

# MICHIGAN BULLETIN

Celebrating 25 Years

Vol. XXV No. 10

June 16-30, 2019

## The 411 KEEPING THE DREAM ALIVE

JUNE 2019

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

MONTHLY-Coffee or Drinks with State Representative Sarah Anthony. For venue and times call 517-373-0826

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"THE FIRE CRUSADE REVIVAL"

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JUNE 22, 2019

"LANDING QUES BOAT RIDE"

Michigan Princess Dock 3001 W. Main St. Lansing, Michigan 48917 Boat Boards at 8:30 and Launches at 9:00PM Food and live entertainment included in the ticket price For more information call Sterling Armstrong at 517-256-8051

JUNE 25, 2019

"GREATER LANSING CHILDREN BREAK FEED PROGRAM"

Must Register by June 21<sup>st</sup> ID required. 1350 W. Lake Lansing Rd. East Lansing MI (Meijer) for information call City of Lansing HRCS Department at 517-483-4477

JULY 8-19, 2019

"B.C.F.I. Steam Ahead Summer Camp"

9:00AM-4:30PM Students Grades 1-8 Trinity AME Church 3500 Holmes Rd. Lansing, MI 48911 for information call 517-290-3004

### R.I.P. Dorothy Boone 1948-2019



### R.I.P. Ernie Wallick 1928-2019



### R.I.P. Lawrence Leathers 1981-2019



## JUNE IS BLACK MUSIC MONTH



Motown Museum –Detroit, MI. Photo by Marcus Jefferson

### What is Black Music Month?

Black Music Month began in 1979 when Kenny Gamble, Ed Wright, and Dyana Williams developed the idea to set aside a month dedicated to celebrating the impact of black music. Created by music business insiders, the group successfully lobbied President Jimmy Carter to host a reception on June 7th, 1979 to formally recognize the cultural and financial contributions of black music. Since 1979, Black Music Month has grown from a small

commemoration to national proportions with events held annually across the country.

In 2000, US-Representative Chaka Fattah sponsored House Resolution 509, which formally recognized the importance of Black music on culture and the economy during President Bill Clinton's administration. In 2009, President Barack Obama further defined June as African American Music Appreciation Month declaring the start of summer as a celebration for all the black "musicians,

composers, singers, and songwriters [who] have made enormous contributions to our culture."

"The music of our Nation has always spoken to the condition of our people and reflected the diversity of our Union. African-American musicians, composers, singers, and songwriters have made enormous contributions to our culture by capturing the hardships and aspirations of a community and reminding us of our shared values."

### New Rules on American Travel to Cuba Include Cruise Ban

The Treasury Department said it would crack down on the most popular ways for Americans to visit the island.

The Trump administration on Tuesday imposed new restrictions on Americans going to Cuba, banning the most common way Americans travel to the island. Beginning on Wednesday, the United States will not permit group educational and cultural trips known as "people to people" trips to the island unless they were booked before June 5, the Treasury Department said in a statement. Nor will it allow cruises, private yachts or fishing vessels to stop in Cuba. Group people-to-people trips have been used by thousands of American visitors. The move left tour companies and cruise lines assessing the impact and how they might have to modify their operations in Cuba.

Cruises have become the most popular way for Americans to travel to Cuba since 2016, when President Obama reopened relations with the island. This year, between Jan. 1 and April 30, 142,721 Americans went to Cuba on cruises, compared to the 114,832 who traveled there by plane. These numbers do not include Cuban-born Americans visiting family.

"Cuba continues to play a destabilizing role in the Western Hemisphere, providing a communist foothold in the region and propping up U.S. adversaries in places like Venezuela and Nicaragua by fomenting instability, undermining the rule of law, and suppressing democratic processes," Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said in a statement on Tuesday explaining the administration's move. Tuesday's announcement came nearly two months after John Bolton, the president's national security adviser, said the Treasury Department would crack down on what it called "veiled tourism" and tour operators were not surprised to hear about the changes. But Tom Popper, president of the tour company Insight Cuba called the cruise ban, in particular, "devastating to the travel industry and the Cuban people."

