

Important!

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KVCC Time Line

by Jan Alm

Year	Date	Event
1962		In response to growing public concern about the lack of vocational/technical training opportunities in the area, the impact of technology and automation in the workplace, the inability of comprehensive high schools to meet technical/vocational training needs, and the rising entrance standards in institutions of higher education, the Kalamazoo Public Schools administration issues a report on the potential for creating a community college in Kalamazoo
1962		Every county adjacent to Kalamazoo County is involved in investigating, planning for, or opening a community college
1964	Fall	The Kalamazoo PTA Council organizes a Citizens Committee to objectively assess the educational needs of the community; after forming the Committee, the PTA Council relinquishes control, and the Committee becomes an autonomous body responsible to the citizenry of Kalamazoo County; committee of 25 is chaired by Marvin De Boer
1964	Fall	The Kalamazoo Community Foundation grants "up to four thousand dollars" to support the work of the Citizens Committee
1965		The Kalamazoo County Superintendents' Association completes a "Survey of Vocational Education and Practical Arts Facilities and Programs in Kalamazoo County;" the report recommends serious consideration of some type of county-wide post high school program that would include programs for low competency students

1966	March 9	"Report of the Citizens Committee to Study Educational and Job Needs in Kalamazoo County" (also referred to as the Job Needs Study) is completed
1966	May	"Report of the Feasibility of a Community College for the Kalamazoo Valley Intermediate School District" (also referred to as the Feasibility Study) is completed by the Citizens Committee with technical support from the Division of Field Services, Western Michigan University; report recommends the creation of a "Kalamazoo Community College"
1966	August 1	A community college for the Kalamazoo Valley Intermediate School District is established as a legal entity by vote of the citizens of 9 school districts: City of Kalamazoo Public Schools, Climax-Scotts Community Schools, Comstock Public Schools, Galesburg-Augusta Public Schools, Gull Lake Community Schools, Parchment Public Schools, Portage Public Schools, Schoolcraft Community Schools, Vicksburg Community Schools; in the same election, a special 1.5 mill tax levy is passed to support the College, and 6 Trustees are elected: Daniel J. Heathcote, Paul D. Jackson, Mable A. Shoemaker, John R. Barth, Robert J. Wollam, Dominic B. Leonardelli
1966	October 27	Board of Trustees adopts 9 objectives for the College (no record of the objectives found)
1967		Community College's first office opens at 1924 White's Road in Kalamazoo
1967	January	Site and demographic study completed
1967	March 7	Alden B. Dow Associates of Midland, Michigan, retained as College architects
1967	March 8	<i>Kalamazoo Gazette</i> article announcing the selection of the College architects is the earliest known (as of 3/30/2012) print reference to the full name "Kalamazoo Valley Community College"
1967	March 15	Dale B. Lake appointed the College's founding president
1967	May 8	Board of Trustees and President Dale Lake make a final walking inspection of the proposed building site
1967	May 9	Board of Trustees finalizes the selection of a 185-acre parcel as the future site of Kalamazoo Valley Community College; sellers George and Florence Sprau, who previously raised 80 acres of popcorn on the property, limit the sale to "a public or similar non-profit eleemosynary institution;" purchase price is \$296,000, or \$1,600 per acre
1967		Early architectural drawings depict the College on the shores of a "proposed lake," south of the campus; Kalamazoo County's Al Sabo Land Preserve, including the west branch of Portage Creek, abuts the College property

1967	June 7	"Kalamazoo Valley Community College: Educational Specifications, the Permanent Campus" report lists 9 two-year general studies programs, 66 occupational programs, and apprenticeship programs "as needed" to be introduced in the first 4 years of operation; examples of projected offerings include Legal Secretarial, Chemical Technology, Professional Typist, Materials Testing, Dental Hygienist, Conservation Technology, Welder, and Household Appliance Repair; noting west Michigan's severe winter weather, the report recommends the eventual development of "one or two massive buildings" rather than multiple smaller buildings
1967	July	Bruce Kocher hired as Dean of Students, the College's second employee; Robert Chick hired as Dean of Administration, the College's third employee
1967	July 11	Board of Trustees policy states that authorized College travel will normally be made by College-owned vehicle or public carrier; if College vehicle is unavailable, personal vehicle mileage will be reimbursed at 10 cents per mile; if College vehicle is available but not used, personal vehicle mileage will be reimbursed at 3 cents per mile
1967	July	Plans are approved for construction of an "instant campus" modular building
1967	August	Three-phase long-range construction program adopted
1967	August	The Exchange Club of Suburban Kalamazoo presents a check for \$300, the College's first scholarship funds, to President Dale Lake
1967	December 21	Opening of construction bids for a pre-engineered (modular) building reveals bids ranging from \$740,000 to over \$1-million, much higher than the expected \$600,000; low bid is from Speed Space of Santa Rosa, California
1968		First master plan completed
1968	January 9	Trustees unanimously accept a final construction bid of approximately \$650,000 for the campus's first building; talks between the College's architectural firm, Alden B. Dow Associates, and building fabricator Speed Space resulted in modifications that lowered the bid from the original \$740,000 submission; final cost for the 48,000 square foot building will be approximately \$13.50 per square foot
1968	January 10	<i>Kalamazoo Gazette</i> announces College's official opening is planned for Fall Semester
1968	January	First 100 students accepted and formed into a Student Planning Task Force (alternate source cites 110 students)
1968	January	College adopts a "split semester" format with a "College Approved Program" (CAP) element; each semester will include a 13-week segment and a separate 3-week CAP segment allowing for innovative educational experiences; students may take one CAP course per semester; CAP courses meet 3 hours daily for 3 weeks and grant a full semester's credit for the course

1968	February	KVCC is accepted as a member of the American Association of Junior Colleges
1968	February 13	Board of Trustees approves 14 staff appointments with a starting date of September 1; 5 more faculty members are also hired, with 10 faculty still to be finalized
1968	February 13	President Dale Lake announces 3,000 volumes have been acquired or ordered for the library; 5,000 additional volumes are planned
1968	February 20	President Dale Lake writes to the District Engineer for the State Highway Department requesting highway signage to indicate KVCC's location; a reply from the Highway Department's Lansing office explains that signs are provided only for 4-year institutions accredited by the North Central Association of College and Secondary Schools and implies that KVCC is seeking free advertising
1968	April 1	Groundbreaking for the College's first building, Redwood Hall
1968	August	College's first building, a 40,000-square-foot modular structure, is completed in 90 days and named Redwood Hall
1968	August	47-member "Pioneer Faculty" report and participate in two weeks of seminars and workshops
1968	September 10	For the first time a faculty meeting is held onsite at the College
1968	September 15	2,500 people attend the opening ceremony, ribbon-cutting, and campus dedication at Redwood Hall
1968	September 16	First classes begin with 1,518 students enrolled: 887 full-time and 631 part-time, 998 males and 520 females, 514 with previous college experience and 1,004 without, 789 (578 males and 211 females) in vocational-technical programs and 729 (420 males and 309 females) in transfer programs, 1,243 District residents, 266 non-district Michiganders, and 9 out-of-state residents; initial tuition is set at \$10 per credit hour
1968	September	Initial public bus service to the campus makes just 2 stops, at 11:10 a.m. and 5:10 p.m.
1968	September 25-26	Students vote to select Blue and White school colors and the Cougars mascot
1968		4 men's sports are instituted: basketball, baseball, golf, and soccer; for the 1st 2 years, the College has no gymnasium, so the basketball team practices at other locations
1968	October 11	First issue of the first student newspaper, <i>Valley Voice</i> , is issued
1968	October 16	Students vote to ratify the Student Congress Constitution proposed by the Student Advisory Committee
1968	November	Students vote for first Student Congress officers

1968	November	Faculty Senate has been formed, and standing committees have all have met; committees include Academic Affairs chaired by Maureen Taylor, Academic Standards chaired by Paul Millikan, Professional Affairs chaired by Jim Hemenway, and Student Affairs chaired by Shirley Averill
1968	November	Approximately 12 student groups are meeting and preparing to apply for official College club status
1968	November	Cafeteria menu posted by Canteen Services offers Hamburg, Bar B Que, Chili Dog, or Fish Sandwich for 35 cents; other offerings include Cheeseburg, Hot Dog, French Fries, Onion Rings, and Soup
1968	November 23	KVCC celebrates its first and last Non-Homecoming and crowns a Non-Homecoming Queen and Court at the Non-Homecoming Dance; (no homecoming game to celebrate)
1968	November 25	The KVCC theater group 9th Street Players presents their first performance, one-act plays titled "Impromptu" and "Sorry, Wrong Number"
1968	November 26	Cougars basketball team scores their 1st victory in the 3rd game of their 1st season, defeating Grand Rapids School of Bible and Music
1969		Long-range facilities development plan submitted by architects Alden B. Dow Associates of Midland, Michigan
1969	Winter Semester	To free up time for meetings and special events, no classes are scheduled on Wednesdays between 3:30 and 6:00
1969	March 17	<i>Faculty Focus</i> newsletter announces 3 competitions--for faculty, for staff, and for community members--to design a College logo; entries should include the name of the College, 1968 as the date of organization, and "some form of symbolism;" the resulting original seal features the Tower and includes the College's 1966 creation date rather than 1968, when the first classes were held
1969	March 19	First weekly 90-minute scheduled "Talk In" time is held; students are invited to stop in the conference room for informal conversation with the College President, student officers, Dean of Students, other administrators, and occasionally a member of the Board of Trustees
1969	March	President Dale Lake designates a 90-minute period each week as "Drop-in Time;" faculty are invited to drop in and discuss "anything at all," no appointment needed; meeting by appointment is also encouraged
1969	March	Student Congress purchases a mimeograph machine for the use of student clubs and organizations; groups should supply their own stencils
1969	March	Second phase of the construction program begins: the main building
1969	April 1	Dress rehearsal for two KVCC plays, "Here We Are" by Dorothy Parker and "The Ugly Duckling" by A. A. Milne, performed for a "faculty wives get-together"

