

Austin LaFave

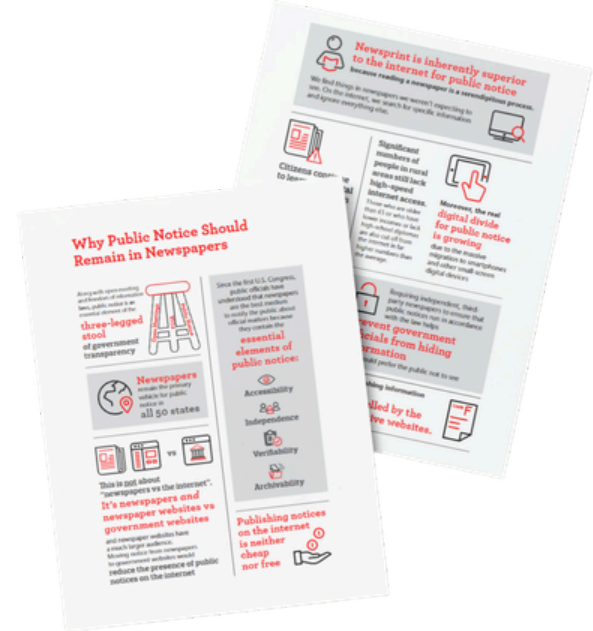
Communications and Marketing Specialist

I'm a jack-of-all-trades designer and communicator with experience across graphic design, web design, communications, and marketing. This versatility allows me to approach projects holistically and collaborate effectively with colleagues from different backgrounds. I thrive in team environments where diverse perspectives come together to create impactful solutions.

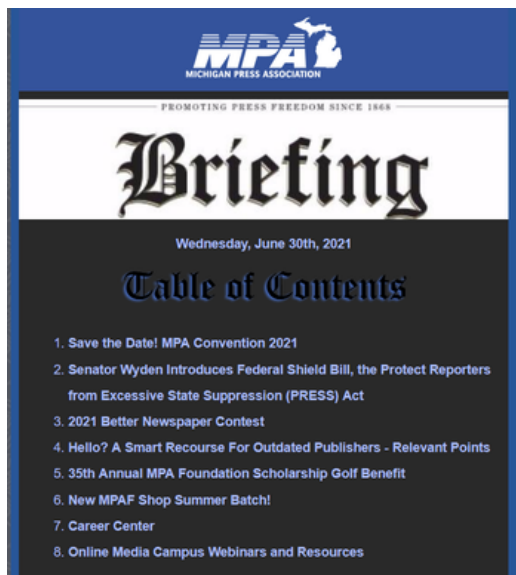
My work has spanned higher education, journalism, and the health and wellness industry. These varied experiences have given me a deep appreciation for translating complex ideas into clear, compelling content for diverse audiences.

Below is some of the work I've done.





Printed Media and Brochures



50TH ANNIVERSARY
1974 - 2024

University of Michigan-Flint School of Nursing's 50th Anniversary Celebration

You've been invited!

We are delighted to invite you to the **University of Michigan-Flint School of Nursing's 50th Anniversary Celebration**, a milestone event honoring five decades of excellence in nursing education.

Join us on November 13th, 2024 from 5-8pm at the Sloan Museum, located at 1221 E Kearsley St, Flint, MI 48503

RSVP by Oct 25, 2024

The evening will feature a delightful dinner and dessert, allowing us to reconnect, reminisce, and celebrate our shared accomplishments.

Additionally, the museum will be open for you to explore Flint's rich history, creating an unforgettable backdrop for this special occasion.

Please RSVP with the button above to ensure your place at this memorable event. We look forward to celebrating with you and honoring the incredible contributions of our alumni, faculty, and staff.

Dress Code:
Dressy Casual

Are you an alum? If so, we'd love to feature your story during our event!

We invite you to complete our testimonial form below.

Share your Story or Pictures!

Keep up to date with all things SON through our socials!

f X in @

SCHOOL OF NURSING
WHERE SUCCESS LEADS

Newsletter

Keeping you in the loop

Hello there!

Can you believe fall semester is finally here?

As the vibrant colors of autumn start to paint the campus landscape, we are thrilled to bring you the latest news and updates from the School of Nursing at the University of Michigan-Flint. Our 321 Newsletter is a storytelling space where Nursing alumni, students, faculty, staff, and valued partners can hear about current and exciting news from the University of Michigan-Flint's School of Nursing.

Embracing Transformation: A New Chapter Begins

We are in the midst of much transformation, within our institution, our city, nation, and world. We are thrilled to introduce innovative changes that will enhance your educational experience and prepare you for the evolving landscape of nursing. From cutting-edge curriculum updates to state-of-the-art simulation facilities, we are dedicated to engaging you with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to excel in your nursing career.

Navigating the New Fall Start

The start of fall brings a renewed sense of energy and anticipation. This semester, we are delighted to welcome a new cohort of aspiring nurses who are embarking on their educational journey with us. To our returning students, we can't wait to witness your continued growth and accomplishments. Your dedication and passion inspire us all.

Throughout the coming months, you can look forward to engaging workshops, insightful lectures, and opportunities for hands-on learning that will enrich your nursing education. Our faculty, known for their expertise and commitment, are here to guide and support you every step of the way.

Stay Connected

This newsletter is just the beginning of our commitment to keeping you informed about the exciting developments within our School of Nursing. As we embrace transformation and welcome a new fall start, we encourage you to stay connected with us through this newsletter, our social media platforms, and various events planned for the semester.

Thank you for being an essential part of the University of Michigan-Flint's School of Nursing community. Here's to a season of growth, discovery, and transformation!

Cheers from your favorite Communication Specialists,

Asunda & Austin

3 Topics

Topic 1: Future Nurse Summer Camp 2023

High school students from across the United States traveled to the University of Michigan-Flint's William S. White Building last month to participate in a two-day camp hosted by the School of Nursing. Camp featured events led by UM-Flint nursing faculty, staff and volunteers with direct working knowledge of the evolving field of nursing.

Day 1: Intros, Learning, & Fun

What boosts adrenaline and gets teenagers exert physical energy while solving clues? "Escape Rooms!"

On day 1, campers donned both the nurse and detective cape and learned about alternative wellness treatments such as aromatherapy.

