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APR/MAY 2024

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“The NFL Draft is going to do more for our city in terms of economic activity and its national image than any single event in Detroit’s history,” said Mayor Mike Duggan. Pg. 19

NFL DRAFT 2024 KICK-OFF

THE LEGACY OF MEL FARR, "OUR SUPERSTAR"

# EVENT 24

CHARITY GALA + FASHION + COMEDY SHOW

04.24.24

7PM  
12AM

ONE MIKE  
DETROIT

1331 BROADWAY STREET, DETROIT, MICHIGAN

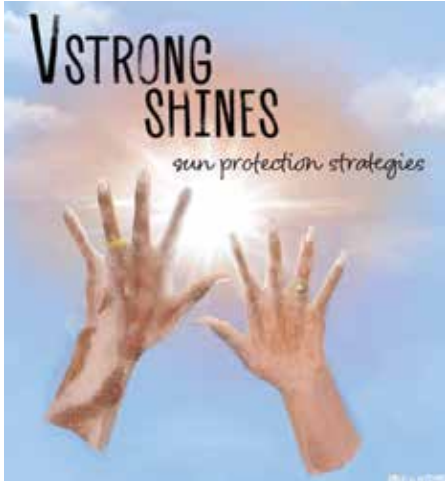
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# VStrong Vitiligo Support Community to Host VStrong Shines “Sun Protection Strategies” - Saturday, April 27, 2024

(Everything you need to know to protect your skin from the sun)



field, Michigan from 9:00a.m to 4:00pm. The forum is Free and open to the public but you must register to attend at Eventbrite-VStrong Shines. Breakfast and Lunch will be served.

VStrong is a 501(c)3 non profit, support organization dedicated to education, awareness, mental support and advocacy for those living with Vitiligo. Vitiligo, is an auto-immune disease that diminishes the body’s normal production of melanocytes, the skin cells that produce melanin; the pigment that give us our skin color.

VStrong was founded in 2007 by Lee Thomas, WJBK

On Saturday, April 27, 2024, VStrong Vitiligo Support Community will host the first of its kind forum, VStrong Shines, “Sun Protection Strategies” on how to protect your skin from the sun. The forum will be held at Carpe Diem Banquet Center located at 28847 Franklin Rd. South-

FOX 2 Entertainment Reporter and broadcast journalist and Dr. Henry Lim, Renown Dermatologist, Henry Ford Hospital. VStrong is the winner of the 2022 Incyte Ingenuity Award presented for the first time to a Vitiligo Support organization. Incyte is a bio-pharmaceutical company helping to find new ways to manage rare and often hard-to-treat diseases by deciphering new pathways...to discover first-of-their-kind treatments.

Noted local and national dermatologists, mental and nutritional health care professionals will provided scientific information and engage attendees on every aspect of the positive and negative affects the sun has on the skin. People with Vitiligo may be more

susceptible to the harsh ultra violet rays causing severe sunburn in many cases. But whether you have Vitiligo or not, this forum will provide you with first hand information on how you can protect your skin from the sun and the many affects that too much ultra violet rays may have on the brain, skin cancers and much more. For more information, contact, Beverly Smith at 313-268-3523 or via email at infor@detroitmartpages.com. Register at eventbrite VStrongshines



## ST. PAT'S 47<sup>TH</sup> IRISH FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2024  
1 P.M. - 8 P.M.

DETROIT'S OLDEST  
IRISH FESTIVAL

58 Parsons St., Detroit

(Between Woodward & Cass, one blk. N of Mack)

313-833-7080

Enjoy music, dance on three stages, Irish cuisine, drinks, auctions, family activities, and a chance to win prizes, including a raffle with a Grand Prize of \$10,000, a \$1,000 Grand Prize Raffle, a Chair of Cheer, and an Irish Quilt.

## SOUTHWEST DETROIT FREE TREE GIVEAWAY!

We will be giving away 500 potted trees to Southwest Detroit residents (48209)  
One tree available per household  
\* While supplies last \*

Tuesday, April 23, 2024  
3pm - 6pm

Patton Rec Center  
2301 Woodmere Street  
Detroit, MI 48209

Tree species available, while supplies last!

## A Total Eclipse of the Truth

For just about 9 years now, the trump stigma has hung over this country like a gray cloud with no chance of any sunlight seeping through ever since trump



BEVERLY SMITH

came down the escalator on June 16, 2015 to announce his bid for the White House. His unfiltered lies, and degrading comments and bigotry against black and brown communities and the LGBTQ community has been nonstop.

America has been in a total eclipse of the truth about our democratic republic since trump won the votes of over 70 million people in the 2016 presidential election. Many say they wanted a change af-

ter President Obama to a so-called business man in what they perceived to be trump. Maybe for some, but it's no doubt that thousands of these voters were already of the same mindset to be so easily persuaded to vote for a known racist.

His persistent negative portrayal of America and the followers that worship him have given rise to a wanna-be dictator and a Jim Jones cultish leader. America must come out of the darkness that a total eclipse brings and wake up to reality. Can anyone tell me one positive statement trump has ever said about America?

His campaign is asking the question; Are you better off now than you were four years ago? The answer is a resounding YES! Four years ago, Americans were dying by thousands a day due to trump's

lies about the pandemic. He filled the airways with lies and tweets and tried to discredit his predecessor every day. He tried endlessly to repeal the Affordable Care Act, known as Obamacare taking away healthcare from millions of Americans. Though he failed at every turn, he is still touting the same lies about Obamacare.

His House Republicans tried for four years to cut-off subsidies that helped low-income Obamacare enrollees but Democrats beat him at his game and figured out a way for states to subsidize the costs through premiums which spiked Obamacare enrollment. He inflicted so many policies that did nothing to help average Americans in education, the workplace, curbed relief for defrauded college students and made it easier for high income Americans

to pay less taxes, just to name a few.

He is running for President again and stands a good chance of winning if we don't stand up for Democracy and never allow this disgraceful, grifter to never to set foot in the White House again. Today, his lies and inciting an insurrection on our government has finally caught up with him.

For the first time in 234 years of American History, a former president is actually on trial in a New York court for election interference in the Hush Money Case along with over 80 other criminal and felony indictments. More to come as we are still in darkness under trump's total eclipse of the truth.

Contact information:  
info@detroitSMARTpages.com  
313-268-3523

## INSPIRATIONAL CORNER

### All Things Are Possible

Understanding that all things are possible through our Heavenly Father according



BARBARA BRAZILE

to His Will, which gives us the edge and strength we need to overcome the worries in this life. Everything may seem to be disconnecting, but His Will is made known through

His promise to us. If he promised it, we could count on it happening, no matter how long it takes, there is no need to worry. Just ask him to give you patience and he will.

We live in a time when showing gratitude for acts of kindness is almost obsolete, because the climate these days is uncaring. We need to extol our Heavenly Father for His continual blessings and grace. Only His love gives us benefits of compassion and mercy. It is He who makes our heart...care. This makes me think of our loved ones who may need guidance, patience and

understanding, and the less fortunate who are struggling to survive.

Yet so few can give of themselves to help console, for they are trying to resolve their own issues. However, we must remember that we do not live in this world alone. We need to encourage each other and help them

Being that we are not in control of what happens in life, we must hold on to our faith, continue to trust and believe that all things are possible, and in order, according to the Will of our Heavenly Father!

to understand and know that some of us do care and are willing to help if needed, because all things are possible; we just need to reach out.

Look around at the elements, everything responds to its maker. To witness the operation of divine repetition that our Heavenly Father has put in motion happens just as it was designed to happen, repeatedly. For instance, the beauty of the sunrise is not only for the moments we can see it, but because of His love and mercy for us, he causes the sun to rise and set every day whether we see it or not over and over again. We trust

this repetition; we do not doubt it.

Also, just as a tender plant gravitates towards its source of life, it leans towards the sunshine for its strength so it may flourish into multiple beautiful plants and flowers for us to enjoy. This happens over and over as we watch the seasons testi-

fy to this beautiful miracle of life. He proves his love and power in the simple things we take for granted.

