

## IMPORTANT DATES

### Board of Education Meetings

Thursday, November 13, 2008  
7:00 p.m.

Administration Building  
\*Only one regular meeting during November due to the holiday/vacation schedule.

### No School

Tuesday, November 4, 2008  
Wednesday, November 26, 2008  
Thursday, November 27, 2008  
Friday, November 28, 2008

### Kalamazoo Promise Week

is scheduled for  
November 7–15, 2008  
More on page 6

### First Friday Focus on Coats and Boots

Kalamazoo Communities In Schools' (KCIS) November collection is winter coats and boots. The need is for all ages, but particularly middle-school and high-school sizes (adult medium-XL). The items can be dropped off at the KPS Ad. Building or the National City Bank locations. Visit First Fridays page at: [www.kcis.us](http://www.kcis.us)

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# Loy Norrix Students Are Semifinalists in the 2009 National Merit® Scholarship Program

Officials of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) announced the names of semifinalists in the 54th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Loy Norrix's Mackenzie Caple, John Stankewicz, and Robin Veeck were among them. These academically talented high school seniors now have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 8,200 National Merit® Scholarships, worth more than \$35 million, which will be offered next spring.

The nationwide pool of semifinalists, which represents less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest-scoring entrants in each state. The number of semi-



**Mackenzie Caple**

finalists in a state is proportional to the state's percentage of the national total of graduating seniors. To become a finalist, a semifinalist must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by



**John Stankewicz**

the high school principal, and earn SAT scores that confirm the student's earlier performance on the qualifying test.

Approximately 15,000 semifinalists are expected to advance to the finalist level, and it is from this group that all National Mer-



**Robin Veeck**

it Scholarship winners will be chosen. Merit scholar designees are selected on the basis of their skills, accomplishments, and potential for success in rigorous college studies, without regard to gender, race, ethnic origin, or religious preference.

## Flora Harrell Is New Principal at Northglade Montessori Magnet School

Ms. Flora Harrell has been appointed to the position of principal of Northglade Montessori Magnet School. Ms. Harrell holds an associate's degree from Kalamazoo Valley Community College, a bachelor's degree in elementary education from West-

ern Michigan University, and a master's degree in Montessori education from the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul, Minn.

She began her teaching career at Northglade in 1999 and has also served as the instructional coordinator at the school for the Kalamazoo Communities

In Schools after-school program from 2006 to 2008.

In addition to her professional employment, Ms. Harrell has been an active parent volunteer in the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) at Indian Prairie Elementary School, PTA  
(continued on page 2)



**For vision and hearing screening,  
call the Kalamazoo County  
Health Department at  
373-5031 or 373-5029.**

Kalamazoo Public Schools, 1220 Howard St., Kalamazoo, MI 49008

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**W**hen I was growing up — years ago, between the dawn of electricity and the birth of the personal computer — I was fortunate that many adults took an interest in me and taught me. These adults, these role models, gave me guidance in many different areas of my life: familial, educational, social, athletic, and religious. To this day, I know the name of every person who ever had a significant impact on my life, including the names of every teacher I had from kindergarten to eighth grade: Felton, Hazlett, Dodridge, Tope, Miller, Dedrick, Randolph, Robinson, Kent, Butz, and Giovanazzo. Though many passed away years ago, I stand on their shoulders to this day.

So it is with me, so it is with all of us. We all stand on the shoulders of those who came before us. We all owe who we are, in good measure, to those who were kind enough and thoughtful enough and intelligent enough to intervene in a positive way in our lives.

Children don't develop



Michael F. Rice, Ph.D.

magically from thin air. They develop as products of their community. It is from the soil of the community that they grow, strong if the soil is well nourished, weak if it is less so.

It is for this reason that, late last year, approximately 250 community and staff members finished the important task of developing expectations for children at every age of their development, from birth to age 18, as well as for the adults that support children: parents, educators, support staff, and community members. KPS distributed the child and parent expectations to the parents of all KPS children in August.

These expectations aren't perfect, and we could have chosen to write them in a whole host of different ways. Yet they have the potential to be tremendously helpful to us as a community as we wrestle with the worthy goal

of making all children college ready. In a community in which 65 percent of the school children are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch and in which many of our parents themselves have not gone to college, these expectations are our road map, our goals for children as we work with them at home, at school, and in the community to become college ready.

If you haven't seen the expectations and would like to know the social, language arts, and math expectations for children at the end of different age/grade levels, you can find them at [www.kalamazoopublicschools.com](http://www.kalamazoopublicschools.com). These expectations can help parents and other community members assist children in their school work. They can help educators in their instruction. Just as importantly, they can help children understand where they are relative to where they need to be if they are on a timely path to college readiness.

Every parent can't provide the same guidance to his or her child, and every child doesn't have to master every expectation at the same time. However, in general, if a child is on the path toward college readiness upon high school graduation, he or she needs to be on the path of the expectations that we have created. After all, our academic expectations in language arts and math for grades K-12 are the state's expectations for children.

