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IMPORTANT DATES

Board of Education Meetings

Thursday, Feb. 10, 2022
7 p.m.
Administration Building
1220 Howard St.
Visit kalamazoopublicschools.com/boardmeetings for more information

UPCOMING DATES

PEEP/Kindergarten
Orientation
March 9

No School PreK–12
March 25

Spring Break
March 28–April 1

INSIDE

KPS Increases
Guest Teacher Pay
Page 3

Meet 3 Urban
Teacher Residents
Page 7

High School Plays
Page 8

Maroon Foundation Seeks
Members of 1975 Team
Page 11



Urban Teacher Residency Program Welcomes First Cohort of 8 Future Teachers

As Kalamazoo Public Schools looked at the ever-diminishing numbers of teachers, the district realized there was a pool of talented individuals with an already demonstrated interest in working with students: paraprofessionals. The new Urban Teacher Residency Program is helping interested paraprofessionals and other staff pursue their dreams of becoming teachers in a unique effort that provides mentoring, financial support, and job training while they earn their teaching credentials. Some residents earn a master's degree, while others are enrolled in a non-degree program. The program welcomed its first cohort of eight residents this fall. All are working in KPS *(continued on page 4)*

Planting the Seeds to Grow Future Doctors: WMed Early Introduction to Health Program

It's difficult for children to imagine themselves as something they've never seen before. Like a perfusionist. How can you imagine that you could be responsible for keeping a person alive while they undergo heart surgery, unless you meet one and learn about how they operate the heart-lung machines that take the blood out of patients, oxygenate it and then return it to the patients' bodies, while doctors are performing open heart surgery. Students at Milwood Magnet School's Young Doctors club can now aspire to being perfusionists — or other medical professionals — thanks to the Early Introduction to Health Careers program from the Western Michigan University Homer D. Stryker Medical School.



Kevin Stechnik, a second-year medical student at the WMU Stryker School of Medicine, shows, from left, Jonavan Hare, Rose Hernandez, and Nathaniel Collier how to bag a patient during the Early Introduction to Health Careers 1.5 program at Milwood Magnet School.

During a recent session of the club, the students met perfusionist Jake Holloway via Zoom during the "Day in the Life" segment of their after-school program. He shared a

video of the heart-lung machine and explained the rewards of the high-stakes, high-stress career. "You know someone on that operating table is counting on you to save their life. There is nothing better than being able to help someone out," he said. "This is the ultimate teamwork." In addition to learning about the work of perfusionists that day, students also worked with second-year medical students Christine Hua and Kevin Stechnik, who explained CPR to students and gave them a chance to practice the basics of chest compressions on CPR mannequins. As Milwood students were being handed scrubs and stethoscopes, sixth-grader Mailia Morrow said she wants to be a surgeon when she grows up and *(continued on page 6)*

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Exploring Black History with New Understanding

Black History Month originated 1926 as Negro History Week — a creation of historian Carter G. Woodson and the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. From the beginning, the celebration was seen as a time to promote and develop the teaching of the history of African Americans within our school systems.

Starting in the late 1960s there was growing interest in the development of a Black History Month. It was not until 1976 that President Gerald Ford acknowledged Black History Month as a national celebration to honor the accomplishments of Black Americans throughout the history of the United States.

Since then, Black History Month has continued to evolve, as has our understanding of the teaching of Black history in our schools.

While the month originally honored the many great leaders

from our shared history, in more recent times, there has been an evolving emphasis on recognizing today's leaders.

This shift allows us to recognize those on whose shoulders we stand, but to also celebrate the accomplishments of current leaders and acknowledge that the talents, the skills and the generosity of spirit in the African American community remain as profoundly important today as they were in the past.

For our children — all of our children — this is a valuable opportunity to broaden their understanding of their world and all of the people who contribute to the rich history of their communities.



Dr. Rita Raichoudhuri,
Superintendent,
Kalamazoo Public
Schools

To be clear, it is vastly important that Black children see themselves represented in our history books and literature in school, but it is as important that all children have the chance to experience the richness of the cultures and world around them. Doing so allows them to more fully understand how interconnected our histories and lives are.

It is tempting to assume that all people and cultures are equally represented in our history books, but that's not the case. Text analyses find that world history books devote an overwhelming majority of their pages to European history, while providing scant space to the vast histories of civilizations from the Americas, Africa and Asia.

I appreciate the annual opportunity to focus on Black history during this month, but I am also proud of Kalamazoo Public Schools' efforts to

broaden our understanding of history and how we share that information with students throughout the year.

In the spring of 2021, the KPS Board of Education approved the creation of a new African American studies class, which is available to our high schoolers. The class launched this fall, and students can take it as part of their social studies requirement. It explores topics from ancient civilizations to current events.