Likewise, our souls thirst for this same strength. It is desirous to lean towards His truth that is proven by the creation he made. We cannot take any credit for anything in this life because it is His purpose, not ours. Furthermore, we do not deserve it. Any understanding, wisdom, or talents we may have, are freely given to us by our Heavenly Father. Therefore, we should acknowledge Him as our source of life because He is. It is our Heavenly Father who engraves

each word of his promise within the fibers of our hearts, keeping us and preparing our souls to be acceptable to his Will. This is our hope of salvation unto everlasting life.

Life is like a river of endless possibilities, gathering our hopes and prayers along the way with each wave. Rivers will flow across waterfalls and many stumbling rocks and debris, but the strength of its current is guiding us through the obstacles we all will encounter in this lifetime.

Likewise, our faith and trust in our Heavenly Father is the catalyst that will spark our consciousness and give us the confidence to overcome our obstacles. We have witnessed many things that seemed impossible, made possible. Being that we are not in control of what happens in life, we must hold on to our faith, continue to trust and believe that all things are possible, and in order, according to the Will of our Heavenly Father!

CONTACT INFO:  
Barbara Brazile  
prfbook@yahoo.com

# The Power of Spring Cleaning: Decluttering for Mental Clarity and Well-being

**D**ecluttering is more than just a household chore; it's a pathway to mental clarity and well-being.



LATRICIA WRIGHT

As the freshness of spring rejuvenates the world outside, it's the perfect time to bring that sense of renewal into our homes and lives. Here are some tips for effective decluttering that can lead to a tidier environment and a clearer mind.

## • Embrace the Mindful Approach to Decluttering

Decluttering can be a mindful practice that affects not only your space but also your state of mind. Focusing on one task at

gories: keep, donate, or discard. Keep essential items frequently used or have significant sentimental value. Consider donating items that are in good condition but no longer serve a purpose in your life. Discarding should be reserved for items that are beyond repair or use. This categorization helps streamline the decision-making process and keeps you moving forward.

## • Create a Maintenance Plan

Once you've decluttered, it's crucial to maintain the organization. Develop a simple routine to keep your space tidy. Regularly review your belongings to ensure everything has a place and purpose. This ongoing maintenance will help prevent clutter from accumulating again and

## Here are some tips for effective decluttering that can lead to a tidier environment and a clearer mind.

a time and being present in the moment allows you to turn sorting and organizing into a meditative experience. This mindful approach can reduce stress and anxiety, allowing you to enjoy the journey to a tidier home.

## • Set Small, Achievable Goals

Begin with bite-sized goals to prevent the task from becoming overwhelming. Tackle one area at a time, such as a drawer, closet, or room corner. This systematic approach allows for quick wins, making the process more manageable and less daunting. Each small victory builds momentum, encouraging you to continue with the decluttering process.

## • Categorize Items: Keep, Donate, Discard

As you assess your belongings, sort them into three cate-

gories: keep, donate, or discard.

## • Psychological Benefits of a Tidy Environment

A decluttered space can improve concentration and productivity. Without the distraction of clutter, your mind is free to focus on the tasks at hand. A tidy environment can promote greater peace and tranquility, contributing to overall mental health.

## • Eco-Friendly Disposal of Unwanted Items

As you declutter, consider the environment when disposing of unwanted items. Recycle materials like paper, glass, and plastic according to local guidelines. For electronics, look for e-waste recycling programs. Donating items benefits others and reduces waste, aligning with the values of wellness and sustainability.

## • Involve the Whole Family

Decluttering can be a family affair. Involve household members in the process, assigning tasks that suit their abilities. This collaborative effort lightens the workload and fosters a sense of shared responsibility for the home's organization.

## • Celebrate Your Progress

Take time to acknowledge and celebrate the progress you've made. Whether you enjoy a clutter-free countertop or can easily find things, these victories are worth recognizing. Celebrating your achievements can boost your morale and inspire you to maintain your decluttered space.

Transform your home and mind with these simple steps. Decluttering isn't just about tidying up; it's a powerful tool for enhancing mental well-being and creating a peaceful environment. Start with bite-sized goals and categorize your items to make the process manageable and rewarding.

Establish a maintenance plan to sustain the benefits of a tidy space. Remember to dispose of unwanted items responsibly and make it a family affair for added fun and efficiency. Embrace the rejuvenating power of spring cleaning and enjoy a home that supports wellness and productivity.

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# Mackenzie K. Galloway- Filmmaker, Writer, Fashion Designer, Afrofuturist, Astrologer and Anthropologist

**M**ackenzie K. Galloway is a Detroit native with a deep passion for telling stories, especially of Black, Brown, Indigenous Queer and Global Majority individuals. She wrote her first book at six years old and experienced being a broadcast journalist at age eleven. Mackenzie is a Cass Technical High School Alumna and worked on Capitol Hill as the Digital Media Manager for Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib. MacKenzie comes from a family that teaches her that hard work determines your success.

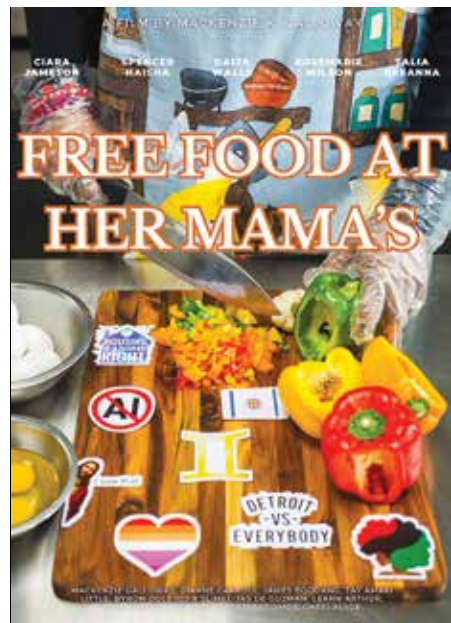


and sits on the selection board for the American Film Institute. MacKenzie runs her own film production company and fashion store, "Conscious Creations, LLC". She has written and directed several films and worked as a production designer. Her films have been recognized and selected as finalists in several festivals for her passion for telling intercontinental stories of those whose voices are otherwise silenced. As a film student and conscious creator, MacKenzie uses her creations to not only give back to her community but to raise her vibration and wisdom and share that consciousness with others.

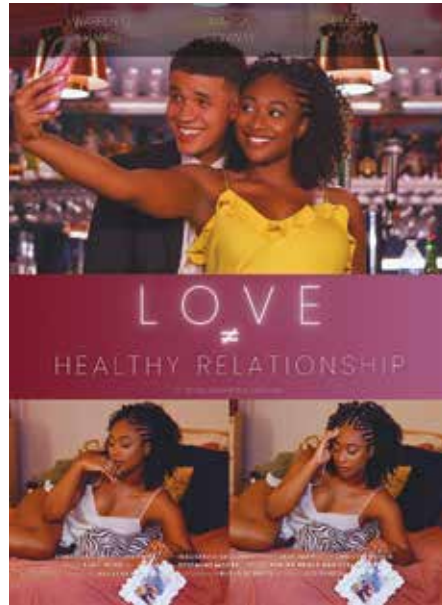


In 2023, MacKenzie received an MFA in Screenwriting and Filmmaking at Emerson College in Los Angeles and Boston, received a Bachelor in French Communications Media with a concentration in Broadcast Journalism and a dou-

ble major in Bio-Cultural Anthropology at American University. She enjoys traveling and lived all over the world, from Italy to Morocco to Ecuador to Iceland. MacKenzie also volunteers for a local Girl Scout Troop in D.C.,



She makes it a priority to tell stories that are not often represented, which in turn increases consciousness and spreads awareness. MacKenzie's films are Conscious, Afrofuturistic Films including: "Infused Tea from the Motherland", a 30-minute short



film telling "the unlikely, colorful love story of a Guinean diplomat and a D.C. Imhotep artist.", "Love ≠ Healthy Relationship", a 9-minute short that follows the premise of: "Antonella who always thought Emmanuel was her soul mate, until her unexpected, irresistible desires, caused their relationship to take an unexpected turn." and "Free Food at Her Mama's", (coming soon).

