

COVER STORY

RenCen

Continued from Page 1A

the fact that the towers are an outdated design, filled with a labyrinth of corridors and glass siding that are inefficient in function. An attempt to renovate the towers into, say housing, would be expensive, difficult and almost futile.

Constructing something new on the site to replace the demolished towers would be a strong likelihood, the people said. What would go there is still up for debate.

"We want it to be a connective space between the city and the riverfront," one of the people told the Free Press. "The RenCen was built with the intention to be an island unto itself. Now we know we need that area to be a gateway to the city. So to do that, the best thing is to tear it down. People say, 'You'll change the whole skyline of Detroit.' Well then, are we to leave a vacant monument just to keep the skyline?"

Gilbert's option to buy

The RenCen, which has been the focal point of the Detroit skyline since it opened in 1977, has been GM's global headquarters since the company bought five of the seven towers in 1996. But in April, GM announced it will relocate its headquarters in 2025 to Gilbert's new Hudson's Detroit building on Woodward Avenue. GM will be the anchor tenant of the building and have a 15-year lease.

According to one of the sources, GM and Bedrock have asked the state of Michigan to block in "hundreds of millions" of dollars in economic incentives to help pay for a partial demolition, build a new structure and renovate any remaining tower or towers at the site. The governor's office did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

In a development this week, it emerged that a limited liability company linked to Bedrock has an option to buy from GM the original five RenCen towers complex, plus acres of parking lots to the east of the complex.

The deal, known as a "put-call agreement," was signed April 15 by a GM executive and Bedrock's chief executive, and gives Bedrock the right to buy the properties and GM the right to require Bedrock to buy them.

However, such a sale isn't inevitable under terms of the agreement, which can be terminated. The agreement was filed with the Wayne County Register of Deeds and first reported by Crain's Detroit.

Bedrock did not immediately provide a comment for this article. GM declined to comment, but a spokesman for Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan issued a statement Thursday about the prospect of a RenCen demolition.

"The mayor has made it clear from the beginning that all options for the Renaissance Center site will be actively explored," Duggan's spokesman John Roach



GM Chair and CEO Mary Barra and Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan talk to the news media about the announcement that General Motors will move its global headquarters to Bedrock's Hudson site, during a news conference held at the Hudson's site in downtown Detroit on April 15. PHOTO BY MITCHELL LEIF



General Motor headquarters is shown in the RenCen in downtown Detroit. The GM bankruptcy trust sold three parcels southwest of downtown for redevelopment. DETROIT FREE PRESS FILE PHOTO

said. "We are not going to have a situation as we had with the Hudson's building or Michigan Central where critical sites sat empty for 40 years because this community's leaders would not make realistic decisions. All options are being explored and no decision has been made."

In a news release GM issued on April 15 when it announced its planned move to the Hudson's Detroit building, it wrote: "The decision to explore redevelopment opportunities for the Renaissance Center site comes at a time when the office real estate market is transforming. Post-pandemic, the work environment has changed the way that office space is utilized. A recent study by CBRE indicated that 80% of current office occupiers have adopted or will adopt hybrid work. Repositioning the Renaissance Center to reflect these changes will require an experienced real estate developer like Bedrock."

The RenCen today

The RenCen had its 1977 grand opening with four 39-story office towers surrounding a central 73-story hotel, now the Marriott.

GM purchased five of the seven towers in 1996 for \$73 million. GM occupies four of the towers, with the Marriott in the fifth.

The two other office towers, each 21 stories, opened in 1981. Known as Towers 500 and 600, the pair were recently sold in December by the New Jersey utility company that had owned them for years.

Tower 600 is entirely occupied by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan under a recently signed 15-year lease; its new owner has not been publicly identified.

Tower 600 is said to be only about 10% occupied and owned by various investors, including Farmington Hills-based Friedman Real Estate, which also manages the tower.

The top of the RenCen, under GM's ownership, has three video display boards that GM would often light up in unique ways for special occasions, including rainbow flags in June for Pride Month. In January,

during the Detroit Lions playoff run, GM added a digital lion's tail to its logo atop the RenCen.

But the weekday population in the RenCen plunged following the COVID-19 pandemic and the continued popularity of remote and hybrid work arrangements. As the Free Press first reported, in a companywide email to employees on Dec. 5 last year, GM CEO Mary Barra made it clear she wants white-collar workers at their desks inside GM facilities on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of each week "at a minimum." On Jan. 8 GM's new policy kicked in and lunchtime business picked up at the RenCen with more GM employees there, at least on the days they are mandated to be in the office.

But the overall total number of people at the RenCen is believed to be lower than pre-COVID-19 counts because GM transferred some employees from Detroit to its offices in Warren in recent months. As the Free Press has reported, the lowered foot traffic has made it hard for many businesses to thrive there.

