Alumni and friends helped dedicate a new campus landmark and announced a gift for scholarships during Purdue Homecoming festivities on Oct. 25. The “Gateway to the Future” arch, located near Stadium Avenue and Neil Armstrong Hall of Engineering, is a gift to the university from the classes of 1958 and 1959. The classes raised $550,000 to create the arch, as well as more than $150,000 for student scholarships, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of each class’s graduation from Purdue. Fred Ford, a Purdue retiree and class of 1958 alumnus, and Ben Miller, a class of 1959 alumnus, co-chaired the Gateway to the Future committee.

‘Gateway’ to offer campus welcome

Many retirees are still extremely involved in the University community at Purdue. Some volunteer to take part in activities to help students, faculty and staff in their former departments and schools. They are invited to programs and celebrations and included in many activities.

Nominate your area for Hansen award

The areas that value their retirees and make them feel welcome are in turn valued greatly by the Purdue University Retirees Association.

The Arthur G. Hansen Recognition Award is given by PURA to a Purdue school, department, office or division that cultivates and maintains meaningful relationships with its retirees.

Retirees are encouraged to make nominations for the next Hansen Award, which will be presented in the spring at the annual Purdue retirement banquet. Deadline for nominations is Dec. 1.

Nomination forms are available online.

See HANSEN, page 3

Special Events

The Purdue Office of Special Events was honored during the Purdue University Retirees Association’s annual kickoff luncheon on Sept. 8.

The office, represented at the luncheon by Geni Greiner, Kate Spanke and Janelle Musch, received PURA’s Betty M. Nelson Recognition Award for Outstanding Service to Purdue Retirees.

Scott Rumble, PURA president, said the staff of special events was extremely helpful with several PURA activities, specifically PURA Living to 100 seminars, and the Big Ten Retirees conference held at Purdue in 2006.

The Nelson Award was established by PURA to provide special recognition for individuals, departments and outside agencies that provide significant service to all Purdue retirees. The award is named in honor of Betty Nelson, dean of students emerita and former PURA president, as a reminder of her contributions to the organization and her unceasing efforts to have retirees maintain a vital role in the Purdue Family.
From your Benefits Committee

■ You should by now have received the announcement of the 2009 PURcare plan in your mailbox.
■ The premium for 2009 is $269.54 per month per person for medical, prescription drugs and well care. The premium for 2009 for those with VA-provided prescription drug coverage is $196.54 per month per person.

To continue on the same PURcare plan as you had in 2008, you do not need to do anything. You will automatically receive your usual monthly bill or bank deduction. Those who choose to pay annually can send an annual amount of 12 times the above rates when the December bill arrives.
■ Changes to PURcare medical coverage include:
  * $150 toward an annual non-Medicare covered physical and associated lab work.
  * SilverSneakers fitness program at an approved health club facility. You should have received a flyer about this program through the mail. In our next PURA Newsletter we will identify health clubs that are participants in the Lafayette area. Even without a local participating health club, the program can provide you with a self-directed SilverSneakers Steps program.
  * NurseLine Services, which allow you to call a NurseLine 24/7 for information on general conditions or help deciding whether your illness requires emergency treatment. You can also call before a doctor visit to be sure you have all the appropriate questions to ask during that visit.
■ The 2009 PURcare plan continues to offer the same benefits as 2008 with the addition of those noted above. The yearly medical deductable remains $300. Prescription drug coverage remains at 50 percent co-insurance locally or 45 percent through mail order.