Whether you are watching her films, listening to her meditations and podcasts, reading her articles, or shopping her creations, you are guaranteed to deepen your consciousness. MacKenzie loves readings, astrology chart readings, psychic readings, holistic health consultations, and more. For more information, please visit her website at [www.mackenziegalloway.com](http://www.mackenziegalloway.com) to view her films and shop her fashions.

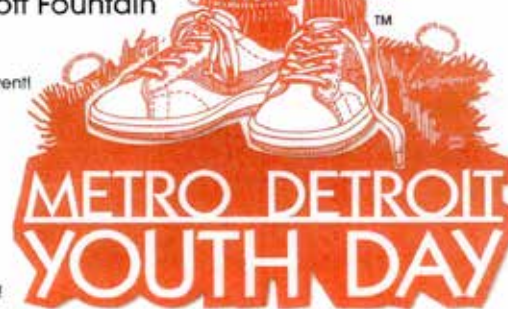
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**WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2024**

**8:30 AM to 2:30 PM**

**Begin Your Plans and Preparations TODAY!**

For children 8 - 15 years of age.

For youth registration or to sponsor, contact the Michigan Youth Appreciation Foundation

**Ed Deeb - 586-774-4000 or visit  
[www.metrodetroityouthday.org](http://www.metrodetroityouthday.org)**

# 7 Ways to Build Wealth

**1. Commit to saving a tenth of your earnings. The emphasis is commitment; spending is the main enemy of Saving.**



If you make \$50,000 a year a tenth of which is \$5,000.00 a year or \$416.70 a month at 5% interest for 10 years you will have saved \$62,889.50. Do this for the next 40 years and you will have \$603,998.90 in your account.

Most employees will get raises over a 40-year career, so it is impossible for you to not become a millionaire unless you sabotage yourself. You may ask how I would sabotage my savings; well, that is quite easy. On Cyber Monday, U.S. shoppers spent \$12.4 billion on new purchases in just one day. Buy-now-pay later is the fastest-growing contributor to debt in the world's most

**4. Plan for your future. This may include a mortgage, marriage, children, college tuition, and retirement.**

To plan for your future, you must keep an eye on the intended goal, and it is not easy. Life comes with a multitude of challenges, and it is even harder without a plan. You will need to set aside funds for everything you desire including those unforeseen emergencies. There was a savings technique called the envelope method. Take some time to research the full plan when you have an opportunity.

**5. Protect your loved ones by buying life insurance for yourself and those you love and want to protect.**

There are two basic types of Life insurance - Whole Life (like buying a home) and Term (like renting). Whole life builds cash value and, in some instances, pays dividends.

**Whole life example:** One of my clients, a pastor, wanted to set up a retirement plan. He budgeted \$500

many clients who allowed the "fear of loss," to paralyze them to the point that their accounts were frozen. You know the type, they look like they are stuck in 1999, from the car they drive, their home decoration, even their hairstyle.

The nineties were good for them. Well, it is 2024, almost 25 years since the end of that century. But so many investors are still talking about "I remember when you could get 14% on Certificates of Deposit". That sounds great until you realize inflation was at 18% so you were losing 4% of your investment power because it could not keep pace with inflation.

**7. Review your plan oftentomake sure you stay on track to complete your goals of building true wealth.**

Your true desires are just that, desires. It is great if you have someone to share your dreams with, but most people tend to go it alone. I have become an accountability partner for thousands of clients with many successes and unfortunately some fail-

ures. Through the process, I have learned that you can tell people what to do but you cannot be there at every turn to stop them from self-sabotage.

Goals are only goals, and they will need to be repeatedly revised. Time, planning, review, and preparation will be the ultimate determinant of your success. Celebrate the little victories as they occur. The joy it brings will be the true mark of your ultimate success.

*Ellis Liddell is the President/CEO of ELE Family of Companies in Southfield, MI. He is also the author of "Wealth Management: Merging Faith with Finance" and a member of the Million Dollar Roundtable. Mr. Liddell can be reached at (248) 356-6555 or through his website: [www.elewealth.com](http://www.elewealth.com)*

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**Goals are only goals, and they will need to be repeatedly revised. Time, planning, review, and preparation will be the ultimate determinant of your success. Celebrate the little victories as they occur. The joy it brings will be the true mark of your ultimate success.**

robust economy, the United States.

**2. Develop a budget and review it regularly to ensure there is no excess and if there is, redirect those funds into areas to reduce debt.**

Instant gratification is what drives buy now pay later behavior. If you have avoided the buy now pay later temptation, Congratulations! After saving one-tenth of all your earnings, you will have a full year's salary saved after 10 years.

**3. Seek alternative vehicles to invest your savings in to increase your profits.**

An uninformed person will allow money to idly sit in a checking or savings account not working for them when the bank is offering high-interest CDs or high-yield saving accounts. Each person thinks that their money is inconsequential; nothing could be further from the truth. Collectively, we are a significant force in this economy, but we must stop seeing ourselves as individuals.

a month and purchased a \$500,000 policy. 15 years later his policy has a cash value of \$150,000 to supplement his retirement income and a death benefit of \$650,000. This created a win-win for him and his family.

**Term insurance example:** Male 35 and his wife 30 with two kids and planning to have more. I recommend a 30-year Term policy with "buy term and invest the difference in mind". This concept allows younger individuals a low barrier of entry to afford the product, with the cost of insurance running about \$30-\$40 a month. On the investment side, this couple will each have at least \$100 to put away from the savings between buying term insurance versus a whole life policy.

**6. Increase your knowledge of ways to improve your wealth at every turn.**

The wealth-building process is a continuum of never-ending adventures geared toward learning and improving your knowledge of investing. I had

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## Registration Now Open for the 10th Annual Small Business Workshop “Embracing Change while Moving Forward.”

The LEE Group (TLG) is delighted to announce the 10th Year Anniversary of the Small Business Workshop on May 15, 2024, from 8 a.m. to Noon at The Corner Ballpark - Detroit PAL HQ. It is being presented by Fifth Third Bank. For ten uninterrupted years, the Small Business Workshop has provided information and resources to over several hundred businesses and has become a staple in Detroit. Attendees will have the opportunity to hear from business experts, entrepreneurs, and community leaders and delve into important small business community issues in Detroit. The event is free for all registered attendees.

The theme for this year’s event is “Embracing Change while Moving Forward.” The objective of this year’s workshop is to focus on re-establishing a strong foundation and strengthening the core of small businesses while looking towards the future. The goal is to identify practical solutions needed as businesses navigate economic cycles and potentially, an economy in flux. In planning the 10th year, Mark S. Lee, President & CEO of The LEE Group, decided to introduce something unique for those who register for this year’s Small Business Workshop.

For the first time, there will be a Pitch Competition titled “Pitch for Success: Embracing Change while Moving Forward Competition.” This competition provides a platform to highlight innovative and groundbreaking ideas for business services that can propel businesses forward. The pitches will be evaluated by a panel of industry experts based on their originality, feasibility, and potential impact on the business services industry. Participants will have the oppor-



tunity to win financial resource and access to other services.

The 10th year of the Small Business Workshop also brings exciting news of bringing back the popular “Fireside Chat” featuring Mark S. Lee and former Detroit Lion, Herman Moore, Founder & CEO of Team 84 LLC. As an entrepreneur, Moore will highlight how his business has embraced change. Additionally, the conversation will discuss his efforts through the Tackle Life Foundation to support young people with various academic, mental, and nutritional programs.

This year’s event will address the ongoing challenges facing Detroit’s small business community as panelists and speakers tackle key issues. With the economy remaining a significant driver for businesses of all sizes, including small, medium, and large, attendees will gain insights into navigating economic challenges in 2024 and beyond.