Day 2: More Fun and Sloan

During day 2, campers visited the Sloan Museum and gave plenty of pets to five therapy dogs from the Foundation. The husky Trouble was a favorite, we wonder why!

In the end, the campers ended up inspiring us just as much as they were inspired to become Future Nurses!

CAMP

Therapy PUPPERS

Welcome to Camp!

Future Nurses Summer Camp 2023

2 Quotes

Japari Gadzama

"What is rewarding about the job for me personally, is being able to be part of someone's recovery and be in their life at a time when they are most vulnerable."

Marilyn Fitter

"We have made it our mission in life to improve patient outcomes."

1 Question

We have heard you and understand you want to make a difference... read and THANK YOU!

We are putting together an alumni program that will include mentorship opportunities for new and returning nursing students.

Does this sound of interest to you?

Yes, I am totally interested!

No, not at this time.

Constant Contact was a key tool in my communications work for both the Michigan Press Association and UM-Flint School of Nursing. At MPA, I used it to distribute event information, including the annual golf benefit, legislative updates, and membership communications. At the School of Nursing, I managed email campaigns for program announcements, open houses, and alumni engagement. These efforts helped strengthen connections with stakeholders and ensure timely, relevant information reached the right audiences.

Emails Created in Constant Contact

WITHOUT LOCAL JOURNALISM?

“ American politics will become even more polarized; government and business corruption will flourish; the glue that holds communities together will weaken. ”

— Margaret Sullivan, “*Ghosting The News*”

Relevance Project



NEWSPAPER POWER.

Print, Digital & Social Solutions for our advertisers.

M FLINT SCHOOL OF NURSING WHERE SUCCESS LEADS

PLANNED LAUNCH FALL 2025

NEONATAL NURSE PRACTITIONER PROGRAM WEBINAR

 **JANUARY 22ND 12-1PM**



M FLINT SCHOOL OF NURSING WHERE SUCCESS LEADS

GROW YOUR ROOTS IN FLINT



ATTENTION RNS!

Enroll in UM-Flint's RN to BSN program for under **\$11,000!**

Thanks to an exciting new partnership, you can advance your nursing education while working.

Key Benefits:

- Complete BSN in just two semesters
- Full-time or part-time options
- \$2500 scholarship for each UM Health-West Scholar
- Additional tuition assistance available
- Pathway to BSN to DNP with MSN Online Program (with eligible GPA)



WEBINARS EVERY WEEK

Learn more about the nursing profession directly from our advisors, and ask questions directly.

SPEAKER



Brooke

RNBSN Academic Advisor

SPEAKER



Kyle

Traditional Academic Advisor

[EVENTS.UMFLINT.EDU](https://events.umflint.edu)

LANSING COMMUNITY COLLEGE

A COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN-FLINT AND LANSING COMMUNITY COLLEGE

M FLINT SCHOOL OF NURSING WHERE SUCCESS LEADS

NUR 307

EMPOWERING NURSES, NO TUITION!



ENROLL IN THE RN TO BSN PROGRAM WITH SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES, EXCLUSIVELY FOR **LCC STUDENTS AND ALUMNI**,



THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO RECEIVE A SCHOLARSHIP VALUED AT **\$1,700+**



ENHANCE YOUR SKILLS THROUGH **NUR 307** TO EXPAND YOUR EXPERTISE IN HOLISTIC PATIENT ASSESSMENT AND COMPLEX DECISION-MAKING.

UM-FLINT

SCHOOL OF NURSING

OPEN TOUR

OCTOBER 22ND

SIGN UP NOW!



Google and Meta Advertisements



EMPOWER YOUR FUTURE IN FLINT



M FLINT | SCHOOL OF NURSING



M FLINT | SCHOOL OF NURSING
WHERE SUCCESS LEADS

RNBSN Virtual Open House

Connect with industry experts for career advice, explore full-ride and transfer scholarships for RN to BSN students, and get key guidance to streamline your application process.

Join tomorrow's online webinar via the QR code—drop in for 15 minutes to get your questions answered in breakout rooms tailored to your needs!



 **11:00am - 1:00pm | July 22nd 2025**



M FLINT | SCHOOL OF NURSING
WHERE SUCCESS LEADS

Direct Admit Application

Direct Admit. Direct Impact. No waitlist.
Your nursing future starts here in Flint

High School Seniors with a minimum 3.00 cumulative high school GPA are encouraged to apply!



Please scan the QR code to apply
<https://go.umflint.edu/flintdirectadmit26>

**February 6th, 2026
March 13th, 2026**



EXPLORE UM-Flint SCHOOL OF NURSING TOUR DAY

 **Meet faculty and staff**
Our diverse team of faculty and staff are dedicated to excellence in healthcare education by supporting nursing students' pathways from academic coursework to career preparation.

 **Tour the Sim Center**
Our highly-rated Center for Simulation and Clinical Innovation offers simulation scenarios designed to help students develop problem-solving and clinical decision-making skills.

 **Learn about scholarships**
UM-Flint is proud to offer many scholarships for students. The majority of scholarships are created by generous donors who believe in supporting students as they pursue their educational goals.

**TUES, AUG 6
9AM - 12PM
WSW BUILDING**

M FLINT | SCHOOL OF NURSING **REGISTER HERE**





M FLINT

FUTURE NURSE Summer CAMP

JULY 15TH - 16TH



JOIN US FOR FUN, HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES TO INTRODUCE CAMPERS TO ALL THAT NURSING OFFERS!

REGISTER ONLINE >>>



M FLINT | SCHOOL OF NURSING **Application closes Sept. 8th**

LANSING COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Tuition Support Available

Exclusive for Lansing Community College (LCC) concurrent students and alumni admitted/enrolled in the UM-Flint RN to BSN program for Fall 2025.

Covers Tuition Costs

Scholarship offsets uncovered tuition expenses (excluding fees & books) for Fall 2025.

Who's Eligible?

