New address honors WMU founding

It's in the same location but, effective April 20, the University has a new mailing address. The new official address is 1903 West Michigan Ave. It's a postal designation destined to be reinforced over the coming years as WMU heads into a centennial celebration to mark its official designation destined to be reinforced over the rich heritage that we as a University community continually strive to honor.

Floyd said the idea was first proposed to him in a note from Leo Stevenson, finance and commercial law. That note sparked a University initiative that eventually involved two city officials and the U.S. Postal Service to assure coincide with Floyd's announcement. The city assessor worked with us federal postal authorities. The Middle School Mathematics Reform Project, doubling M'RP, has previ-ously announced the new address on April 20 to coincide with Floyd's announcement. Walker over sees the address change required the U.S. Postal Service databases have already been support a statewide effort based at WMU through a four-year $3.9 million grant running through a four-year $3.9 million grant.

The Michigan Mathematics Reform Project at WMU has a total of more than $1.3 million to Ottawa counties over the next three years. The Middle School Mathematics Re- form Project, doubling M'RP, has previ-iously received more than $4 million in state and federal support, most of that coming through a four-year $3.9 million grant from the National Science Foundation in 1999. To that will be added a total of $1,352,680 in private support from the four foundations.

Walker will oversee continuing education programs

Walker has been named vice provost of academic affairs for continuing education at the University, effective July 1. Walker's ap- pointment was announced by the Board of Trustees April 20 meeting. Also at that meeting, the board officially approved the previ-ously announced appointment of Fredrick J. Dobney as provost and vice president for academic affairs and tenured professor of history, effective July 1.

Walker will oversee WMU's continuing education efforts, which include pro- gram offerings at eight regional centers and study sites around Michigan. He re-places Frank Rapley, who has been serving as interim dean for continuing education as well as dean of the College of Education. Walker is currently director of develop- ment in the Division of Continuing Educa- tion at Louisiana State University, where he previously served as director of the Fire and Emergency Training Institute. As de- velopment director, he has helped lead an interdisciplinary effort to establish a new international center for emergency man-agem ent training at LSU. He also served for seven years as a program director for the Division of Con- tinuing Education at the University of Kan- sas and as a curriculum and program devel- oper with the Idaho State Division for Vocational Education.

Walker earned an associate's degree at the College of Southern Idaho in 1982; bachelor's and master's degrees in 1984 and 1988, respectively, from the Univer- sity of Idaho; and a doctorate in higher education policy and administra- tion from the University of Kansas in 1999. He is the author of numerous papers and trade journal articles and was selected for an International Inaugural Visiting Fel- lowship to England in 1995.

Trustees approve appointments of new deans

The University's Board of Trustees April 20 approved the appointments of David A. England as dean of the College of Educa- tion, Margaret Merrion as dean of the Col- lege of Fine Arts and Richard A. Wright as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. The appointment was effective May 1. England and Merrion will assume their new positions July 1. England is cur- rently professor and head of the School of Curriculum and Educational Leader- ship and associate direc- tor of teacher educa- tion at Oklahoma State University. Previously, En- gland served as associate professor of cur- riculum and instruction at Louisiana State University, where he also served as associ- ate dean for academic affairs and associate dean for teacher education. In addition, he served as director of the LSU University Writing Project for nearly the center of the campus, some- where in the vicinity of the Bernhard Cen- ter. Despite the change of address, the University's mail service operations will continue to be housed in the Campus Ser- vices Building. The new address is WMU's old official address: 1201 Oliver St.

Announcement of the change this spring will allow departments and offices across the campus to begin making needed adjust- ments to printed materials during the nor- mal spring and summer ordering period for such items. All items printed on campus for the University or contracted to off- campus vendors will need to reflect the new address.

Floyd publicly announced the new address.

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Medievalists to focus on Vikings, vamps and Java script at weekend congress on campus

They’ve come by plane, train, automobile and Viking ship.

