Roads closed today for girls run/walk
Lane and street closures are to route traffic from Waldo Stadium through downtown Kalamazoo today for the Girls on the Run New Balance 5K run/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.
An expected 2,100 girls will leave Waldo Stadium and head downtown on South Street for their 3.1-mile journey through the downtown streets then back on West Lovell to Waldo Stadium.

Last travel info meeting tomorrow
WMU's online travel authorization process has been changed to include all ground and air travel. Training sessions have been taking place this month for employees to learn about the new procedures.
The final training session is set for tomorrow from 10 a.m. to noon in the Fetter Center's Kirsh Auditorium. Visit www.fm.wmich.edu/travel for more information.

Trustees alter two meeting dates
A scheduled June 1 meeting of the WMU Board of Trustees was cancelled and replaced by a conference-call meeting May 26. Also, the July 27 board meeting has been changed to Friday, July 23.
Among the items scheduled for consideration by trustees at the cancelled June meeting was the approval of promotion and tenure for faculty members across the University. That item was addressed during the conference call.

Payroll website announces change
Beginning June 1, paycheck information prior to September 2009 will no longer be available through the payroll website. Paycheck information from September 2009 and later will still be available and accessible through the Employee Self Service link in GoWMU.

Two groundbreakings scheduled
Groundbreakings have been scheduled Tuesday, June 1, for two major campus construction projects. The ceremony to officially begin construction on the new Sangren will start at 8:30 a.m. while a similar ceremony for phase one of the University's new apartment complex will start at 2 p.m.
The first event will take place near Sangren. The second event will take place at the apartment complex construction site, which is between Knobwood Avenue and Kohman. Visit the Facilities Management website at www.fm.wmich.edu for more information about the two building projects.

Western News hiatus is approaching
The next issue of Western News will be distributed on Thursday, June 10, and will be the second to the last issue published this summer. The deadline to submit items for the issue is 5 p.m. Friday, June 4.

Campus getting ready for visit by Obama
President Barack Obama will address the graduating seniors of Kalamazoo Central High School in a commencement ceremony set for 7 p.m. Monday, June 7, in University Arena.
The decision to hold the event in WMU's arena, which seats more than 5,000 people, was made by Kalamazoo Public Schools to accommodate a larger-than-usual crowd.
The president's decision to speak at the Kalamazoo Central commencement was the culmination of a national Race to the Top Commencement Challenge. That contest attracted proposals by more than 1,000 schools to have Obama give their commencement address.
The Kalamazoo Central entry was one of three finalists in the contest, and the president personally made the final selection to speak at Kalamazoo Central.
Obama's visit will mark the second time this decade that a sitting president has visited the WMU campus. President George W. Bush came to campus in March 2001 to deliver an address on tax cuts that was sponsored by Southwest Michigan First and the Kalamazoo Regional Chamber of Commerce. The first sitting president to visit the campus was William Howard Taft, who visited what was then Western Michigan Normal School in 1911.

Tickets to attend Kalamazoo Central's commencement ceremony are not available to the general public. Kalamazoo Public Schools will distribute tickets to members of Central's graduating class as well as some other students who attend central and Kalamazoo's other two high schools.

WMU names new business, honors college deans
Deans have been named to fill vacancies at the helm of two colleges. Both appointments would be effective July 1 and are pending approval of the WMU Board of Trustees.
Kay M. Palan, associate dean for undergraduate programs at Iowa State University's College of Business, has been selected to head the Haworth College of Business. Additionally, Nicholas Andreadis has been selected to head the Lee Honors College, which he has been serving as acting dean since January.
Palan, an associate professor of marketing at ISU, was chosen following a national search. Her selection as dean includes an appointment as a tenured professor of marketing. She replaces David Shields, who accepted a new deanship at Mercer University in Atlanta last summer.
An ISU faculty member since 1994, Palan is a business educator with an extensive background in marketing, the health care industry and managing collegiate entrepreneurial programs. She has been ISU's associate business dean since 2006, and began serving in that role on an interim basis in 2004.
Previously, Palan was at Texas Tech University, where she completed her doctoral degree. Her background also includes marketing-related consulting projects with various civic, nonprofit and corporate entities.