So if you want to determine how well your child, grandchild, or other child in the community is preparing for the Kalamazoo Promise, college, and college success, check out the expectations and compare them to your child's level. Remember that

any grade level's expectations are for the end of that grade's year, not the beginning.

If you do not already have this information, here are some questions that you may wish to ask.

### For children in grades 1 through 9

What was his/her reading level last spring relative to his/her grade level? (If you ask after the end of November, you can get his/her reading level this fall relative to his/her grade level.) Remember that a child's reading level should ideally be at or above his/her grade level, particularly as children move into upper elementary school, middle school, and high school.

*We all owe who we are, in good measure, to those who were kind enough and thoughtful enough and intelligent enough to intervene in a positive way in our lives.*

### For children in grades 4 through 9

Did he or she test proficient or above on the state reading, writing, and math MEAP tests? A child should ideally test at or above proficiency on every state test, if he or she is preparing for success in college. Though this can't always be the case, parents should be particularly aware of and concerned about the inability to test at or above the proficient level year after year. This is an indication that your child is

not on track for college success, and school and family need to work together to get him or her on track.

If your child is experiencing difficulty in school in one area or another, please work with our teachers and our principals and assistant principals to address these difficulties as quickly and thoroughly as possible. All of us have struggled in one way or another in school at some point in our lives. The important thing is to address these struggles before they become overly discouraging or damaging to your child. All of us will struggle: The question is whether we are resilient enough to weather and work through the difficulty. Help us help your child develop the tools to work through any school difficulty that he or she may have.

Years from now, the children whom we are raising, the children whom we are teaching, will be adults. Will they remember us as people who provided them with life lessons, on whose shoulders they proudly stand? Will they even remember our names? Will they remember Kalamazoo as a place where the community pulled together to educate and "raise up" its children? Or will Kalamazoo simply be the place that they came into the world and spent the first several years of their lives?

We in the KPS community determine in good measure what happens to our children — and they in turn determine the future of the community. Our KPS expectations help us build a stronger community. Please join us in using them to strengthen what we do on a daily basis for children in Kalamazoo.

## Boys & Girls Clubs OF GREATER KALAMAZOO

The Boys & Girls Clubs are neighborhood-based facilities offering positive youth programs and activities.

All school-age youth are eligible to become Club members.

Technology • Education & Career Development  
Participating Arts • Character & Leadership Development  
Health & Life Skills • Sports & Recreation • Summer Camp

### Lake Street Unit

915 Lake St, Kalamazoo, MI 49001  
269-349-4485

### Douglass Unit

1000 W. Paterson, Kalamazoo, MI 49007  
(inside Douglass Community Association)  
269-344-5350

Please visit [www.bgckzoo.org](http://www.bgckzoo.org)  
Call for membership information and hours of operation.

For more information on additional activities, please call  
269-349-4485.



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Funded Agency

## Flora Harrell Is New Principal at Northglade Montessori Magnet School *(continued from page 1)*

president at Lincoln International Studies School and district liaison to the National Parent Teacher Association.

She has volunteered in the office at Hillside Middle School, worked for the Kalamazoo Central High School athletic

boosters, and served on the parent advisory group for the Kalamazoo Area Math and Science Center.

# Happy Birthday KPS!

By Lynn Houghton

Classes started this fall like every other year, but something special occurred that probably not too many people realize: KPS celebrated a birthday. In September 2008 it turned 175 years old! It was during that month in 1833 that classes first began for the children in Kalamazoo, which then was known as Bronson. The village built a slab building on the south side of South Street just east of the Kalamazoo Mall to serve as a school. It also was the courthouse, a church and a public hall. The first teacher, Miss Eliza Coleman, occasionally had to cancel classes to accommodate these other uses.

Public schools during these years were called common schools. In their one room, you would receive what is now known as an elementary- and

middle-school education. If you wanted to go on to what we call high school, you needed to go to a private school. We had a school like that, which also began in 1833, called the Michigan and Huron Institute. It is now known as Kalamazoo College and also celebrated a birthday in 2008.

For the next 15 years in Kalamazoo, as a new school opened, a new school district was created. Concern about a lack of consistency led the village by the late 1850s to combine all of the districts in the village into a union school district. The Village Trustees, in charge of the schools, purchased land at the corner of Vine and South Westnedge for a Union School completed in 1859 for all students. At its opening there were four divisions: elementary, intermediate, grammar and, for

the first time, high school.

Funding for schools primarily came from the State of Michigan, which appropriated money according to the number of students in a district. In addition, they allowed communities to levy taxes to pay for education and to create a board of education to oversee operations. Kalamazoo's first board of education began in 1859.

