INSIDE:
- Local Heroes
- Women’s Roles
- Capture of Davis
- The Civil Rights Era
- Letters from the Front
The museum continues its free series with presentations on the early history of Kalamazoo County’s townships, programs on the Civil War, and other favorites.

**Richland Township**
Sunday, Feb. 13, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
Richland Township begins with the arrival of Col. Isaac Barnes and a band of settlers in 1830. Hear stories of unsuccessful towns such as Geloster and successful ones such as Gull Corners (now Richland).

**The 19th Michigan Infantry in the Civil War**
Sunday, February 27, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
Dr. William Anderson, director of the Michigan Department of History, Arts, and Libraries, tells about the 19th Michigan Infantry, a unit organized in Kalamazoo in 1862 that recruited men from throughout Southwest Michigan.

**Development of Weapons Technology in the Civil War**
Sunday, March 20, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
Paul Millikan, Civil War historian and collector, discusses the impact of changing weapons technology during the Civil War.

**Cooper Township**
Sunday, April 3, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
Explore the history of the township named for American novelist James Fenimore Cooper.

**Care of Family Photographs & Documents**
Sunday, April 10, 2 p.m.; Anna Whitten Hall, Room 128, KVCC’s Arcadia Commons Campus
Paula Metzner, assistant director for collections services, offers practical tips for preserving family photographs and documents. Bring your own documents and photographs for specific advice.

**Oshtemo Township**
Sunday, April 17, 1:30- 2:30 p.m.
Benjamin Drake, from whom Drake Road takes its name, was the first settler of Oshtemo Township, although he found three Indian villages in the vicinity of his farm. Learn his and other stories.

**Embattled Freedom: African American Emancipation Celebrations in the Jim Crow Era**
Sunday, May 1, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
Dr. Mitch Kachun, professor of history at Western Michigan University, presents a discussion of African American celebrations of emancipation during the era of segregation.

**Kalamazoo During the Civil War: A Look at the Home Front**
Sunday, May 22, 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.
Explore life in Kalamazoo during the Civil War as its citizens rallied and held meetings to support the Union cause while the Ladies Soldiers’ Aid Society collected food, clothing, and other supplies for the men who went off to war.

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**Preschool Performance Series**

FEB. 5: MAGICIAN JOHN DUDLEY and his “trained raccoon” will amaze preschoolers with hat and card tricks along with balls and streamers that disappear and reappear.

MARCH 5: GEMINI IN CONCERT
Hear this famous duo sing, play music, and perform. It’s a chance of a lifetime! FREE tickets early—the theater will fill quickly!

APRIL 2: PIPPIN PUPPETS
present “The Winning Wizard and the Trophy Hat.”

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Do you enjoy visiting the KVM? Would you like to help school kids visit who might not otherwise be able to get here? The KVM Annual Fund supports the KVM Transportation Scholarship, assisting K-12 schools with field trips to the museum.

Your donation will let kids enjoy the fun and learning experience of a great museum!

Send your donations to:
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Thank you!
Museography

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ON THE COVER: This regimental Civil War drum with painted American Eagle, 1861–65, carries the legacy of many battles. The museum’s new “Liberty on the Border” special exhibition tells many more stories from one of the turning points in our nation’s history. More about the exhibition can be found beginning on page 3 of this issue.

Look for the * symbol and the icon at right throughout this magazine—they indicate objects you can view in the special Museography display case, located next to the reception desk on the main floor of the museum, or in other exhibit areas throughout the KVM.
On the last Monday in May, Americans pause to remember those who gave their lives for our country. Few today recall that Memorial Day was originally created to honor the men who fought and died to preserve the Union in the nation’s bloodiest war, the Civil War.

It was on May 5, 1868, that the commander-in-chief of the Union veterans organization, the Grand Army of the Republic, issued a general order designating that May 30 be a day for veterans to decorate “with flowers or otherwise the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion.”

In the states of the defeated Confederacy, separate memorial days were observed. As late as 1968, several states of the Old South—Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Texas—still chose not to observe Memorial Day. Today, however, the fourth Monday in May is a national holiday in memory of all the honored dead, North and South, East and West, who have fallen in all of America’s wars. This change in the purpose of Memorial Day symbolizes the lasting impact of the War Between the States.

The Civil War’s hold on American memory is second to none because it was the event that knit together the separate states into a nation at the same time that it committed that nation to the “proposition,” as Abraham Lincoln put it, that all men are created equal. When historians reflect upon the ultimate meaning of the war, they may disagree about its causes, but they tend to agree with Lincoln that equality was its end. Even though the promise has often lagged behind reality, the achievement of equal treatment for all Americans has been the principal national goal.

“Liberty on The Border,” the museum’s newest special exhibition, commemorates the events leading to the Civil War and focuses on Michigan’s role in it. Among the many artifacts in the Kalamazoo Valley Museum’s collection related to the war is a Spencer repeating carbine carried by George Munger of the 4th Michigan Cavalry and donated to the museum in 1954 by his son.

Munger’s carbine recalls an incident that occurred after Lee had surrendered at Appomattox and Abraham Lincoln had been assassinated—a minor event that brought death by friendly fire to some West Michigan cavalry troopers and coincidental fame to others. In this issue of Museography, Tom Dietz tells the story of how Jefferson Davis, the president of the Confederate States, found himself staring down the barrel of Munger’s gun.

Other articles in this issue recall the Civil War’s local presence: the rise of the Republican Party, the role of the Sanitary Commission, and the letters that soldiers sent home.

Finally, we all will have an opportunity to watch Civil War movies, documentaries and reenactors, and return to the days when this nation was ripped asunder.
A struggle that divided the nation chronicled in

The roles the people of Kalamazoo and Southwest Michigan played in events leading up to, during and after the Civil War is complementing a nationally touring exhibition booked for the Kalamazoo Valley Museum through May 30.

Called the nation’s most seminal experience by documentarian Ken Burns and still resonating a century later in the Civil Rights Movement, the Civil War era comes alive at the downtown-Kalamazoo museum through interactive exhibits, re-enactors, documentaries, movies, hundreds of photos and documents, touchable replicas, audio and musical effects, and hands-on activities.

Created by the Cincinnati Museum Center, “Liberty on the Border” made its debut in April of 2003. While the carnage of the Civil War and the human devastation it inflicted are part of the backdrop, the focus is on the nation’s journey to rid itself of an abominable practice.

History books chronicle how the majorities in northern and southern states viewed slavery, while citizens in such a border state as Kentucky were equally divided in their views about the concept of liberty. That was illustrated by their actions leading up to Fort Sumter, the four years of war, and how the nation tried to heal its wounds in the following decades.

The museum used the four-month booking of “Liberty on the Border” to showcase the Civil War artifacts collected throughout its nearly 125-year history.

“The national exhibition concentrates on what was happening in the border states,” said Tom Dietz, the museum’s curator of research. “We used this as an opportunity to showcase our collection to tell what was happening in Michigan during those chaotic times.”

Blended into “Liberty on the Border” are:

- A letter written by Abraham Lincoln to H.G. Wells of Kalamazoo regarding his visit to the village in the summer of 1856. Lincoln spoke in Bronson Park against the spread of slavery and in support of the Republican Party’s first presidential nominee, explorer and scout John C. Fremont.
- A Confederate battle flag that an Illinois soldier picked up on the bloody battlefield of Shiloh in 1862 and brought with him when he moved to Kalamazoo.
- The box used for drafting men from Kalamazoo into the Union Army in October of 1863. The names of 631 prospects were in the box and 41 were picked as “winners” in this original lottery.
- A bottle (half-filled) of Chesterfield rye whiskey, given to local recruits who volunteered to fight the Johnny Rebs.
- The rifle and other equipment that was packed by George Munger of Schoolcraft when he took part in the capture of Jefferson Davis, the president of the Confederate States of America.
- A funeral notice about President Abraham Lincoln in which local citizens were urged to close their businesses and go to church.
- The state’s Ku Klux Klan connection, including a robe, newsletter, and photos of a 1927 KKK rally in Kalamazoo. Racial stereotyping will be illustrated by a minstrel costume that was worn in a production by a local Masonic lodge.

continued on page 4
According to military records, 3,221 residents of Kalamazoo County served in the Civil War. Some 365 did not return home—58 died in combat, 48 died from their wounds, and 25 as prisoners of war or missing-in-action casualties. The balance died of illness and disease.

