

Lakeside Boys Compete in First Track & Field Season

Lakeside boys ran and jumped into the history books this spring, by participating on the agency's first ever track and field team sanctioned by the Michigan High School Athletic Association. Boys Track & Field became Lakeside's third MHSAA-sanctioned team behind Boys Basketball (2015) and Boys Soccer (2016).

The "Titans" competed against numerous area schools with students winning many individual medals and team honors, including a third-place finish in a ten-team event at the Comstock Track & Field Invitational in May. **Killian D.** had a personal best long jump of 20-feet, 4-inches and joined **Dameare C., Chris R., Isaiah W.,** and **Shawn H.** as Titans who qualified for the MHSAA regional tournament.

"It was exciting to see our student athletes compete at such a high level," said Lakeside Academy Online Teacher and Athletic Director **Michael McKinley**. "The young men on this track team will cherish this experience forever."

McKinley said he wasn't the only one impressed with the sportsmanship and character Lakeside students displayed during the meets. "Many other coaches, teachers, and administrators commended us for our boy's efforts and attitudes."



Lakeside Students "Speak It Forward"

Seven Lakeside for Children students took to the stage at Chenery Auditorium in Kalamazoo recently for Speak It Forward's 2017 Celebration of Success, a showcase of talented youth voices from Lakeside Academy, Kalamazoo Public Schools, Calhoun County Juvenile Home, and Gryphon Place Crisis Center, as well as local guest artists, and musicians. Motivational speakers and spoken-word artists **Gabriel Giron** and **Kirk Latimer** of Kinetic Affect co-hosted the event and Kalamazoo television host **Lori Moore** served as emcee.

"This event is important for the students as it provides them a stage and experiential opportunity to share their stories in front of an audience of community members who support and celebrate their accomplishments," said Giron. "The evening was both energizing and transformational!"



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FOR CHILDREN

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Lakeside for Children

Providing at-risk youth an opportunity to learn new skills and behaviors in a caring hope-filled and supportive environment.



What a Night!

Lakeside Dedicates New Health & Wellness Center



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Lakeside Girls Join Marathon Effort

Lakeside for Children female students provided crucial assistance during the Kalamazoo Marathon on Sunday, May 7. Standing side-by-side with Lakeside staff members and Oakwood-Winchell neighborhood residents near the race's 12-mile mark, Lakeside students called out words of encouragement to the runners – "You can do it!" "Looking good!" "Keep it up!" – while handing them cups of water and sports drink.

"This is the first time I've been a part of a marathon," said Torie, from Kent County. "Wow, there were so many runners that we could hardly keep up with them."

Staffing the Kalamazoo Marathon water station is one of many community service opportunities in which Lakeside students participate each year to interact with local residents, develop social skills, and build self-esteem.

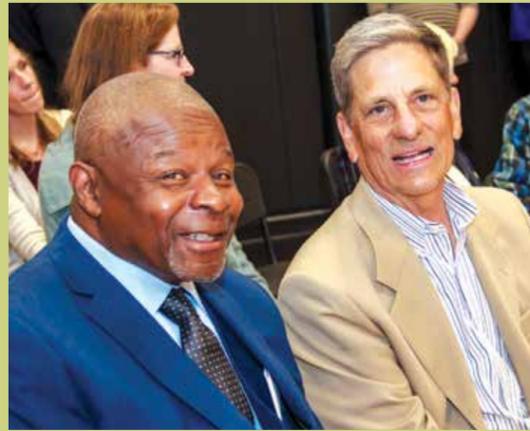
Lakeside supporters cut the ribbon on new Health & Wellness Center

Lakeside for Children hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony April 19, in its new Health & Wellness Center. About 200 guests enjoyed tours of the \$2.3 million, 12,500-sq.-ft. Center that includes three classrooms, a multipurpose room, a locker room, and a gymnasium.