Demolition: Costly and complicated

The serious discussion around demolition of the Detroit icon should not come as a total surprise. In May, Barra hinted at it during a discussion in front of the Detroit Economic Club.

"We'll look at what's the best use for that building or that property," Barra said. "We're committed to doing the right thing. It's such a prime real estate. I'm sure we're going to come up with a good solution."

Moderator Rhonda Walker, a WDIV-TV anchor, asked Barra, "Are any of the thought processes demolishing the building?"

Barra said, "We're first looking at what can be done and what would be the appropriate use for the business. We've got a year to do that so that's where we're focused."

Two of the people familiar with the current talks said there is unlikely to be an announced decision on the RenCen's fate until early next year at the soonest.

For those favoring demolition, the logic behind it is simple: The RenCen is really difficult to readapt into a new function. In part, that's because it is a dated design.

One of the people said the towers, with all glass around them, is not energy efficient so all the towers would need new insulation and glass, which would be "a really expensive renovation." Plus, this person said it is like when an old house is converted to a doctor's office, it doesn't quite work and it is inefficient.

Granted, the cost of demolition alone would be "tens of millions" of dollars, this person said, because demolishing multiple towers at once, especially given the proximity to the Detroit River, would require intricate engineering. But it can be done, it will just be costly and complicated, the person said.

Contact Jamie L. LaRosa: jlarosa@freepress.com. Follow her on Twitter @jlarosa. Read more on General Motors and sign up for our autos newsletter.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DIVISION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), Materials Management Division (MMD), will conduct a public hearing to receive comment on proposed changes to the administrative rules promulgated pursuant to Part 111, Hazardous Waste Management, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1974 PA 451, as amended (Act 451). The rules are identified as Hazardous Waste Management, Rule 2023-5 E01 et seq. These rules are necessary for EGLE to maintain its authorization from the United States Environmental Protection Agency to administer the State's Hazardous Waste Management Program in lieu of the federal program under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, as amended, to improve the efficiency and consistency, and to reduce some regulatory burdens by providing for the requirements and additional options for exemption from full management as a hazardous waste.

The proposed rules (2023-5 E01) address federal revisions related to safe management of bulk pharmaceutical wastes, modernization of test methodology for ignitable liquids, changes to Canadian import/export recovery and disposal codes, and test methods for lead, cadmium, organic emissions. The proposed rules also contain revisions based on state and local recommendations. These revisions pertain to hazardous waste exemptions, commingling of hazardous wastes, groundwater monitoring, and consistency with other state rules.

The public hearing will be held on August 21, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. in the ConCon Conference Room, ConCon Hall, Aztec South, 525 West Atagon Street, Lansing, Michigan 48933. To attend the online public hearing, visit the website: <https://www.egle.michigan.gov>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. If you do not have internet access and would like to join by PHONE ONLY, please use the following phone number: 616-631-3142, and use conference code 374788. Pre-registration is not required to attend. Individuals interested in participating can click the link above at the start of the event (1:30 p.m.).

The proposed rules (2023-5 E01) are published on the State's website at www.egle.michigan.gov and will be published in the August 1, 2024, issue of the Michigan Register. Copies of the rules may also be obtained by contacting the Lansing Office at:

EGLE, MMD
 P.O. Box 30241
 Lansing, Michigan 48909
 Phone: 617-614-2633
 Email: EGLE@Michigan.gov

Comments on the proposed rules may be made at the hearing by mail at the address above, or by email at EGLE-MMD-HW@Michigan.gov. EGLE requests that those wishing to make a statement at the hearing provide a written copy of the statement for the public hearing record. Written comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on September 4, 2024.

Individuals needing language assistance or accommodations for effective participation at the hearing should contact Ronda S. Blower (Rblower@Michigan.gov, 617-614-2630) by August 9, 2024, to request language, mobility, visual, hearing, translation, or other assistance.

This notice of public hearing is given in accordance with Sections 41 and 42 of the Administrative Procedures Act, 1969 PA 306, Michigan Compiled Laws (MCL) 24.241 and 24.242. The authority to promulgate rules is provided to the EGLE Director by Sections 228, 325, and 40 of Act 351, MCL 207.1111(1), 221.1128, 324.1130a, and 324.1111(10). Executive Reorganization Order Nos. 1995-16, 2000-31, and 2011-1, MCL 324.6603, 324.6591B, and 324.56221. These rules will take effect seven days after filing with the Secretary of State.

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Detroit Free Press

80-something journalists sue ChatGPT to protect 'written word'

BY MATT O'BRIEN
Associated Press

Greifen, Mass. — When two octogenarian toddlers named Nick discovered that ChatGPT might be stealing and repurposing a lifetime of their work, they tapped a son-in-law to sue the companies behind the artificial intelligence chatbot.

