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## READ THE LATEST **KV FOCUS**

### **Greetings,**

I will miss the vibrancy and energy of our students while they are away this week for spring break. At the same time, I know that our students and faculty members relish the opportunity to be away from the college for a well-deserved break.

For most of us, however, our on campus work continues, spring break or not. It has been said that the weeks between the end of spring break and commencement are the busiest of the entire year. I know that many of you are working diligently to assist students in finishing the semester while also completing many projects before the end of the academic year.

When our students return, we need to help them think beyond just this semester. Summer semester registration opens the week the students return and fall semester registration opens on April 6. For students planning to participate in the April 26 commencement, the deadline to petition to graduate is at the end of the month. Please remind students of these important dates.

Speaking of important dates, in the spirit of recognizing our full-time employees' years of service at the annual Board of Trustees' Breakfast, I'm pleased to announce that we will be recognizing the work of our part-time employees during a weeklong celebration that kicks off March 30. A committee has been working hard to plan fun and engaging activities specifically for our more than 800 part-time employees. These employees support the operations in every area of the college, greatly contributing to the success of our students and enabling us to provide relevant and affordable services to our communities. More details of this special celebration to come. Let's all join together to express our gratitude for the service of our part-time employees.

I encourage you to stay focused on finishing strong, while we continue to plan for a bright future.

"Together is Better,"

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "L. Marshall Washington".

L. Marshall Washington, Ph.D.  
President

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## Serving Our Students

As many of you know, Kalamazoo Valley Community College was selected as one of 12 institutions in the Urban Ecosystems Cohort of the Excellence in Academic Advising (EAA) initiative. This is a joint effort by the John Gardner Institute and the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA), largely funded by The Kresge Foundation. This work is included in our continuing journey with Guided Pathways and is an exciting opportunity for the college.

EAA engages institutions in a holistic and systematic review of academic advising from a teaching and learning perspective, with support and guidance from experts in the field and experts in educational/organizational change. Several work groups have been formed to complete a series of Key Performance Indicator questions that are specific to each EAA Condition. This will lay the foundation of the work to create an action plan for years two and three of the grant initiative. Thank you to everyone who has already signed up! **There are still a few work group spots available!** [Sign-up](#) by March 6 if you are interested in being part of a work group. Your input is wanted and can make change happen.

Information about the work groups can be found here: [Excellence in Academic Advising](#) (EAA).

*Serving our Students is a new monthly column in KV Focus Plus that will provide updates on the work being done with Guided Pathways, including the EEA initiative and MI-BEST, the new Michigan – Building Economic Stability Today initiative through the Michigan Center for Student Success.*

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## College Signs Transfer Agreements with 25 Michigan Colleges

*Agreements will simplify transferring to a four-year college or university for Valley students*

Transferring to a four-year college or university from Kalamazoo Valley Community College will now be even simpler thanks to new transfer agreements signed with 25 Michigan colleges and universities.

“I’m thrilled to see this agreement come to fruition,” said Dr. Peter Linden, provost and vice president for instruction and student services for Kalamazoo Valley Community College. “More than 50 percent of Kalamazoo Valley students transfer to a four-year institution after goal completion at Kalamazoo Valley. This agreement gives students more options and ensures a seamless transition – saving them both time and money.”

Transfer agreements will allow Kalamazoo Valley students to transfer more credits to four-year schools in the areas of biology, business, criminal justice and psychology. The new agreements specify major-specific courses that students should complete while enrolled at Kalamazoo Valley Community College that are common across all institutions in Michigan. The identification of these courses makes it easier for students to complete essential courses before deciding where to transfer. [more](#)

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## Business Card Ordering

OfficeMax/Office Depot is no longer printing employee business cards.

When your business card supply is low, fill out the business card request [form](#).

It can be found here: MyValley >Workplace>Employee Services>Business Card Request Form.

The form can be uploaded and submitted to Printing Services, where the cards will be designed and printed. The form can also be sent through inter-office mail or dropped off at TTC Printing Services, Room 8160.

