



# THE KEY

## Middle School is an Exciting Time of Rapid Growth for Kids

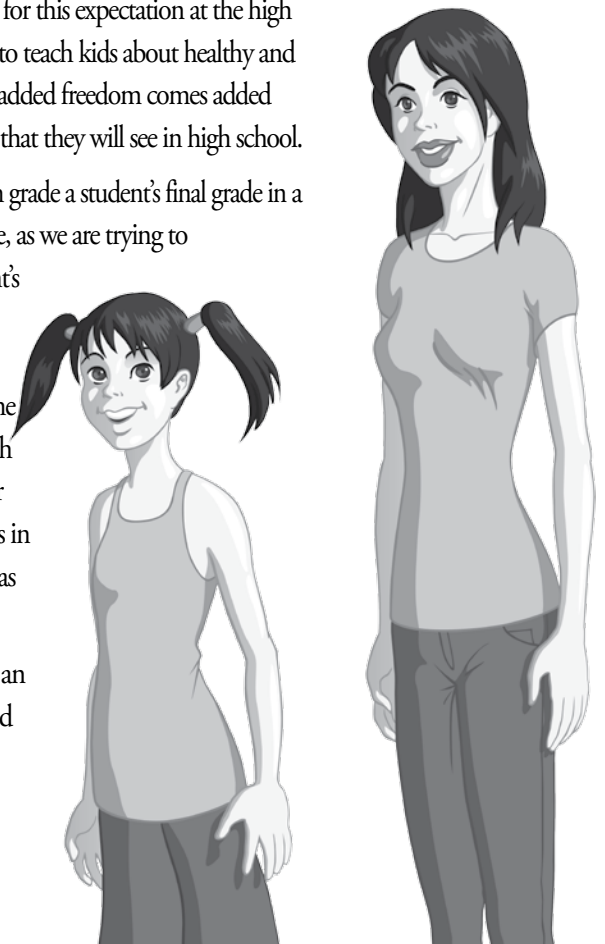
**I**F YOU’VE HAD HIGH SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN, then you know just how different 5th graders and 9th graders are. There are very few similarities between the two ages emotionally, physically, and intellectually. There is also a wide variance in the way that education is delivered in the elementary school and high school. In 5th grade, the Page Elementary student spends the majority of their day with one teacher and the same 20 to 30 students. By 9th grade, the TKHS student travels to 6 different classrooms and will see 900 students throughout their day. At TKMS, our goal is to create a bridge that allows the 5th grader to grow, learn, and leave us ready to be successful in the 9th grade.

As a middle school principal, I can see the social and emotional growth happening in the hallways and in the classrooms. There is a great deal of maturity that occurs in these three years and you can see that by walking down the different hallways in our building. The veteran staff at TKMS approach students with these differences in mind. If you enter a 6th grade classroom you will see a great deal of structure, very similar to that of the traditional elementary classroom. This structure provides the crucial support for students who are experiencing the biggest change in the structure of their school day that they will see in K-12 education. In the 8th grade, students are given more freedom to take responsibility for their own behavior, which sets the stage for this expectation at the high school level. In the 7th and 8th grade there is time dedicated in the curriculum to teach kids about healthy and unhealthy choices that they will face as they become teenagers. Along with this added freedom comes added responsibility, as students begin to experience the same accountability measures that they will see in high school.

The academic side of school changes greatly in these three years as well. In the 6th grade a student’s final grade in a course will be influenced more by homework assignments than in the 8th grade, as we are trying to build study skills in our students. Beginning in 7th and into 8th grade, a student’s grade is influenced more by assessments, which is what they will experience in high school and beyond. Students get their first experience with final exams in the 7th grade and in the 8th grade those exams become a larger percentage of the final grade in the course. We also work to build other positive study habits in 6th grade as teachers will actively work with their students to use planners and other organizational tools used to manage their new schedule. By the time a student is in 8th grade they are expected to display this level of responsibility independently, as they will need it in the years to come.

Our goal at TKMS is to prepare students for high school and beyond. This is an exciting and rewarding challenge, and one that our veteran staff of teachers and support staff passionately pursue each year.