So much has happened in the Kalamazoo Public Schools since those early years. Not long after the Union School opened, new elementary schools around the village were built; the numbers of grades were reduced to eight; new classes were offered; new programs were created – like manual training, kindergarten and special education. What hasn't changed since 1833 is the commitment that teachers, staff, volunteers

and parents have to the students in the Kalamazoo Public Schools. It was strong with Eliza Coleman in 1833, and it continues to this day.

*Note: Local historian Lynn Houghton, co-author of "Kalamazoo: Lost and Found" has been a KPS parent volunteer since 1992.*



KALAMAZOO UNION SCHOOL BUILDING—From a Photograph by Pastor A. Peckard. Artist, Kalamazoo, 1866.  
Union School, 1866. Courtesy of the Kalamazoo Public Library Local History Collection.

## ECCU has a lock on affordable mortgages...and safe savings!

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# Artists' Corner

The Excelsior continues to feature the "Promising Artists" collection that was on display at the administration building.



Meghan Schultz, Kalamazoo Central, Fox. Art teacher Eva-Lena Erickson.



Klarissa Delos Angeles, Kalamazoo Central, Princess Book. Art teacher Holly Stephenson.



Ben Potter, Hillside, RD2 from paper-mache. Art teacher Cathy Tyson.

## KPS Graduate Completes Michigan Department of Transportation Pilot Program

Morgan Hansen, a 2008 graduate of Kalamazoo Central, was chosen to participate in the pilot MDOT-TRAC (Transportation and Civil Engineering) intern program for high school graduates during the summer. She was selected based on her academic record and interest in a career in civil engineering.

Morgan worked with MDOT engineers on a variety of assignments and learned about transportation permits, traffic engineering, construction projects, environmental and storm water issues, work zone compliance, and scoping jobs for future design and development. Morgan said, "MDOT was a wonderful experience; it has really

opened my eyes into the world of engineering."

Brenda Kragt, MDOT Business Needs Analyst, said, "We were very impressed with Morgan and have enjoyed the opportunity to introduce her to and provide field experiences with numerous civil engineering occupations at MDOT. In September, Morgan headed to the UP to begin her college education at Michigan Technological University where she plans to complete a major in civil engineering.

MDOT continues to partner with Michigan schools, providing free hands-on tools to math and science classrooms. MDOT will be hiring 10 high-school graduates next summer.



Morgan Hansen rides the Sky Genie as she receives training to assist with bridge inspections.



Morgan Hansen learns to conduct surveys as part of the pilot MDOT intern program.

## EARLY MUSIC MICHIGAN



### Edith Hines, *baroque violin*

In Concert: Saturday, November 15, 2008

8:00 PM - St. Luke's Episcopal Church,  
247 W. Lovell Street, Kalamazoo

Also, a violin workshop 10-11:30 that morning!  
Call 349-1045 for free registration.

Mark your calendars for  
**Winter Magic,**

**a musical/theatrical celebration**

Featuring Ancient Celtic Music and Dancing  
Friday and Saturday, December 12th and 13th  
7:30 PM, St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Eric Strand, Artistic Director  
[EarlyMusicMichigan.org](http://EarlyMusicMichigan.org)

## Zoo Animals Come Alive for Edison's Young Readers

The Loy Norrix PeaceJam students spent several days at Edison reading with the fourth-grade students with a goal to promote raising the literacy rate and the love of reading. After reading many books about zoo animals, a combina-

tion of 54 fourth graders and high schoolers, along with Edison staff Matt Johnson, Meaghan Timmons and Vickie Ray, and PeaceJam advisor Sveri Stromsta May, spent a fun-filled day at Binder Park Zoo. The group read the signs together, rode the carousel and had ice cream." Edison student Dominic Walker said, "The Norrix students came to Edison because they want us to read better, graduate and be something; they want to help the community."



Edison students Malissa Luckett (Left) and Dominic Walker with PeaceJammers Claire Moyet (Left) and Liz Houghton feed young giraffes.

**NOTICE**

The District, in compliance with state and federal laws, will maintain equal employment opportunity without regard to religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, gender, pregnancy, gender identification, height, weight, familial status, marital status, sexual orientation, disabilities, or other legally protected factors except where age, sex, gender or physical requirements constitute a bona fide occupational qualification necessary to proper and efficient performance of the duties and responsibilities inherent in the position.

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

**Assistant Superintendent of Student Services**  
Kalamazoo Public Schools  
1220 Howard Street  
Kalamazoo, MI 49008  
(269) 337-0161

All other inquiries should be directed to:

**Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources**  
Kalamazoo Public Schools  
1220 Howard Street  
Kalamazoo, MI 49008  
(269) 337-0177

District Directory at:  
[www.kalamazoopublicschools.com](http://www.kalamazoopublicschools.com)

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# K-Central Graduate Is Part of Big-Ten Network Promotion

Ohio State sophomore soccer defender Cassie Dickerson, 2006 graduate of Kalamazoo Central, will be featured throughout the 2008-09 season on a Big Ten Network "Faces of the Big Ten" promotional series entitled "Big Life. Big Stage. Big Ten." Dickerson is among 12 Ohio State student-athletes and more than 100 Big Ten Conference student-athletes who are part of the campaign.

