

## Tell us what's happening in your life

Keeping Track is generated by your submissions and is open to all alumni. Send your submission to the NMU Alumni Association, Northern Michigan University, 1401 Presque Isle Avenue, Marquette, Michigan 49855; e-mail to [horizons@nmu.edu](mailto:horizons@nmu.edu); or send via the Web at [www.nmu.edu/horizons](http://www.nmu.edu/horizons). If you would like to include a picture with your submission, please send a print or digital photograph with a resolution of at least 300 dpi.

[WWW.NMU.EDU/HORIZONS](http://WWW.NMU.EDU/HORIZONS) ■ [HORIZONS@NMU.EDU](mailto:HORIZONS@NMU.EDU)

## Pre-1960s

**Sarah Bottrell '24 LC '29 BA** of Marquette celebrated her 100th birthday on Oct. 22, 2004. She was the adviser for the NMU chapter of Alpha Xi Delta and wrote the chapter song. She taught social studies at Newberry High School for 27 years and at Marquette Senior High School for 16 years. Sarah retired in 1972.

**Dorothy (Lindstrom) Austin '42 BS** of Santa Clara, Calif., and her husband, **Ray '47 BS**, celebrated 60 years of marriage on July 30, 2004.

## 60s

**Gary Nepper '65 BS** of Snover operates Nepper's Martial Sciences Academy and keeps busy with his classic car hobby. He retired in 2000 after 34 years of teaching in the Marlette Community Schools. [washido@avci.net](mailto:washido@avci.net)

**Robert Witte '66 BS** of Hudsonville is finishing the fourth and final year of a \$727,000 federally funded academic and behavior grant that has been shared by four other state elementary schools. The grant focuses on effective behavior support for students and the use of a school-wide information system developed by the University of Oregon. Rob has been a principal with the Hudsonville Elementary Public Schools for nine years. [RobJRW@aol.com](mailto:RobJRW@aol.com)

**James Hartman '67 BS** of Metamora retired in June 2004 from the Port

Huron Area School District. James also had taught in Oxford, Mich., and Superior, Mont. He and his wife, Linda, are enjoying retirement with their seven grandchildren.

**Thomas Waclawski '68 BS '70 MAE** of Traverse City is a part-time substitute teacher and is certified as a GLOBE Teacher Trainer. GLOBE is a worldwide, hands-on, primary-and secondary-school based education and science program. He had previously taught elementary school for 30 years and worked with the Grand Traverse Regional Math, Science, and Technology Center for four years. "I would enjoy hearing from any NMU alumni from 1966-69, especially those from the northern lower peninsula area. GO WILDCATS!" [ka8ylktom@chartermi.net](mailto:ka8ylktom@chartermi.net).

**Tom Fish '69 BS** of Powell, Ohio, completed his doctorate in rehabilitation counseling from The Ohio State University in 2003. He received a Mary Switzer Research Fellowship from the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research in 1999. Tom is the director of family and employment services at The Ohio State University Nisonger Center. [fish.1@osu.edu](mailto:fish.1@osu.edu)

## 70s

**Robert Roehrig '70 BS** of Fenton retired in June 2004 from the Beecher Community School District in Flint after 34 years as an industrial education and special education teacher and

guidance counselor. [roehrig@gfn.org](mailto:roehrig@gfn.org)

**Linda (Wirtanen) Fitzgerald '73 BA** of Dexter recently celebrated the 20th anniversary of Fitzgerald Communications. Located in Ann Arbor, the firm specializes in writing and consulting services for marketing communication projects. Linda's work, which has garnered numerous awards, spans both print and electronic media and ranges from ad campaigns, direct mail, brochures, and annual reports to Web sites and enriched e-mail.