Stopping into one of the classes is eye-opening. The lessons are prepared with intentional language designed to help students reframe their understanding of African American history. It re-examines the African American experience with an emphasis on high points of African culture and discusses the history of racial violence in America from the standpoint of justice and resistance.

Students in the class learn not just facts about the history of our society but are encouraged to explore the African American experience and our culture with new understanding.

Like that class, Black History Month is an opportunity for us to learn more about African American history and culture and to rethink our perceptions and biases.

In the United Kingdom, the theme for Black History Month 2021 was, "Dig deeper, look closer, think bigger." That is so powerful, because it calls on us to expand our approach to all thinking and understanding and to make that powerful leap beyond what we know and what we are comfortable with.

That is our goal with all education. We seek to broaden our children's minds so they can better find solutions to the challenges facing our communities and our world.

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Community Homeworks provides additional critical home repair services for homeowners, such as electrical, hot water heaters, plumbing, and other health and safety issues. Visit **CommunityHomeworks.org** for more information.

KPS Increases Pay for Guest Teachers

Kalamazoo Public Schools increased guest teacher pay as of Jan. 3.

The district’s Guest Teacher Committee, made up of members of the Kalamazoo Education Association, UAW, and central administration, made the decision on Dec. 9. The top priority for the committee, which has been meeting since last school year, has been to increase guest teacher pay as soon as possible to try to attract more guest teachers.

The committee was led by Steve Leland in KPS Human Resources. Superintendent Dr. Rita Raichoudhuri attended the kickoff meetings.

In accordance with the new pay scale, as of Jan. 3, guest teachers will earn \$125 (up from \$85) for a full work day. Guest teachers will now be paid \$65

for a half day, up from \$60.

Guest teachers will also receive a \$100 bonus after 10 days of work in a calendar month and \$200 after 20 days of work in a calendar month.

Long-term subs will see an increase of \$40 per day, earning \$145 per day for days 1–30 and \$160 per day for all days after that. Building paraprofessionals will now make \$15 per hour, up from \$12 per hour.

This collaborative effort is the beginning of the district’s work to increase its guest teacher pool. The committee will be working in future months to roll out other initiatives to recruit and retain much-needed guest teachers.

The other main area of focus of the group has been to create a more welcoming learning environment for guest teachers.

New Pay for KPS Guest Teachers			
Full Day	Half Day	Long Term (1–30 days)	Long Term (31+ days)
\$125	\$65	\$145	\$160
Building Subs	Sub Paras	Incentive Plans for Guest Teachers	
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KPS Bus Mechanics Earn Certificate of Excellence from MSP

The Kalamazoo Public Schools Transportation Department earned a Certificate of Excellence for achieving a 100 percent pass rate for school bus inspections for the 2020–21 school year.

Mike Smith is the supervisor of the KPS bus mechanics. The winning team members are: Don Ebbitt, Brad Webber, Bob Greis, Mike Smith, Kraig Champion, Marty Crawford, and Mitchell Courtney.

The Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division of the Michigan State Police is responsible for the annual inspection of every black-and-yellow school bus and pupil transportation vehicle operated in the state.

Michigan has approximately 17,000 vehicles that transport in excess of 800,000 children more than 10 million miles annually, according to the MSP website. All

public, private, denominational, parochial, charter school and public school academy vehicles transporting pupils to or from school or school-related events must be inspected.

Vehicles that have been inspected are identified with a sticker placed on the front windshield. The inspection sticker displays the Michigan State Police “shield” and the school calendar year for which it is valid.



Congratulations to the Transportation Department on earning a Certificate of Excellence for achieving a 100 percent pass rate for the school bus inspection for 2020/21. A special shout out to Mike Smith, supervisor of the mechanics, and all of the KPS bus mechanics. Pictured, from left, Don Ebbitt, Brad Webber, Bob Greis, Smith, Kraig Champion, Marty Crawford, and Mitchell Courtney.

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Urban Teacher Residency Program Welcomes First Cohort of 8 Future Teachers *(continued from page 1)*

elementary schools. Plans are to expand the opportunity to those interested in studying special education next year.

Residents say they were attracted to the program because of the opportunity it provides to fast-track a career in education through in-depth, hands-on training.

“I was a stay-at-home mom for 15 years, my youngest started Kindergarten this fall, and I wanted to pursue my teaching profession,” said resident Elita Jones. “I like that I can work at a school full-time and do the accelerated program at the same time. I am a mature student. I need to work and go to school at the same time and this program provided both.”

Resident Jennifer Wright said, “I have always wanted to be a teacher. The thought of going back to college to complete another degree was daunting. The residency program offers a myriad of supports that the normal channels did not offer.”