1969	April 15	Students stage a "Demonstration of Appreciation" (also called a "Reverse Protest"), thanking the Board of Trustees, administration, and faculty--in contrast to demonstrations of campus unrest occurring across the country; demonstration signs include "KVCC the Cool School," "Trust the Trustees," "Thank You for a Fine First Year," and others; event is noted in the Congressional Record of May 29, 1969
1969	April 26	College's first Spring Formal, called "R'eves D'Amour" (sic), is held at Hillside Junior High School
1969	June 2	First faculty and staff family picnic held in Milham Park; all employees, Trustees, and families are invited
1969	Summer	With no summer courses offered by the College, history instructor Paul Millikan coordinates with the Kalamazoo Public Museum to offer an Archaeology fieldwork experience for 15 students: KVCC's first summer program; the team excavates an historic cabin site, and the resulting artifacts are placed in the Museum's collection
1969	June 16	Start of official summer office hours for secretarial staff: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. with one-half hour for lunch
1969	August	9,600-square-foot Butler Building, nicknamed "The Tin Hut," is erected northeast of Redwood Hall; structure houses an automotive technology laboratory, bookstore, student publications area, student meeting area, and a student center with a juke box, vending machines, and pool table
1969	August 6	North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools accepts KVCC's Status Study report and authorizes a "diagnostic examination" visit, the next step toward accreditation
1969	Fall Semester	Bus service to the campus is expanded to 4 stops a day; if bus service is not used, it will be discontinued after 30 days
1969	Fall Semester	Library changes its name to Learning Resources Center (LRC) to reflect growing collections in diverse media formats; LRC changes from Dewey Decimal to Library of Congress cataloging system
1969	September	Second academic year opens with 2,573 students
1969	September 15	Biweekly student newspaper <i>The Communicator</i> publishes first issue; paper is published by students in Journalism 125 class and interested volunteers
1969	September 15	Student newspaper <i>The Communicator</i> reports that all 5 divisions of the College added instructors for Fall Semester for a total of 22 new faculty, 18 of whom are full-time; divisions include Business Division, Engineering Sciences and Technology Division, Division of Health Sciences and Technology, Humanities Division, Social Sciences Division
1969	October	Mattawan School District annexed to KVCC District by vote of Mattawan electorate
1969	October 27	The 1969 Pontiac assigned for faculty use is replaced by a 1970 LeMans; the new car will have dealer plates but can be driven in any state for any authorized College travel

1969	December 11	4-page art and literary supplement to student newspaper <i>The Communicator</i> is titled "First Annual Hippie Gazette & Reefer Sheet"
1969	December	Plans for Fall Semester in the new building--still under construction--include 120-seat classrooms with computerized systems with which students will respond to multiple-choice questions from their instructors
1970		By 1970, KVCC offers 8 men's sports; no women's sports are yet offered
1970	February 14	The Faculty Wives Club Valentine dinner dance is cancelled; in lieu of the dinner dance, a get together at Shakey's will follow the Homecoming basketball game
1970	March	College becomes a Recognized Candidate for Accreditation by action of the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools
1970	April?	Builders erect the College's iconic Tower above the main entrance to the new building
1970	April	Student newspaper <i>Brouhaha</i> receives awards for articles and photography at state competition
1970	June	KVCC's first graduation exercises award 132 associate's degrees and 6 certificates (alternate source reports 178 graduates); Governor William G. Milliken delivers the commencement address
1970	June	Tuition per semester credit hour is \$10 for district residents, \$20 for Michigan out-of-district residents, and \$30 for non-residents; no laboratory or student activity fees are assessed
1970	August 8	Cornerstone laying ceremony for second-phase construction project, the new main campus building
1970	Fall	Smoking is restricted to general office areas, faculty office areas, food services areas, and rest rooms in both "the 1968 Facility [Redwood Hall] and the new building"
1970	Fall Semester	KVCC offers Dental Hygiene program for the first time
1970	Fall Semester	Business English class is now divided into two sections dictated by students' vocational plans: "One will appeal to men in the field of business communication, and the other will specialize in clerical work for secretaries"
1970	September 1	Per the 1970-71 faculty "Senate Agreement," a Professional Development Plan approved by the President or his designee is required of each faculty member; Plans should include 15 hours of graduate work or the equivalent, to be completed in no longer than 3 years
1970	September	Third academic year opens with 2,996 students
1970	October	A student is elected by the Academic Affairs Committee to serve as chairman of this joint student-faculty committee
1970	Fall	Parts of the new building are finished; students and faculty move into the partially-completed complex

1970	December 7-9	Grand opening of The Cougar Collection (bookstore) in the new main building
1971	March	New main campus building opens with 260,500 square feet of classrooms, labs, cafeteria, library, auditorium, gym, and pool, plus track and athletic fields
1971	March 12	Board of Trustees recognizes the "Faculty Association" union name adopted by the Faculty Senate; bargaining unit will include counselors except the Director of Counseling and librarians except the Director of Library Services
1971	April	External newsletter, <i>Tower Talks</i> , initiated and published "occasionally," then 4 times per year, then 3 times per year
1971	May 16	Campus dedication and open house for the "new \$8M educational facility," the 260,500-square-foot main building; over 2,500 attend the dedication
1971	May	College staff produce first 16mm film, a documentary about KVCC titled "A Place to Begin"
1971	May	College's first self-study report submitted to the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools
1971	June	Second annual Commencement awards 141 associate's degrees and 5 certificates
1971?		A special classroom requested and designed by philosophy instructor and pioneer faculty member Bob Badra is created within the new building; known as the "Love Room" or the "Pillow Room," the room offers only pillow and floor seating and features multi-color lighting to create a relaxed and informal setting for philosophy, meditation, "The Study of Love," and similar classes; as of 2013, the room is still in use, pillows and all
1971	Summer	Child care is offered for the first time; 65 children ages 3 and up are enrolled
1971	Summer	"Student Labor Force" program helps students find temporary jobs including lawn care, babysitting, painting, typing, factory help, clerical work, window washing, and farm labor
1971	Fall Semester	Fourth academic year opens with 3,448 students
1971	Fall Semester	Following excellent response to the summer day care program, the service is extended for Fall Semester; Center is staffed by a director with student and community volunteers
1971	September	"Educational Opportunity Program" is initiated to support students with weak basic skills in reading, communication, and mathematics
1972	January	"Operation ROAD" (Retiree Opportunity for Action and Development) project established; project allows senior citizens to take courses tuition-free

1972	March	College fully accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools after just 3-1/2 years in operation
1972	June	Third annual Commencement with 219 associate's degrees and 6 certificates awarded
1972	August	College assumes responsibility for the Regional Police Academy previously operated by the City of Kalamazoo
1972	September	College initiates an expanded Community Development and Community Services Program dubbed "Think 1972;" over 100 credit and non-credit courses are offered at 14 centers located throughout the KVCC district; offerings include Blueprint Reading, Short-Order Food Preparation, Computer Theory, and others; district population is 203,000
1972	Fall Semester	Enrollment reaches 4,176, a 21 per cent increase over 1971; over 15,000 people have taken at least 1 course in the College's first 5 years
1972	October	College hosts Fall Open House for the public
1972	October	Kalamazoo Regional Police Academy debuts at KVCC
1972	November	Based on the College's innovative programs assisting disadvantaged students with special needs, the Michigan Department of Education selects KVCC to conduct a special workshop, "Strategies In Programming for Students with Special Needs"
1972	December 12	First graduation for Kalamazoo Regional Police Academy; 31 officers from 19 municipalities graduate (alternate source records first graduation occurring in December 1973, with 31 officers from 5 counties)
1972		Slab poured for Redwood Hall expansion
1973		Need for physical plant operations space is met with addition of 7,200-square-foot Garage and Maintenance Building
1973		Faculty member Sue Schoolmaster petitions Board of Trustees to offer women's sports; women's volleyball added 1974, basketball 1975, softball 1976 (Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 prohibits gender discrimination in any educational program)
1973	January	College launches TV series entitled "Close-Up" on Fetzer Cablevision; series promotes KVCC and discusses topics of general interest
1973	January	American Association of School Administrators and the American Institute of Architects praise campus design
1973	February	Kalamazoo Concert Band moves to KVCC's auditorium from Chenery Auditorium
1973	May 20	Spring Open House held for the public

1973	Spring	10,000-square-foot addition to Redwood Hall is completed
1973	June	Fourth annual Commencement awards associate's degrees and certificates to 256 students
1973	Fall	Semester opens with 4,232 students enrolled
1973	Fall	Community Outreach office is established at the Alma Powell Library in Kalamazoo; office provides counseling and information regarding KVCC's programs
1973	September	First basketball clinic features speakers Bobby Knight and Tex Winter
1973	September	Kalamazoo Garden Council presents KVCC's courtyard an award for gardening and landscaping
1973	September	"Hands On," a 10-minute film highlighting KVCC's vocational/technical programs, is produced by College staff
1973	December	First graduating class of KVCC's Regional Police Academy includes 31 officers from 5 counties (alternate source gives a date of 12/12/1972)
1973	December	College awarded first major grant: \$820,000 Advanced Institutional Development Grant from the U. S. Office of Education
1974	March	In cooperation with KVCC's Placement Office, the Michigan Employment Security Commission establishes its first full-time satellite office on a college campus; MESC's "Job Shop" places 40-50 KVCC students per month during the school year and 10-15 per month during the summer
1974	April - May	A mobile admissions trailer stocked with brochures and catalogs about KVCC's programs and activities makes day-long stops in the parking lots of area Harding's Supermarkets (Allegan, Otsego, Bangor, and Paw Paw)
1974	June	KVCC's Office of Community Development offers a 3-week Automobile Mechanic Class for women only
1974	Summer Session	College offers study trips to Europe and East Africa
1974	Summer Session	Instructors Paul Millikan (History) and Phil Wilson (Physical Education) offer the first bicycle trip for KVCC credit; touring around the state, the course is titled "History of Michigan;" more bicycle trip courses are offered in following years
1974	Summer Session	Equipment and 10-speed bicycles are furnished by the College for participants in the 2-week course "Bicycle Trip to Beaver Island;" (alternative source gives the trip and course title as "History of Michigan")
1974	August 1	Marilyn Schlack joins the KVCC staff as Dean of General Studies and Public Service

1974	Fall	4,935 students enroll for Fall Semester, a 17 per cent increase over 1973; College now offers more than 50 vocational-technical programs
1974	Fall	College abandons 3-week College Approved Program (CAP) format and moves to traditional academic calendar of two 16-week semesters
1974	September	Millwright apprenticeship program developed in conjunction with Millwright Local AFL-CIO
1974	December	First Career Fair, with more than 40 employers, agencies, and post-secondary schools, attracts over 2,000 high school students
Year? to at least 1975		The College emphasizes community offerings (e.g., Little League coaching clinics, creative dramatics for children, pleasure boat safety course, annual open house) until at least 1975
1975	March 2 - May 4	First "Sunday College," offering 15 one-credit courses, launched; offerings include Spring Flora of Michigan, Bicycle Maintenance, and Futurology
1975	March 20	Michigan National Guard presents KVCC a plaque recognizing the College's efforts in developing a unique cooperative education program
1975	Summer	KVCC offers its first Summer Youth Day Camp for children ages 4-10
1975	September 22	Voters turn down an increased mill tax levy to support the College
1975	Fall Semester	In cooperation with Kal Aero of Kalamazoo, KVCC offers occupational aviation education for the first time
1975	Fall Semester	KVCC offers its first telecourse, "Classic Theatre: The Humanities in Drama," featuring 13 plays selected from classic literature and performed by London's premier theater companies; students read the plays and view them on WGVC or Fetzer Cablevision television
1976	May	KVCC hosts more than 50 leaders from small colleges across the country in a meeting to discuss how smaller computers can be used in many instructional as well as administrative tasks and roles; IBM speaker Lawrence Willey notes that while the effectiveness of computer-delivered instruction has yet to be demonstrated conclusively, some instructional applications are proving to be effective
1976	June 1	Tuition rates per semester hour rise from \$10 to \$15 for district residents, from \$20 to \$30 for Michigan out-of-district residents, and from \$30 to \$45 for non-residents; no laboratory or student activity fees are assessed
1976	July	KVCC receives 10-year accreditation from the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools

1976	Summer	24 students participate in 32-day 3,470-mile coast-to-coast bicycle ride led by faculty members Phil Wilson and Paul Millikan; ride celebrates the U. S. Bicentennial 1776-1976
1976	August 20	Marilyn Schlack appointed Dean of Instruction
1976	Fall Semester	For the first time, and in conjunction with Kal Aero of Kalamazoo, KVCC offers 2 Aviation Private Flight Training courses for students interested in pursuing private pilot certification
1976	Fall	Women's Drop-In Center is established in Redwood Hall (men are also welcome); coordinator of women's programs, Jerie Wood, is hired
Year? to late 1970s?		Through at least the late 1970's, the College regularly offers a variety of children's activities (e.g., children's movies); start date(s) unknown
Year? to 1977?		At least into 1977, Bible studies are offered on campus by non-College groups; local priest offers hours of availability in the cafeteria; start date(s) unknown
1977	January 19	Building is evacuated when fire breaks out in the food service area; campus is closed for 4.5 days, and estimated cost to recover from fire, smoke, and soot damage is \$250,000
1977	February 6?	A fire occurs in Redwood Hall
1977	February 7	<i>Valley News</i> , a publication for students, reports that a student "lost a trench coat left in the building during the fire"
1977	July	U. S. Office of Education selects KVCC to conduct a national consortium of over 40 community colleges to increase institutions' fundraising potential
1977	Fall Semester	Tenth Fall Semester begins with 6,157 students enrolled
1977	September	New Financial Aid and Job Placement Center opens in room 3013, also known as the "playpen" area
1977	September	SAGA Food Service establishes the College's first meal service
1977	October	In cooperation with the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems, KVCC completes a comprehensive community impact study, providing information for planning and evaluation
1978	Winter Semester	LRC (Learning Resources Center, or Library) institutes a policy that faculty and staff get priority access to the copy machine during the first 15 minutes of every hour; LRC reminds students that if staff got their own copier, the 5 cents per-page price would rise due to lower usage overall
1977-1978		408 students graduate during 1977-1978 school year
1978	Fall	10th Anniversary celebration marking 1968 (first classes offered) to 1978

1978	Fall Semester	11th Fall Semester opens with 6,734 students enrolled
1978	Fall	College's first greenhouse constructed
1978	October	LRC (Learning Resources Center, or Library) currently houses 52,700 books, 490 magazines and newspapers, 10,500 pamphlets, and 23,400 audio-visual items
1978	October 23	Campus publications <i>Faculty Focus</i> (for faculty) and <i>Valley News</i> (for students) merge into a single, expanded weekly publication titled <i>Valley Focus</i>
1979	January 29	First issue of <i>The Digest</i> , a semi-monthly newsletter for employees, is published
1979	May 10	Tenth annual Commencement exercises held in the gymnasium
1979	July 16	In response to "our national energy problem," including climbing gas prices, federal emergency building temperature restrictions go into effect through April 16, 1980; cooling is limited to 78 degrees, and heating may not exceed 65 degrees
1979	August	First annual Cougar Caper golf outing held
1979	Fall	Since KVCC classes began in 1968, the average annual subscription price of the Library's journals has risen from \$8.66 to \$30.37
1979	Fall Semester	Two new 3M Datatronics 550/DG Test Scoring Machines are now available for faculty use
1979	Fall	Student body now includes 131 international students, an increase of 37 per cent from the Fall of 1976
1979	October 9	Board of Trustees increases reimbursement for use of a personal automobile on College business from 8 cents to 12 cents per mile
1979	December	New Athletic Director Dick Shilts announces the formation of a Cougar Booster Club
1980	January 18	First monthly meeting of the newly-formed Clerical Advisory Committee; group's goal is to address issues unique to, and to provide support for, the College's clerical staffers
1980	July 1	Program to grant credit for prior learning is implemented
1980	Fall	Media Services now offers a microcomputer for faculty check-out for up to 4 hours at a time
1980	Fall	Kalamazoo Valley Foundation established; contributions to the Foundation will be used exclusively for the benefit of KVCC
1980	September 10	Members of the new Faculty Development Center meet for the first time; the group's mission is to enhance the talents, expand the interests, improve the competence, and otherwise facilitate the professional and personal life of faculty members
1981	Winter Semester	206 foreign students from 23 countries enroll for Winter Semester

1981	Winter Semester	LRC (Learning Resources Center, or Library) acquires one electric typewriter for student use; fee for use is 25 cents for 30 minutes
1981	January 6	First "Board Breakfast" is held for KVCC employees, with members of the Board of Trustees in attendance
1981	February	College announces a new Presidential Fellowship Program, in which student participants will broaden their experience through projects and interactions with the KVCC President's Office
1981	March 9	Staff newsletter <i>The Digest</i> notes that siphoning gas from cars parked at KVCC is a growing problem; staff are urged to park with gas tanks facing the driveway and to notify the switchboard of any suspicious activity in the parking lot
1981	May	KVCC's Career Institute assumes responsibility for conducting registered apprenticeship programs sponsored by the Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training, U. S. Department of Labor
1981	May	Tuition increase of 33 per cent is announced, the first increase since 1976; in-district students will now pay \$20 per credit hour
1981	July 24-August 9	"On the Road" program of bicycle trips makes its first foreign sojourn, biking in England, Scotland, and Wales
1982		32,000-square-foot addition for vocational/technical lab space adds new wing to main building
1982	Winter Semester	KVCC faculty now provide instruction for 11 apprenticeship programs, e.g., Pipefitter, Maintenance Electrician, Tool and Die, and Mold Maker
1982	April	After serving as interim Executive Dean for several months, Dean of Instruction Marilyn J. Schlack is appointed to the dual role of Executive Dean/Dean of Instruction
1982	April 13	President Dale B. Lake submits a letter of resignation to the Board of Trustees after 15 years as president; Lake intends to leave KVCC around September 30
1982	September 10	College holds a recognition dinner in downtown Kalamazoo for departing President Dale B. Lake
1982	September	Colleges holds a staff reception for departing President Dale Lake and incoming President Marilyn Schlack; Lake presents Schlack a symbolic key to the College
1982	September 30	Dale B. Lake steps down as College's first president after serving 15 years
1982	October 1	Marilyn J. Schlack replaces Dale Lake to become KVCC's second president
1982	December 1	Margaret Burke Lee, formerly of Alpena Community College, becomes Dean of Instruction

1983		College receives a \$103,500 Jobs Training and Special Economic Programs grant from the Michigan Department of Education; funds will be used for computer hardware and software to support Computer Assisted Drafting courses
1983	Spring	Computer Advisory Committee is formed to advise administration, faculty, and Computer Services on computing equipment, services, and curriculum needs and issues
1983	June	President Marilyn Schlack announces establishment of a Downtown Center; Kalamazoo City Manager Robert Bobb predicts Downtown Center is a step toward development of a downtown campus within a decade
1983	June	Bookstore announces a program to assist faculty and staff in purchasing personal microcomputers
1983	July	Expanding on the success of the "Sunday College" enrichment classes, "Weekend College" is established with more than 100 traditional courses offered for credit
1983	August 2	Site for Downtown Center is announced; Fidelity Federal leases the property to KVCC until 1990 for \$1
1983	Fall	Downtown Center--8,600 square feet built under part of a City of Kalamazoo parking structure--is established at 126 East South Street, Kalamazoo; Helen McCauslin is Director of the Center
1983	Fall Semester	College's 16th Fall Semester begins with 9,087 students enrolled
1983	Fall	Plastics Technology Program introduced
1983	October	Faculty and staff move into new Downtown Center
1983	November 22	Downtown Center open house is held; KVCC Foundation announces its first major capital campaign, \$921,000 for development of the Downtown Center
1984		College receives a \$108,674 grant from the Michigan State Department of Education to provide high tech training and educational assessment to employees of the General Motors Fisher Body plant in Kalamazoo
1984		Procedures in the event of a tornado warning direct that the staff member in charge of each area will announce, "The tornado evacuation procedure is in effect. The map on the wall indicates the shelter area. After locating the shelter area on the map, proceed immediately to that area."
1984	January	First classes held at Downtown Center
1985	July	A new program called SOS--Student Opportunities for Success--is launched to help students through the orientation and registration processes
1985		KVCC receives an \$117,527 grant from the Michigan State Department of Education to fund the second phase of a training effort at the General Motors, BOC Group, Kalamazoo plant

1986		Respiratory Care program changes its name to Cardiorespiratory Care to reflect changes in the profession
1986	June	KVCC hosts visitors from Shanghai College of Petrochemical Technology; visit is the beginning of a "sister relationship" between the 2 schools
1986	June	"Education for Employment," a county-wide vocational program involving KVCC, Kalamazoo Valley Intermediate School District, and all 9 public school districts in the county, is launched to consolidate training efforts; a bus will serve as a mobile unit for the GAP (Guidance, Assessment, and Placement) component of the program
1986	July 1	Tobacco products are no longer sold on campus, either by Saga Food Service or the Bookstore
1986		KVCC granted a second 10-year accreditation by the North Central Association for Colleges and Secondary Schools
1986-87	Aug. 1 - Aug. 1	A year-long 20th Birthday Celebration for KVCC, "A Celebration of Community," is planned for August 1, 1986, to August 1, 1987
1986	Fall Semester	8,200 students enroll for Fall classes
1986	October 19-25	20th Anniversary "Celebration of Community" week marks 1966 (inception of the College) to 1986
1986	December 18	First December graduation exercises
1987		Honors Program established (alternate source gives 1988 as initial year)
1987	January 1	Michigan's "Clean Indoor Air Act" goes into effect; smoking is limited to a portion of the cafeteria, lounge space near the Chemistry labs, a small hallway at the Downtown Campus, and enclosed private offices
1987	January	"Play Center" opened in main building for children ages 2 to 6 whose parents are enrolled KVCC students
1987	February?	Men's basketball team wins 1986/87 Michigan Community College Athletic Association state championship
1987	June 8	Voters grant the College an additional 1.0 mill tax levy, the first increase in 21 years, since the College's original 1.5 mill levy
1987		Pioneer Technologies teams with KVCC to train Environmental Technology students and serve as a demonstrator for Pioneer's employees, customers, and dealers; program includes the donation of Pioneer's new state-of-the-art 16-channel computerized Energy Conservation System
1987		First annual Student Art Sale
1987-1994?		In an arrangement that lasts at least 7 years, Western Michigan University allows KVCC students to rent rooms in WMU dormitories when space is available