Students can apply if they completed any of the following mixed-mode UM-Flint courses with a grade of C or higher, and did the in-person part at LCC:

- NSC 180 (Winter 2025 MI)
- NUR 307 (Summer 2025 MI)
- NUR 370 (Fall 2025 MI)

Last-dollar Scholarship

Award applied after all other grants and scholarships (no loans counted)



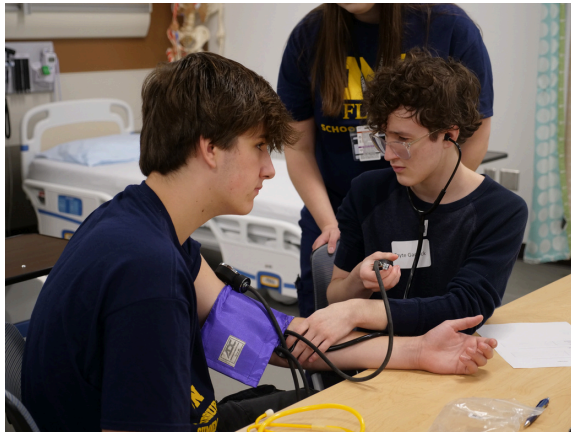

For for information and general questions, please email Jennifer Spenny at jspennyje@umich.edu

Funding is for Fall 2025 only; renewal requires a new application and available funds.

Printed Program Flyers



School of Nursing Photograghy



School of Nursing Photography (Continued)

ARTICLES WRITTEN BY AUSTIN LAFAVE



Maize and Blue Scholar honors mother's legacy, inspires community care a...

DECEMBER 18, 2025



Supporting student success: Specialized staff strengthen nursing educati...

NOVEMBER 20, 2025



UM-Flint, Monroe County Community College partnership expands access to ...

AUGUST 28, 2025



UM-Flint expands Standardized Patient Program with help from family duo...

MARCH 10, 2025



UM-Flint School of Nursing receives \$3.94M grant to address rural nursin...

OCTOBER 23, 2024



Five reasons to pursue your RN to BSN with UM-Flint's School of Nursing...

JULY 31, 2024



Giving Blueday 2024: Reasons to support UM-Flint's Nursing Student Emerg...

MARCH 13, 2024



UM-Flint launches after-school nursing program at Hamady High School...

FEBRUARY 21, 2024



UM-Flint's School of Nursing travels to Chicago for the national Magnet ...

SEPTEMBER 28, 2023



UM-Flint Nursing develops next generation of health care leaders at summ...

AUGUST 3, 2023



<https://news.umflint.edu/author/aulafave/>

School of Nursing
AP Style Articles

I authored AP-style press releases and articles for the UM-Flint School of Nursing, covering everything from heartwarming student journeys to program expansions and campus events. Each piece was crafted with journalistic precision and a storyteller's touch, ensuring complex information was accessible and engaging for diverse audiences. This work strengthened the School's media presence and helped share its mission with the broader Flint community.



MEETING GOALS: BRAINSTORM

- Orient the marketing team to the importance of strong branding (ShowNTell)
- Get on the same page on past and future of marketing for SON (ShowNTell)
- Get critique and insights on current marketing for SON (BrainTrust)
- Prioritize marketing initiatives with timelines (BrainTrust)



AGENDA



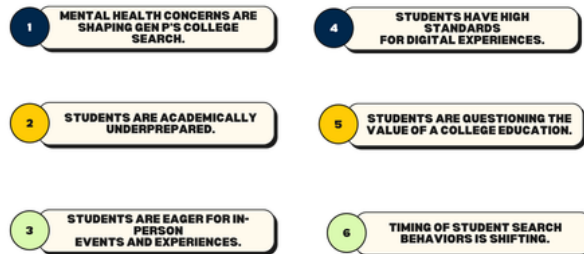
HOLISTIC BRANDING 101



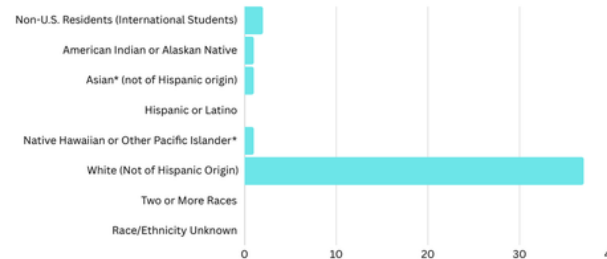
3) BRAND STRATEGY

Act of shaping brand perception; the actions taken to make sure the way your audience perceives you is in alignment with the way you want to be perceived. (Voice, messaging, actions)

POST-PANDEMIC NURSING INSIGHTS



ENROLLMENT DATA - FALL 2022 DEMOGRAPHICS FOR GRADUATE



WEAKNESS - AREAS WHERE THE BUSINESS NEEDS TO IMPROVE TO REMAIN COMPETITIVE

What internal initiatives that are underperforming? What could we improve? Where do we have fewer resources than others? What are others likely to see as weaknesses?

- Weak brand
- Accelerated and Traditional BSN not enrolling well



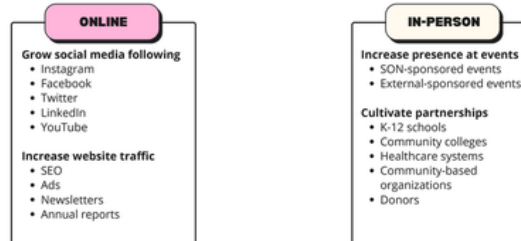
THREATS - EXTERNAL FACTORS THAT HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO HARM

What things are out of our control? What threats could harm us? What is our competition doing? What threats do our weaknesses expose to you?