“Liberty on the Border” is a multi-sensory exhibit filled with interesting stories that look at the causes, effects and meaning of the war in personal terms, according to Jean Stevens, the museum’s curator of exhibits. Military and nonmilitary events, along with civilian contributions, are presented through artifacts, photos, audio and video elements, and interactive computers.

“Visitors can try on a soldier’s jacket,” she said, “feel the weight of his pack, climb into a tent, roll bandages, and experience other hands-on components to help understand the war and its legacy.”

Part of that legacy is the racial intolerance it sparked and the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s that stemmed from the inequitable treatment of American citizens.

What also sets this apart from other Civil War exhibitions is that “Liberty on the Border” examines the concepts of borders—physical, cultural and ideological.

It explores how these different “borders” changed in the 1840s and 1850s, through the war years, and at various points leading up to the present. These changes were tied to how individuals and local, state and federal governments viewed the concept of “liberty,” especially in regard to the development and enforcement of “borders.”

The “coming alive” aspects of the exhibition include Civil War reenactors Bruce and Marcia Butgereit, who were part of the programming for the Jan. 29 opening. On Feb. 6, reenactors of the 102nd U.S. Colored Troop will enhance that era of African American history.

Booked as part of the museum’s “Sunday Series” are three presenters:

- **Feb 27:** William Anderson, director of the Michigan Department of History, Archives and Libraries, who will chronicle the lives and times of the 19th Michigan Infantry that was organized in Kalamazoo in 1862.
- **March 20:** Paul Millikan, a retired Kalamazoo Valley Community College history instructor and Civil War collector, on the weapons technology of the 1860s.
- **May 1:** Mitch Kachun, a professor of history at Western Michigan University, who will talk about the emancipation of African Americans and the Jim Crow Era.

Also part of the exhibition-related programming are Burns’ award-winning documentary on “The Civil War” and movies such as “Gone With the Wind.”

*Liberty on the Border is a traveling exhibit organized by the Cincinnati Museum Center*
was the brief headline in the April 2, 1862, edition of the Kalamazoo Telegraph calling all “patriotic” women to help in the war effort. The reporter immediately tugged at each woman’s heartstrings, saying…

“Think of a bullet wound in the neck, an ear shot off, and the knapsack, or at best, a straw or hay pillow for such a head; think of that soldier boy as your son, and what you would do for your son... a few feather pillows will be gratefully received... and would doubtless afford some poor soldier’s head great relief.”

This call for aid was successful. More than 100 women showed up at Kalamazoo’s Baptist Church to pack shipping boxes with shirts, sheets, pillows, and bandages. It was one of many efforts made by local women through the Soldiers Aid Society. As expressed by Mrs. T. P. Sheldon, president of Kalamazoo’s Ladies’ Soldiers Aid Society in her report to the U.S. Sanitary Commission in 1866, “Women are learning and feeling, all over our land, that they have part and lot in the labors and sacrifices which war imposes.” She reported that women throughout the region, including Paw Paw, Hopkins, Alamo, Dowagiac, Allegan and Cooper, also did their part.

But for the most part, it was the work of about 10 to 15 stalwart women who kept the local society operating. Besides collecting and shipping food and supplies to hospitals, they sent two women and two doctors to army hospitals in Kentucky, Maryland, and Mississippi. They even supported a local hospital for sick recruits on the second floor of the Humphrey Block (today the site of the Olde Peninsula Brewpub and Restaurant) providing food, beds, bedding, and daily nursing care.

It was not always easy for the women. Often they were met with indifference. Mrs. Sheldon explained that “sometimes they found people very skeptical; they did not believe so much want existed, and if it did, why did not the Government provide for it?” In fact, the government did provide a great deal, but the length of the war was unanticipated, so calls for contributions and sacrifices of folks back home became a necessity.

The women’s efforts culminated in a successful four-day event in September 1864 that was called “The Michigan State Sanitary Fair.” It was organized by the “ladies” of Kalamazoo and held at the fairgrounds, then on Portage Street near Reed Street. Not only did local citizens come out in droves, but so too did citizens from Plainwell to Port Huron, Decatur to Detroit, and numerous other locales. As one Detroit reporter wrote, “The Sanitary Fair will be a grand success.” And it was. Games were played, raffles held, food was served, and $9,000 raised. On Sept. 21, 1864, Gov. Austin Blair gave long overdue praise to the women, saying, “The ladies of Kalamazoo have inaugurated this Fair with great zeal for the one grand and noble purpose of alleviating the horrors of war... There is no other land which can say that the whole body of its women have risen up so gloriously as ours have done.”

Over the course of three years, despite many ups and downs, Kalamazoo’s Ladies’ Soldiers Aid Society rallied the community to send shipments to ailing soldiers, provide comfort and care to local recruits, support nurses and doctors in the field, and assist the local families of wounded and departed soldiers. These women, although not on the front lines, understood that they, too, had a part serving and reuniting their country. It was a job well done.
These items are all related to the Civil War. Can you guess what they are? (Answers at the bottom of the page.)

#1
This box could determine a young man’s future.*

#2
This molded shoe was a souvenir from the war, made of something that became obsolete after the war. From what was it made?*

#3
The tools below were used continually throughout the war.*

Have a question about a person, object, or artifact that relates to the history of southwest Michigan? Send your question to Tom Dietz, the Kalamazoo Valley Museum’s curator of research, (269/373-7984 or tdietz@kvcc.edu) and you may see it answered in a future issue of Museography.
In the Sallie Haner’s Kitchen exhibit in the Kalamazoo Valley Museum’s history gallery, visitors may note there are several Mason jars in the pantry and a label with Sallie’s diary entry from July 12, 1862: “…Ma went & got Amanda to come Show her how to Can Cherries. we stoned them & they put them in to the Jars then set it in to hot water until the fruit begins to blubber up then take them out and seal them up with Rosin and bees wax.”

Sallie would have been 26 at this time, and one might find it curious that even her mother would not yet know how to can foods. This certainly must be attributed to the fact that canning foods was still a new technology, particularly for domestic kitchens, at the time of the Civil War.

In fact, the museum exhibit might be slightly misleading in that it displays replicas of Mason jars that had a threaded neck and metal cap that would screw down to the jar’s shoulder, thus creating a seal. Note that Sallie says they used rosin and bee’s wax—an earlier iteration of the canning process. Even though the metal screw-top jars were patented in 1858, apparently Sallie and Amanda were still using an older technology.

Sallie’s subsequent diary entries over the next six years make many references to eating canned foods, including oysters, berries and other fruits. In fact, the tinplated can had been patented in this country by 1825, and by 1847 machine-stamped tin cans were being produced. America was well on its way to producing large quantities of canned meats, fruits, vegetables, even milk. Gail Borden obtained a patent for his condensed milk product in 1856.

It’s not difficult to find letters, quartermaster records, and other documents that give evidence to the food Civil War soldiers ate, both in camp and on the march. There was quite a disparity, depending upon when in the war any given regiment is examined, and whether they were Union or Confederate. The Confederates were less well prepared to organize a commissary system at the war’s outbreak, and later had their source of canning supplies cut off.

Typically, soldiers ate a very-simple-to-cook-and-carry diet: meat (salted, smoked, or tinned), coffee, sugar, and a dried biscuit called hardtack. No oysters for the soldiers! Not uncommon, too, was dried fruit—Sallie notes in her diary that she dried apples—and vegetables. Fresh vegetables were limited to onions, potatoes, carrots and turnips when they could get them. The fare for Confederate soldiers was slightly different—johnnie cake (cornbread), bacon, tea, sugar or molasses was common among their rations.

Sallie Haner made only a few references to the Civil War, which she found wearisome. Many of her townsfolk were killed in the war, while her sweetheart simply abandoned his military post and her for a life in the West.

Those living in Michigan, like Sallie, did not seem to have their food sources affected by the war, but many an account of camp life reflects a soldier’s longing for a good meal in a warm and friendly home—one that Sallie must certainly have enjoyed herself.
Letters of Spencer McOmber, Civil War Soldier

Kathryn Rees of Anacortes, Wash., knew she had something of historic value in her possession—something to share with the citizens of Kalamazoo.