Registered attendees will also have the opportunity to hear from business leaders discussing the importance of integrating health and wellness, how it can impact overall business results, and understand how to leverage the power of AI technology and its impact on business.

Sponsors for this year’s event include Fifth Third Bank,

Detroit Development Fund, Comcast Business, InterCapital Funding, Inc., Build Institute, First Independence Bank, Nuvo Cabinets & Countertops, Michigan Women Forward, Tanner Friedman, Cindy Fletcher - State Farm Agent, Detroit Free Press, De-

troit Public TV, and Latino Press.

Register at: <https://leegroupinnovation.com/2024-small-business-workshop-date/>. For more information, contact: Sari M Cicurel [sari@sarimcicurel.com](mailto:sari@sarimcicurel.com) 248-766-0945.

*About The LEE Group: The LEE Group, MI LLC (TLG), is an independent integrated marketing consulting firm focused on providing marketing, branding, and communication solutions to clients. Additionally, TLG provides training and development to organizations in the areas of branding, re-branding and communications and has advised on how to effectively implement in an integrated fashion. Mark S. Lee is a sought-after speaker, hosts a weekly radio show and he pens a small business blog for Crain’s Detroit Business as well as contributes to many publications across the region.*

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**DETROIT**  
APRIL 25-27, 2024

WAYNE COUNTY MICHIGAN  
TREASURER'S OFFICE

**The Wayne County Treasurer’s Office will be closed to the public**

**April 24-26, 2024**

**Due to the NFL Draft that will be held in Downtown Detroit.**

Payments can still be made online at [Treasurer.WayneCounty.com](https://Treasurer.WayneCounty.com) or by using the Wayne County Mobile App, or at a payment kiosk.  
(Visit [WCTKiosk.com](https://WCTKiosk.com) for a list of kiosk locations)

**Eric R. Sabree**  
WAYNE COUNTY TREASURER



# War News, Politics and TV Talk Shows Dominate Media Coverage while Streaming Services and Podcasts gain popularity and no escape from Advertising certain products.



CHARLENE MITCHELL-RODGERS

## MOST UNUSUAL TV SCENE – THE TAMRON HALL SHOW ON ABC

The August 10th episode of the popular Tamron Hall Show literally got off to a fiery start. As audience members were lin-



ing up to enter the NYC Studios, everyone was alerted of a fire in the studio kitchen. It was a narrow escape, but no one was hurt, and firefighters were on the scene quickly. Ms. Hall delivered the startling news from a bare studio and the live show was cancelled. The network aired a taped show from earlier in the week.

## EXTREMELY CONFRONTATIONAL TV INTERVIEW – THE VIEW ON ABC

One of the co-hosts of the Emmy award winning morning show is Sunny Hostin. Her recent attitude towards a show guest has made headlines on social me-



dia and beyond. Author Coleman Hughes was invited to discuss his new book, “The End of Race Politics” which advocates a color-blind society.



Sunny told the guest that she felt he was being used by the far right and referred to him as a charlatan of sorts. The intensity of their exchange left the other hosts in silence. Hughes responded to other media outlets by saying that many audience members showed their agreement with him. Later that day, conservative radio host Joe Rogan added insult to injury, calling the show a rabies infested henhouse. Why can't we show some R-E-S-P-E-C-T?

## RECURRING NEWS – ALL DAY AND NIGHT ON NEARLY EVERY NETWORK

It's certainly not a surprise to see so much political news in a Presidential election year but coupled with the Russia / Ukraine war and the on-going Israeli / Palestine war is getting to be redundant and frankly depressing to watch. Whether you get your news on Television, radio, newspapers or on social media, many of us are yearning for something more pleasant to dwell on besides political mudslinging, death, and destruction.

## FUNNY OR ANNOYING TV COMMERCIALS

Pharmaceutical and Insurance Companies used to be very conservative but if you watch TV, you have probably memorized a few of the ads that are running on every network and cable station. The ones that strike me most are the commercials for State Farm Insurance starring rapper/actor Ludacris standing



in a couple's flooded home, and Liberty Insurance featuring a new mom trying to get her infant to say mama.

We never actually see the child who is in a stroller, and never says Mama. The baby keeps saying “Liberty, Liberty.” It's both clever and annoying. Speaking of annoying ads, the pharmaceutical industry shows actors depicting certain ailments and diseases singing and dancing. Can you sing the jingle for Jardiance?

## Footnotes

- A few issues back I wrote a profile in this column on sports journalist. Ronnie Duncan. Shortly thereafter he was taken off the air at CBS Detroit 62. He recently sent me an update on his new job, which has him on the broadcast team for XFC, which is Extreme Fighting Championships based in Destin, Florida.
- Forbes Magazine published a glowing tribute to Detroit News columnist and former radio host Bankole Thompson. The influential business publication praised his new book entitled Fiery Conscience.
- WJZZ Digital Radio owner Rodger Penzabene is “allegedly” in conversations with several former popular radio show hosts from 910am which flipped from urban talk to conservative voices last August. His goal is to relaunch one of his other digital platforms which is called “Big Mouth.” We'll keep you informed.

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# Dr. DaNita Weddle -The LuvGluv Collection

Dr. DaNita Weddle is living out her journey to spiritual fulfillment and sharing her knowledge and wisdom to commemorate women for their endless sacrifices to mankind. Dr. Weddle, the visionary founder of The LuvGluv, LLC is not only a Doctor of Health Admission but a testament to the boundless potential of the human spirit.

Her journey began with a pivotal moment in May 2021 when she found herself at a crossroads due to workforce reduction. But even in the face of adversity, her spirit remained grounded by the women whose hands had guided her life's journey, and a profound idea was reignited.

The LuvGluv is a tribute to the women who have shaped Dr. Weddle's life, with special remembrance of her Aunt Johnnie who taught her to design and create her own style of clothing at 10 years old. Also, a tribute to her mother, Nerissa, a registered nurse whose hands were a conduit of care and kindness. She



ated leather glove business that will celebrate the women whose hands help guide and direct our lives.

The uniqueness of her leather glove collection is the display of charms that cater to the unique personality of every woman. The collection of genuine leather gloves is uniquely crafted to celebrate the essence of women. The gloves, whether cashmere lined or unlined, feature changeable charms that dangle from delicate eyelets. These charms, resembling a dime in size, adorn the gloves and are customizable to represent your

of the special women in your life who inspired you as well.

The LuvGluv's mission is to pay homage to the hands of women – whether their touch provides comfort, guidance, or caution. Women's hands, both literally and metaphorically, shape our character, and protect our well-being. We celebrate the essence of women through beautiful accessories and a deep appreciation for our customers.

The core of the business lies in its unwavering commitment to beautiful accessories, exceptional service, and a heartfelt appreciation for each and every customer who steps into the world of The LuvGluv.

The LuvGluv exemplifies the power of fashion to express love and appreciation to



## The LuvGluv is an exquisitely created leather glove business that will celebrate the women whose hands help guide and direct our lives.

could bandage a wound, offer emotional support, and write a thesis with equal grace. Their hands were a source of solace and strength, a universal symbol of love.

Dr. DaNita Weddle is the owner of a new business-- The LuvGluv, which launched on Sunday, April 14, 2024, at Incubizo, located at 1938 Burdette St. in Ferndale, MI. The LuvGluv is an exquisitely cre-

distinct symbol of love. "These gloves create a constant reminder of how special a woman's hands are in nurturing and shaping the lives of others" said Dr. Weddle.

Dr. Weddle challenges you to call to your remembrance, the women who were instrumental in shaping your life. Think of the tender, and sometimes stern, touch of her hands! The LuvGluv speaks to the essence of a woman providing comfort, guidance, and when needed, discipline to protect our well-being.

The official website offers a beautiful display of fine leather gloves that will definitely inspire you and the variety of charms and chains will remind you



all women. You can savor the incomparable refinement of our fine leather gloves, expertly created with an emphasis on classic design and exceptional comfort. Our collection epitomizes luxury with elegant, traditional designs and contemporary interpretations, bringing every ensemble to a higher level of sophistication and elegance.