The federal government has long restricted travel to Cuba, with the rules changing from one presidential administration to the next. Under the changes introduced by the Obama administration, Americans in 2016 were able visit either in groups or individually, as long as they fell into one of 12 categories, including "people-to-people" visits and "support for the Cuban people" trips, the two most popular. Under "support for the Cuban people" category, individuals can travel to Cuba, but they must have an itinerary filled with meetings and visits with local business owners, artists or others. They must plan on participating in local activities and staying in a private home, instead of a hotel.

Advertisement

"You have to have a full schedule of activities like going to meet with one community project and then another," Mr. Popper said. "Going to hang out at the beach in the afternoon won't cut it."

Mr. Popper said his company is changing its tours from "people-to-people" to "support for the Cuban people," a shift other tour providers will likely make.

"As we've done in years past — we've been providing Cuban travel for five presidents now — we'll change what we do to remain legal, remain compliant and show Americans an amazing side of Cuba," Mr. Popper said.

ViaHero, an online platform that connects travelers with locals to plan personalized trips, said the new regulations could help bolster business for tour providers who already give "support to the Cuban people" tours and for local businesses.

"We've been operating in the 'support for the Cuban people' category for three years and don't have to make changes to our operations," said Greg Buzulencia, C.E.O. of ViaHero. "And more people will use this category, which should help locals by making people book casa particulares." Those are small-scale lodgings that are run by individuals, not the Cuban government. Many of them are listed on Airbnb and other online booking platforms.

Major cruise lines like Carnival and Royal Caribbean operate trips to Cuba. They did not respond to requests for comment. But Pedro Freyre, a lawyer who represents cruise lines that travel to Cuba, said that, "If you have a cruise booked for Thursday, you should check with the cruise line; you might not be able to go." He noted that people who planned to fly and who had booked before June 5 would be allowed to go, even if they fell into the "people-to-people" category. Article courtesy of Tariro Mezewa of the NY Times.



Havana Cuba. Picture by Robert Rausch of the New York Times



# News, Views & Commentary

## Everything Travellers Need to Know About the REAL ID Act

Are your days of flying domestically using only your driver's license numbered? They could be, if you live in one of several states. As the deadline for the REAL ID Act looms, it's vital for you to know whether you live in any of the states where current driver's licenses don't meet the new criteria. If you are without a REAL ID come 2020, you might not be able to fly in the U.S. with just your state-issued ID Here's a quick and easy primer with every-



Photograph by Fonda Brewer

thing you need to know about the REAL ID Act, about when to use a REAL ID vs. a passport, and about the Department of Homeland Security's hard deadline on the changes. **What is the Real ID Act?** In 2005, the Real ID Act established nationwide requirements for state IDs as a post-9/11 security measure. States have had over a decade to make the changes: The deadline is now October 2020. But some are still struggling to make the switch to issuing the new, compliant licenses. Why? Some are having trouble finding the budget, or lack other logistical means to enact the changes. For travelers in one of the few remaining states that aren't compliant with REAL ID requirements, come 2020 this could mean that you'll need a passport or alternate form of identification for domestic air travel. **When is the REAL ID Deadline?**

The original deadline to implement the new regulations passed in 2016, but all non-compliant states have so far been granted extension periods until the October 2020 deadline. The Department of Homeland Security provides an up-to-date map on its website showing which state are compliant. When a new state is under review for approval, its status may change from "extension" or "not compliant" to the nebulous "under review" until compliance or an extension is again determined. For example, as of June 2019, most states were considered compliant—but seven states or territories are "not compliant." **October 1, 2020:** According to the DHS website, by this date "every air traveler will need a REAL ID-compliant license, or another acceptable form of identification, for domestic air travel" as well as to enter federal government buildings. If by this date your state license is not a REAL ID compatible one, you will need to bring another form of ID to the airport, like a passport. **How Do I Get a REAL ID?** Once your state passes REAL ID approval, you'll need to get the actual ID card. The process for getting your REAL ID is a little more difficult than the last time you renewed your license: You'll probably have to visit a DMV and provide paperwork, like proof of residency and proof of lawful presence in the United States. Check your state's DMV requirements online for more information.