Speakers included retired Kalamazoo Boys & Girls Club CEO (and former Lakeside student) **Robert Ezelle**, Michigan State Senator **Margaret O'Brien**, Lakeside for Children Foundation Board President **Joel Orosz**, Lakeside for Children Foundation Board Member **Amy Upjohn**, and former Lakeside for Children Board Member **Elizabeth Upjohn Mason**.

The gym inside the new Center is named in honor of **Burton Upjohn**, the late Kalamazoo businessman, philanthropist, and longtime Lakeside for Children board member. "Burt's Gym" has a Michigan High School Athletic Association certified basketball court with bleacher seating for 255. It also accommodates volleyball, wrestling, badminton and other indoor activities.

The three classrooms in the new Center are named in honor of longtime Lakeside board members **Joe and Dolly Brogger** and **John and Jane Todd**, as well as longtime Lakeside supporter **Sallie Kittredge**. An all-purpose meeting, staff training, and classroom is named for longtime Lakeside CEO **Don Nitz**.



New Center has people talking!

Robert Ezelle: "We cannot afford to give up on our young people or their dreams. Each girl and boy at Lakeside is valued and provided with the tools to guide them toward making positive decisions in their lives. For them, Lakeside and this new building give them a chance at the American Dream."

Margaret O'Brien: "When we exercise, we feed our bodies, stimulate our minds, and heal our souls. This building provides these things and is a very important part of our educational system. Congratulations to Lakeside and its students. You are an important part of our community and an important part of our educational system."

Joel Orosz: "This wonderful new center was made possible by the many corporations, foundations, and individuals who answered our call and made generous gifts totaling \$2.3 million. We cannot thank you enough."

Amy Upjohn: "The Kalamazoo community always says 'Yes' to kids. Thank you, to everyone for your thoughtful and generous support of Lakeside and this project. The legacy of commitment to young people is alive and well here at Lakeside and here in Kalamazoo."

Elizabeth Upjohn Mason: "Burt Upjohn was the kind of guy who wanted every kid to have access to the exhilaration of healthy competition. He wanted them to study in well-equipped classrooms with skilled and caring teachers. He wanted them to be able to catch up and move ahead to productive rewarding lives. I know he would have supported this whole program."



Spring Cleanup Volunteers

Thank you, **Jakob Bergh**, **Paul Spence**, and **Jeff Duncan** (l-r) from Duncan Insurance Agency for volunteering to spend an afternoon on spring cleanup of the Lakeside for Children campus!

"Our agency is dedicated to impacting our community by doing what we can to help others live well and thrive," said Duncan, whose father-in-law was a Lakeside student in the late 1940s. "Lakeside is preparing children for a positive future and we're glad to be part of that."



Kathryn Gadbois Joins Lakeside Board

Kathryn Gadbois, an attorney with Kreis, Enderle, Hudgins & Borsos, P.C., has joined the Lakeside for Children board of directors. "Kate" was born and raised in Western Michigan. She graduated from Davenport University with a bachelor's degree in paralegal studies and received her Juris Doctor degree from Western Michigan University Thomas M. Cooley Law School where she served as the Student Bar Association vice president. Kate is an attorney in Kreis Enderle's Kalamazoo office. Her main practice areas include corporate and business law, estate planning and probate.

Welcome to Lakeside, Kate!

Open Roads Opens Opportunities for Lakeside Students

Thank you, Open Roads, for bringing your unique program to the Lakeside campus for 12 sessions this spring. Open Roads is a small Kalamazoo-based nonprofit with a mission to teach students bike mechanic skills and social skills in order to better prepare them for their future. Through repairing and rebuilding bikes, Open Roads helps students acquire new social skills, behaviors and attitudes that put them in a position to better navigate life at home, in school, and in their neighborhoods. Using donated bikes and tools, Lakeside student mechanics worked with adult volunteers in a safe and supportive space. They got their hands dirty, met adults they could trust, learned useful technical skills, and built some self-confidence along with bikes. Oh, and the bikes they repaired were then donated to local kids who don't have one.

