Student startup connects small businesses to Gen Z for events, food and shopping

Frustrated by the lack of convenience and access to finding things to do in Kalamazoo, Western Michigan University students Gabriella Ford and Hailey Gordon founded Shindigz. Described as a one-stop shop, Shindigz is a website made for Generation Z consumers to easily scroll through events, food and shopping in their area. The website will also be a platform for businesses to directly advertise to Gen Z users with promotions and specials.

Secretary turned teacher finds success with new expedited special education program

"I had this desire after working with students with special needs to be a special education teacher. I didn't know how it was going to happen," says Austin Giles. Starting as a secretary in Portage Public Schools (PPS), Giles knew he wanted to be a teacher. Unsure how and where to start, he joined the District's Grow Our Own teacher pipeline program. Looking inward for solutions, the district's Grow Our Own teacher pipeline program was started to address the statewide teacher shortage.

Governor names new trustees

Joining the University's board are James L. Liggins Jr., senior counsel with the Kalamazoo office of Warner Norcross + Judd, and Kara Wood, executive director of the Grand Rapids-based economic development organization Grand Action 3.0.

Series at WMU focuses on climate crisis, inspiring change

Join the WMU Climate Change Working Group, students, staff, and affiliate organizations on campus and in the Kalamazoo community for Climate Emergency: Spring into Action 2024, a semester-long look at the climate crisis and what we can do to address it. Learn more and find upcoming events.