1987	Fall Semester	College enrollment reaches 9,309, a 10.1 per cent increase over final Fall 1986 enrollment
1987	Fall Semester	18 apprenticeship trades are now offered at KVCC, including tool and die, industrial electricity, and mold making
1987	August 31	<i>The Digest</i> staff newsletter moves from monthly to weekly publication
1987	September	KVCC hosts a month-long visit by 4 staff members of Chinese "sister institution," the Shanghai College of Petrochemical Technology; visitors observe teaching methods and College operations and are particularly interested in programs in business administration, data processing, and secretarial science
1987	Fall	<i>Tower Times</i> student newspaper begins publication; contest awards \$50 prize for the best name for the new publication
1987	December 8	1987 facilities master plan submitted by Kingscott Associates
1988		KVCC employees compete with teams from area businesses and organizations in a "Corporate Olympics"
1988		Master plan updated
1988		Planning underway for 3 building additions: 16,500-square-foot front door and Tower Entrance area expansion; 12,000-square-foot Technical Wing; 95,600-square-foot Instructional Wing
1988	February	President Marilyn Schlack forms Management Council to operate as a conduit for input from the College community for effective planning, budget development, and day-to-day problem solving; Management Council tackles issues such as travel procedures, articulation plan, and prerequisites enforcement
1988	Spring	College assumes administration of mobile career development program, "Guidance, Assistance, and Placement" (GAP), formerly funded by a Michigan Department of Education grant; mobile unit serves 11 high schools, 4 adult education programs, business and industry, and social service agencies
1988	Spring	KVCC establishes a permanent assessment center, the "Career Planning and Assessment Center," offering aptitude, interest, personality, and skills testing
1988	March 23	With the College Satellite Network and the U. S. Distance Education Learning Association, KVCC co-sponsors an interactive teleconference titled "The Electronic Campus," an exploration of creative educational uses of emerging communications technologies
1988	July 1	Permanent Guidance, Assistance, and Placement (GAP) office opens at KVCC; the mobile GAP unit is also based here
1988	Fall	Upjohn Company grants KVCC funds to explore the development of a business/educational park in downtown Kalamazoo
1988	Fall Semester	College's 21st Fall Semester commences with 9,790 enrolled

1988		Honors Program established (alternate source gives 1987 as initial year)
1988		International Students Club organized
1988		First annual Student Resource Fair
1988		"Play Center" renamed "Children's Campus"
1988	Fall Semester	Achievement Plus (A+) Program established to assist the 50 per cent of students who are failing or dropping out
1988		Eaton Roadranger Training Institute established to train truck drivers
1988		President Marilyn Schlack appointed to a term as commissioner-at-large for the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools
1988	Fall Semester	College appoints a Part-Time Faculty Instructional Consultant to train, support, and serve all part-time faculty at the Texas Township Campus and the Downtown Center; program is titled The Valley VIPs, short for Vital Instructional Personnel
1988	Fall Semester	Office of Student Advocacy opens with a staff of 1
1989	January	State awards KVCC \$183,600 from the Community College Appropriations Act's Community College Job Training Investment Fund
1989	February 6	Physical plant management announces in <i>The Digest</i> that they are legally constrained from assisting people who are locked out of their vehicles "by breaking into them ourselves;" they recommend trying a wire coat hanger
1989	February?	Men's basketball team wins 1988/89 Michigan Community College Athletic Association state championship
1989	March 17	Groundbreaking for construction of Instructional Wing extending to the east of the main TTC building; new wing will house classrooms and faculty offices
1989	April 11	First of America Bank introduces ATM service to the campus with an Automatic Teller Machine placed near the Bookstore
1989	May 15	On loan from Hobart Brothers of Troy, Ohio, a new robotic welding system arrives on campus for industry demonstrations and use in the Advanced Welding course
1989	June 19	Computing staff announce in <i>The Digest</i> that DOS-based programs WordPerfect 5.0, Lotus, and dBase III Plus, are supported by the Computer Center; "The Computer Staff feels no need to change operating systems at this time or in the foreseeable future"

1989	July	Construction begins on "Front Door Addition," expanding the north side of the building between the main entrance and the Tower Entrance and redesigning the main entrance
1989	Fall Semester	KVCC, Mall City Ambulance, and Borgess Medical Center join forces to offer a new 3-semester Paramedic Training Program
1989	Fall	New parking lot constructed
1989	September	KVCC and Western Michigan University institute Project FOCUS to "help Black, Hispanic, and Native American students achieve their educational goals at the community college and successfully transfer to the university;" project is funded by Michigan Department of Education's Office of Minority Equity
1989	October 16	<i>U. S. News & World Report</i> cites KVCC for extending technical education offerings to students as young as 9th grade
1989		International Education Program is established with the support of a \$45,000 grant from the U. S. Department of Education under Title VI of the Higher Education Act
1990	January	40 representatives from other southwest Michigan community colleges attend KVCC's January Faculty Seminar
1990	Spring	First annual Campus Beautification Day held
1990	April 29	KVCC's Alpha Rho Nu Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa national honor fraternity for 2-year schools is established and inducts its first 12 members
1990	May	Student tennis player Carl DeBeer, from South Africa, wins Junior College Men's National Singles Championship
1990	May 7	KVCC holds its 25th Commencement
1990	August?	Council for the Advancement and Support of Education awards KVCC a gold medal for best community college outreach to the community
1990	September	Kalamazoo Board of Education invites KVCC Board of Trustees to explore the feasibility of incorporating the Kalamazoo Public Museum into the College's downtown campus
1990	September 10	Computer Lab opens in new location at the east end of the new Instructional Wing
1990	Fall	Learning Labs relocated to the new Instructional Wing and combined in a single location
1990	Fall	First hands-free handicapped-accessible doors installed at main entrance
1991	January 9	Student Leann Rothi, of Kalamazoo, crowned Miss Michigan-USA
1991	January 11	KVCC Computer Lab Open House; new lab includes College's first Macintosh classroom and Local Area Network (LAN) classroom

1991	January	Admissions, Counseling, and Special Programs offices relocated from Redwood Hall to main building
1991	February 17	Instructors Mark Reinhardt and Alan Gandy launch monthly car repair TV show, "Motor Magic with Mark," on Cable Community Access channel
1991	March 4	Demolition party held for Redwood Hall, the College's first building; 1973 addition will remain standing
1991	March 11	Library renovation incorporates upper level space formerly occupied by faculty offices; upgrades include an elevator and electronic security system to reduce theft of library materials; a single entrance is established on the upper level
1991	March 19	First classes held in new Biology Lab, located in space formerly occupied by the Student Records Office and part of the Computer Center
1991	March 31	Governance of Kalamazoo Public Museum transferred from Kalamazoo Board of Education to KVCC; museum remains housed on 2nd floor of Kalamazoo Public Library
1991	April	Redwood Hall is demolished except for the 10,000-square-foot 1973 addition, now being remodeled to house the Children's Campus
1991	April	National Endowment for the Humanities awards \$170,000 two-year grant to facilitate cross-discipline dialog; project, titled "The Humanities, Science, and Technology: Making Connections," is led by instructor Bob Badra
1991	April 28	Dedication and cornerstone ceremony for additions to main building; 100,000-square-foot new construction centralizes student services in the front of the main building and adds an Instructional Wing for faculty offices, Computer Lab, and classrooms; project includes renovation of 45,000 square feet
1991	Spring	Instructor Jim Taylor and Alan Gandy, Coordinator for Special Projects and Services, work to create a computer program to train students in neo-natal care
1991	June 10	Voters approve a 0.4 mill tax levy to support the Kalamazoo Public Museum; Museum's tax support is independent of the College's tax support
1991	Summer	Courtyard renovated; timber retaining wall, trees, and shrubs are added
1991	Fall	103 Native American students presently enrolled; Native American Student Association, open to all students, is formed
1991		KVCC student organizations now include: Data Processing Management Assn., International Student Club, Student American Dental Hygienist Assn., Student Nurses Assn., Valley Artists, Delta Epsilon Chi, African American Assn., Hispanic American Assn., Native American Assn., Phi Theta Kappa, Women's Support Group, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, KVCC Cheerleaders, and <i>Tower Times</i> student newspaper

1991	Fall	Photo in the <i>Tower Times</i> student newspaper shows that, in addition to aspirin and No-Doz, the Bookstore carries condoms
1991	Fall	New Interinstitutional Student Exchange Program allows students to earn KVCC credit for courses taken at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo College, Davenport College, and Nazareth College
1992	January	Children's Campus child care center is dedicated and opens for business at its new location in 10,000 remodeled square feet of Redwood Hall
1992	January 2	Smoking at Texas Township Campus limited to 1 room off the cafeteria; smoking is completely banned at the Downtown Center
1992	February 1	\$20-million public campaign to build "The New Museum" is launched
1992	June 30	Legislature approves funding, delayed more than a year, for a downtown campus; Technical Applications Center addition to main campus is also funded
1992	August 28	Groundbreaking for a downtown Kalamazoo campus to be built at the northeast corner of Rose and Water Streets; a 55,000-square-foot, 3-story classroom building is planned; the new campus is an integral part of the city's Arcadia Creek redevelopment project now referred to as Arcadia Commons
1992	Fall Semester	Enrollment tops 11,000 students
1992	Fall	Library installs computer-based online catalog system; new system will replace the card catalog by April of 1993
1992	December	Final report of the Downtown Campus Planning Committee is accepted by President Marilyn Schlack
1992		Renovation of auditorium to meet requirements of new Americans with Disabilities Act begins
1992-1993		First Midwest Institute for International Studies and Foreign Languages held
1993	February	Diversity Council composed of faculty, administrators, and students is formed
1993	February 15	Library announces acquisition of their first CD-ROM, <i>The New Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia</i> (1992); the single disk contains 21 volumes, including pictures, maps, video clips, and sound clips
1993	April 1	Library completes computerization of book and audio-visual records and joins the Western Michigan Information Network (Westnet) computer network of West Michigan libraries; Library installs 5 computers for patron use locating books
1993	Spring	Construction of Technical Applications Center (TAC) begins
1993	Spring	Bookstore installs computer system to aid in sales and inventory processes
1993		25th Anniversary celebration commemorates 1968 (first classes offered) to 1993
1993	Fall Semester	College's 26th Fall Semester begins; enrollment is 10,928

1993	Fall	KVCC goes entirely smoking-free
1993	Fall	L.I.V.E.S. (Leaders in Volunteer Efforts and Service) program established to encourage and assist students to become involved in community service
1993	Fall	Challenger Learning Center installed in the Kalamazoo Public Museum; Center simulates Space Shuttle flights
1993	September 10	President Marilyn Schlack forms and convenes a Leadership Council to provide input on College planning and direction; membership includes 28 employees from across the College
1993	September 17	Groundbreaking for new location of Kalamazoo Public Museum, called "The New Museum," at 230 North Rose Street, Kalamazoo
1993	October	Women's tennis players take 2 state titles in Michigan Community College Athletic Association; Tami Colyer wins the singles crown and teams with Tracy Smith to win the doubles title
1993	November 1	First "flight" of the Challenger Learning Center, a simulated Space Shuttle flight
1993	December	Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (MetLife) donates \$250,000 to KVCC Foundation
1994	January 7	1993 long-range facilities master plan submitted by WBDC Group of Grand Rapids
1994	February	Men's basketball team ties Lansing Community College for conference title
1994	February	Men's basketball team wins Michigan Community College Athletic Association state championship
1994	March 22	Vice President for College Relations and Services Dick Olivanti receives Petrizzo Career Service Award from the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations; Petrizzo award recognizes service in the field of college relations
1994	March	College's two campuses named: Texas Township Campus and Arcadia Commons Campus
1994	April	Newly-renovated 468-seat auditorium is dedicated
1994	April 25	Men's tennis team wins state championship; team is fifth-ranked community college team in the nation
1994	May	Average student age is 30, up from 22 when the College opened in 1968
1994	Spring	The Entrepreneurship Program is established, preparing students to run their own businesses
1994		Library discards the card catalog, which was superseded by the Fall 1992 switch to an online catalog system
1994		Women's tennis team wins state championship
1994	August	Honors Program takes 11 students on a 9-day tour of historical sites in the American South
1994	September 14	<i>Kalamazoo Gazette</i> announces the College plans to reduce parking fees for students