Nearly 3,000 medieval scholars have descended upon Kalamazoo for the 35th International Congress on Medieval Stud-

ies that begins today on campus.

The congress, which runs through Sunday, is the largest gathering of medievalists in the world. Sponsored by the Medieval Institute, the gathering attracts historians, art curators, military strategists, monks and nuns from around the globe.

According to Paul Szarmach, Medieval Institute, the congress “gets bigger and better every year.” This year the gathering will feature presentations of more than 1,700 papers in 562 sessions, two concerts, a film festival and a special theatre perfor-

mance of “Murder in the Cathedral.” One of the Congress’ highlights will be the launching of a Viking ship.

But not everything at the congress is from the days of yore. While cyberspace was not even imagined in the Middle Ages, it figures prominently in this congress. From a special demonstration of the PhiloBiblon databases, an advanced electronic resource for research on medieval literature, to teaching medieval studies via distance learning or using multimedia to study of things medieval will be dis-

played in the second floor lobby of the Bernhard Center on Friday and Saturday and will be launched on Goldsworth Pond at 4 p.m. Saturday. The craft is scheduled for display at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., later in May.

“This Viking boat is an excellent exam-

ple of medieval technology,” explains Szarmach. “They figured out in the eighth century how to construct a boat that could go up a river and sail on oceans. Modern technology is used now to do what Vikings did without computers centuries ago.”

But for those looking for a little nautical fare, there’s plenty of the naughty to be had as well. Sessions focus on topics ranging from “Violence and Disorder in Late Medieval England” to “Everything You Wanted to Know about Sex But Were Afraid to Ask.” And don’t forget the ses-


In addition to lectures and presenta-

tions, there will be time for music and dance through concerts and a film festival. For a complete list of such events, check the Medieval Congress Web site at: www.wmich.edu/medieval/.

Registration for the congress will con-

inue through the event. There is no regis-

tration fee for WMU faculty, staff mem-

bers and students or for county residents.

Retired food marketers lauded by industry professionals

Two WMU emeriti are among the top 100 food and beverage industry leaders of the last century, according to the Michigan Food and Beverage Association.

Richard Neschich, emeritus in market-

izing, and William O. Haynes, emeritus in consumer resources and technology (which once housed the food marketing program), were named to the list assembled by the MFBA’s Century Committee.

Selection criteria included pioneering activi-

ties, innovations, dedication, number of years in business and impact on the industry.

“This list represents the best of the best,” says Edward Debo, president of the 3,200-

member MFBA. “We honored Dick and Bill in recognition of their leadership in evolving the University’s food marketing program into the outstanding success it is today. They persuaded the industry to sup-

port the curriculum and provide corporate scholarships, and they were key figures in promoting the height of the food industry.”

Other industry leaders who made the list include Hendrik and Frederik Meijer; the Stroh, Knupp, Zehnder and Felpausz families; Tom Monaghan; James Verno; and Win Schuler.

Verger named Haworth college’s associate dean

Trudy G. Verger has been promoted to the newly created position of associate dean for external affairs in the Haworth College of Business.

In her new role, Verger will focus on creating and nurturing public-private partnerships be-

tween the business community and her college.

She will oversee the Office of Business Development, Development Services (formerly known as WESTOPS), which offers counseling and other assistance to area business.

Alumni development will also play into Verger’s new position, as she strives to develop the growing connections, among Vermilion graduates who want to support business education.

“Trudy Verger has both studied entre-

preneurship and worked directly with entrepreneurs in the area,” says Haworth College of Business Dean James T. W. Schmoller. “This makes her an ideal person to lead our outreach efforts. Our college’s motto is Entrepreneurs for Business Knowledge and Leadership,” and by giv-

ing this role to a senior administrator, we are demonstrating just how serious we are about partnering with our external constituents.”

Verger most recently served as assis-
tant dean for student development in the Haworth College of Business, and she will retain the responsibilities of that position. She also will continue to teach part-time as an associate professor of manage-

ment. Before joining the WMU faculty in 1993 to 1999. A specialist in organiza-

tional communication and communica-

tion, she earned her bachelor’s degree from the University of Texas at Austin.

