



## Annual event prompts detours today

Lane and street closures will re-route traffic from Waldo Stadium through downtown Kalamazoo today for the Girls on the Run 5k run and walk. The detours will be in place prior to the start of the event at 6:30 p.m. and remain until 8 p.m. Traffic also will be routed around the downtown area to the east. By campus, detours will be in place on parts of Stadium and Oakland drives.

## Dining center input session slated

The second in a series of three public input sessions for the new Valley Dining Center will be held at 3 p.m. Tuesday, June 3, in the President's Dining Room of the Bernhard Center. The sessions give the campus community an opportunity to hear progress updates as well as to be part of the planning and design process. Representatives from SmithGroup JJR and Bakergroup will focus the June 3 discussion on the dining experience for students.

The planned state-of-the-art, 1,000-seat dining center will serve the Valley Residential Neighborhood. Construction is expected to begin in spring 2015, in time for a fall 2016 opening. The third input session is planned for September, when final design plans will be presented. More information about campus housing and dining updates is available at [wmich.edu/students/planning](http://wmich.edu/students/planning).

## Some on-campus traffic disrupted

Traffic delays are expected at the intersection of Goldsworth Valley Drive and Gilkison Avenue near the Valley residence halls through Wednesday, May 28, due to a partial road closure. However, traffic will remain open in both directions.

## Employees invited to see show-stopper

Faculty and staff members are invited to view "The Bronco Way," a 75-minute, high-energy theatrical production presented by the theatre department for students attending New Student Orientation.

It is an entertaining way to get a better handle on issues college students may be wrestling with and ways WMU employees may be able to make their college experience easier. Students and their families annually rate the show as the best part of orientation.

Performances will take place at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. in Shaw Theater Friday and Saturday, May 30-31; Monday through Saturday, June 2-7; Tuesday through Friday, June 10-13; Tuesday and Wednesday, June 17-18; Friday and Saturday, June 20-21; Monday through Thursday, June 23-26; Sunday through Wednesday, June 29-July 2.

Employees may attend any performance, but they are asked to sit in the theatre's back few rows if attending one of the evening performances, which is when orientation students watch the show. Those attending a morning performance may sit anywhere.

## WMU commits to climate change response

The University is a founding member of a nationwide college and university network making a commitment to lead the nation's response to many of the challenges triggered by changing global weather patterns.

The Alliance for Resilient Campuses was announced May 5 as the nation was preparing to see the comprehensive climate change data unveiled with the May 6 release of the National Climate Assessment. The leaders of 30 U.S. campuses, including WMU President John M. Dunn, are founding signatories to the alliance.

According to a statement of purpose by the founding signatories, the presidents and chancellors "recognize that current and expected changes in the global climate are an increasing threat to our institutions, our students and our communities...we recognize

that being adaptive and resilient to climate change must now become an embedded component of our strategic planning, our

risk management strategy, our responsibility to prepare students for their lives and careers, and our commitment to create and share knowledge."

"The information being shared about climate change makes it very clear that we're

no longer talking only about the need for prevention or mitigation," Dunn says. "As institutions of higher education, our responsibility is to play a leadership role in identifying the best and strongest responses to the changes we're already beginning to see."

In its statement of purpose, members of the alliance specifically pledged to:

- assess and understand climate impact in

*Continued on page 4*



## Celebration to highlight creativity, diversity, community

The efforts of more than 100 school children and dozens of volunteers will culminate in the Together Kalamazoo Celebration of Creativity, Diversity and Community from 1 to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, May 31, at Bronson Park in downtown Kalamazoo.

The event reflects the diversity of creative expression that enriches local life and culture.



One hundred young artists will display their work. (Photo courtesy of Together Kalamazoo)

It will feature music and poetry as well as installation of a temporary sculpture showcasing artwork the participating children created during a series of March workshops. The artwork will be displayed on colorful hexagons assembled into five geodesic domes, each measuring 18 feet in diameter and 10 feet in height.

The celebration is free and open to the public. In case of rain or high wind, it will be staged at WMU in the Student Recreation Center's indoor tennis courts.

Together Kalamazoo is an arts-based youth development program created by the University's Lewis Walker Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic Relations in collaboration with BIGthink, a Kalamazoo-based arts group founded by Lou Rizzolo, WMU professor emeritus of art.

*Continued on page 4*

## Teams of student-athletes make NCAA academic 'honor roll'

The men's basketball, men's tennis, and women's golf and gymnastics teams are among the more than 1,000 teams honored by the NCAA for top academic performance.