The Arnett Gold HMO through Clarian Arnett will end as of Dec. 31, 2008. The Benefits Committee in conjunction with UnitedHealthcare has developed a plan for those Arnett Gold members who are Purdue retirees. They have the option to join PURcare or a new Medicare Advantage-Prescription Drug plan. All Purdue retirees affected by the ending of Arnett Gold have been notified and meetings have been held to help them decide what plan would best serve their medical needs. If any of these Purdue retirees are having difficulty with the application packets received in early November, they can call (800) 610-2660 for help.
■ As a reminder, all PURcare members have an annual $150 vision benefit that can help pay for an optical (not medical) exam and glasses. If you have not taken advantage of that benefit, you might want to consider doing it before the end of the year. Another $150 becomes available for your use toward this optical benefit on Jan. 1, 2009. Your optician may send in your claim for you to the address on the back of your PacifiCare card. In most cases they will ask you to pay up front and you will be reimbursed from PacifiCare. If you send in the claim, send a copy of the complete optical bill along with a copy of your PacifiCare card to the address on the back of the card. If you have difficulty accessing this benefit, call (765) 494-2222 in Purdue’s Human Resource Department. This is NOT a VSP or Spectera benefit.
■ If you have a portion of your annuity income derived from CREF and if you are on the annual adjustment option, you need to be thinking about a decrease next year. The equities market is currently down some 30-plus percent and if that continues or possibly declines further over the next several months it will result in a decrease in the CREF annuity income for the 12 months after the May 1, 2009, adjustment.

Your annuity income from TIAA may decrease slightly, but not as much as the CREF income.

We plan to provide more information in the January PURA Newsletter.

Luncheons continue throughout year

Monthly luncheon programs for Purdue retirees are held on the first Monday of each month at the MCL Cafeteria in West Lafayette. Lunch lines open at 11 a.m. The program begins at noon in the Purdue Room.

Upcoming dates, speakers and topics:
Dec. 1 -- Speakers: Mark Kirby and Tilara Treece, Tippecanoe County Emergency Preparedness.
Jan. 5 -- Speaker: Gebisa Ejeta, Purdue distinguished professor of agronomy (topic title pending).
Feb. 2 -- Speaker: Renee Thomas, Director, Purdue Black Cultural Center.
March 2 -- Speaker: Randy Woodson, Purdue provost (topic title pending).
April 6 -- Speaker: John Larsen, Purdue professor of history (topic title pending).
May 4 -- Speaker: William “Bill” Griffel, director, Purdue Musical Organizations.
June 1 -- Speaker: Officer Mike McIver, Lafayette Police Department. Topic: Youth Gangs.
July 6 -- Speaker: To be arranged.
August 3 -- Speaker: Tom Easterday, sr. vice president, Subaru of Indiana Automotive, Inc. (topic title pending).

Watch the Purdue University Retirees Association Web site for updated information on Purdue news, retiree news and events. www.purdue.edu/retirees
New PURA endowment fund established

Intended to help support retiree programming

A new fund established by the Purdue University Retirees Association is designed to help support the association well into the future.

The PURA Activities and Opportunities Fund is an endowment fund, which means the principal is always preserved and only the income can be spent.

“As retirees, we know from personal experience about long-term financial planning and why it is important,” says Betty Nelson, dean of students emerita, former PURA president and current chair of the PURA endowment committee.

“We understand the power of saving and investing so we have resources for later. PURA is following that same strategy -- save and invest dollars today to be able to support needs and wishes later.”

The endowment fund, established during the past year, has a goal of $100,000. So far, the fund holds $55,000; therefore another $45,000 is needed before the fund can begin helping support retiree programming.

“Our PURA income is fixed,” Nelson says, “but we constantly aspire to increase our services to Purdue retirees -- programs related to healthy living, teleconference opportunities, fellowship activities for new retirees. The possibilities are endless.”

Retirees are invited to learn more about contributing to the fund or leaving a legacy gift for the fund by calling (765) 494-1779.

“To borrow from an old Purdue motto -- by establishing and contributing to this fund, we are touching tomorrow today,” Nelson says.

HANSEN (continued from page 1)

at www.purdue.edu/retirees.

The Hansen Award, named for former Purdue President Arthur Hansen, is sponsored by the Office of the President and the Purdue University Retirees Association. A trophy is presented to the winning department along with $2,500, funded by TIAA-CREF. The money can be used to strengthen the department’s ties to its retirees.

Past winners include the School of Aeronautics and Astronautics, the Department of Animal Sciences, the Department of Agronomy and the Cooperative Extension Service.

Some activities that foster the continuing involvement of retirees include inviting them to help with student organizations, encouraging them to assist with alumni contacts, inviting their help with organizing archival materials, including them in e-mail distributions with general department information, inviting them to attend social events and ensuring they receive notices of temporary opportunities for paid employment.