Sincerely,  
Brian Balding  
TKMS Principal



# DISTRICT NEWS



## School Start/Dismissal Times

High School	7:30 am – 2:25 pm
Middle School	7:30 am – 2:25 pm
McFall Elementary	8:45 am – 3:40 pm
Lee Elementary	9:00 am – 3:55 pm
Page Elementary	9:05 am – 4:00 pm

## Thornapple Kellogg Schools Directory

### Administration Building

Tom Enslin, Superintendent	795-5521
Robert Blitchok, Dir. of Finance	795-5521
Kim Chausow, Dir. of Curriculum	795-5522

### School Buildings

Tony Petersen, HS Principal	795-3394
Kelli Wegner, HS Asst. Principal/ Alternative Education Director	795-3394
Dave Chrisinske, HS Athletic Supervisor	795-5432
Brian Balding, MS Principal	795-3349
Mike Gelmi, Page Principal	795-7944
Angie Jefferson, Lee Principal	795-9747
Jon Washburn, McFall Principal	795-3637
Mari Price, Special Education Director	795-5571
High School Attendance	795-5431
High School Counseling	795-5428
Middle School Attendance	795-5469
High School/Public Library	795-5434
Community Education Office	795-3397
Transportation	795-5540

## Board of Education

David Smith.....	President
Donald Haney.....	Vice President
Cindy Ordway .....	Secretary
Joyce Bobolts.....	Treasurer
Josh Thomas .....	Trustee
Anne Hamming .....	Trustee
Kristen Cove .....	Trustee

## Upcoming Board Meetings

January 12, 2015  
February 9, 2015

All meetings are at 7:00 p.m. in Middle School Room 1616, unless otherwise noted.

## School Closings and Delays

Adverse weather conditions and other emergency situations may make it necessary to cancel school, to delay the beginning of school, or to send students home early. Our transportation department is out early in the morning to check road conditions. They are in contact with neighboring school districts and the superintendent. The final decision is made by the superintendent. Whenever it is necessary to delay or close school, notice will be communicated through TV channels 3, 8, 13, 17 and 41, radio stations WOOD and WBCH, and the district web site [www.tkschools.org](http://www.tkschools.org) or email through SchoolMessenger Instant Alert.

### In the event of a two hour delay:

- There will be no a.m. preschool.
- Busses will pick up students two hours later than normal.
- All classes will start two hours later than normal.
- No morning breakfast will be served.

### In the event of school closings:

- A decision will be made early in the afternoon regarding contests, evening programs and practices.
- The public library and pool is closed during school delays and closings.

### Tornado Watch

- All students will be kept at school if the watch is issued during the school day. Students will be dismissed at the regular time on regular bus routes.
- All after school activities will be moved inside or cancelled if deemed necessary by the superintendent. Should the watch expire before the event is scheduled, it may be held.

### Tornado Warning

- Students will be instructed to take shelter within the building until the ALL CLEAR is signaled.
- All after school activities will be cancelled.



The Key is published by Thornapple Kellogg Schools and is dedicated to informing the district residents of the activities and programs of the TK School District. Questions or comments regarding this publication should be directed to: Erica Dudik at 795-5521.



## “Hoopla” at Thornapple Kellogg Schools

The TK Athletic Boosters are pleased to announce their 2nd Annual 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament, scheduled for **Saturday, March 28, 2015**, at the TK high school gym. All proceeds directly support TK athletic programs.

The tournament is open to all interested students in grades 3-12. There will be separate divisions for boys and girls. Varsity (11th & 12th grade) will be a “FUN” co-ed court. Exact age/grade divisions will be finalized once registration is complete. Teams with mixed ages will be placed according to the oldest team member. Registration cost is \$100 per team, due no later than March 4th.

All teams are guaranteed a minimum of two games. For more details and registration forms, please go to the athletic website at [www.tkathletics.com](http://www.tkathletics.com) and navigate to the link for the athletic boosters.

## TK’s Second Annual Technology Night

Last year’s first annual Technology Night was such a great success that TK will host a second annual Technology Night. The evening is designed for all parents, guardians, and community members interested in how technology is supporting learning at Thornapple Kellogg. This is a FREE event that will cover a wide-range of topics including devices and applications teachers are using in the classroom, digital citizenship, online assessments, and how you can use technology at home to support the 21st Century learner. This event will take place **February 16**. Please continue to check the school website at [www.tkschools.org](http://www.tkschools.org) for more details as we get closer to the date.