Dr. Regena Fails Nelson, chair of WMU’s Department of Teaching, Learning and Educational Studies in the College of Education and Human Development, led the efforts to secure a \$4.9 million U.S. Department of Education grant to support UTRP, which is designed to help current school district

employees — paraprofessionals, bus drivers, food service workers and others — earn their teacher certification while they work. The program is being launched in KPS and Benton Harbor schools.

“The main thing for us is to be able to create pathways to education for our paraprofessionals and Title I tutors who are interested in becoming teachers. They were all recommended by the principals where they are currently working,” said Steve Leland, the district’s administrative personnel officer. “UTRP helps address the teacher shortage and has the potential to increase the ranks of teachers from under-represented populations as more people learn about the opportunity.”

All of the residents are women who have been with the district for as little as one year or as long as 10 years. All participants already possess a bachelor’s degree of some sort, but not in education.

Resident Caroline Barkman said, “This program looks appealing to me because it is short and it also allows me to work and take classes at the same time. Regardless, this program requires a lot of work and determination.”

Participants maintain their jobs with the district and receive a \$20,000 stipend, which helps

them cover their tuition and other college costs. Their classes are integrated with a year-long internship with a mentor teacher. The internship combines some of their previous paraprofessional work with more in-depth co-teaching with their mentors.

“It combines their classwork with their student teaching, which is why it’s so intensive,” said Leland, who noted that the traditional student teaching experience only lasts 15 weeks, while the UTRP provides a full year of hands-on experience.

“They start by observing at the start, then take over a week at a time in subject areas so by the end of the year, they’re running the entire class. That’s the goal,” he said.

KPS also has hired a district mentor coach, Tonja Washington, who is available to help residents with any needs, from lesson planning to behavior management. The “master teacher” role is there to support the mentor teachers as well to help guide the residents during their year.

After completing UTRP, the residents make a three-year commitment to teaching in a KPS school.

“Each resident is unique,” Leland said. “They have different drives and reasons for wanting to be in the program, but the unifying bond is that they want to become teachers.”

For more information about the next application period, contact Leland at lelandsp@kalamazoopublicschools.net or call Human Resources (269) 337-0177.

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Urban Teacher Residency Program for Elementary and Special Education Certification

Work full time for KPS and earn regular salary

The teacher residency program is different from a traditional student teaching experience because it is paid, which is revolutionary in the field of education. There will be \$20,000 stipend from The U.S. Department of Education Urban Teacher Grant to be used for tuition or living expenses.

Help candidates from within KPS District

It will help candidates from within the district to earn their teacher certification while they work. An accelerated certification process with additional supports provided by the district and WMU to earn teacher certification in one year.

Creating racially diverse cohorts

Help build the ranks of incoming teacher candidates from traditionally under-represented groups. The residency aims to have participants from racially diverse backgrounds that mirror our student population.

Place certified teachers in full-time teaching positions

KPS named its first group of residents in Spring 2021 and intend to place at least 60 certified teachers in full-time teaching positions within its first three years.

Residency Program is an entire school year

The UTRP student teacher can build relationships with students and families and develop needed skills over the course of an entire school year verses 16 weeks.

Questions? Please contact Steve Leland, Administrative Personnel Officer at 269-337-0180



4 | EXCELSIOR February 2022

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NOTICE

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The District will not tolerate or condone any act of bias or discrimination toward any person on the basis of religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, pregnancy, gender identification, height, weight, familial status, marital status, sexual orientation, and disability in any of its activities, hiring practices, programs or services.

Inquiries by students and/or their parents/guardians should be directed to:

Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Student Services
Kalamazoo Public Schools
1220 Howard St.
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
(269) 337-0161

All other inquiries should be directed to:

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources
Kalamazoo Public Schools
1220 Howard St.
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
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Art teacher Marlena Smith’s students at Edison Academy and Northeastern Elementary School have been exploring a wide variety of media and artists this school year. At Edison Academy, Art Club members participated in an art lab of Ginny Ruffner’s “Reforestation of the Imagination” and a traveling exhibition called “Art of the Feather.” Students also watched a video about the use of scarecrows in England and painted their own scarecrows.

Artists’ Corner



Edison third-grader Elora Rackley paints her bird sculpture which was inspired by “The Art of the Feather.”



Edison second-grader Camille James presents teacher Marlena Smith with a painting she created at home.



Edison third-grader LaJavon Dobbins shared a work inspired by Ruffner’s exhibition at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts.



Northeastern kindergartener Royalty Shorter-Hollins created a watercolor painting of a scarecrow after discussing a video about fall.



Northeastern first-grader Danny VanAntwerp was also inspired to create a scarecrow painting after watching a video on autumn.

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Planting the Seeds to Grow Future Doctors: WMed Early Introduction to Health Program *(continued from page 1)*

eight-grader Juan Ortiz said it was “cool” to learn about doctors. EIH is a multi-level pipeline program that provides students in elementary, middle, and high school with an eye-opening, hands-on learning experience that explores various medical careers, the science behind some of the medicine, and a look at the pathways that can lead to those careers. The program was launched in 2014 by Dr. Cheryl A. Dickson, associate dean, Health Equity & Community Affairs, for WMed.