Employees will receive a proof of the card to review before it is printed. After approval, 250 cards will be printed. Employees will be notified via email when the cards are ready. TTC employees will need to pick up their cards from Printing Services. Employees at all other campuses will have their cards delivered. The process should take approximately two weeks.

If you have questions, please contact Printing Services at x4606.



*Parchment Middle School art students reception on Feb. 27 at TTC. Stop and see the exhibit soon!*

## **It's Time to get Real**

*A message from Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson (and Public Safety Director of Public Safety Rick Ives)*

Your Michigan driver's license or identification card may not get you through airport security later this year.

Oct. 1 is when the federal government will fully enforce the post-9/11 REAL ID Act, and standard state-issued driver's licenses and identification cards will no longer be accepted to board domestic flights within the United States, or when entering certain federal facilities, such as military bases or nuclear power plants.

Many people already have a REAL ID document, such as a valid U.S. passport, a DHS Trusted Traveler Card or an Enhanced Driver's License. A full list of acceptable REAL ID documents is available at [TSA.gov](https://www.tsa.gov). Those who don't can make their Michigan license or identification REAL ID-compliant by visiting a Secretary of State branch office and presenting the required documents. And, if you make an appointment, you'll be in and out in 30 minutes or less.

Here's what you need to do to get a REAL ID:

- To schedule an appointment at one of our branch offices, visit [Michigan.gov/SOSAppointments](https://Michigan.gov/SOSAppointments) or call 888-SOS-MICH. You can make your appointment at any branch in the state, and you don't need to have a renewal mailer to do so. Some branches fill up fast, so book your appointment a few weeks in advance of when you plan to travel. Your REAL ID license or state ID card will be mailed to you.
- Bring your driver's license or state identification card.
- Bring your certified birth certificate with a raised seal or stamp issued by a governmental agency; your valid, unexpired U.S. passport; or an approved citizenship or legal presence document. (Faxes and photocopies won't be accepted.)
- If your name differs from what is on your birth certificate, bring certified documents for every time your name has changed, such as a marriage license or court order.

There's no additional fee to turn a license or state ID card into a standard REAL ID if it's done during your normal renewal time; otherwise a duplicate card fee of \$9 or \$10 will be charged.

[more](#)

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### **Kalamazoo Valley Celebrates Women's History Month**

Join Kalamazoo Valley Community College for a month-long celebration of the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote. Free events are scheduled across the college community and are open to students, faculty, staff and the public. In an effort to continue to be good stewards of resources, advanced registration is required for many of the events.

KALSEE Credit Union is a presenting sponsor. See the complete [schedule](#).

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### **College to Host Three Career Fairs this Month**

Anyone interested in a career in law enforcement is invited to attend the Kalamazoo Valley Law Enforcement Training Center Career Fair on Wednesday, March 4 from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. at the college's Groves Campus located at 7107 Elm Valley Dr., Kalamazoo. Twenty-two police agencies as well as the Michigan Department of Corrections will be on hand to meet with attendees and discuss job opportunities.

More than 70 regional employers will be on site during the Kalamazoo Career Fair on Wednesday, March 18, at the college's Texas Township Campus located at 6767 W. O Ave., Kalamazoo. The event is from 12 - 4 p.m. and is free and open to the public. Ample, free parking is available.

Employers from financial institutions, health care, human services, manufacturing and non-profit agencies will be available to talk about their job opportunities. Job seekers who attend the Career Fair should bring copies of their resumes, dress for success and be prepared to meet with potential employers.

Thursday, March 19, the college will host the Michigan Department of Education's (MDE) Education Workforce Job Fair from 3 - 6 p.m. also on the Texas Township Campus. The MDE's Education Workforce Job Fair connects job seekers with those hiring teachers, substitute teachers, bus drivers, custodians, paraprofessionals, secretaries, administrators and other education-related positions.

Those unable to attend the career fairs are encouraged to visit the college's free job board, [Career Coach](#). The online job board matches job seekers with careers based on their personal interests.



### **Fretboard Festival is this Weekend**

Stringed instruments makers, music lovers, and fans of all ages, shouldn't miss the 2020 Kalamazoo Fretboard Festival!