Her current research focuses on gender and youth-based marketing issues, especially teenage girls' autonomy and competence as shoppers and how children learn to be consumers and make consumption decisions.
Andreadis, an associate professor of counselor education and counseling psychology, was chosen following an internal search. His selection as dean includes tenure with his faculty post. He replaces Keith M. Heerdt, who now serves as WMU's vice provost for strategic enrollment management.

In addition to leading the honors college, Andreadis also will continue his role as director of the college's Academically Talented Youth Program, which serves gifted middle and high school students from more than 50 school districts in West Michigan.
A faculty member since 1999, Andreadis led the University's regional education efforts from 2005 to 2006 as dean of Extended University Programs. At the time of his acting honors college dean appointment in January, he had been serving as interim associate dean of the college since 2007.
As an assistant professor of counselor education and counseling psychology, Andreadis coordinated WMU's master's program in human resource development and has taught in the doctoral programs in interdisciplinary evaluation and in interdisciplinary health studies.
Around Campus

Graduate College workshops slated

The Graduate College’s Center for Research and Retention has scheduled two workshops over the next few weeks. First up will be “Overview of SPSS” by doctoral associate Lincoln Jiang from 6 to 9 p.m. tomorrow and Friday, June 11, in C-226 Engineering and Applied Sciences Building.

“How to Get Published in Peer-reviewed Journals” by writing consultant Jan Anderson on 6 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 9, in the Fetzer Center’s Purney Auditorium.

Visit www.wmich.edu/grad to register, download materials and obtain details.

Two-day printed electronics event set

The Center for the Advancement of Printed Electronics is offering a “Mastering Printed Electronics Principles Workshop” Wednesday and Thursday, June 9-10, in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences Building. The registration fee is $795 with a deadline of June 8. Visit www.wmich.edu/pilots/printing/mep/index.html for more information, a seminar schedule and a registration form. People also may register by calling Margaret Joyce at 276-3500.

Scott to be honored posthumously

The life work of the late Herbert S. Scott, an award-winning poet and WMU English professor, will be celebrated Thursday, June 10, during a reading from a new selected collection of his poems.

The free, public event is set for 5:30 p.m. in the Edwin and Mary Meader Rare Book Room of WMU’s Waldo Library. A reception will follow the reading from “The Other Life,” a 126-poem collection of Scott’s works from 1974 to 2005 published by Carnegie Mellon University Press.

KFS to show ‘Greenberg’ June 11-13

“Greenberg,” a film that brings together actor Ben Stiller with Academy Award-nominated writer/director Noah Baumbach to tell the funny and moving tale of house sitter Roger Greenberg will be shown Friday through Sunday, June 11-13, in the Little Theatre. The Kalamazoo Film Society screenings are set for 7 and 9:30 p.m. Friday; 4:30, 7 and 9:30 p.m. Saturday; and 2:30 and 5 p.m. Saturday.

WMU slates info sessions for MPSERS employees

The University has scheduled two information sessions for employees who are part of MPSERS—Michigan Public School Employee Retirement Services—and who are eligible to take advantage of new retirement incentives recently approved by the Michigan Legislature.

Sessions are set for 5:30 p.m. Thursday, May 27, and Tuesday, June 1, will take place in the Kirsch Auditorium of the Fetzer Center.

Richard Schaper, manager of WMU retirement services, will conduct the sessions to answer questions eligible employees have about the decision-making process and the impact of the incentives on retirement planning.

He also will discuss timing, benefits coordination and issues related to employees who meet MPSERS eligibility requirements but not those of the University.

The early-out incentives apply to about 56,000 eligible statewide. At WMU, about 300 employees meet eligibility requirements and have received letters from MPSERS. The MPSERS plan was an option once offered to new WMU employees, but the University ceased new enrollments in the plan in 1996.

