



# PRISM

The Western Michigan University Newsletter for Academic Affairs

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## Items of Academic Interest

### COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Congratulations to **Paul Nwulu**. His film "Starting Over" was selected for the Pan African Film Festival in Los Angeles. The PAFF is the largest film festival in the United States devoted to films about African Americans and Africans in the Diaspora. You can get more information about the festival from their web site at [www.paff.org](http://www.paff.org). As the film writer and producer, Paul has been invited to attend the festival during two of the four scheduled showings. He will give a brief talk about the film and also take questions from the press and attendees.

### COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

The new Initiatives in Career and Technical Education program in the department of Family and Consumer Sciences continues to develop initiatives that serve the educational community in the production of highly qualified teachers in technical subjects.

In July of 2004 the Michigan Department of Education approved a WMU post-baccalaureate Master's degree leading to initial certification in the instruction of Career and Technical Education. This allows non-traditional students to obtain their teaching credentials and count the courses for graduate credit. The approval of this new program has enabled the CTE unit to deliver these courses in locations other than Kalamazoo through the use of WebCt.

The most exciting development to come from this initiative has been the newly developed agreement with the federal Troops to Teachers program. CTE entered into an agreement with the Troops to Teachers Program this fall to offer the post-bacc certification program in an online format.

The Troops to Teachers initiative (TTT) was designed to assist retiring and former military personnel to enter public education as teachers. Since the inception of the program in 1994, nearly

6,000 service members have made the transition from the military to classrooms across the nation. The program is attracting the types of individuals needed in public education, particularly Career and Technical Education, and in high demand areas such as some urban and rural school districts.

The program has been a huge success in bringing dedicated, mature, and experienced individuals into classrooms. Administrators in schools where Troops to Teachers candidates were placed in 1995 rated them "among the best" and the numbers have increased since.

The availability of the online format enables them to get started on the requirements for certification from anywhere in the world. Each of the teacher candidates, after being screened and accepted into the program by both the TTT program and the CTE faculty, is required to establish an agreement with a sponsoring school district at his/her location to facilitate the hands-on pedagogical aspects of the program. Such activities include classroom observations, application exercises, and the intern teaching component.

The impact of the TTT program at WMU will enrich programming in the development of alternative certification initiatives throughout the Graduate Programs offered. The faculty and staff in the department continue to engage in scholarly activity and work directly with the National Troops to Teachers Program. To learn more about the TTT Program, please go to [www.proudtoserveagain.com](http://www.proudtoserveagain.com).

### LEE HONORS COLLEGE

The 25th Annual Medallion Scholarship Competition was held on two consecutive Saturdays, February 12 and February 19. Some 800 students and their parents were treated to a slice of life at WMU—they attended sample classes, toured campus, and were interviewed by more than a hundred participating faculty.

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## Academic Interest Continued...

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### EXTENDED UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS

On January 20, the Reading Clinic/Family Literacy Center opened its doors to elementary students and their mentors, WMU students in the M.A. in Education and Professional Development program with a concentration in Reading. Located at The Graduate Center—Beltline on the Grand Rapids Campus of Western Michigan University, the Reading Clinic/Family Literacy Center has a three-fold vision: 1) to provide an on-site, hands-on practicum experience for WMU's Reading Master's students in diagnosis and remediation using literacy's best practices; 2) to provide individualized literacy support for struggling readers within the greater Grand Rapids area; and 3) to provide opportunities to educate and train parents/guardians in ways in which they can provide literacy support for their children.

The Literacy Center has the potential for a great deal of community involvement and leadership in literacy. It will be a catalyst for establishing university-school partnerships, ensuring continuing education opportunities for teachers in area schools, and becoming a laboratory site for individuals who are interested in meeting the state's demands for "highly qualified" literacy educators. It also holds the potential for research that will be able to reveal and reinforce effective literacy instruction.

The content of the instruction struggling readers receive is based on the five components that have been recognized by the National Reading Panel as the foundational building blocks for reading proficiency: phonics, phonemic awareness, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.