It helps students envision careers in biomedical science and healthcare and targets students in underrepresented-in-medicine minorities, as well as students from low-income backgrounds, and first-generation college students. Started as a Saturday academy (now called EIH2) for high school students, it then moved into the elementary schools (EIH1) with fourth and fifth graders at Northeastern Elementary School. EIH2 10th graders attend

weekend science academies for research, mentoring and presentations by health care professionals. Two dozen of the students participate in a two-week summer intensive staffed by faculty from Kalamazoo College, WMed and Stryker Corporation. EIH1 students study a special curriculum that explores body systems, visit the medical school, and prepare research presentations. Last year, EIH 1.5 for middle school students (which the students have named the Young

Doctors Club) launched virtually at Milwood Magnet School: A Center for Math, Science and Technology. This is the first year students have been able to meet in person. “The earlier you start the better in terms of building career interest and helping create a career trajectory – particularly for students that may be underserved and have low resources,” said Dickson, who is board certified in pediatric emergency medicine. Key to the EIH efforts is presenting students with role models who represent their communities, so they can more easily envision themselves in these careers. Holloway is African American, as is Dickson. Hue, one of the medical students working with the Milwood club, is an Asian American woman.

Milwood science teacher Tracy Chappell said she was surprised how many students were excited to participate in the program – even virtually – last year. This year students have enjoyed the hands-on learning opportunity, especially given that the lessons are delivered by young medical students who are generous with their encouragement and in sharing their own experiences as students.

“The diversity of the professional speakers has matched the diversity of the Milwood student body,” Chappell said. “Students see adults that look like them being successful in helping people. Many of these students have voiced they chose to be in this club because someday they want to help others. They also get excited when the information connects to what they are currently learning in school or to their families. Students have shared their own or family experiences with the club.”

Dickson said the lessons are designed to be hands-on and to provide simulations. Students study models of the heart or learn how to use a bag valve mask to inflate a person’s lungs.

“They talk about it, they can see it, they can do it – then they get really excited,” Dickson said. “Many of these students become easily disenchanted or believe they can’t do math and science. They start to believe they can’t do it, so they don’t even think about it. We make math and science fun. We make problem solving and critical thinking fun.” EIH is supported by Kalamazoo College, The Kalamazoo Promise, Kalamazoo Valley Community College, WMU, and grants from the United Way of the Battle Creek and Kalamazoo Region, and the Harold and Grace Upjohn, Dorothy U. Dalton and Irving S. Gilmore foundations.

Dickson is excited to work with students from elementary school through high school. The success of pathway programs such as EIH is built on providing students with repeated exposure to material and to build long-term relationships and connections. As part of EIH, WMed last summer launched the Health Careers Partnership Program, which provides rising college freshmen with mentorship and advising as they begin their medical studies. Students can earn up to three college credits for the six-week program.

As a physician, Dickson sees the need to recruit and support students from diverse backgrounds. The medical field is suffering from underrepresentation across the board, she said. There are not enough doctors who are Latinx, Pacific Islanders, from indigenous groups or African American males and females – not only that, but those groups are underrepresented on medical school faculties as well.

Her hope in addressing those disparities is found in working with the young students in the EIH programs.

“You’re planting a seed, watering it, giving it enough sunshine so it will grow and blossom,” she said.