The day it came into the museum's possession as a donation was very exciting. It was a collection of 86 letters written by a local Civil War soldier, Mrs. Rees' grandfather, Spencer F. McOmber, to his mother, Louisa Denison, between May 1863 and July 1866. What makes these letters so special is that they provide a vivid account of one young man's military experience during the Civil War and its aftermath.

Spencer McOmber, a Kalamazoo boy born and bred, left home around age 15 in pursuit of a young love. "It was on that account," he tells his mother, "that I went to Illinois & if it had not been for that poor miserable creature, that I abhore now, I should not have been in the army now." Rejected and with a broken heart, a mere 16 years of age, he turned to the Union Army for solace.

He first wrote to his mother in May 1863 from Lee Barracks in Grand Rapids where the 7th Michigan Cavalry waited for more recruits. He was the company clerk with fine quarters, and told his mother "I am the only one in a large nice building with a good stove, good bunk and everything nice & clean... I am having good times." That comfortable experience was short-lived, however. Spencer was on his way to a very different life, fighting with the Michigan Brigade under Brig. Gen. George Armstrong Custer.

His company joined the Michigan Brigade at Boonsboro, Md. After a number of skirmishes, his most memorable engagement came on Oct. 16, 1863, at the Battle of Brandy Station. Spencer wrote home...

The last 6 days have been to me the most eventfull of any in my life... We had the sharpest fight I ever saw. We were surrounded on all sides by more than twice our number but General Custer rode down the lines & ordered us to follow him & we did. After 4 hours hard fight General Beauford [Buford] came to our relief... yesterday we lay on the old Bull Run battle field. It was covered with bones of dead men, graves with twenty men in [each and they are] often so uncovered that you can see their head & arms & legs...

At the end of that year, the brigade went into winter camp at Stephensburg, Va. Even though the unit was harassed by repeated skirmishes, Spencer had plenty of time to write to his mother. He spoke of the interminable lice problem...
“At present I am not troubled with virment but am liable to be evry hour for both the men & horses have them.” He even managed to get himself into some mischief, writing that while on a scouting trip “Jim & I went into a house & got some Hunny. While we were feasting & having a good time up comes three Rebs telling us to Surrender. I replied by discharging my Revolver at the head of one & as that was the Signal my men came back on the Run & the Rebs Skedaddled.”

Following winter camp, Spencer’s life took an interesting turn, away from battle and the rigors of army life. During an engagement in May 1864, he was hurt, and wrote his mother that “while trying to cross the North Anna River I got run over by a Government Wagon & Six mules. I was run over both knees, well I was scart a great deal & hurt very little… but I can walk on crutches now & in a week I hope to walk without them.”

Spencer was sent to a hospital in Newark, N.J., to recuperate. While his injuries healed, he contracted a number of other ailments such as “chronic disentary” and “hospital sickness.” In desolation he told his mother “the Surgeon in charge told me that I must take the best of care of myself if I expect to live long, my left lung is affected & I caugh night.” His health improved slowly and, though only 18 years old, he received a hospital clerkship and acted as medical cadet, doling out prescriptions and occasionally entertaining hospital guests. He spent his spare time reading medical books and visiting medical dissecting rooms and the theatre in New York City.

By March 1865 he wrote, “I am sick & tiard of Hospital life. I have been here now for most a year & could stay a year longer if I chose but I am anxious to be on the move once more.” Taking matters into his own hands, Spencer left the hospital on March 29 and was reinstated with his company at a dismount camp in New York Harbor. Within a few weeks, the war ended and he and the company are directed across the Plains to suppress Indian uprisings. They have only a few encounters before reaching the Mormon stronghold of Salt Lake City, Utah. By this time Spencer and the rest of the soldiers were angry with the government. Spencer writes, “And now the War is over, why are we not discharged & sent to our homes? Because they want to Settle the western teratories & make a lot more Abolishon states & keep the Rotton adminstration in Power.” The once enthusiastic and naïve young recruit was now an angry and disillusioned soldier. He wrote, “Yes, I hate the Service, hate the Officers & the Government, yet for you I have Stoacally endured all, that I might one time come home to you without a blush or stain on my caracter.”

To his relief, he was discharged on March 10, 1866, making his way back to Kalamazoo and his mother. Eventually, Spencer settled in Lee County, Iowa, where he married, had eight children, and died in 1922 at the age of 76. Nearly 140 years after the first letter was written, and thanks to his granddaughter, Kathryn Rees, the memories of Spencer’s war experience are now preserved at the museum for generations to come.
On a Sunday morning in April 1865, Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederate States of America, attended services at St. Paul’s Church in Richmond, Va. A messenger approached his pew and handed him a telegraph from Gen. Robert E. Lee, commander of the Army of Northern Virginia, which was then defending the Confederate capital. The message read simply, “I advise that all preparation be made for leaving Richmond tonight.”

Union forces under the command of Gen. Ulysses S. Grant had broken Lee’s defenses and the fall of Richmond appeared imminent. Davis read the telegram silently and quickly left the church. That night, he and other high-ranking officials of his government boarded a train and left Richmond. They planned to move the capital further from the front lines and to rally the flagging Confederate cause.

Davis’ last hopes were not to be. One week later on April 9, Lee surrendered his army to Grant at Appomattox Courthouse, Va. On April 18, Gen. Joseph E. Johnston surrendered his army to Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman and virtually all organized Confederate resistance ceased. The Civil War was over but President Jefferson Davis was still on the run. Several weeks later, soldiers from Southwest Michigan would arrest him in Georgia.

On May 2, 1865, President Andrew Johnson authorized a $100,000 reward for the capture of Davis. Union troops were actively re-establishing federal authority in the South and two units, the 4th Michigan Cavalry and the 1st Wisconsin Cavalry, were on Davis’ trail in Georgia.

On the afternoon of May 9, both units learned that 12 wagons and two ambulances had been spotted near Irwinville, Ga. The two commanders met and Col. Benjamin D. Pritchard of the 4th Michigan went off in one direction while the 1st Wisconsin pursued the wagon train. Receiving additional information about the wagon train, Col. Pritchard changed his mind and decided to cut it off by another route. He caught up with it around 2 the next morning. As the first faint light of dawn appeared, the 4th Michigan advanced and seized control of the camp where the wagon train had stopped for the night.

Then disaster struck. Suddenly a heated firefight broke out. In the darkness, the 4th Michigan and the 1st Wisconsin had failed to recognize each other. Before firing ceased, two members of the 4th Michigan lay dead and several men from both units were seriously wounded. When calm again prevailed, Pritchard took stock of the situation and, as he reported...
to Secretary of War Edwin Stanton, determined that the 4th Michigan had captured Jefferson Davis, his family, and several associates, as well as his bodyguard.

The confusion of the skirmish between the Union forces, however, contributed to two long-standing controversies. Who actually captured Jefferson Davis and what was the Confederate President wearing?

As the 4th Michigan entered the camp, several people, all apparently women, stepped from one tent and started to walk away. Corp. George Munger of Schoolcraft noticed that one of them was wearing men’s boots and, since he was still saddled up, rode over to the small group, pointed his Spencer carbine at them, and ordered them to stop. Mrs. Davis stepped in front of her husband and pleaded with Munger not to shoot. At this point, Davis uncovered his head and identified himself. Munger and Corp. James Bullard of Paw Paw then marched the Davis party over to Col. Pritchard, who placed them under arrest.

In the decades after the Civil War, other soldiers promoted their roles in the capture of Davis. Pvt. Casper Knobel, later of Philadelphia, claimed that he and Pvt. George Rinke of Detroit discovered Davis in his tent. Pvt. Andrew Bee of Martin claimed he recognized Davis trying to walk away and, with Munger, prevented his escape. Bee also claimed that on the previous afternoon he had stopped a former slave who led the 4th Michigan to the Davis camp.

The evidence suggests Munger had the key role, however. When the $100,000 reward was divided among the members of the 4th Michigan Cavalry, only the four officers received larger shares than he did. Munger received $369 while Bee ($240), Knobel ($203) and other members of the unit received lesser amounts.