1994	September 29	Dedication ceremony for the Arcadia Commons Campus at 202 North Rose Street in Kalamazoo; Arcadia Commons Campus replaces the Downtown Center, in operation since 1983 at 126 East South Street
1994	October 7	First-ever Faculty and Staff Art Show opens
1994	Fall	New logo for the College is introduced: an opening book above the words "Kalamazoo Valley Community College, A Community of Learning;" new logo replaces the original design featuring the Tower in a circle
1994	Fall	For the first time, students sign up for classes via an automated telephone touch-tone registration system
1994	Fall	Adjacent to the Texas Township Campus, the Al Sabo Land Preserve is reopened to the public after environmental restoration work
1994	Fall	First classes held at the Arcadia Commons Campus in downtown Kalamazoo with more than 2,000 students enrolled
1994	Fall	First classes held in the new Technical Applications Center (or TAC) building addition
1994	December 14	Local business advertises in student newspaper: rent an IBM compatible computer "for as low as \$22.00 per week"
1995	March 15	New Women's Center opens
1995	April 18	Dedication and grand opening of the Technical Applications Center (TAC)
1995	April 20	KVCC holds its first Computer Fair
1995	September 12	Kalamazoo Public Museum, known as The New Museum during construction, officially renamed Kalamazoo Valley Museum
1995	Fall	College's foreign student population stands at 114 from 34 countries
1996	February 16	Preview Gala for the new Kalamazoo Valley Museum
1996	February 17	Kalamazoo Valley Museum opens in new Arcadia Commons Campus location
1996	March	North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools grants KVCC 10-year accreditation for the 3rd time
1996	March 8	A Family Open House is held to celebrate the new Kalamazoo Valley Museum
1996	Spring	KVCC Faculty Association establishes affiliation with the American Association of University Professors (AAUP)
1996	Fall	Widening of the 9th Street bridge over I-94 is begun; construction increases KVCC traffic congestion
1996	Fall	Deaf Culture Club is newest student organization
1996	November 9	First of America Bank presents President Marilyn Schlack with the final installment of an \$800,000 commitment to support the New Museum project

1996	November	Student group organizes to publish a student literary journal, <i>Plethora</i>
1997	Winter Semester	\$3-per-credit-hour tuition increase pays for the installation of 30 laser printers (20 at Texas Township Campus and 10 at Arcadia Commons Campus) for student use, supplementing dot matrix printers presently available
1997	January	Articulation agreement with Davenport College allows students to complete a 4-year degree in Accounting or Business through a flexible series of weekend courses
1997	January	"Team IX: Community Partnership and Enrichment" group reports that 1,605 non-college activities were held at KVCC facilities during 1996
1997	January	Museum wins top honors at the American Institute of Architects Southwest Michigan Chapter's annual awards
1997	January 23	Texas Township Campus is evacuated, and 1 of 4 suspicious packages--mailed to faculty members from a foreign country and without a return address--is detonated by law enforcement bomb squad; packages are determined to contain talking or musical Christmas cards sent by a former student
1997	March 1	Men's basketball team wins the Michigan Community College Athletic Association State Championship
1997	April	Student Melissa Neal is ranked among the top 20 community college students in the country by the American Association of Community Colleges
1997	August 25	Renovated and expanded "21st Century" Chemistry facilities open to students following a \$1-million update; improvements include lab workstations equipped with laptop computers
1997	August	A state mediator is brought in to assist with negotiations, and the College's 116 full-time faculty return to teach Fall Semester without a contract following lengthy negotiations
1997	Fall	Begun in Fall of 1996, widening of the 9th Street bridge over I-94 is completed; upcoming widening of 9th Street and O Avenue will also ease KVCC traffic congestion
1997	Fall	Semester begins with 11,549 students enrolled
1997	Fall Semester	The Texas Township Computer Lab reopens after a major overhaul in which all PCs were replaced and now have 32 megabytes of Random Access Memory (RAM); another 40 PCs were installed at the Arcadia Commons Campus; all existing Mac stations received software upgrades, and 4 new Mac computers were added
1997	Fall Semester	For the first time, class schedules and the College catalog are posted online

1997	Fall	Amid controversy, the College resurrects an "unwritten guideline" limiting to 4 the number of consecutive Fall and Winter Semesters that part-time faculty can teach before being required to take a 1-semester break; goal is to open opportunities for others to teach
1997	October 4	Women's tennis player Natalie Braden wins the singles championship in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association state tournament
1997	November 11	Agreement is finally reached in contract negotiations between the Faculty Association and the College; the 5-year contract is the longest in KVCC history
1998	Winter Semester	Installation of a Windows-based computer system allows the College to provide e-mail accounts to all students for the first time
1998	January	Security Chief Art Ziehlke states there were no reported car break-ins during Fall Semester, however, about 300 tickets were issued, the majority for running recently-added stop signs or exceeding the campus speed limit of 15 miles per hour
1998	February	Plans for a building addition to link the Arcadia Commons Campus building with the Museum have been ruled out in favor of an elevated, enclosed walkway at the second-floor level; plans for an "Educational Arcade" or "Learning Arcade" (eventually called the Student Commons) for the Texas Township Campus are expanded from 32,000 to 55,000 square feet
1998	February 28	Men's basketball team wins their second state Michigan Community College Athletic Association championship in a row
1998	March	Fortune 500 company Dana Corporation is the first company to commit to building a facility at the College's proposed high-tech business-education-technology park (eventually christened The Groves) at I-94 and 9th Street
1998	Fall Semester	Class Attendance Report (CAR) system is implemented to track student attendance and verify that Federal Title IV financial aid recipients are attending classes for which they registered and receive financial aid
1998	October 4	Women's tennis team wins National Junior College Athletic Association Regional Championship
1998	December 7-9	Graphic Communications Program students present first Electronic Art and Design Showcase
1999	January 12	College receives \$5-million state grant to build the "Michigan Technical Education Center at KVCC" (M-TEC)
1999	March 29	John Cooper, formerly of Kellogg Community College, appointed Vice President for Academic Services
1999	June 18	Groundbreaking for the \$11-million "Michigan Technical Education Center at Kalamazoo Valley Community College;" M-TEC will be located at "The Groves Business Technology Education Park"

1999	September 24	Groundbreaking ceremony for the Student Commons addition to the main Texas Township Campus building
1999		Allegan County business, government, community, and education entities approach KVCC about establishing a higher education presence in Allegan County
1999	November	Inaugural issue of <i>Career Source</i> magazine highlighting KVCC programs, faculty, and student successes is mailed to 129,000 area residents
1999	December 16	Due to extensive renovation and expansion projects, for the first time Commencement is held off campus at the Radisson Plaza Hotel in downtown Kalamazoo
2000	January	College's new administrative software program, SCT Banner, goes live
2000	May 8	Commencement is held in Western Michigan University's Miller Auditorium for the first time
2000	May 26	Renovation of Texas Township Campus Library begins; changes will include a lower level entrance and 24-seat computer classroom
2000	Summer	Instructors Paul Millikan (History) and Darrell Davies (Biology) lead a West-to-East cross-country bicycle trip; trip celebrates the new millennium (first KVCC cross-country bike trip celebrated the U. S. Bicentennial in 1976)
2000	July	10 public forums are held in Allegan County to receive citizen input regarding the possibility of establishing a KVCC-affiliated higher education entity in Allegan County
2000	Summer-Fall	Texas Township Campus Library temporarily relocates to the Technical Applications Center (TAC) during Library renovation
2000	Fall Semester	New Dental Hygiene Clinic incorporating leading-edge technologies opens
2000	September	Men's tennis coach Darrell Davies inducted into National Junior College Athletic Association's Men's Tennis Coaches Hall of Fame
2000	November	Michigan Department of Career Development awards KVCC's Michigan Technical Education Center (M-TEC) a \$122,650 grant to develop competency-based curricula addressing skill needs of the state's high-tech workforce
2000	November	Retired history instructor Paul Millikan solicits input from past and present KVCC staff with the intent of writing a history of the College; efforts result in the production of the 2002 video "Success has a Thousand Parents, Part 1: 1966-1979;" no further parts were produced
2000	December	Texas Township Campus Library returns to now-renovated original location
2000-2001	Dec. 9 - Feb. 21	WLLA Channel 64 Sports airs tape-delayed broadcasts of 3 men's and 3 women's basketball games

2001	Winter Semester	<i>Tower Times</i> student newspaper touts unusual course offerings for Winter Semester including SCUBA, Private Pilot Ground School, Horsemanship, Snowboarding, The Study of Love, and others
2001	March 23	M-TEC (Michigan Technical Education Center) dedication and grand opening celebration; KVCC's M-TEC is 1 of 17 in the state; the \$11-million cost is met with a \$5-million M-TEC grant from the state plus \$6-million from the private sector
2001	March 29	Dental health professionals from southwest Michigan are welcomed to a private opening of the new Dental Hygiene Clinic
2001	Spring	The Alumni Scholarship Fund is established by the KVCC Foundation; scholarships are funded by past students to help today's students
2001	April	<i>The Digest</i> announces that, with the staff directory now posted on the KVCC Intranet, the Office of Human Resources will no longer print and distribute a paper directory
2001	April	Online registration and online payment are now available to students via the Internet; course schedules posted on the KVCC website are updated in real time via Banner
2001	June	The Wellness and Fitness Center, part of the new Student Commons construction, opens for student, faculty, and staff use
2001	June	11,000 electronic books from "netLibrary" made available via the KVCC Libraries website
2001	Late June	Allegan County board votes unanimously to ask KVCC to annex Allegan County to its community college district
2001	September 24	Grand opening of the Student Commons and dedication/ribbon-cutting for upgrades to Advanced Technology Center for New Media (formerly Technical Applications Center), Dental Hygiene Clinic, Cafeteria, Nursing classrooms and lab, Wellness/Fitness Center, and Texas Township Campus Library; celebratory events scheduled all week, September 24-28
2001	December 21	Commencement exercises are televised live for the first time on the Community Access Center's Channel 32
2002	April 2	Citizens Committee for a Community College in Allegan County announces the site for a proposed KVCC-affiliated comprehensive community college in Allegan County; next, the group will work for the approval of a 2.41 mill tax levy to fund the project
2002	April 12	Hispanic College Day offers events to acquaint Hispanic-American high schoolers with higher education opportunities
2002	April 30	Allegan County voters reject a KVCC-affiliated community college for their county

