households receiving \$90 or more per month in SNAP benefits will receive a portion of their benefits in the form of a USDA Foods package, which would include items such as shelf-stable milk, ready to eat cereals, pasta, peanut butter, beans and canned fruit, vegetables, and meat, poultry or fish," the budget reads.

According to the Department of Agriculture, the program would send food boxes to 16.4 million households, representing 81% of SNAP households. The boxes would account for half of the benefits for the household and the rest would be put on their Electronic Benefit Transfer card.

It is unclear whether the boxes would contain ingredients to be cooked, like meal-delivery kits from companies like Blue Apron or HelloFresh or contain fully cooked foods. According to the proposal states would be allowed to determine the method of delivery "through existing infrastructure, partnerships, and/or directly to residences through commercial and/or retail delivery services."

While it's unclear exactly how states would choose to distribute the items, Office of Management and Budget Director Mick Mulvaney called the new boxes a "Blue Apron-type program," referring to the popular meal-kit company.

"We thought it was a tremendous idea so what we do is propose that, for folks who are on food stamps — part, not all — part of their benefits come in the actually sort of — and I don't want to steal somebody's copyright — but a Blue Apron-type program where you actually receive the food instead of receive the cash," Mulvaney said at a briefing on Monday.

In Contrast to Blue Apron, the USDA boxes would have "shelf-stable" foods meaning that the produce and meats would not be fresh and come in non-perishable form like cans.

According to the Department of Agriculture, the program would save \$129.2 billion from the SNAP program compared to the current baseline over the next 10 years.

The budget says that the USDA Foods package will ensure that all food is sourced in the US and sets a standard nutritional value for recipients.

"USDA America's Harvest Box is a bold, innovative approach to providing nutritious food to people who need assistance feeding themselves and their families — and all of it is home grown by American farmers and producers," Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue said in a statement. "It maintains the same level of food value as SNAP participants currently receive, provides states flexibility in administering the program, and is responsible to the taxpayers." The Food Research and Action Center, a nonprofit working to end hunger in the US, blasted the proposal.

The new boxes will be "a Rube-Goldberg designed system of commodity distribution via food boxes that will be administratively costly, inefficient, stigmatizing, and prone to failure, and that will return the country to Depression-era anti-hunger approaches," said the group in a statement. Article Courtesy of Business Insider's Bob Bryan

# News, Views & Commentary

## What's Open and Closed During a Partial Government Shutdown

The December 21 deadline for funding a portion of the government, including the State Department, the Justice Department, the Transportation Department, the Agriculture Department, and the Department of the Interior, has long come and gone — and lawmakers are still trying to figure out deal. (Other agencies have already been fully funded, including the Department of Health and Human Services.)

As things stand, Congress still needs to pass seven spending bills, including the contentious Homeland Security appropriations bill, which governs funding for border security and a potential wall.

Because many agencies have already been funded, only about a quarter of the government is affected, unlike previous [wholesale shutdowns](#) in January 2018 and October 2013. Still, hundreds of thousands of employees have been furloughed and will likely receive back pay after the fact. Some services have already come to a halt, and even more are due to be cut back.

Here's a rundown of some of the things that will and won't be impacted by the partial shutdown.

### What's still running

Since roughly three-quarters of the government has been funded by existing bills, many services are set to remain intact. Other programs that have been classified as "essential" will keep running as well.

Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid are all slated to keep up their operations uninterrupted. All three programs fall under "[mandatory spending](#)" that the federal government has committed to — and are not affected by the annual appropriations process. (Medicaid also relies, in part, on state spending.) New applicants for these programs might face a wait, [however](#).

### The US Postal Service

Post offices will remain operational and mail delivery will continue. [As Rachel Wolfe has written for Vox](#), the USPS is funded by independent sources of revenue, including the sales of products and services — so it's not impacted by any kind of shutdown.

### Veterans hospitals and benefits

The Department of Veterans Affairs has already secured its funding, so veterans hospitals will maintain their routine operations. Veteran disability pay and GI Bill benefits are funded by their own legislation separate from the annual appropriations bills, so those would stay consistent, according to [Military.com](#).

