The Best of Africa Group on stage performs dance at the Bowling Green International Festival on Saturday, Sept. 29, 2018 at Circus Square Park. This was the seventh year for the annual celebration of culture and heritage.
Silas Walker/HERALD

Jedeiah Martinez, 10, waits backstage before her performance during the International Festival on Saturday, Sept. 28. Brenna Pepke/HERALD

In this issue

- A look at some Bowling Green heroes
- Opinion: JUULers: the new Nicotine addicts
Giving his blessings away: Alum helps students in need

Last fall, a group of around 10 students huddled near the television inside the lounge at the Cynthia & George Nichols III Intercultural Student Engagement Center on campus. George Nichols III, one of the center’s namesakes, was seated alongside his wife, Cynthia Jean, at the head of the gathering. Nichols and his wife went around the room and asked each ISEC scholar to answer one simple question for him: “What can we do for you?”

“Every time I look around, there’s someone or something that is being provided or given to me that I define [as] a blessing,” Nichols said. “The only thing I know to do is to give that blessing away. The amazing thing for CJ and I is that every time we give our blessings, we get more blessings, which means we need to give more blessings away.”

Former Hilltopper donates $1 million to athletics

WKU athletics got its largest-ever outright contribution from a former Hilltopper Monday. Former WKU football player Joe Micatrotto and his wife, Sunshine Micatrotto, have donated $1 million to WKU athletics. The $1 million will go towards capital projects, the football and volleyball programs and the WKU Opportunity Fund.

WKU gets its own ‘friendly neighborhood’ hero

On Sept. 7, Marvel’s Spider-Man was released for PlayStation 4. That afternoon, a WKU student picked up his copy of the video game wearing a Spider-Man costume. After purchasing the game, Spider-Man said he had some spare time on his hands. He spontaneously decided to come to WKU’s campus, and with a little assistance from a friend, Spider-Man descended upon the areas outside the Fine Arts Center and Downing Student Union to mingle with students passing by.

Though Spider-Man’s first visit to WKU was not pre-planned, the five escapades since his debut all have been. Spider-Man said he and Gillam will engineer dynamic content for his newly-created Instagram page.

Opinion: JUULers: The new nicotine addicts

The JUUL hit the market a few years ago and gained popularity among young people rapidly. Like other e-cigarettes, the JUUL was created to help tobacco users cut back in a safer way. These devices have been somewhat controversial, however. Teenagers and young adults are using these products and developing nicotine addictions they never had to begin with.

Its use among young people has reached what the Food and Drug Administration is now referring to as “an epidemic proportion.”

Phishing emails target faculty and staff

An email addressed from President Timothy Caboni was sent to faculty July 18 with instructional assignments discussing an Amazon business account for WKU. The problem? Caboni never sent the email.

Phishing is a form of hacking through an email scam. Someone can appear to be a trusted source to trick recipients into providing valuable information, commonly email credentials. Hackbarth said there have been several phishing messages targeting faculty and staff within the past months.