The purpose of the promotion is to share the personalities and unique stories of current Big Ten student-athletes so that the Big Ten community can learn about these individuals, and by association, learn about the Big Ten brand overall.

The 10-person crew from the Big Ten Network sat up a lighted, backdrop studio inside the Schottenstein Center at Ohio State. Dickerson spent only a moment in the BTN make-up chair before taking her seat under the lights. She was interviewed for about

25 minutes with the director calling for numerous camera angles throughout the shoot. "This was a lot harder than I expected it would be," said Dickerson. "And it was hot under the lights."

The 30-second commercials will air this school year on the Big Ten Network and include still images and video highlights.



**Cassie Dickerson**

## K-Central Class of 1998 Will Hold Reunion

Kalamazoo Central High School Class of 1998 will be hosting their 10-year class reunion on Saturday, November 29, 2008. The event will take place at Gallagher's Eatery, 4210 Stadium Dr., at 7:00 p.m. You may e-mail Jen Lindsay at [jbclindsay@gmail.com](mailto:jbclindsay@gmail.com). The class hopes to see everyone there.



# Wellness Matters

"It's the responsibility of every single parent and caregiver to make sure their children are safely restrained – every trip, every time," said Deb Carpenter, coordinator of Safe Kids Kalamazoo County and the Childhood Injury Prevention Program at The Children's Hospital at Bronson. "We are urging everyone to get their child safety seats inspected. When it comes to the safety of a child, there is no room for mistakes."

On September 20, 2008, Kalamazoo Public Schools was the site for the Second Annual "National Safety Seat Check Saturday." Sixteen certified child-passenger safety technicians along with 21 volunteers were on hand in the administration building parking lot on 1220 Howard Street. Together they provided assistance with proper car-and-booster-seat installation and use to 130 attendees. Technicians found that 75 percent of the 69 seats inspected had at least one area of misuse, and 11 children arrived without any child restraints.

According to National Highway Traffic Safety Administration research, 8,325 lives of children under age 5 have been saved by the proper use of child restraints during the past 30 years. In 2006, among children under 5, an estimated 425 lives were saved by child restraint use.

**A Safe Kids Coalition car-seat check will take place on Saturday, November 8, 2008, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Cole Century, 6600 South Westnedge Avenue, Portage.** Have your child's safety seat checked free of charge by a certified child-passenger safety specialist. Bring your child in his or her car seat or booster seat. For more information call (269) 341-8830.



# Lend a Hand Gives Children a Hands-Up

On August 28, Kalamazoo Lend a Hand's president, Kalamazoo County Commissioner Nasim Ansari, and executive director, Shaghil Husain, distributed 300 backpacks full of school supplies to six Kalamazoo schools. They wanted to be sure that children had what they needed to begin the new school year.

When the two were thanked for their generosity, Ansari said, "It was our privilege to serve our community. This was our first batch of donations, and we intend to continue this regularly as we expand."

The purpose of Kalamazoo Lend a Hand, a non-profit corporation, is to promote the well-being of needy children in Kalamazoo County and southwest Michigan by providing assistance and services to make a difference in their lives, to achieve success as individuals, and to help them be responsible citizens of their community.



Kalamazoo Lend a Hand President Nasim Ansari (third from right) shows Woods Lake Elementary Principal Mitch Hawkins one of the backpacks that will be distributed to the students. First-grade teachers (L to R) Mary Jo Reilly, Amy Eastman, Shannon Parlato and Erin Lumbard help to gather the packs.

## Tentative KPS Promise Week Schedule

- Friday, November 7, Art Hop
- Sunday, November 9, Church events highlighting Promise
- Tuesday, November 11, Panel discussion 7:30–9:30 a.m.: "Marketing Kalamazoo and its Promise" (location to be announced)
- Wednesday, November 12, Arts Organizations Roundtable 5:30–7:30 p.m. (location to be announced)
- Thursday, November 13, Business/Education Roundtable, 7:30–9:30 a.m. Radisson Plaza Hotel

For complete updates, visit: [www.kalamazoopromise.com](http://www.kalamazoopromise.com).

KALAMAZOO VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
newmedia.kvcc.edu

## Loy Norrix Senior Is Commended Student in National Scholarship Program

Anita Tung, Loy Norrix senior, has been named commended student in the National Merit® Scholarship Program, an academic competition for recognition and scholarships. Principal

Johnny F. Edwards Jr. congratulated Anita as he presented her with the letter of commendation, which recognizes her for outstanding academic achievement.



Principal Edwards presents Anita Tung with the National Merit® Scholarship Program Letter of Commendation.