### Food stamps

People will still be able to get food stamps and subsidized lunches, at least in the short term. But it depends on how long the shutdown lasts: the [US Department of Agriculture](#) has only had limited funding to maintain them without [newly approved appropriations in the past](#).

USDA has said that it will be able to continue [funding food stamps](#) through at least January.

### The military

Active duty members of the military are exempt from shutdown furloughs, [according to a contingency plan for the Department of Homeland Security](#). In the past, Congress has needed to pass separate legislation to ensure that members of the military are paid in a timely fashion during shutdowns. Otherwise, they could potentially see delays in their pay depending on if the shutdown extends past a certain payment cycle. Pay for most of the military has already been funded by bills earlier last year.

### The Mueller investigation

While special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into Russian election interference and the Trump campaign is under the purview of the Department of Justice, it will not be affected by any appropriations stalemate, since it has its own permanent source of funding, [CNN reports](#).

### Border patrol

Border security is at the heart of the shutdown fight and much of the staffing for it is on track to remain intact even in the face of a partial shutdown involving DHS funding. US Customs and Border Protection is classified as an "essential" service, so a majority of its employees are exempt from furloughs during the shutdown — though they could encounter lags in pay. [As Bloomberg reports](#), "the overwhelming majority of border patrol, emergency management and immigration enforcement staff would be able to keep doing their jobs, though with their pay delayed."

### Air traffic control and TSA

Air traffic controllers, who fall under the juris-



United States Capitol (Getty Images)

dition of the Federal Aviation Administration (which is under the Transportation Department umbrella) are deemed "essential," and will keep working during a partial shutdown. Similarly, Transportation Security Administration agents are also considered "essential" so airline travel is not expected to see disruptions on this front, [according to USA Today](#).

### The federal judiciary

The judiciary is able to maintain operations for a short period of time after funding runs out by using money it's gathered from various court-related fees including "funds derived from court filings," [according to the Congressional Research Service](#).

In 2018, the judiciary said it had the wherewithal to keep its operations open for about three weeks, notes CRS.

The federal judiciary has the money to keep operating at its full scale until at least Jan. 11 — at which point it could begin curtailing some of its functions, [according to Politico](#).

### Washington, DC

The city now has more autonomy over its budget and should be able to maintain most of its services, despite ties to federal appropriations.

During the 2013 shutdown, city officials had to scramble to ensure that DC had the money it needed to remain operational, but since then Congress has approved measures to insulate the impact [on the city in the event of a shutdown](#).

### What could be affected by a partial shutdown

Every agency has its own contingency plan set up in case of a shutdown, and there are a couple bodies including the IRS and National Parks that could see some pauses or breaks in service. Additionally, as [MarketWatch points out](#), the president has the ability to determine whether any service is "essential" or not — so it's possible he could try to shut down a key government function like air traffic control if he really wanted to make a point.

### National parks

National parks — which are funded as part of the Interior Department — have long been one of the most visible government entities affected by a shutdown [and many will remain open](#). [Much like last January's shutdown](#), many national parks are still accessible to visitors, but they will have limited staffing and closed access to various park facilities, [including restrooms](#).

Visitors are able to look up and check the status of different national parks at the national park index, [here](#).

### Museums

The Smithsonian had been operating its museums and the National Zoo using reserve funds from previous years, but it has announced that it will be closing them starting this week.

Due to the [#GovernmentShutdown](#), Smithsonian museums and the National Zoo are closed. We will update our operating status as soon as the situation is resolved. We do not plan to update social media other than to inform you of our operating status.

### The IRS

A key body under the Treasury Department, the IRS has indicated that it plans to furlough a significant fraction of its workers under a contingency plan, since tax season has yet to get underway. This partial shutdown could result in delays to this year's filing season, which was already expected to be complicated since it's the first to include the implementation of Republicans' [new tax reforms](#).

### State Department services

People will still be able to obtain passports and visas, although the State Department could curtail issuing them if those services are offered in buildings run by another agency that is shut down, [Bloomberg reports](#).

