



April Ascents and Announcements



Hello Aviation Alumni and Friends,

While April is often associated with wet weather, there are [30 other reasons](#) to celebrate, instead of counting the days until the unofficial arrival of summer! Who would have thought that April had more than an April Fool's Day to celebrate. In addition to the 24 hours of pranks and hilarity, we also have these to look forward to:

- April 6 – National Twinkie Day
- April 7 – National Beer Day
- April 11 – National Pet Day
- April 18 – National Velociraptor Awareness Day
- April 22 – Earth Day
- April 27 – National Prime Rib Day
- April 30 – National Adopt a Shelter Pet Day

The month of April has also become the home of the annual Day of Giving for WMU.

Thank you all for supporting the College of Aviation with your generosity. Without your engagement and involvement, the ability of us to support our students increases exponentially. Again – THANK YOU!!

No joke about this, the month of April also witnessed the hosting of our first, full-court-press [Aviation Outlook Day](#) on April 1. While we held a “soft-opening” event last summer, this month was a full-on event, where we welcomed over 50 companies into our brand-new Aviation Education Center. Check out the link above to see if your company was in attendance. If they aren’t please feel free to contact me about changing this in the future!

In this month’s newsletter, we spend time with 2019 Aviation Technical Operations alumnus Christopher Myrick as he shares his journey to Delta Tech Ops, originating from the WMU College of Aviation, while making stops at GE Aviation and Flightstar Aviation. Click the link below for the full story. Don’t forget, scroll all the way down for additional stories of College of Aviation students, faculty and/or staff.

ATTENTION STEVE DENOMME! You are March’s winner. Remember, in each newsletter, there is a way to register for a prize each month. Make sure you increase your chances by playing each month. **THE WINNER FROM FEBRUARY IS MATT THALER. WHO IS NOW ON THE CLOCK!** Matt has until the end of April to claim his prize. If you know him, please let him know! Steve and Matt, please contact tom.thinnes@wmich.edu and I’ll get your gift shipped out to you ASAP.

News, Events and Save the Dates!

- **The 2022 Annual Aviation Golf Outing**
 - Registration is now open!
 - **Sign up before May 20** and receive the early bird discount of \$125 per golfer. After that, registration will increase to \$145.
 - For more information and to get registered, please [visit our website](#).
 - Use Promo Code: **EarlyBird2022**
- **WMU Aviation Alumni Reunion and Get-Together**
 - **SAVE THE DATES: Friday, Sept. 16 and Saturday, Sept. 17**

Thanks for being great supporters! Please let us know how you are doing. Send updates to tom.thinnes@wmich.edu!

Go Broncos!

Tom Thinnes
Western Michigan University
College of Aviation
Recruitment, Marketing and Outreach

Thanks for making it to the end! Now that you're here, fill out the registration form to enter into the April prize give-away. [Click Here!](#)

Maintaining Aviation Excellence – Christopher Myrick Purposely Picks A Career in Aviation Technical Operations



Christopher Myrick can offer salient advice to young folks who bury their faces in a video game or cell phone when on a family vacation by car.

They might be missing some valued and career-shaping experiences. Just ask the 2014 graduate of Lincoln High School in Ypsilanti, Mich.

"Growing up," Myrick says, "I would constantly be driven past the Detroit metro

airport to see my grandmother in Detroit. I remember always looking up and seeing the planes fly over (interstate highway) I-94 to land. They were so big and it always fascinated me."

Not too soon after that, Myrick came to realize that "one of the best aviation schools in the country" -- maybe in the world -- was only a relatively short drive westerly on that same highway -- the Western Michigan University College of Aviation.

[Read More](#)

Giving Day 2022 most successful in University history

\$3,173,952 | 3,436 DONORS

A HISTORIC DAY

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—Alumni, friends, faculty, staff and students united to advance Western Michigan University's mission in a big way on Wednesday, April 13, for Western's fifth and most successful Giving Day. In total, 3,436 Broncos from all 50 states and around the world made gifts totaling nearly \$3.2 million. These donations supported anything and everything across the University from academic departments to RSOs, athletics and more. The event also featured a number of major gifts made by both anonymous and named donors, including a \$1.6 million gift to the Student Success Fund.

[Read More](#)

Western marks Arbor Day with tree planting, Tree Campus Higher Education designation



Celebrate Arbor Day and Western Michigan University's commitment to effective campus forest management with a tree planting at 11 a.m. Friday, April 29. Campus landscapers will plant a white fringetree in the sunken garden on the southeast corner of Rood Hall. The event also highlights recent news that the Arbor Day Foundation has once again certified Western as a Tree Campus Higher Education for 2022.

[Read More](#)

- [Jumping In and Out with Keaton Jeffrey: Aviation Technical Operations Student, Sky Dive Bronco Member and RAI Jets Intern](#)
- [Aviation Management leads to Philip Kroll's One Constant – Change is Part of the Journey](#)

So that all may learn

MAKE A GIFT

Donations made today are an investment in providing unique opportunities for students and pave a pathway for generations to come, ensuring that 'all may learn' at WMU.



[College of Aviation](#) | [University Advancement](#)

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