Mary L. Matthews portrait, plaque placed in Matthews Hall

Finally, Matthews Hall has a portrait and plaque in honor of the first dean of the School of Home Economics, Mary L. Matthews, for whom the building was named.

Matthews Hall was completed in 1923 at a cost of just over $250,000. Initially known as the Home Economics Building, it later became known as Home Ec II. In 1976 it was renamed for Matthews, who was dean from 1926 to 1952.

Tens of thousands of students have taken classes, conducted research, or passed through Matthews Hall since 1976. For an unknown reason no information had been placed in the building identifying for whom the building was named. In researching the template and location for the Mary L. Matthews portrait, it became apparent that many people assumed one of the other visuals was Dean Matthews, although plaques with each of them clearly identify the person.

In 2011, Angie Klink’s book Divided Paths/Common Ground was published by Purdue University Press. The book has the subtitle of “The Story of Mary Matthews and Lella Gaddis, Pioneering Purdue Women Who Introduced Science into the Home.” Klink attended a meeting of the Mary L. Matthews Club to discuss her book. The membership became acutely aware that the lack of a portrait and plaque in Matthews Hall had to be remedied.

The Mary L. Matthews Club, started in 1952 in honor of Matthews upon her retirement, was an outgrowth of the County Federation of Women’s Clubs. Today the club has 20 members, most alumni or former faculty or staff of the schools that historically have addressed home economics at Purdue. Today those schools are units in the College of Health and Human Sciences. The club decided to initiate work toward a painting and plaque in Matthews Hall.

Matthews had been an early president of the Purdue Women’s Club, and that club generously supported the initiative as did other donors interested in honoring and preserving the role of women at Purdue.

Less than a year later, in October 2012, a print portrait was placed in the State Street entrance, and official address, to Matthews Hall.

Continued on page 6

Save the date for the PURA Kickoff Luncheon

Mark your calendars now for the annual PURA Kickoff Luncheon! The event will take place Monday, Sept. 9. We will hold our luncheon at Four Points by Sheraton in West Lafayette (formerly known as University Plaza Hotel).

Complete information, including your invitation and registration form, will appear in the July issue of the PURA newsletter.
Benefits Committee update: Website, vision claims

All health insurance information now on PURA website

All current health insurance plans, frequently asked questions, how to make vision claims and news about health insurance are on the PURA website. It is the goal of the committee to have up-to-date information for your easy access. Go to www.purdue.edu/retirees and click on Benefits/Health Insurance tab in the gold bar to go directly to the Benefits Information page. We hope you will check this page often for new updates.

Vision care claims processing

Your Benefits Committee and Purdue Human Resources staff have invested many hours working with United Healthcare on the problems being experienced by members getting vision care claims processed. UHC now reports that the processing problems have been eliminated and the process is working. Please follow the instructions on the PURA website by clicking on the Benefits/Health Insurance tab, then go to the vision care article to find all the details. Carefully following those instructions should result in satisfactory results. The process may take up to 60 working days. We are now working with UHC to reduce that time. If you still experience a problem, contact Kate LaMar at klamar@purdue.edu or 765-494-1694.

New tier drug program for 2013

Starting in 2013, Medicare made a change in all prescription drug plans. You should have noticed that all prescription drugs are rated in four tiers with a maximum copay for each tier. We still have an open formulary plan, which means that you can expect your drug plan to pay at least 50 percent of the cost of any prescription your doctor prescribes. Many have experienced a reduction in drug costs due to the maximum copay required by Medicare. Bottom line: Our drug plans have not changed, but we may be paying less for some prescriptions than before the policy change.

Paying your insurance premiums

Members of PURA health insurance plans may pay their premiums for the entire year, pay by the month or use automatic monthly bank debits for the premium payments, known as Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). EFT is highly recommended as a reliable and convenient way to make your premium payments. A member can change their method of payment anytime throughout the year. A large number of our members use this method and have experienced no problems. If you are interested in making a change in your payment method, contact Kate LaMar at 765-494-1694.

Purdue Human Resources support

PURA members continue to receive outstanding support from Purdue Human Resources. We specifically rely on secretarial help from Michele Salla. Our full-time support person for health insurance is Kate LaMar. Please phone or contact Kate with questions at klamar@purdue.edu or 765-494-1694.

Purposeful Living in Retirement gathering coming April 24 with variety of resources, fun

A variety of exhibits on wellness, health and senior organizations will be featured at the Purposeful Living in Retirement event on April 24 at Four Points by Sheraton, 1600 Cumberland Ave., West Lafayette.