# Students Mark Memorial to WWII Sailor at Parkwood-Upjohn

Parkwood-Upjohn students Lucy Derango and Tessa Hertel came upon a brass plaque covered by sod on the lawn of the school. They pushed away the dirt, and there, inscribed on the plaque, were these words: "In memory of James Magnan Ph.M. 3/C killed on Saipan, June 16, 1944."

The girls didn't want the memorial to be forgotten and were interested in the background of James Magnan. They told Principal Carol Steiner about their find. Steiner immediately thought of the fourth-grade classes whose curriculum studies Michigan History. She handed the mystery to them.

The students began their search in the school library. After some research, it was discovered that James Magnan, along with his eight siblings, grew up in Kalamazoo. Several of the Magnan brothers joined the military after World War II broke out, and James lost his life at Saipan, a North Pacific island. Philip J.

Magnan wrote a book about the adventures of his father (James' brother, Robert) during the war.

The students also learned that a tree had been planted at the site of the plaque, but the tree was no longer there. Lucy talked to her father, Kelly, about the situation, and it was decided

that they would pick out a plant to place next to the memorial. A few weeks later, Lucy and Kelly, the fourth-grade classes, and teachers Lee Dodds and Deb Fritz celebrated the life of a former Parkwood-Upjohn student as they planted a lilac bush in James Magnan's memory.



Teacher Lee Dodds and student Josie Fiore plant a lilac bush in memory of James Magnan while other students look on.

# King Westwood Is Going Green!

By King-Westwood students Madeline Richman, Rinicia Clay, Demetria Webster and Rachel Price

The student council members at King-Westwood Elementary are working very hard on a very important cause to help our school and the environment. The student council is a large group of fourth, fifth, and sixth graders. We are recycling to help the environment, reduce global warming, and to teach others not to waste.

Each classroom is given a recycle box to collect trash paper. When the boxes are full, students from each class dump them into bigger recycle bins in each hallway. Each student council member signs up for a day to dump the bigger bins. We started the project by talking about why it's important, and we thought of ideas to make the project work. We decorated boxes and made a presentation in each classroom about why recycling is important.

Our school really likes

this project, and we all hope that many other schools can start doing something to help their school and the environment as well. We all think recycling is important, and we're glad we can help. Thank you to our great principal, Mrs. Judy D'Arcangelis, and our student council advisor, Ms. Erin Barney, for great leadership.



King-Westwood Student Council members (L to R) Demetria Webster, Stokely Eller and Spencer Henning begin to collect papers to help their school and the environment.

## Kalamazoo Public Schools Is Seeking Applications for SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

Applicants must possess at least 90 college credit hours completed at or transferred to a four-year college or university, have a positive work history, and be able to pass a criminal history check.

This is a great part-time job for students nearing the end of their college education or adults seeking part-time employment. Candidates may specify days available and preferred schools.

Rate of pay is \$65 per day for non-certified teachers and \$75 for certified teachers. Earn wages plus credit in the Michigan Public Schools Retirement System.

KPS will pay cost of fingerprinting for their substitute teachers.

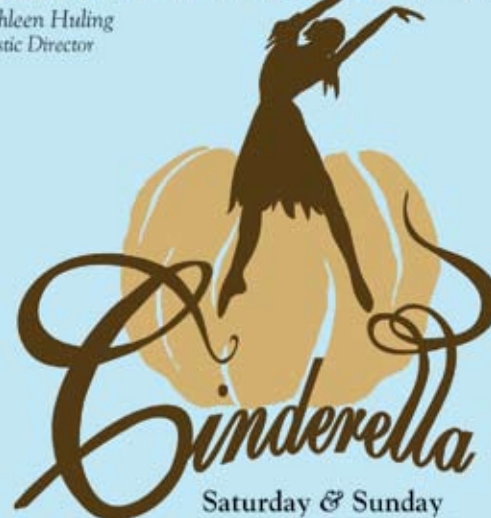
Applications will be taken  
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday

**Human Resources**  
1220 Howard St. • Kalamazoo, MI 49008

Direct questions to: (269) 337-0177

## Ballet Arts Ensemble

Cathleen Huling  
Artistic Director



Saturday & Sunday  
November 22 - 23 • 3:00 p.m.

Chenery Auditorium

Full-length ballet with music by J. Strauss and S. Prokofiev

Reserved seating • \$12 in advance  
Call 269-387-2300

Fresh flower bouquets at the door by Seivert Floral.