- Proliferation of online nursing programs
- Other colleges offering programs
- Reputation/narrative/image of Flint
- Unknown institution
- Unknown nursing program



1) INCREASE VISIBILITY



DETERMINE MEASURABLE ACTIONS FOR NEXT 12 MONTHS

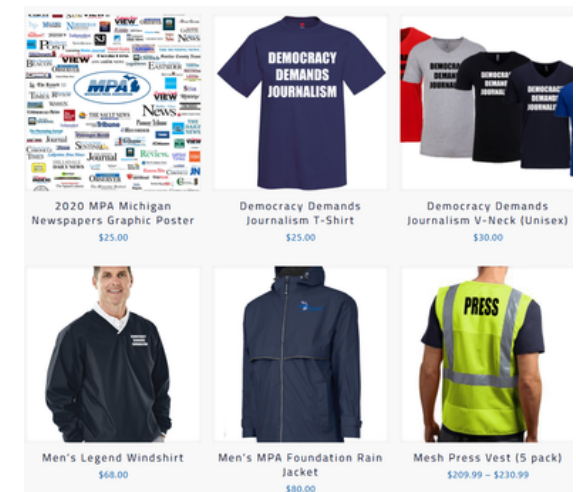
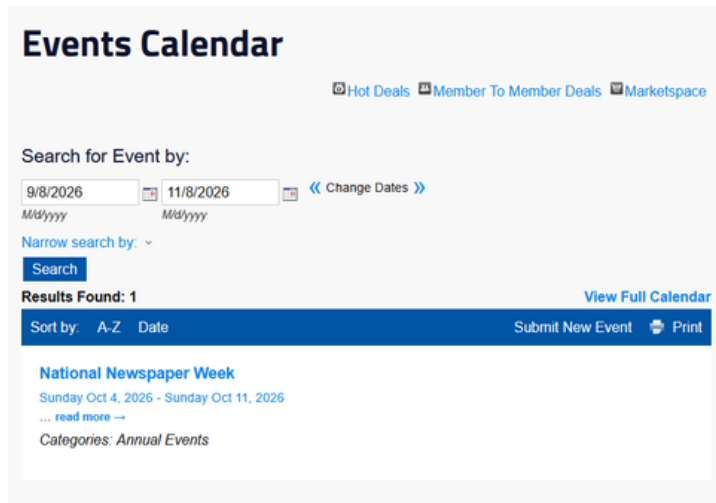


Annual Report School of Nursing

I worked on an annual report for the School of Nursing Faculty and Staff to create content showcasing each year's achievements. For the latest version, I redesigned the report in Google Slides to improve accessibility and ensure university compliance.



<https://michiganpress.org/>



Web Design

Michigan Press Association

In my role at the Michigan Press Association, I managed the organization's WordPress website, overseeing content updates and site structure. I created pages for annual conventions, refreshed content to keep members informed on legislative and industry developments, and built an online shop to handle merchandise and membership sales. This work improved site functionality, user experience, and the organization's digital presence.

2021 MPA Better Newspaper Contest

Embargo: Don't release before 3:00p.m., Thursday, March 17, 2022



827 North Washington Avenue
Lansing, MI 48906-5199
Phone: 517.372.2424
Fax: 517.372.2429

www.michiganpress.org

Michael Wilkinson is the 2020 recipient of the Richard Millman Journalist of the Year Award. The "JOY" award is sponsored by the Michigan Press Association Foundation.

Michael was chosen by a panel of five judges representing Michigan media and academia. He will receive a \$1000 prize.

Michael was the first reporter in Michigan to spot that Detroit was a national hotspot for the virus and that COVID-19, in the early days of the pandemic, disproportionately sickened and killed African Americans. He came to the latter conclusion before state epidemiologists did.

In a quote from his managing editor at Bridge Magazine: "Unlike many data reporters, Michael uses data as a starting point — rather than a destination — to shed light on how policies impact everyday lives."

"Wilkinson made the numbers tell stories and hold public officials accountable on the biggest story of 2020," says judge Chuck Strokes from WXYZ.

"Mike's body of work with Bridge Michigan is a shining example of how data can generate news impact, tell compelling stories, add insight, and find connections that matter and can drive meaningful action," said Michigan Press Association Foundation Board member and contest judge Sara Wurfel, vice president at Truscott Rossman. "This is what strong community journalism can do."

"Telling complicated, data-driven stories is difficult. Michael uses well done info graphics that help readers have a better understanding of the complete story. He does an excellent job of combining graphic information with the story to give readers an easy understanding of complex topics," said contest judge and MPA Foundation Trustee Jim Wojcik.

Wilkinson grew up in Macomb County and earned a degree at the University of Michigan. He was also part of a team at The Blade of Toledo that won national honors, including the National Headliner and Gerald Loeb awards, for exposing widespread political corruption in a scandal that came to be known as Coingate. The stories led to political reform in Ohio state government.

At the Detroit News he won numerous state awards for projects, including series that examined the impending housing crash, and segregation in schools and neighborhoods in Metro Detroit.

In 2013, Wilkinson joined Bridge Michigan as the publication's computer-assisted reporting specialist. His work has been indispensable to readers, never more so than during the pandemic, where he created a coronavirus dashboard of more than a dozen interactive charts and graphs that he has updated daily for more than a year, including weekends.

Mike lives in Toledo with his family and his guitar.

In a virtual awards ceremony via Zoom on March 25, the MPA Foundation also recognized Kristen Jordan Shamus of the Detroit Free Press as runner up for her Covid-19 coverage and Robin Erb from Bridge Magazine for her Covid-19 Coverage. They were chosen from a field of entries from broadcast, print and electronic journalists for work from October 2019 thru September 2020.

Previous winners of the JOY Award are Tresa Baldas of the Detroit Free Press, Paula Gardner of MLive, Garret Ellison of MLive, Karen Bouffard and Joel Kurth of the Detroit News, Curt Guyette of the American Civil Liberties Union, and Jennifer Dixon of the Detroit Free Press.

The Michigan Press Association Foundation was created in 1980 to further the interests of community journalism in Michigan. The Foundation's mission includes serving the public interest by encouraging, fostering, and aiding improvements in the quality, vigor and fairness of Michigan journalism and a free press in the state of Michigan. The MPA Foundation has invested more than \$300,000 in Michigan journalism since 1990, including the awarding of nearly 300 scholarships to college-level journalism students and has awarded the Richard Millman Journalist of the Year to one Michigan journalist each year since 2014.

The mission of the Michigan Press Association Foundation is to promote, improve and encourage community journalism in Michigan.

Statewide Contest Spotlights Quality Journalism

Members of Arkansas Press Association reviewed 186 entries submitted by 9 Michigan NewsMedia members this year. The competition inspires all journalists to produce their best work, which in turn, nurtures stronger communities.

"It's clear the huge amount of work our collective newsrooms are doing all over the state to serve their communities. Covering our beats is crucial work that supports the democratic process in each community in Michigan; it's work that supports the spirit of each community we serve. We have wonderful examples here of the tremendous talent we have in our state. These recent years have been difficult, but we will look back on these times with pride for all the positive impact we're having on our readers". Paul J. Heidbreder, Michigan Press Association President and Publisher of the Traverse City Record-Eagle.

