



It is my pleasure to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Ajano Perry, and I am originally from a state in India called Nagaland. Nagaland is tucked away in the beautiful rolling hills and mountainous area between Burma (Myanmar) and India. The Naga people have a distinct tribal culture and ethnicity with a history that goes back many generations, well-before the region became part of what we now know as India.

I earned my Bachelor's degree in Liberal Arts with a major in Education and a Bachelor degree in Divinity from Union Biblical Seminary in Pune, India. After completion of my studies, I worked as the headmistress for a K-10th grade Christian School in my home town of Dimapur, Nagaland.

I came to the United States in 1992 for further studies. I received my MA and a Doctorate in Christian Ministry (Pastoral Care and Counseling) from Faith Lutheran International University in Tacoma, Washington. While working on my doctorate internship in California, I was introduced to my future husband, Steve Perry by a mutual friend at a Super Bowl party in January of 1996. I didn't marry Steve until I had graduated and fulfilled a commitment to teach at Kathmandu Bible College in Nepal. We got married in Dimapur, Nagaland in 1996 and moved to Rochester Hills in 1998 for Steve's career in the auto industry. We have now been married for 25 years and blessed with a son and a daughter.

I taught at a traditional pre-school in Rochester Hills for seven years. With this experience, I wanted a higher level of challenge. As I sought a position in a high-quality children's learning environment, I found Schoolhouse Montessori Academy as a place to exercise my skills and training. 16 years ago I had the privilege to work with the pre-primary class. In the same time period I received my Montessori educators certification. I also receive my Bachelor's degree in Applied Science in Early Childhood Development from Rochester College (now Rochester University). In 2006 I created the Toddlers' program, and had the responsibility as lead teacher in the Toddler classroom for seven years. In 2011, I was honored to take on the responsibility as Director for the Schoolhouse Montessori Academy Troy campus. It is my privilege and honor to serve you all. I have now been at Schoolhouse for 17 years.

If I am not working, doing errands for school or doing my household chores at home, I love watching western cowboy TV series like *Hop-A-Long Cassidy* and murder mysteries such as *Father Brown* or *Midsummer Murders*, though I regularly soften the drama with my quiet afternoon tea.

Here are a few pictures to introduce my nuclear family.



My husband Steve is from Los Angeles. He is a true car guy and his career brought us to Rochester Hills, Michigan for an opportunity in the automotive industry in 1998. Steve currently works for Ford Motor Company as an engineering supervisor in Electrified Powertrain. For fun, Steve enjoys home improvement projects, cars, bikes, scale model cars, and photography. The picture below is a 2020 GT Mustang model Steve built. It is a replica of my real 2020 Mustang GT in Twister Orange. The license plate says **DR PERRY**☺!



My real 2020 Mustang GT



1:25 Scale Model



Our son Jacob graduated this year from Western Michigan University with a B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering. He participated on the university Formula SAE team and he loves his drumming. Jacob has moved on, and he now works for Honda in Ohio as Design Engineer. He is growing a new network of friends and making Columbus his home. He plays for his band **Blank Slate** and on his church worship team. He sure likes to drive his Subaru WRX, posing with dad in the picture above at a Gingermann Raceway track day event.



Charlotte (“Cha Cha”, “Char”, “Chuck”) is a graduate of Rochester High School, and she is an avid equestrian. She worked this summer at Rochester Stables teaching equestrian lessons to beginning riders, grooming, and training her favorite horse, Cowboy. Charlotte is now attending MSU to continue her education, with a major in Zoology. She has also made the MSU Hunt Seat Equestrian Club. She competes in collegiate equestrian meets and has won several blue, red and white ribbons. Off to a good start!

It has been my pleasure and privilege working with you all this year. I am very blessed to have my whole family supporting me to do my job the best I can. I am happy to serve you all and will continue to do so. You have been incredible with your support, cooperation, patience and understanding. I will continue to remember you all in my prayers for your safety and health during these challenging times.