WMU faculty member **Dr. Marlene Braunius** leads the Reading Master's degree program at The Graduate Center - Beltline on the Grand Rapids Campus of Western Michigan University. The Reading Clinic/Family Literacy Center will be functioning this summer as a combined ED 619 and 620 6-hour course from June 17-July 21.

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## Faculty Accolades

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### COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

Assistant Professor of Dance, **Carolyn Pavlik**, has been selected through peer review to present her research "Into the Community—Site-specific Dance Artists as Activists" at the Congress on Research in Dance conference in Tallahassee, Florida in March. Also, Carolyn's dance video works "Lady-boy" and "Endless Buttonings" (premiere) were presented in the Sharir+Bustamante Danceworks concert in Austin, Texas in January.

Associate Professor of Dance **Sharon Garber** took five Department of Dance students to Columbus, OH for a first-time, groundbreaking collaborative project with BalletMet, the

26-member professional ballet company in Columbus. From January 17-19, Artistic Director Gerard Charles included the WMU students in daily company classes and rehearsals (usually closed to outsiders) and also arranged private coaching sessions with Ballet Mistress, Rebecca Rodriguez. The university students also met with Mr. Charles for a Q&A session, as well as with WMU alumna Pam Bishop, the company's Development Director. Sharon Garber will be presenting the results of this collaborative project at the CORPS de Ballet International Conference next June in San Francisco.

**Edward Roth**, Music Therapy, completed Fellowship Training for the Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy in Fort Collins, Colorado. With the completion of this training, Western Michigan University's music therapy program will be one of six universities in the Consortium of Schools Providing Neurologic Music Therapy. Others in the consortium include Colorado State, Miami of Florida, Kansas, and Louisville. In March, four music therapy students will be completing intensive training in Music Neurologic Therapy Techniques. That training will allow them to use the title "Neurologic Music Therapist."

The Merling Trio (**Susan Uchimura**—piano, **Renata Artman Knific**—violin, **Bruce Uchimura**—cello) gave February concerts in Wichita, Kansas; Alliance, Ohio; Ironton, Ohio; and Charleston, West Virginia.

**Joe Miller**, Director of Choral Studies, was conductor of the West Virginia Collegiate Honors Choir January 27-29 at the University of Charleston.

### COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Social Work Professor Emeritus **Edward Pawlak** published with colleague Robert Vinter (University of Michigan) a book titled *Designing and Planning Programs in Nonprofit and Government Organizations*.

**Dr. Susan Weinger**, associate professor of social work, and her research on children's perceptions of class, were featured on the British Broadcasting Corporation program "Child of Our Time." The segment aired January 4 and was seen by six million viewers. The program was very well received, according to the show's producers.

### COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

**Michael Barcelona**, Chair, Department of Chemistry, has been appointed Associate Editor of *Ground Water Monitoring and Remediation*, a quarterly journal of the National Ground Water Association. Three faculty members in Chemistry are working to encourage the use of renewable energy in Kalamazoo. Professors **Steve Bertman**, **Brian Buffin** and **Marc Perkovic** have been working on biodiesel, a fuel derived from vegetable oil, for over a year. Highlights include a visit to their labs from Congressman Fred Upton, a grant from the Kalamazoo Community foundation, and an appearance on the Kalamazoo Cable Access program "My World Today." These researchers have also submitted grant proposals to The Petroleum Research Fund, the USDA and the Michigan Public Service Commission Energy Efficiency Grant Fund.

## Faculty Accolades Continued...

**John Clark**, Associate Professor in Political Science, and **Mihaiela Ristei**, graduate student, presented "Ethnicity and Representation in the California State Legislature" at the 2005 meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA. Clark also presented "Political Party Organizations and the Competitive Environment: Grassroots Activists in the South, 1991-2001." (With Charles Prysby.)

John Clark also gave a lecture on "Uncivil Society? Political Campaigning in 2004 and Beyond" for the Eye on Civility and Ethics Series at Kalamazoo Valley Community College in October.