The 2021 "News Media Publication of the Year" award is presented to the top News Media publication in the Local and Statewide circulation classes based on points accumulated (100 for first, 70 for second and 40 for third) in all Editorial contest categories. Winners of those awards are listed below.

Circulation Class	Total Points	NewsMedia Publication
Local	650	Flint Beat
Statewide	1,300	Bridge Michigan

The MPA Rookie Writer Award recognizes exemplary efforts of new writers just breaking into journalism. The three finalists are: Sam Dodge of The Ann Arbor News, Amy Diaz of the Flint Beat and Sierra Clark of the Traverse City Record-Eagle, with the award going to Amy Diaz.

Excellence in Policing and Social Justice Reporting recognizes high-profile use-of-force incidents led to days of protests; civil unrest; and, tragically, further violence, destruction, and death. Unfortunately, these protests have, in far too many communities, further widened the gap between police agencies and their communities. Local journalism reporting on this topic is crucial to communities in Michigan. Entries in this category will be judged on not only real time reporting on community events, but also the underlying. The three finalists are Bridge Michigan for "Struggles with Racism in Northern Michigan", BridgeDetroit & NBC News for "Built to keep Black from White" and Michigan Advance for "The history and politics of police reform efforts in Michigan" with the award going to BridgeDetroit & NBC News.

The Best FOIA Story Award recognizes the best story using FOIA as the main tool to gain information. This award will shine a spotlight on the importance of FOIA in getting information about what is going on in government. The best story using FOIA as the main tool to gain information. The three finalists are: Grand Rapids Press for "Whitmer said Separation agreements like Robert Gordon's are used often in State Government", Bridge Michigan for "Emails: Michigan sheriff sought to seize voting machines amid Trump claims", and Kalamazoo Gazette for "Kalamazoo closed-door meetings exposed", with the award going to Bridge Michigan.

The MPA Public Service Award recognizes a distinguished example of meritorious public service by a newspaper or newspaper individual that has made a significant contribution to the betterment of their community. Winners of this award is listed below based on their circulation Class:

Statewide: Michigan Advance for "How Michiganders are coping with the COVID crisis"

The 2022 MPA Better Newspaper Contest opens August 1, 2022.

Press Releases Michigan Press Association

In my role at the Michigan Press Association, I managed the organization's WordPress website, overseeing content updates and site structure. I created pages for annual conventions, refreshed content to keep members informed on legislative and industry developments, and built an online shop to handle merchandise and membership sales. This work improved site functionality, user experience, and the organization's digital presence.

The Bulletin



JAN. 2021
ISSUE 1
f t i n

"The best way we can show respect for the voters who are upset is by telling them the truth!"
—Senator/Mitt Romney

The 101st Session of the Michigan Legislature

On January 13, 2021 the 101st session of the Michigan Legislature will begin.

The end of 2020 was a battle for MPA and our members to preserve public notices in newspapers. We managed to stave off the bills that would allow local governments to post notice exclusively on their own website but anticipate these bills will be back, and soon.

The public policy staff is meeting with members of the State House to educate them and reinforce our position on this issue. The upside of work from home is that you can join in these meetings with your state representative via Zoom. Keep your eyes on your inbox for an invite if you have a new rep.

The leadership in the House has changed with the new session. Jason Wentworth (R-Clare) is the new Speaker of the House. Representative Donna Latsakis (D-Soo Township) is the Minority Leader. Representative Pam Hornberger (R-Chesterfield) is the Speaker Pro-Tem. Representative Ben Fredrick (R-Owosso) is Majority Floor Leader and Representative Yousef Rabin (D-An Arbor) is Minority Floor Leader.

MPA is also working with the Senate to craft legislation that will address the concerns of access to public notice that many legislators have voiced. Senator Curt VanderWall (R-Ludington) is preparing to introduce a bill we authored in the first week of session that would redefine newspaper to include an online component and mandate publications of notices online and participation in a statewide public notice website.

It is vitally important that MPA members who have not started participating in MPApublicNotice.com start doing so soon. When discussing our alternatives to local government control of notices, our willingness to create and maintain a statewide website of all notices is a huge selling point for legislators. We understand the cost is off-putting to some but feel it's a worthwhile investment for members to be able to keep notices in newspapers.

2021 MPA Directory Cover Contest

It's time for the 2021 MPA Directory Cover Contest

All MPA members are invited to show off their photography skills and submit a photo for the cover of this year's MPA Directory.

The theme this year is a little different. We'd like pictures from inside the newsroom, printing presses, messy desks or anything else in your newsroom that says newspaper to the artistic eye.

Please submit your entry by February 15th. You can email entries to info@michiganpress.org. Only the contest will be judged by the MPA Communications Committee.



Executive Director's Column



our Public Affairs team need to get to know and begin educating them about the issues around public notice and open government. We anticipate the bills will be reintroduced early in the session.

MPA has been drafting alternate legislation which should be introduced quite soon and we'll let you know as soon as it has a bill number. MPA will need your help to pass the legislation.

The statewide public notice database that we have been working on with DUNP is directly related to the bills in the legislature. The Public Affairs team has stated many times in meetings with legislators that our members recognize their concerns regarding constituents having access to information and the increased use of online information. MPApublicNotice 2.0 was developed to respond to the call that public notices be placed on government websites.

As for our efforts to return notices in print and not on government websites, an elected official once told us MPA needed to stop being the party of NO. Our response is 2.0 and our alternative legislation. Legislators are pleased when we show them the database however, we are hard pressed when they want to know if their newspaper is using the database. PLEASE participate in the program.

As I have said many times, it is your grassroots contact with your elected officials that make the difference. However, the moment to back in the session over. It is a new legislative session with new members who you and

of newspapers. One member shared the difference was 60:20 % cost against revenue.

The third issue is government websites. One member looked at the websites in their circulation area to determine who had a website, was it updated regularly and if the clerk had the time to maintain the website. I ask you talk with your clerks and where do they fall on the spectrum. Cities and Counties may have robust sites others maybe not. What would the cost be for the clerk to build and maintain a secure site? If you find these answers please let Lisa or I know. A side note we learned from a legislator a township website has listed an elected official who has not been in office since 2012.