The second controversy surrounds Davis’ dress and intentions at the time of his capture. In the heated passions of the day, Northern partisans claimed that Davis sought to escape wearing a full set of woman’s clothes—hoop skirt, petticoats, and all. Davis wrote in his autobiography that he merely had thrown a woman’s shawl over his shoulders and, rather than escaping, was simply walking to a nearby stream to freshen up. Still, Northern newspapers delighted in printing cartoons showing the former Confederate president dressed as a woman.

Today, it seems likely that Davis’ account is more accurate. Not only did his wife support his claim but so does Pvt. Knobel who reported that Davis wore a gray Confederate general’s uniform and that he wrapped a woman’s rain cloak and shawl about himself as he stepped from his tent. Even Munger’s account suggests that it was men’s clothing under a woman’s cloak that aroused his suspicion about the small party walking away from the camp.

So it was that, one month after Lee’s surrender at Appomattox Courthouse, Corp. George Munger and the 4th Michigan Cavalry brought the Confederate government to an end.
Kalamazoo County is comprised of 16 townships, each with a distinct history. In this new series, we’ll explore the early history of each township from A to Z, or, to be more precise, from Alamo to Wakeshma. But first, let’s examine how the township system started.

Townships are both governmental districts and geographical units. Each is a square, six miles on each side, comprised of 36 sections of one square mile. They owe their existence to the Northwest Ordinance of 1785 that directed surveyors to “divide the said [Northwest] territory in townships of 6 miles square, by lines running north and south, and others crossing these at right angles, as near as may be.” The surveyors started their work in 1785 near East Liverpool, Ohio, and did not reach the Michigan Territory until 1815. The southern half of the Lower Peninsula was finished by 1825.

The survey was critical because only when completed was it possible to precisely locate any tract of land in Michigan. The surveyors established a Prime Meridian running north to south from Sault Ste. Marie to Defiance, Ohio, and a Base Line running east to west along the top of the second tier of counties. (Base Line Road marks the northern edge of Kalamazoo County in several places.)

Every township in Michigan can be located with reference to those two imaginary lines, either east or west of the Prime Meridian and north or south of the Base Line. For example, Kalamazoo Township is Township 2 South, Range 11 West; that is, it is the eleventh township west of the Prime Meridian and the second one south of the Base Line. A township is sub-divided into 36 sections. Most of downtown Kalamazoo is in Section 15 whose southern and western boundaries are Lovell Street and Westnedge Avenue. With township and section lines set, the property lines of any parcel of land can be accurately determined.

Townships are geographical units, but also political jurisdictions. Each of Kalamazoo County’s 16 townships is a self-governing charter township but that was not always the case. Political organization depended upon settlement and legislative action by the state government. The geographical designations of the townships were established by the Michigan Land Survey but self-government evolved over a period of 17 years, beginning with the organization of Brady Township in 1829 and ending with Wakeshma Township in 1846.

On Oct. 29, 1829, the Michigan Territorial Legislature created Kalamazoo County but, for governmental purposes, attached it to St. Joseph County. On Nov. 11 of that same year, the legislature created Brady Township, which included all of what is now Kalamazoo and Barry counties as well as other unorganized territory north to the Grand River. The next summer, on July 30, Kalamazoo County was granted local government.

The organization of Kalamazoo County recognized the quickening pace of pioneer settlement in Southwest Michigan following the completion of the land survey. To accommodate the growing population, on that same July 30, 1830, the legislature divided Kalamazoo County into two self-governing townships. The northern half of the county was designated Arcadia Township while the southern half remained Brady Township. This marked the beginning of self-government for all 16 of the county’s geographic townships.

In the next issue, we’ll continue by remembering the Alamo—Township, that is.
“If the muse were mine to tempt it
And my feeble voice were strong,
If my tongue were trained to measures,
I would sing a stirring song.
I would sing a song heroic
Of those noble sons of Ham,
Of the gallant colored soldiers
Who fought for Uncle Sam!”

Thus wrote 19th century African American poet Paul Laurence Dunbar in his poem about the African American troops of the Civil War entitled “The Colored Soldiers.”

Noble and gallant they were, but for African Americans in Michigan, proving that was the first battle to be won.

Although the first shots of the Civil War were fired at Fort Sumter in 1861, it was not until 1863 that an African American regiment was authorized in Michigan. One of the reasons blacks were not initially allowed to fight was that whites would not fight alongside them. There were sentiments that blacks would not or could not fight—that it was a white man’s war.

When the authorization came through, however, black men came from all over Michigan. They came to fight for their own freedom, for the freedom of family members still in the South, for the freedom of those who had come North to escape enslavement.

More than 200 who had fled to Canada returned to enlist. Having lost patience with waiting for the call in Michigan, more than 70 men made the long trip to Massachusetts to become part of the famous 54th Massachusetts.

Finally, because of the tireless efforts of men such as Frederick Douglass, who advocated on a national level, and Henry Barnes, George de Baptiste, and William Lambert, who put forth great efforts in Michigan, in July 1863 the 1st Michigan Colored Regiment was formed. It was officially mustered into federal service on Feb. 17, 1864, as the 102nd United States Colored Infantry.

Although the men of the troop were initially trained to be cooks, they were also trained to fight and defend the Union. They eventually saw action throughout South Carolina, eastern Georgia, and Florida.
They also participated and were instrumental in the battle of Honey Hill in South Carolina where Lt. Orson Bennett, leading 30 men from the regiment, won the Congressional Medal of Honor for rescuing a battery of cannon from being captured by the Confederates. Their performance was outstanding. Those who had at first derided and belittled them were now praising them.

Today the triumphs and tribulations of these soldiers are reenacted by the USCT/BHG (U.S. Colored Troop/Black History Group). Founded in 1986 for Michigan’s Sesquicentennial, the group is dedicated to fostering and preserving the history of the American Civil War by enhancing the public’s understanding of Michigan’s African American contributions.

Members from across Michigan have participated in reenactments, parades, and ceremonies in Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, and Canada. Women are part of the group as the auxiliary and as educators in school scenarios with the children of members.

Current president Geoff Blair credits his family with inspiring him to become an active member of the group. “I always loved history,” he said. “My parents were from Chattanooga, which is rich in Civil War history. Seeing the monuments and hearing the history of the area was fascinating to me as a child. Then, when I met my wife, I learned that she was a direct descendent of a member of the 22nd Michigan who was captured in the battle of Chickamauga. Through letters he wrote home we learned that he served on land that my grandparents had owned in Jackson.”

After seeing Blair portray Isaiah Dorman, the only black member of George Custer’s troops, in a reenactment of the Battle of Little Big Horn, his son begged his father to let him join in the fun of history. That led to Blair joining the 102nd USCT/BHG four years ago. The son, now 11, is the regimental drummer for the group, portraying Frank Robertson, the 102nd’s drummer boy.

The 102nd prides itself on portraying actual people, and several members of the group can trace their lineage to original enlistees. Ross Fowler, one of the founders of the group, is a descendent of Alfred White, who in 1864 left his home in Cheshire Township in Allegan County and walked to Kalamazoo to enlist. The date of his enlistment is Aug. 24, 1864, and his only son, Fowler’s grandfather, was born Aug. 29, 1864.

Thus he left his pregnant wife to join the service. He had two reasons for making this decision—the bounty of $100 that the family sorely needed and the chance to fight for freedom. At that time slavers were coming into Michigan to return the formerly enslaved to the South. Alfred had two daughters he wanted to protect from the enslavement his father, Dangerfield White, had endured until Charlotte White, his wife, purchased his freedom.

The family believes Alfred may have taken part in the battle of Honey Hill in November of 1864 because he was called to that state in October. Through the Sons of Union Veterans, the family has been able to locate Alfred White’s gravesite in the Baseline Cemetery in Allegan County. In 2002 the family dedicated his tombstone there.

Fowler served in the Air Force as a weather technician, later serving in the Coast Guard where he retired as a commander. In 1986 he, Bruce Clark, Larry Reynolds, William Singleton, along with their wives, formed the 102nd USCT/BHG. The group presently has a membership of 23 and has sister regiments in Ohio and Chicago.

"And their deeds shall find a record
In the registry of Fame;
For their blood has cleansed completely
Every blot of Slavery’s shame.
So all honor and all glory
To those noble sons of Ham—
The gallant colored soldiers
Who fought for Uncle Sam!"
"I was 13 years old but keen for war and it seemed a weary wait until I could slip into the ranks of the volunteers… I made good and did my bit with the best. I gained promotion and honorable mention and have lived to enjoy the fruits of war."