The day's events begin at 8:30 a.m. with a continental breakfast, and exhibits will end at 2:30 p.m. Sessions for the day will be:

- 9 a.m.: Welcome from PURA with Scott Rumble, program chair for Purposeful Living in Retirement, and Sue Hiser, president of the Purdue University Retirees Association.
- 9:05 a.m.: “Enhancing Your Lifestyle Through Emerging Hearing Aid Technology” with Mary Caccavo, Ph.D., audiologist, Lafayette Hearing Center.
- 9:45 a.m.: “Improving Balance and Mobility in Later Life” with Jeff Haddad, Ph.D., and Shirley Rietdyk, Ph.D., both of whom are associate professors in Purdue's Department of Health and Kinesiology.
- 10:30 a.m.: Break
- 11 a.m.: “Another Dose of Medications” with Michael D. Murray, PharmD, MPH, Distinguished Professor of Pharmacy Practice at Purdue, and executive director, Regenstein Center for Healthcare Improvement and Research, Regenstein Institute.
- 11:40 a.m.: Break
- Noon: Lunch
- 1 p.m.: “Is 65 the New 18? … and Other Musings” with John Norberg, author, local columnist, communications manager, Purdue University Development Office.
- 1:40 p.m.: “Is Having a Will Enough? Looking Beyond the Will” with Brenda Clapper and Jack Walkey, attorneys, Ball Eggleston PC.
- 2:20 p.m.: Closing remarks and door prizes (must be present to win) with Scott Rumble.
- 2:30 p.m. Exhibits close.

Retirees should have received a flier in the mail with the details of the event and a registration form. The registration deadline was April 16.
Trip and Tours Committee has planned the following 2013 opportunities for members and their guests.

May 8: The second annual Pappy's Sweetshop Social will be held in early May. Come and join fellow retirees for casual chitchat over your favorite diner foods and beverages while reminiscing with specially selected jukebox favorites from the '40s, '50s and '60s. This event is a drop-in event. Come 6-8 p.m. and mingle with your PURA friends!

June 21: Imperial Travel is offering a Master Gardener-guided "Garden Party Along the Heritage Trail" that will tour five formal gardens near Elkhart. Included are the Krider "World's Fair" garden and Linton's Enchanted Gardens. The per-person $79 cost includes transportation, guides, and a box lunch. The bus will leave the Imperial bus garage at 7 a.m.

August 10: PURA Trips and Tours Committee members expect to partner with the new Lafayette Limo Tours to see the very popular Tall Ships exhibition at Navy Pier. The planned cost is $35 per person.

Note: The Trips and Tours Committee is seeking two more members for this coming year. If you are interested in planning and organizing some fun times for all, please contact Linda Hawkins at linda@purdue.edu. For other questions, contact Dan Collins at 765-413-8451.

Center for Healthy Living available to retirees on Purdue Choice Fund, Purdue Incentive or Purdue Copay

Purdue's new Center for Healthy Living opened Feb. 27 in the Purdue West Shopping Center at 1400 W. State St. The center serves benefit-eligible employees, retirees and their dependents covered on the Purdue Choice Fund, Purdue Incentive or Purdue Copay medical plans. Retirees must be covered by one of these three medical plans to be eligible to use the center.

Retirees 65 and over with United Healthcare (PURcare and Medicare Advantage PPO) are not eligible to use the services of the Center for Healthy Living at this time.

For more information about the center, including services, costs and hours, visit www.purdue.edu/healthyliving.

For questions, call the center at 765-494-0111 or contact Purdue Human Resources at 765-494-2222.

Campus and Community sponsoring art tour at Ivy Tech on May 11

PURAs Campus and Community Activities Committee will lead a tour of the art collection at Tippecanoe County Ivy Tech’s Ivy Hall starting at 10 a.m. on May 11 and lasting approximately an hour. The art collection features works by several Indiana artists. PURA members and guests will find ample parking on campus since Ivy Tech is not in session that day. We will meet in the Grand Hall of Ivy Hall. Please fill out the following reservation form if you plan to attend:

Campus and Community Activities Reservation Form

I will attend the May 11, 2013, Art Tour at Ivy Tech!

Print information and send form to:
Michele Salla, Purdue Human Resources, 401 S. Grant St., West Lafayette, IN 47907-2024
OR email reservation to Michele Salla at masalla@purdue.edu.

Reservations should be submitted as soon as possible. Guests are welcome.