Education Library relocated

The Education Library is being relocated within Sangren to accommodate ongoing construction activities.

The library will move to 1101-05, 1210-12 and 1301-08 for about two years, at which time the facility’s home in the new Sangren will be ready for occupancy. The move is expected to be completed by June 4.

Reserve services, as well as pulling titles requested, will be available in 3307 Sangren with 24-hour turnaround. Reserve services will be open this summer from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Fridays.

Also, Sangren’s Visual Resources Library has been closed. Its slide collection is being moved to the Music and Dance Library in the Dalton Center. Its video and DVD collection was moved to Waldo Library last year.

Sangren’s south wing, which housed the Education Library, is scheduled for demolition in June. The north wing will remain in use until the new building is ready for occupancy, and then be demolished.

Jobs

Current job opportunities at WMU are announced daily on the Human Resources Web site at www.wmich.edu/hr/careers-at-wmu.html. Please note that applications must be submitted online by the stated deadline. Complete application procedures are included with each posting.

Translator wins national book prize

Jeffrey M. Angles, foreign languages, has been awarded the 2009 Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission Prize for the Translation of Japanese Literature for his forthcoming translation of Tada Chimako’s “Forest of Eyes: Selected Poems of Tada Chimako.”

Chimako’s “Forest of Eyes: Selected Poems of Tada Chimako” is Columbia University’s Donald Keene Center for Japanese Studies annually gives out one prize in modern poetry, which Angles won, as well as one prize in classical literature. The 2009 prizes were presented during an April ceremony in New York.

An associate professor, Angles is the director and advisor for WMU’s Japanese language program. He has been spending 2009-10 at the International Research Center for Japanese Studies in Kyoto, Japan, as a visiting professor.

Service project earns state funding

Debra Lindstrom-Hazel, occupational therapy, co-designed the Home Fit Program, which has won a Michigan American Association of Retired Persons’ AARP Member Value Innovation Award.

An accompanying $10,000 prize will be used to improve the program in collaboration with the American Occupational Therapy Association.

Lindstrom-Hazel designed the Home Fit Program with Karen Kafantaris, Michigan AARP associate state director for livable communities. The program evaluates the homes of senior citizens and helps educate people about how their homes can fit them for a lifetime.

It was initiated in the College of Health and Human Services in October 2009. Students in the occupational therapy class on assistive technology have been involved in planning and presenting Home Fit projects.

The program also was carried out in April in Okemos, Mich., and is being undertaken this month in Ann Arbor, Mich.

Prof to head national organization

Jennifer Wiebold, blindness and low vision studies, has been chosen president-elect of the National Rehabilitation Counseling Association. Wiebold will serve as president in 2011.

An associate professor and certified rehabilitation counselor, she coordinates the dual master’s program in rehabilitation counseling and rehabilitation teaching offered through the departments of Blindness and Low Vision Studies and Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology.

The NRCA is the largest national organization representing practicing rehabilitation counselors. It helps advance the profession by promoting public understanding, setting ethical standards and establishing supportive programs that assist all persons with disabilities in becoming self-sufficient and contributing members of society.
University receives $1 million to help prepare high school teacher-scientists

A $1 million grant to WMU from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute will put prospective high school science teachers to work in laboratories to help them learn how to translate science into practical experiences for their future students.

The grant, announced by HHMI May 20, is one of a round of awards totaling $79 million made to research universities around the United States to strengthen undergraduate and precollege science education. HHMI, the nation’s largest private funder of science education, has spent $1.6 billion since 1985 to reform life sciences education from elementary through graduate school.

In the current round of funding, 50 research universities in 30 states and the District of Columbia have been awarded a total of $70 million through HHMI’s Precollege and Undergraduate Science Education Program. An additional $9 million will be shared by 13 leading research scientists through the HHMI Professors Program to support their efforts to make science more engaging to undergraduates.

