August Keystone lecture to feature Kalamazoo sheriff

Kalamazoo County Sheriff Tom Edmonds will discuss the region’s proposed new justice facilities just days before voters hit the polls when he gives a presentation on campus Friday, Aug. 2.

Edmonds, a WMU alumnus, will present “The Proposed Criminal Justice Complex: The Right Thing To Do and Why” as part of the Keystone Community Bank Breakfast Series. The free Haworth College of Business program, which includes a continental breakfast, will begin at 7:30 a.m. in 2150 Schneider. Parking will be available in the Fetzer Center parking lot. Reservations are required and can be made by calling the business dean’s office at 7-5050.

On Aug. 6, Kalamazoo County voters will be asked to approve two proposals totaling $148 million to fund the construction and operation of the proposed criminal justice complex. The facility would consolidate the county’s jail, juvenile home and court complex, currently located at three separate sites. County commissioners recently identified a 26-acre site in downtown Kalamazoo as the preferred location for the complex.

Edmonds, the Kalamazoo County sheriff since 1984, also is an adjunct professor in the Haworth College of Business.

BOT to meet by phone today

A brief conference call meeting of the WMU Board of Trustees has been called for 9 a.m. today, Thursday, July 25, in the Connable Board Room of the Bernhard Center.

The conference call meeting, which is open to the public, was scheduled when the trustees determined they needed to take routine action on two resolutions before the board’s next regularly scheduled meeting, set for Sept. 20.

WMU archaeologists unearth structural remains of historic Fort St. Joseph site

WMU archaeologists digging at the site of an 18th-century fort in Niles, Mich., have found what they were looking for.

Underneath layers of mud in a bog, they have discovered structural remains of Fort St. Joseph, which existed more than 300 years ago and is believed to have been the only colonial fort in Western Michigan.

The University, in conjunction with Support the Fort, a nonprofit organization promoting and preserving the history of the fort, announced their findings at a news conference June 21. Present at the announcement were WMU researchers and students in the 2002 Archaeological Field School, Niles city officials, State Rep. Ron Jilinke, and a spokesperson for U.S. Rep. Fred Upton.

Fort St. Joseph has been the object of study by WMU archaeologists for a number of years. Established by French colonists on the banks of the St. Joseph River in what is now Niles, the fort existed from 1691 to 1781 and is known as the Four Flags Fort because it was held by four different nations during its history.

In 1998, at the request of Support the Fort and Niles city officials, WMU researchers determined the original site of the fort, evidence of which had disappeared centuries ago. It wasn’t until this summer, though, that it was possible for the researchers to conduct an excavation of the site.

In June, a team that included archaeological field school students and was directed by Michael Nassaney and William Cremin, both anthropology, conducted a dig at the site found in 1998. They unearthed significant artifacts including the remains of a stone
Recent grad joins World Youth Choir

A unique choral ensemble of 80 young singers from around the globe will give its only Michigan performance in Kalamazoo, and the only representative from the United States in this international choir is an April graduate of WMU.

The World Youth Choir, composed of singers ages 18 to 26 from some 30 countries, will present a free concert Sunday, Aug. 4, beginning at 7:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 321 W. South St., Kalamazoo.

Each singer selected to be in the World Youth Choir must go through a highly competitive audition process, with the final selections made by an international jury of choral experts. The only singer from the United States selected for this year's choir is Erin Cramer, a recent vocal music graduate of WMU from Coopersville, Mich.

Cramer also was one of four Americans selected by audition for last year's World Youth Choir, which practiced and performed in Venezuela in 2001. "Unfortunately," says Cramer, "I had to have a tonsillectomy last summer, and I had to withdraw from the choir."

The disappointment of missing last year's tour in Venezuela coupled with the opportunity to perform this year in front of friends and family made qualifying again in 2002 very special, Cramer says.

The World Youth Choir operates under the official patronage of the Jeunesses Musicales International and the International Federation for Choral Music.

New director named for Sindecuse Health Center

Gary M. Kirk, former director of the pediatric program at DeVos Children's Hospital in Grand Rapids, Mich., became the new director of WMU's Sindecuse Health Center July 15.

"His leadership and communication skills, along with his passion for educational and community intervention, will serve to enhance the quality of service delivered to our students, faculty and staff," said Diane K. Swartz, vice president for student affairs, of the appointment.

Kirk presides over the Pediatric and Adult Asthma Network of West Michigan, which he helped found, and has taught at the University of Chicago and Michigan State University.

A licensed physician in Michigan, Arizona and Illinois, he received his doctor of medicine degree from the McGill Faculty of Medicine in 1984 and has done postdoctoral training at Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor, Mich., and Texas Children's Hospital in Houston.

WMU part of FBI-sponsored effort to protect infrastructure

The University is part of an ongoing FBI effort to heighten the nation's level of readiness to survive attacks by terrorists against its infrastructure.