Veteran journalists Nicholas Gage, 84, and Nicholas Basbanes, 81, who live near each other in the same Massachusetts town, each devoted decades to reporting, writing and book authorship.

Gage poured his tragic family story and search for the truth about his mother's death into a bestselling memoir that led John Mather to play him in the 1985 film "Dead". Basbanes transferred his skills as a daily newspaper reporter into writing widely-read books about literary culture.

Basbanes was the first of the duo to try fiddling with AI chatbots, finding them impressive but prone to fabrications and lack of attribution. The friends commiserated and filed their lawsuit earlier this year, seeking to represent a class of writers whose copyrighted work they allege "has been systematically pilfered by" OpenAI and its business partner Microsoft.

"It's highway robbery," Gage said in an interview in his office next to the 18th-century farmhouse where he lives in central Massachusetts.

"It is," added Basbanes, as the two men perused Gage's book-filled shelves. "We worked too hard on these tomes."

Now their lawsuit is part of a broader case seeking class-action status led by household names like John Grisham, Jodi Picoult and "Game of Thrones" novelist George R. R. Martin; and proceeding under the same New York federal judge who's hearing similar copyright claims from media outlets such as The New York Times, Chicago Tribune and Mother Jones.

What links all the cases is the claim that OpenAI — with help from Microsoft's money and computing power — ingested huge troves of human writings to "train" AI chatbots to produce human-like passages of text, without getting permission or compensating the people who wrote the original works.



Charles Kruse/AP

Nick Gage, left, and Nicholas Basbanes decided to sue OpenAI they found out that ChatGPT might be stealing and repurposing a lifetime of their work.

"If they can get it for nothing, why pay for it?" Gage said. "But it's grossly unfair and very harmful to the written word."

OpenAI and Microsoft didn't return requests for comment this week but have been fighting the allegations in court and in public. So have other AI companies confronting legal challenges not just from writers but visual artists, music labels and other creators who allege that generative AI profits have been built on misappropriation.

The chief executive of Microsoft's AI division, Mustafa Suleyman, defended AI industry practices at last month's Aspen Ideas Festival, vowing the theory that training AI systems on content that's already on the open internet is protected by the "fair use" doctrine of U.S. copyright law.

"The exact content of that content since the '90s has been that it is fair use," Suleyman said. "Anyone can copy it, recreate with it, reproduce with it. That has been freewheeling. If you like."

Suleyman said it was most of a "gray area" in situations where some news organizations and others explicitly said they didn't want tech companies "scraping" content off their websites. "I think that's going to work its way through the courts," he said.

The cases are still in the discovery stage and scheduled to drag into 2025. In the meantime, some who believe their professions are threatened by AI

business practices have tried to secure private deals to get technology companies to pay a fee to license their archives.

Others are fighting back. "Somebody had to go out and interview real people in the real world and conduct real research by poring over documents and then synthesizing those documents and coming up with a way to render them in clear and simple plain," said Frank Fine, executive editor of MediaNews Group, owner of The Detroit News. Several of the chain's newspapers sued OpenAI in April.

"All of that is real work, and it's work that AI cannot do," Fine said. "An AI app is never going to leave the office and go downtown where there's a fire and cover that fire."

Decided too similar to lawsuits filed late last year, the Massachusetts duo's January complaint has been folded into a consolidated case brought by other nonfiction writers as well as fiction writers represented by the Authors Guild.

That means Gage and Basbanes won't likely be witnesses in any upcoming trial in Manhattan's federal court. But in the twilight of their careers, they thought it important to take a stand for the future of their craft.

Gage took a great professional risk when he quit his job at the Times and went into \$160,000 debt to find out who was responsible for his mother's death.

"I tracked down everyone who was in the village when my mother was killed," he said. "And they had been scattered all over Eastern Europe. So I lost a lot of money and a lot of time. I had no assurance that I would get that money back. But when you commit yourself to something as important as my mother's story was, the risks are tremendous, the effort is tremendous."

In other words, ChatGPT couldn't do that. But what worries Gage is that ChatGPT could make it harder for others to do that.

"Publications are going to die. Newspapers are going to die. Young people with talent are not going to go into writing," Gage said. "The 80-year-old. I don't know if this is going to be settled while I'm still around. But it's important that a solution be found."

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DIVISION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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The proposed rules (2023-5 EO) address federal revisions related to safe management of residual oil sludge, pharmaceutical wastes, modernization of test methodology for ignitable liquids, changes to Canadian Prioritization recovery and disposal codes, and test methods for standards to control organic emissions. The proposed rules also contain revisions based on public and public recommendations. These revisions pertain to hazardous waste examples, controlling of hazardous wastes, groundwater monitoring, and consistency with other state rules.

