

BUSINESS & FINANCE NOTES



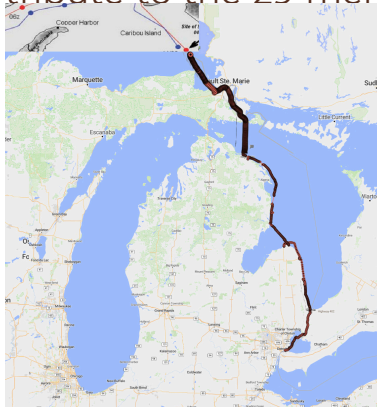
November 2025

Issue: 15

Did you know?

We Have a Mermaid on Campus!

One of the Chubby Mermaids, a four-person relay team of endurance swimmers from Michigan, is a familiar face in the WMU community. The team, including Tracey Lawie, General Manager of Miller Auditorium has participated in several Great Lakes swims, including the Mackinac Island Swim, the Mackinac Bridge Swim, and recently completed stage three of the Edmund Fitzgerald Memorial Swim. The 411-mile course, consisting of 17 stages, began at the wreck site of the Edmund Fitzgerald in the Canadian waters of Lake Superior. Swimmers completed the stages over 33 days, ending in Detroit and symbolically delivering the iron ore. This swim was a tribute to the 29 men who lost their



The Chubby Mermaid team swam from the Iroquois Lighthouse on Lake Superior, into the St. Mary's River, and through the Soo Locks.

The team swam a total of 18.5 miles and was accompanied by a U.S. Coast Guard escort through the locks. The swim ended on the shore at Sault Ste. Marie. A memorial ceremony was held on August 28 at the Mariners' Cathedral in Detroit, where the 66 swimmers celebrated their achievement and remembered the lost sailors.



The event raised over \$200,000, which will support the maintenance of the Whitefish Bay Lighthouse. The event drew significant media attention, and Tracey handled the spotlight like a seasoned pro. To learn more about the event or Tracey's participation, click on the links or search "Edmund Fitzgerald Swim."

Lansing State Journal



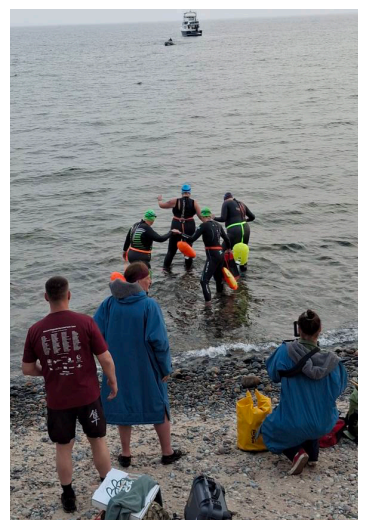
Township, county reach deal for police patrols

By [Name]
[Text]

SWIMMING IN THE WAKE OF HISTORY

Relay will complete the Edmund Fitzgerald's final route

By [Name]
[Text]



And did you know?



VS



4th Annual Police Department Rivalry Games

This year, CMU PD traveled to WMU, where they faced off in a “Tailgate Olympics.” The competition featured a mix of traditional tailgate games—plus a few surprises that were kept under wraps until game day. It was a spirited battle, filled with fun and full of rivalry and bragging! The video was released on the department's social media pages (Facebook, Instagram, TikTok) during rivalry week. Click to watch now.

The 25 Year Club is a Legacy of Loyalty

Established by the Board of Trustees in 1982, WMU began celebrating employees who've dedicated 25 or more years of service to the University through the 25 Year Club. In a letter from then-President John T. Bernhard, he shared, “The importance of every University faculty and staff member cannot be over emphasized. This is especially true of those who have committed their careers to Western.” That year, 98 members began what has become an annual tradition.

This year's Gala, set for December 2, will welcome 41 new inductees, bringing total membership to over 1800. While the event is invitation-only, you can view the full list of members on the [25 Year Club webpage](#). The list is updated annually after the Gala. Congratulate a member today.