## Celebrate Calm

Celebrate Calm is a world-renowned educational organization that provides science-based training for educators, parents, and children. Kirk Martin, founder and presenter of Celebrate Calm, is highly regarded for his work with educators, parents, and children over the past 10 years. TK will be hosting a Celebrate Calm workshop on the evening of **March 23** and the morning of **March 24** (times TBD). He will give parents and teachers tips on calming emotional kids and how to deal with outright defiance without escalating situations. Parents will learn how to turn emotional power struggles into opportunities to build trust and teach self-discipline. All TK parents, guardians, and teachers will be invited to this event. More information regarding exact times and the location of the workshops will be shared at a later date.

Dear Parents,

I just wanted to update you all on some preemptive planning we have been doing in response to an early start on the snow days in November. You may recall that last year we had an extraordinary number of school days lost to weather conditions (14 in all), and that we had to extend the school year among other things in response to the lost days. You may also be aware of legislation that was enacted late in the year specifying parameters for districts considering adding time to the school day in order to meet the required number of hours (1,098).

We have communicated with our auditors, and have been given the leeway to add time now however we see fit, given our circumstance. To date, we have cancelled a total of four days...all in the month of November. As a result of such an early start to the cancellations, we decided to add ten minutes to the day, beginning immediately after the Christmas break. This will provide some cushion as we move into the winter months. More specifically, five minutes will be added to both the beginning and end of the day. Specific building schedules will be shared by the building principals sometime this week. As a result, we will still have a little over six full days to work with throughout the course of the remaining school year. In the event we don’t use them all, we will communicate any further alterations to the remaining school calendar.

As always, the safety of our students remains our top priority. If there are any further questions, please contact either your child’s building principal, or central office (269-795-5521).

Warmest regards,  
Tom Enslin  
Superintendent

# ELEMENTARY NEWS



McFall PTO helped students put together a winter craft to give to someone special this holiday season!



Third grade classrooms are all visiting the state capital in Lansing to enhance their Michigan history social studies learning. Pictured is Mrs. Hannapel's class.



Students at Lee Elementary were recognized for having outstanding character; the trait this past month was "Respect". We are now focusing on "Responsibility."



Second graders went to Charlton Park for a field trip. The students experienced candle making, soup making, a one room school house, and many other activities.



Page Elementary students in Physical Education class wrapped up their bowling unit by bowling at Hastings Bowl. Students had a great time at the bowling alley applying what they learned.



Mrs. Muka's class skyped with a 4th grade class in Fort Payne, Alabama. They have been in contact with them through a project called the Global Read Aloud, and they finally "met" in person over skype. They are looking forward to doing it again in the future!

# MIDDLE SCHOOL



Middle School Art Club meets on Mondays after school. Twenty-five to thirty students have been attending. It is a time for students to explore their creativity in the arts. Students have worked on sketches, created clay sculptures and finished painting a mural to display in the Middle School.



Thornapple Kellogg Middle School presented "Beauty and the Beast Jr". This performance included 150 choir members and a cast of 50, as well as many high school student helpers. Tommy Johnson, 7th grader at TKMS and Lefou in the show says, "The music was really fun and I loved being a part of the cast!" This show was full of well-loved songs and characters, and the students did an exceptional job of performing. This show was directed by Mrs. Laura Oprea and Mrs. Laura Nikkel.



Thornapple Kellogg Middle School is pleased to begin a partnership with Frostyogurt, a Michigan based company, providing approved smart snacks like fat free frozen yogurt in our snack bar! All products are made right in Grand Rapids!

The University of Michigan Integrative Medicine Program recommends yogurt as part of a healthy, balanced diet. One to three servings of dairy are recommended per day and yogurt can make up one or all these servings. Frozen yogurt is an excellent, low-fat or fat free replacement for ice cream and is available in a variety of flavors.

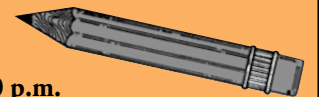
We are excited to try some other flavors of Frostyogurt. On our list of musts are Cake Batter, Texas Peanut Butter, and Strawberry Cheesecake!

On Tuesday, December 2nd, we had volunteers from Frostyogurt, and Taylor Freezer working during all three of our lunches to hand out free samples of this delicious snack, and the students sure had a blast, as well as the staff!!