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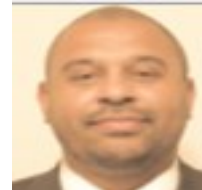
## MoneyWalk 395:

James 4:1-10

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

### Exaltation Comes in Due Time

This program will help you undo financial bondage.



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>.

You can connect with Randy Parlor on Twitter and LinkedIn

You can also view and/or listen to MoneyWalk articles at [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXnztoiesOKIrSd\\_H6c-8mQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXnztoiesOKIrSd_H6c-8mQ)

Many people believe the lie that it's their heritage to live the American dream no matter what the cost. Believers and unbelievers alike allow Satan to destroy their lives by making ownership of new material possessions a constant and the highest priority pursuit. On average, we purchase bigger homes every seven years and new cars every few years and expensive jewelry and clothing in even shorter intervals. We borrow money on a level that is four to five times greater than our income and getting larger all the time.

We believe we must borrow all that money because a 1500 sq. ft. house like the one we lived in with parents and four siblings is just not large enough for us and our two kids. Also, we think our three-year-old car was about to breakdown and cost us a whole lot more to repair in the future. I'm not against people enjoying material things that bring more comfort to their lives. However, God said people will have many frustrations and bondage when they are in debt, lack substantial savings, and love material things.

Satan excels at leading people who act by human instinct into such bondage by convincing you that the things you desire are needs. Yet, God's dream is infinitely better than the American dream because it will free you from bondage and ensure you are blessed eternally and naturally well into the future by helping you eliminate debt to build abundant savings and investments and increase giving to meet the spiritual and physical needs of others. In addition, you will have all that you need and much more.

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

Proverbs 21:17, Matthew 6:33, John 10:10,



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**Where:** Trinity AME Church, 3500 Holmes, Rd., Lansing 48917  
**When:** July 8 – 19, 9:00am – 4:30pm  
**Contact:** (517) 290-3004, [bcfi.freedomsschool@gmail.com](mailto:bcfi.freedomsschool@gmail.com)  
**Cost:** \$25/week (scholarships and discounts available!)  
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**2019**  
*The James & Martha Bibbs*  
**HUMANITARIAN AWARD Luncheon**

*Award Recipients:*  
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WILLARD K. WALKER  
HORTENSE CANADY (POSTHUMOUSLY)

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**SATURDAY, JULY 27, 2019**  
**3:00PM**

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY CLUB**

**\$45 Tickets available now at**  
[jpittsfoundation.com](http://jpittsfoundation.com)

## What is Juneteenth

Juneteenth is a holiday marking the end of slavery in the United States. In the confusion and turmoil as the Civil war ended, many blacks did not immediately learn of General Robert E. Lee's April 1865 surrender to Union General Ulysses S. Grant in Virginia. In fact, Texans fought on through May, when they finally learned that the war had truly ended.

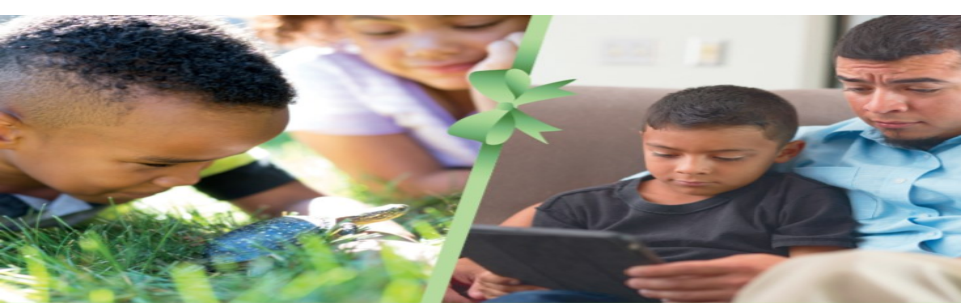
When Union Army General Gordon Granger landed at the Texas Port City of Galveston to take command of the military district of Texas, one of his first actions after landing in June 1865, was to read General Order #3 to the people of Galveston. General Granger read, "The people of Texas are informed...all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of personal rights and rights of property between former masters