Math reform (Continued from page one)

“Math is a very important part of educa-

tion in today’s world,” says Margaret A. "Kamy" Recker, vice president and secre-

tary of the Dow Foundation. “We are pleased to support the new math teaching and learning model that will produce a generation of Michigan students who will learn and retain more problem-solving and mathematical techniques. These students will be the ones who lead our state forward in this coming century without computers.”

M’RP is a collaborative partnership among WMU, school districts around the state and the Michigan Department of Education, which will provide major financial support. The program is helping middle schools identify their curricula with the state’s new Curriculum Framework in Mathematics.

A total of 164 middle schools from 90 school districts have elected to participate in the three-year program. Six regional training centers have been established in Detroit, Flint, Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Mount Pleasant and Ypsilanti, with a sec-

ond training center in the Grand Rapids area to open soon.

“The foundation funds are being used to help defray the costs incurred by the indi-

vidual school districts,” says Ruth Ann Laing, also mathematics and statistics.

“Math reform will continue through the event. There is no regis-

tration fee for WMU faculty, members and students or for county residents.

Johnston praised as ‘star’ local volunteer

A University computer administrator is being recognized this spring for his volunteer work.

Robert L. Johnston, information tech-

ology, is a finalist for the Seventh Annual Governor’s Service Awards, to be pre-

sented Thursday, May 18 in Lansing. On Wednesday, April 19, Johnston also received a STAR Award from the Volunteer Cen-

ter of Greater Kalamazoo.

Johnston is a longtime volunteer and activist, devoting a minimum of 35 hours each week to the community. Serving in both paid and volunteer capacities, he assists organizations such as the Ameri-

can Red Cross, the Michigan Blind Ath-

etics Association, Kalamazoo County Ser-

vices, Boy Scouts of America and Mount Zion Baptist Church.

As a volunteer, he has run the Chicago Marathon with a blind athlete; provided food, clothing and shelter for fire victims; and headed a $3.7 million capital campaign.

The finalists for the Governor’s Service Awards were announced earlier this month by Gov. John Engler and the Michigan Community Service Commission. Johnston is one of five finalists in the Adult (56-55) category. He will attend the Governor’s Service Awards dinner, where overall winners in each of 15 categories will be an-

ounced.

The statewide recognition program ac-

knowledges the contributions made by in-

dividuals, organizations and businesses in-

volved in service and volunteerism, and honors the leaders who are striving to serv-

ing others is exemplary. Nearly 300 indi-

viduals, businesses and nonprofit organi-

zations were nominated this year for Governor’s Service Awards.

The STAR Awards honor Kalamazoo-

ians who volunteered or contributed exten-

sional commitment of time, creativity, de-

pendability and impact on their nominat-

ing organizations. STAR is an acronym for Sharing Time And Resources. Johnston received one of 12 STAR Awards.
Top fine arts students converge on campus for 38th annual Michigan Youth Arts Festival

More than 800 of the state's finest young artists will gather on campus Thursday through Saturday, May 11-13, for the 38th annual Michigan Youth Arts Festival.

The festival honors Michigan high school students gifted in dance, drama, instrumental and vocal music, visual arts, creative writing, and film/video.

Unique to the state of Michigan, the festival began in 1963 as a simple screening of young talent. Today, it is a comprehensive arts spectacular, culminating in a nine-month search for the finest artistic talent in Michigan high schools.

More than 60,000 students across the state become involved in the adjudication process that results in some 800 students being invited to participate in the annual three-day festival.

This is the 16th year WMU has served as host to the event, which is sponsored in part through funding from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs; Western Michigan University; the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo; Bank One of Michigan; Psi Iota Xi, Eta Omicron Chapter; Howard Printing; Plainwell Paper; Saginaw Crandall Vos & Lewis; Jays Foods; D & W Food Centers; and the Coca-Cola Bottling Co. of Michigan.