Thank you for your efforts in December; if you have a new rep, get to know them and stay in contact with your current representative, sign up for public notice 2.0 to defend newspaper efforts to print and archive notice while increasing access and survey your township, cities and county websites and help us collect data for our ongoing discussions with legislators.

Again, thank you for your support of MPA as we represent you.
—James Tarrant, Executive Director for MPA

Michigan Press Song

TO HANNOH, LAY & CH. we hand the brown of sunset o'er,
They're given not only duties, but have accepted the floor!
They're known through all the land as hosts who keep an open door,
As we go marching, marching onward.

Our homage now we pay to all the ladies who are here,
We want them all to know that to us they are awful dear!
And have their darling hearts, they give us nothing every year,
As we go marching, marching onward.

To TARRANT good citizens each one extends their thanks,
They're given heart, they're given grace, just have lock woodward plans!
They're made to like depertment in million dollar banks,
As we go marching, marching onward.

Chorus: We want our voices and our voices,
Bunch! for the wealth with other men pursue;
And when we dream at all, it's of education to achieve,
As we go marching, marching onward.

Here but we sat we're now a lot of it in our world,
But when we take our part, it's with brains thoughtless,
We're not our children of the light when they're not here,
As we go marching, marching onward.

And when the future comes, we hope 'till be a grand one,
We'll not our children of the light when they're not here,
And if it's other one, we'll not a better one,
As we go marching, marching onward.

And when we're all in the world, we're not a better one,
We'll not our children of the light when they're not here,
And if it's other one, we'll not a better one,
As we go marching, marching onward.

And when we're all in the world, we're not a better one,
We'll not our children of the light when they're not here,
And if it's other one, we'll not a better one,
As we go marching, marching onward.

And when we're all in the world, we're not a better one,
We'll not our children of the light when they're not here,
And if it's other one, we'll not a better one,
As we go marching, marching onward.

And when we're all in the world, we're not a better one,
We'll not our children of the light when they're not here,
And if it's other one, we'll not a better one,
As we go marching, marching onward.

And when we're all in the world, we're not a better one,
We'll not our children of the light when they're not here,
And if it's other one, we'll not a better one,
As we go marching, marching onward.

And when we're all in the world, we're not a better one,
We'll not our children of the light when they're not here,
And if it's other one, we'll not a better one,
As we go marching, marching onward.

Thanks to The Clare County Cleaver and Angela Kellogg for finding this treasure.

www.MICHIGANPRESS.org

The 117th Session of the US Congress has begun

The first few weeks of the 2021-22 session of the US Congress began in unprecedented ways. MPA is proud to be representing the groups of people (journalists) who brought the good the bad and the ugly stories to us this month.

As we go forward, MPA and our DC colleagues will be looking at postal reform, administration of the Payroll Protection Act, and other issues of importance to newspapers throughout the country.

It's important that MPA members communicate with their members of Congress. Relationships with these folks and newspapers from paying late tariffs on Canadian paper a few years ago and have helped with other issues over the years.

Michigan has two new members of Congress this session. Republican Congressman Peter Mejer is replacing Congressman Justin Amodei in the 3rd District. The following information is from his bio.



Rep. Peter Mejer (District 3) Bill Huelskamp (District 1) Peter Mejer (District 3) John Moolenaar (District 4) Dan Claitor (District 6) Fred Upton (District 7) Tim Walberg (District 8) Andy Levin (District 9) Elissa Lipton (District 10) Haley Stevens (District 12) Debbie Diogio (District 13) Rashida Tlaib (District 14) Brenda Lawrence (District 15)

Senators: Gary Peters / Debbie Stabenow

Bill Speer to Retire - Alpena News

by The Alpena News, edited by MPA



of The News. He added the title of publisher to his duties in 1999.

Speer has received numerous awards for his reporting and writing in West Virginia, Ohio, and Michigan. He has been a frequent guest on local news programs. He is a Paul Harris Fellow with the Rotary Club and serves as an elder with Word of Life Baptist Church.

At The Alpena News, Speer has overseen the transition of a hometown newspaper owned for decades by the Richards family to Oyster Newspapers, which bought the paper in 1988. In addition, he helped transition the newspaper from an evening to a morning publication, introduced the weekend edition, and saw the potential of the internet for the newspaper, utilizing the skill sets of the staff to be early Web designers and page developers.

While technology has changed much of the industry over the years, Speer said community journalism — strong storytelling, objective reporting, and gathering all the facts — still remain the cornerstone of The Alpena News.

"That has never changed and never will," he said. "Alpena's residents have been reporting the news the important job they have of reporting the news accurately and completely."

Speer said he will miss his time in Alpena but is grateful for the opportunity to have been part of the newspaper's evolution over his retirement.

"Writing is part of who I am," he said. "I think that black newspaper flow is a continuation of a pattern to limit public participation, e.g. requiring comments come after allenda public comments are dealt with? Does the public body already have a history of de-prioritizing/discounting public comments?"

Speer's wife, Diane, was the Longtime Lifestyle editor at The News. She retired in November 2018.

While sons Jeremy and Andrew were growing up, Speer was involved in numerous civic organizations, serving as president of the Rotary Club for many of them. He is a Paul Harris Fellow with the Rotary Club and serves as an elder with Word of Life Baptist Church.

Speer was president of the Michigan Press Association in 2015, at a time when the organization was going through a critical transition. During his tenure, he had to deal with the hiring of a new CEO and helped navigate the organization through some new territory as many newspapers across the state reduced publication days or switched to all-electronic versions.

"It has been an honor to work with all the many talented people who have walked through these doors," Speer said. "It is amazing the dedication, hard work, and passion for these jobs that has made each of them so special. This community is so lucky to still have a newspaper that has been around for over 100 years and offers the quality of content that we do."

Speer said he will miss his time in Alpena but is grateful for the opportunity to have been part of the newspaper's evolution over his retirement.

"Writing is part of who I am," he said. "I think that black newspaper flow is a continuation of a pattern to limit public participation, e.g. requiring comments come after allenda public comments are dealt with? Does the public body already have a history of de-prioritizing/discounting public comments?"