The public hearing will be held on August 21, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. in the Capitol Conference Room, Convention Hall, 1330 Adams South, 525 West Allegan Street, Lansing, Michigan 48933. To attend the public hearing, register at <https://www.michigan.gov/EGLE>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. If you do not have internet access and would like to join by PHONE ONLY, please use the following phone number: 836-651-3142 and use conference code 374283. Pre-registration is not required to attend. Individuals interested in participating can click the link above at the start of the event (1:30 p.m.).

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This notice of public hearing is given in accordance with Sections 41 and 42 of the Administrative Procedures Act, 1969 PA 306, Michigan Compiled Laws (MCL) 24.241 and 24.242. The authority to promulgate rules is provided to the EGLE Director by Sections 27, 28, 32a, and 40 of Act 451, MCL 324.1117, 324.1118a, 324.1118b, and 324.1119, and Executive Reorganization Order Nos. 1995-16, 2003-31, and 2011-1, MCL 324.59503, 324.59519, and 324.59521. These rules will take effect seven days after filing with the Secretary of State.

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Lawsuit alleges racial harassment

Evan Sasiele
LSJ.com Daily
 USA TODAY NETWORK — 1/2024

PINCKNEY — A lawsuit alleges leadership at Pinckney Community Schools “failed to meaningfully address” racism against minority students. The lawsuit was filed by Detroit-based Marko Law on Sunday, July 7, in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan. News of the lawsuit was first reported by Click on Detroit.

The civil rights case was brought by several students, alleging “racism has permeated Pinckney Community Schools for years.”

According to the suit, Black students in Pinckney “have been called ‘cotton picker,’ ‘monkey,’ the ‘N-word,’ physically assaulted, racially profiled and threatened to be killed because of their skin color.”

“And throughout all this, Pinckney Community Schools turned a blind eye and failed to meaningfully address the racism once and for all,” the lawsuit states.

Black students at PCS “have suffered emotional trauma and substantial disruption to their education,” the lawsuit argues. It also says several students have left PCS “out of fear for their physical, personal and educational well-being.”

The plaintiffs are minors — four boys and one girl — who have attended Pathfinder School, which serves middle school-aged students.

The lawsuit accused PCS Superintendent Rick Todd of having “personal knowledge of the racism within his district for at least the last decade” and said he “has failed to take meaningful action to correct the problem.”

The Daily contacted Todd, who declined to comment on the lawsuit. Pathfinder School Principal Lori Sandula and former Navigator School Principal Janet McDole are also listed as defendants.

The lawsuit alleges PCS violated Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 “because it effectively caused, encouraged, accepted, tolerated, or failed to correct a hostile environment, based on race, of which it had actual or constructive notice.”

The suit also alleges PCS violated the Fourteenth Amendment, stating it “condoned and encouraged racial intimidation, thereby fostering future violations.” “Defendant’s conduct was reckless, outrageous, and upon information and belief, deliberate,” the suit states.

The suit also says PCS violated the Elliot Larsen Civil Rights Act for “creating and failing to prevent a racially hostile education environment” and for retaliation and discrimination.

The plaintiffs seek compensatory and punitive damages, costs and attorney fees, and declaratory and injunctive relief. One plaintiff demanded a jury trial.

Plaintiff allegations

One student, listed as S.C. in the lawsuit, alleged

The civil rights case was brought by several students, alleging “racism has permeated Pinckney Community Schools for years.”

According to the suit, Black students in Pinckney “have been called ‘cotton picker,’ ‘monkey,’ the ‘N-word,’ physically assaulted, racially profiled and threatened to be killed because of their skin color.”

she was written up as tardy to class when she hid from students who were harassing her.

Another student, listed as P.J.H. in the lawsuit, said students made comments to him like, “Wakanda forever, my brother,” in reference to the 2018 film “Black Panther.” P.J.H. “witnessed white students tease students of Indian ethnicity by asking if the white students could put a red dot on their forehead,” according to the lawsuit.

The suit alleged P.J.H. received a Snapchat from students depicting “two African American young males dancing shirtless in a simulated sexual act.” P.J.H. says he was suspended twice by the district after fights that began with racial harassment.

The third plaintiff, listed as E.J. in the suit, began to act out in class after racial slurs were directed at him, according to the suit. It alleges PCS punished E.J. with written discipline and suspensions, but “failed to correct the racist behavior.”

The suit alleges the fourth plaintiff — D.J.G. — was called the “N-word” in a note intercepted by a teacher during class, but no disciplinary action was taken.

The fifth plaintiff, A.G., claimed his teacher at Navigator Upper Elementary School did nothing when he was called “a dumb Black kid” by a classmate. The suit also alleges A.G. was suspended for two days by PCS after he pushed another student in response to racial slurs, and that the other student started to choke A.G. before they were separated.