“Long after active employment with Purdue ends, the retirees continue to contribute in very meaningful ways to the University,” says Betty Suddarth, PURA past president.

“We urge retirees who feel valued by their former departments to consider making a nomination for the Hansen Award.”

2008-09 PURA officers

- President: Scott Rumble.
- Vice president and president elect: Lois Wark.
- Secretary-treasurer: Pat Lawson.
- Historian: Mary Alice Nebold.
- Benefits Committee: Martha Chiscon.
- Communications Committee: Richard Nelson.
- Endowment Committee: Betty Nelson.
- Hospitality Committee: Eldon Fredericks.
- Program Committee: Dale McHenry.
- Trips and Tours Committee: Truman Martin.

Betty Suddarth will serve as past president.

In addition to these officers, three ad hoc committees are chaired by: Sue Hume-Graham — the campus/community activities committee; Carolyn Jones — the kickoff luncheon committee; and Lowell Landrum — the purposeful living in retirement committee.
Staying connected with kids and grandkids

By Elaine Baumgardt

I have been asked to write down what inspired me to put together my version of a Family History Book and to share how I prepare my Monthly Family Newsletter as a way of opening up communication in my family. I don’t know that it was inspiration as much as it was determination!

About 15 years ago I decided it was time to pull out “stuff,” sort it, put some things in notebooks and throw away other things in my possession. I also made note of things I knew about both sides of our family that I thought should be passed on to other family members.

We have three kids and four grandkids living in that many different states and none of them in Indiana.

I had seen that this group was not communicating much with each other. It came to my attention when our daughters learned that our daughter-in-law was pregnant that I knew it and hadn’t told anyone. I informed the girls that I was not the family gossip and suggested they communicate with each other occasionally to learn what was going on. Didn’t work, nothing happened, so I dropped that idea!

My next attempt at family communication was to save all I heard all month long and put it in what I call Grandma’s Grapevine. I do all the e-mailing, phoning and jotting down during the month. It’s only fired off to me right away if they think it’s very exciting during the month. It’s only fired off to me e-mailing, phoning and jotting down all month long and put it in what I communicate was to save all I heard nothing happened, so I dropped that idea!

On one occasion a son-in-law told me something and said it was not for publication — I honored that. Amazing as it may seem — all of this did improve communication. Family members occasionally call one other to joke or talk about what they read about in the Newsletter.

I’m never sure who’s reading it until I say I’m tired of writing it — I get the objections to that, but nobody will take it over. Probably the closest I came to a reward was when the 18-year-old grandson left El Paso for the University of Michigan two years ago.

He said, “Grandma, will you send me my own copy?”

In August another grandson and his wife will be living several states apart for the coming year. I naturally will send him a copy and his wife has indicated to me that she’d like her own copy.

Editorial comment from Elaine: Think about doing something like this to open up communication in your family!

Share your good ideas, news and information

Retirees are busy with many activities throughout the year — volunteering, keeping family connected (like Elaine Baumgardt here), traveling and a litany of other things.

Please take a moment to share some of your happenings, thoughts and good ideas with other Purdue retirees.

You are invited to submit:

1. A suggestion or a few paragraphs for a profile or a brief human interest article about a Purdue retiree. It could be about his or her early life, his or her professional contributions, or maybe even better, about how he or she is taking advantage of the retirement years.

2. A suggestion or a few paragraphs for an article about a topic you believe might be of interest to Purdue retirees. Let your mind have full rein in making a suggestion.

In this issue, “Staying Connected with the Kids and Grandkids” can serve as a stimulus. Something you would like to read about, as a retiree, is likely to be of interest to others.

3. A paragraph or two focused on a column that may appear periodically entitled “Those Were the Days.”

We’ll name a point of focus — in the first of these columns we’ll invite brief contributions on: THE GREAT DEPRESSION.

In future issues we’ll invite sharing on other topics. Share a funny, painful, or strange bit of recall from Depression days.