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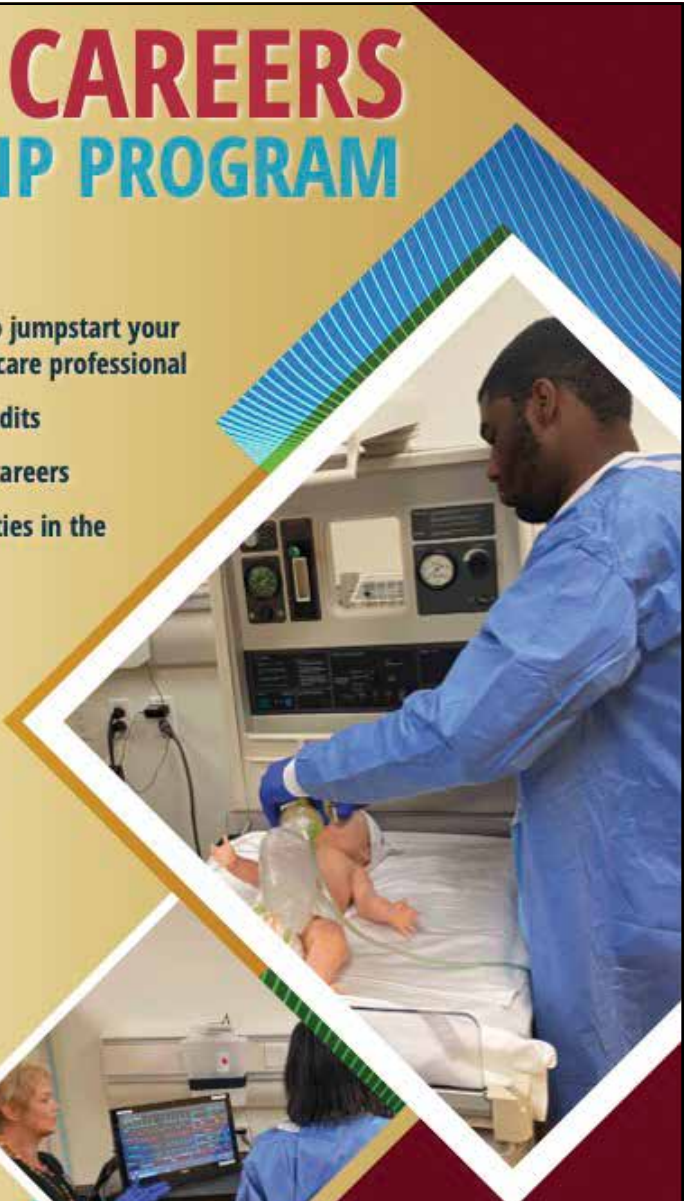
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Meet 3 of the First Class of the Urban Teacher Residency Program

Jennifer Elizabeth Wright

Resident Intern — Arcadia Elementary School, kindergarten
Bachelor's Degree — Michigan State University, James Madison College

I have always wanted to be a teacher. The thought of going back to college to complete another degree was daunting. I was invited to an information session (for the Urban Teacher Residency) and decided to apply. It seemed like a perfect fit and a fantastic opportunity that could not be passed up. The residency program offers a myriad of supports that the normal channels did not offer.

I want to provide an environment for students that is peaceful, productive and fun! I want students to look forward to going to school. I enjoy connecting with my students and witnessing their successes.

The biggest challenge is juggling all of the demands placed on educators while keeping the needs of students paramount.

Fun fact: I have a third-degree black belt in tae kwon do.

Caroline Barkman

Resident Intern — Woodward School for Technology and Research, PEEP

Bachelor's degree — Western Michigan University, College of Health and Human Services, interdisciplinary health service

Through internships and volunteering with KPS, I realized that my passion is working with children. I learned about this new program from a KPS email. One reason that I applied for this program is that I want to be a certified teacher and make a difference. This program looks appealing to me because it is short and also allows me to work and take classes at the same time. Regardless, this program requires a lot of work and determination.

I see many challenges



Jennifer Elizabeth Wright

that teachers face, such as not having enough time to do lesson planning, multiple roles (psychology, social work, counselor) and also pressure from performance, balancing the different needs of students, and many other challenges. Working as a teacher is not a job that you work just to get paid. We also work for the feeling that we are educating and creating healthy future generations.

Fun fact: I am a long-distance runner. I enjoy outdoor and indoor rock climbing. I am also a mother of three children.

Elita Jones

Resident Intern — Milwood Elementary School, autistic self-contained controlled room for K-fourth grade

Bachelor's Degree — De Montfort University, Leicester, England, English and business studies

I was a stay-at-home mom for 15 years, my youngest started Kindergarten this fall, and I wanted to pursue my teaching certificate. This program appealed to me because I was planning to be a substitute teacher and work on getting accredited to teach. While I was researching which program I wanted to do at WMU, I found out about UTRP. I like that I can work at a school full-time and do the accelerated program at the same time. I am a mature student. I need to work and go to school at the same time and this program provided both.



Caroline Barkman

I believe every child deserves a good quality education, irrespective of their socioeconomics, environment, disability, or background. A good education can change a person's life, and it is one thing no one can take from you. I want