and slaves..." Thus, June 19th (Juneteenth) - became the emancipation date of those long suffering for freedom, the newly freed slaves of Texas. This tradition of celebration has remained strong well into the 21st century and is celebrated in many states throughout the nation. Juneteenth is honored like the Fourth of July, with prayer services, inspirational speeches, reading of the Emancipation Proclamation, stories from former slaves, picnics, games, rodeos, dances and festivals. The celebration of Juneteenth is a multicultural recognition of the triumph of the human spirit over the cruelty of slavery. For African Americans, it is a tribute to the strength, endurance and faith of their ancestors. For all of America it is a reminder that none of us is free until all of us are free!

## Are immigrants treated well in the U.S?

By Ali Ziyadi, Michigan Bulletin Intern

Since 2016, the Trump administration have had an issue with immigrants and foreigners entering and living in the US. They have disrespectfully voiced their opinions that immigrants have destroyed this country and their objective is to "make America great again". What they fail to realize that America is already great because it was built by people of many nationalities and religions. They are also trying to build a wall to block off Mexico, and they were able to get millions of dollars from donations. While many research and projects are struggling for funds to help find a way to end cancer and other horrible, but from their actions ending cancer would not make America great again. We only have a little over a year left of the trump administration, hopefully we as a nation would not make the same mistake again.





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**SOUL FIBER: TO KNOW GOD IS TO HEAR TRUTH**  
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 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>2</sup> "I know your deeds, your tireless labor, and your patient endurance. I know you do not tolerate those who do evil. Furthermore, you have diligently tested those who claim to be emissaries,[a] and you have found that they are not true witnesses. You have correctly found them to be false. <sup>3</sup> I know you are patiently enduring and holding firm on behalf of My name. You have not become faint. Revelations 2: 2-3 The Voice (VOICE)

**DONT** let your **EARS** witness what your **EYES** didn't see.  
**DONT** let your **MOUTH** speak what your **HEART** doesn't feel  
**LIVE** an **HONEST** life.



"AND GOD, You have given us a WORD from John the Beloved that is both a heads-up and an affirmation. You warn us not to tolerate those who do evil. Less than two weeks ago, Pat Robertson prophesized, "God will vomit & get rid of America if the Equality Act passes, and we'll get hit with a solar strike or atomic war." Please note, on May 20, 2019, the House passes a sweeping anti-discrimination bill to expand protections of LGBT people – the Equality Act 2019."

If Pat Robertson had said, "there will be unprecedented flooding in the mid-west." If Robertson had claimed that "there will be tornadoes ripping through neighborhoods in the south." If he had proclaimed that Mt. Etna would blow her top. Perhaps there would be some credence to his predictions. What God is showing us, however, is that there are emissaries found to be not true witnesses. To KNOW God is to hear the truth.

As I pray "God, let me see what cannot be seen by the natural eye; heard with the natural ear; smell what has no fragrance; taste what has no flavor, and touch what has no substance" my spiritual senses come to attention. I am empowered to discern that which is false so as not to be vulnerable to misinformation, miseducation, and misleadings that leads down the path of fearmongering.

What God is doing for me, God will do for you. It begins with seeking first the path of righteousness – right relationship – with the One who says "I Am the way, the Truth, and the Life." TO KNOW GOD IS TO HEAR TRUTH.