McCullum, who joined Bank One's vice president and region head for contributions and community relations, has been a festival advocate for the past five years and currently serves as a liaison to a prominent chairman for the 38th festival.

Board approves McCullum's appointment

The Board of Trustees April 20 officially approved the previously announced appointment of Robert McCullum as head men's basketball coach, effective March 21.

McCullum comes to WMU from the University of Illinois, where he had served since 1996 as an assistant coach, helping the squad advance to three NCAA Tournament appearances in the past four seasons.

Previously, the Birmingham, Ala., native has been on the coaching staff at Kansas State University, Western Michigan University; the Arts Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs; Western News

WMUK's spring fund-raising campaign ends after just four days, brings in $115,104

WMUK's spring fund-raising campaign ended after just four days, bringing in $115,104.

"We are basically our own phone company here. We manage campus-to-campus calls and the way outgoing calls are switched off campus." Van Heulen has got this all down to a science doing interior communications on the Navy submarine, USS Flasher—named after a fish, he says. Now, more than a decade later, a lot has changed in his field, and Van Heulen says he's seeing technology progress in terms of miles and miles of wire to the use of advanced computer technology and wireless communication. "We really have to keep up with the technology because it is ever-changing," he says. "We are upgrading the system at least one or twice a year, and we are currently testing new software that will allow people to use Web browsers to check voice mail and faxes." In his time away from campus, Van Heulen can usually be found doing volunteer work, organizing and participating in the many events and camps that are geared toward the arts. The station general manager. "We're very happy. We had an outstanding mail-in campaign, the most we've ever had for spring."
Friday's Latin event set to 'Let the Ludi begin'

Let the games begin. That phrase will be uttered when nearly 500 Latin-loving high school students converge on the campus tomorrow for "Ludi Occidentales MM," which means Western Games 2000. They're out to prove that the venerable language of Latin is not dead.

According to Robert Griffin, foreign languages and literatures and organizer of the event, this year's games or "Ludi" mark the sixtieth anniversary of the biennial activity, which provides a fun, educational way for students to celebrate the study of Latin. The event, which begins at 9:30 a.m., doesn't feature games in the traditional competitive sense. Instead, the activities are meant to be entertaining and loads of fun as well as a real tribute to the teachers who have generated so high a level of language skill and interest.

The day's concluding event will feature Griffin himself leading a sing-along of "Villam Tunes,"—well-known songs sung in Latin. This year, Griffin promises a rousing version of "Horatius Villam Habet," or "Old McDonald Had a Farm," with the familiar chorus of "Te-ee-i-e-i-o."

A total of 12 schools from Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids, Battle Creek, Portage and Vicksburg will participate. Only three schools attended the first Ludi in 1989 and Griffin says the event continues to grow in popularity every year.

"The growth truly shows that Latin is far from a 'dead' language," he says. "It is very much alive."

New deans (Continued from page one)

includes a tenured position as professor of music.

Merrion currently is dean of the College of Fine Arts and professor of music at Ball State University, a position she has held since 1990. She joined the Ball State faculty in 1986 as associate dean. Previously, she was faculty member at the University of Northern Iowa for eight years, serving as assistant and associate professor, supervisor of clinical experiences and coordinator of undergraduate and graduate studies.

Merrion, who began her career as a music educator in the Chicago public and parochial schools, earned a bachelor's degree in music education from Chicago State University in 1971 and master's and doctoral degrees in music education in 1976 and 1979, respectively, from the University of Missouri at Columbia. She also completed Harvard University's management development program in 1989.

The author or co-author of five books, Merrion has written on such topics as instructional strategies for music education and creative drama and music activities for teachers. She also is active in a number of professional and arts organizations. She currently serves as president of the National Council of Fine Arts Deans and has been a part of a panel for the National Endowment for the Arts, the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education, the National Association of Schools of Music, and the National Association for Schools of Art and Design.

Merrion replaces Robert H. Luscombe, who retired last year. Her appointment was approved by the Board of Trustees.