**Rick Hull '73 BS** of Sioux Falls, S.D., and his wife, Glenys, own the Sioux Falls, S.D., and Fargo, N.D., branches of Johnstone Supply, a wholesale cooperative that specializes in HVACR supplies and equipment. At the 2004 Johnstone Supply annual convention, Rick and Glenys received the branch of the year award for small market. [rick.hull@johnstonesupply.com](mailto:rick.hull@johnstonesupply.com)

**Tony Marasco '73 BS** of Royal Oak is the assistant superintendent for human resources and labor relations with the West Bloomfield School District. [atmteacher@wowway.com](mailto:atmteacher@wowway.com)

**Dave Belanger '76 BME '79 MM** of Chicago, Ill., a music department coordinator and music teacher in the Chicago public school system, just completed an administrative endorsement and hopes to work as a public school administrator. [Dabel76@netscape.net](mailto:Dabel76@netscape.net)

**Michael Greer '76 BA** of Arlington, Mass., is working with OmniProMusica

to develop the new Zoon model wooden flute. He previously worked at two major flute companies for many years. [magreerflutes@msn.com](mailto:magreerflutes@msn.com)

**Reed Grimes '76 BS** of The Woodlands, Texas, was named corporate real estate executive of the year by the Houston Chapter of CoreNet Global. The award recognizes success in meeting corporate real estate objectives, innovation, project development, leadership, impact, and contributions to the real estate industry. Reed is responsible for managing Exxon Mobil's worldwide commercial real estate services.

**Linda (Ruprich) Reynolds '76 BS** of Hancock is a behavior specialist and autism teacher/coordinator for the Copper Country Intermediate School District. [Ireynold@ccisd.k12.mi.us](mailto:Ireynold@ccisd.k12.mi.us)

**Timothy Evans '77 BS** of Marysville was recently selected as the 2004 Gilder Lehrman Preserve American History Teacher of the Year for Michigan. He has taught for 28th years at Marysville Public School. Tim has been active with the Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers Association's Maritime Heritage Education Workshop, is president elect of the Michigan Council for History Education, and is a volunteer deckhand and education and training committee member on the tall ship Highlander Sea. He also is an adjunct instructor at St. Clair County Community College. Tim's daughter Megan is currently a sophomore at NMU. [timevans@advnet.net](mailto:timevans@advnet.net)

**Charles Hawes '77 BS** of Lansing has joined Yeo & Yeo, a certified public accounting and consulting firm, as a principal in their Lansing office. Charles is a CPA and will serve business and individual clients, with a special emphasis on audit, workers compensation, business consulting, and tax services for not-for-profit organizations and trade associations. Charles is a past member of the NMU Alumni Association board of directors.



## Heart Building

**Ron Revello '95 AS** is filling two roles while stationed in Iraq—one that capitalizes on his professional expertise and another that is much more personal in nature. Revello, who is serving with the Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, National Guard Unit HHC 264th Engineer Group, has been stationed at

Forward Operating Base Speicher in Tikrit since February 2004.

In his primary role as the technical engineering supervisor and lead CAD designer, he and his unit have designed more than 175 projects ranging from roads and buildings to fences, guard posts, and control posts.

"We have designed over \$60 million worth of projects that are just waiting to be built," Revello wrote in an e-mail to *Horizons* in November.

In addition to designing new building projects, Revello's unit has repaired all of the runways at the airfield, rebuilt many of the area's clinics, hospitals, and schools, and worked to get running water to these facilities.

Not all of his unit's assignments have involved physical buildings and construction projects. Revello said that some have been "heart building." He and his unit helped with Operation Backpack, in which troops went to local schools and handed out free backpacks and school supplies to all of the students.

"All of the supplies were donated by families in the U.S., and to see the smiles of the children, well, there is nothing better," he wrote.

In his second role, Revello serves as the chaplain's assistant. He sets up the chapel for two services each Sunday and helps prepare memorial services for fallen soldiers.

Revello said that his time in Iraq has actually made him to grow closer to his family through mail and e-mail. If all goes well, he wrote, he and his unit should return home to Wisconsin in February.

Revello is nearing the end of his 20 years of service in the Army. He was recently promoted to sergeant and received an Army Commendation Medal for his work in Korea, Italy, and Cambodia.