A fellow student also called A.G. several racial epithets, the lawsuit said, and A.G. pushed the student, which led to a two-day suspension.

The district has until July 28 to respond. Contact reporter [Evan Sasiele](mailto:Evan.Sasiele@esajournal.com) at esasiele@esajournal.com. Follow him on Twitter @SalsaEvan.

Claimants in false fraud UIA lawsuit must return release by Aug. 19

Adrienne Roberts
Detroit Free Press
 USA TODAY NETWORK

Unemployment insurance claimants who were wrongly accused of fraud and had money and other assets seized have until Aug. 19 to return a document in order to potentially qualify for a class-action lawsuit, Michigan’s Unemployment Insurance Agency said Wednesday.

There are nearly 400 potential class members who need to return a signed release to potentially qualify for a portion of a \$20 million settlement reached in 2022, the result of a 2015 class action called *Bauserman v. Unemployment Insurance Agency*.

The state has acknowledged that about 40,000 people were wrongly accused of fraud in 2013-15 by the UIA’s computer system, which operated without human supervision and had an error rate as high as 93%.

In January, the Michigan Court of Claims approved the settlement. More than 3,000 claimants registered for the settlement and nearly 1,000 of those claimants were awarded extra money from the “Hardship Fund” and will receive an average of \$4,150 if the settlement is approved. Each eligible class member will receive an average of \$1,600.

These 377 potential class members now have until Aug. 19 to return a properly signed release to Analytics Consulting, the settlement’s claims administrator, Michigan’s UIA said in a news release. Claimants should have received a release from Analytics Consulting.

Those who fail to return a release may lose their right to payment from the settlement, the UIA said.

Questions about the signed release should be directed to Analytics Consulting by calling 833-438-5028 or emailing Info@UIAClassAction.com. More information can also be found at UIAClassAction.com.

Contact [Adrienne Roberts](mailto:Adrienne.Roberts@freepress.com) at anroberts@freepress.com.

NOTICE PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Public Accuracy Test for the August 6, 2024 Primary Election has been scheduled for Monday, July 15, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Township Office located at 13390 W. Pratt Road, Westphalia, MI. The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to demonstrate that the program and computers we use tabulate the results of the election count the votes in the manner prescribed by law.

Heather Pietta, Westphalia Township Clerk
 LSA 10369206

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DIVISION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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The public hearing will be held on August 21, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. in the Condon Conference Room, Constitution Hall, Auburn South, 525 West Allegan Street, Lansing, Michigan 48933. To attend the online hearing, register at <https://bit.ly/3kz8b2d>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. If you do not have internet access and would like to join by PHONE ONLY, please use the following phone number: 616-661-1144, and use conference code 91426. Pre-registration is not required to attend. Individuals interested in participating can click the link above at the start of the event (1:30 p.m.).

The proposed rules (2023-5 EG) are published on the State’s website at Michigan.gov/ARD and will be published in the August 1, 2024, issue of the Michigan Register. Copies of the rules may also be obtained by contacting the Lansing Office at:

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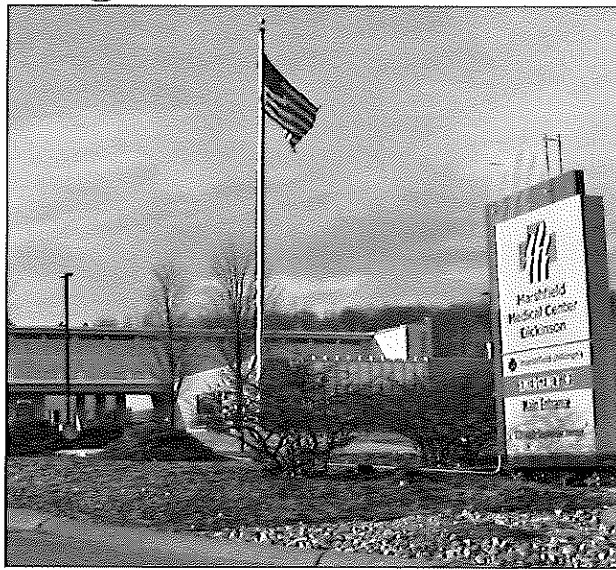
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Region



The Marshfield Medical Center Dickinson campus in Iron Mountain is shown. (Iron Mountain Daily News photo)

Marshfield, Sanford Health plan to merge

New \$10B system would have 56 hospitals, 56,000 employees

By JIM ANDERSON
Iron Mountain Daily News
Marshfield Clinic Health System announced plans Wednesday to partner with South Dakota-based Sanford Health, which is the largest rural health system in the country.

The nonbinding memorandum of understanding aims to create a combined system that will bring together nearly 56,000 employees, 56 hospitals and 4,300 providers, the top-profit health systems said in a news release Wednesday.