**Paul Clements**, Associate Professor in Political Science, presented "Aims and Methodologies of a Rawlsian Political Analysis" at the 2005 annual meeting of the Association for Political Theory, Colorado Springs, Colorado, October 2004.

Dr. Clements, also presented "What's Happening to High Risk Teens in Kalamazoo County? A Longitudinal Profile of Programs and Costs for a Sample of Juvenile Offenders" to the Kalamazoo County Coalition on Criminal Justice, the Fetzer Institute, Kalamazoo, September, 2004.

**Sybil Rhodes**, Assistant Professor in Political Science, presented "Consumers and Politics in Brazil" at the 2004 meeting of the Latin American Studies Association, held October 7-10, 2004, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Dr. Rhodes also gave a public lecture entitled "Giants of the American Hemisphere: Brazil and the United States" on October 17, 2004. The lecture was sponsored by the United Nations Association of Kalamazoo.

**Jacinda Swanson**, Assistant Professor in Political Science, presented a paper on "What Foucauldian Research on Governmentality Can Contribute to Theorizing Economic Practices" at the Association for Political Theory Conference, October 29-31, 2004.

### COLLEGE OF AVIATION

**Tom McLaughlin**, assistant chief flight instructor, was recently recognized by the Federal Aviation Administration for his "outstanding contributions to aviation safety," and awarded the Flight Instructor of the Year for 2005. The award is part of the FAA's National General Aviation Award Program, and was presented by two FAA officials at the CoA in Battle Creek.

### HAWORTH COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

"Are Bigger Acquisitions Always Better?" **David A. Burnie**, **David Hurtt** and **Sheldon A. Langsam**, *The Journal of Corporate Accounting & Finance*, January/February 2005, pp. 31-38.

**Damodar Golhar** (Management) and **Satish P. Deshpande** (Management) were awarded an \$8000 grant by the Government of Canada to examine productivity issues in

Canadian and US manufacturing firms under the 2004-2005 Canadian Studies Faculty Research Grant Program.

**Curkovic, S.; Sroufe, R.; and Melnyk, S. A.** "Identifying the Factors Which Affect the Decision to Attain ISO 14000." Forthcoming: *Journal of Energy*, vol. 30, no. 8, June 2005, pp. 1387-1407.

**Curkovic, S. and Sroufe, R.** "The Missing Link to Assessing Environmental Performance: Full Cost Analysis" *Proceedings of the International Conference on Environmental, Cultural, Economic and Social Sustainability*, Forthcoming: February 24-27, 2005.

**A. Targowski** (2003). "A Grand Model of Civilization," *Comparative Civilization Review* No. 51, fall 2004.

**A. Targowski**, "From Global to Universal Civilization," *Dialogue and Universalism*. Vol. XIV, No. 3-4, 2004, pp. 121-142.

**A. Targowski**, "Information Laws," *The Encyclopedia of Information Science and Technology*, vol. I-V, Hershey, PA: Idea Group Reference, 2004.

**Razi, M. and Tarn, J.** have had their article titled "Exploring Dotcom Failure: A Mediator Modeling Approach" accepted for publication in *Human Systems Management*.

**Razi, M. and Athappilly, K.** have had their article titled "A Comparative Predictive Analysis of Neural Networks (NNs), Nonlinear Regression and Classification and Regression Tree (CART) models" accepted for publication in *Expert Systems with Applications*.

**Yaman, Devrim** has had her papers titled "Choice of Debt in Dual Offerings" and "The Choice Between Private and Public Convertible Bond Offerings" accepted for publication at the *Management Research News* and *Business Quest* respectively.

### COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Congratulations to **Dr. Robert Leneway**, assistant professor in the Department of Educational Studies, who has been named Educator of the Year by the Association of Computer Users in Learning (MACUL). He will also be nominated for the national award and will travel to the national meeting of the Association of Computer Users in Learning. In addition, Dr. Leneway has contributed to a new book to be published by ISTE titled *Integrated Technologies, Innovative Learning: Insights of the PT3 program*. The book will include a chapter on the WMU PT3 program. ISTE will host the online supplement of this book on its website.