Submit your ideas through e-mail to rncelson@purdue.edu, or snail mail to

Richard C. Nelson
102 Hideaway Lane
West Lafayette, IN 47906

Did you know? Purdue retirees are eligible to use the Employee Discount Program, sponsored by the Clerical and Service Staff Advisory Committee.

The program enables faculty, staff and retirees to receive discounts on goods and services from various businesses in the Lafayette-West Lafayette area.

The list of businesses that offer discounts can be found online at http://www.purdue.edu/cssac/Employee_Discounts/Welcome.html.
President’s forum on economy available via streaming video

A special President’s Forum on the current financial crisis and its effect on Purdue was held Monday, Oct. 27, in the Purdue Memorial Union ballroom.

The forum featured a discussion and a question and answer session with a panel of University experts.

The forum is now available online and on demand to faculty, staff and retirees via streaming video. In your Web browser, go to mms://video.dis.purdue.edu/bns/general/forum081027.wmv. The link will work only with Windows Media Player.

Tip for your health

Compiled from Benefits Committee resources

**STROKE:** Remember the first three letters — S.T.R.

**Stroke identification:** A neurologist says that if he can get to a stroke victim within three hours he can reverse the effects of a stroke. The trick is getting a stroke recognized and getting the patient cared for medically within three.

**Recognizing a stroke:** Remember the three steps — STR. Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster.

Doctors say a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions:

- **S** — Ask the individual to SMILE.
- **T** — Ask the person to TALK and SPEAK A SIMPLE SENTENCE (e.g. It is sunny out today).
- **R** — Ask him or her to RAISE BOTH ARMS. If he or she has trouble with any one of these tasks, call 911 immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

NOTE: Another ‘sign’ of a stroke is this: Ask the person to stick out his tongue. If the tongue is ‘crooked,’ if it goes to one side or the other, that is also an indication of a stroke.

Purdue area called a ‘brainy’ community

*Report by Richard C. Nelson*

On Sept. 15, 2008, the Journal and Courier, a Lafayette, Ind., newspaper, likely inspired by an earlier article in U.S. News & World Report, printed an article entitled, “For retirees, the brainier the better.” The focus was on West Lafayette, but the credit can be given to Greater Lafayette in general.

Larry DeBoer Sr. was quoted as saying that a community in which he previously lived couldn’t intellectually stimulate him. So when his son, Larry Jr., received tenure at Purdue University, Larry Sr. and his wife, Ruth, decided to move to West Lafayette.

DeBoer mentioned two things many retirees are looking for when they choose a place to settle: proximity of family and an engaging community.

According to Dan Owens, executive director of the National Active Retirement Association, moving to university cities is the new and big trend in retirement.

Owens was quoted as saying, “People like the energy near a college, the walkability, being able to audit a class,” and clearly Purdue offers many opportunities that are attractive to retirees.

A recent report from AARP indicated that retirees are looking for “livable communities” that offer accessible housing, nearby support services and easy transportation.

Transportation was a key for Tom Kelly, a professor at Purdue for nearly three decades, who moved back from France when his wife was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease. Tom doesn’t drive anymore, so the bus service in the community was a blessing for him — it reaches all the places he wants to go.

Kelly was quoted as saying, “I came here primarily because [the community] had lots of resources. It had a support group for me and for my wife as well.”

A family connection brought Margaret Collins to Lafayette from Ann Arbor, Michigan. When one of her children got a job at Purdue, Collins came to be near her, in part because of the size of the community — not too large, but big enough to have things to do.

“It’s made it easier to get adapted here,” she said.

Observations suggest that a higher proportion of Purdue retirees remain in Greater Lafayette as compared to retirees remaining in other University communities. Community activities, arts, and other cultural opportunities; University lectures, convocations, and athletics; and an abundance of walking and biking paths are among many features that keep retirees involved and entertained. Go west (or south, or wherever), if you will, but you may find what pleases you right here at home.

