



JAMES H. COLE
HOME FOR FUNERALS

HEROES & HOPE 2026





KEITH BUTLER
District 5 Manager
City of Detroit

Keith Butler is a dedicated community leader and youth advocate committed to the belief that strong homes build strong communities. As the Manager for District 5 in the City of Detroit's Mayor's Office, he oversees 58 neighborhoods—serving as a vital link between residents in the city's largest district and civic leadership. Butler champions initiatives that strengthen neighborhood associations, activate block clubs, and ensure delivery of essential city services.

He was instrumental in the landmark Future of Health: Detroit development—a \$3 billion New Center project led by Henry Ford Health, the Detroit Pistons, and Michigan State University. Butler helped negotiate a community benefits agreement valued at approximately \$604 million, including critical investments such as \$2 million for home repair funding and \$500,000 for rental assistance to support area residents.

Passionate about cultivating the next generation, Butler founded and leads The Detroit Boys Mentoring Club, providing youth in Detroit with training in financial literacy, digital skills, career readiness, and leadership—impacting hundreds of young men with practical, real-world tools.

December 2025

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February 2026

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JANUARY

NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2	3
4	5	6 EPIPHANY	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY	20	21	22	23	24
25 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF EDUCATION	26	27	28	29	30	31

RENEE FLUKER
Founder & CEO
College Career & Beyond (CCB)
Midnight Golf

Renee Fluker is the Founder and CEO of College Career & Beyond | Midnight Golf, a nonprofit she launched in 2001 to equip young people with the skills and confidence to excel in college and life. Since its inception, Midnight Golf has guided more than 3,000 students toward post-secondary education.

Known affectionately as "Ms. Renee," she oversees daily operations, donor engagement, and mentors the 250 high school seniors who participate in the program annually—often devoting evenings and weekends to their growth. A social worker by training, Fluker's dedication has earned her national recognition, including the 2024 AARP and Wilmers Purpose Prize Awards.

She is a lifetime NAACP member, active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and serves on the advisory board of African American Golf Digest Magazine. Honored with Wayne State University's Distinguished Alumni Award, Fluker continues to transform the lives of Detroit's youth, shaping a brighter future for the community.



January 2026

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March 2026

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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

FEBRUARY

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 NATIONAL FREEDOM DAY	2 GROUNDHOG DAY	3	4	5	6 EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION DAY	7
8	9	10	11	12 DIGITAL LEARNING DAY	13	14 VALENTINE'S DAY
15	16 PRESIDENTS' DAY	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28



DR. KIM LOGAN-NOWLIN
Psychologist, Entrepreneur,
Speaker

Dr. Kim Logan-Nowlin, counselor, author, and public speaker, has been transforming lives for over 40 years. A seasoned clinical psychological counselor and life coach, she serves individuals and families as a Detroit-based Christian family therapist in private practice. Holding 15 professional accreditations and certifications, Dr. Kim brings expertise and compassion to every session.

She is the author of nine books, including *Cosigning Bad Behavior by Commission or Omission* and *Marriage: Living with the Unexplainable*. A dynamic and engaging speaker, Dr. Kim inspires audiences worldwide with messages of encouragement, direction, hope, and healing. She has led countless conferences and seminars on "living to be well" and hosts the *Live to Be Well* talk show on the *Dare to Dream* Christian Network and weekly via Facebook Live.

Deeply committed to service, Dr. Kim volunteers in her church and community, and proudly directs God's Hands of Praise Gospel Sign Language Choir, which she founded in 1994.

February 2026

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MARCH

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

April 2026

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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY	18 ASH WEDNESDAY	19	20 SPRING BEGINS	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31 CÉSAR CHÁVEZ DAY				



PASTOR ROBERT E. BOLDEN
Pastor
Central Baptist Church

Pastor Robert E. Bolden, Senior Pastor of Central Baptist Church, transformed personal adversity into a lifelong mission of service. Guided by the faith instilled in him by his grandmother and church community, he has led Central since 2013 with vision, integrity, and a deep commitment to people.