Elita Jones

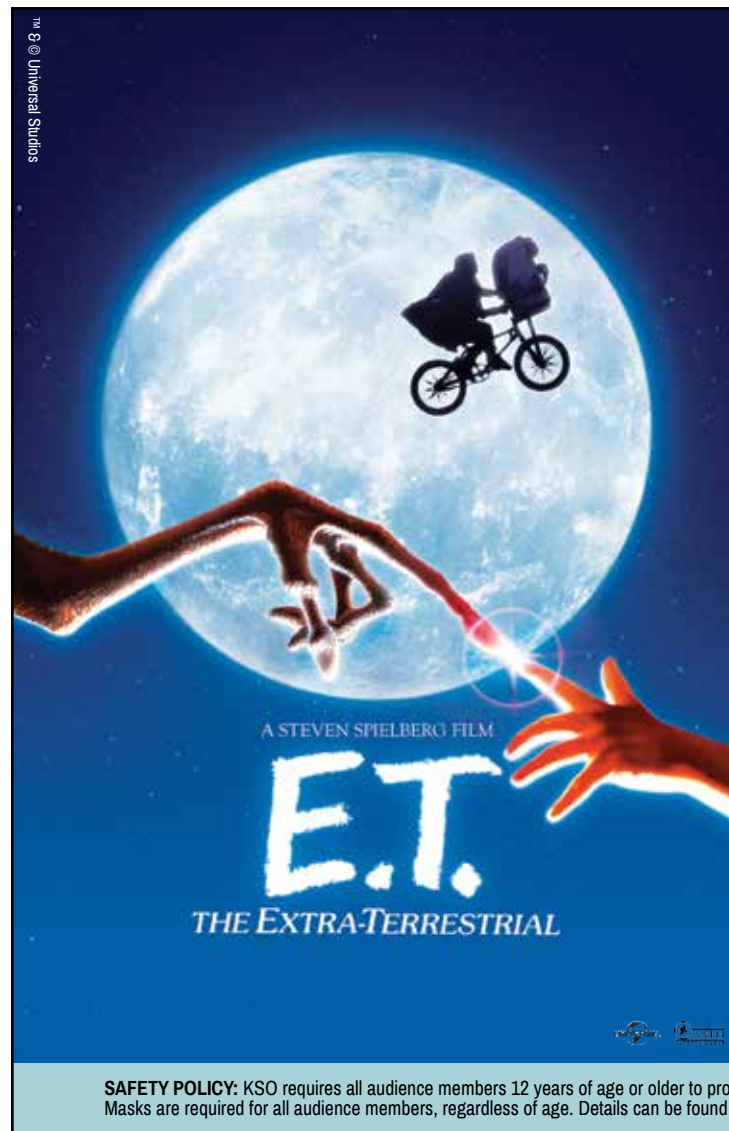
to be the teacher who creates a safe, welcoming environment, where students want to learn and do their best.

I enjoy working with the autistic children and other children who learn differently. It is about figuring out how they



learn and connecting with them. Being a paraprofessional in an autistic contained classroom has taught me the true meaning of equity. No two kids in my class have the same ability, but the objective is to get them to their goals. As a teacher, you need to figure out what method works best for each student.

Fun fact: I loved baking when I was a teenager.



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KC Presents Drama: ‘She Kills Monsters’

The Kalamazoo Central Theater Department presents the drama “She Kills Monsters” Feb. 25-27.

Written by Vietnamese American playwright and self-proclaimed geek Qui Nguyen, “She Kills Monsters” is the story of high-schooler Agnes, who, after the death of her teenage sister, Tilly, plays a Dungeons & Dragons game to get to know her sibling better.

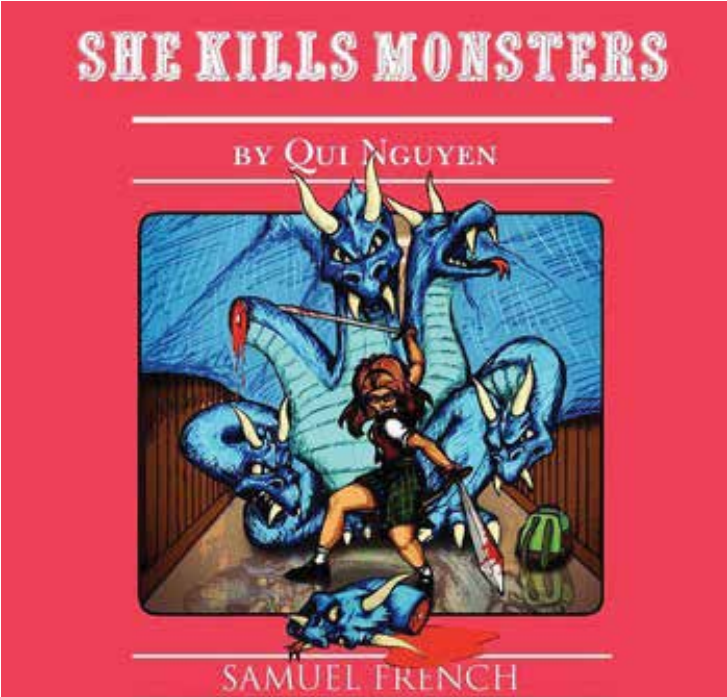
“In a world of homicidal fairies, nasty ogres, and ’90s pop culture, Agnes discovers what, who, and how Tilly loved,” said director and theater

teacher Topher Barrett. “It is a fantasy homage to the geek and warrior within everyone. The show is quite compelling and has a much needed message of acceptance and trust.”

The show plays at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 25-26 and 3 p.m. Feb. 27 at the KC Auditorium. Tickets are \$7 adults, \$5 students. All

patrons must show proof of vaccination or a recent negative COVID test. Masks are required. Social distancing will be available. A livestream option will be available.