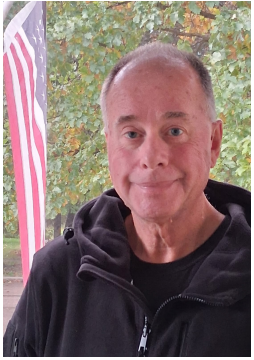
Downloadable Fun with University Advancement

Have you seen the cartoon, Broncos? Maybe in an email or posted around campus. These characters are fun, cute, and sure to make you smile. Created by the WMU MARCOM team, you can find cutouts, coloring pages, stencils, a meal planner, bingo cards, and even a fishing certificate, all featuring Buster, online! There are also virtual backgrounds, desktop wallpapers, and one of my favorites – gratitude notecards. The time to share what we are thankful for is here, and what better way than with these notecards? Visit the [University Advancement](#) webpage for all the fun. Go Broncos!



MEET YOUR COLLEAGUES!

Parking Services



Craig Warner

A former armored-car messenger for Brinks Inc. and former special deputy sheriff for Kalamazoo County, Craig has been with WMU for more than 20 years. In the summer, he works in parking maintenance, and the rest of the year, he serves as a parking enforcement officer. Craig is also semi-retired from his computer-repair business, which he began more than 25 years ago. He appreciates not being confined to a single building or room all day, and each day brings a new adventure. A great day is when everyone has a pass and is parked correctly. Craig enjoys helping visitors navigate campus; his goal is to leave them with a positive impression of WMU. In his free time, he enjoys tinkering with his 1979 Chevy Silverado C10 and working on woodworking projects. Craig feels deeply blessed and dedicates time to the church and ministry.

A third-generation Bronco employee, Jamie started as a parking-enforcement officer at the end of 2015. She was previously a Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA) in the stroke unit at Holland Hospital and worked in marketing and sales for Curves for Women. Jamie says her bosses and coworkers are what make her day enjoyable. It's not writing tickets—or the occasional one-finger wave she gets in return—that brings her joy. She'd much prefer a full-hand wave when you see her. Outside of work, she enjoys playing disc golf, making candles, dabbling in photography, and watching documentaries. This year, Jamie incubated and hatched her first baby chickens. She enjoys reading nonfiction, wants to learn to curl, and hopes to beat her son in a basketball video game—or at least out-fish him.



**WESTERN
MICHIGAN
UNIVERSITY**

Jamie Clark



Landyn Allers

Landyn has been with WMU for two years, both as a student and an employee, working as a parking-enforcement officer and in parking maintenance. He enjoys the flexibility of his job and even creates social-media content for parking services and the Department of Public Safety. Recently, he filmed, produced, and edited the 2025 Tailgate Olympics competition between the WMU and CMU police departments. The variety of tasks helps keep his work interesting. Before WMU, Landyn worked as a merchandiser at Pepsi, stocking store shelves. In his free time, he likes working on cars, photography, and filming. He was a competitive stock-car racer and served as the crew chief for his father's car. He enjoys following all kinds of racing, from NASCAR to dirt sprint racing, with plans to build his own stock car someday.

Since 2017, Nadia has enjoyed working daily with her coworkers in the Parking Services Department. Customer-service days can sometimes be intense, but a supportive team makes everything feel warmer and lighter. They use laughter to brighten their days and support each other in fun ways. Before joining WMU, Nadia worked as a waitress at various places. She is passionate about “house hacking.” She bought her first home before joining WMU and then rented it out after purchasing her second, repeating the process. Outside of work, Nadia manages her rental properties and works as a licensed real estate agent, helping others find the perfect place to call home.



Nadia Scott

If you are interested in participating in this segment, please reach out to Karmella Todd. Otherwise, don't be surprised if she knocks on your door asking for participation.

Just a Thought

After three years at Western, I have a confession: I still don't know all the words to the WMU Fight Song. I graduated from high school more than 30 years ago, and I might still be singing the Parchment Panther Fight Song when I turn 100. Just a couple of chords from my high school band, and I am clapping and ready to sing. The Bronco Marching Band? It takes me a few extra chords to get going—and full disclosure, I only know the last 12 words. Plus, I keep wanting to shout “Broncos” instead of “Western win this game.”

I've got Bronco pride, and always sport my brown and gold, but hey Athletics—how about putting the lyrics on the big screen? Do the dance team or cheerleaders offer lessons on those hand gestures?

