Campus facilities named for three friends

More than 50 years of friendship are being honored with the naming of three WMU facilities for a trio of men who met on campus as students and went on to become WMU trustees, Detroit business and civic leaders, and champions of young people.

Acting at its April 27 meeting, the WMU Board of Trustees approved the action for:

• Ronald E. Hall, a 1965 alumnus, Detroit civic and business leader, and automotive executive who died June 1, 2016, halfway into his eight-year term as a WMU Trustee;
• Dennis W. Archer, a 1965 alumnus, former Detroit mayor, former member of the Michigan Supreme Court and past president of the American Bar Association as well as a former trustee; and
• William F. Pickard, a 1964 alumnus who is a current WMU trustee, longtime Detroit entrepreneur, and founder and chairman of the Global Automotive Alliance.

The trustees’ action recognizes a $3,050,000 gift recently made by Pickard to the University and celebrates the three friends’ lifelong bonds and ties to WMU. It has resulted in the two residence halls that comprise the Western

Pact allows Aquinas students to earn WMU degrees

Starting this fall, Aquinas College students will be able to select engineering as their career goal and earn a bachelor’s degree through WMU’s College of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

The partnership between Aquinas and WMU, announced May 3, means that Aquinas students can spend their first two years earning an Associate of Arts degree from Aquinas and then continue seamlessly on to earn a bachelor’s degree in industrial and entrepreneurial engineering through a WMU program based at the college. The program is the first of several engineering majors already planned as future degree offerings.

“This innovative partnership will help students reap the benefits of an Aquinas liberal education in the context of a WMU degree,” WMU President Mayano said.

Construction underway on wayfinding initiative

Construction on new exterior signage and a reconfigured set of campus roadway and building signs began the first week of May to make it easier for people to navigate WMU’s campus.

The effort to improve wayfinding is scheduled for completion by mid-August. It has been in the planning stage for more than two years and has included input from faculty, staff and students. The national consulting firm Cloud Gehshan Associates has been working on the project with a campuswide committee to improve the experience of visitors, students, faculty and staff, regardless of whether their chosen transportation is by vehicle, foot, bicycle or bus.

Rendering of new Oliver Street and Stadium Drive gateways. (Photo courtesy of Facilities Management)

Other wayfinding improvement goals include providing a hierarchy of signage elements for campus approach, arrival, circulation, parking and buildings; maintaining a consistent and appropriate image for the University; and developing a consistent nomenclature for the naming of campuses, streets, buildings and landmarks.

Features to be added during the construction phase include new and retrofitted entrance gateways to the campus and new vehicle and pedestrian signage as well as new building iden-
New lifelong learning classes offered
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at WMU member registration is underway for the summer session's 23 courses and three trips. Nonmembers may register starting Tuesday, May 23. For details, check out the summer 2017 catalog online at wmich.edu/oll/courses.

Japanese cooking classes scheduled
The Soga Japan Center will offer a Japanese cooking class near the main campus from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, May 18, and again at the same time Thursday, May 25, in Solid Grounds. The cost of $5 for WMU students and $10 for non-students includes ingredients. To register, send an email to michiko.yoshimoto@wmich.edu with a preferred meeting date.

Transportation is conference focus
Registration continues through Friday, May 19, for the Summer Conference on Livable Communities, which is open to anyone interested in advancing environmentally sustainable transportation systems. For details, visit wmich.edu/transportationcenter/programs.

Various Western Wellness events set
Walks and other summer events have been set for WMU employees. They include the Poker Walk Tuesday, May 23, and a Goldsworth Valley Walk with Steve Keto, landscape services, Wednesday, May 31. For details and to register, visit wmich.edu/wellness/programs.

Service anniversaries-May

20 Years—Miranda Howard, University Librarians, and Timothy W. Strunk, student affairs-information services.

15 Years—Debra M. Robinson, student financial aid and scholarships, and Faith A. Wicklund, Miller Auditorium.

Five Years—Paula Michelle Davis, university relations; Maddy Day, Center for Fostering Success; Katie Ellen Easley, College of Arts and Sciences; Jason Richard Kline, Miller Auditorium.

Retirement reception
Shahla Bryant, Dining Services, will be recognized for her service to the University during a retirement reception from 2 to 4 p.m. Thursday, May 18, in the President’s Dining Room at the Bernhard Center.

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

History professor’s book published
Linda Borish, history, has co-written a second edition of “Sports in American History: From Colonization to Globalization.” The other co-authors are Gerald Gems from North Central College and Gertrud Pfister from the University of Copenhagen.

The enhanced book provides a text for under-graduate courses in sport history and American studies; resources for graduate students and scholars in sport history and sport studies; and reference material for libraries, historians, sport scientists and sport enthusiasts.