The first set of charms comes with every base product glove, and you can further customize your glove with additional charms available for separate purchases. If you desire a unique charm that holds a special meaning, their commissioned charm service is also available, albeit at an additional cost. The Classic selection is cashmere lined for extra comfort and fashion.

Dr. Weddle invites you to visit the website for more information and peruse the variety of selections for that one of a kind gift for yourself or for the special women who helped shape your life. Visit: [www.theluvgluv.com](http://www.theluvgluv.com). Call: 947-233-8820

# Deana Neely- Founder and CEO of Detroit Voltage

**D**etroit produces an impressive list of phenomenal women business owners in high-powered sectors of industry where women and especially Black women are not usually at the top of the list. Deana Neely is at the top of her game and a nationally recognized award-winning entrepreneur and industry trailblazer and a force to be reckoned with. Deana is a licensed electrical contractor with over ten years of construction experience.

After supporting city officials and inspectors for over a decade as a local government employee in the Buildings & Safety Engineering Department, Deana stepped out of her comfort zone – leveraged her experience, earned the necessary certifications and licenses; and started her own company. She is the founder and CEO of Detroit Voltage; Detroit Michigan’s fastest growing 100% black woman owned electrical contracting firm.

Detroit Voltage is leading the charge along with other partners by supporting renewable energy projects and electric vehicle infrastructure to reduce the carbon footprint. The company is a certified Minority/Women-owned Business Enterprise (MWBE) offering both residential and commercial services. Deana is passionate about serving the underserved city of Detroit as well as creating opportunities for training and employment to the community that raised her.

Deana’s electrical expertise has helped Metro Detroiters with everything from electrical repairs to new installations. The team has over 70 years of experience in electrical construction and engi-



neering specializing in all phases of residential and commercial electrical from small repairs of switches and outlets to powering and wiring a complete home or building. In addition, Detroit Voltage is the LED lighting experts for both interior and exterior projects.

Detroit Voltage operates under strong values and aim to exceed customers’ needs and expectations. Their communication channels are always open and their relationship with customers begins on the first day of contact and only ends once they’re fully satisfied with their work. Due to her industry exper-



tise and service excellence, Deana has been featured and recognized by companies such as the Michigan Minority Supplier Development Council, Google, Essence, DTE Energy and Forbes Next 1000 awardees for entrepreneurship.

In addition to her professional accolades, Deana serves on the board of the US Minority Contractor Association (USMCA Michigan Chapter) and The National Association of Black Women in Construction (NABWIC/Detroit).

Detroit Voltage offers a wide range of services from electrical systems for new construction to small home renovation projects. They provide upfront pricing and respond to your needs promptly. Their goal is to ensure 100% customer satisfaction by providing on-time, quality, and professional services.

**Services include:**

- Upgrade electrical systems
- Troubleshooting
- Fuses to breakers
- Outdoor lighting
- Electrical issues
- Parking lot lighting
- EV charger installation
- Preventative Maintenance
- Home rewire



- Service Maintenance
- Panel Upgrade
- Diagnosis and repair problems
- Porch and pole light
- Wiring and electrical components

Detroit Voltage proudly services the Metro Detroit area! The company has a great rapport with building department officials; therefore they not only understand what customers are looking for, they can cut through all of the red tape. They make sure your electrical is safe and up to Code get you permitted and ensure that you pass inspection; thus saving you money because they get it done right the first time!

Deana is a dedicated mom to two amazing children who are ready to make their own mark in the construction world. Together they are creating their future and making Detroit a brighter place to live.

*For more information, please visit the website at [www.detroit-voltage.com](http://www.detroit-voltage.com). or call 800-258-1352.*

## Military Ceremony Honoring Five of the Nation's First WWII Black U.S. Marines with the Congressional Gold Medal on June 23rd

Nearly 20,000 African-Americans served in the Montford Point Marine units during World War II. Of these, 12,738 were deployed overseas in defense battalions or combat support companies or as stewards in the Messman Branch.

It has been twelve (12) years since the nation's relatively obscure first WWII Black Marines were initially awarded the Congressional Gold Medal by President Barack Obama and the 112th U.S. Congress. These WWII Marines became national heroes and their story was blasted across every major TV network in America.

However, many of the original 20,000 black Marines that trained at the segregated facility at Camp Montford Point, Camp Lejeune, NC, never received their honors



MajGen Cornell Wilson

because many had deceased, while others were in nursing homes, or hospice, and may have been otherwise disabled.

Since that time, President/National Commandant Robert B. Middleton of the Montford Point Marines of America, has been on a nationwide mission to locate other WWII Black Marines who may still be alive, or their immediate families to make the Congressional Gold Medal Award posthumously.

As a result of these efforts, five (5) Congressional Gold Medals will be presented to the families of these heroic U.S. Marines at the 14th Annual National Her-

itage Military Banquet & Awards Ceremony, hosted by the Montford Point Marines of America on Sunday, June 23, 2024, at Burton Manor in Livonia, MI. Retired Marine Corps MajGen. Cornell Wilson will be the guest speaker and participate in officiating the presentation of awards along with other military dignitaries.

Today, it is believed that there are fewer than 300 original WWII Montford Point Marines remaining of the approximately 20,000 that trained at the segregated Camp Montford Point (MCB) New River, Camp Lejeune, between 1942-1949. President Middleton says he is delighted to celebrate two (2) of WWII Black Marine centenarians residing in Detroit; Lee Newby (recently deceased) and Butler Martin (cur-

rently 101 years old). Both of these Marines were interviewed by CNN and WDIV TV Channel 4.

Finally, during the awards segment of the program, the President of Hidden Pioneers, Inc, Bill Montgomery, will be flying to Detroit from Corona, CA, to present the Lifetime Achievement Award to a young lady named Emeline King, the first female African-America, Transportation Designer at the Ford Motor Company who designed the Mustang and the Thunderbird. Her energy and infectious personality will certainly inspire the audience, Middleton says. We encourage the public to attend this fascinating and momentous event. More information is available via Eventbrite, "Montford Point Event".

(SEE AD ON PAGE 19)

# Monique Baker McCormick, MBA

Wayne County Commissioner 6th District  
Chair, Wayne County Commission Youth Council

Re-Elect to a 4th Term

## GAME ON!



- Established the Wayne County Commission Youth Council. Facilitating opportunities for Youth Council members to engage directly with elected officials, ranging from Congressional representatives to local mayors, advocating for change and presenting their own resolutions to address pressing issues.
- Initiated the "War on Trash" initiative to combat blight and decrease the carbon footprint, promoting sustainability.
- Successfully advocated for the implementation of absentee drop boxes, ensuring equitable access to voting for all residents.
- Championed community interests with an unwavering commitment, remaining independent and dedicated to serving constituents.
- Balancing a \$2.2 billion budget to ensure financial stability and accountability.
- Educating constituents through the "Getting to Know Wayne County" series, fostering transparency and civic engagement.
- Demonstrating a relentless dedication to progress and action, prioritizing the needs of the community and driving positive change.

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# Investing in Detroit: Three Things to know in 2024

In the evolving landscape of AI-driven business models, data emerges as the bedrock of decision-making prowess. The integration of computers, fax machines, and AI has reshaped the realms of business development and investment, presenting a fresh perspective. While narratives of out-of-state investors and speculators capitalizing on Detroit's revival abound, the dominance of local ownership in the city's economy is disheartening.



GARY L. SMITH

Detroit's job market experienced a downturn in the 12 months leading to November, shedding a net total of 7,300 jobs in the metro area. Only four sectors managed to defy this trend, with the education and health services sector leading in job gains. Conversely, the leisure and hospitality sector suffered a loss of 5,900 jobs, representing

a substantial blow to the workforce. Despite these challenges, Detroit's unemployment rate, though surpassing the national average, remained lower than the statewide average.

Nevertheless, Detroit is poised to drive forward various revitalization endeavors across the metro area. Notably, Ford Motor Co. plans to unveil the iconic Michigan Central Station as a cornerstone of its mobility campus in June 2024. Another significant initiative underway is "The Future of Health," a collaborative venture involving Henry Ford Health, Michigan State University, and the Detroit Pistons.