InfraGard, a grassroots initiative sponsored by the FBI and meant to connect law enforcement and private industry leaders, held its Michigan West Region Security Conference July 24 in Grand Rapids, Mich. Titled "Homeland Security," the conference featured the FBI's John Bell along with Tim Crothers, chief science officer for ITM Technology.

Viji Murali, WMU's chief information officer and vice president for information technology, serves on the steering committee of the Michigan chapter of InfraGard. She also heads the organization's Education and Awareness Committee. InfraGard has more than 70 chapters around the nation and its 5,000 members include America's top information technology professionals, who hail from academia and companies like Ford Motor Co., Amway, DaimlerChrysler and Pfizer.

InfraGard's goal is to improve communication between law enforcement and private industry for the purpose of increasing the nation's readiness to withstand attacks against its critical infrastructures. Commonly referred to as "the big eight" in information security circles, these critical infrastructures include: telecommunications, transportation, government, banking, oil and gas, water, electric power and emergency services.

Next issue is last summer News

The next issue of Western News, which will be published Aug. 8, is the last issue for summer 2002.

Western News will return to its larger format when it resumes publication Sept. 5, the start of its fall schedule.

Fall issues also will be published Sept. 19, Oct. 3, Oct. 17, Oct. 31, Nov. 14 and Dec. 5. The deadline for each issue is 5 p.m. on the Friday preceding publication.
The following vacancies are currently being posted through the Job Opportunity Program by the Human Resource Services Department. Interested benefits-eligible employees should submit a job opportunity transfer application during the posting period, and may contact a human resource services staff member for assistance in securing these positions.

Employees may call the Applicant Information Service at 7-3669 to hear the weekly Job Opportunity Program postings, seven days a week, 24 hours a day from a Touch Tone phone.

Grade 10 clerical positions are not required to be posted. For persons interested in faculty positions, there are openings in selected fields. A letter of application should be submitted to the appropriate dean or chairperson.

Please call the Applicant Information Service for up-to-date information on the Job Opportunity Program and vacancies available to external applicants.

(N) Office Assistant, 11, Extended University Programs (Kalamazoo and Statewide Programs), 02/03-3041, 7/22-7/29/02

(R) Associate Director of Residence Life, 18, Residence Life, 02/03-3042, 7/22-7/29/02

(R) Chairperson, Applied Science/Director, Manufacturing Research Institute (tenure track, full year), CH, Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering, 02/03-3044, 7/22-7/29/02

(R) Millwright/Maintenance Mechanic, ST1, Physical Plant-Maintenance Services, 02/03-3045, 7/22-7/29/02

N = New
R = Replacement
WMU is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

New policies announced

Effective July 1, the following policies became effective for Staff Compensation System employees:

- The University will offer the option of year-round flextime, under the same policy previously used for summer flextime.
- All staff job vacancies, except externally funded terminal positions, will be posted internally first.
- Employee pay rates that are above the maximum for their pay grade will not be red-circled.

Performance management process should be under way

The human resources staff would like to remind employees that the process of setting performance management objectives and competencies for 2002-03 should be in progress.

Supervisors and employees should work through this process together. Complete instructions are shown on the Performance Management Form, which has been revised for easier administration. The form is available on the human resources Web site at <www.wmich.edu/hr>. To find a copy, click on "forms" in the left menu bar. From the forms page, select the Performance Management Form in a Word version, which can be opened, completed and then printed, or in a PDF version, which can be opened, printed as a blank form and then completed.

Finalized objectives and competencies do not need to be submitted to human resources. However, both the employee and supervisor should keep a copy.

Your human resource analyst is available to answer questions and to conduct performance management training for new employees and supervisors, or anyone just wanting a refresher course. We look forward to assisting you in this very important process. Please call our office at 7-3620 if you have any questions.

Exchange


FOR SALE—Home with four bedrooms, two and 1/2 baths on 11.5 rolling acres with stream, pond and mature trees. Private and serene. Mattawan schools. $239,000. Call 668-4862 or visit <www.hno.com>, #14768.

FOR SALE—Four Winns '99 Horizon 17-foot boat with trailer and cover. Volvo-Penta inboard/outboard engine. Hardly used (under 10 hours). $9,000. Call 7-5877.

FOR SALE—'98 four-door black Chevy Tracker, $6,500, or '94 two-door red Geo Tracker, $2,500. One must go. Both are 4WD, 5-speed, AC, hardtop, sound system with CD. For details, call 628-4650 or 7-5845.

'On campus' subjects sought

Planning for fall issues of Western News is under way, and now is the time to suggest the names of staff members to be featured in the popular "On campus" series that is part of the News.

Send the name of someone you would like to read about by e-mail to <cheryl.roland@wmich.edu>, or call 7-8412 with your suggestions.

Human resources

Service

The following employees are being recognized for 35, 30, 20, 15, and 10 years of service to the University during July.