Speer's wife, Diane, was the Longtime Lifestyle editor at The News. She retired in November 2018.

www.MICHIGANPRESS.org

OMA AMENDMENTS FOR LIMITED ELECTRONIC MEETINGS

By Robin Luce Herrmann, MPA General Counsel



of an electronic meeting must be posted at least 18 hours before the meeting begins and clearly explain:

Why the public body is meeting electronically;

How the public can participate. If a telephone number, internal address, or both are needed to participate, that information must be provided;

How the public may contact members of the public body to provide input or ask questions on any business that will be before the public body at the meeting; and

How persons with disabilities may participate in the meeting.

The notice must also be placed on the public body's website if it directly or indirectly maintains an official internet presence that includes monthly or more frequent updates of public meeting agendas or minutes.

When Can a Public Body Meet Electronically?

A public body can meet electronically only to accommodate an absent member of the public body. From January 1 to December 31, 2021, that member must be absent due to (1) military duty, (2) a medical condition, or (3) an emergency or state of disaster declared pursuant to law. MCL 15.263a(1) (b). After December 31, 2021, a public body may meet electronically only to accommodate an absent member due to military duty. MCL 15.263a(1)(c).

Where there is an electronic meeting to accommodate members absent due to military duty or a medical condition, only those members absent due to military duty/medical condition may participate remotely. The other members of the public body must be physically present at the meeting to participate. MCL 15.263a(3).

What Notice must the Public Body Provide?

electronic meeting

What Should Reporters Look for in Monitoring OMA Compliance?

Members have reported a variety of OMA compliance issues relating to electronic meetings for the last 9+ months. Experience tells us that will continue. As always, members should call the hotline for guidance with respect to each situation. The following situations should be documented, reported to MPA/ the Hotline, and considered for inclusion in your reporting:

1. Instances where the public body is not allowing any public participation whether in-person or electronically.

2. Instances where the public notice is insufficient.

3. Instances where no agenda is provided in advance to the public.

4. Instances where the public body limits public comments to typed comments during the meeting, which are not read aloud to everyone at the meeting so that the public comments are not actually considered by the public body.

5. How the public body's practices differ from other local public bodies. (i.e., is this a community issue or one related to that specific public body?).

6. How the public body's practices differ from its prior practices. (i.e., is this a continuation of a pattern to limit public participation, e.g. requiring comments come after allenda public comments are dealt with? Does the public body already have a history of de-prioritizing/discounting public comments?)

Again, please contact the Hotline with any questions or concerns. It is vital that MPA members monitor their local public bodies for compliance and report to the MPA non-compliance in the event a legislative fix is appropriate.

In addition to any regular notice requirements, notice





Annual Convention Michigan Press Association

I managed logistics for the Michigan Press Association's annual convention, including leading the transition to a fully virtual format during the height of COVID-19. My responsibilities included coordinating Zoom links for attendees and guest speakers, managing technical troubleshooting, and ensuring smooth execution across multiple sessions. The event drew prominent AP journalists and featured a keynote from Michigan's governor, adding significant pressure to an already complex logistical undertaking.

Doctoral Degree Program

- [Online BSN to DNP with MSN Program](#)
- [Online RN to DNP with MSN Program](#)

Our DNP degrees offer five specialty tracks

- Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
- Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
- Family Nurse Practitioner
- Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
- Neonatal Nurse Practitioner

All specialty tracks can add a Certificate in Organizational Leadership from the School of Management after MSN conferment. Speak with an advisor for details.

MSN to DNP

Our MSN to DNP degrees offer two tracks

- [Online MSN to DNP Advanced Practice](#)
- [Online DNP Executive Leadership](#)

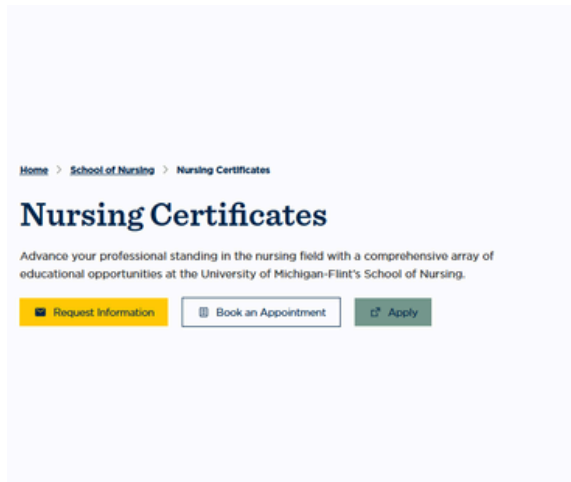
Graduate Certificates

- [Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Post Graduate Certificate](#)
- [Psychiatric Mental Health Post Graduate Certificate](#)

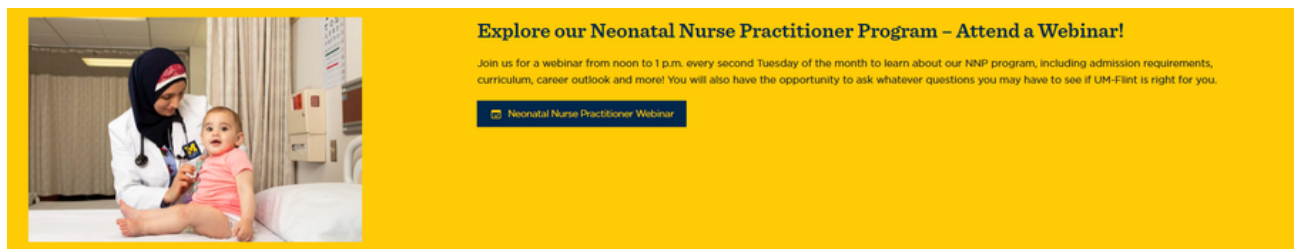
Dual Degree

Pursue two degrees simultaneously

- [Master of Business Administration: DNP/MBIA](#)
- [Master of Science in Leadership and Organizational Dynamics: DNP/MSLOD](#)