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Award-Winning Musical ‘Something Rotten’ Coming to Loy Norrix

Something’s funny about “Something Rotten.”

Loy Norrix High School will present the Shakespeare-inspired musical “Something Rotten,” at 7 p.m. Feb. 4-5 and 10-12 and at 2 p.m. Feb. 6 at Loy Norrix’s Kasdorf Auditorium. Tickets are \$10 adults, \$8 students, and \$30 for a family of four.

Set in the 1590s, two brothers attempt to write the world’s first musical, but find their efforts overshadowed by the theater rock star known as “The Bard.” Big production numbers, alternative interpretations of “Hamlet,” and broad comedy result in “a musical comedy that pokes fun at Shakespeare and musical theater itself,” said theater teacher and director Dan Lafferty.

The show, which was originally slated for the end of January was pushed to February in hopes of allowing a larger audience to attend the performances.



Tickets can be purchased at the door or at <https://loynorrix.ludus.com/>. All in-person guests must wear face masks. In-person patrons must show proof of vaccination or a recent negative COVID test. A streaming option is being developed. Look for production and ticket updates on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/LNHSPAC>



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Mushroom Truffle Parmesan Soup

A hot bowl of soup and a cold day were made for each other. This recipe is an earthy, umami bomb with mood- and immunity-boosting ingredients and is especially satisfying on a frosty afternoon. In November, we mentioned it's important to increase Vitamin D intake during the gray days of winter. Mushrooms, especially when grown wild, can contain good amounts of Vitamin D. The amount of UV light that mushrooms are exposed to while growing determines the amount of Vitamin D they contain. Some mushroom growers will purposely expose their crop to UV light to increase the Vitamin D content. Vitamin D is needed and utilized in our body in so many ways. There is even research being done to determine if low Vitamin D levels are associated with increased incidence of COVID-19. Okay, let's get cooking!



Chef Samuel Dunn

Stock

(An important step to the success of this soup is making the stock, which provides a substantial amount of flavor. Try not to skip this step, but if you do, vegetable stock is an acceptable substitute.)

Ingredients

- 5-6 cups water
- 1-2 cups mushroom stems, cleaned
- 4-5 thyme sprigs
- 1 onion, quartered
- 2 ribs of celery, quartered
- 1-2 garlic cloves
- 4-5 peppercorns

Directions

Tip: This stock recipe is highly adaptable. It can be made with whatever you have on hand, including other vegetables or herbs. The only required ingredient is the mushroom stems.

Wash the produce (including soup ingredients). Throw all stock ingredients into a pot, bring to a boil, then reduce to a simmer for 1-2 hours. Add salt (or I used powdered chicken bouillon) to taste. Strain stock

into a separate bowl. You should have 5 cups of stock. Add water if necessary to make 5 cups.

Soup

Ingredients

- 2 Tbsp or more butter or olive oil
- 1-2 medium onions, diced
- 1-2 cloves garlic, minced or grated
- 4-5 cup mixed mushrooms (D&W sells a variety pack of wild mushrooms)

- 1-2 Tbsp truffle oil (found in most stores near the olive oil)
- 2-3 Tbsp fresh thyme
- 1/2 cup white wine
- 3/4 cup parmesan cheese, grated or shaved
- 1 cup whipping cream
- Salt and pepper, to taste

Directions

1. Chop the mushrooms so they are all approximately the same size to ensure even cooking.
2. Heat oil or butter in a stockpot over medium-high heat.
3. Cook onion for 5 minutes. Add thyme and garlic, cook 2-3 more minutes. Add mushrooms, truffle oil, and a pinch of salt. Sauté for about 10 minutes, or

until cooked through but the mushrooms are still plump and not shriveled.

4. Add wine and cook for 3 minutes.

5. Add 5 cups of stock to mushroom and onion mixture, bring to a low boil. Slowly add parmesan cheese while stirring constantly for 5 minutes or until the cheese is melted.

6. Add heavy cream and check seasoning. Season if needed or add more truffle oil to taste. Simmer for 5 more minutes.

7. Garnish with any fresh herb and serve with a chunk of good, crusty bread.

Serves: 6-7



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SCHOLARSHIPS FOR COLLEGE
DEADLINE: MARCH 1

Kalamazoo Community Foundation (KZCF) offers more than 60 scholarships and grants for today's students to pursue college and the future they want.

Students who plan on using **The Kalamazoo Promise** can use our scholarships for other educational expenses.

Deadline for most scholarships is **March 1** (unless otherwise noted).

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Worldwide Holiday Fun at Milwood Elementary School

Milwood Elementary School held a Worldwide Holiday celebration before winter break. Students and staff wore outfits that celebrated their heritage or their unique family holiday traditions.