Students from the Moderately Cognitively Impaired K-12 classes spent a day at the middle school rotating through group activities. Delicious, harvest trail mix was made and then enjoyed. Students worked on their technology skills by creating a Google presentation about what they were thankful for. Other stations played games and created crafts, and decorated lunch bags for Kids' Food Basket. Students had a fun-filled day while working on communication and social skills.

## Upcoming Events



February 5 – Activity Event at 2:30 p.m.

February 7 – Band to play the National Anthem @ GR Griffins game

February 16 – Half Day, school dismisses at 10:40 a.m.



## 2014 DAR Recipient



Patriotism, service, dependability, leadership - the Daughter of the American Revolution Award has long stood for such qualities which are found within its recipients. Thornapple Kellogg High School is proud to announce that Marlee Willshire has been named the recipient of this prestigious distinction.

Marlee is involved in many activities at TKHS such as Student Council and National Honor Society. She is a member of the varsity tennis

team, Honor's Choir, TKHS theater and is the current Senior Class President. In her spare time, Marlee enjoys playing the piano, hiking, kayaking, skiing and photography. She is involved in Young Life, Michigan Youth Leadership, and Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Marlee plans to attend University of Michigan in the fall to pursue a career in business. She is the daughter of Brian and Stacey Willshire.

## Thornapple Kellogg High School Fall Sports 2014 Summary

The 2014 fall sports season was a very competitive and exciting season for our athletes, coaches, and fans. In spite of playing very tough schedules, both in the OK Gold, and in our non-conference, we were very competitive, and played with that never quit attitude that TKHS is known for!

Our Girls Cross Country team again exemplified the theme for 2014 as they finished second in every single OK Gold meet this season. They continued to work and improve throughout the season, and blossomed in the Gold Conference meet where they took first place and fell one point short of a conference championship! The girl's team just missed out on the Academic All State award this season, as they were one hundredths of a percentage point behind the leader. They did finish in 3rd place with a team GPA of 3.983!

In addition to Girls Cross Country's 2nd place finish in the OK Gold, the team placed 3rd at Regionals, which qualified them for the State finals where they finished 11th.

Rounding out the final standings in the OK Gold for this fall season, Football, Boys Cross Country, and Girls Swimming finished in 3rd place. Volleyball, Soccer and Tennis finished in 4th place, while Golf finished in 5th place.

Individually, we had one 1st team All State Athlete this fall. Melissa Winchester (XC), placed 1st in the OK Gold, 3rd in Regionals, and she was 8th in the State meet.

We also had 2 other athletes who qualified as individuals for the State meet in their sport. Libby Betcher qualified in Division I in the 100 yard Breast Stroke and Erik Walter qualified in Boy's Cross Country.

### ***Other notable accomplishments:***

Academic All State Honors: Jenna Shoobridge (VB), Olivia Lamberg, Rachel Gorton, Melissa Winchester (G XC).

School Records in Swimming: Libby Betcher (Individual Medley), Haley Bashore, Lauren Kroells, Jennifer Tuokkola (400 Free Style Relay)



### ***All Conference Athletes:***

*Front row: Rachel Gorton (XC), Libby Betcher (SWIM), Holly Dahlke (VB), Melissa Winchester (XC), Lauren Kroells (SWIM)*

*2nd row: Olivia Lamberg (XC), Amy Ziccarello (VB), Hayley Bashore (SWIM), Jennifer Tuokkola (SWIM)*

*3rd row: Kyle Clark (SOC), Erik Walter (XC), Luke Noah (XC), Tommy Hamilton (TEN), Connor Collier (FB), Tyler Pohl (SOC)*

*4th row: Jacob Gipe (FB), Aaron Moederzoon (FB), Kyle Kraus (FB), Justin Bergstrom (TEN), Cole Cronkright (FB), Clay Francisco (TEN)*

In closing, the 2014 TKHS Fall Sports Season was very successful. Our students not only excel in the classroom, but are very hardworking individuals who always put the team first, and continue to represent our school and community with Pride, Class, and Tradition!