2002	May	Replacing the traditionally separate college catalog and class schedule, KVCC publishes a "Programs of Study" booklet incorporating course descriptions into the schedule
2002	May 17-19	KVCC's Advanced Technology Center for New Media hosts the first Kalamazoo Animation Festival International (KAFI) with \$15,000 in cash prizes; Festival is co-sponsored by the Arts Council of Kalamazoo, Downtown Kalamazoo Incorporated, the Education for the Arts program in Kalamazoo County, and the Community Access Center; future KAFIs are held in May of 2003, 2005, 2007, and 2009
2002	August 26-27	First ever "Cougar Connection" event welcomes students to a new school year; event features games, prizes, free food, and information on resources and services
2002		Women's tennis team wins the Michigan Community College Athletic Association championship and the National Junior College Athletic Association regional title
2002	Fall Semester	Funded by a 2-year \$150,000 grant, the Brother2Brother program is established to support and retain male African-American students (alternate source reports a 1-year pilot program followed by a 2-year \$150,000 grant)
2002	October 21	Michigan Department of Health's Office of Recipient Rights honors a KVCC-produced video illustrating the rights of the mentally impaired and developmentally disabled and how those rights are infringed upon; the video is being used as an educational resource for health care providers and the public
2003		College observes its 35th Anniversary marking 1968 (first classes offered) to 2003
2003	March?	College holds first Diversity Conference
2003	March	The Groves, KVCC's 248-acre business-education-technology park, is now occupied by: the worldwide office and research-and-development facility of Toledo-based Dana Commercial Vehicle Systems, Bronson Lifestyle Improvement and Research Center, and KVCC's M-TEC (Michigan Technical Education Center); in partnership with regional economic-development interests, KVCC seeks to recruit additional occupants for The Groves
2003	June	A gift of \$50,000 from the estate of Kalamazoo nurse Bertha Hogarth establishes an annual Nursing scholarship
2003	July	Music instructor Christopher Garrett establishes a Concert Band for KVCC; both students and community members are invited to join
2003	August 30	With online registration by computer established, the option of touch-tone registration by telephone is eliminated

2003	Fall Semester	Following a 1-year pilot program, Kalamazoo Community Foundation funds the Brother2Brother program for an additional 2 years; the \$150,000 donation will allow Brother2Brother to help African-American males achieve their post-secondary education goals (alternate source reports an initial 2-year \$150,000 grant with no preceding pilot year)
2003	Fall Semester	College launches "Eye on the Environment" series of speakers, events, and activities for the 2003-2004 school year
2003	September?	KVCC's M-TEC (Michigan Technical Education Center) institutes the Emerging Technology Center, a non-profit venture that provides business and administrative support for start-up and established businesses, thus allowing them to concentrate on research, service, and manufacturing
2003	October 16	KVCC Concert Band gives its first performance; concert is played on the Lyceum Stage in the Student Commons
2004	January	KVCC and Greenleaf Companies, owner of the historic W. S. Dewing Building, agree on a \$9.6-million development project that will renovate, expand, and technically update the building to house the College's Center for New Media (previously called the Advanced Technology Center for New Media)
2004	February	College discontinues purchase, installation, and support of Corel software (Word Perfect, Presentations, Quattro Pro); Microsoft software (Word, Excel) is the new standard for the school
2004	Spring	Office of Institutional Research makes information and data about surveys, assessment activities, and planning available online to faculty and staff; the Purchasing Office's Travel/Business Expense Reimbursement Manual is now available online
2004	May	Irving S. Gilmore Foundation awards KVCC a grant of \$1-million to support the Center for New Media's move to the W. S. Dewing Building
2004	June - August	In a cost-cutting move, for the first time the College's summer hours include only a half day on Fridays
2004	June	Tuition is increased by 2.3 per cent
2004	June	Online application is now available for prospective students
2004	July	Center for New Media operations commence in new location, the W. S. Dewing Building in downtown Kalamazoo
2004	Fall Semester	First classes are held at the Center for New Media's new location
2004	September	Funded by a Federal block grant, the Arcadia Commons Campus undertakes a 2-year pilot project, the Supported Education Program, to support students with mental illnesses and psychiatric disabilities

2004	September	Arcus Gay and Lesbian Fund pledges \$2-million for the Center for New Media; KVCC Foundation grants \$250,000 for the CNM project, the largest award since the Foundation was established in 1980
2004	September	Ten years after the opening of the Arcadia Commons Campus, the Board of Trustees renames the original Arcadia Commons Campus building in honor of longtime Trustee Anna Witten: Anna Witten Hall
2004	October 11	College launches "Eye on Ethics and Civility" series for the 2004-2005 school year; series features speakers and workshops
2005	January 1	College will no longer hire anyone who uses tobacco; full time employees found to be tobacco users after hiring may be fired
2005	January 1	Texas Township Campus designates 7 smoke-free zones located at campus entrances; smoking is prohibited within 50 feet of the designated entrances (alternate source gives date as 1/1/2006)
2005	February 8	Ceremony to celebrate the naming of Arcadia Commons Campus' Anna Witten Hall; Witten has served on the Board of Trustees since 1968
2005	March 14	\$450,000 in damage is caused when a speeding car crashes into the front (north side) of the Texas Township Campus building
2005	June	M-TEC becomes headquarters of the Michigan High Throughput Screening Center; Center provides high-speed, computerized testing to accelerate the development of new drugs
2005	July	Men's tennis program is eliminated with the retirement of 27-year coach Darrell Davies; remaining sports include women's tennis, baseball, softball, and golf as well as women's and men's basketball and volleyball
2005	Fall	Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) are installed in every KVCC building for use in case of a sudden cardiac arrest
2005	Fall Semester	KVCC Continuing Education Center for Health Careers oversees new Allegan-based training center for nurses, with 20 students enrolled; program is funded by the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth's Accelerated Health Care Career Training Initiative through a grant to Allegan General Hospital, Allegan Public Schools, and Allegan County Intermediate School District
2005	Fall Semester	In a joint venture with Bronson Hospital, KVCC works to increase the number of certified respiratory therapists trained in the 2005-2006 school year; project also aims to boost completion numbers in Emergency Medical Technician and Medical First Responder programs; project is funded by a grant to Bronson Methodist Hospital by the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth's Accelerated Health Care Career Training Initiative

2005	October 24	Visit by author Tracy Kidder opens the 2nd year of the "Eye on Ethics and Civility" series; series features speakers and workshops for the 2005-2006 school year
2005	October 31	Reception to celebrate the inception of the Allegan-based nursing program is held at the Allegan County Area Technical and Education Center
2005	November 10	The Kalamazoo Promise is unveiled at a Kalamazoo Board of Education meeting; a group of anonymous donors pledges to pay up to 100 per cent of tuition for Kalamazoo public high school graduates who attend a Michigan state college or university
2005	December	A grant of \$10,000 from the Bridgestone-Firestone Trust brings their total gifts over 5 years to \$40,000 in support of KVCC Automotive Technology students
2006	January 1	Smoke-free zones are designated at 7 College entrances; no smoking is allowed within 50 feet of the doors (alternate source gives date as 1/1/2005)
2006	February 23-25	Evaluators from The Higher Learning Commission make a comprehensive review visit; final report with accreditation recommendation is expected in 7 weeks
2006	May 8	57th Commencement is held in Wings Stadium because Western Michigan University's Miller Auditorium is occupied by a run of <i>The Phantom of the Opera</i> ; 645 students have earned 2-year degrees, 1-year certificates, or certificates of achievement
2006	May 11	<i>Kalamazoo Gazette</i> reports that 90 Kalamazoo public high school seniors plan to use Kalamazoo Promise scholarships to attend KVCC
2006	June 20	College switches from Social Security numbers to newly-assigned "Valley Numbers" for employee identification; new employee i.d. cards are issued
2006		A full-time coordinator, Ezra Bell, is hired for the Brother2Brother program supporting male African-American students
2006	Fall Semester	Tuition increases to \$55 per credit hour (up 5 per cent) for in-district students, \$94 (up 5.1 per cent) for out-of-district students, and \$128 (up 3 per cent) for out-of-state students
2006	Fall Semester	Enrollment climbs to 13,500, a 5 per cent increase over Fall Semester 2005
2006	Fall Semester	College implements Electronic Class Attendance Report (E-CAR) system to verify that Federal Title IV financial aid recipients attend the classes for which they register and receive financial aid
2006	Fall Semester	The New School debuts with 50 student participants; the program of Socratic-style dialogs, envisioning and goal-setting, and the creation of electronic portfolios aims to inspire students and engage them in scholarly pursuits

2006	December 1	Smoking is banned near College entrances; a single shelter for smoking is provided outside the southeast entrance; shelter is known as the "smoking shelter" or the "butt hut"
2007-2009		Chemistry instructor Kimberly DeClerq presents weekly and biweekly radio and TV shows, <i>The Chemical Kim Show</i> , <i>The Chemical Kim Science Minute</i> , and <i>The Chemical Kim Science Segment</i> on Kalamazoo's Public Media Network and Grand Rapids' WZZM television
2007	January	The new Student Success Center, an initiative to support and retain students, opens in the former Gallery near the Tower Entrance of the Texas Township Campus; the 3-year pilot project is funded by a \$608,000 Innovative Thinking Grant
2007	February 26	Sewage backs up into the Center for New Media's basement as a result of blockage in a city sewer line; city will pay for cleanup and damage
2007	Spring	Michigan Department of Natural Resources is contacted by an individual who claims to have seen a huge cat-like paw print near a pond in the Al Sabo Land Preserve, which adjoins the campus; report leads to speculation that a real, live cougar is in the area
2007	April 1	Bill Lay retires after nearly 38 years of College service as Instructor, Honors Program Director, Dean, and Vice President; Bruce Kocher adds the job of Acting Vice President for Academic Services to his existing duties
2007	April 19	Texas Township Campus, Arcadia Commons Campus, and the Kalamazoo Valley Museum are evacuated following discovery of an online weblog posting that refers to KVCC and Virginia Tech (Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University), where a gunman killed 32 people and himself just 3 days earlier
2007	May 18-20	As part of the Kalamazoo Animation Festival International (KAFI), the public is invited to play <i>The Downfall Aftermath</i> , a video game created last year by students in the capstone Video Game Projects class of the Video Game Art program
2007	Fall Semester	Tuition increases by \$5 per credit hour for all students; in-district tuition rises 8.2 per cent from \$61 to \$66; out-of-district tuition increases 5 per cent from \$100 to \$105; out-of-state rate rises 3.7 per cent from \$136 to \$141 per credit hour
2007	Fall	Director of Athletics Dick Schilts and women's basketball coach Ron Welch are honored for their coaching records at the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan Hall of Fame Awards Banquet; Schilts has exceeded 600 career victories (eventually reaching 700), and Welch has topped 400