The text journeys from the early American past to the present, offering a view of the evolution of American sporting practices. It provides insights into new and alternative perspectives, examines sport as a social and cultural phenomenon, generates a better understanding of current sport practices, and considers future developments in U.S. sport.

Engineer elected to national board
Andrew A. Kline, associate dean for research and graduate education in the engineering college, was one of seven officers elected to the American Society for Engineering Education Board of Directors in April. Kline was elected by the society’s membership to chair the Council of Sections, Zone II and along with the other officers, will begin his term during the society’s annual conference in June in Columbus.

He came to the University in 2001 and was appointed to his current post in 2016. A tenured professor of chemical and paper engineering, Kline has taught chemical engineering courses from the freshman through graduate level. His current research efforts in engineering and service-learning education are funded by grants from the National Science Foundation and Learn and Serve America.

Professor named to state commission
Gov. Rick Snyder has appointed Matthew Mingus, public affairs and administration, to the Michigan Human Trafficking Commission. Members will serve two-year terms, with the first set of terms expiring March 1, 2019.

The 14-member commission is partly charged with making recommendations to the state Legislature to improve laws addressing human trafficking violations and establishing a program to improve public awareness of human trafficking. Its activities also include providing information and assistance to law enforcement officials and other appropriate professionals and reviewing existing services available to assist human trafficking victims.

Mingus has served as director of his school and its doctoral program. His research interests include comparative public administration, comparative systems of decentralization, and U.S.-Canadian relations, borders and national sovereignty changes.
Seventeen in running for annual campuswide award

Members of the WMU community have through Wednesday, May 31, to help decide who will be this year's four Make a Difference Annual Award winners by submitting additional supporting information.

In the running are Barbara S. Adams, music; Andrew Bachmann, public safety; Kelli A. Bond, vice president for research's office; Regina Buckner, University Libraries; Eric N. Epplett, College of Aviation; Adrienne D. Frautschi, First-Year Experience; Todd T. Gerry, Fetzer Center; Tom Grossman, College of Aviation; Michelle E. Hruska, provost's office; Amber L. Hutson, psychology; Walter T. Malone, Center for Academic Success Programs; Deanna M. Merz, counselor education and counseling psychology; Deborah A. O'Keefe, music; Thomas K. Ramsdell, Logistical Services; Carol A. Reid, College of Education and Human Development; Colleen A. Sante, Spanish; and Laura C. Weber, Business Services.

Specific guidelines for submitting new information in support of any of this year's 17 annual award candidates are posted at wmich.edu/makeadifference.

WMU earns more sustainability awards

WMU has earned two more top honors in award programs that recognize environmental stewardship.

The University received the top award in the higher education category of the 2017 American School & University's Green Cleaning Award competition, while the College of Health and Human Services building brought home the education category's "Biggest Loser" title in the 2016 Michigan Battle of the Buildings energy savings event.

Green cleaning is a movement that is defined as cleaning to protect health without harming the environment.

Building custodial and support services has been working since 2004 to adopt greener practices, and WMU is now one of only five higher education institutions to be Green Seal certified for sustainability in its building custodial practices and the only one in Michigan.

The unit is responsible for more than 50 campus buildings as well as athletic fields and their associated structures. In all, 168 custodians take care of 4.2 million cleanable square feet of building space used almost daily by some 27,000 students and employees. WMU's building entry rose to the top out of 64 million square feet of Michigan real estate that competed. It demonstrated the greatest percentage-based reduction in energy-use intensity, with a 17.4 percent decrease in energy use in the 242,000-square-foot facility.

May focuses on hearing, speech

The University community and Southwest Michigan residents are encouraged to schedule hearing exams at the Van Riper Language, Speech and Hearing Clinic during May—Better Hearing and Speech Month.

The clinic also provides aphasia services, speech-language evaluation and therapy, and services for swallowing disorders and voice and respiration, among other services. For an appointment, call (269) 387-8047. For more information about the clinic, visit wmich.edu/unifiedclinics/vantriperaudiology.

Journalism students write for issue of Encore

What would college journalists choose to write about if they were given an entire magazine to fill with their best work?

That question is answered in May's issue of Encore Magazine, a regional lifestyle magazine based in Kalamazoo and serving Southwest Michigan.

The May 2017 issue was written almost entirely by a team of junior- and senior-level WMU journalism students taught by Sue Ellen Christian, communication.

For their senior capstone experience, Carolyn Diana, Samantha Marzke, Samantha May, Jay Penny and Gregson Steele conceptualized, reported, researched and wrote the feature articles in the magazine and also, in many cases, took photographs to accompany the articles.