"Building Relationships with Other Departments:" **Dr. Carol Crumbaugh** and **Dr. Paul Vellom** are collaborating with faculty in the WMU School of Engineering. The purpose of this collaboration is to enhance preservice teachers' content knowledge. These are the most recent presentations from this academic year; there are also publications (including the recently published invited chapter in an international journal of engineering education): "An Engineering Education/Teacher Education Collaboration: Building Bridges Between Disciplines." (2005). Vellom, P., Crumbaugh, C., Tsang, E., & Kline, A.

## Faculty Accolades Continued...

Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for the Education of Teachers in Science, Colorado Springs, CO. Integrating first-year engineering design and pre-service science education: A model for engineering and education collaboration to enhance K-16 STEM education. (2004). Crumbaugh, C., Vellom, P., Kline, A., and Tsang, E. Proceedings of the Frontiers in Education Conference, Savannah, GA, USA.

A large number of Teaching, Learning, and Leadership faculty will be at the 2005 annual meetings of the American Educational Research Association (AERA) in Montreal, Quebec on a wide range of topics. AERA attracts both national and international scholars and is widely acclaimed as one of the most prestigious educational conferences.

“From Naive Wonder and Stunned Silence to Intellectual Rigor: Preservice Teacher Understandings of Adolescent Literacy Development”—**Cynthia Carver** and **Lauren Freedman**

“Principal and Mentor Perspectives on New Teacher Learning Needs”—**Cynthia Carver**

“Presentation of self in not-so-everyday comics: Curricular implications of the comics of Alison Bechdel”—**Allison J. Kelaheer Young**

“Michigan School Superintendents' Attitudes and Practices Regarding Home Schooling”—**James Muchmore**

“A Theoretical and Methodological Approach for Studying Interdisciplinary Teacher Teaming: An Activity Theory Perspective”—**Becky Kirschner** and **Nancy Mansberger**

“Cultural-Historical Theory of Activity: Implications for Democratic Teacher Education Classrooms”—**Tanya Koshmanova**

“Pathways for Peace in Ukrainian Teacher Education”—**Tanya Koshmanova**

Michigan Association of African American Superintendents meet at WMU: **Dr. Walter Burt**, Assistant Professor in the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Leadership, organized a meeting between the African American Superintendents and members of the Educational Leadership faculty. WMU **President Judi Bailey** and College of Education Dean **Gary Wegenke** welcomed the superintendents to the Fetzer Center. Following a reception and dinner, WMU administrators and faculty discussed programs and challenges facing Western Michigan University. Associate Dean **Dr. Katharine Cummings** addressed teacher educational challenges. EDLD faculty presented an overview of the recently funded Wallace Grant involving the Detroit, Flint, Lansing, and Benton Harbor schools. In addition, faculty provided an overview of the Kalamazoo Leadership Institute, the new Educational Leadership Ph.D., a status on Michigan administrative certification. MASA African American Superintendents expressed interest in the creation of leadership programs for

urban administrators. The dinner was funded by the Region VII MASA. **Dr. Dennis Mc Crumb** was instrumental in securing funding from Region VII.

**Dr. Jianping Shen**, a faculty member in the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Leadership, is one of eleven individuals invited to participate in a symposium on teacher recruitment and retention on February 10-11, 2005 at Harvard University. According to the letter of invitation, the symposium “will bring together a select group of leading experts in the study of teacher recruitment and retention.” The organizers of the symposium, Dr. Susan Moore Johnson at Harvard University and Dr. Richard Ingersoll at the University of Pennsylvania, state in the invitation letter that “Our goal is to more fully understand the state of inquiry around the issues of teacher recruitment and retention so that we may begin to identify areas of consensus and uncover gaps of knowledge. We will also explore the value of creating a network of experts, such as yourself, to foster continued communications between the pre-eminent researchers in this field.” Over the years, Dr. Jianping Shen has received two grants from the Spencer Foundation and one National Academy of Education/Spencer Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship to study issues related to teacher retention. He has published widely in this area and his work has been influential and widely cited.