Print All Name(s) ______________________________________________________________________________

Address ______________________________________________________________________________________

Telephone number _____________________________________________________________________________

Email _______________________________________________________________________________________

Suggestion: Photocopy forms rather than cutting newsletter pages.
Ward Snearly’s year in Vietnam: Those Were the Days

First Lt. Ward Snearly was originally posted to Saigon but waited for the birth of his second child. So two months later he arrived on Feb. 1, 1970, at Pleiku Air Base. This was not a friendly place being about 10 miles from the borders of Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos. In his own words:

My job was chief controller, Peacock Air Regulation Center, for nine months, then chief of traffic operations for the rest of my tour. We were also training Vietnamese Air Force to assume responsibilities for providing air traffic service as an additional challenge. Plus we were converting from a radar approach to a conventional air traffic system. It was a very hectic operating environment.

We provided air traffic control services throughout the central highlands and in a radius of approximately 100 nautical miles for all aircraft types and all services operating in this busy airspace. This included coordinating clear air space through artillery, designating and announcing traffic free airspace for B-52 bomb runs along the Ho Chi Minh Trail that were termed “Arc Light Strikes,” traffic advisories and vectors for tactical aircraft operating in this instrument flight rules (IFR) environment (they could fly under IFR conditions without a clearance) also called “popeye,” coordinating with the Direct Air Support Center and facilitating search and rescue operations.

We had secondary radar operating out to 200 nautical miles and radio and landline communications to a wide range of operating facilities, command and control, so it was a very busy and exciting environment with U.S. Air Force, Navy, Vietnamese Air Force, Marine and Army traffic. We monitored a KC-135 refueling operation in bad weather, instrument departures, and overflights. This included radar vectors, a precision approach control that provided both altitude and azimuth for aircraft landing in bad weather, instrument navigational aids, and communications. We also were able to see on our air traffic radar when the enemy launched 122mm rockets toward our positions. The heat of launching created a temperature inversion visible on our radar, and we could immediately call the Army artillery providing them with radar coordinates that they could quickly convert to their gun calibrations and begin firing into the rocket launch areas with 105mm and 155mm howitzers.

There were no Skypes or emails in Vietnam. Calls home were an elaborate system with ham radio operators if the weather was agreeable. Postage was free, so many letters went back to the states. The troops earned an extra $65 a month hostile fire pay, which was taxed, and $30 for family separation pay, which was not. I got one week R&R, which I spent with my wife in a Hawaii Hilton. The room charge was $25, which would be more than $400 a night now. That was the extent of the benefits.

I left Vietnam a year after arriving, having achieved the rank of captain. For my service, I received the Bronze Star, Vietnam Gallantry Cross, Air Force Outstanding Unit with combat “V” device, Vietnam Service Medal and Vietnam Campaign Ribbon with three devices.

Leaving service in 1972, I moved with my family to Lafayette, where I was a securities broker. I joined the Indiana National Guard in 1973. In 1974, I took a short-term job at Purdue. Thirty years later I retired.

Although I planned to go into business, business didn’t have a football or basketball team. At Purdue, I was in student finance, then internal audit. I earned a Ph.D., and in 1984 became associate director of Professional Master’s Programs in the Krannert Graduate School and later the director of admissions and student marketing.

I stayed in the Air Guards, becoming unit of a mobile air traffic unit — one of just 12 in the United States. I retired in 1997 as a bird colonel. On my retirement I was awarded the Legion of Merit and the most coveted Sagamore of the Wabash.
Purdue News Briefs

Purdue poet wins $100,000 Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award

Marianne Boruch, professor of creative writing, won the $100,000 Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award for her “The Book of Hours,” published by Copper Canyon Press.

The award, given annually to a mid-career poet by Claremont Graduate University, is one of the largest monetary poetry prizes in the United States.

Boruch’s poetry collections include “Grace, Fallen from,” “Poems: New and Selected,” “A Stick that Breaks and Breaks” and “Moss Burning.” She’s written two books of essays on poetry — “In the Blue Pharmacy” and “Poetry’s Old Air” — and a memoir, “The Glimpse Traveler.”

Computer science professor wins commercialization award

Mikhail Atallah, Distinguished Professor of Computer Science, is the recipient of the 2013 Outstanding Commercialization Award for Purdue University Faculty.

Atallah co-founded Arxan Technologies in 2001. Its products, used in more than 200 million computing devices, provide protection by linking “guards” at different points within software code, making it far harder for hackers to access.