Additional information is available at <balletarts.home.att.net> or by calling Ballet Arts School of Dance at 345-3433



Theresa Lytwyn is Cinderella

## Corn-Sausage Chowder

Hello, Kalamazoo. With the November chill upon us, please take time to prepare this great chowder for family and friends. The recipe is easy and packed full of flavor. The Corn-Sausage Chowder goes well with a side of fresh garlic bread. Have a wonderful, safe holiday. Best regards, Chef Shaun

**Prep Time: 30 minutes**

**Serves: 6**

### Ingredients

- 1 pound bulk Italian sausage
- 1 cup coarsely chopped red onion
- 3 cups diced redskin potatoes
- 2 cups water
- 1 teaspoon sea salt
- 1/2 teaspoon fresh chopped oregano
- 1/2 teaspoon fresh chopped rosemary

- Fresh ground black pepper to taste
- 1 16-ounce can of whole-kernel corn, drained
- 1 16-ounce can of cream-style corn, un-drained
- 1 12-ounce can of evaporated milk

### Preparation

1. Sauté onion and sausage until brown and onion is tender, drain well.
2. Stir in potatoes, water, salt, herbs and pepper. Bring to



Shaun Robinson is the district chef for Chartwell at KPS Food Service.

- a boil; reduce heat and simmer-covered, 10 minutes or until potatoes are tender.
3. Stir in both cans of corn and evaporated milk. Cook and stir until heated through.

## First Day Shoe Fund

The 2008 First Day Shoe Fund distribution was a success! Thanks to the efforts of many volunteers from KPS, KCIS and the community, 550 plus K-2nd grade students, who attended summer school at Northeastern, were able to start school this fall on equal footing. Four-hundred additional pairs of shoes were given to Lincoln, Edison, Northglade, and Spring Valley's on-site coordinators to hand out after school began.



Harmony Reed likes the look of these shoes and how they fit.

Celebrating music, education and  
our community's spirit!

Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra  
November 2008



Promise  
Week  
Nov 9-15

The KSO joins in the celebration of the **Promise of a Greater Kalamazoo**. Join in the discussion on Wed, Nov 12 at 5:30pm for "Arts, Education & Community Success." (visit our website for venue & details)



Anthony Ross  
Returns

Friday, November 21  
8 pm | Miller Auditorium

Kalamazoo native and virtuoso Cellist Anthony Ross returns home to perform Dvorak's Cello Concerto.



**TICKET INFORMATION**  
(269) 387-2300

MORE INFORMATION ONLINE:

**KalamazooSymphony.com**

## CDF Freedom Schools® Promotes Reading and a Positive Attitude

During the summer, 50 KPS students in grades K-12 attended the Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools.® The CDF Freedom Schools® program offers a free literacy-rich summer program to boost children's motivation to read, generate positive attitudes towards learning, and develop leadership.

Guest readers included Superintendent Dr. Michael Rice, School Board President Patti Sholler-Barber, Mayor Bobby Hopewell, and Kalamazoo County Department of Human Services Director Sherry Thomas-Cloud.

"The intent is to expose our scholars to a plethora of individuals," said Remi Harrington, co-founder and site coordinator, "to discuss how reading has impacted their lives. Promoting the sheer love of reading is the overall goal of the Freedom Schools."



Rincipia Clay (Lincoln) reads while Justin Wise (Prairie Ridge) follows along.

# New Technology Comes to Edison

Teachers and students alike are excited and engaged with the new technology at Edison Environmental Science Academy. "The SMART-Boards have opened up a lot of exciting learning opportunities for our students," said Principal Chuck Tansey. The interactive whiteboards are connected to the teacher computer. "By using the SMARTBoard, students are using the computer for math lessons, learning geography, analyzing data from their science experiments, and more." continued Tansey.

But the SmartBoard isn't the only new technology at Edison.

- Classroom Performance Systems, also known as "clickers," let students provide their teacher with instant feedback for pre-assessments and learning activities.
- Wireless laptop computer carts are scheduled to arrive later this school year, bringing the ability to research and analyze data to the student's desktop.
- Other technologies, such as Web 2.0 and podcasting, are also being used to enhance learning not just for the students but for the community as well.

"The Edison blog and podcast have been very well received by not just the families at our school, but also by families thinking of enrolling their student in Edison," stated Tansey. The blog is regularly updated with the lunch menu, pictures of what the students are learning, and

short videos. The Edison blog is online now at [edisongarden.blogspot.com](http://edisongarden.blogspot.com).

The Edison podcast (a form of Internet radio) is released each Friday and can be played from the blog site or subscribed to for free in iTunes. School-wide functions are announced on the weekly podcast. The all-new Edison Website can be found November 8, 2008, at [edisonmagnet.org](http://edisonmagnet.org).

Matthew Johnson is the curriculum integration teacher at Edison. "One of the most requested tools by teachers nationally," said Johnson, "is a SmartBoard, and we have one in every classroom here. It's great!"

Personalized tours of Edison Environmental Science Academy are available by calling their office at 269-337-0550.



Edison student Caitlyn Boyer records a podcast.

# Students Compete at Tae Kwon Do Junior Olympics



KPS students at the Tae Kwon Do Junior Olympics are (L to R) Marc Pulphus, Marcus Bechek and Tasia Hays with coaches, Master Theresa Robert and Dave Williams, assistant coach who is third-degree black belt. Not pictured is Alisa Dubois.