The four-year award to WMU will focus on building cohorts of prospective high school science teachers who are trained first as scientists and will then learn how to turn their own research experiences into practical tools that will help them convey scientific principals to their students.

Susan Stapleton, a noted researcher and associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, will direct the effort. Other WMU scientists involved in the project will be William Cobern and Renee Schwartz, Mallinson Institute for Science Education, and Leonard Ginsberg, biological sciences.

Retirement reception

A retirement reception has been scheduled for Gary L. Wegenke, dean of the College of Education and Human Development. To attend, register at amy.burns@wmich.edu or call 387-2966 by June 10. Wegenke will be honored from 3 to 6 p.m. Thursday, June 17, in the Fetzer Center for 12-1/2 years of service to the University.

Obituaries

Irene S. Bibeza, emeritus in home economics, died April 15 in Arlington, Va. She was 93.

Bibeza came to WMU in 1965 and retired in 1980 after 15 years of service to the University. She was an assistant professor with expertise in textiles and design, clothing construction and tailoring.

She created a scholarship in 1996 for students in the University’s design and technical theatre program.

After retirement, Bibeza was active as a volunteer for WMU’s Zest for Life Program as well as community organizations such as the American Cancer Society and Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, where she was a docent.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts or, through the WMU Foundation, to the University’s theatre, music or dance departments.

James “Jamie” Patrick Forrest, accountant, died May 15 in Kalamazoo. He was 60.

Forrest joined the Haworth College of Business faculty in 1982 and had been at the University for 28 years. He was a certified public accountant and an associate professor with expertise in forensic, or fraud, accounting.

Forrest was involved in athletics and served on the WMU Athletic Board of Control for many years, including several as chair beginning in 1998.

A private celebration of his life will be held at a later date. Memorial contributions may be directed to the Michigan State Veterinary Clinic or Jacques Cousteau Society.

Lynn E. Perry, a former staff member, died May 10.

Perry came to WMU in 1970 and retired in 1981 as occupational safety officer in the Department of Public Safety.

Lloyd W. Wester, a former staff member, died May 23, 2009 in Kalamazoo, it was recently learned. He was 79.

Wester came to WMU in 1959 and retired in 1992 after 33 years with the University. At the time of his retirement, he was employed in logical services.

An Escanaba, Mich. native, Wester served in the U.S. Army during the Korean conflict and was an avid professional and college sports fan.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Comstock (Mich.) Community Center or WMU’s Mike Gary Athletic Fund.

APA, PSSO present 2010 staff awards

Six staff members received 2010 awards from the Administrative Professional Association and Professional and Support Staff Organization. The annual awards were presented during the APA/PSSO Awards and Spring Luncheon held on campus May 21.

Receiving this year’s APA awards were Amy Seth, University Recreation, Outstanding Professional award; Tom Krol, medieval studies, Outstanding New Professional award; and Joe Odhnal, Facilities Management, Tony Griffin Service Award.

Receiving this year’s PSSO Service Awards were Vicki Meinema, accounting services, and Nancy Johnson, investments and endowment management.

The final honor presented during the luncheon, the joint APA, PSSO WMU Spirit Award, went to Tim Holyaz, Facilities Management, landscape services.

Poker walk was big draw

Despite hot weather, the fitness-oriented Poker Walk held May 25 attracted numerous employees for a lunch-hour hike around campus. Participants included, from left (front row) Wally Worthy, Linda Goldner, Gina Betcher and Kelli Bond; (middle row) Wil Emmer, Dania Bazzi, Pam Biller and Charlotte Kelley; and (back row) Joyce Lew. (Photo by Tammy M. Boneburg)
Merrion study presented to White House

A study done by a WMU administrator that assesses undergraduate arts education 10 years into the future has found its way to the White House and beyond.

Margaret Merrion, dean of the College of Fine Arts, conducted the study for the academic magazine Change. Her findings were presented early this year to Kalpen Modi, associate director of public engagement for the Obama administration.