35 years—Roger M. Zabik, health, physical education and recreation.

30 years—James E. Amos, physical plant-maintenance services; Joyce L. DeRight, College of Education; and Jerry L. Schuman, printing services.

20 years—Carol A. Aslanian, Student Financial Aid and Scholarships; Jeanne L. Bloemsmans, health, physical education and recreation; Dace Copeland, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences; Dennis R. Corbin, intercollegiate athletics; and D. Kathleen Taylor, University Counseling and Testing Center.

15 years—Roger T. Arndt, Extended University Programs; Jo Anne McCrumb information technology-telecommunications; and Jeffrey A. Stone, intercollegiate athletics.

10 years—Diane L. Peirce, Sindecuse Health Center; and Brian Rock, intercollegiate athletics.

5 years—Brian P. Alofs, public safety; Erik J. Dantes, physical plant-utilities; Donald D. Green, physical plant-general services; Patricia A. Gustafson, development; Brian David Hagens, intercollegiate athletics; Jay C. Means, chemistry; Raymond Murphy, physical plant-maintenance services; James Schmotter, Haworth College of Business; Charles Stroh, art; and Lori A. Wingate, Evaluation Center.

Jobs

Human resources

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The four winners of this year’s Staff Service Excellence Awards were honored for outstanding service on the job at a June 26 luncheon. Human resources’ Laureen Summerville, far left, made the presentations to, from left: Kathryn A. Wright, geosciences; Pamela D. Ross, Unified Clinics; Scott M. Keeler, physical plant-maintenance services; and Sherry K. Bate, College of Fine Arts. (Photo by Neil Rankin)

Bioscience firm to locate research facilities at BTR Park

Actives International, a bioscience company focused on developing active components for skin treatment and other products, announced July 22 the relocation of its research and development facilities to the Southwest Michigan Innovation Center.

The 3-year-old company will occupy laboratory space in the Southwest Michigan Innovation Center’s Phase I facility in the University’s McCracken Hall. Actives expects to relocate its research and development function to the new multitenant incubator/accelerator at WMU’s Business Technology and Research Park on the Parkview Campus. That facility currently is under construction and is scheduled to open early next year.

Actives will be the fifth tenant in the $12 million, 58,000-square-foot facility, which is funded by the state of Michigan and the Kalamazoo community.

The company develops and markets ingredients from natural sources for cosmetic, nutritional and pharmaceutical products. Company researchers focus on identifying and purifying active ingredients from natural products that are derived from such sources as plants and marine algae as well as from fermentation processes.

The company, which currently employs eight people, will maintain its headquarters in Ramsey, N.J. Actives’ new Michigan facility is expected to develop high-purity prototype ingredients from natural sources and establish efficacy and product safety standards. Personnel at the new facility also will provide analytical support for the ingredients that will be produced commercially through the firm’s partner manufacturing companies.

“We envision growing our business by developing close relationships with the life science community in Kalamazoo,” says Jon Anderson, vice president of technology at Actives. “We see a lot of talent in the area and hope to work closely with the University and local pharmaceutical companies to tap this highly-skilled talent pool.”

Anderson said his company intends to commercialize some of its prototype ingredients by partnering with local extraction/manufacturing companies. He currently is meeting with several research labs to explore collaboration opportunities.

“Actives International’s expansion in Kalamazoo sends a significant message in light of the recent news at Pharmacia,” says Barry Broome, Southwest Michigan First executive director and CEO. “Our community has the critical resources to support life sciences companies and we are committed to join the rest of the Michigan to build the best life sciences and technology corridor in the Midwest.”

Kalamazoo first came into consideration for Actives’ new facility when Anderson’s wife was recruited as a research scientist at the animal health division of Pharmacia Corp. Southwest Michigan First proposed the Southwest Michigan Innovation Center as a site for Anderson’s company.

“I was impressed with the employment opportunities in Kalamazoo at that time but I couldn’t find the perfect fit. This is often a problem for the ‘trailing spouse,’” Anderson says. “With the help of Southwest Michigan First, we are very fortunate to have access to the Innovation Center and the research capabilities at the University, thus making this move a seamless one.”

Fort St. Joseph

hearth and what appears to be stone pavement or foundation marking a second structure. Hundreds of other recovered artifacts including glass beads, gun parts and engraved cutlery handles dating to the 18th century, told the archaeologists that they had truly found the fort.

“We are at the heart of where we wanted to be,” said Nassaney.

Upton’s representative, Stephanie Dorsetewitz-Kaminski, spoke of the congressman’s hope to find future support for the archaeological efforts at the fort.

“This find by Western Michigan University is but another example of the University contributing to the intellectual and historical richness of our region,” said Dorsetewitz-Kaminski, reading from a statement prepared by Upton. “Finding this fort, which has been lost for more than a century, not only gives us older folks an intellectual pursuit, but will help the past come alive for young people just beginning to learn our region’s history.”