However, the pertinent question remains: how do these developments benefit black residents and black business owners? While events like the Elite Eight NCAA Basketball tournament and the forthcoming NFL draft promise an influx of millions into downtown and midtown businesses, the extent to which this prosperity reaches the black community is uncer-

tain. Despite the city's gains in sales tax revenue and the profits reaped by speculators and entrepreneurs, much of this economic windfall may not extend beyond certain boundaries.

The imperative lies in fostering more black-owned businesses rather than merely creating jobs. Leveraging available data and AI can empower us to establish and grow businesses that not only generate employment opportunities but also contribute to long-term economic prosperity. Here are three strategies for achieving business success:

1. Understand your target demographic by harnessing available data and AI capabilities to enhance customer insights and add value across all aspects of your business. Forge robust partnerships with individuals possessing both technical expertise and soft skills essential for navigating uncertainties and fostering innovation.

2. Familiarize yourself with the intricacies of your business, includ-

ing feasibility, cost considerations, and supply chain vulnerabilities. Embrace a data-driven approach to project management to mitigate risks, maximize profits, and ensure successful outcomes. Anticipate challenges and deploy proactive strategies to overcome obstacles.

3. Stay attuned to market dynamics by conducting thorough market analyses and staying informed about regulatory changes, industry trends, and shifting customer preferences. Success in business hinges on your ability to anticipate and adapt to macro and microeconomic shifts, ensuring the sustained profitability of your ventures.

While "popup" businesses may come and go; the onus is on us to cultivate a mindset of entrepreneurship and actively participate in the impending wave of prosperity. Rather than resenting external players, let's endeavor to master the game and guard against complacency, recognizing it as the greatest threat to our business endeavors.

## SMART TIME MANAGEMENT

# Getting In Flow

Getting it all done without missing a beat and creating flow in your days can be a challenge. Besides having the right things in place to support your personal needs, intention can be a big help.



SHEILA HAWKINS

Years ago after becoming a working mom, I saw how to give myself a more stable foundation for getting things done and took steps to personalize my approach to it all and those things along with having a system that worked, but intention was what helped me flow. Intention is a powerful thing. It can be described as a mental state that represents a commitment to taking actions in the future. Desire causes intention, which causes action, which of course

then causes the desired outcome. Intention is what starts the momentum; the flow and allows it to grow if you align yourself with it.

Aligning yourself means applying leverage by delegating things that don't require your expertise to complete. It also means

**Intention is what starts the momentum; the flow and allows it to grow if you align yourself with it.**

making time to relax, to really breathe and appreciate things as they are and visualizing your outcome. Once you create the alignment, you can follow with inspired action which leads to more momentum and places you in the flow of things. Your mind shifts and is a part of the flow you've created and everything begins to line up.

Most people think that being productive involves having the right tool, processes, or strategy.

Some think it's all about what you do. People are caught up in doing things. That's only part of it and not the most important part. The most important thing is placing yourself into the equation to look at things like your personality, how you work and how you think. It's about step-

ping outside of what people consider normal and bringing you to the forefront. Getting through your days is not about doing anything; it's about you and who you're being in every moment; presence of mind and making conscious choices.

Doing so helps to cause a shift and allows you to flow but your effort has to be intentional. Years ago, that is how I managed to work 40-50 hours each week, go to school full time and play my

most important role of mom without missing a beat. I did the work within myself to change the way my days went and once I had the rhythm; there was no stopping me.

When you are in flow, there is no stopping you. You're armed with your tools and intention, along with the willingness to do what needs to be done. You begin to see what things belong on your agenda and what things don't. You know when to seek clarity and when you need help. You are more efficient than ever. Being in the flow is how you get it all done without missing a beat.

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# Grants, Grants and More Grants!!

I can't recall a time when there were so many small business grants. There are state and local opportunities



LAURA SIGMON

for a variety of small businesses. Look and plan your activities accordingly. For me I'm very interested in the MISTEP, Match on Main, and the Workplace Improvement grants. Together, I could receive over \$50,000 in grant money to support my ongoing operations. This is amazing. So here are a few opportunities, the bottom of this article supports Western Wayne County business development and funding support.

## Michigan's State Trade Expansion Program (MISTEP)

Program description: MI-STEP is a grant reimbursement program that can help you export your goods and services from the Wolverine State to foreign markets. Incentive: Receive up to \$15K in reimbursements for eligible business expenses, including international marketing and trade show participation costs.

### General requirements:

- Be a Michigan-based small business
- Be able to provide a Michigan Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) annual report or business structure filings from a county registrar's office
- Understand how exporting works and the cost of doing business with foreign buyers
- Provide an employer identification number (EIN) linked to a Michigan address

- Be in good standing with the Michigan Department of Treasury and other regulatory agencies

- Be an export-ready U.S. company
- Have a product or service consisting of at least 51% U.S. content

- Minimum gross annual revenue of \$100K

- Wholesale distributors of imported products are not eligible for MI-STEP grants

**How to apply:** Access and submit a completed MI-STEP grant application through the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) Project Portal.

## Match on Main Grant Program Description:

Match on Main is a reimbursement grant program for eligible small businesses operating in a Michigan business district. Incentive: Be reimbursed up to \$25K for eligible expenses on project activities, such as the cost of making interior building renovations to a permanent commercial space.

### General requirements:

- Have a local government, downtown development authority, Michigan Main Street program, or other eligible organization apply on your behalf.
- Be headquartered in Michigan
- Be located within a traditional downtown, historic, or mixed-use location zoned for concentrated commercial development in Michigan
- Sell products or services face to face as an eligible business

- Have a proposed project that incurs eligible expenses, such as costs for interior building renovations or electrical improvements

## Michigan Workplace Improvement to Safety and Health (MIWISH)

### Grant Program Description:

The Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) offers MIWISH matching grants to eligible employers who buy items that promote workplace safety. Learn more: <https://www.michigan.gov/leo/bureaus-agencies/MIOSHA/Employer-Assistance/grants>

## Motor City Match Grants Program description:

Motor City Match is a business assistance program that provides cash grants to eligible small business owners who need additional funding to open a new establishment in Detroit. Learn more here: <https://www.motorcitymatch.com/>

### CONTACT INFO:

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**D**iscover the driving force behind Detroit's economic empowerment! For over two decades, the Detroit Development Fund has been a beacon of support for black-owned businesses and enterprises led by entrepreneurs of color, injecting over \$80 million in vital loans into our community.

Our latest endeavor, the Entrepreneur of Color Fund (EOC Fund), stands as a testament to our commitment to fostering growth

and prosperity. With loans ranging from \$50,000 to \$200,000, this fund offers unparalleled access to capital, empowering businesses to expand, procure equipment, and address critical short-term capital needs, including contractor lines of credit for businesses yet to meet traditional bank financing criteria.

As of March 2024, the EOC Loan Fund has already disbursed over \$21 million to Detroit EOC companies, with 67% benefiting EOC women-owned businesses.

Impressively, 75% of these loans have been channeled into Detroit neighborhoods beyond downtown proper and midtown, reflecting our dedication to equitable economic development. The hard work of these businesses has culminated in the creation of over 3,000 new jobs for Detroit residents.

Additionally, our Micro Loan Fund stands ready to assist small Detroit enterprises, offering loans ranging from \$5,000 to \$50,000. By March 2024, we've already pro-

vided over \$1 million in funding, with 94% supporting black-owned companies and 65% empowering black women-owned ventures.

Join us in our mission to empower Detroit's entrepreneurial spirit and drive sustainable economic development. Together, we can continue to build a vibrant and inclusive business community.

DDF is proud to honor some of our EOC loan customers.