Sanford had \$7.2 billion in operating revenue in 2023, while Marshfield's was \$3.1 billion. A combined operation would rank just outside the nation's top 20 largest health systems, according to Sioux Falls, S.D., Business.

The merger is expected to close by the end of the year. There are no immediate changes for employees or the patients each system serves as Sanford and Marshfield remain two separate, independent organizations until the closing. Upon finalization, the name of the parent company will be Sanford Health, with system headquarters in Sioux Falls.

Marshfield Clinic Health System will be a region within Sanford Health and maintain regional leadership with its flagship medical campus in Marshfield, Wis., a regional board of directors, a regional physician executive council and regional board presence.

Bill Gassen, Sanford Health president and CEO, will be president and CEO of the combined system. Brian Hoerneman, Marshfield's former CEO, will serve as president and CEO of the Marshfield Clinic

Health System region. Marshfield serves Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula with more than 1,400 providers and 11 hospitals, including Marshfield Medical Center.

"Partnering with Sanford Health presents an incredible opportunity for our organizations to unify and establish the premier rural health system in the nation," Hoerneman said. "Together we will ensure sustainable access to exceptional care for our communities for years to come. With a shared mission to serve a regional emphasis on research and education and a strong tradition of physician leadership, Sanford Health is the ideal partner for this endeavor."

In January, after two years of talks, Marshfield and Duluth, Minn.-based Essentia Health called off plans to merge into a 25-hospital Midwest system. It marked the second time in four years that Marshfield was involved in a merger discussion that dissolved. In December 2019, Gundersen Health System and Marshfield decided to remain separate after several months of talks.

Gundersen, based in La Crosse, Wis., this year completed a merger with Green Bay, Wis.-based Bellin Health. Gundersen and Bellin's 11 hospitals and more than 100 clinics — including a clinic in Iron Mountain — will, over time, change their name to Emplicity Health.

Sanford Health, meanwhile, has been unable in two attempts to merge with Minnesota-based Fairview Health Services. Sanford also discontinued mergers with Utah-based Intermountain Healthcare in 2021 and Iowa-based UnityPoint Health in 2019, Sioux Falls, S.D., Business reported.

Sanford Health nonetheless over the past decade has invested more than \$1.5 billion in communities across South Dakota, North Dakota, Minnesota and Iowa, including expanded access to specialty care.

"We are excited to combine our common purpose to lead the way for the future, drive innovation and solve the most pressing challenges facing rural health care," said Gassen, Sanford's president and CEO. "We are who we are today because of combinations with care delivery organizations in rural communities across America's heartland. These opportunities have allowed us to follow through on our promise to deliver world-class health care to every patient we serve no matter their zip code, and we are eager to continue building on this track record with Marshfield Clinic Health System."

Sanford and Marshfield say their nonprofit combination will:

- Improve patient outcomes through broader population health initiatives, value-based care programs and new innovative care delivery models;
- Harness the full promise of technology, including virtual care, digital health, data analytics, AI and genomic medicine to advance the health of communities;
- Expand the breadth and depth of research capabilities, including increasing access to nearly 1,000 active clinical trials and clinical studies and combining research expertise to bring new treatments and cures to patients;
- Expand capabilities that

allow for greater investment in clinical goods, directly supporting patients, providers and communities;

• Strengthen the ability to train, educate and support future physicians and caregivers through shared initiatives, including graduate medical education programs and strong partnerships with educational institutions throughout both regions; and

• Create new opportunities for research and collaboration, robust peer networks and enhanced professional development and training.

"The partnership marks a new chapter in our organization, and we look forward to serving our patients as the nationwide leader in rural health care," said Dr. George Brown, Marshfield Clinic Health System Board chair.

Marshfield had positive operating income of \$12.6 million in the first quarter of 2024, versus a loss of \$42.1 million in the first quarter of 2023, while it had a loss for the year of \$250 million, Sioux Falls Business reported. Sanford, meanwhile, had operating income of \$402.2 million in 2023. In addition to its hospitals and clinics, Sanford operates more than 160 Good Samaritan Society senior living care delivery models.

• Harness the full promise of technology, including virtual care, digital health, data analytics, AI and genomic medicine to advance the health of communities;

• Expand the breadth and depth of research capabilities, including increasing access to nearly 1,000 active clinical trials and clinical studies and combining research expertise to bring new treatments and cures to patients;

• Expand capabilities that

Chassell's annual Copper Country Strawberry Festival returns

The Annual Copper Country Strawberry Festival is set to return for its 76th year. The festival will take place Friday and Saturday at Chassell Central Park, and feature food, music, vendors, a queen competition, and fresh strawberry desserts!