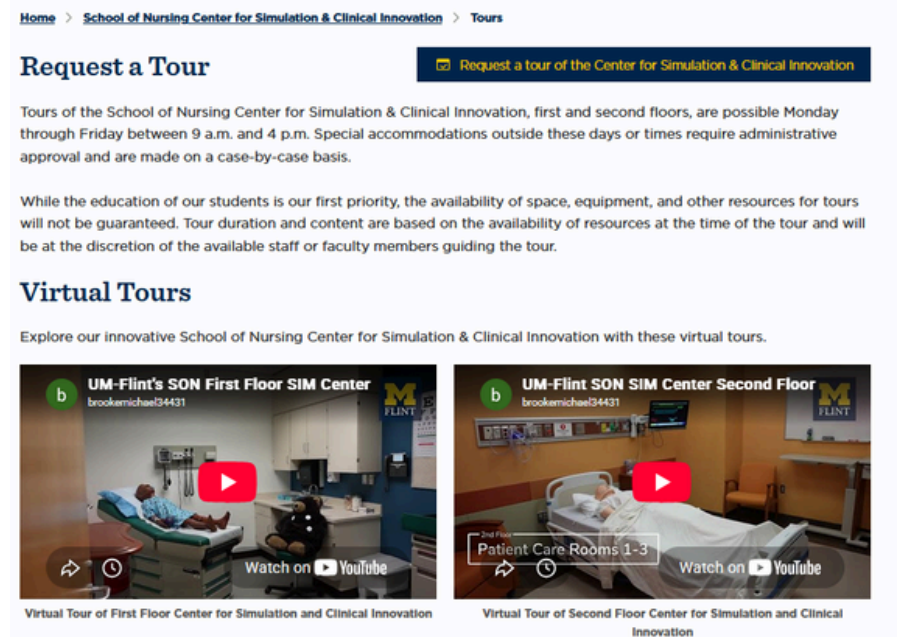
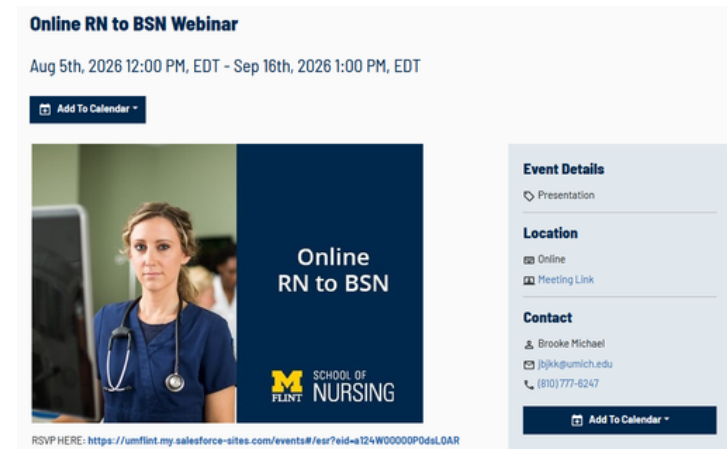
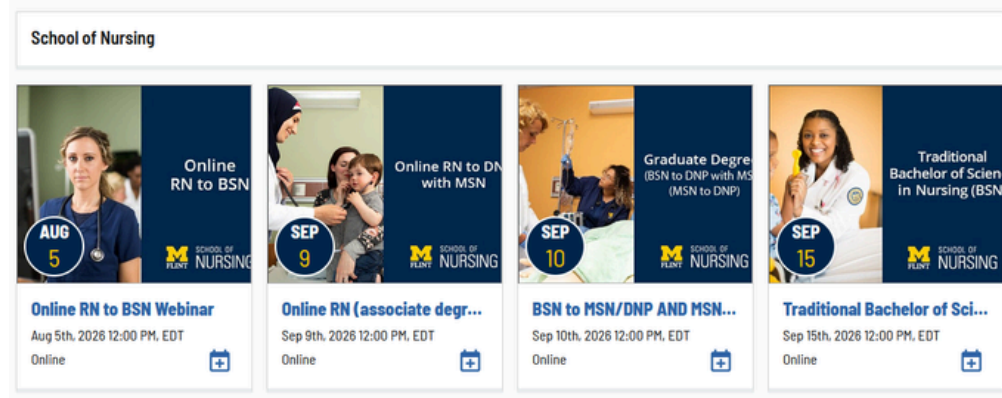
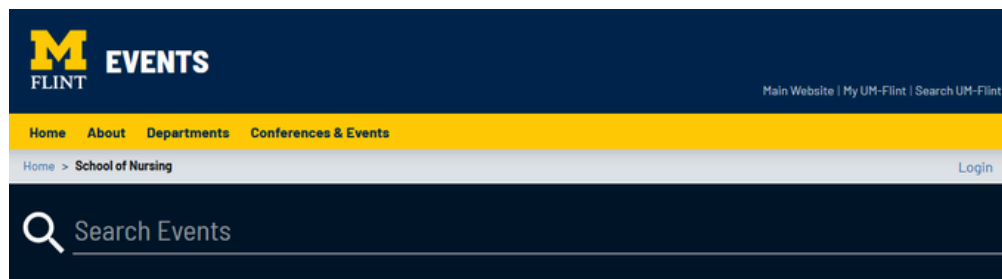
<https://www.umflint.edu/nursing/>



Web Design

UM-Flint School of Nursing

In my role at the University of Michigan-Flint School of Nursing, I served as the primary webmaster for the School's website. My responsibilities included adding new program pages such as the Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Program, creating a dedicated page for the School's 50th Anniversary celebration, and ensuring all content remained relevant and accessible. Additionally, I performed SEO research to drive prospective student engagement and increase visibility for the School's programs and the city of Flint as a destination for nursing education.



Events Calendar School of Nursing

In addition to web management, I kept the community informed by creating and distributing invitation links for School of Nursing events, including open houses, webinars, and program-specific information sessions. I oversaw the backend of these events through Salesforce CRM, managing registrations, tracking attendance, and ensuring seamless communication with prospective students. I also served as the primary host for open house events, welcoming prospective students and their families to campus, and worked closely with academic advisors to support their program-specific recruitment events.

Thanks for reading!

As a little bonus for making it this far, I'll share that I recently completed three certifications through the National Academy of Sports Medicine: Nutritional Coaching, Physique Coaching, and Personal Training. While it might seem unrelated to communications, these certs have actually sharpened my ability to break down complex information for in-person audiences, a skill that's been invaluable in my work.