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WORKING TOWARDS SUSTAINABILITY:

Mike Piggott, Purdue director of community relations, gives instruction to volunteers Sept. 19 during Detrash the Wabash in West Lafayette. The event was part of Green Week at Purdue, highlighting efforts at sustainability on campus and in the community. For information about what Purdue is doing, go to www.purdue.edu/green.
$304 million scholarship campaign gaining

Purdue’s campaign for scholarships and student retention has reached almost a quarter of its $304 million goal.

The $304 million fund drive, launched in the spring, and internal reallocations will expand the University’s student aid contribution to $77 million annually. Much of the money raised will be placed in endowments, and the endowments’ earnings will be used to fund the efforts. About two-thirds of the money raised will go to scholarships for students at all Purdue campuses. The rest will support K-12 programs and help students succeed after they enroll at Purdue.

This fall, Purdue awarded $7 million to 820 Trustees Scholarship students and $3.7 million to 638 Presidential Scholarship winners.

The Trustees Scholarship offers an annual award of $8,000 for Indiana residents and $10,000 for out-of-state students. The Presidential Scholarship offers an annual award of $5,000 for Indiana residents and $7,000 for out-of-state students.

Both scholarships are renewable for up to four years of full-time enrollment at the West Lafayette campus for students who maintain a 3.0 GPA while at Purdue.

Two other new scholarships also are available.

Purdue Promise: The Purdue Promise ensures a Purdue education to Indiana students whose families earn $40,000 or less and who meet the requirements of the Twenty-First Century Scholars Program. Purdue will provide a combination of grant aid and work-study funding that will meet financial need for four years. These students also will benefit from academic and social support programs designed specifically for Purdue Promise scholars. The first recipients will start class in fall 2009. About 200 students a year will be enrolled, and by 2013 it is expected that 880 students on campus will be part of this program.

Purdue Marquis Scholarship Program: This program helps Indiana students whose families earn $40,000-$70,000 and who qualify for minimal or no state and federal aid. The average income for Purdue student families is $70,000, and assistance will be provided on a sliding scale. The first award from the funds raised by the campaign will start in fall 2009.

Rollock is vice president for ethics, compliance

Alysa Christmas Rollock has assumed a new role commensurate with functional changes in her office. Rollock’s title is now vice president for ethics and compliance.

In her previous role as vice president for human relations, Rollock served as the University’s equal opportunity and Title IX officer with responsibility for developing and implementing University-wide equal opportunity, equal access and affirmative action policies.

Rollock’s office will continue its oversight of the Affirmative Action Office, Title IX, and equal access and equal opportunity. In addition, Rollock will assume responsibility for compliance and ethics training; compliance standards and procedures; and development and revision of University policies. She will direct the University’s systemwide ethics and compliance programs applicable to the four campuses, Statewide Technology, the Office of the President, and all University programs and activities.

The vice president for ethics and compliance reports directly to the president, who described Rollock as vigilant and passionate.

“Ethical conduct is an essential underpinning of a great university, and adherence to compliance standards is essential to accountability,” said President France A. Córdova. “Alysa’s legal background, service on the Indiana State Ethics Commission, and oversight of Purdue’s compliance in equal access and equal opportunity make her uniquely qualified to help us reach our twin goals for integrity and accountability.”

Search committee named to identify candidates for vice provost for diversity

Purdue has formed a committee to begin a national candidate search for the vice provost for diversity and chief diversity officer.

Margaret M. Rowe, professor of English, is chairing the committee.

The position of vice provost for diversity and chief diversity officer was created as part of the New Synergies strategic plan.

“As part of our new plan, we are striving to increase diversity in our faculty, our staff and our student body. This position will provide campuswide leadership to accomplish our goals,” said Provost Randy Woodson.

The position will provide strategic leadership and vision around Purdue’s efforts to foster a climate that embraces and promotes diversity. The vice provost will report to the provost and serve as a member of the President’s Cabinet as chief diversity officer.

“The vice provost for diversity will help foster a climate of inclusion by coordinating educational efforts that seek to enhance the understanding of, and appreciation for, multicultural and gender issues,” Woodson said.

The vice provost for diversity will work closely with Alysa Christmas Rollock, the vice president for ethics and compliance, who serves as the University’s equal opportunity and Title IX officer. Rollock’s office is responsible for developing and implementing University-wide equal opportunity, equal access and affirmative action policies.