### Environmental and food inspections

The Environmental Protection Agency and the Food and Drug Administration could both reduce the number of inspections they are conducting on hazardous sites and various food products, respectively. Article by Li Zhou at



Every 4½ minutes, a baby is born with a birth defect.

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## MoneyWalk 414:

### Debt and Bondage vs Freedom and Wealth

This program will help you undo financial bondage.

The vast majority of investors earn far less than what the markets return over time due to (1) poor spending and investment habits largely due to the desire to have every iota of material things they can spend and borrow to get and (2) fear displayed in down markets which cause them to never invest or to pull their investments out of the market. The few people who tend to do much better are long-term investors with diversified portfolios that do not follow the above example and who generally avoid investment expenses higher than one-half percent annually.

The long-term average for the stock market has been about 11% since 1926 and has no twenty or more consecutive year period that experienced a loss. However most people earn less than 4% on average some experience huge losses because of the above noted desire and fear and thus fail to work a plan to get out of debt and use a good stewardship platform to help build wealth that serves them, their family, and others. Debt-freedom is the believer's heritage from the LORD that He empowers you to live in and prosper from so you can be all He made you to be.

Most financial pundits lead people down a path that keeps them broke and subject to foreclosure, bankruptcy, and repossession because the behavioral nature of failing to see the wisdom in debt-freedom leads people to take on more and more debt over time because they really do not see it as a problem. In fact, we come into contact with many who are broke and busted who talk about eliminating stress, pressure, depression, and trouble caused by debt by trying to borrow more to pay off their pain causing debt. Somehow, they think new debt (credit cards, personal loans, and such) and salesmen who peddle it are going to treat them better than they have in the past.

Let's not even mention the fact that people who have no aversion to debt do not control their impulses, which usually moves them to get more house than they can truly pay for without problems down the road including pain from the debt-based purchases they will get all the things for the house as

quickly and as often as they can.

It has not been uncommon for me to see people jumping around from house to house every five to seven years building no home equity and no wealth and buying many new furnishings for those houses even more often than that - all on debt. All the while they are putting very little, if anything, into investment accounts (Roth IRA, 401k, 403b, brokerage accounts, etc.) that would help them greatly in future years when they really need the assistance. This behavior often carries over into the use of debt to pay for over-the-top vacations and excessive activities for their kids (sports leagues, dancing, you name it).

Most of them get so used to having debt that they don't even look for better or lower cost alternatives because their use of debt has become a habit they dare not eliminate because it means they will not get things they want when they want them. Much of the getting is not good for them long-term because it is focused on getting things with depreciating value, low liquidity, and/or when their financial situation, if measured, shows they should not be trying to pay for right now.

Believe and employ God's instruction in the bible rather than man's instruction based on worldly habits. Follow His dream for your spiritual and financial fruitfulness versus the American Dream, pay off your debts including mortgages as quickly as possible, seek to stay that way, allow your financial plan (budgeting and debt-freedom) to be one that allows your disposable income to be the engine that will build wealth for the future through the God-given eighth wonder of the world - long-term compound interest and exponential growth.

Please pray for this ministry and email me with any questions. May the LORD bless you richly as you follow His plan!

**Deuteronomy 28:12, 44, Proverbs 6:1-2, Proverbs 22:6-7, Romans 13:8**

Please forward these bondage-breaking articles to other people who can use helpful insight!

You can find books authored by Randy Parlor and Karen Parlor at [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com)

You can find many other MoneyWalk articles on Facebook by looking at the NOTES created by Randy Parlor at <https://www.facebook.com/#!/profile.php?id=100000444069041&sk=notes>.