The four teams posted grade point averages in the top 10 percent for their respective sports and have won NCAA Public Recognition Awards. The awards, announced May 7, are based on the most recent multi-year Academic Progress Rate reports that end with the close of the 2012-13 academic year.



- Men's basketball is being honored for the fifth time—more than any other Bronco athletic program—since the honor began with the 2004-05 academic year. The team was one of only 18 Division I programs to carry a cumulative GPA above 3.00 in 2012-13, earning it the National Association of Basketball Coaches Team Academic Excellence Award.

- Women gymnasts are being honored for the fourth time overall. They not only won the 2013 Mid-American Conference championship, but also boasted the second highest team GPA in the nation at 3.8086 and the highest GPA on record ever for any WMU team.

- Men's tennis is being honored for the second-straight year, and its string of team GPAs over 3.20 hit the 10-year mark in 2012-13.

- The women's golf program is being honored for the first time. The Broncos carried a cumulative team GPA of 3.47 in 2012-13 and raised its team GPA to 3.50 in 2013-14.

# Around campus and beyond

## Aviation schedules annual fundraiser

Saturday, May 24, is the deadline to register for the fourth annual Aviation Golf Outing, the proceeds of which will benefit College of Aviation student organizations. The event is set for Saturday, June 7, at Cedar Creek Golf Course, 14000 Renton Road in Battle Creek. It features a 1:30 p.m. shotgun start preceded by an 11:30 a.m. lunch. Visit [wmich.edu/aviation](http://wmich.edu/aviation) for more information.

## Final foster care event coming up

A screening and panel discussion will be held from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, May 28, as part of National Foster Care Month. The event, set for the Fetzer Center's Kirsch Auditorium, will feature an episode of "The Fosters" television series and a speaker panel that includes lesbian, bisexual, gay and transgender foster parents; LGBT and ally students who have been in the foster care system; and representatives from the Department of Human Services.

## Orientation programs set to start

Some 8,000 people, including transfer students as well as beginning students and their families, are expected to attend this summer's orientation programs. Registration forms and a complete schedule of events for the two programs are available at [wmich.edu/fye](http://wmich.edu/fye).

Twelve day-and-a-half sessions are slated for New Student Orientation, which begins Friday, May 30, and runs through Wednesday, July 2. The Transfer

Program for admitted transfer students is expected to draw about 700 transfer students. Three more of the Friday half-day transfer sessions will be held. The dates are June 13, July 18 and Aug. 15.

## Social media pitfalls to be addressed

Two attorneys will discuss common social media mistakes and how to avoid them as the 2013-14 Keystone Community Bank Breakfast Speaker Series concludes Friday, May 30, in 2150 Schneider Hall. Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn's Bea Swedlow and Steve Glista will speak at 8 a.m. on "The Pitfalls of Social Media." The free event begins with breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Reservations are required and can be made at [wmich.edu/business/keystone-rsvp](http://wmich.edu/business/keystone-rsvp) or (269) 387-6059.

## Event to focus on printed electronics

Representatives from Michigan companies in a variety of industry sectors will gather in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences building Friday, June 27, for a day of networking and brainstorming to connect Michigan businesses with experts in the field of flexible electronic and printed electronic technologies.

Space for the free event is limited and will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis. Those planning to participate are asked to register online at [wmich.edu/pci/Seminars/Seminars.html](http://wmich.edu/pci/Seminars/Seminars.html). For more information, contact Margaret Joyce, chemical and paper engineering, at [margaret.joyce@wmich.edu](mailto:margaret.joyce@wmich.edu) or (269) 276-3514.

## Children of WMU employees get deal on Growlers tickets

Graduate students in sport management and the Kalamazoo Growlers are joining forces to organize a WMU Staff and Faculty Appreciation Night Wednesday, June 18, at Homer Stryker Field in Kalamazoo.

Employees can purchase adult admission tickets to attend that night's baseball game

for \$7 each. The University will cover the cost for children 18 and under.

The offer is good for the first 300 child ticket requests from faculty and staff members, with up to two child tickets available for each adult ticket purchased.

The June 18 game will pit the Growlers against the Wisconsin River Rafters. The evening's activities will revolve around WMU and feature appearances by Buster Bronco, who also will compete against other area mascots in a Mascot Olympics.