Join Us!

"Family Fun Day"

on Saturday,

March 12!

HOME & GARDEN EXPO

March 11 - 13, 2022

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Cousins Sarai Bernal, Aries Ramirez-Atlas and Nataly De-Leon celebrate their family's Mexican heritage.



Paraprofessional Ginger Cowling celebrated her African heritage and the holiday of Kwanzaa with a gown made of kente cloth.



Aiza and Saher Fatima wore colorful outfits that paid tribute to their Indian heritage.



Title I tutor Bailey Bennett and her son Noah have matching novelty "Home Alone" T-shirts. Their family loves to watch movies during the winter break.



As a tradition in teacher Bethany Caswell's home, they wear funny hats and glasses to bring joy.

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Kalamazoo Public Schools

Maroon Foundation Seeks Help Contacting 1975 Football Team

The Kalamazoo Central Maroon Foundation is seeking information about members of the KC 1975 varsity football team. Members of the team will be honored with induction into the Kalamazoo Central Athletic Hall of Fame in September.

The foundation is seeking information on players, coaches, and managers for the team, which went undefeated during regular season play in 1975. The foundation still needs information on the following men:

Players		
David Abbey	Steve Kirk	Al Taborn
James Bufford	Tim Kaponen	Wayde Warnders
Kirk Finchem	Phillip Lytle	Robert Wellington
Scott Frazier	Steve Nutt	Terry Wells
Rick Grooten	Greg Parker	Bob Wilbur
Ted Harley	David Smith	Frank Woodson
Phillip Husband	Michiaki Soga	
Al Jackson	Rick Stroud	

Manager	Coaches
Max Moore	Bruce Bendix
	Jim Moretti
	Dennis Otte
	Ron Presley
	Mike Walker

Please share contact information or background on the team members with Geanice Miller at kamaroonfoundation@gmail.com.



Kalamazoo Central 1975 varsity football team. They went undefeated during regular season play. Members are being inducted in to the KC Athletic Hall of Fame in September.



PIZZA & PAGES

Tuesday, February 8, 2022
6–7 pm | CEN/Teen Studio



CRYSTALS WITH TASLEEM

Monday, February 14, 2022
6–7 pm | EAS/Community Room

TEEN events happening at KPL this February!
For details, please visit: kpl.gov or call (269) 553-7800



Kalamazoo Public Library
kpl.gov

These events are subject to change, please visit kpl.gov/events for more information.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE



VIRTUAL EVENT FEB. 4 - 7* | FREE

STORYTELLING FESTIVAL:

A CELEBRATION OF TIME

Watch 9 riveting stories!

Highlighting Valentine's Day, special anniversaries and how time itself is celebrated.

Visit kvmstorytelling.org/stories

*Online for 3 months

UPCOMING EVENT MARCH 5



FRETBOARD FESTIVAL

More details about the 17th annual event at kalamazoomuseum.org/events.



EXHIBIT JAN. 22 - MAY 1 | FREE

TOYS II: THE INSIDE STORY

Learn how toys work and their history! Enjoy 20 play/learn stations and displays that illustrate the simple mechanisms commonly found in toys.

This exhibition was developed by the Montshire Museum of Science and TEAMS Collaborative, with funding from the National Science Foundation.

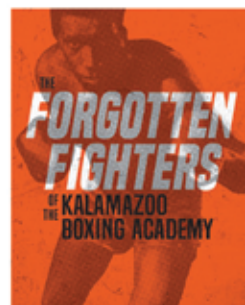


EXHIBIT FEB. 5 - SEPT. 18 | FREE

THE FORGOTTEN FIGHTERS OF THE KALAMAZOO BOXING ACADEMY

Explore the personal stories of the boxers and trainers from the KBA—Kalamazoo's impressive yet mostly forgotten haven for sparring.

UPCOMING SHOWS

FEB. 4 - 26 | FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS | \$3

PLANETARIUM EXPERIENCE

Secret of the Cardboard Rocket | 11 a.m. | Grade K+

Join in the story of two children who build a rocket out of a cardboard box and take a fantastical voyage through the solar system with the help of a magical book and their own vivid imaginations.

Cosmos Odyssey | 2:30 p.m. | Grades 7+

Our journey begins with the birth of the universe and the solar system, and it continues on to illustrate how humans have used their powers of observation, intellect and ingenuity to begin to understand their place in the cosmos.

PUBLIC HOURS

Tuesday - Saturday
10 - 11:30 A.M. & 1:30 - 3 P.M.

GENERAL ADMISSION IS FREE

MORE INFO: kalamazoomuseum.org | 269.373.7900
230 N. Rose St., Kalamazoo, MI 49007

The Kalamazoo Valley Museum is operated by Kalamazoo Valley Community College and is governed by its Board of Trustees.