Years later, that was how Smith Carlton, the last surviving Civil War soldier from Kalamazoo County, remembered his military service. Little did he know that, as a lad of 13, he would one day become one of Kalamazoo's most well-known and beloved veterans of that war.

Carlton joined the Union Army—the 28th Michigan Infantry—in February 1865 for a one-year stint at the age of 17. He saw combat near Wilmington, Del., was with troops who chased Confederate Gen. Joseph Johnston to Raleigh, N.C., and stayed with a bunkmate for eight days so his friend wouldn't be alone while dying from typhoid fever.

When the war ended, he remained in North Carolina with a Reconstruction contingent where he said “the forces were constantly annoyed by the bushwackers and the guerrillas and the desperados of Southern malcontent.”

After his discharge in February 1866, he returned home to Comstock where he taught school, eventually becoming head of that district in 1895. It was his association with the Kalamazoo Post of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), a national Civil War veterans' association, that brought him lasting recognition.

The GAR was created in 1867, dedicated to principles of charity, fraternity, and loyalty, and to preserve the friendships formed during the war. In time, the GAR became a powerful political force lobbying for benefits for veterans and their widows.

Carlton joined Kalamazoo’s GAR Orcutt Post No. 79 in 1882 but became more active after his wife died in 1912. He was elected Orcutt post commander in 1932 and commander of the Michigan GAR in 1937. During those years and following, he became the face of the Civil War in Kalamazoo County. He made more than 300 appearances, gave numerous speeches, attended fund-raising events, marched in parades, and visited veterans' hospitals. On a number of occasions, he met with Confederate comrades to reminisce about shared memories and to return captured battle flags.

By 1940 the last two Civil War veterans in Kalamazoo County were Lewis Sergeant and Carlton. Sergeant died that year, giving Carlton the distinction of being Kalamazoo’s last surviving Civil War veteran. He was one of only 63 surviving veterans in the state out of the 80,865 Michigan men who served.

Carlton’s advancing age never stopped him. In 1943 at the age of 96, he spent his birthday at Fort Custer in Augusta, getting a taste of modern army life. He told one reporter covering the story, “This has been my most thrilling birthday since the spring of 1865 when I ran away from home to join the Union Army.”

Sadly, just seven months later, this honored veteran was fatally injured after being hit by a motorist in Kalamazoo. His funeral was one of the largest ever in Kalamazoo County. Carlton was buried with full military honors, praised with heartfelt words and stories from citizens, friends, and veterans throughout the county.

One speaker reminded the mourners to “never forget the passing of a soldier—the honors of his country belong to him.” Smith Carlton has not been forgotten.
As the exhibit, *Liberty on the Border*, makes clear, the issue of liberty for all in America was not fully resolved by the Civil War. In the decades that followed, in both the North and South, Americans struggled to define what liberty meant. In the years after World War II, African Americans challenged the second-class status that most had endured since the 1870s. The modern Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s continued the centuries-old struggle to define the borders of liberty. Although it was distant from the segregated South and lacked the urban ghettos of the North, Kalamazoo, too, saw its share of civil rights activism in the postwar decades.

African Americans have lived in Kalamazoo County from the earliest pioneer days. Enoch and Debra Harris settled on Genesee Prairie (near US-131 and Parkview Avenue) in 1831. The 1850 census counted 99 African Americans in the county, of whom 40 lived in the village of Kalamazoo. The population grew slowly and on the eve of World War II some 1100 blacks lived in the city of Kalamazoo. That number doubled during the 1940s to more than 2,500 in 1950.

One consequence of this development was an increase in both racial friction and in segregation. In 1945, the Kalamazoo County Council of Churches and the Kalamazoo Council of Social Agencies commissioned a self-study to explore race relations in the county in several key areas.

Seventy-eight of 200 employers surveyed reported only 116 African Americans among 8,345 workers. There were no black workers in the chemical industry, and paper mills employed only seven. The study concluded that the local firms either excluded black employees or restricted them to menial jobs.

In housing, the study concluded that 90 per-

 Supporters of civil rights gather for a rally on the steps of City Hall in 1963.
cent of residential neighborhoods were covered by restrictive covenants that forbid the owners from selling to African Americans. Nearly one in five housing units needed major repairs, twice the rate for other Michigan cities, and more than half the housing occupied by African Americans was in poor condition. The committee noted official opposition to public housing and an effort to encourage segregation. The self-study also reported segregation in medical care, hospitalization and recreational facilities.

Given these conditions, the emergence of an active civil rights movement in Kalamazoo is not surprising. A volunteer Kalamazoo Council on Human Relations was organized in 1951, and in 1960 the Kalamazoo City Commission created an official Human Relations Board. The issue of housing proved a focal point of controversy.

In the 1950s and 1960s, the need for more housing, especially for low-income residents, received much attention. The City Commission twice, in 1961 and 1966, approved the creation of a public-housing commission that would allow Kalamazoo to qualify for federal funds. Opposition by local realtors and fears of low-income housing in residential neighborhoods led voters to overrule the Commission each time in referendums on the public housing. Civil rights groups staged frequent demonstrations to rally public support.

Discrimination in employment also drew attention in the 1960s. The most visible event took place at the Van Avery Drugstore on North Burdick Street in 1963. The local chapter of the NAACP led picketing at the business demanding the hiring of an African American employee. The issue was resolved after three weeks. Hoping to capitalize on the momentum, 4,000 demonstrators marched through downtown on Oct. 6, 1963, demanding equal opportunity for all. The demonstration culminated with a rally on the steps of City Hall.

Nor was Kalamazoo immune from the civil turmoil that marred other cities during the “long, hot summers” of the 1960s. Minor disturbances occurred in Kalamazoo as well, particularly during the Detroit riot of 1967 and after the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. the following spring. Responding to peaceful protests, the City Commission strengthened the city’s Fair Housing Ordinance in 1968.

There were positive developments as well. In November 1959, Arthur Washington was elected the first African American city commissioner, a position to which he was re-elected three times. He also served as the first African American member of the County Board of Supervisors. Dr. King spoke at Western Michigan University in late 1963.

In addition, despite the defeat of efforts to secure federal funding for low-income housing, a local private effort, Loan Improvement Fund Today, arranged financing for a housing project at Woodward and Paterson streets.

Kalamazoo has made progress since the turmoil of the 1960s. African Americans have held the office of mayor and served as city manager. Employment opportunities have also improved, and both public and private institutions have seen African Americans rise to senior leadership positions. The effort to define the borders of liberty, to achieve full equality for all, continues. It is not a struggle limited to any one region of the country or any one period in the past. Making liberty’s borders more inclusive has defined the American experience.

This powerful statue of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. by sculptor Lisa Reinerston is the centerpiece of the park named in honor of the civil rights leader.
In the middle decades of the 19th century, slavery was the most divisive political issue of the times.

The inability of leaders to find a compromise not only between the North and the South but between the pro- and anti-slavery factions of the two major parties was the dominant feature of the political landscape in the 1840s and 1850s.

The issue weakened the Democratic Party that, in general, was more willing to tolerate slavery and destroyed the Whig Party that harbored a vocal anti-slavery wing.

The election of Democrat Franklin Pierce to the presidency in 1852 sounded the death knell for the Whig Party as a national organization. A variety of single-issue parties—the Free Soil Party, the Liberty Party, the anti-Catholic, anti-immigrant American Party—might have emerged as the primary opposition.

But at a convention “under the oaks” in Jackson, Mich., on July 6, 1854, a new party would take shape, one that was destined to change American politics for the next 150 years.

The delegates to the Jackson convention nominated candidates, adopted a platform, and called themselves the Republican Party. It was the first coordinated statewide effort using that name in the nation and Jackson rightly can claim title to being the birthplace of the Republican Party.

The new party, however, did not emerge out of thin air. It resulted from political maneuvering and planning around the state. In the effort to create a political party that would resist the expansion of slavery beyond the existing 15 slave states, Kalamazoo played a crucial role.