Festivities will begin at 9 a.m. on the 14th, with volunteers with the Chassell Lions serving strawberry shortcake, brats, cotton candy, and other treats. A vendor show will follow, starting at 10 a.m. Vendors include the Chassell Sports Booster Club, KLR Icee Coffee and Bobble Tea, and the Curious Pig, among many others. The Chassell Women's Club will host an old-fashioned cake walk, and Aire Care is sponsoring a Fish Bowl Dinner. The annual Queens Competition will take place at 7 p.m.

Michigan Tech will offer one of their scientific excursions on Saturday, July 13. On each excursion, Kenny Larsen, a Michigan Tech scientist in the department of Civil, Environmental, and Geospatial Engineering and the Great Lakes Research Center, will show how data is collected on water clarity, temperature, and turbidity and explain what this shows about the health of Lake Superior and Chassell Bay. Trips will leave from the Chassell Marina dock every 45 minutes, starting at 12:30 p.m. The public is invited to reserve a space at blogs.mtu.edu. Children must be at least 7 years of age, and any youth younger than 15 must be accompanied by an adult. All participants must wear close-toe shoes.

Events will continue through 2 p.m. on July 13. Parade winners will be announced at 2 p.m. on Saturday to close out the festival.

This year's Strawberry Festival is dedicated to Michele Marie Kerban (April 25, 1944-July 18, 2023). Michele was born in Hancock, Michigan to Michael and Ann Kerban (Umas). She was a graduate of Hancock High School and Northern Michigan University.

Michele taught elementary school children all over the country for 32 years, most of which was spent at South Range Elementary School. She earned honors including the Michigan Reading Association Outstanding Reading Educator, IRA Literacy Award, and the Adams Township Teacher of the Year.

Her selfless and unwavering support knew no bounds, and she was never hesitant to lend an ear, offer guidance, or provide comfort. Her legacy of love, kindness and compassion will live on in the hearts of all who knew Michele.

Queen Competition Candidates:

- Amya Nieme, sponsored by Chassell Women's Club
- Ayla Miller, sponsored by Gerke Blueberry Farm
- Chloe Steell, sponsored by Toucan's Auto Repair
- Coralee Daugherty, sponsored by Real Estate Appraisal Co.
- Danielle Williston, sponsored by Back Road Organics
- Giselle Wiltonen, sponsored by Pal's Foods
- Shayla Elmblad, sponsored by Back Road Organics
- Lily Etelamaki, sponsored by Chassell VW
- Nora Keranen, sponsored by the Department of Civil, Environmental, and Geospatial Engineering at Michigan Tech
- Katelyn Mosha, sponsored by Krupp's Resort
- Claire Filipus, sponsored by Quincy's Dining Co.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY
MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DIVISION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), Materials Management Division (MMD), will conduct a public hearing to receive comment on proposed changes to the administrative rules promulgated pursuant to Part 111, Hazardous Waste Management of the Act, Environmental and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended (Act 111). The rules are proposed to be adopted under the Administrative Code (AC) 299.9101 et seq. These rules are necessary for EGLE to maintain its authorization from the United States Environmental Protection Agency to administer the State's Hazardous Waste Management Program in lieu of the federal program under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, as amended, to improve the clarity and consistency, and to reduce some regulatory burdens by revising hazardous waste listings and additional options for transportation from full management as a hazardous waste.

The proposed rules (2023-5 EO) address federal revisions related to safe management of recycled air bags, pharmaceutical waste, including standards for ignitable liquids, changes to Canadian Import/Export recovery and disposal codes, and test methods for standards to control organic emissions. The proposed rules also contain revisions based on state and public recommendations. These revisions pertain to hazardous waste listings, commingling of hazardous wastes, groundwater monitoring, and consistency with other state rules.

The public hearing will be held on August 21, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. in the Glen Cove Conference Room, Constitution Hall, Auburn South, 825 West Albany Street, Lansing, Michigan 48933. To attend the public hearing, registrars at registrars@michigan.gov will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. If you do not have internet access and would like to join by PHONE, please use the following phone number: 616-651-3142, and use conference code 374268. Pre-registration is not required to attend. Individuals interested in participating can click the link above at the start of the event (1:30 p.m.).

The proposed rules (2023-5 EO) are published on the State's website at <https://www.michigan.gov/EGLE> and will be published in the August 1, 2024, issue of the Michigan Register. Copies of the rules may also be obtained by contacting the Licensing Office at:

EGLE, MMD
PO Box 30244
Lansing, Michigan 48909
Phone: 616-651-2630
Email: licensing@michigan.gov

Comments on the proposed rules may be made at the hearing by mail at the address above, or by email at EGLE.MMD@Michigan.gov. EGLE requests that those wishing to file a statement at the hearing provide a written copy of the statement for the public hearing record. Written comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on September 4, 2024.

Individuals needing language assistance or accommodations for effective participation at the hearing should contact Florida K. Boyer (flboyer@michigan.gov, 616-614-2630) by August 9, 2024, to request language, mobility, visual, hearing, translation, or other assistance.