The Lip Bar – Melissa Butler | Porter Media Group – Ken Porter | Cooking with Que – Quiana “Que” Broden | Benkari Plumbing – Adrian Bennett | Yum Village – Godwin Ihentage | C & T Holdings – Kyra Jefferson | VMX Waste Management – Vicki Lewis | Detroit Voltage Deana Neely | Hot Sam's – Cliff Green & Tony Stoval | Flux City – Edward Carrington | Baobab Fare – Mamba Hamissi, Nadia Nijimbere | Denim Construction – Henry Williams

# DETROIT

## SMART PAGES

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# The Palestinian Genocide 2024

I am angry. I am depressed. The suffering of the helpless roils my very spirit. Only this can I do. I will raise my voice against their oppression. Here I stand. We are all perpetrators; we are all victims. We cannot hide from the truth. The pain and suffering are too vast, too present. We cannot claim ignorance. The internet gives us daily pictures, commentary, updates. Genocide is not new. It has happened before throughout history. We failed to confront it then. We fail to confront it now. We are busy,



DAVID RAMBEAU

Till, George Floyd, Sandra Bland, voter suppression, cultural exploitation, The Birth of a Nation, Gone With The Wind, redlining, payday lending, MOVE, the Tuskegee Experiment, the criminal justice system, apartheid in sports, subprime mortgages, institutional racism in every institution in this society from the cradle to the grave. And variations of these offenses against Hispanic Americans, Asian Americans and every marginal group. History clearly instructs us: the U. S. Knows Genocide, fast and slow. So its practice and support in the Middle East should not be a surprise. And every social change for the better has taken decades, if not centuries of struggle. Beware, be advised, be ready!

When the Israeli military complete their indiscriminate bombardment of Palestinian neighborhoods, every home will be devastated. Currently over 30,000 have been slaughtered; over 70,000 injured, an unknown number starved to death or missing.

we are liars, cowards. We are weak. We are humans. See something, say something, do something. **A Nation Built on Genocide**

The U.S. has a comprehensive history of genocide from its very beginning in this hemisphere. It started with Genocide in every form: land, culture, violence, education, media and religion against the native Americans.

Exploitation was practiced by every settler institution and is still practiced today. What comes to mind: John Wayne and western movies, the Trail of Tears, Wounded Knee, Killers of the Flower Moon, broken treaties, reservations, forts on the prairie, sports logos, and alcoholism in the native community.

White, Christian genocide was also practiced against the African American - 300 years of slavery, 100 years of Jim Crow, race riots, Black Wall Street, lynching, and the postcards, auction blocks, police murders, Rodney King, Emmitt

**Let Them Eat Words**  
From a well-written script, Vice President Kamala Harris recently provided a glib stew of words at a cable news network press conference concerning the starving infants, children, mothers, elders and injured of Gaza. She even sprinkled in some spice of emotion on her words to assuage the extreme hunger the people of Palestine are facing. And to impress her Boss.

For some, the famine focused political chef Harris provided steaks of verbs and nouns. For others she served an omelette of pronouns and adjectives. As side dishes, she served heaps of adverbs, prepositions and conjunctions. Instead of dessert, she doled out interjections.

When she finally finished she smiled and thought...Marie Antoinette couldn't have done any better. What I need now is a coat of arms. If I keep practicing, I'll be ready to be President. She breathed deeply, gazed

confidently at her vision of her future, and left the stage supremely satisfied in her word/food performance. And little else.

But first we must deal with the elderly, arch villain who threatens our path to glory. It Seems to me that a lengthy term in the Bastille for him and his insurrectionist accomplices will do nicely. Or even the gallows, like he planned for his Vice President Mike Pence.

## Multipurpose Parachutes for the Homeless


As of this date, made noteworthy by the third U. S. air drop of food supplies, it is reported that two-thirds of the homes in Gaza have been severely damaged or completely destroyed. When the Israeli military complete their indiscriminate bombardment of Palestinian neighborhoods, every home will be devastated. Currently over

30,000 have been slaughtered; over 70,000 injured, an unknown number starved to death or missing.

What is needed is temporary shelter till the Israelis run out of bombs, missiles and drones to drop on the people. With American ingenuity the parachutes used to be able to be converted to tents or any form of shelter that a homeless people could use. Nothing delivered should go to waste. Any help is help.

— — — — —  
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# Cybersecurity Basics Your Business Needs To Know

Protecting your business against cyberthreats is no easy feat, especially for small businesses. It's easy to



WILLIE BRAKE



think that small businesses aren't at great risk, but smaller enterprises are increasingly in cybercriminals' sights.

Just because you're a small business doesn't mean you are immune to cyberattacks. And considering how many of us handle sensitive data on vulnerable populations, the stakes are even higher. We haven't even mentioned the risks that a cyberattack can pose to your staff and your customers, and — critically — your reputation.

**What's a small business to do? Here's a rundown of some basic security principles to keep in mind.**

## Consider What's at Risk

Cybercriminals use a huge spectrum of tactics to try to steal your data or financial information. This ranges from malware and ransomware to compromised user accounts and phishing attacks. Some hackers target weaknesses in your security, while others target weaknesses in people who have access to your network. These vulnerabilities can include your work and personal networks and email accounts. Criminals can also target individual apps, devices, and data storage units.

They also prey on the curiosity or desires of people like you and me. The classic "you've inherited a fortune from a long-lost relative" scam is one well-known example, as is the fake email that purports to be from a major company asking you to log in to your account for some reason.

Now that many employees work remotely, home offices are

also a target. To protect your business from these attacks, you shouldn't only rely on a single form of traditional protection. Instead, security experts advise that you have a multilayered cybersecurity approach, which means that if an attack gets past one layer of protection, the other layers will be able to stop it. **Don't Skimp on the Antivirus Software**

Traditionally, malware — which encompasses things like viruses, spyware, ransomware, and other bits of software designed to disrupt your work or steal information — was delivered en masse to a large group of people.

These days, criminals use a much more targeted approach. They'll use phishing scams or other social engineering to trick you to give up some piece of information or download malicious software onto your devices. These attackers use information gleaned from publicly available sources, such as social media accounts, business directories, and personal websites to scam and coerce businesses. Unfortunately, one click is all it takes to give a hacker access to sensitive data, or even information on individuals within your business.

There's plenty of antivirus software you can download for free. And while some of it is pretty solid, the cheapest option isn't always the best. So choose reliable antivirus software from a credible company that can proactively monitor security threats and alert you if your systems are compromised.

## Automate Software Updates

Many software companies release regular patches to fix security flaws. And depending on the nature of a software bug, one missed security update could be all that it takes to wreak major havoc on your business. To

prevent this, make sure you turn on automatic software updates for all your apps and devices.

**Here are some tips to help your staff, employees, and other stakeholders guard against attacks:**

- Use a secure password manager. Add multi-factor authentication (MFA) for an extra layer of security.
- Host workshops on preventing phishing attacks and social engineering schemes.
- Establish a clear acceptable use policy for safe Internet browsing habits.
- Run regular reports and have procedures in place to ensure personnel compliance for vital network and device updates.



Willie E. Brake is a Computer Expert and Industry Analyst at All About Technology, a Certified Disability-Owned Minority Business Enterprise and Microsoft Authorized Refurbisher, based in Detroit, Michigan. You can connect with me on LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/williebrake/>

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# Detroit Welcomes the 2024 NFL Draft

The 2024 NFL Draft is comprised of the NFL Draft Experience presented by Rocket Mortgage which is FREE for all ages and the Draft Theater for invited ticket holders that runs from Thursday, April 25 through Saturday, April 27. For free entry to the Draft Experience, fans are required to register for their NFL OnePass.



DESHAWN HOLMES

For the Draft Theater, seating is only available to invited ticket holders; however, as seats become available, fans will have an opportunity to be selected for standing room and other seating depending upon availability, usually for Friday and Saturday only.

Because the NFL Draft Experience and Draft Theater are situated adjacent to one another, fans attending Draft Experience will have sight lines to the Draft Theater from Woodward Avenue to watch every pick of the Draft and concerts. There will be screens throughout Draft Experience within the secure perimeter as well as space to view the stage accessible on a first come, first serve basis.