2007	Fall	College plans to offer shortened, non-degree technology career "Academies" to speed workers to the workplace; Academies will eliminate general education courses required for an associate's degree; first to be offered will be an Automotive Technician Academy
2007	September 4	In response to requests from auto dealerships and shops, KVCC launches the Automotive Technician Academy; the non-degree Academy program is shortened from 2-1/2 years to 42 weeks by eliminating general education courses
2007	Fall Semester	A record number of 13,600 students enroll to take a record number of 100,264 credit hours
2008		College observes its 40th Anniversary marking 1968 (first classes offered) to 2008
2008	January	Human Resources office launches the online Swap Meet, a service for employees seeking or offering goods or services
2008	January 1	Reimbursement rate for mileage driven on College business exceeds 50 cents per mile for the 1st time; new rate is \$0.505 cents/mile
2008	January 7	Under the auspices of the Kalamazoo Law Enforcement Training Center at the Texas Township Campus, the College launches the 160-hour Corrections Academy to train people for jobs in county jails and other lockup facilities operated by municipalities
2008	January 11	College institutes an online employee directory with photos
2008	February	The National Junior College Athletic Association names KVCC's Shannon Dumond "Player of the Week" for Division II women's basketball
2008	March	Arcadia Commons Campus launches non-credit courses in 3 healthcare fields: Medical Billing-and-Coding Professional (80 hours of coursework), Phlebotomy Technician (90 hours), and EKG Technician (50 hours)
2008	March 12	Instructors Kate Ferraro (Sociology) and Jack Bley (Biology) convene an organizational meeting to form a club for students who are veterans of the U. S. armed forces
2008	March 31	6-week Welding Academy becomes KVCC's 3rd third fast-track workforce-development Academy, following the Automotive Technician Academy and Corrections Academy
2008	April	A \$331,000 grant from the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services will add to KVCC's Michigan High Throughput Screening Center's robotics equipment
2008	May	Founded in 1980, the KVCC Foundation has raised nearly \$10-million in contributions to be used for the benefit of KVCC

2008	May	KVCC's Automotive Technology program embarks on a project to convert cooking oil to bio-diesel fuel which could be used to power some of the College's vehicles; used cooking oil can be dropped off at the Automotive Lab
2008	May 12	Welding Academy program ends after just one offering
2008	May 13	Board of Trustees authorizes the Kalamazoo Valley Museum to purchase a new planetarium projection system at a cost of up to \$1.48-million; new projector will replace the current 12-year-old system which is failing
2008	June	The National Junior College Athletic Association names Cougars short stop Dave Brelinski to their All American Team
2008	June 10	Arcadia Commons Campus launches a 50-hour non-credit Pharmacy Technology course; tuition is \$999
2008	Spring - Summer	KVCC students, faculty, and staff are eligible to take part in 24 of the summer semester study abroad programs offered by Western Michigan University; programs include Tropical Biology in Belize, Engineering in China and Korea, Nanotechnology Research in Brazil, and others
2008	Fall Semester	Tuition increases 3 per cent from \$66 to \$68 per credit hour for in-district students, 2.9 per cent from \$105 to \$108 for out-of-district students, and 2.8 per cent from \$141 to \$145 for out-of-state students
2008	Fall Semester	Innovation Center for Digital Arts is established under the Center for New Media on the Arcadia Commons Campus; goal is to create an entrepreneurial environment and offer more internships for new media students
2008	Fall Semester	Responding to industry needs and recommendations, the Welding Program begins a new "rapid skill training" format; 4 courses of the 2-year Welding Technology degree are now condensed into a single 15-week class
2008	October 7	Reception celebrating Mary Mace Spradling's donation of 2,800 African-American-related books, most of which are housed in the Arcadia Commons Campus Library
2008	October 13	Chicago firm Lipman Hearne begins the process of developing a new brand identity for KVCC
2008	October 30	Congressman Fred Upton visits to mark the College's entrance into wind technology and education; the planned 120-foot, 50-kilowatt turbine should be operational sometime in November
2008	September	Board of Trustees designates the M-TEC site and area as a 3rd campus and names it "KVCC Groves Campus"
2008	September 30	Groundbreaking for renovation and expansion of the Texas Township Campus including construction of the Student Success Center complex

2008	November	Responding to projected job growth in the area, KVCC announces a 6-week Animal Technician Academy will be launched in late February 2009 with tuition set at \$900
2008	November 15	"Dancing with the WMU/Kazoo Stars," a fundraiser for the Western Michigan University Department of Dance, features KVCC President Marilyn Schlack dancing a tango; Kalamazoo Mayor Bobbie Hopewell dances his way to victory
2008	November 28	Work begins on the construction of the \$250,000 50-kilowatt wind turbine with its 120-foot tower and three 25-foot blades; when completed the turbine is expected to generate 15 per cent of the energy needed to power KVCC's technical wing
2008	December 4	The <i>Wall Street Journal</i> travel section's "Off the Beaten Path" column features Kalamazoo and praises Kalamazoo Valley Museum as a worthwhile attraction travelers should "make a beeline" for
2009	January	KVCC Foundation funds the new Community Partners Internship Program, a 3-year \$100,000 initiative that will pay up to 50 per cent of the wages of students accepted for internships with area businesses
2009	January 5	Hospitality Academy debuts to provide training for entry level jobs in the lodging and tourism industry
2009	January	Animal Technician Academy planned for February is put on hold as a national economic decline affects area businesses doing animal research
2009	January 5	5-week Hospitality Academy becomes the College's newest specialized, targeted training program; tuition for the program is \$750
2009	January 26	Wind turbine's 25-foot blades are mounted on top of the 120-foot tower on the Texas Township Campus; the finished 145-foot wind turbine is the first 50-kilowatt installation in Michigan
2009	February	KVCC is a pioneer signer of the Southwest Michigan Regional Sustainability Covenant, a newly-created umbrella organization dedicated to improving the quality of life in southwest Michigan through actions and collaborations that promote environmental, economic, and social responsibility
2009	February 18	National, state, and local politicians and leaders attend the commissioning of the completed \$250,000 wind turbine
2009	May	The 5th and last Kalamazoo Animation Festival International (KAFI) is held
2009	Summer	For the first time students who receive financial aid are issued ValleyOne cards as the College affiliates with HigherOne, a student-established for-students-only financial institution; financial aid disbursements and refunds will now be credited directly to student accounts

2009	Summer	For the first time 10 KVCC minority students participate in the National Institutes of Health's "Bridges to the Baccalaureate Program" through Western Michigan University's Department of Biological Sciences; program aims to smooth the path of minority community college students toward a science degree at a 4-year university
2009	June	Kalamazoo Valley Museum's Challenger Learning Center receives the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Foundation's 2009 award for excellence
2009	July	Greenleaf Hospitality Group takes over food service for the College; Greenleaf utilizes "green" practices including recycling cooking oil and eliminating the use of Styrofoam
2009	August	Ken Colby is hired as Director of Security and charged with establishing the College's first police agency
2009	September	Faculty Success Center opens with the goal of providing ongoing professional development for teaching faculty
2009	September	Blue recycling bins are placed in public areas throughout the College; the new bins accept glass, paper, aluminum, and plastic
2009	Fall Semester	An 8 credit hour course to design, fabricate, and assemble a power-generating wind turbine debuts with 20 students enrolled
2009	Fall Semester	Women's volleyball team wins conference, state, and regional titles
2009	September 8	Originally planned to launch in February, the Animal Technician Academy is rescheduled to September following economic setbacks to the region's biotechnology and research industries; ultimately the program is placed on indefinite hold
2009	September 19	Kalamazoo Valley Museum debuts the planetarium's new \$13-million Digistar 4 Laser projector
2009	September 30	Groundbreaking ceremony for a \$12-million expansion and renovation of the Texas Township Campus main building; phase 1 includes (a.) Student Success Center, Admissions, Registration and Records, Financial Aid, and Institutional Research, (b.) Central Receiving area, (c.) installation of a parking lot for 250 additional vehicles; later phases will include (d.) remodeling the present location of Central Receiving and Facility Services to create new space for the Office of Financial Services and the Pay Station as well as (e.) remodeling, upgrading, and restoring the existing Geology and Physics Labs
2009	October 26	26-week certificate-granting Wind Turbine Technician Academy launches
2009	October 30	KVCC's new brand identity, including the emblems ".edYOU" in a "speech bubble" and "KV" in a circle, is announced; the branding process begun in 2008 by the firm of Lipman Hearne was completed by an in-house "creative group;" new branding designs emphasize the word "Valley," a common nickname for the College

2009	November 2	14-week Hospitality Supervisor Training program is scheduled to start; program is put on indefinite hold due to low enrollment
2009	December	Board of Trustees approves creation of a campus police agency
2010	January 18	Faculty Success Center debuts a 2-semester "Community College Teaching Seminar" with 20 full- and part-time faculty enrolled
2010	January	U. S. Department of Education's Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) appropriates \$550,000 to support KVCC's Wind Turbine Technician Academy
2010	January	Bookstore opens a satellite location in Anna Witten Hall on the Arcadia Commons Campus
2010	February	Ron Welch records his 300th victory as coach of the KVCC women's basketball team
2010	April 9	First class of the Wind Turbine Technician Academy graduates
2010	May	The Workforce Development Center, a joint project of the Northside Association for Community Development (NACD) and Kalamazoo Valley Community College, opens to provide basic skills tutoring; assisted by a 1-year grant from the Kalamazoo Community Foundation, service is free to participants
2010	June 21	10-week Patient Care Academy debuts with tuition of \$1,995; program prepares students for entry-level jobs in health care, including Certified Nurse Aide, Home Health Aide, and Patient Records Clerk
2010	June 28	Presidents of KVCC, Kalamazoo College, and Western Michigan University jointly announce a feasibility study for establishing a "higher education center" as part of the Arcadia Commons West (ACW) initiative in downtown Kalamazoo; ACW's other proposed educational and economic-development elements include job creation, housing, neighborhood improvements, retail and commercial growth, parking and transportation, urban gardens and a food-producing cooperative, enhancement of Kalamazoo's art community, and entertainment
2010	June 30	Children's Campus ceases operation due to declining enrollment and lack of vendor interest in operating the facility
2010	July	Kalamazoo Valley Museum receives a bequest amounting to \$1.79-million from the estate of an anonymous Kalamazoo couple
2010	August 5	Renovation of 4 existing teaching areas into 3 labs for physics, chemistry, and geology is complete
2010	Fall Semester	With 2 full-time and 4 part-time sworn officers, KVCC begins the first full school year with its own police department