The aspiring journalists' articles are in keeping with Encore's mission of showcasing the greater Kalamazoo community, but, the articles have a decidedly WMU bent.

"In a time when journalism is under fire and people wonder about its future, we want to showcase just how important journalism education is," Encore editor Marie Lee says. "Not only do these young writers give us great stories about people and initiatives at their own university, but this issue spotlights their talents and the outstanding journalism training they are receiving through WMU's School of Communication."

The is issue available online at encore.kalamazoo.com, at distribution points around Kalamazoo and in a digital edition at bit.ly/2pLBU/n.

PSSO recognizes three award winners at luncheon

The Professional Support Staff Organization celebrated the winners of its 2017 annual awards during a May 5 luncheon in the Fetzer Center.

Receiving the organization's service Awards were Beth van den Hombergh, Career and Student Employment Services, and Amber Hutson, psychology. The Spirit Award was handed down by last year's winner to Mark Johnson, public safety.

The luncheon's theme for this year—"Let's Go Cruising With the Broncos"—was nautical. This year's designated charity was the University's Invisible Need Project, an multi-faceted initiative intended to serve students with unmet needs while strengthening the culture of giving at WMU.

Parking, road closures in effect

Minor traffic disruptions and parking lot closures will be experienced on campus this summer as demolition begins on McCracken Hall.

Three parking lots will be closed from now through Friday, Aug. 4. They are Lot 23, across from Elmwood Apartments; Lot 28, the Waldos Library lot off Arcadia Road; and Lot 67, the Burnhams lot off Arcadia Road.

In addition, Arcadia Road is closed from Waldos Library to Western Avenue to make way for construction equipment. The road is expected to reopen to traffic in early August.

Questions about the closures may be directed to Shannon Sauer-Becker, construction, at shannon.s.becker@wmich.edu or (269) 387-8502. For maps showing campus lots and roads, visit wmich.edu/maps/printables.php.

Obituaries—wmich.edu/news/obituaries

Joseph Asenbauer, a retired equipment operator for landscape services, died March 20. He was 93. Asenbauer joined the staff in 1977 and retired in 1988 after 11 years of service.

Annette LaVier, a former utilization coordinator in the Media Services unit of University Libraries, died April 8. She was 80. LaVier came to WMU in 1964 and left in 1990 after nearly 27 years of service.

James Martin, a retired service officer in public safety, died Dec. 6, 2016. He was 83. Martin joined the staff in 1970 and retired in 1998 after almost 28 years of service.

Clara Ouding, a retired cook in Dining Services, died April 24. She was 97. Ouding joined the staff in 1965 and retired in 1984 after more than 19 years of service.
University reorganizes admissions area to better match recruitment plans

The University is doing a major restructur-
ing of its admissions infrastructure in order to meet strategic recruitment goals that include a dramatic boost in the number of out-of-state students attending WMU.

The new structure is the latest step in a process that began this spring with a reduction in nonresident tuition and a change to the way the University handles assignment of nonresident status, says Terrence M. Curran, associate provost for enrollment management.

“We need to refocus our efforts so that the greater emphasis is on recruiting on the road and taking the WMU name farther and deeper into markets we’ve carefully selected for attention,” Curran says. He and Admissions Director Dachea Hill have been evaluating the unit’s structure, and nine assistant director posts will be converted to two-year terms starting July 1.

A one-year extension will be available for individuals who exhibit a high level of success in the position. The incumbents have been notified they may apply for one of the new positions or be considered for positions elsewhere on campus. The new posts are designed as shorter-term roles in recognition of the intense travel expectations.

“We’ll be conducting a national search for people we can train on how to take the WMU message on the road, work closely with WMU alumni and recruit in states we’ve identified as having high potential,” Curran says. “We’re looking at California, Texas, Pennsylvania, Ohio, New Jersey, Florida and Arizona.”

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Pact allows Aquinas students to earn WMU degrees

Art's education while also taking advantage of the resources, technology and engineering faculty that WMU has to offer,” says Juan Olivarres, president of Aquinas. “With a partnership like this, the ultimate winner is the workforce, as our two institutions team up to produce graduates who have the skills and experience for in-demand engineering careers.”

General education and engineering prerequisites will be taught by Aquinas faculty, while WMU faculty will teach engineering courses. General education, pre-engineering and some engineering courses will be taught at Aquinas or at the WMU-Grand Rapids location. Semesters six and seven and the summer between them will be primarily taught on the WMU campus in Kalamazoo.

Aquinas tuition rates will apply for the first two years. WMU's tuition rate for Extended University Programs, which is lower than Aquinas's rate, will apply for engineering coursework once the student is accepted into the program.