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WOODLAND MALL

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City of Kentwood Unity Walk to Honor Martin Luther King Jr. Rescheduled for March 5 at Woodland Mall

Kentwood, Michigan, Feb. 21, 2022 – After frigid temperatures in January resulted in the postponement of the City of Kentwood’s Unity Walk to Honor Martin Luther King Jr., the event has been rescheduled for Saturday, March 5 and moved indoors at Woodland Mall.

Residents of all ages are invited to gather at the food court inside Woodland Mall, 3195 28th St. SE, at 9:30 a.m. for a walk that will end at 10 a.m. in front of Von Maur. A ceremony will immediately follow and feature a proclamation, live music, coffee and cake.

The event is free and open to the public. Donations of canned goods and other nonperishable items will be accepted to stock [Kentwood’s Little Free Pantry](#), which began as an MLK Day community service project to fill an immediate and local need. Since then, the City of Kentwood has continued to host food drives to keep the pantry well-stocked.

“While MLK Day serves as a timely, annual reminder of the life and work of Martin Luther King Jr., every day is a great day to celebrate his legacy and take part in activities that honor his values,” Mayor Stephen Kepley said. “We’re grateful for the opportunity to host our Unity Walk to Honor MLK at Woodland Mall. It is the perfect local venue for us to be able to gather together, no matter the weather, and restock Kentwood’s Little Free Pantry to help community members in need.”

Woodland Mall Marketing Manager Alyson Presser says the event is in line with the spirit of the mall’s ongoing initiatives and events that encourage guests to support the Black community throughout the year.

“We are committed to celebrating and supporting the Black community beyond Black History Month and other annual observances,” Presser said. “We’re honored to work with the City of Kentwood to bring another meaningful opportunity for the local community to celebrate the historic achievements and continued advancement of Black Americans.”

Kentwood’s first Little Free Pantry opened in 2017 at the Kentwood Activities Center, 355 48th St. SE, where it remains available year-round during business hours. The second Little Free Pantry was opened last year at the Kent District Library – Kentwood (Richard L. Root) Branch for the community to visit during library hours. Anyone can utilize or donate to the pantry. More information, including a list of suggested donations, is available at [kentwood.us/LittleFreePantry](#).

Woodland Mall asks all guests to follow CDC recommendations by using the hand sanitizer stations located throughout the mall and practicing physical distancing.

For more information about the March 5 event, visit [kentwood.us/MLKUnityWalk](#).

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