**SOUL FIBER: RE-CONNECTING SOUL II SOUL – RECEIVE GOD'S BEST IN THE NOW**



Ministry of Presence With  
 Pastor/Chaplain Pamelajune (Pj) Anderson, DMin.  
 Lt. Commander (RET) USN Chaplain Corps  
 Certified Peer Support Specialist



NOW, TODAY, IS THE DAY OF HOLY SPIRIT GRACE, PRESENCE, AND AWARENESS. BE STILL AND LISTEN TO HEAR HER VOICE

<sup>11</sup> For I know the plans I have for you," says the Eternal, "plans for peace, not evil, to give you a future and hope—never forget that. <sup>12</sup> At that time, you will call out for Me, and I will hear. You will pray, and I will listen. <sup>13</sup> You will look for Me intently, and you will find Me.  
 Jeremiah 29:11-13 The Voice (VOICE)



Jeremiah is given the above message during a time when God's people were in Babylon – that place away from home, that place we may find ourselves when we have left home – that place of KNOWING who and Whose we are. Like all prodigal children who "come to themselves" God has placed in our souls a yearning to return home, each and every time we roam.

What causes us to drift away from God? Many things. What is important is to BE aware of our distractions, our wandering into the past, our unconsciousness, our sleeping and immediately become Present with The Presence.

To BE Present is to BE Aware of God's goodness, mercy, grace, love, and wisdom in the

NOW. This is how you make the best of the best out of every situation.

When my beloved Soulson died April 19, 2014, I flat lined, spiritually speaking. Adding to a slow recovery, a few of my 49 Fine sands were experiencing their loved ones death, two of my Delta Sisters died, two of the Ministers for Racial, Social, and Economic Justice (MRSEJ) presidents died, and our beloved MRSEJ Queen Mother died. I reached such a state of mind that I was becoming all but dysfunctional. I made an appointment to speak with Bishop Yvette A. Flunder, founder of City of Refuge UCC and Prelate of The Fellowship of Affirming Ministries. After listening to me for about 30 minutes spilling my guts out to her, she uttered these four words YOU DESERVE GOD'S BEST.

This is my prayer and 2019 pledge: "To make a daily practice to come to myself, to come out of Babylon, and RECEIVE God's Best in the NOW."

**The Michigan Bulletin Staff**

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The views and opinions expressed in the Michigan Bulletin do not necessarily reflect those of the newspaper. The Michigan Bulletin welcomes letters to the Editor. All letters should be typed, no longer than 150 words, include signature, address and phone number or they will not be considered for publication. The Michigan Bulletin reserves the right to edit all letters. The letters will not be returned. Photos will not be returned unless a stamped, self-addressed envelope is enclosed.

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Letters to the editor should be mailed to:  
 The Michigan Bulletin c/o Editor  
 P.O. Box 13662 Lansing, Michigan 48901

*Celebration*

*Announcements*



Mr. Party  
 The Ambassador of Celebration™

Mr. Party, The Ambassador of Celebration

Tribute: Mr. Terry E Taylor

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Creator of Mr. Party marketing concept August 1985

C.A. column September 2006

**Birthdays in January 2019 I**

Mr. Marquist Spencer celebrates his 39th birthday on January 1st. Marc, there will always be a special place in my heart for you my brother!!! Love always and forever, Tracy B.

Mr. Juan Jordan celebrates his birthday on January 2nd.

Ms. Laurie Bush celebrates her 54th birthday on January 2nd.

Ms. Chari Johnson celebrates her 53rd birthday on January 2nd.

Ms. Julieta Wheeler celebrates 34th birthday on January 3rd, "We love you Jewels" states her mother Ms. Betty "Capitol City" Wheeler.

Mr. Daniell James celebrates his birthday on January 3rd.

Mr. Jackson D. Barron celebrates his birthday on January 3rd.

Ms. Heather Keyton celebrates her birthday on January 4th.

Ms. Brianna Brown celebrates her 28th birthday on January 5th. Your family loves you very much.

Mr. Andrew Peralez celebrates his 31st birthday on January 5th.

Ms. Contisha Salinas celebrates her 40th birthday on January 5th.

Mr. K-9 celebrates his 49th birthday on January 6th.

Ms. Sheree Shiver celebrates her 50th birthday on January 6th.

Mr. Dip J.D. Johnson celebrates his birthday on January 6th. He partied down!!!

Ms. Jessica Robinson celebrates her 33rd birthday on January 6th.