If you are nodding along as you read this... we might need a tutor.
Any volunteers? --Karmella



WMU Fight Song:

*Fight on fight on for Western;
take the ball, make a score,
win the game.
Onward for the Brown and Gold;
Push 'em back, push 'em back
bring us fame.
Fight on fight on for Western;
over one, over all we will reign.
Fight, Broncos fight,
fight with all your might.
Western win this game*

Upcoming Events



- Nov. 10 - Student Composers - Gilmore School of Music
- Nov. 13 - Real Men. Real Health: Building Strength from the Inside Out
- Nov. 14 - WMU Theater Presents The House that will not Stand
- Nov. 14-16 - WMU Student Dance Concert
- Nov. 27 - Burn the Bird Thanksgiving Day Workout at West Hills
- Dec. 2 - Hot, Wise, and Unbothered: Thriving Through the Menopause Journey
- Dec. 5 - Innovation Expo
- Dec. 16 - Cirque Dreams Holidays

If you are interested in submitting information for the next Business and Finance Notes, please contact Karmella Todd at Karmella.Todd@wmich.edu.

After thought

Other school fight songs over the years.
Thank you to John Winchell, Curator
Archives, University Libraries.



1905 - \$5 Winning Song

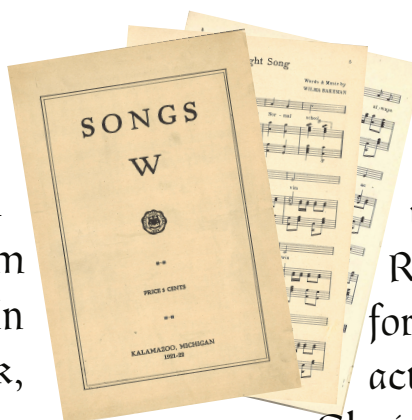
by: Gerald Whitney
and Bernice Crandall

Hail to our jolly student life,
Hail with a right good cheer,
Hail to our hopeful daily strife,
To conquer without a fear.
Hail to the bright and sunlit hours,
Swiftly they pass away,
Even they seem like beauteous flowers,
That blossom but do not stay.
O, Brown and Gold, O, dear old school,
Through all the coming years
In fancy we will turn to thee
With all our smiles and tears.
The dear old hall we'll e'er recall
With tender hearts and true
And breathe a sigh for days gone by,
The dear old friends and you,
Hail to thy hills and sunny skies
Hail to thy mem'ries fair,
Hail to the weary hearts that sing
Light on the peaceful air.
When in the sunset of our lives
We turn to former days
We'll think with glowing hearts of thee
And chant thy hymns of praise.

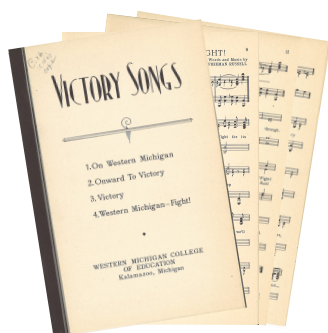
Music by: Burton E. Fischer Words by: Neal Nyland

Raise ye a cheer, let the sound go ringing out across the field
Raise high a loft, them your colors cheer, cheer for your warriors,
they fight And they never yield cheer for your men raise a mighty
shout for victory is near. In them take your pride as they fight side by side,
the squad, for the squad we cheer.

1921-1922 - Western's Fight Song
Words and Music by: Wilma Bakeman
Hail! Hail! For Western Normal school
We have the pep and the fight and vim
In all our games we go out to win
Either in football, baseball, or track,

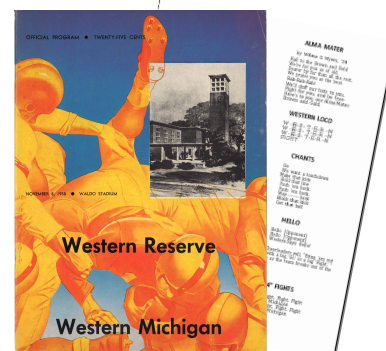


Western's the spirit
that most schools lack.
Rah! We'll always fight
for Victory in ev'ry school
activity. Long may this
Glorious spirit reign, To bring
Western Normal worldwide fame.



1941 - Western Michigan Fight
Words and Music by: Freeman Russell
(Too many words to include)

1958 - Western Fight Song - Author unknown
On, Western Michigan, See our colors gleam!
Our foes will never stand, When they meet our team.
Fight! Fight! Fight!
Forward, Western men, Men that bring the fame.
March right on to victory, We'll win this game.



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