“The search committee is looking for an imaginative leader who can work effectively and collaboratively across the campus,” Rowe said. “The successful candidate will be a nationally recognized academic leader and scholar with experience in higher education issues related to diversity, institutional access, multiculturalism and equity.”
**News Reports**

The Block P, a Purdue icon that has been part of University tradition for more than 100 years, became a permanent campus fixture as a sculpture designed to symbolize the importance of lifelong learning and self-improvement. The 8-foot-tall bronze sculpture, located north of Stewart Center, is a likeness of Purdue's iconic Block P, but only partially finished. The design was a collaborative effort among sculptors Rick and Rita Hadley, Purdue officials and members of Iron Key, a senior honorary organization of students that works anonymously each year on a service project that will benefit Purdue. “The Block P sculpture will serve as a reminder that even after you’ve left Purdue, the educational experience is never complete,” said President France A. Córdova. “All students become lifelong Boilermakers and lifelong learners and should strive to always continue to learn and grow throughout their lives.” The sculpture was dedicated Oct. 25 during Homecoming festivities.

Neil Armstrong gives papers to Purdue Libraries

The personal story of the first person to land a craft on the moon and to step on its surface will live forever — in the Purdue University Libraries.

Astronaut Neil A. Armstrong will give his alma mater personal papers that will serve as historic archives and scholarly resources, President France A. Córdova announced Nov. 1 during an event in Purdue Memorial Union prior to the football game against Michigan.

Córdova also announced that authorized Armstrong biographer James R. Hansen will donate 55 hours of one-on-one tape-recorded interviews with the astronaut. Hansen’s 2005 book “First Man: The Life of Neil A. Armstrong” spent three weeks on The New York Times Best-Seller list.

The papers will serve as the launch pad for building a comprehensive flight collection in Purdue Libraries. The University already has a significant compilation of archives of key moments and people in flight history and will seek papers from other graduates who became astronauts. Harlan Crow, a friend to Armstrong, has made a leadership gift to be used for the collection.

Armstrong graduated from Purdue in 1955 with a bachelor’s degree in aeronautical engineering. The papers represent his personal files and date to the beginning of his career.

Hansen, a former NASA historian who is a history professor and dean of the Honors College at Auburn University, also will donate interviews he conducted with other astronauts, test pilots and space program leaders.

James L. Mullins, dean of Purdue Libraries, said the papers will be housed in Archives and Special Collections, where another historical anthology is stored. The George Palmer Putnam Collection of Amelia Earhart Papers, the world’s largest compilation of papers, memorabilia and artifacts related to the late aviator, also reside there.

Earhart, the first female pilot to cross the Atlantic Ocean, holder of world aviation records and a Purdue staff member starting in 1935, disappeared July 2, 1937, over the Pacific Ocean as she attempted to fly around the world.

Archives and Special Collections also house the papers of Ralph Johnson, a 1930 Purdue graduate in mechanical engineering and a flight pioneer who was the first person to document aircraft landing procedures that are still used today.

Sammie Morris, assistant professor of library science and head of Archives and Special Collections, said the Armstrong papers will be invaluable.

“For the students, the papers will create a sense of Purdue history,” Morris said. “This collection could also inspire students to think, ‘If he can go to the moon, what can I do?’”

Boilermaker Ball set for Feb. 27

The Boilermaker Ball, hosted by the Purdue Alumni Association, is set for Feb. 27 at the Indiana Roof Ballroom in downtown Indianapolis.

The ball allows Purdue alumni, friends, University administrators and students to unite in celebration of the Old Gold and Black. The evening will include a cocktail hour, dinner, a live auction, entertainment and dancing.

For information and to register for the gala evening, go to www.purdue.edu/alumni and click on the links for Boilermaker Ball.
Check and approve your address information

The Purdue University Retirees Association is working hard to keep up-to-date with addresses, phone numbers and e-mail 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.

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 ____________________

E-mail address ___________________________________

Return this form to:

Julie Thedans
Purdue University Retirees, Human Resource Services
401 S. Grant St.
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2024