Mr. Christopher Wimberly celebrates his 24th birthday on January 6th.

Ms. Arianna Loudon celebrates her 18th birthday on January 6th.

Ms. Mildred Hall celebrates her birthday on January 6th.

Mr. Alvin Whitfield celebrates his birthday on January 6th.

Ms. Denise Johnson celebrated her birthday on January 6.

Mrs. Georgia Lee Brown (Lansing's Mother of the Year in 1953) born on January 7th, 1913 departed this life July 24th, 2013 living 100 years, 6 months and 17 days. Mrs. Brown stated, "I thank God for every moment of my life!" We... her family say... "To the greatest mother on earth... Thank you for loving us and teaching us to love others!!!"

Mr. Randall Barron celebrates his birthday on January 7th.

Ms. Brandi Day celebrates her 34th birthday on January 7th.

Mr. Carson Reilly Mrazek celebrates his 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 36th birthday with family and friends.

Mrs. Helena Dubose celebrates her birthday on January 10th.

Mr. Ernest Colwell celebrates his birth on January 10th.

Mr. Mark Guy celebrated his 55th birthday on January 11th with a party at Gregory's in Lansing with family and friends.

Ms. Julie Lundberg celebrates her 38th birthday on January 11th, with friends.

Mr. Mark Guy celebrates his 55th birthday on January 11th.

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 16th birthday on January 14th.

"Happy Birthday - Kobe - I love you- Love Mom!!"

Ms. Beverly Lewis celebrates her birthday on January 14th.

Ms. 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.

Mr. David Vashaw AKA Bill Gierke will celebrate his 51th 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.

Mr. Party Website: mrpartycelebrationservice.com

Face book Page: www.facebook.com/mrpartycserv

www.facebook.com/mrparty1985

Sportron International: www.mrparty.sportron.com

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**LS Jewelry Designs is Open for Business**

For Immediate Release

LS Jewelry Designs has a new renovated look at the Lansing City Market. We are excited about our new location and New designs, said Linda Sims-Wright, Owner.

Customers can enter the market seeing fresh flowers plants and the all-time popular wooden roses. We also have beautiful custom made aprons, jewelry, and the barefoot sandals just to name a few of our items. We are always looking at fresh new ways to incorporate things into the shop, and at the request of customers we added a section for men that includes ties, wallets cuff links and other accessories. Our designers are very creative and the new look speaks for itself in elegance. Exclusively at the shop is Luxe Creations by designers Toni Ansley of Good Year Arizona.

Remember this is Jewelry Designs especially for you in Lansing Michigan.



Owner-Linda Sims-Wright

**LS Jewelry Designs**

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Divine Connection Presents  
**9th Annual Pastors Salute Luncheon**  
 SATURDAY  
**FEBRUARY 16, 2019 @ 11 a.m.**

People of all race and denomination are coming together for food, fun, fellowship and a stroll down the red carpet

- Several Musical Guests
- Vendor Booths
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- A Cash prize to the Church that sells the most tickets

Tell us in your own words by letter, card or email as to why you feel your Pastor should be saluted to Divine Connection, P.O. Box 12024, Lansing, MI 48901 or pastorssalute@aol.com

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# THE REALS OF JUSTICE

## Recreational Marijuana in Michigan Part 1

By Ayanna D. Neal

I have been practicing law for over 16 years. I started my legal career practicing civil law. I handled child custody and divorce cases as well as contracts, and estate planning. For the past almost 15 years I have served this community as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney.



Ayanna Neal

I have worked in all the courts in Ingham County – family, district and circuit courts. I began my career as an Assistant Prosecutor working in the family court handling abuse and neglect and juvenile delinquency pre-trials and trials and mental health hearings. I then worked in all the district courts in Ingham County handling preliminary examinations for felony cases, and misdemeanor cases – pre-trials and trials, as well as traffic cases. I worked for years in the circuit court handling felony cases. I have also had special assignments as an Assistant Prosecutor. I've been a special prosecutor for domestic violence, arson, welfare fraud, criminal sexual conduct cases involving juveniles and currently serve as a special prosecutor for major drug cases in the Prosecutor's Ingham County Drug Addiction Response Unit and also handle civil forfeiture cases. I am also on the Criminal Sexual Conduct review team in which I review sex assault cases involving adults to determine if there is sufficient evidence to proceed and also provide input on how such a case should be handled.