The Whig Party had formed in the 1830s to challenge Andrew Jackson’s Democrats. In addition to promoting an economic platform that appealed to northeastern manufacturers, merchants, and financiers as well as some western and southern farmers, the Whigs attracted many reform-minded activists who often were of old New England (or Yankee) stock. Kalamazoo County had attracted many such Yankees during the pioneer days, which is why it tended to be one of the Whig strongholds in a generally Democratic state.

Consequently, there was substantial anti-slavery sentiment in the county. Such sympathies were demonstrated most clearly by the Underground Railroad. Men such as Dr. Nathan Thomas...
of Schoolcraft, Isaac Davis of Climax, Henry Montague of Kalamazoo, and Hugh Shafter of Galesburg aided fugitive slaves in finding their way to freedom in Canada. As political events of the 1850s, including the Fugitive Slave Act and the Kansas-Nebraska Act, polarized the nation, they and others would work to create a new party opposed to the further expansion of slavery.

The critical events in the organization of the Republican Party occurred in 1854. In February, the Free Soil Party, which opposed the expansion of slavery, met in Jackson and nominated candidates for office but indicated their willingness to merge with anti-slavery Whigs. In March, the Whigs agreed to consider a merger of the two parties. In April, the Free Soilers agreed to meet in Kalamazoo with the Whigs to discuss how they might arrange a merger.

On June 21, 1854, as the citizens of Kalamazoo were busy celebrating the 25th anniversary of the founding of their village, some 200 delegates convened in the county courthouse. The convention adopted a platform that criticized slavery and resolved “that there shall be no compromise with Slavery—that there shall be no more Slave States—that there shall be no Slave Territory—that the Fugitive Slave Law shall be repealed—that the abominations of Slavery shall no longer be perpetrated….”

The delegates then called for a mass meeting to be held in Jackson on July 6, 1854, of all citizens of Michigan, regardless of past political allegiance, to unite under a new banner “to concentrate the popular sentiment of this State against the aggression of the slave power.” After the convention concluded, the Free Soil Party delegates met in the home of Dr. James A. B. Stone, president of Kalamazoo College, and agreed to withdraw their nominees in the fall elections.

On July 6, 1854, several thousand people gathered in Jackson to organize the new party. With Kalamazoo businessman David S. Walbridge presiding, the Republican Party was born. It was an immediate success. Kinsley S. Bingham was elected governor and the Republicans won control of the Michigan Legislature. Walbridge was chosen to represent Kalamazoo in Congress.

Once the Republicans were organized, Kalamazoo continued to play a key role in the party’s fortunes. In 1856, the Republican Party ran its first presidential candidate, John C. Fremont. Local Republicans organized an all-day rally on Aug. 27 in Bronson Park to promote Fremont’s campaign. Judge Hezekiah G. Wells invited Abraham Lincoln, a rising Republican politician from Illinois, to be one of the numerous speakers. Lincoln had been one of the potential vice-presidential nominees at the party’s first national convention earlier that summer in Philadelphia. It was Lincoln’s first and only visit to Michigan.

In both the 1856 and 1860 presidential elections, local Republicans organized torchlight parades and rallies to promote their candidates. The most radical anti-slavery activists, usually younger men, organized themselves as the “Wide Awakes,” claiming that they would be ever alert to any threats to liberty that slavery might present. In both elections, Kalamazoo County voted with the rest of Michigan in support of the Republican candidates.

While the results of the 2004 election indicate that Kalamazoo may not be as Republican as it once was, there can be little doubt that the village and county of Kalamazoo played crucial roles in the creation of the party.
The first four days of July 1863 marked a significant turning point in the military fortunes of the Union and Confederate forces. On July 3, after three days of intense fighting, the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia was forced to retreat from the battlefield at Gettysburg, Pa. The next day, July 4, saw the fall of the Confederate stronghold at Vicksburg, Miss., giving the Union complete control of the Mississippi River. Although the war would continue for nearly two more years of deadly combat, the military tide had turned decisively against the Confederacy.

There was a third significant battle fought on July 4, 1863, with which most Americans are less familiar. At Tebbs Bend on the Green River in south central Kentucky, a small unit of the 25th Michigan Infantry under Col. Orlando H. Moore of Schoolcraft held off a determined attack by a much larger force commanded by Confederate Gen. John H. Morgan. Moore’s stout defense that Independence Day deflected Morgan from his intended assault on Louisville and delayed the start of his raid through southeastern Indiana and southwestern Ohio.

Orlando H. Moore, a talented artist, had joined the U. S. Army in 1856 and served in Kansas during the violent disputes surrounding its admission to the Union, and later in California. After the Civil War began, he was assigned command of the 25th Michigan Infantry, a regiment of volunteers from Southwest Michigan. The unit left Kalamazoo in September 1862, and was assigned to duty at several posts in Kentucky.

In June 1863, Colonel Moore and five companies of the 25th Michigan were sent to Lebanon, Ky., where in early July Moore learned that General Morgan and a force of 2,500 men were preparing to move north toward Louisville. Moore moved his men to Tebbs Bend on the Green River blocking a key road in Morgan’s advance. He chose a spot with excellent natural defenses, surrounded by wooded bluffs and the bend in the river.

Outnumbered 10 to one, Moore skillfully organized his men in several defensive lines, the outer ones concealing his main force of 260 men. As the outer lines withdrew under assault, as planned, the Confederates would encounter a deadly crossfire from fortified positions concealed in the nearby woods.

When Morgan began his attack early on the morning of July 4, he dislodged the front lines of Moore’s defense. Morgan assumed this would persuade the Union forces to retire from the field.

At 7 a.m., he sent his aides under a white flag to request Moore’s surrender. Noting that the date was the 4th of July, Moore replied that he would not even consider such a request on that patriotic holiday. Morgan then launched his main attack and his forces advanced into the deadly trap that Moore had set.

The battle raged for nearly four hours that morning. The Confederates lost nearly 50 dead and more than 200 wounded. With such significant losses, Morgan chose not to renew the attack at Tebbs Bend, deciding to avoid Louisville and cross into Indiana west of the city. Moore’s defense at Tebbs Bend not only saved Louisville but alerted federal troops to Morgan’s plan.

His forces weakened by the defeat at Tebbs Bend, Morgan and his men were captured in Ohio on July 26, 1863.

Although his greatest military victory was overshadowed by the events at Gettysburg and Vicksburg, Orlando H. Moore, known as the “Hero of Tebbs Bend,” continued to serve in the U.S. Army for nearly 20 years after the Civil War. He retired in 1884 and returned to Schoolcraft. He died in 1890 and was buried in California.
SPECIAL EXHIBITION

LIBERTY ON THE BORDER
Jan. 29—May 30, 2005
Learn about the Civil War in a new way, not only about the very real physical border that separated slave states from free states, but also the wide spectrum of attitudes of people in those areas. Artifacts, original documents, photographs, dioramas, and hands-on activities tell the many stories of the war. Free

A traveling exhibit organized by the Cincinnati Museum Center

COMING JUNE 2005

THE GREAT LAKES STORY
Summer and Fall 2005
Learn how the Great Lakes were formed, how pollution threatens their survival, and what is being done to protect their quality. Free

FEATURED PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Join us for a series of Saturday family programs and your annual favorites. Visitors can drop in anytime during the hours indicated for hands-on programs. 8 indicates programs that include Brownie Try-it requirements. All programs are FREE unless otherwise noted. See the inside front cover of this issue for our Sunday History Series of lectures and presentations in the Theater, and the back cover of this issue for our Spring Break programs taking place April 4–8.

JAM SESSION
Feb. 6, March 6, April 3, May 1, June 5, 2–5 p.m.
Listen to the K’zoo Folklife Organization’s music on the first Sunday of every month.

THE CIVIL WAR EXPLORED
Saturday, Feb. 5, 1–4 p.m.
Learn more about life during the Civil War in this hands-on program designed by Anna Rusk, a local Girl Scout, who earned her Senior Gold Award on this project.

PAST IN PERSON
Saturday, Feb. 5, 2 p.m.
Michael Deren takes on the role of a Civil War musician in an interactive performance/play that will have the audience experiencing what life was like in April 1865, just days before the end of the war. $5/person.

THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD
Saturday, Feb. 19, 1–4 p.m.
Travel the Underground Railroad, making secret codes, journals, star projectors, and more. See a FREE showing of “Secrets in the Sky” at 2:30 p.m. in the Planetarium. Tickets at the front desk.