The Detroit Lions, Downtown Detroit Partnership and other key stakeholders ensures the event creates a beneficial lasting legacy for all members of our community.



The area around Campus Martius Park and Hart Plaza will serve as the event site for the Draft, which has become one of the most anticipated sports events of the year for the hundreds of thousands of fans. The Draft will engage other areas of the city over the three-day event. Greektown, Eastern Market, Columbia Street in the District Detroit area are planning for football themed activities to welcome fans.

**Detroit People Mover will operate 24 hours a day, beginning 7:00 a.m. Thursday, 4/25 through 12:00 a.m. Sunday, 4/28 with trains up to every 5 minutes.**

The total net economic benefit is calculated with expenditures both inside and outside of the event in Detroit, including hotel stays, merchandise purchases and

spending at bars and restaurants.

“Hosting the NFL draft is another exciting win for Detroit and presents invaluable opportunities for the city to showcase its culture on a national stage, once again potentially fostering long-term tourism and investment prospects,” said Tyler Theile, vice president and director of economic analysis and public policy at AEG.

“The NFL Draft is going to do more for our city in terms of economic activity and its national image than any single event in Detroit’s history,” said Mayor Mike Duggan. “Just days from now, hundreds of thousands of visitors will be staying at our hotels, shopping at our stores and dining at restaurants across the city. We’ve been working behind the scenes for more than a year and now is the time people will actually start to see the NFL Draft event space start to take shape.”

*Resource: NFL.com*

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## 2024 NFL DRAFT EXPERIENCE GAMES

### • 40-Yard Dash

Put your skills to the test by racing down the field against your opponents and digital NFL players on a giant 40-yard-long LED wall!

### • Vertical Jump

Take your position at the vertical jump and find out what the differential between your reach and the flag you hit is, just like at the NFL Scouting Combine!

### • Hail Mary

Test your long-distance accuracy like a pro by throwing a deep pass over defenders into a drop-in net.

### ATTRACTIONS

#### • Autograph Stage

Get free autographs from current NFL players and NFL Legends. The schedule will be available by April 20 in the OnePass app with regular updates (\*subject to change without notice).

### • Bud Light Backyard Bar

Stop by the Bud Light bars to take a break, enjoy an ice-cold Bud Light or Bud Light Seltzer, and snap a picture at our fun photo opp! Guests must be 21 and over to partake in any alcoholic beverages.

### • Look Like A Pro

Step inside a uniformed body-cast mold bearing the insignia of your favorite NFL team and have a friend snap your photo.

### • Taste of Detroit

Enjoy selections from some of Detroit restaurants in a “taste of the town” tailgate.

### • Invisalign NFL Draft Photo Frames

Take a picture in one of the jumbo photo frames!

### • Draft Stage

Visit a replica of the official NFL Draft Stage and take your spot behind the podium as a #1 Draft pick!

### • NFL Locker Room

Visit a replica NFL locker room as it appears on game day. Experience the sights of a real NFL pregame inside our video tunnel!

### • Pepsi Team Helmets

Fans can take their picture with an oversized replica of all 32 NFL team helmets, presented by Pepsi

### • Super Bowl Rings

See all 57 Super Bowl rings up close and take a unique digital photo with your favorite ring on your finger!

### • The Vince Lombardi Trophy

Fans may take their photo with the most iconic trophy in sports.

### • NFL Shop presented by Visa

Visit NFL Shop presented by Visa for all of your exclusive NFL teams and NFL Draft merchandise

### • Corner Ballpark

Corner Ballpark will serve as the hub of all youth activities at the Draft, and will be an extension of the activities at the main Draft site at Hart Plaza and Campus Martius Park. NFL

OnePass is required for access to the Corner Ballpark April 25–27 and there will be screens to watch the NFL Draft on NFL Network. Activities include:

### • Field Goal Challenge

Step right up and take your shot at kicking a field goal just like the pros

### • Gear Up and Go

Kids can try on NFL equipment and feel like a pro.

### • Play Football Field

Watch and learn from USA Football coaches and NFL players about football and NFL FLAG football, as well as Heads Up tackling during various clinics, competitions, and demonstrations. On-field clinics are open to kids ages 6-14. Daily clinics open on a first-come, first-served basis.

### • Food Trucks

Enjoy food from Curt Got Crabs, Da Bomb Taco Truck, Grobbel Food Truck, Aj Authentic Jamaican, and Chicken on a Stick.

# JUNE TEENTH celebration

JUNE 19



THE COMMODORES  
POINTER SISTERS

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS  
DETROIT YOUTH CHOIR



Theme: Heroes of Democracy

2024 Montford Point

Annual Heritage

## MILITARY BANQUET AND AWARDS CEREMONY



KEYNOTE  
SPEAKER  
MAJOR  
GENERAL  
CORNELL  
WILSON  
(USMC-RET).

Sunday June 23rd, 2024 | 3:30 PM

Burton Manor and Conference Center  
27777 Schoolcraft Road.  
Livonia, MI 48150

WAYNE COUNTY TREASURER'S OFFICE  
Eric R. Sabree - Wayne County Treasurer



### Property tax payment plans are available now!

#### Interest Reduction Stipulated Payment Agreement (IRSPA)

This payment plan reduces the interest rate from 18% to 6% for eligible taxpayers. To sign up, you must own and live in your home, and have a Principal Residence Exemption (PRE) and ID that proves residency.

#### Stipulated Payment Agreement (SPA)

Available to everybody, this plan allows a taxpayer to pay taxes pursuant to a payment schedule. The plan will avoid foreclosure provided that payments are submitted per the agreed upon schedule.

#### Distressed Owner Occupant Extension (DOOE)

This program is not available to everyone. If you own and live in the property, and are suffering financial hardship you may qualify for this program. Proof of ownership, occupancy, and hardship are required.

#### Pay As You Stay Payment Agreement (PAYSPA)

Only for those who have first applied for their local municipality's Poverty Tax Exemption (PTE) and received an approval. Once notified by your local Assessor's office and deemed eligible, our office will mail you a notification letter with your Reduced Amount Due. You will have the option of paying a lump sum (additional 10% off) or enrolling into a PAYSPA.

Many of these plans are available online at [treasurer.waynecounty.com](http://treasurer.waynecounty.com)!

For more information, email [WCTOPaymentPlans@waynecounty.com](mailto:WCTOPaymentPlans@waynecounty.com) or call (313) 224-5990.

This is My Rhythm Stage Musical Written and Directed by Regina Jones  
Music Director, Freeman Spells, Jr.  
**SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2024**



MATINEE SHOW 12 NOON, EVENING SHOW 5:30PM  
VIP LUNCHEON, ART EXHIBIT, 2PM-5PM



TICKETS  
\$100 INCLUDES FOOD & FRONT ROW SEATS, \$50 INCLUDES FOOD, \$25 FOR GENERAL SEATS, \$15 DISABLED SEATING

[ITSTIMEFORCAD@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ITSTIMEFORCAD@GMAIL.COM), TICKET MASTER, [HTTPS://CORPORATION-FOR-ARTISTIC-DEVELOPMENT.WENWEB.COM](https://corporation-for-artistic-development.wenweb.com), 313-346-6870 AND VOICEMAIL 313-221-9516

HEINZ C. PRECHTER THEATER ON WC3 CAMPUS  
21000 NORTHLINE RD TAYLOR, MI 48180

## A TASTE OF THE WORLD

Enjoy 7 continents of fashions, music, dances, stories, art and food from the beginning of time up to our present day.

**From the Office of Wayne County Treasurer  
Eric R. Sabree**



# **PROBATE ASSISTANCE**

If you are facing foreclosure and need assistance in starting a Wayne County Probate Court Case because a property is in the name of a deceased family member, please contact one of the following community partners for assistance:

**Michigan Legal Services: 313-774-1527**

**United Community Housing Coalition: 313-963-3310**

**Legal Aid & Defender: 313-967-5800**

The property may be removed from foreclosure if you have filed a probate petition.

**We are here to help!**



**Treasurer.WayneCounty.com**

**313-224-5990**