I have handled thousands of cases and have gone to trial on numerous misdemeanor and felony cases. I have specialized training in forensic interviewing of children, DNA, investigating and prosecuting criminal sexual conduct cases, domestic violence prosecution, arson investigations, civil forfeitures, drugs and drug trafficking, overdose deaths, as well as medical marijuana.

Speaking of marijuana, in the November election, Michigan voters voted for recreational marijuana. There are a lot of questions about the new law as to what it means for those who like to indulge in Mary Jane, reefer, weed, or whatever you like to call it. Here are some excerpts from the new law that addresses a lot of the questions I've been asked:

MCL 333.27954 states:

Sec. 4.

1. This act does not authorize:

- (a) operating, navigating, or being in physical control of any motor vehicle, aircraft, snowmobile, off-road recreational vehicle, or motorboat while under the influence of marihuana;
- (b) transfer of marihuana or marihuana accessories to a person under the age of 21;
- (c) any person under the age of 21 to possess, consume, purchase or otherwise obtain, cultivate, process, transport, or sell marihuana;

To be continued...

\*Disclaimer & legal information: The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of any other agency, organization, employer, this newspaper or anyone else. This article is for informational purposes only and not for the purpose of providing legal advice.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | College of Osteopathic Medicine

presents The 19th annual Dr. William G. Anderson Lecture Series

## Slavery to Freedom

AN AMERICAN ODYSSEY



**Frederick D. Haynes III**  
Senior pastor of Friendship-West Baptist Church, Dallas; Haynes is also an author, radio show host and social activist. With a passion for people and community, he has been an activist against racial, economic and social injustice from the local to the national levels.  
Thursday, February 7, 2019, 5 p.m.  
Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center Auditorium



**Eugene Robinson**  
A Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and Washington Post columnist, Robinson long ago recognized the interconnections between politics and culture and frequently adds his unique view of the American narrative on MSNBC.  
Thursday, February 21, 2019, 5 p.m.  
Wharton Center, Pasant Theatre



**Vernon Jordan**  
Civil rights activist, presidential advisor and author, Jordan has held influential positions in politics, the public service arena, corporate America and law. A graduate of DePauw University and Howard University School of Law, he has never hesitated to speak truth to power or to choose his own path, regardless of others' views.  
Thursday, February 28, 2019, 5 p.m.  
Wharton Center, Pasant Theatre

The Dr. William G. Anderson Lecture Series: Slavery to Freedom gives members of the mid-Michigan community opportunities to interact with multicultural leaders from education, business, industry, entertainment and government. For 19 years, this series has featured living icons of the American civil rights movement.

All activities are free of charge.  
For more information call (517) 432-4979 or e-mail kilbourn@msu.edu.

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# DC GOLD CONNECTOR

## GOLD DIRECTOR ELITE RECEPTION EVENT

FRIDAY, JANUARY 11, 2019 & SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 2019







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# MID-MICHIGAN Gospel Best COMPETITION

GET READY, THE OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME IS COMING!

Looking for individual artist who have a love for singing Gospel, but are not yet signed to a label or have a contracted deal. Ten finalist will be selected to compete for the title.

Vocal video submissions are extended through **February 2, 2019**  
All submissions must be gospel music using **YouTube or MP4 format.**  
Submit vocal video via email to [mmgb@kminfo.org](mailto:mmgb@kminfo.org).

FIRST PLACE  
**\$2,000**

SECOND PLACE  
**\$1,000**

THIRD PLACE  
**\$500**

In addition, first place WINNER will win six hours of studio time, transportation and accommodations to either Chicago or Detroit for the next Sunday Best Auditions!

**FINALE HELD ON SATURDAY MARCH 23, 2019 | 7PM**

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