CIVIL WAR WOMEN
Saturday, Feb. 19, 1:30 and 3:30 p.m.
Sandra Hansen will keep you on the edge of your seat as she reveals the lives of five extraordinary, yet ordinary, women of the Civil War. Performance is appropriate for ages 12 and up. $5/person.
KALAMAZOO ARTIFACTORY II
Sunday, Feb. 20, 1:30–2:30 p.m.
Celebrate Kalamazoo in poetry at the second annual Kalamazoo Artifactory. Inspired by local history, area poets will present new poems created for this reading. The program is in collaboration with the Friends of Poetry.

WSTAR PRESENTS SENSATIONAL SCIENCE
Saturday, March 5, 1–4 p.m.
Students from Woodward Elementary will conduct demonstrations and crafts on the science of motion. Brownies may earn their Movers Try-it.

GEMINI IN CONCERT
Saturday, March 5, 1 p.m.
Put motion to the test as you stamp your feet, clap your hands, and wiggle in your seat. FREE, but get your tickets early the day before the performance—the theater will fill quickly!

FESTIVAL OF HEALTH
Saturday, March 19, 12–4 p.m.
Area fitness and health-care organizations provide information, games, and activities that teach us how to take care of ourselves—from our brains, to our teeth, to our toes! Designed for all ages, this program includes information on traditional and alternative methods of health care.

THE CARE OF FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHS AND DOCUMENTS
Sunday, April 10, 2 p.m.;
Anna Whitten Hall, Room 128;
KVCC’s Arcadia Commons Campus
Paula Metzner, Assistant Director for Collections Services, will offer a workshop on the care and preservation of family photographs and documents. Visitors may bring in their own documents and photographs for specific advice.

PLANETARIUM
Journey into space with state-of-the-art technology providing spectacular sights and sounds to guide your imagination and experience our amazing universe. All programs $3/person.

BIG Jan. 8–March 27 • Sat., 11 a.m.; Sun., 1:30 p.m.
As we gaze into the heavens, sometimes we wonder: how big is the universe? It is so big that when we look into space we are looking backward in time, seeing light that left the distant stars long ago. Come take a voyage past the planets and nearby stars to the very edge of the universe.

HUBBLE VISION Jan. 5–March 30 • Wed., 4 p.m.; Sat. and Sun., 3 p.m.
The Hubble Space Telescope is nearing the end of its mission and in nearly 15 years of operation it has revealed the wonders of the universe, and while it has solved some mysteries of the universe, its observations have also stirred up new mysteries for astronomers to solve.

ORION NIGHTS Jan. 8–April 2 • Sat., 2 p.m.
The brilliant stars surrounding Orion the Hunter reveal legends of ancient heroes and modern theories of how stars live out their lives. This program mixes the stargazing, mythology and science of winter’s evening sky.

THE LITTLE STAR THAT COULD April 2–June 26 • Sat., 11 a.m.; Sun., 1:30 p.m.
Join the little star as he searches across the Milky Way for a family of planets he can call his own. Along the way discover why stars come in different colors, how they are born and die, and how they form pairs and clusters throughout the galaxy.

SCOUT PROGRAMS
Call 269/373-7990 for a complete listing.

VOLUNTEER ALERT!
Call (269)373-7986 to learn about the benefits of volunteering at the KVM.

FREEDOM CAMP

ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES
The museum is barrier-free. Sign language interpreters may be scheduled for programs with a minimum of two weeks’ notice. Assisted-listening devices are also available in the planetarium. Our TDD number is (269)373-7982.
The CLC is an innovative educational facility complete with Space Station and Mission Control that sends thousands of students each year on simulated space missions. Special group missions are described below. Call 269/373-7965 for details and reservations.

JUNIOR MISSIONS
A specially designed 90-minute mission for children ages 8 and up. Pre-flight hands-on activities prepare junior astronauts for their exciting flight in the CLC’s spacecraft simulator. Successful crews receive certificates and mission memorabilia. An excellent program for scouts and other clubs. $10/person. Ages 8 & up; min. 8, max. 14 participants. Registration required at least two weeks prior.

CORPORATE TRAINING MISSIONS
This three-hour hands-on team-building experience for corporate groups that consists of one hour of pre- and post-mission activities and a full two-hour space flight simulation. Go to our website for details, or call the number listed above.

CHILDREN’S LANDSCAPE

Children’s Landscape is designed to introduce preschoolers and their parents to an interactive museum setting. Hands-on activities, exhibits, and programs are designed for children 5 and under. Children older than 5 may participate only if accompanying a preschool buddy, with the expectation that their play be appropriate to preschool surroundings. Free

HOURS: Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. • Sunday 1 to 5 p.m.
Open until 5 p.m. during Spring Break

JANUARY
WINTER—Enjoy the winter inside.

FEBRUARY/MARCH
DINOSAURS—Let your imagination take you back to the time of the dinosaurs. Dress like a dinosaur, play with dinosaurs, put together puzzles, and more.

APRIL/MAY
CONSTRUCTION ZONE—Get ready to build! Children’s Landscape will be filled with blocks, tools, nuts, bolts, and construction-zone signs as children prepare to change the landscape.

CIRCLE TIME PROGRAMS
These programs are offered free of charge to families and preschool groups. Different stories, musical activities, games, and art projects will be offered each week. Programs are approximately 20 minutes long and begin at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Monday: Preschool Math (ages 3–5)
Tuesday: Preschool Science (ages 3–5)
Wednesday: Preschool Stories (ages 3–5)
Thursday: Preschool Music (ages 3–5)
Friday: Preschool Art (ages 3–5)

See the inside front cover of this issue for monthly Preschool Performances coming to the Theater, thanks to a special gift in memory of Henry Burton Upjohn. Admission is FREE, but seating is limited, so get your tickets early on the day before the performance!
Our thanks to the following donors who generously gave items to the Kalamazoo Valley Museum's collection in 2004...

- Cara Aldrich: POW/MIA bracelets
- Jackie Baker: Shakespeare archery set
- Walter N. Blue: mastodon vertebra
- John Boekhout: WKZO promotional items
- Jean Brink: L.O.E. presentation sword
- M. Joan Bunn: Kalamazoo postcard
- Darlene Buell: Antiques Hobby Club scrapbook
- Marian A. Caley: Lounsberry family memorabilia
- Ron Cleveland: set of army men
- Jack Cotton: 1950s women’s clothing
- Thomas R. Crumb: WKZO promotional items
- Barbara H. Davies: french fry cutter
- John Davies: Upjohn products; mortar & pestle
- Charles Dent: Easy-Bake oven
- Tom Dimock: Dimock family memorabilia
- Valerie Elliott: POW/MIA bracelet
- Dale N. Fawley: baseball gloves
- Dell & Marilyn Foster: Kalamazoo souvenir spoon
- W.H. Fraser: Upjohn photograph
- John L. Gerlofs: POW/MIA bracelet
- Delmar E. Gibbons: scrimshaw powder horn
- Jeannette Goodenough: bottle of Upjohn Phenolax pills
- Terrie Hale: Sherk's drugstore bottle
- Jean Hamill: Nancy Ann Storybook dolls; documents; photos
- Kay Hanson: POW/MIA bracelet; McGovern button; pendant clothing buttons
- Barbara Speas Havira: Happi-Time sled
- H. Sidney Heersma: blanket
- Frederick Hinga: WKZO mug
- Floyd O. Holes: oil painting (portrait)
- Robert M. Howard: railroad watch with keys
- Melbourne O. Jacques: Kalamazoo College Library
- Jean E. Kelley & Juanita Birdwell: Birdwell Renew family memorabilia
- Julia Kellman: Jenny Lind porcelain doll; heirloom seeds
- Mike Killarney: Red Arrow Brigade photos & documents
- Robert Kuder: photograph
- Elizabeth U. Mason: phonograph records & equipment
- Mattawan Mechanical Services: 1927 Michigan road map
- Robert L. Mattison: Kalamazoo souvenir spoon
- Estate of Alexander M.S. McColl: Dr. William Stone portrait; WWI poster.
- Pam McQuer: Jaguars football jersey & helmet
- Paula Metzner: Kalamazoo documents & memorabilia
- Richard Moehmer: Kalamazoo Lassies' baseball
- Elaine Olson: Kalamazoo postcards & magazine
- Anne Pancelia: Sutherland Paper Company disposable pie plates
- Portage Quilters: U.S. Bicentennial quilt toys; World's Fair souvenir; product packages
- Rita A. Rifenberg: 1860 campaign ribbon
- Joan Ryan: Pince-Nez eyeglasses
- Patricia A. Searles: Civil War letters & documents
- Donna Seilheimer: Pharmacia & Upjohn keychain
- Walter & Joetta Senour: Kalamazoo Steam Laundry sign
- Carolyn Shields: KVP-Sutherland photographs
- Pat Sines: Upjohn shipping crate
- Howard F. Slager: POW/MIA bracelet
- Timothy Alan Stamm: Stohrer family photographs & WKZO documents
- Richard Stohrer: Penny Thompson: POW/MIA bracelet
- John R. Titus: shortwave radio receiver
- Paul Triemstra: Bissell carpet sweeper; laundry basket
- Richard C. Tuinier: paper industry photograph; Upjohn binder
- Charles A. Van Zoren: hobby horse
- Mary Veldt: Kalamazoo Creamery photograph
- Ellen Bos Vellenga: Bos family memorabilia
- Jim & Karen Visser: toy trucks
- Wend Family and Anne Lipsey: Kalamazoo Folding Boat Company boat