## TKHS Day of Service

During the week of December 15 – 19, TKHS “Made their Mark on the World.” The students learned about service in their community and focused on making projects for others. On December 19, 2014, TKHS learned how to give back. Many different organizations spent the day with us educating students about their programs and how they can help. United Way, American Heart Association, Kids Food Basket, Green Gables Haven and Michigan Blood are just a few of the organizations present that day. The students participated in projects like making sleeping bags for those in need, making duct tape wallets for Degage, dog treats and toys for local animal shelters and designing bags for Kids Food Basket, and much more. There were over 15 sessions available and a student could attend any three of their choice.

## Important Dates to Remember

**ACT and WorkKeys Testing for Juniors:** March 3-4

**M-Step (Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress):** This is the new state assessment that will be replacing the MME and the MEAP. It will be a computer based assessment and will take place over several weeks during an open window of April 14 - June 5. Only Juniors will be assessed at the high school level.

**Parent Teacher Conferences:** March 11 from 4-8 p.m.

**Parent Advisory Dates:** January 9, February 6, March 6, April 17, and May 1 at 8:00 a.m.

## COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT

Pre-registration is required for classes with registration deadlines listed. Classes are offered on a first come-first served basis. A class may be cancelled on the deadline if the minimum number to hold a class is not met, so please call promptly to register. **Payment is due one week prior to first class except where noted otherwise.** Classes are self-supporting; therefore, no refunds can be made after the first night of class. You will be notified, and a full refund will be given, if class is cancelled or filled. Make checks payable to TK Schools and mail to TK Community Ed, 10375 Green Lake Rd, Middleville, MI 49333. **Please call 795-5578 to register.**

*Please note: When school is closed due to inclement weather, enrichment classes are automatically cancelled and a make up date will be scheduled.*

### Youth Classes

#### Youth Self-Defense/Karate

This self-defense and karate class emphasizes developing awareness, power of the voice, handling aggressive situations, safety on the street and at school, personal safety and basic escapes. The class is for children ages 5-9. Registration and payment deadline is January 14.

**Dates:** Mondays 1/19-3/9 (8 weeks)

**Time:** 5:30-6:30 pm

**Location:** McFall Cafeteria

**Cost:** \$50

**Maximum:** 20

**Instructor:** Nancy Hammond



#### Young Champions Cheerleading

Join the fun! This course is designed to teach choreographed pom-pom and dance routines. Students will also learn popular jumps, leaps and other skills. Ages 4-15 years. Registration & first class will be held Wednesday, February 5 at the following times; Ages 4-6 will meet at 5:00 pm. Ages 7-9 will meet at 5:45 pm. Ages 10 & up will meet at 6:30 pm. \$7 non-refundable registration fee plus \$7 class fee due at registration. Weekly class times will be assigned on registration night according to age and/or skill level.

**Dates:** Wednesdays 2/4-6/3

(No class April 8)

**Time:** Practice times are announced at registration night Feb. 4

**Location:** Page Elem. Gym & Cafe.

**Cost:** \$7 class fee per lesson

**Instructor:** Tina Joy with Young Champions

### Adult Classes

#### Karate-Beginner/Intermediate

Missing your old dojo? All styles welcome to join. Karate helps

build a greater self-confidence at school, work and in every life situation. Korean style of karate blended with Aikido for maximum efficiency in self-defense. Welcoming new students (10 years and older) throughout the school year.

**Dates:** Mon. & Wed. through May 20

(No class 4/6, 4/8)

**Time:** Mondays 6:30-8:00 pm

Wednesdays 6:00-7:30 pm

**Location:** McFall Cafeteria (Please enter by gym on Main St.)

**Cost:** \$40 per month

**Instructor:** Nancy Hammond, 5th degree black belt in

American Pukang Tang Soo Doo

#### Aqua Aerobics-Exercise with a Purpose

This fun, low impact, high intensity workout for adults is geared to tone, strengthen and increase flexibility. This is an excellent workout for men and women. Certified instructor Tammy Sirk will tailor the workout to meet your needs.