Atallah is the 10th recipient of the Outstanding Commercialization Award, which includes a $5,000 stipend.

Castagna named alumni trustee

The Purdue Alumni Association has announced that Vanessa J. (Dingledine) Castagna has been appointed as alumni trustee to the Purdue Board of Trustees.

Castagna succeeds Michael Birk of Hinsdale, Ill., who, after 15 years of service as alumni trustee, has resigned due to health issues. Castagna will serve the remainder of Birk’s term, which ends June 30, 2015.

Daniels co-chairing space panel

President Mitch Daniels has been asked to co-chair the National Research Council’s Committee on Human Spaceflight through June 30, 2014. The committee will review and make recommendations on the future of the U.S. human spaceflight program.

— Purdue News Service

New concrete to increase bridge life span

Purdue research is enabling the state of Indiana to improve bridges with “internally cured” high-performance concrete.

“This material will reduce maintenance costs and allow bridge decks to last longer,” said Jason Weiss, professor of civil engineering and director of Purdue’s Pankow Materials Laboratory.

“Our testing indicates that internally cured high-performance concrete experiences substantially less cracking and concrete damage caused by deicing salt and, when properly designed, the service life of bridge decks can be greatly extended.”

The Joint Transportation Research Program, a partnership between the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) and Purdue, worked with Weiss and INDOT to create specifications for implementing the internally cured high-performance concrete. It will be used on four bridges this year, the first of which will be on State Road 933 in St. Joseph County.

“We anticipate these relatively minor changes to our concrete specifications to substantially extend the life of our bridges,” said Troy Woodruff, INDOT’s chief of staff.

“That means fewer traffic delays due to bridge maintenance and repair, and much lower expense.”

Concrete is normally made by mixing portland cement with water, sand and stone. Instead of adding more water on top to promote curing, internal curing adds it to small porous stones — called lightweight fine aggregate — as pockets within the mixture.

“A key step in the process is to pre-wet the lightweight aggregate with water before mixing the concrete,” Weiss said.

“Nearly five years of research has been performed to fully understand how to proportion these mixtures and the level of performance that can be expected.”

The researchers assisted Monroe County in the specification of internally cured concrete used in a bridge built in 2010. The researchers are studying how well it performs compared with an adjacent bridge built the same year using conventional concrete.

“The control bridge has developed three cracks, but no cracks have developed in the internally cured bridge. Tests also show the internally cured concrete is approximately 30 percent more resistant to salt ingress,” Weiss said.

He has worked with several states in addition to Indiana to accelerate the use of similar internally cured high-performance concretes.

— Purdue News Service
Purdue’s WBAA adds ‘TED Radio Hour’ to AM 920 lineup

from pioneers in a variety of industries. The program will focus on global themes related to different TED Talks.

“WBAA is thrilled to be able to bring some of the world’s most remarkable minds to our listeners each week on the TED Radio Hour,” said interim station manager Greg Kostraba. “The program, based on riveting TED Talks, presents fascinating ideas, astonishing inventions and new ways to think and create.”

AM 920 WBAA, Indiana’s longest continuously operating radio station, is an NPR member station that broadcasts news, talk, and information programming during the day and music programming at night. One can also listen via online streaming at the station’s website, www.wbba.org, and with a free WBAA smartphone app for iPhones, iPads, and Androids.

Common Reading Program to share ‘No Impact Man’

The true story of a man who, along with his wife and baby daughter, turned away from a comfortable New York City lifestyle to live in total concert with the environment has been selected for Purdue’s campus-wide reading program for incoming students.

As part of the 2013-14 Common Reading Program, Colin Beavan’s “No Impact Man” will be given to each first-year and transfer student who enters the University this fall.

The book will be distributed free of charge during the Summer Transition, Advising and Registration program, known as STAR. International students are provided with an electronic version of the book. Students are required to read the book before they start classes in the fall or arrive for the Boiler Gold Rush undergraduate orientation program.

Beavan will speak on campus during a 3 p.m. event on Aug. 18 in Elliott Hall of Music on campus. The event is open to anyone in the University community with a Purdue identification card. Formal talks and presentations also will be held throughout the year.

Purdue launched the Common Reading Program four years ago.

Matthews – Clubs, others see portrait unveiled

Continued from page 1

The plaque reads as follows:

“Mary L. Matthews joined Purdue as extension home economist in 1910. She became head of the department of household equipment in 1912, and served as the first Dean of the School of Home Economics. In 1999, she was elected posthumously to Purdue’s inaugural Book of Great Teachers.

