

Leaving a Lasting Impact



It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our dear friend and Operations Manager and Creative Expressions Founder/CEO, Sheila Miller-Graham. Graham founded Creative Expressions Dance Studio in 1982. She instilled confidence and positive self-esteem in her dancers. Graham was also a teacher at

Flint Northwestern High School. She was such a positive light and impacted so many in the Flint community. Graham was always the first to enter Berston every morning and the last to leave. Her smile was the first thing to greet you into the building and it will *truly* be missed by not just the Friends of Berston, but the entire community.

Governor Whitmer Visits Berston

Earlier this month Governor Whitmer hosted a press conference at Berston Field House on Community Violence Intervention (CVI). The Governor recently approved \$10.8 million in CVI program funding where \$8 million of those funds will be in the form of community grants across the state.



Left to right: Genesee County Sheriff Christopher Swanson, Berston Interim Executive Director Valorie Horton, Flint Mayor Sheldon Neeley, Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer, Kenyetta Dotson, and Mosses Bingham of the Community Foundation of Greater Flint

BERSTON NEXT100

THE CAMPAIGN
FOR **BERSTON
FIELD HOUSE**
1923-2023



Genesee County
Sheriff Christopher
Swanson and
Berston Interim
Executive Director
Valorie Horton



ABC12 News
Dawn Jones and
Paige Merritt



Left to right: Flint Mayor Sheldon Neeley,
Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist, Representative Cynthia
Neeley, and Former Flint Mayor Dayne Walling

Berston Field House is celebrating 100 years this year and kicked off the celebration with a Berston Breakfast filled with local organizations, donors, and community leaders throughout the area. During the event, Friends of Berston shared their master plan to expand Berston Field House into a state-of-the-art facility

that will be a \$30 million project. The new grounds will include a softball field, basketball courts, football/soccer/lacrosse field, and a pickleball court. There will also be dedicated spaces for

the boxing gym, art and music rooms, dance studios, the bike club room, locker rooms, meeting spaces, and a community room. Friends of Berston plans to break ground on the new facility this summer!



FIM President & CEO Rodney
Lontine and County Commissioner
& Executive Director of McCree
Theater Charles Winfrey

For more information on the project and how you can support, please visit berstonnext.org

40 Years of Dance



Creative Expressions Dance Studio celebrated their 40th Annual Dance Recital on Sunday, April 30th with a sold-out show at the Whiting Auditorium. In honor of the legacy of Sheila Miller-Graham, the office of CEDS will be closed throughout the month of May.

Former Berston Boxer to Host First Boxing Match

Claressa Shields, Former FWC Berston Boxer and Olympic Gold Medalist will host her first boxing event at Little Caesars Arena in Detroit, Saturday, June 3rd at 6pm. Shields will be taking on four-division champion, Hanna Gabriels in a rematch. Four of Michigan's top prospects will also take to the ring that Saturday.

For tickets to the event visit [ticketmaster.com](https://www.ticketmaster.com).





3300 N. SAGINAW STREET
P.O. BOX 5026
FLINT, MI 48505

TCFAC Summer Camp!

The Chosen Few Arts Council will begin their summer camp June 12 – July 21. Registration will be at Berston Field House. Please see details below.

Ages: 4-17 • Monday – Friday • 10am – 4pm

Activities include the following:

- Gardening
- Karate
- Line dancing
- Field games
- Literacy/End of program book writing
- 4H
- STEM
- Flint Public Library/Arts & crafts on books
- Basic drawing
- Yoga

**Lunch and snacks are provided*



Be sure to follow us on Facebook (Friends of Berston Field House) and Instagram (@friendsofberston)



Programs and classes that are supported and discounted through the Genesee County Arts Education and Cultural Enrichment Millage.