Under his leadership, the church has grown from 68 members to over 4,000 across three metro Detroit locations. Pastor Bolden champions authentic, multi-generational worship, compassionate community outreach, and innovative discipleship. Central's ministries include bimonthly grocery giveaways, free tutoring, hot meals, and an open gym program. He also launched "Project Head to Toe" and "Feed and Clothe the City," providing essential resources for children and those experiencing homelessness.

Beyond ministry, Pastor Bolden values family as his greatest achievement. Married to his high school sweetheart, B'Yonca, since 2010, they are proud parents to Zoey Autumn and Robert II.

March 2026

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May 2026

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APRIL

HAPPY EASTER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 APRIL FOOLS' DAY	2	3	4
5 PALM SUNDAY	6	7	8	9	10 GOOD FRIDAY	11
12 EASTER	13 EASTER MONDAY	14	15 TAX DAY	16	17	18
19 PATRIOTS' DAY	20	21	22 EARTH DAY	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		
NOTES						

DR. SABRINA JACKSON
Motivator, Speaker,
Thought Leader,
Global Influencer

Known as "The People Expert," Dr. Sabrina Jackson is celebrated for helping people better understand and connect with others—including themselves. A licensed clinical therapist, she counsels, educates, and mentors with dignity, empathy, and a deep understanding shaped by both professional training and personal resilience. Having faced profound personal tragedies, Dr. Jackson draws on her own journey to guide clients through trauma toward healing.

A sought-after public speaker, she engages audiences worldwide with her insights, humor, and wisdom. Corporations regularly call on her to lead diversity, equity, and inclusion training. She is the author of several books, including *From Trauma to Triumph* and *He Is Not a Statistic*.

In media, Dr. Jackson serves as a weekly contributor to Fox 2 Detroit's "Mental Health Monday" and hosts *Speaking Life with Dr. Sabrina*, a podcast dedicated to breaking the stigma surrounding mental illness.



April 2026

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June 2026

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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

MAY

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 MAY DAY	2
3	4	5 CINCO DE MAYO NATIONAL TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY	6	7 NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER	8	9
10 MOTHER'S DAY	11	12	13	14	15	16 ARMED FORCES DAY
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 MEMORIAL DAY	26	27	28	29	30
31 PENTECOST	NOTES					

TODD PERKINS
Founder & Owner
Perkins Law Group

Todd Perkins is the founder and owner of the Perkins Law Group, one of Detroit's largest Black-owned law firms, where he has spent three decades advocating for clients from all walks of life. Known for his commitment to justice, he often provides pro bono legal services to those unable to afford representation.

In addition to his legal practice, Perkins founded Kilimanjaro Sports Management, guiding athletes through their high school, collegiate, and professional careers. He also leads The People's Voice, a nonprofit dedicated to feeding Detroit's homeless and creating growth opportunities for youth, while offering free legal education and assistance through his "Perkins Rules" initiative.

A devoted husband, father, and civic leader, Perkins embodies the Jesuit motto of his University of Detroit High School alma mater: "a man for others." His career reflects a deep dedication to service, justice, and the betterment of the Detroit community he proudly calls home.



May 2026

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JUNE

NATIONAL BLACK MUSIC MONTH

July 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 FLAG DAY	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 FATHER'S DAY SUMMER BEGINS	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				
NOTES						

LAWRIELLE WEST

Founder, KwanzaaMe
Principal, LWest & Co.
Executive Director,
American Cultural & Historical Museum
of Washtenaw County

Lawrielle West is driven by her purpose – to build connections that honor Black legacy, uplift future leaders and ensure access to opportunity and education. She is a social entrepreneur, nonprofit professional and cultural curator dedicated to building stronger communities.