Ms. Kristine Cohn, the U.S. Secretary of Education’s Regional Representative, met with Teaching, Learning, and Leadership faculty and administrators to discuss current and future federal education initiatives. A variety of topics were discussed, including “No Child Left Behind” (NCLB) legislation, future proposed changes in the NCLB law, and other related educational issues. Ms. Cohn is a Western Michigan University graduate and a former member of the WMU Alumni Board of Trustees.

## Student Accolades

### LEE HONORS COLLEGE

**Tristan Brown**, a student in the Lee Honors College, and a recent winner of the Udall Scholarship, has just been named to *USA Today’s* All-USA College Academic Team. This is only the second time in WMU history that one of our students has been so honored.

### COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

Mich-ART@cmu.wmu.msu, an art exhibition at Michigan State College of Law, will feature 45 works of art by students from Central Michigan University, Western Michigan University, and Michigan State University. This collaborative project, started in September, was supervised by Professor **Vince Torano**, graduate advisor for Western’s School of Art, and coordinated by Student Art Gallery Director **D.S. Wade**. The works of sixteen WMU School of Art students, both BFA and MFA candidates, will be on exhibit for eight weeks. The exhibition includes painting in any medium, photography,

*Continued on page 5*

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## Student Accolades Continued...

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digital design, drawing, and printmaking. During the course of the exhibition, selected paintings will be moved from the law college and placed on display at Hankins Gallery of East Lansing.

**Mialtin Zhezha**, sophomore violinist from Vlore, Albania, has been named one of 14 semifinalists for the Corpus Christi International String Competition. He also won the Music Teachers National Association's Regional Competition in Madison, Wisconsin and will be competing in the National Finals in Seattle in April. He is a student of Renata Artman Knific.

Several School of Music students participated in master classes featuring personnel from the New York Philharmonic on February 4 and 5. Sessions were held in violin, viola, flute, horn, trombone, and tuba/euphonium.

### COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Bronson School of Nursing students were featured in a February *Kalamazoo Gazette* article about area foundations helping public schools. BSON students are mentioned as helping at Parkwood-Upjohn Elementary school by teaching hygiene and good nutrition and offering periodic checks for head lice.

### COLLEGE OF AVIATION

**William Merriweather** was announced as the first recipient of the Avfuel Michigan Business Aviation Scholarship. William is pursuing a B.S. in Aviation Maintenance Technology and a minor in Business Management.

**Meghan Burlager** and **Casey Wells** were both awarded a USAIG PDP scholarship. Meghan and Casey are both pursuing a B.S. in Aviation Flight Science and Aviation Administration.

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## Upcoming Events

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### HAWORTH COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

The fourth presentation in the fifth year of the Keystone Community Bank Breakfast Speaker Series at the Haworth College of Business is scheduled for Friday, February 25, at 7:30 a.m. in the Dean's Conference Room (2150 Schneider Hall). Sheriff Michael Anderson will be speaking on new jail initiatives and the millage vote.

### COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

On Friday, February 18, the College of Health and Human Services will hold its 16th Annual Faculty and Staff Recognition Event in the Bernhard Center.

### COLLEGE OF AVIATION

On Friday, February 11, 2005, the CoA hosted officials from Senator Mark Schauer's Office, the Michigan Department of Transportation Director Jeff's Office, and others from around the state, in a brief press conference and round table discussion. The college served as the venue for the presentation of two grant awards presented on behalf of Governor Granholm, for the airports in Battle Creek and Kalamazoo. **Dean Maloney** and **Asst. Dean Powell** were present and participated in both events, with the round table discussion taking place with local governmental officials, county planning officials, and economic development leaders to discuss transportation in Michigan.

### LEE HONORS COLLEGE

The LHC is sponsoring its museum trip to Chicago on Tuesday, March 29. We will spend the day visiting several institutions in Chicago's sprawling Museum District. All WMU students are welcome to participate—sign-ups at the front desk of the LHC.

### COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

The School of Art continues the College's "Journey of the Spirit: Exploring Beauty" series with two exhibitions. *Fright Sleep Taste Offering Shift Slow Down Clown* is a multimedia exhibition by guest artist, John Hitchcock, Assistant Professor of Art from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. This exhibit will be in Gallery II, Sangren Hall, from March 8-24, 2005. On March 11, the installation *Beauty/Give-Away* will be on display from 5-7 p.m. in the South Gallery of East Hall. Video Images and small digital prints developed by School of Art students in collaboration with guest artist, John Hitchcock, will be on exhibit. The focus of *Beauty/Give-Away* will revolve around questioning the concept of beauty.

The 67th annual Southwestern Michigan Vocal Festival (SWMVF) will be held on Thursday, March 17. SWMVF is one of the largest, oldest, and most successful high school choral festivals in the United States.

This year's festival will draw participants from 35 southwest Michigan high schools. The day-long festival will culminate in a 7 p.m. performance in James W. Miller Auditorium. The concert is open to the public, free of charge. The 1,200-voice Festival Chorus will be seated in the first level of the auditorium; the audience will be seated in the first balcony. Guest conductor André Thomas from Florida State University will lead the evening performance, which includes the large Festival Chorus, as well as the select 55-member 2005 Honors Choir. A guest performance will feature WMU's University Grand Chorus and Symphonic Band, under the direction of **Dr. Joe Miller**. Additional information can be found on the festival's Web site [www.wmich.edu/music/festivals/swmvf](http://www.wmich.edu/music/festivals/swmvf)



André Thomas

## Upcoming Events Continued...

The School of Music will present the 37th annual Spring Conference on Wind and Percussion Music in Miller Auditorium on Friday, April 1. Spring Conference is a day-long event presented each year to “promote the performance, understanding, and composition of quality wind and percussion music.” The event is free and open to the public. Each year the festival focuses on the works of a guest composer/conductor. This year’s conference will feature composer Andrew Boysen, Jr. The day’s activities will include two afternoon concerts: the first at 1:00 p.m. by the Otsego High School Symphonic Band, conducted by WMU alumnus **Brent Morrisson**, and the second at 2:45 p.m., featuring WMU’s University Concert Band, conducted by **David**



Andrew Boysen

**Montgomery**. The concluding evening performance at 7:30 p.m. in Miller Auditorium will feature the Western Michigan University Symphonic Band, conducted by **Dr. Robert Spradling**, and the 120-member Andrew Boysen All-Star Band. Students from over 60 Michigan high schools have been nominated by their band directors for the honor of performing in this band. Please visit the festival’s Web site [www.wmich.edu/music/festivals/spr\\_conf](http://www.wmich.edu/music/festivals/spr_conf) for further information.

## EXTENDED UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS

The 2005 MACUL Conference: Ignite Learning!: On March 16-18, the 2005 MACUL Conference will take place at Cobo Hall in Detroit. Students, faculty and staff are all invited to attend. At the conference, attendees learn about innovative, technology-related programs and have access to an extensive exhibit area which highlights computer-related materials and other educational technology. This year’s conference includes hundreds of break-out sessions, hands-on workshops, and 250 exhibitors with the most up-to-date hardware, software, and information. Keynote speakers including Rem Jackson and Hall Davidson.

Formed in 1975, the Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning (MACUL) is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to bringing educators from all levels together to share their knowledge and concerns regarding educational uses of computers and technology. Annually, the MACUL Conference draws nearly 4,000 educators from throughout Michigan, neighboring states, and Canada.

For additional information and registration:  
<http://conference.wmich.edu/macul/macul.html> or  
<http://www.macul.org>

## What We’re Reading

No items submitted for this issue.

### COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCES

No items submitted for this issue.

### GRADUATE COLLEGE

No items submitted for this issue.

## Prism Newsletter

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<b>Editors:</b>	<b>Sue Brodasky Jonathan Pugh</b>
<b>Production:</b>	<b>Megan Smith</b>
<b>Design Consultant:</b>	<b>Frederick Burbach</b>
<b>Designer:</b>	<b>Duston Santana</b>

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