## BEYOND EMANCIPATION: WE'VE COME A LONG

By Dee Freeman

Black History, your history and my history...We all gather to celebrate successes we've made, which are dear to me, hopefully, also dear to you. We gather to celebrate our achievements because over the years, celebrating and acknowledgment have become the right things to do.

We gather to celebrate our movement beyond that noted date of emancipation.

We gather today to celebrate, wholehearted love, brotherhood—common purpose and co-operative participation.

We gather to show appreciation for the brave souls who sacrificed and fulfilled a covenant to move forward—never to relive that despicable past.

We gather to celebrate a time ancestors vowed to shake chains from mind, body and soul; with a unique strength only, they knew could toughen up to last.

We gather to honor an awesome people who bent to the lash; who shouldered heavy burdens; who birthed auction block babies; yet survived years of demoralization, torture, hatred ...and were never spoken to as they were...men or ladies.

We commemorate them because their strength has seeped past bitterness or resentment; and flowed through the years to fill us today with desires of hope, growth and empowerment; though not yet contentment.

We gather not to shed bitter tears of sorrow or to have a pity party nor dwell upon vengeance to erase embedded deceit, envy, and strife. We gather to celebrate a united people...as community, as one empowered to commemorate the lasting freedom from that evil and horrendous way of life.

We gather under the same Sun, moon and stars, with ideas, desires, goals, and excitement, as did courageous folk of years ago. We gather to uplift ourselves from ditches, to straighten our bent backs, though this process shows successes are many times, much too slow. We gather to raise our lowered eyes; condemning shameful servitude; to raise our attitudes to a new level of dedication and participation; with excitement we lift our spirits to untold heights of hope, courage, pride and determination.

We gather today to celebrate brotherhood, sisterhood; to celebrate life and love; health and wealth; liberty and prosperity; wisdom and mostly truth and freedom.

We gather in this chamber of learning to celebrate, elevate and communicate to the world upon what level we really begun, and somehow, someday... show with pride and enthusiasm, just how far, we all as a united people...through God's grace, just how far we have truly come.....A Long Way, Baby!!!

Yeah!!!!Our history shows ...we've come a long way! Baby!!!

Fresh Fire is Falling At...  
**THE FIRE CRUSADE REVIVAL**  
 Two Nights of Holy Ghost Power You Don't Want to Miss!!!  
**JUNE 21st 7PM & 22nd 3PM**  
 PRAISE & WORSHIP BY A COMMUNITY CHORUS  
 Pastor Damon Milton Voice of Power Deliverance Ministry June 21st 7pm  
 Bishop Michael Williams Greater Harvest New Testament Church June 22st 3pm  
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**Celebration Announcements**  
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### Birthdays in June 2019 II