As the founder of KwanzaaMe, West leads a vibrant lifestyle brand committed to celebrating and uplifting Black community, history and culture year-round. Through creative products and purpose driven engagement, she helps families, organizations and communities connect while preserving heritage in meaningful and joyful ways.

West is the principal of LWest & Co., a consulting firm specializing in capacity building for organizations. Her firm's expertise spans facilitation, project management, event curation and leadership development, particularly within cultural institutions and workforce development. West is also the Executive Director of the African American Cultural & Historical Museum of Washtenaw County where she manages large scale programs, including the African World Festival and the Women's Day Summit.



June 2026

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August 2026

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

JULY

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 NATIONAL PARENTS' DAY	27	28	29	30	31	
NOTES						



HORATIO WILLIAMS
Founder & President
On Time Transportation Inc.
Founder, Horatio Williams
Foundation

Horatio Williams knows how to turn adversity into opportunity. Raised by his mother and grandmother on Detroit's East Side, Williams found early success through basketball, earning a scholarship to Tuskegee University. There, his coach instilled a lasting philosophy: "With hard work you can achieve anything, but you must believe in your greatness." That belief carried Williams through a near-fatal accident involving a drunk driver during college.

After recovering, he entered the non-emergency transportation field, eventually launching his own company, On Time Transportation Inc., with help from a mentor. The business has grown to 17 vehicles and 40 employees, serving over 3,000 clients.

Driven by a passion for giving back, Williams founded the Horatio Williams Foundation, which empowers Detroit youth through academic support, leadership development, and athletic programs. The foundation has impacted thousands of students, fostering confidence, discipline, and opportunity in underserved communities. "Providing jobs and giving young people a path to succeed has been an honor," Williams says. "I thank God for the opportunity to serve."

July 2026

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AUGUST

NATIONAL BLACK SMALL BUSINESS MONTH

September 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY	13	14	15
16	17 NATIONAL NON-PROFIT DAY	18	19 WORLD HUMANITARIAN DAY	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY	27	28	29
30	31	NOTES				

A professional portrait of Jessie Hayes, a Black woman with shoulder-length dark hair, smiling at the camera. She is wearing a black, ribbed, long-sleeved top. Her hands are crossed in front of her, and she is wearing a silver ring on her left hand. The background is a vibrant, out-of-focus wall of purple and pink flowers.

JESSIE HAYES
CEO
The Hayes Institute of Esthetics & Entrepreneurship

Jessie Hayes has turned her passion for skincare into a thriving career, serving over 5,000 clients and establishing herself as a leader in beauty and esthetics education. As the former founder and CEO of Skinphorea Facial Bar & Acne Clinic in Corktown, she now leads The Hayes Institute of Esthetics & Entrepreneurship, equipping aspiring beauty professionals with the skills and business knowledge to build successful careers.

In partnership with the state, The Hayes Institute provides hands-on training and entrepreneurial support, empowering the next generation of skincare experts. Hayes' achievements have earned her recognition as a Diversity Business Leader by Corp Magazine and spots on both the Michigan Chronicle and Crain's Detroit Business "40 under 40" lists. She has also shared her entrepreneurial journey during Detroit Startup Week.

Beyond her institute, Hayes mentors budding entrepreneurs through The Wealth InvestHer Network, which she co-founded, and leads international business seminars.

August 2026

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SEPTEMBER

October 2026

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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SKINCARE AWARENESS MONTH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 LABOR DAY	8	9	10	11 PATRIOT DAY	12
13 NATIONAL GRANDPARENTS' DAY	14	15 NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH BEGINS	16	17	18	19
20	21 NATIONAL HEROES DAY	22	23 ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS' DAY AUTUMN BEGINS	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

REV. DR. TELLIS JEROME CHAPMAN
Pastor
Galilee Missionary Baptist Church

Reverend Dr. Tellis Jerome Chapman is the esteemed pastor of Galilee Missionary Baptist Church in Detroit, widely recognized for his charismatic leadership and unwavering commitment to community advancement. A respected voice among clergy, he founded the Interfaith Clergy Coalition of Michigan, fostering collaboration for social justice and stronger community relations. His leadership extends to service as vice moderator and vice president of both the Michigan District Baptist Association and the Michigan Baptist Congress.