A traveling ticket-sales booth will be open from 11 a.m. to noon today in the Health and Human Services Building; Tuesday, May 27, in the Kehrman Hall lobby; Wednesday, May 28, in Sangren Hall's main lobby; Thursday, May 29, in the Student Recreation Center lobby; and Thursday, June 3, in the Physical Plant lobby. Direct questions to graduate students Megan Steenhuisen at [megan.a.steenhuisen@wmich.edu](mailto:megan.a.steenhuisen@wmich.edu) or Rachel Sheffer at [rachel.a.sheffer@wmich.edu](mailto:rachel.a.sheffer@wmich.edu).

## Jobs

Current job opportunities at WMU are announced daily on the Human Resources website at [wmich.edu/hr/jobs](http://wmich.edu/hr/jobs). Please note that applications must be submitted online by the stated deadline. Complete application procedures are included with each posting.

## International group to honor dean

Carla Koretsky, dean of the Lee Honors College and a longtime geosciences researcher, will be honored with the Geochemical Society's Distinguished Service Award when the group gathers for its annual meeting in early June in Sacramento, California.



Koretsky

The award recognizes and documents outstanding service to the Geochemical Society, the largest international organization of professional geochemists. It can be made annually and is intended to honor service to the geochemical community or Geochemical Society that greatly exceeds the normal expectations of voluntary service to the society.

Koretsky is being recognized for her long-running contributions as the 2001-08 co-editor of *Geochemical News* and for her service to the Goldschmidt Student Travel Grant program, which provides funding for students and scholars to travel to Geochemical Society events to present their research.

## History researcher named NEH scholar

Susan Steuer, University Libraries, has been selected as a National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Scholar from a national applicant pool to attend one of 30 seminars and institutes supported by NEH.



Steuer

Steuer will take part in a four-week program titled "Arts, Architecture and Devotional Interaction" at the University of York in England. The 16 teachers selected to participate in the program each receive a \$3,300 stipend.

NEH is an independent federal agency and one of the largest funders of humanities programs in the United States. Steuer is head of Waldo Library's Special Collections and Rare Books Department and teaches in the history department. Her research covers historical and library-related topics, and she uses rare materials to teach courses ranging from engineering to medieval studies.

## Prof one of three cited worldwide

Elizabeth Whitten, special education and literacy studies, has been named one of three worldwide recipients of the Excellence in



Whitten

Coaching and Use of the TLE TeachLivE Lab in Teacher Preparation.

WMU's TLE TeachLivE Lab is located in Sangren Hall, and the interactive environment has become a major resource for prospective teachers.

Whitten was honored along with colleagues from Pace University and California State University-Northridge.

The award was made by the University of Central Florida, where the technology was developed. All three honorees have been asked to collaborate with UCF colleagues on developing best practice guidelines for using the lab in teacher preparation and in developing a paper that will be helpful to others using such labs in the larger educational community.

## Western News

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**W** WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

# WMU becomes part of Osher Lifelong Learning Institute network

The Bernard Osher Foundation has selected WMU to become the newest member of the celebrated national network of lifelong learning programs it supports.

WMU's Academy of Lifelong Learning, which has been offering classes for older adults in southwest Michigan since 2011, is now the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at WMU. The agreement, effective April 1, comes with an operating grant of \$100,000 from the foundation. Once OLLI demonstrates success and potential for sustainability, the foundation will consider awarding an endowment of \$1 million to provide permanent support for the lifelong learning initiative, which is administered by Extended University Programs.

"We're enormously pleased about this relationship with Osher, which is the nation's premier name in lifelong learning,"

says WMU President John M. Dunn. "The addition of resources and the opportunity to be part of the Osher network will result in even broader success for our program that is already enthusiastically received by the citizens of the communities we serve."

WMU's program will join Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes at 117 other colleges and universities in locations that range from Maine to Hawaii and Alaska.

"Osher invited us to submit a proposal after learning about our existing program," says Dawn M. Gaymer, associate provost for EUP. "EUP staff and Academy of Lifelong Learning volunteers worked closely to document



our rapid growth in memberships and program offerings and to clearly lay out all the ways that our academy was innately aligned with the many wonderful aspects of lifelong learning that the Osher Foundation espouses. We're very proud of the unique working relationship forged between

dedicated OLLI volunteers and WMU staff. I think it speaks volumes about WMU's commitment to this growing segment of lifelong learners."

Gaymer says the opportunity to become an Osher Lifelong Learning Institute is really a validation of the quality of WMU's lifelong learning program. The Osher support, she notes, will provide tangible enhancements to WMU offerings in the coming months and years.