- Mr. Cornelius Robinson celebrates his 66<sup>th</sup> birthday on June 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Ms. Alexis Dingman celebrates her 35<sup>th</sup> birthday on June 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Ms. Christelena Albrez celebrates her 25<sup>th</sup> birthday on June 16<sup>th</sup>, with her loving family.
- Ms. Tracy Woodrum celebrates her 48<sup>th</sup> birthday with family and friends.
- Mr. Anton Love will celebrate his birthday on June 17<sup>th</sup>,
- Ms. Renee Ostrander celebrates her 35<sup>th</sup> birthday on June 17<sup>th</sup>, saying, "Let's get crunked!"
- Mr. Tim Antes celebrates his birthday on June 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Ms. Nycole Williams celebrates her 48<sup>th</sup> birthday on June 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Ms. Angell A. Steele celebrates her 44<sup>th</sup> birthday on June 18<sup>th</sup>, with family and friends.
- Ms. Naomi Steele celebrates her 35<sup>th</sup> birthday on June 18<sup>th</sup>. "Happy birthday"
- Mr. Mario Gonzales celebrates his birthday on June 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Ms. Ordella G. Henderson celebrates her birthday on June 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Mr. Mitchell L. Brown will celebrate his birthday on June 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Mr. Stuart N. Chavis celebrates his birthday on June 18<sup>th</sup>. Shauna and the children say, "We Love You,"
- Ms. Dorothy McDougal celebrates her 34<sup>th</sup> birthday on June 18th, with her sister, Erika.
- Miss Ray'chelle celebrates her birthday on June 18<sup>th</sup>, with family and friends.
- Ms. Kelly Hopkins celebrates her 35<sup>th</sup> birthday June 19<sup>th</sup>. "I made it!"
- Ms. Courtney M. Cole celebrates her birthday on June 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Ms. Valerie Black celebrates her birthday on June 20<sup>th</sup>, "Happy birthday, GOD BLESS!!!"
- Ms. Bobbie PerDita, who celebrates her birthday on June 20<sup>th</sup>, will be providing Exclusive Image Consulting and celebrating Life period!
- Ms. Kim Trice celebrates her birthday on June 20<sup>th</sup>. "Thank GOD for another year"
- Mr. Mike Hubbell celebrates his birthday on June 20<sup>th</sup> with family and friends.
- Ms. Felicia Lawrence is celebrating her 52<sup>nd</sup> birthday on June 21<sup>st</sup>, "still young".
- Mr. Alexander Cabule celebrates his birthday on June 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Ms. Meghan Baty celebrates her 31<sup>st</sup> birthday on June 21<sup>st</sup>, with family and friends.
- Ms. Mary Lindsley celebrates her birthday on June 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Mr. Shain "Bubba" Shannon celebrates his birthday on June 21<sup>st</sup> with friends and family.
- Ms. Mildred Davis enjoys her birthday on June 21<sup>st</sup>, with family and friends.
- Ms. Meghan Marriot enjoys her birthday on June 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Mrs. Lady Rebecca" Richardson" Bellgowan, celebrates her birth on June 22<sup>nd</sup>; home with family and friends. "Mr. Party come on over, please".
- Mr. Marcus McWilliams' celebrates his birthday on June 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Ms. Michelle Jackson will celebrate her 48<sup>th</sup> birthday on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, enjoying her four children.
- Ms. Shakeva Suttles celebrates her birthday on June 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Mr. Jordan Luther Brown celebrates his 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, becoming a fine young gentleman whose family loves him very much. Keep up the good work, Student (Olivet College)
- Mr. Tamone Berry will celebrate his birthday on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, with his wife and family.
- Mr. B.J. Berry celebrates his birthday on June 24<sup>th</sup>, with his dad and family.
- Ms. Jessie May Jamison celebrates her 98<sup>th</sup> birthday with family and friends.
- Ms. Quiana Flores celebrates her 49<sup>th</sup> birthday on June 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Ms. Prossie Baby celebrates her birthday on June 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Mr. Earl Fowler celebrates his birthday on June 24.
- Ms. Jennifer Maldonado enjoys her 37<sup>th</sup> birthday on June 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Ms. Glenda Robinson will celebrate her birthday on June 25<sup>th</sup>, with love from her family.
- Mr. Kirk A. Branson celebrates his birthday on June 25<sup>th</sup>, with wife April and family.
- Mr. Kyle Jones celebrates his birthday on June 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Pastor Nathan Dixon will celebrate his birthday on June 26<sup>th</sup>, with family and friends.
- Dr. Falyne Fry celebrates her birthday on June 26<sup>th</sup>, with family and friends, praising the LORD!
- Mr. Juan Sanchez Jr. will celebrate his 26<sup>th</sup> birthday on June 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Ms. Ella Couthen celebrates her birthday on June 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Ms. Willa Dickens celebrates her birthday on June 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Ms. Michelle R. Smith celebrates her birthday on June 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Ms. Betty Plummer celebrates her birthday on June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Ms. Sherry E. Hawkins celebrates her 51<sup>st</sup> birthday on June 30<sup>th</sup>.