Highly regarded for his expertise in parliamentary procedure, he served as parliamentarian for the Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention of Michigan. Passionate about Detroit's growth, Rev. Chapman has contributed as a board member for the City of Detroit Department of Transportation Commission and was appointed by Governor Gretchen Whitmer to the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards. As founder and president of Chapel Vision and Midwest Community Development Corporations, he leads initiatives that provide essential outreach across southeast Michigan.



September 2026

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OCTOBER

PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

November 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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29	30					



PORTIA L. ROBERSON
President & CEO
Focus: HOPE

Portia L. Roberson is a lawyer, leader, and public servant who has dedicated more than 30 years to advancing the Detroit community. As President and CEO of Focus: HOPE, she oversees programs in workforce development, early learning, and senior food assistance, serving thousands of residents each year. Previously, she was Group Executive of Civil Rights, Inclusion, and Opportunity and corporate counsel for the City of Detroit.

Her public service career also includes roles with the U.S. Department of Justice and an appointment by President Barack Obama as Director of the Office of Intergovernmental and Public Liaison. She later led Detroit's engagement in the White House's Strong Cities, Strong Communities Initiative.

An active civic leader, Roberson serves on the boards of the Michigan Civil Rights Commission, Delta Manor, and the Joe Louis Greenway. Guided by her passion for equality, diversity, and justice, she continues to champion a stronger, more inclusive Detroit.

October 2026

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December 2026

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

NOVEMBER

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 ALL SAINTS' DAY DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS	2	3 ELECTION DAY	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 VETERANS DAY	12	13	14
15	16	17 NATIONAL ENTREPRENEUR DAY	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 THANKSGIVING	27	28 SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY
29	30					

CATHY NEDD
Founder & CEO
Cathy Nedd, LLC

Cathy Nedd is a seasoned marketing communications professional dedicated to empowering small businesses, nonprofits, and startups through strategic branding, media relations, and digital storytelling. As founder of Cathy Nedd LLC, an AI-powered public relations firm, she helps clients create compelling marketing content that drives results.

Previously, Nedd served as president of *Real Times Media's News Group*, overseeing five iconic African American news brands, including *The Michigan Chronicle*. She continues to play a leading role in event production for the organization, managing signature events such as Women of Excellence, Men of Excellence, 40 Under 40, and Who's Who in Black Detroit.

Committed to giving back, Nedd founded the BiZKid Project, introducing youth to entrepreneurship through afterschool programs, summer camps, and online learning. She also serves as board chair of Black Family Development and sits on the board of Franklin Wright Settlements, furthering her impact on the community she loves.



November 2026

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DECEMBER

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

January 2027

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 PEARL HARBOR REMEMBERANCE DAY	8	9	10	11 HANUKKAH BEGINS	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 WINTER BEGINS	22	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE	25 CHRISTMAS	26 KWANZAA BEGINS
27	28	29	30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE		

NOTES

JAMES H. COLE LEGACY TORCHBEARER AWARD

BISHOP EDGAR L. VANN

PASTOR. SPEAKER. VISIONARY.

From the board room to the neighborhood, Bishop Edgar L. Vann's name rises to the top when leadership is discussed in Detroit and beyond.

Serving as Senior Pastor of Second Ebenezer Church in Detroit since 1976, Bishop Vann carried forth the legacy of his father who was a noted religious leader in Detroit for over 50 years. Today, Second Ebenezer has thousands of members and guests from around the world. Bishop Vann is careful to focus his volunteer leadership on organizations that contribute to the overall health and wellness of people and their communities. Second Ebenezer Church is celebrating 86 years of service, and Bishop Vann is now in his 50th year of pastoring at Second Ebenezer Church.