Four students from KPS took part in the Tae Kwon Do Junior Olympics, which was held this year at Ford Field in Detroit, Mich. These students of Elite Tae Kwon Do are:

Tasia Hays, Winchell Elementary, red belt. Medals: bronze in form and gold in sparring in the Elite division and silver medal for

sparring in World division.

Alisa Dubois, Kalamazoo Central. Medals: gold in sparring and silver in forms.

Marc Pulphus, Lincoln International Studies School, green belt. Medals: silver in form and sparring.

Marcus Bechek, King-Westwood, first degree black belt.

## CHADD November Meeting: To Be Successful in School, Should My Child Have a 504 or IEP?

Kalamazoo County CHADD (Children and Adults with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder) free monthly programs for parents and teachers will be held on Tuesday, November 11, 2008. To Be

Successful in School, Should My Child Have a 504 or IEP? will be presented by speaker Debora Blake, JD, Educational Consultant & Advocate.

All meetings are held from 7-8:30 p.m. at Bronson Hospi-

tal Gilmore Center for Health Education, Auditorium (1st Floor), 7 Healthcare Plaza, Kalamazoo. For more information, call (269) 384-2270, or visit their website at [www.kazoochadd.com](http://www.kazoochadd.com).

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[www.kpl.gov/childlit](http://www.kpl.gov/childlit)

# Stewart Fritz, KPS Graduate, Appointed New Teen Librarian

Stewart Fritz, 1992 alumnus of Loy Norrix High School, has been appointed the new teen lead librarian at Kalamazoo Public Library (KPL). Fritz started at KPL as a children's librarian, "which was great," Fritz said. "I loved doing story time and interacting with our littlest patrons." Now as the teen lead librarian, Fritz sees it as starting a new phase of his career. "The nice thing about library work is that the possibilities are almost endless. Who knows where it goes from here?"

After graduating from Loy Norrix, Fritz attended the University of Michigan School of Art and Design. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1997 and began working as a graphic designer and Website developer. In 1998, he moved to Chicago and worked for two design firms before accepting a position at Midway Games where he designed user interfaces for video games. Because of his love of music, he was also a volunteer radio station DJ in Chicago.

Fritz always had an interest in the library and thought that a lot of things he was interested in could be useful in a library setting. This led him to enroll at the University of Illinois where he received a master's degree in library science in 2005.

Fritz attended KPS from K-12th grade at Winchell, Woodward, South Junior High and

Loy Norrix. While at Loy Norrix, he was on the swim team and worked on the school newspaper. Fritz also worked at Cable Access Center and was a stagehand for many productions at the Civic Youth Theater.

During the summer before his senior year, Fritz traveled to Italy with his Latin class. He fondly recalls traveling



Stewart Fritz

from Rome to the area around Naples and Pompeii. He calls it "the highlight of his high school education."

The teachers he recounts as leaving lasting impressions on him were his art teachers. Mark Sahlgren, who taught art

at South Jr. High, gave tips on drawing that Fritz still remembers today. Joanne Lickert, art teacher at Loy Norrix, helped him decide to study art for an undergraduate degree. Lickert allowed him the freedom to experiment with different media and styles and helped him to understand the process of making art. He says there were many others who influenced him in science, English and history.

He stays in touch with Mr. Sahlgren and also with former classmates: Anna (Goodrich) Moss, Sonita Newgury, Chafe Hensley, Emily Trittschuh, and Dan Feinberg, to name a few.

Fritz has two brothers, one of which is his twin brother, Brian, who graduated from Loy Norrix in 1992. Brian earned a Ph.D. in molecular biochemistry from the University of Wisconsin and now works for Illumina. Younger brother Andrew graduated from Loy Norrix in 1995, earned a bachelor's degree from Andrews University, and is now in the Peace Corps in Zambia.

When asked what it was like at KPS, Fritz said, "The Kalamazoo Public School system was sometimes challenging, often exciting, and never the same from day to day." He says his favorite school was Loy Norrix because of the great variety of classes and the friends he made while he was there.

# Real Money Program Focuses on Learning About Economics and Helping Others

The "Real Money" after-school program at Parkwood-Upjohn has been in existence for four years. Dr. Carol Hogan created the program, which focuses on reading, writing, math, and technology while teaching economic skills. Entrepreneur speakers are invited in to talk and give advice. The children research careers and different businesses.

School logo items and munchies were sold for the business side of the program; lanyards and jewelry were made on the entrepreneurial side. Part of the proceeds was donated to a Parkwood-Upjohn family who had lost their home to a fire. At the end of last year's program, the profits were divided up, and each child received \$20.81. Parents were invited to see and hear the children present in charts, words and a song to summarize the program.