2010	Fall Semester	ExpressWays, a 3-year program funded by a \$300,000 grant from the Kalamazoo Community Foundation, is established in Anna Whitten Hall; ExpressWays offers personalized learning opportunities for adult students who are academically or otherwise under-prepared for college work
2010	September	Phyllis Seabolt and Betty Floyd, friends of the late Mary M. Spradling, donate \$25,000 to support the Mary Mace Spradling African-American Book Collection housed in the Arcadia Commons Campus Library
2010	October	KVCC creates the position of Energy Education Specialist and hires Ted Forester to lead the way in reducing the institution's carbon footprint; "green" initiatives include controlling heating and cooling costs, recycling, a "green rooftop," a working wind turbine, landscaping with native plants, and others
2010	October 22	The new wing of the Texas Township Campus main building housing the Student Success Center, Office of Admissions, Registration and Records, Office of Financial Aid, Office of Institutional Research, and Central Receiving is ready for occupancy; structure includes a "green roof" with plants to filter rainwater, reduce runoff, and lower heating and cooling costs
2010	December	Athletic Director and men's basketball coach Dick Shilts announces his upcoming retirement after 32 years at KVCC
2011	January 18	Dedication ceremony for the 100-foot training tower for wind technicians; tower is located next to M-TEC on the Groves Campus
2011	February	Thelma and Rexford Hall make the largest donation to the College in KVCC history; the unrestricted \$383,000 gift will be used to endow student scholarships
2011	April - June	Center for New Media hosts its first Artist in Residence, painter Doet Boersma of the Netherlands
2011	May	Electronic employee newsletter <i>Insight</i> replaces the online newsletter <i>The Digest</i>
2011	May	KVCC's first-ever alumni relations program, Kalamazoo Valley Alumni+, launches (alternate source gives start date as October 2011 and name as KVCC+; a third source gives name as Kalamazoo Valley Community College Alumni+)
2011	Summer	Online reporting replaces paper reports of work hours and leave time used; full-time staff still submit leave <i>requests</i> on paper, and work/study students continue to use paper reporting
2011	July	New food service provider Aramark opens The Cougar Café at the Texas Township Campus
2011	August	KVCC Libraries subscribe and provide access to over 75,000 academic electronic books from "ebrary"
2011	Fall Semester	Fall Semester tuition increases \$3 (to \$79.50) per credit hour for in-district students, \$6 (to \$132) for out-of-district students, and \$10 (to \$180) for out-of-state students; a \$25 per semester enrollment fee will also be charged to all students enrolled for credit

2011	October 12	KVCC and Western Michigan University sign a "reverse transfer" agreement; transfer students who earned at least 45 credits at KVCC can apply for a retroactive associate's degree using credits earned at WMU; 60 credits are required to earn a KVCC associate's degree
2011	October	Through conservation efforts KVCC saved \$429,476 in energy costs over the last 12 months
2011	October	Kalamazoo Valley Alumni Relations Program, the first alumni relations program in the school's history, is established; program is titled "KVCC+" (alternate source gives start date as May 2011 and name as Kalamazoo Valley Alumni+; a third source gives name as Kalamazoo Valley Community College Alumni+)
2011	Fall	Alumni Relations program produces the first issue of <i>Kalamazoo Valley Community College Alumni+ Newsletter</i> , to be published once each semester
2011	December 12	A small group of former and current administrators meets to help identify unlabeled historic photographs in the KVCC Archives
2012	January	College announces energy savings of \$1,096,456 since 2010 through efforts to reduce electricity, natural gas, and water consumption
2012	January	Funded by a Michigan Department of Environmental Quality grant, a water filtration system to treat storm water runoff is being installed; projections include annual treatment of 18.2 million gallons of storm water and reduction of phosphorus, nitrogen, and sediment; project includes creation of 3 landscaped water basins (ponds) on the Texas Township Campus
2012	January	Text message alerts are now automatically sent to all students who have listed a cell phone number with the College; text alerts include KVCC closings (e.g., snow days), class cancellations, and emergency situations; previously, one had to subscribe to the text message alert system
2012	January	Kalamazoo Valley Museum's magazine, <i>Museology</i> , is renamed <i>MuseON</i>
2012	March 2	First-ever Alumni+ Art Show opens
2012	March 3	Women's basketball team wins the Michigan Community College Athletic Association championship
2012	April 13	Dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Utility Line Worker Academy training facility at M-TEC
2012	Spring	Two electric vehicle charging stations are installed near the wind turbine; stations are 2 of 35 in the Kalamazoo area
2012	May	Part-time Nursing program offered in Allegan graduates its final cohort of students

2012	May 7	Utility Line Worker Academy launches; the 26-week program prepares students to install and service electrical power lines; the \$12,500 tuition of the 15 enrolled students is paid by an award to KVCC from Kalamazoo-St. Joseph Michigan WORKS!
2012	May 24	Part-time instructors vote to form a bargaining unit with the American Federation of Teachers
2012	May 29	4-1/2 week Production Technician Academy begins; area manufacturers and others contribute \$56,800 to provide scholarships for the Academy, which aims to provide qualified production workers to fill local manufacturing jobs
2012	June	KVCC's M-TEC (Michigan Technical Education Center) is renamed the Kalamazoo Valley Groves Center; the Center currently houses Utility Line Worker, Wind Turbine, Police, Patient Care, Manufacturing, Mechatronics (later delayed to January 2013), and Hospitality Academies as well as the Michigan High Throughput Screening Center and several start-up companies
2012	June	College welcomes a Veteran's Outreach Coordinator for the Veteran Affairs' "VetSuccess on Campus" program; VetSuccess works to support and assist veterans with job training and employment
2012	June	KVCC Libraries establish a continuous giveaway of books withdrawn from the Libraries' collections due to age or condition; for the first time, books not given away will be recycled instead of discarded
2012	June 12	Board of Trustees approves a \$56.4-million budget for the 2012-2013 fiscal year; Trustees also approve property tax rate of 2.8135 mills (no increase over 2011-2012), which will make up \$18.9-million of the budget; property tax revenue has been in decline since 2009 when the College collected \$24.2-million; Kalamazoo Valley Museum millage rate, which is tied to the College's rate, is set at 0.4046
2012	July 1	FOCUS (Future Outcomes Collaboration Using Strengths) Performance Management Process replaces annual evaluations
2012	Fall Semester	Per credit hour tuition increases by \$4 for all students; new rates are \$83.50 per credit hour for in-district students, \$136 for out-of-district students, and \$184 for out-of-state students
2012	August	KVCC receives silver Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification for the Student Services wing opened at the Texas Township Campus in Fall of 2010
2012	September	Ken Colby, Director of Security, resigns
2012	September	College announces closing of the Business Incubator in the Kalamazoo Valley Groves Center (formerly M-TEC); the Incubator was originally created to house former Pfizer scientists pursuing new ventures
2012	October 19	Dale B. Lake, KVCC's first president (1966-1982), passes away at his home in Winter Haven, Florida

2012	November	Board of Trustees appoints Richard Ives Director of Public Safety and Mark Sheffer Police Captain following the September resignation of Ken Colby
2012	November 9	First graduation from the Utility Line Worker Academy
2012	November 12	MLive news announces that KVCC now offers Machine Tool Operator, CNC (Computer Numerical Control) Operator, and Welding certificates of achievement; a certificate of achievement requires fewer courses than a regular certificate program
2012	December 9	Part-time KVCC instructors join with Western Michigan University graduate teaching assistants and part-time instructors to form an umbrella union, the West Michigan Federation of College Educators (WMFCE)
2012	December 16	70th Commencement exercises held in Western Michigan University's Miller Auditorium; approximately 680 degrees are awarded to Summer and Fall Semester graduates
2013	January	Google Indoor Maps implemented on all 3 campuses; using GPS (Global Positioning System) technology, the Indoor Maps application for android and iPhones provides navigation guidance within KVCC buildings
2013	April 1	20-week Mechatronic Systems Technician Academy launches; Academy prepares students with the knowledge and skills essential to perform troubleshooting, service, and repair on automated industrial systems; tuition is \$8,500
2013	April	Class Schedule Planner is now available online via the College website; when a student enters variables such as courses needed, work schedule, and family commitments, the program generates all possible course schedules
2013	April	In addition to publication in the 2013 volume of <i>Winning Essays</i> , student submissions for the English Department's annual essay contest are eligible for the newly established Ron Miazga Memorial Award for Descriptive Writing; Miazga taught at the College from 1986 until retirement in 2007
2013	April 28	71st Commencement held in Western Michigan University's Read Fieldhouse; Miller Auditorium is unavailable due to performances of the musical <i>Wicked</i>
2013	June	KVCC Campus Band, established and led by Director and music instructor Chris Garrett, celebrates its 10th anniversary; band members include KVCC students, Western Michigan University students, homeschooled students, and community members
2013	June 30	V. P. for Academic Services Bruce Kocher retires after 46 years of KVCC service; hired in 1967, Kocher was the second person--following President Dale Lake--hired when the College was formed

2013	July 1	V. P. for College and Student Relations Mike Collins is appointed Executive V. P. for Instructional and Student Support Services; Associate V. P. for Academic Services Dennis Bertch is promoted to V. P. for Academic Services; V. P. for Information Technology Terry Hutchins is appointed V. P. for Information Technologies and Administrative Services
2013	July 1	3 new deans join the KVCC staff: William (Billy) Reynolds, Dean of Instruction, Liberal Arts; Dean McCurdy, Dean of Instruction, Math and Sciences; Tom Buszek, Dean of Instruction, Business and Industrial Trades
2013	July 1	KVCC has achieved over \$1-million (\$1,400,434) in energy cost savings in 28 months through conservation efforts
2013	July 8	7-week Computer Numerical Control (CNC) Operator Academy at The Groves Campus is offered for the first time
2013	August 7	80th Police Academy session begins (projected)
2013	August 15	First class of the Mechatronic Systems Technician Academy graduates (projected)
2013	Fall Semester	Tuition is increased to \$88 per credit hour for in-district students, \$151 for out-of-district students, and \$204 for out-of-state students; non-refundable per semester enrollment fee is set at \$30
2016		College observes 50th Anniversary of the school's 1966 inception (projected)

SOURCES consulted

All sources are located in the KVCC Archives in the Texas Township Campus Library or are accessible via the KVCC Libraries.

		Archives file on Kalamazoo Valley Museum
		Archives file on KVCC anniversaries
		Archives files on KVCC buildings and planning
		<i>Brouhaha</i> , student newspaper: 1/22/1970 - 4/30/1970
		<i>The Communicator</i> , student publication: 9/15/1969 & 12/11/1969
		<i>The Communiqué</i> , publication for the Kalamazoo business community: 1/1982 - Spring 1985
		<i>The Digest</i> , publication for faculty: 1/1979 - 5/2011

		<i>Faculty Focus</i> , publication for faculty: Fall 1968 - 8/1969
		Feasibility study: 5/1966
		<i>Insight</i> , online publication for faculty: 5/2011 -
		Jobs Needs Study: 3/9/1966
		KVCC electronic press releases: 12/2011 -
		KVCC online news archives to 12/2012 -
		KVCC print press releases: 1969-1970
		KVCC website: 2012 -
		<i>Kalamazoo Gazette</i> : 3/19/1965 -
		<i>Tower Talks</i> , external newsletter: 4/1971 - ?
		<i>Tower Times</i> , student newspaper: 11/1987 - 5/4/2001
		<i>Valley News</i> , publication for students: 9/1974 - 10/1978
		<i>Valley Voice</i> , publication for students: 10/1968 - 4/1969

For the most current version of this document, consult the KVCC Archives via the KVCC Libraries webpages. Time Line creator Janet Alm, Director of Libraries, can be contacted at (269) 488-4326 or jalm@kvcc.edu.