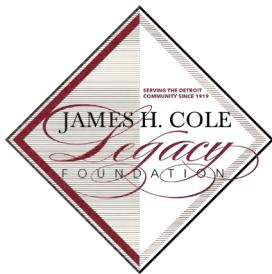
Bishop Vann founded Vanguard Community Development Corporation in 1995 to strengthen the Northeast area of Detroit. Over the years, Vanguard has invested \$65 million dollars in redeveloped housing and commercial property in Northeast Detroit.

In 2007, based on a burgeoning church membership including over 50 ministries at the time, he moved his church and invested \$25 million in a 15-acre worship center located in the heart of Detroit at I-75 and McNichols. In 2008, Bishop Vann was elevated to the Office of Bishop by the Joint College of African-American Bishops and is now the Presiding Prelate over Kingdom Alliance Covenant Fellowship.

The breadth and depth of his service includes the Executive Committee of Henry Ford Health System and the boards of Downtown Detroit Partnership, Downtown Detroit, Inc., and his own non-profit organization, Vanguard Community Development Corporation. Bishop Vann is also known for his partnership with Feed the Children and Forgotten Harvest that has fed over 80,000 people in Metro Detroit area.

The recipient of awards, honors and accolades too numerous to mention, Bishop Edgar Vann continues to build a legacy of hope and empowerment.





THE JAMES H. COLE LEGACY FOUNDATION

The Annual Toy Drive: A Celebration of Community and Giving



The James H. Cole Legacy Foundation's Annual Toy Drive is a signature event, aimed at spreading holiday cheer and giving back to the community that has supported our family-owned business for more than four decades.

The Annual Toy Drive was a tremendous success—and definitely something to talk about. To date, we have collected more than 5,000 toys across both of our locations, helping more than 250 families throughout the Metro Detroit area through our partnerships with COTS and Enjoy Detroit.

We want to take a moment to thank our amazing partners and our faithful neighborhood contributors who donated to this great cause. Your generosity helped bring joy and comfort to families in need, and the smiles on the children's faces were truly priceless. None of this would have been possible without you.

A special thank you to:

- Pastor Keith Pugh and Greater St. Matthew Baptist Church
- Mrs. Lisa Phillips (Principal) and the Cass Tech High School Girls Club
- Pastor Gaylon Porter and Holy Cross Baptist Church

Your continued support means the world to us. Together, we're making a difference—one toy, one child, and one family at a time.





THE JAMES H. COLE HOME FOR FUNERALS, INC. STAFF

Aaron Al-Raheem	Brian Christian	Christina Fritz	Erik Jackson	Brenda Meeks	India Ramsey-Scott	De Shawna Smith
Willmore Allen	Jerome Christian	Rev. Jake Gaines	Joanne Johnson	Claire Monroe	TaylorTreadwell	Carmen Stewart
Joseph Anderson	Elder Shedric Clark	Brian Gary	Renee Johnson	Tyler Moore	Brejae Redden	Bob Thompson
Jackie Arthur	William Crawley	Arielle Griggs	Secyl Johnson	Cornell Mosley	Brenda Redden	Jacqueline Warfield
Stephanie Beauford	Colette Davis	Brejon Hollis	Richard Junious	Shelia Oden	Cherise Redrick	Gail Washington
Winfred Brown	Holly Davis	Loretta Hughes	Belinda Loggins	John Odom	Robert Royster	Fred Watkins
Aurelio Caldwell	DeShawn Dozier	Elder Guwoin Ingram	Etoya Magee	MacArthur Phenix	Sylvia Simms	Justin White
Carlton Canty	Dorian Ellis II	Bruce Jackson	Lorenzo Massey	Kenneth Pierce	Kyle Simpson	A'Rita Young-Parks

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