**\*Anniversaries**  
 Rev. Nathan and Lady Rolanda Dixon celebrate their 18<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on June 9<sup>th</sup>, blessed with their beautiful children, Miss. Makenzie Carrington and Master Josiah Nathaniel Dixon.  
 Mr. Larry L. and Mrs. Jayme A. King Jr. celebrate their 16<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on June 10<sup>th</sup>, enjoying their children, Mr. Larry L. III and Miss. Kay Lee King; Loving one another!  
 Mr. Ronald and Mrs. Sophie Flowers will celebrate their wedding anniversary on June 24<sup>th</sup>.  
 Mr. Chris L. Young and Mrs. Amber C. Young celebrate their 12<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on June 14<sup>th</sup>.

**\*Announcements**  
**Mr. Party Website:** [www.mrpartycelebrationservice.com](http://www.mrpartycelebrationservice.com)  
**Face book 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!  
**Call:** 517-391-4849 or **Email:** [mrpartycserv@aol.com](mailto:mrpartycserv@aol.com)  
**Please send the information about you, your family or friends celebrating the Events of Life: Celebration Announcements**

## Read The Michigan Bulletin

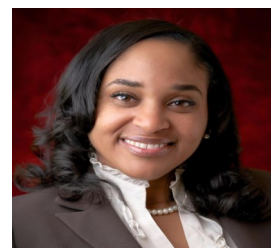


02.25.2012

# THE REALS OF JUSTICE

## Sexting

By Ayanna D. Neal



Ayanna Neal

A lot of people, both young and old, have done it. Sexting: Sending a picture, via text message or other media, of themselves or of a body part unclothed or in a sex act. It's often all good until the relationship spoils or it's shared with unintended people. Most people don't make out like Kim Kardashian West and become a millionaire from a leaked sex tape. It often ends up with embarrassment, humiliation, or revenge and control. And if it involves an individual under the age of consent or a recording or picture of a person's intimate body parts or in a sex act without the person's consent it may be a crime.

Unlawful posting of a message, and variations of possession of child sexually abusive material are felonies. Unlawful posting of a message, MCL 750.411S2 (and unlawful posting of a message with aggravating circumstance, MCL 750.411S2B) involves posting a post or message via the internet or a computer (which includes cellphones) without a person's consent, and the person posting the message knew the post could cause there to be 2 or more unconsented contact with the person in the picture or video; and the post or message was intended to cause contact that would make the person in the video or picture feel terrorized, molested, harassed, threatened, intimidate, frightened or terrorized; and the conduct from the posting would cause a reasonable person to suffer emotional distress and to feel terrorized, molested, harassed, threatened, intimidate, frightened or terrorized. What does all that mean? If one posts something online, which includes social media, that is done without the person in the picture or video's consent and that causes 2 or more unwanted contacts by others to the person in the picture, and the person suffers distress from that posting that is a felony. People often engage in this type of activity to brag about sexual exploits, to show off something to the friends they've been sent or to embarrass a former boyfriend or girlfriend, often referred to as revenge porn, or for many other reasons. Making such a post can cause people, known and unknown, to contact a person in a picture or video to make fun of them, to try to date them or to humiliate and shame them.

Once pictures or videos are online it's impossible to remove, delete or ensure that no one has the image (s). Such a posting can interfere with a person's career, family, education, and numerous other facets of life. If the picture or video includes a person who is a "child," a person under the age of 16, one could be charged with various crimes related to child sexually abusive material (often referred to as child pornography). Even if one receives, from someone else, and then sends a picture or video of a nude "child" to friends or post online/social media, such a situation could involve possession or distribution of child sexually abusive material.

**Beware** before sending any nude or partially nude or sexually explicit videos to anyone! Be aware that your picture or video could end up anywhere with anyone and that once it's online it is on the world wide web for any and every one to see. Do not photograph or record a person who is nude or partially nude or engaged in sexually explicit activity without their consent! This also applies to young people! Young or old, such activity could be criminal and could not only get you into trouble but could also require you to register as a sex offender.

Almost everyone has a phone and they are a wonderful device. And just like anything else what you do with it is important and could be life changing.

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