"It's very rewarding to see the success of our hard-working volunteers and employees recognized by the foundation," Gaymer says. "...With these additional resources, we will increase our course and trip offerings, maintain the high-quality programming that our constituents have come to expect, and learn additional ways to make our OLLI more robust and self-sustaining for years to come."

## U.S. Environmental Protection Agency honors University

The Environmental Protection Agency has given WMU its 2013 College/University Partner of the Year Award for outstanding waste reduction achievements as a WasteWise partner.

WasteWise, the country's first national voluntary solid waste reduction program, helps Partner of the Year Award organizations and businesses apply sustainable materials management practices to conserve resources and reduce wastes. The award is calculated on data



Noack shows off WMU's Partner of the Year Award. (Photo courtesy of the Office for Sustainability)

reported for calendar year 2012. During the reporting period, WMU demonstrated an overall improvement rate of 87 percent in total waste diverted by either waste prevention, recycling, composting or donation programs.

"It shows that waste reduction can be achieved with campuswide support," says Carolyn Noack, sustainability office. "It can't be done by one person or one department."

The University's solid waste reduction program has expanded over the years from simply recycling paper, cardboard, and bottles and cans to focusing on waste reduction and prevention. Much of the improvement was due to significant reuse of construction materials, providing dining service kitchen waste to a local hog farmer for feed and from innovative preventive measures such as the EcoMug program.

## Volunteer drivers sought

Disability Services for Students is looking for employee and student volunteers to drive a utility vehicle that transports students with mobility needs to and from their classes.



Volunteers are needed for fall 2014 and spring 2015. They will participate in a training session that lasts about one hour. Half of the session will be devoted to policy matters and the other half to becoming familiar with the utility vehicle.

Rides will be scheduled in advance by a staff member from disability services.

For more information, contact Disability Services for Students at [dss-transportation@wmich.edu](mailto:dss-transportation@wmich.edu) or (269) 387-2116.

## Next free photo shoot scheduled

Employees and professionally active retirees are encouraged to have their official University photos taken between 9:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Thursday, May 29, in Walwood Hall's Emeriti Lounge. Employees may have electronic copies for personal use at no charge. Contact Sue Beougher at [sue.beougher@wmich.edu](mailto:sue.beougher@wmich.edu) or (269) 387-8402 to confirm your session or receive your photo.

## Obituary

Alfred K. Ho, professor emeritus in economics, will be remembered during a memorial service at 2 p.m., Sunday, June 15, in Kanley Chapel. RSVP to [alfretk@aol.com](mailto:alfretk@aol.com) to attend the reception that will follow.

**Award honors grad students**—The Graduate Student Advisory Committee hosted a gala April 12 to celebrate graduate students, particularly those who make a difference in the lives of fellow students. The event debuted a Make a Difference award for graduate students. Participating in the event were, from left: Damon Chambers, GSAC chair; Susan Stapleton, Graduate College dean; award winners Eric Denby, master's student in history, Eric Mendes, master's student in comparative religion, Char-tanay Bonner, doctoral student in chemistry, and Sean Fields, doctoral student in psychology; Rebecca Sametz, GSAC vice chair; and Marcial A. Pineda, GSAC public relations chair. The new Make a Difference award was modeled after the campuswide peer-to-peer program of the same name that recognizes University staff members. (Photo courtesy of the Graduate College)



## Service

The following faculty and staff members are recognized for 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 10 and five years of service during May.

**35 Years**—Nancy J. Johnson, investments and endowment management.

**30 Years**—Krista O. Cekola, Human Resources.

**25 Years**—Paul Hildenbrand, Haworth College of Business, and Kandeiss-Toi Ross, Human Resources.

**20 Years**—Gregory P. Anderson, geography; Cheryl Carr, building custodial and support services; Cheryl A. Peters, College of Arts and Sciences advising; and Veronica L. Thomas, Residence Life.

**15 Years**—Joan L. Beffel, internal audit; Lynn A. Buthala-Plew, research vice president's office; and Richard H. Welch, physics.

**10 Years**—Tammi L. Maner, admissions.

**Five Years**—Krystal L. Jansen, teacher certification.

# On Campus with Norma Sylvester



ENJOYING THE TIES THAT BIND  
(Photo by Deanne Puca)

Norma Sylvester keeps things together, literally, as Waldo Library's bindery assistant. For the past 14 years, she has been responsible for the identification of materials that are in need of repair and the binding of multiple issues of publications.