**Dates:** Tues. & Thur. through school year

(No class April 7 & 9, May 21)

**Time:** 7:00-8:00 pm

**Location:** HS Pool

**Cost:** 12 visit pass \$35 or \$5 per visit

**Register and pay instructor at pool before class.**

#### Digital Photography for Beginners

Whether you received a new digital camera for Christmas or just want to improve your photo taking skills, you'll want to attend this 6 week class. Participants in this class will review and learn the features of the digital camera, create quality pictures, review the process of composition, learn photo editing and selection, and share photos through printing, emails & social networking. This course will investigate all functions of the digital camera for the reproduction of quality images

through landscapes, portrait and nature, as well as how to use the computer for image storage and communication. Digital camera (Point-n-Shoot or SLR) and portable USB thumb-drive are required for this class.

**Dates:** Wednesdays 2/4-3/11

**Time:** 6:30-8:30 pm

**Location:** High School Office Lab Rm. 103

**Cost:** \$48/6 weeks

**Instructor:** Ken Williamson

#### ZUMBA-Exercise in Disguise

ZUMBA is a Latin-inspired, dance-fitness class that incorporates Latin and International music and dance movements, which create a dynamic, exciting, and effective fitness system! This class format combines fast and slow rhythms that tone and sculpt the body in an aerobic/fitness fashion to achieve a unique blended balance of cardio and muscle-toning benefits. No dance background required, just a willingness to have fun! Please do not bring children to class as childcare is not provided.

**Dates:** Mondays 1/5-2/23

**Time:** 6:30-7:30 pm

**Location:** Page Cafeteria

**Cost:** \$48/8 weeks

**Instructor:** Rachel Carter/certified instructor

#### Hall Walking

The halls of TK High School are open for walking Monday through Thursday, 6:00-8:30 pm through April 2nd. Come in from the cold and walk for your health and just the fun of it. Walkers should enter the athletic lobby on the south side of the high school off of Bender Road. Halls are not open for walking if school is closed due to holidays, in-service days for inclement weather. No need to pre-register.

## BOXHOLDER

# COMMUNITY POOL

Swimming is great exercise and a fun family activity. Please be aware that the pool schedule may change without notice due to water conditions and weather, so please call the Pool Information line at 269-795-5400, ext. 6643 for information and updates. In case of a tornado watch or warning, all pool events will be automatically cancelled.

### ADULT LAP SWIM

Monday – Thursday 5:00 – 6:00 pm  
Tuesday & Thursday 8:00 – 9:00 pm

### OPEN/FAMILY SWIM

Tuesday & Thursday 6:00 – 7:00 pm  
Swimmers must be 8 years old or accompanied by an adult.

### AQUA AEROBICS

Tuesday & Thursday 7:00 – 8:00 pm  
This is a fun, low impact, high intensity workout for adults.

### POOL RENTAL

Pool rentals are available, and detailed information is available on the Operations page of the TK web site at [www.tkschools.org](http://www.tkschools.org). Please contact the Operations Department at 269-795-5535 for additional information.

### POOL FEES

#### Per Visit Pass:

TK district children and senior citizens \$1.00  
TK district adults \$2.00  
Out of district children and senior citizens \$2.00  
Out of district adults \$3.00

#### Passes:

TK district children and senior citizens \$18 for 20 visits  
TK district adults \$38 for 20 visits  
Out of district children and senior citizens \$38 for 20 visits  
Out of district adults \$56 for 20 visits

### SWIM LESSONS

In conjunction with the YMCA of Barry County, swim lessons are offered on Saturday mornings. You may go to the YMCA website [www.ymcaofbarrycounty.org](http://www.ymcaofbarrycounty.org) to view the different swim levels and scheduled dates.

Questions and registration information can be directed to the YMCA office at 269-945-4574.

## Bright Beginnings Playgroup

Bright Beginnings Playgroups are offered free of charge to families with children age birth through five years old. Pre-registration is requested! Please call (616) 890-1710 or email [stacizuspann@kentisd.org](mailto:stacizuspann@kentisd.org). If there is a school delay due to inclement weather, please call to see if the playgroup is still scheduled. If school is cancelled, playgroup is also cancelled.

Playgroups are held in Room 24 in the Learning Center, 507 W. Main St, Middleville. Please enter through the Preschool office entrance that is located at the north end of the Learning Center.

### January 22– 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Theme: Penguins and Polar Bears

### February 19 – 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Theme: Friends and Families

### March 19 – 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Theme: Kaleidoscope of Colors

### April 23 – 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Theme: April Showers

### May 21 – 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Theme: Bugs, Bees, and Butterflies