#### **KICKOFF CONCERT WITH CABILDO**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 6**

**5 - 8 p.m.**

Join us for the Kickoff Concert of the 15th Annual Kalamazoo Fretboard Festival at the Kalamazoo Valley Museum, featuring Cabildo. A West Michigan-based alternative Latin-rock collective, Cabildo delivers a unique blend of cumbia, ska, folk, and other genres of music from Latin and South America. FREE MUSIC, WORKSHOPS, INDUSTRY VENDORS, & MUCH MORE!

#### **SATURDAY, MARCH 7**

**9:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.**

Meet music professionals to learn about their art and trade, attend workshops of all varieties, see demonstrations on guitar maintenance with Heritage Guitar Company, and enjoy the live performances from area musicians!

Patrons attending the 2020 Fretboard Festival will appreciate the convenience of food service provided by The Spot at Anna Whitten Hall, where performances, workshops, and vendor booths will also be taking place. The cafe will be open for service from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. and will be serving snacks, beverages, and simple sandwiches. Cash or debit/credit cards will be accepted.

[more](#)

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The college's nursing program will be highlighted on the March 13 Career Source segment that airs on WWMT News Channel 3 during the 6:30 a.m. newscast. Tune in to learn more about how Kalamazoo Valley students are succeeding in this program.

Tuesday, March 17  
Craft Talk 10 a.m.  
Reading 2:15 p.m.  
Student Commons Theater  
Room 4240 | TTC

Kalamazoo Valley's "About Writing" Visiting Writers series welcomes poet Jose Olivarez on March 17. Coordinated by English instructor Dr. Julie Stotz-Ghosh and offers students the opportunity to talk with professional writers and listen to their work. The visits are free and open to the public. [more](#)



### **KVM Hosts Wicked Plants: The Exhibit**

In Wicked Plants: The Exhibit, on display at the Kalamazoo Valley Museum until May 17, 2020, visitors will explore a creepy Victorian home and educate themselves through entertaining interactive displays about the world's most villainous plants that may be lurking in their own homes and backyards. History, medicine, botany, and legend are brought together to entertain and inform about the health effects to the human body, as well as the amazing evolution of some of Mother Nature's evil doers in the plant world.

This fun, educational traveling exhibit—based on author Amy Stewart's best-selling book, Wicked Plants: The Weed That Killed Lincoln's Mother and Other Botanical Atrocities—takes visitors through the fascinating world of plants and their amazing adaptations that can be harmful to people and animals. Thought-provoking and educational, Wicked Plants showcases plants associated with a myriad of health effects, including pain, addiction, obesity, allergies, cognitive impairment, and even death. [more](#)

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## Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with Kalamazoo Promise Students

Kalamazoo Promise Services invites faculty and staff to attend its Kalamazoo Promise Luncheon Tuesday, March 17 from 12 - 3 p.m. in Room 9318, located in Student Success Services on the Texas Township Campus. This is an opportunity to meet with the Promise staff and Promise students. This is a drop-in event. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP by calling x4692 or x4040.

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## Author Tommy Orange Comes to Kalamazoo Valley on March 26

Kalamazoo Valley's "About Writing" Visiting Writers Series welcomes Tommy Orange on March 26 for two events: an on-stage conversation at 10 a.m. and a reading and on-stage conversation at 2:15 p.m. in the Student Commons Theater, Room 4240, at the Texas Township Campus. Both events will be followed by a book signing. Drop-in community book talks to discuss his book *There There* are set for 6:30 p.m. on March 12 at This is a Bookstore, and at the Portage District Library at 6:30 p.m. on March 16. On campus, a Bagels and Books book discussion for students, faculty and staff is set for March 20 from 9 to 10 a.m. in Room 7590.