What are we looking for?

The kinds of things museums look for might surprise you. It isn’t always a great work of art or a piece of fancy furniture… more often it’s the stuff of daily life. Today the Kalamazoo Valley Museum is collecting for the 20th century. If it was used between 1900 and 1999, and can help tell the story of Southwest Michigan, it may be just what we’re looking for. If you have something you think belongs in a museum, please contact Tom Dietz, curator of research, at (269)373-7984 or tdietz@kvcc.edu.

Our Wish List includes: Civil War uniform • Humphrey products • Kalamazoo duplex phonograph
Rediscover movies as the filmmakers intended—on the big screen… with an audience! Each weekend, the Kalamazoo Valley Museum features a different series. On the first weekend of each month, the KVM screens award-winning independent films in partnership with Film Movement. On the second weekend of the month, see the work of Southwest Michigan filmmakers and hear them discuss their work. The third weekend features classic American films and the fourth weekend features classic foreign films. **Screenings Saturdays at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. Admission $5/person except where noted; “Show and Tell” series admission is FREE. Tickets may be purchased in advance by calling 269/373-7990 or at the front desk of the museum.**

### February

**Sat 5** 7:00 • Film Movement Series – *El Bola* (Spain, 2003)
**Sun 6** 1:30 • Ken Burns’ *The Civil War* – Ep. 2: *A Very Bloody Affair*, 1862
3:00 • Film Movement Series – *El Bola* (Spain, 2003)
**Sat 12** 2:30 • Secrets of Lost Empires – *Obelisk*
7:00 • “Show and Tell” – Amy Levine FREE
**Sun 13** 3:00 • “Show and Tell” – Amy Levine FREE
**Sat 19** 7:00 • American Classics – *The Maltese Falcon* (1941)
**Sun 20** 3:00 • American Classics – *The Maltese Falcon* (1941)
**Sat 26** 2:30 • Secrets of Lost Empires – *Coliseum*
7:00 • Foreign Classics – *Closely Watched Trains* (Czech, 1966)
**Sun 27** 3:00 • Foreign Classics – *Closely Watched Trains* (Czech, 1966)

### March

**Sat 5** 7:00 • Film Movement Series – *Raja* (France, 2004)
**Sun 6** 1:30 • Ken Burns’ *The Civil War* – Ep. 3: *Forever Free*, 1862
3:00 • Film Movement Series – *Raja* (France, 2004)
**Sat 12** 2:30 • Secrets of Lost Empires: *Pyramid*
7:00 • “Show and Tell” – Dhera Strauss FREE
**Sun 13** 1:30 • Ken Burns’ *The Civil War* – Ep. 4: *Simply Murder*, 1863
3:00 • “Show and Tell” – Dhera Strauss FREE
**Sat 19** 7:00 • American Classics – *The Quiet Man* (1952)
**Sun 20** 3:00 • American Classics – *The Quiet Man* (1952)
**Sat 26** 2:30 • Secrets of Lost Empires: *Easter Island*
7:00 • Foreign Classics – * Battleship Potemkin* (Russia, 1925)
**Sun 27** Closed for Easter

### April

**Sat 2** 2:30 • Secrets of Lost Empires – *China Bridge*
7:00 • Film Movement – *The Light of My Eyes* (Italy, 2003)
**Sun 3** 3:00 • Film Movement – *The Light of My Eyes* (Italy, 2003)
**Sat 9** 2:30 • Secrets of Lost Empires – *Medieval Siege*
7:00 • “Show and Tell” – Mike Mort FREE

### May

**Sun 10** 1:30 • Ken Burns’ *The Civil War* – Ep. 5: *The Universe of Battle*, 1863
3:00 • “Show and Tell” – Mike Mort FREE
**Sat 16** 2:30 • Secrets of the Pharaohs – *Tut’s Family Curse*
7:00 • American Classics – Rebel Without A Cause (1955)
**Sun 17** 3:00 • American Classics – Rebel Without A Cause (1955)
**Sat 23** 2:30 • Secrets of the Pharaohs - Unwrapping the Mummy
7:00 • Foreign Classics – *The Seven Samurai* (Japan, 1954)
**Sun 24** 1:30 • Ken Burns’ *The Civil War* – Ep. 6: *Valley of the Shadow of Death*, 1864
3:00 • Foreign Classics – *The Seven Samurai* (Japan, 1954)
**Sat 30** 2:30 • Secrets of the Dead – *The First Human*
7:00 • Special Screening: Marlon Brando Remembered – *A Streetcar Named Desire* (1951)

**Sun 1** 3:00 • Special Screening: Marlon Brando Remembered – *A Streetcar Named Desire* (1951)
**Sat 7** 2:30 • Secrets of the Dead – *The Black Death*
7:00 • Film Movement Series – *Long Life, Happiness and Prosperity* (Canada, 2004)
**Sun 8** 1:30 • Ken Burns’ *The Civil War* – Ep. 7: *Most Hallowed Ground*, 1864
3:00 • Film Movement Series – *Long Life, Happiness and Prosperity* (Canada, 2004)
**Sat 14** 2:30 • Freedom’s Road FREE
7:00 • “Show and Tell” – Matt Dunstone FREE
**Sun 15** 1:30 • Ken Burns’ *The Civil War* – Ep. 8: *War is All Hell*, 1865
3:00 • “Show and Tell” – Matt Dunstone FREE
**Sat 21** 2:30 • Secrets of the Dead – *Tragedy at the Pole*
7:00 • American Classics – *The Grapes of Wrath* (1940)
**Sun 22** 3:00 • American Classics – *The Grapes of Wrath* (1940)
**Sat 28** 2:30 • Civil War Journal: Sherman and the March to the Sea FREE
7:00 • Foreign Classics – *The 400 Blows* (France, 1959)
**Sun 29** 1:30 • Ken Burns’ *The Civil War* – Ep. 9: *The Better Angels of Our Nature*, 1865
3:00 • Foreign Classics – *The 400 Blows* (France, 1959)
A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

SPRING BREAK ACTIVITIES
APRIL 4–8, 1 to 4 P.M.
From fictional creatures to scary science—explore, discover and create!

MONDAY:
Dinosaurs—create some prehistoric creatures.

TUESDAY:
Monsters—make puppets, masks, dolls and monsters galore.

WEDNESDAY:
Wild Science—try experiments and crafts in physics and chemistry.

THURSDAY:
Mummies & Ghosts—design Egyptian mummies, twirling ghosts and more.

FRIDAY:
Aliens & UFOs—create out-of-this-world creatures and flying space ships.

PLUS THESE DAILY SPECIAL PROGRAMS

THE LITTLE STAR THAT COULD
PLANETARIUM SHOW
1:30 p.m.; $3/person

MISSION TO MARS
CHALLENGER MINI-MISSION
3 p.m.; $3/person

Kalamazoo Valley Museum
230 N. Rose Street
PO Box 4070
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