Every two weeks she sends out up to 200 materials to be bound or repaired to an outside company. These shipments can include everything from reference materials and other books to magazines and music scores. She also tracks which periodical issues may be missing before binding can take place and occasionally orders new materials.

"Employees and sometimes even patrons will bring things for us to repair," Sylvester says. "It's my job to see what gets bound and when, and what goes on the spine of the bound materials."

Her job has evolved as online publication subscriptions and e-books have reduced the number of physical reading materials over the years in the library.

"That's just the times," she says. "More and more materials are now available online."

Sylvester started out working for the Kalamazoo Public Library, then moved to the Upjohn Co. She began there as a secretary and in later years, worked in Upjohn's medical library and Corporate Technical Library before coming to WMU.

She also worked as a dairy farmer for many years and still enjoys working with her hands and getting a little dirty in her gardens when she isn't volunteering for her church, Westwood United Methodist, and singing at the church as well as in the Kalamazoo Community Chorale.

Sylvester lives in Kalamazoo with her husband, George, and has a step-daughter with two children. Until a recent injury sidelined her, she was an avid softball player. But she's still participating in the sport, as she and George will be coaching their church's softball team this year.

Part of a set of identical triplets, Sylvester enjoys spending time with the two other sisters in the trio, who also live in Kalamazoo, as well as her two other siblings.

## Eligible employees may take classes for degree, enrichment for free

University employees are encouraged to take advantage of their tuition discount benefits by starting a new degree or taking classes for personal or professional development.

For WMU faculty and staff members, tuition discounts and remission are among the most significant parts of their benefits package. Full-time benefits-eligible employees can use a 100 percent tuition-and-required fees discount when they take an academic class for credit at WMU. The discount applies to both graduate and undergraduate courses.

Employees with full-time benefits eligibility also are eligible for 75 percent tuition and fee remission on undergraduate courses for a spouse, dependent children or designated eligible individual.

Those who wish to investigate an area of interest for personal or professional reasons can apply for status as a non-degree undergraduate student or a non-degree graduate student. Both status designations follow a simple admittance procedure outlined in sections of the following online documents: [wmich.edu/apply/print/undergradappl.pdf](http://wmich.edu/apply/print/undergradappl.pdf) (non-degree undergraduate) and [wmich.edu/apply/print/GradPTGform.pdf](http://wmich.edu/apply/print/GradPTGform.pdf) (non-degree graduate).

**PSSO honors its own**—The Professional Support Staff Organization honored two staff members during its annual Awards Luncheon April 18. The 2014 PSSO Service Award winners were, from left, Kristin E. Kenz, student affairs, and Rebecca A. Spanjer, grants and contracts. This year's luncheon theme was Go West, which played on both WMU's recruitment program and the Wild Wild West. The Cheff Therapeutic Riding Center was adopted as PSSO's Community Service Project. More than \$250 was donated, along with useful items for the center's horses. (Photo courtesy of PSSO)



## Continued from page 1 WMU commits to climate change response

their individual regions;

- adapt by using changes to building and infrastructure development, energy and land management, food sources and water supply, transportation, and community partnerships;
- accelerate climate and sustainability

education and research; and

- share and coordinate response strategies with other campuses and communities.

Additional information about the Alliance for Resilient Campuses can be found on the Second Nature website at [secondnature.org/news](http://secondnature.org/news).

## Continued from page 1 Celebration to highlight

"The Walker Institute does a lot of work on the racial and ethnic inequality that exists here and elsewhere," says Tim Ready, Walker Institute director.



"Too often, people of different races, income levels and interests live in different places and go to different schools, and so they don't necessarily have the opportunity to recognize the creative genius in others. The art to be displayed in Bronson Park on May 31 will be a visual metaphor of how people from all over Kalamazoo have something beautiful to contribute and how Kalamazoo is enriched when we recognize and nurture the creativity in each other."

Several activities have been planned for the celebration. Starting at 1 p.m., the geodesic domes containing the children's artwork will be available for viewing, and food will be available for purchase.

Event attendees will be able to make their own creations from 1 to 2 p.m. at an interactive art display in collaboration with artists from BIGthink.

In addition, young artists will be performing music and poetry starting at 2 p.m. The program is being produced by Yolonda Lavendar, a WMU senior majoring in sociology who also is interim director of the Black Arts and Cultural Center of Kalamazoo.

For more details, visit the Walker Institute at [wmich.edu/walkerinstitute](http://wmich.edu/walkerinstitute), follow Together Kalamazoo on Twitter @2getherkalamazoo or visit the program's Facebook page.