Orange's New York Times bestselling novel *There There*, is a multi-generational, relentlessly paced story about a side of America few have ever seen: the lives of urban Native Americans. *There There* was one of The New York Times Book Review's 10 Best Books of the Year, won the Center for Fiction's First Novel Prize, and was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize. [more](#)

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## Stand Up Kalamazoo Valley Community College: Mentor the Future

**Friday, April 3 | 9 - 10 a.m. | TTC 4370**

We need Bigs like you. Every child deserves a chance to see their potential realized. By matching mentors, one-to-one, with children in our community, Big Brothers Big Sisters defends that potential and helps change lives and futures today and forever. Kalamazoo Valley has partnered with Big Brothers Big Sisters to offer a unique volunteer opportunity. Become a Big with our Bigs on Campus Program. No traveling required, as the Portage North Middle School students are bused to our Kalamazoo Valley site. Your commitment is meeting one-to-one with your Little: one hour, two times per month on Thursdays from 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. October – May (being matched with the same Little for 2 school years). If you have any questions, please contact [Mary Johnson](#) or [Coty Dunten](#). The facilitators will be Kathy Praedel and Vinson Phillips from Big Brothers Big Sisters. Sign up [here](#).

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Last year's Day of Giving scholarship fundraising campaign was a huge success. That's why we're so excited about hosting the event again on April 16. Throughout the day on Thursday, April 16, donations will be collected at Anna Whitten Hall, The Groves Campus, Marilyn J. Schlack Culinary and Allied Health Building and on the Texas Township Campus.

Names will be randomly drawn from those deposited in the collection areas and from donations made online that day for fun giveaways.

Watch for more details about fundraising goals and incentives. Let's have some fun and raise some money for the KVCC Foundation and more importantly - our students!

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Kalamazoo Valley Community College

# RETIREMENT party

## Annual Retirement Party Slated for April 28

Mark your calendars and save the date as we honor faculty and staff who have retired from the college in the past year. The celebration will be held April 28 from 3:30 - 5 p.m. in the Theatre, Room 4240 on the Texas Township Campus.

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## Save the Date - Fall 2020 Summit

The Fall 2020 Summit is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 2 and Thursday, Sept. 3 at the Texas



Township Campus.

Wednesday activities and Thursday afternoon sessions are designed specifically for faculty, but staff are welcome to attend if approved by their supervisors. The morning of Thursday, Sept. 3 is for all employees scheduled to work that day.

## CAMPUS CONNECTIONS

### **Texas Township Campus**

[International Cultural Celebration](#)

[March Madness: Registration Event](#)

[Experience Kinetic Affect](#)

### **Arcadia Commons Campus**

[CNM Hosts April Student Art Show](#)

[Alumni+ Art Show Entries will be Accepted Soon](#)

[League of Women Voters: The First 100 Years](#)

### **Bronson Healthy Living Campus**

[Kalamazoo Foodways Symposium](#)

[Winter/Spring Community Education Classes](#)

[OFE Dinner Speaker is Food Network Spring Baking Champion and Valley Culinary Instr. Cory Barrett](#)

### **Groves Campus**

[Patient Care Academy Begins in May](#)

[Kalamazoo Valley to Host Three Job Fairs in March](#)

[Black and Blue: Training Designed to Bridge Communities of Color and Police](#)

### **Kalamazoo Valley in the News**

[Kalamazoo Valley Museum Celebrates Birds with Special Event on Feb. 22](#)

[The Scarcity of Shared Memories](#)

[Ferris State will Offer Bachelor's Degrees in Criminal Justice for LMC Students](#)

[Kalamazoo Valley to Host Three Job Fairs in March](#)

[Astronaut on Space Station Delivers Military Oath of Enlistment to Kalamazoo-Area Youth](#)

[Downtown Kalamazoo with Ice Cream Float Making, Cooking with Popcorn + More](#)

[Kalamazoo Valley Visiting Writers Series Welcomes Tommy Orange on March 26](#)

[Kalamazoo Valley Celebrates Women's History Month](#)

[Trustees Approve Degree Delivery Partnerships with West Michigan Community Colleges](#)

[15th Annual Kalamazoo Fretboard Festival Kicks Off on Friday, March 6](#)

[Western Michigan Building Statewide Alliance to get More Teachers of Color in Classrooms](#)

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**CALENDAR OF  
EVENTS**

**HUMAN  
RESOURCES**

**STAFF & FACULTY  
DEVELOPMENT**