This notice of public hearing is given in accordance with Sections 41 and 42 of the Administrative Procedures Act, 1969 PA 306, Michigan Compiled Laws (MCL) 112.241 and 112.242. The authority to promulgate rules is provided by the EGLE Director by Sections 17, 28, 32a, and 40 of Act 451, MCL 224.11127, 324.11128, 324.11132a, and 324.11130, and Executive Reorganization Order Nos. 1995-10, 2002-31, and 2011-1, MCL 224.26903, 324.56910, and 324.62403. These rules will take effect seven days after filing with the Secretary of State.

EGLE does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, age, national origin, color, marital status, disability, political beliefs, height, weight, genetic information, or sexual orientation in the administration of any of its programs or activities and public participation and regulation, as required by applicable laws and regulations.

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The Mining Journal

249 W. Washington, Marquette, MI
907-228-2500

Sealed bids will be received by the Marquette Area Public Schools at the office of the Food Service Manager, 1203 West Fair Ave, until 12 o'clock noon on Thursday July 25th 2024, for Milk, and Bread Products to be delivered to the Marquette Area Public Schools during a period of September 1st 2024, through August 15th 2025. The Board of Education requires that quotations be submitted on the Bid Form provided by the Food Service Manager. For further information, contact: Chris Collins, Food Service Manager 906-225-4245 or ccollins@mapsnet.org. The Board reserves the right to reject any, and all bids. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

1642 Yosemite Dr., Lansing, MI 48917
517.372.2424 solutions@mediaplacementone.com



Advertiser: Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy

Date of order: August 5, 2024

This is to certify that the Public Notice scheduled to run in the newspaper listed ran as the placement details below and proof of publication is attached.

Newspaper Name: **Lansing State Journal**

Run Date	Ad Size	Caption/Position/Special Instructions
7/12/2024	2 col. x 9.5	2 col. x 9.5" – B&W Public Notice

Signed by *Deana Davis* (MP1/MANSI Representative)
July 12, 2024

Notary Public:
Signed by *James R. Tarrant* (Notary Public)
July 12, 2024

JAMES R. TARRANT
NOTARY PUBLIC – STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF VAN BUREN
My commission expires April 12, 2029
Acting in the County of Ingham



AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

1642 Yosemite Dr., Lansing, MI 48917
517.372.2424 solutions@mediaplacementone.com



Advertiser: Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy

Date of order: August 5, 2024

This is to certify that the Public Notice scheduled to run in the newspaper listed ran as the placement details below and proof of publication is attached.

Newspaper Name: Marquette Mining Journal

Run Date	Ad Size	Caption/Position/Special Instructions
7/13/2024	2 col. x 9.5	2 col. x 9.5" – B&W Public Notice

Signed by *Diana Davis* (MP1/MANSI Representative)
July 12, 2024

Notary Public:
Signed by *[Signature]* (Notary Public)
July 12, 2024

JAMES R. TARRANT
NOTARY PUBLIC – STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF VAN BUREN
My commission expires April 12, 2029
Acting in the County of Ingham



AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

1642 Yosemite Dr., Lansing, MI 48917
517.372.2424 solutions@mediaplacementone.com



Advertiser: Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy

Date of order: August 5, 2024

This is to certify that the Public Notice scheduled to run in the newspaper listed ran as the placement details below and proof of publication is attached.

Newspaper Name: Detroit Free Press

Run Date	Ad Size	Caption/Position/Special Instructions
7/12/2024	2 col. x 9.5	2 col. x 9.5" – B&W Public Notice

Signed by *Deana Davis* (MP1/MANSI Representative)
July 12, 2024

Notary Public:
Signed by *James R. Tarrant* (Notary Public)
July 12, 2024

JAMES R. TARRANT
NOTARY PUBLIC – STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF VAN BUREN
My commission expires April 12, 2029
Acting in the County of Ingham



AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

1642 Yosemite Dr., Lansing, MI 48917
517.372.2424 solutions@mediaplacementone.com



Advertiser: Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy

Date of order: August 5, 2024

This is to certify that the Public Notice scheduled to run in the newspaper listed ran as the placement details below and proof of publication is attached.

Newspaper Name: **Detroit News**

Run Date	Ad Size	Caption/Position/Special Instructions
7/12/2024	2 col. x 9.5	2 col. x 9.5" – B&W Public Notice

Signed by *Deana Davis* (MP1/MANSI Representative)
July 12, 2024

Notary Public:
Signed by *James R. Tarrant* (Notary Public)
July 12, 2024

JAMES R. TARRANT
NOTARY PUBLIC – STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF VAN BUREN
My commission expires April 12, 2029
Acting in the County of Ingham