The study, titled “A Prophecy for the Arts in Higher Education,” was conducted while on sabbatical leave and took several months to compile.

It used the Delphi technique, a forecasting tool where the opinions of a panel of experts are gathered, critiqued and evaluated before arriving at a consensus.

The experts, who made predictions in eight key areas, came from the likes of Ohio State University, Bradley University, California State University Long Beach and the University of Utah.

“The panel of experts shaped a provocative view of the future with welcoming and alarming predictions,” Merrion says.

New stop-smoking program

WMU has launched a new program called Kick the Nic to help its employees and students and their eligible dependents quit smoking.

“The first step to quitting is wanting to quit,” says Lisa Marshall, University medical director. “Recent changes in the law have made nearly all public spaces in Michigan smoke-free, and that coupled with growing interest in improving personal health and wellness has led a lot of people to seek help kicking the tobacco habit.”

Kick the Nic is a confidential, nonjudgmental program administered by the Student Health Center. It provides a variety of resources, including phone or appointment consultations with tobacco cessation specialists, clinician appointments for prescription products and online programs.

Benefits-eligible employees and dependents may receive full reimbursement of the cost of tobacco cessation products by enrolling in Kick the Nic. The program provides 50 percent reimbursement on nicotine replacement products and prescription expenses after being tobacco-free for three months. The remaining 50 percent of the total cost is refunded after successfully quitting tobacco for one year.

Visit www.wmich.edu/alc/kickit for more information.

Haenicke honored

Former President Diether H. Haenicke was honored May 25 during a dedication ceremony for the Haenicke Memorial Garden. Among those participating in the event were former First Lady Carol Haenicke, left, and current President John M. Dunn, right. The garden celebrates the many contributions Diether Haenicke made to the University. (Photo by Cheryl P. Roland)

On Campus with Enedelia Cruz

Enedelia Cruz connected with the Division of Multicultural Affairs as a younger and has been associated with DMA almost nonstop ever since.

Cruz participated in the division’s GEAR UP/College Day Program as a middle schooler, then worked for the program as a student employee after enrolling at WMU in 1996. In 1999 while still working on her undergraduate degree, DMA hired her as an administrative assistant, first for the Upward Bound program and a few years later, for the Upward Bound Math and Science program.

In 2004, Cruz completed her college studies, earning a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree with an emphasis in photography. That same year, her grant-funded job ran out, so she accepted the post of office coordinator in the Environmental Institute. Cruz returned to her old stomping grounds this past fall as DMA’s administrative assistant.

“It’s nice to be back. Some faces have changed, but everyone has been welcoming,” she says. “And being familiar with the programs we offer here makes the job easier. I don’t think many people realize everything we do. We have a lot going on, just check out our website at www.wmich.edu/multicultural and see.”

Cruz’s primary duties include taking care of payroll for more than 50 employees, monitoring and processing paperwork for several program budgets, processing student funding requests and awards, helping with multicultural events, and supporting numerous academic- as well as diversity-related activities and collaborations within and outside the University. She also serves on DMA’s Student Employment Committee, helping to organize two annual employment seminars for the division’s student workers.

“I love the budget work. I like numbers so that’s not the challenging part of my job,” Cruz says. “What’s difficult is finding topics for our employment seminars that will help our students grow but aren’t repetitive. The best part of my job is collaborating with students and staff to get things done—regardless of what project we’re working on.”

Cruz and her husband, Umberto, live in Hartford, Mich., and have five children. The youngest child is 3 and the oldest is a freshman in high school. “Between my job, commuting and home life, I’m quite busy and don’t have a lot of time for hobbies,” she says, noting that Umberto has been a stay-at-home dad since she rejoined DMA.

Most of the free time Cruz does have is spent supporting her children and their activities. She likes to garden and sew, and she is a volunteer teacher at her church. Although photography takes a back seat these days, her talent in that arena is displayed in the large, framed photos of two of her children that proudly adorn her office walls.

www.wmich.edu/alc/kickit