Dr. Carol Hogan (Left) and Fran Robinson stand with the young entrepreneur who took part in the Real Money Program. The students are (L to R) Front: Isabella Valdez, Claire Khabeiry, Derod Moore, Desiree Suarez, Da'bre Cross, Auikea Scott, and Nyshla Esters. Back: Joseph Anderson, Carli Schmidt, Senquest Buchanan, Keyona Hillsman, Dezanita Suarez, Gabrielle Cripe, Josephine Anderson, and Key'ariya Johnson. (Missing from the picture is Madison Preston.)



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Project Find helps locate individuals ages birth to 26 years old with special needs and works with families to provide appropriate educational services.

Multiple services are available.

# Excellence in Education Salutes Outstanding Students

Kalamazoo County's top 2.5 percent of students from area high schools were recognized at the 22nd annual Excellence in Education honors reception. The students are rewarded for their academic achievements and provided the opportunity to honor those educators who have contributed to their success.

## KPS Class of 2008 Excellence in Education winners, their alumnus and significant educators:

**Darian DeBreaux Bridges**, K-Central/EFE, Daniel G. Carlson (K-Central) – His welcoming personality makes students want to learn and expand their knowledge. Mark Branch (K-Central) – showed me the importance of self-discipline... how hard work pays off.

**Masroor Hossain**, K-Central/EFE, Daniel G. Carlson (K-Central) – helped me learn to love literature. Holly Delach-Stephenson (K-Central) – takes the time and energy to make each one of her students feel unique.

**Katherine Knapp**, K-Central, Sherry Ransford (K-Central) – I have found her classes to be not only challenging and worthwhile but also very enjoyable. Dr. John Goudie (KAMSC) – His classes have really nurtured and furthered my interest in biology.

**Corey Person**, K-Central, Albertine S. Echols (Hillside Middle) – pushed me to strive

to do more than what was requested of me. Darlene Goodwin (Hillside) – taught me to truly trust myself with my work and believe that I was smart enough to figure out anything.

**Nisha Pillai**, K-Central, Deveta R. Gardner (K-Central) – pushed me and challenged me. Sherry Ransford (K-Central) – makes things easy to understand and really cares about her students.

**Drew Willson**, K-Central, Daniel G. Carlson (K-Central) – makes class fun every day and makes learning tough math concepts seem easy. He always has a positive attitude and encourages his students to push themselves. Maggie Naoum (K-Central) – made her students earn their grade and was always honest and straightforward.

**Zachary Button**, Loy Norrix/EFE, Barbara Ridge Felkel (Loy Norrix) – has a teaching style that is entertaining, personally challenging and continuously supporting. Marvin R. Gage (Loy Norrix) – inspired me to explore my interests and made himself available at all times, continuously mentoring and introducing me to people and concepts within the industry.

**Emily Rooney**, Loy Norrix, Tisha Pankop (Loy Norrix) – introduced me to the field of journalism and supported me as I learned how to fulfill the obligations of being editor-in-chief of the paper. Matthew Porco (Loy Norrix) – taught me how to be a stronger writer and his challenging classes have helped me to learn how to manage my time wisely and to study effectively.

**Dylan Rustenholtz**, Loy Norrix/EFE, Barbara Ridge Felkel (Loy Norrix) – is the in-



Corey Person



Zachary Button



Masroor Hossain



Angela Miner



Emily Rooney



Alex Schmidt



Dylan Rustenholtz



Nisha Pillai



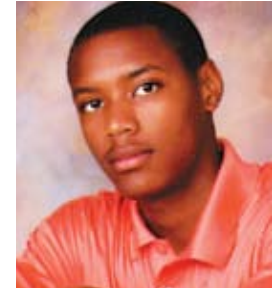
Ellen Van Meter



Drew Willson



Katherine Knapp



Darian DeBreaux Bridges

spiration for my career choice. Cece Weeks (Loy Norrix) – is an outstanding drama, forensics and improve coach and has improved my performance potential and confidence.

**Alex Schmidt**, Loy Norrix, Randy A. Rowe (Loy Norrix) – has made great contributions to my development by being a good mentor and friend. Damian Smith (Loy Norrix) – has instilled in me the value of hard work and self-

lessness as well as teaching me to always try my best, even when no one is looking.

**Ellen Van Meter**, Loy Norrix, Anne G. Bowser (Loy Norrix) – has challenged me to not settle for being a good enough writer and encouraged me to read and think critically. Cece Weeks (Loy Norrix) – has created wonderful opportunities for me in forensics and drama productions.

## Warm Kids Project to Keep Children Warm

The local Warm Kids Project is seeking donations to provide warm clothing for children this winter. To help in the effort, send monetary donations to: Warm Kids Project, Inc., PO Box 44, Kalamazoo, MI 49004. Your donation is tax-deductible. For more information, visit their Web site at [www.warmkids.org](http://www.warmkids.org).

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