“Dean Matthews served as president of The Purdue Women’s Club from 1930 to 1931. This portrait is a gift from members of the Mary L. Matthews Club, The Purdue Women’s Club, and other generous contributors.”

The Matthews portrait in the foyer, as well as the portrait of Gaddis on the ground floor, preserve the memory of pioneering Purdue women. So does “The Red Dress” painting in memory of a former instructor who died while on staff. It hangs in the third-floor stairwell and, despite some past assumptions, it could not have been Dean Matthews!

Website reminder

The PURA website provides information available between newsletters or when Web access is convenient and the newsletter isn’t close by. The Web address is www.purdue.edu/retirees.
Purdue News Briefs

Purdue's two-year tuition freeze

Purdue announced March 1 that it will freeze tuition and most fees at current levels for the next two years for students at the West Lafayette campus. The last year without a tuition increase was 1976.

"I have found a broad consensus among faculty and staff to put the interests of our students and their families first," President Mitch Daniels said. "... We will fit our spending to their budgets — not the other way around."

Daniels had discussed the matter informally with the trustees and has their support in concept.

First steps to meet tuition freeze

President Mitch Daniels on March 18 announced initial measures to fulfill the tuition freeze's goal of affordability.

The University will eliminate merit pay raises over the next two fiscal years for all senior administrators, deans and administrative/professional staff with salaries above $50,000. The initiative, expected to save approximately $5 million over the biennium, will not apply to faculty, staff with salaries below $50,000, and all clerical and service staff.

Daniels said more decisions would be coming and he urged employees in all categories to think about expenditures.

Schultz hired as legal counsel

On Feb. 1, Steven R. Schultz was named as Purdue's first in-house legal counsel, reporting to President Mitch Daniels and advising the president and the trustees.

Schultz has worked as an attorney with two law firms and as chief legal counsel to Daniels when he was Indiana's governor.

DelSanto named chief of staff

Gina DelSanto joined Purdue on Feb. 18 as chief of staff to President Mitch Daniels.

DelSanto coordinates the operations of the Office of the President and manages a wide range of matters of institutional importance on behalf of the president.

— Purdue News Service

The president's initial open letter to Purdue and other documents of interest are at www.purdue.edu/president.

Spring Fling 2013
Thursday, May 23
Faculty, Staff and Retirees Appreciation Event
Retiree Registration Form

Attention PURA members! We've been asked to participate in Spring Fling once again. Spring Fling will be held in and around the Co-Rec on Thursday, May 23. If you want to attend or volunteer, please fill out the form and return it to Carrie Hanson at the address listed below. Thanks!

=================================================================

RETIREE REGISTRATION FORM

Name ___________________________________________________

Address __________________________________________________

City _______________________ State ___________ Zip ___________

Telephone number __________________________________________

Email address _____________________________________________

☐ I'd like to VOLUNTEER to help with:
    ____ Food   ____ Cleanup
    ____ Fitness Walk   ____ Any area
    ____ Popcorn

☐ I'd like to PARTICIPATE in the Spring Fling Classic Vehicle Show.

  Vehicle make ____________________________________________

  Model ________________ Year _________________

☐ I want to PARTICIPATE in the Spring Fling Fitness Walk.

NOTE: Golf participation: Those who would like to play golf must reserve a tee time at the course by calling 765-494-3139, Ext. 1.

** Return this form by May 10 to Carrie Hanson, Human Resource Services, Freehafer Hall, 401 S. Grant St., West Lafayette, IN 47907.

— Purdue News Service

Suggestion: Photocopy forms rather than cutting newsletter pages.
Check and approve your address information

The Purdue University Retirees Association is working hard to keep up-to-date with addresses, phone numbers and email addresses for retirees. Retirees are asked to check carefully the accuracy of their name and address as it appears on the mailing label (above) of this issue of the PURA Newsletter. Please make any changes on the form below and mail to the address indicated or email to julie1@purdue.edu. Thank you.

Purdue University Retirees

Please help us keep your information accurate. Send any changes from the mailing label that appears above on this issue of the PURA Newsletter. Thank you for your help.

Name ____________________________________________________________________

Address ____________________________________________________________________

City ____________________________ State _________________ Zip code _____________________

Phone ___________________________ Email address ______________________________________

Return this form to:
Julie Thedans
Purdue University Retirees, Human Resources
401 S. Grant St.
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2024

☐ I do not want to receive PURA mailings.

☐ I do not want to be included in a future PURA Retiree Directory.