—**Karen Wallingford '02 MA**

**Patty (Carroll) Mason '77 BS** of East Tawas is the office manager for Tawas Pathologists. She has been the figure skating director for the Huron Hockey and Skating Association for eight years. Patty and her husband have two sons. [pmason@charter.net](mailto:pmason@charter.net)

**Ramon Castro '78 AT** of Boca Raton, Fla., is a test engineer for Siemens Information and Communication

Networks. [rcastr0559@aol.com](mailto:rcastr0559@aol.com)

**Jesse Luttenton '78 BS** of Baraga is a community economic developer for the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community. [jlutten@up.net](mailto:jlutten@up.net)

**Jill (Walker) Taylor '78 BS** of Shelby Township is a high school special education teacher for Richmond Community Schools. [jtaylor@richmond.k12.mi.us](mailto:jtaylor@richmond.k12.mi.us)

# Friends in Need Become a Family Indeed

BILL SAVOLA '54 BME AND BURL JORDAN '00 BS

“People keep telling me I should write about my life,” said Bill Savola. “I have all kinds of stories.” He’s not exaggerating. A seasoned world traveler, Savola has been to Nepal, India, Honduras, Japan, Thailand, Spain, and New Guinea. He’s hunted in Africa, gone scuba diving off the Great Barrier Reef of Australia, and trekked through the jungles of South America.

Gregarious, talkative, and inquisitive, Savola easily engages people in conversation and is quick to make friends—something Burl Jordan can readily attest to.

“I’ve listened to every story Bill has told for eight years, and I know ’em all,” said Jordan.

Jordan was an NMU student when he met Savola in 1995. He was studying across from Bookbinders in the NMU Learning Resources Center when Savola, a regular patron of the snack shop, struck up a conversation with him. Over time the two got to be good friends. When Jordan discovered that for several years this retired high school band teacher had been financially supporting a young Indonesian man, he was impressed with Savola’s generosity.

For more than a decade, Savola has been making yearly trips to Indonesia and has informally adopted several young men to whom he refers as his “children.” During his first trip to Indonesia in 1994, he met Baliarta (Bali), who was supporting himself by waiting tables at a local restaurant.

True to his nature, Savola befriended the young man. And



Savola with his “adopted sons” Lalu (left) and Ishak. Savola has promised to send Lalu to police officer’s school next year.



Ozy (left) and Am share a meal in their new home with their benefactors, Anne and Burl Jordan.

when he discovered that Bali had a perforated eardrum, he took him to the hospital and paid for all of his medical expenses. The two have stayed in touch ever since. Bali is now 30 years old and lives with his wife and two daughters on the island of Sumatra, where he farms *singkong*, or cassava, which is most commonly associated with tapioca.

Since meeting Bali, Savola has helped three more young men in Indonesia. Ishak, who could not afford to go to school when Savola met him, is now 18 and in ninth grade. Lalu, who was a police cadet

when Savola met him, is now a police officer and studies law six nights per week. Yusuf was a troubled homeless boy who encountered Savola when he helped another boy steal Savola’s camera. Now 21, Yusuf is taking accounting classes at a local university. He sends his report cards stateside to Savola.

Almost all of these young men, Savola explained, come from a troubled domestic background or one in which they lost parents. Savola sees himself as a kind of surrogate father figure. It’s a role Jordan conferred upon him as well.

Coming from what he described as a rough childhood, Jordan wanted to follow in Savola’s footsteps, but Savola insisted that Jordan finish college before “adopting” any Indonesian children.

“The day I [graduated], Bill came up to me and said, ‘Okay. Now you can help,’” Jordan said.

In January 2003, Jordan and his wife **Anne '00 BA** traveled to Indonesia to meet their adopted children, Am, 16, and Ozy, 18. Jordan, who now owns and operates the largest landscaping business in California’s San Diego County, was stunned by the living conditions on Lombok Island. Am had been living with his family under a thatched roof with a dirt floor and no walls. The Jordans purchased a two-bedroom house for the family for one thousand dollars.

To ensure a steady income for his adoptees, Jordan has established Treasures from Bali, a nonprofit on-



Shelters such as this are all some Indonesian families have to protect themselves from the elements.

line export business that he hopes will become the largest in the world. Savola is also participating in the venture.

While all of the proceeds from the business will benefit Indonesian children, Jordan said there is much that needs to be done in many other countries.

Savola feels the same way, and while he can provide endless emotional support for his Indonesian family, his financial resources are wearing thin.

"I can think of more who should go to school, and they need help, but I can't afford it," he said.

One of Jordan's goals is to learn how Savola does what he does so that he can continue Savola's dream of helping those less fortunate than himself.

Savola plans to return to Indonesia this month. When he does, he'll be taking on a project that capitalizes on his professional expertise. After visiting his children, he will try to put together a national philharmonic orchestra for Indonesia, one that he hopes will be the largest in Southeast Asia. A quick side trip to Manila is also on his itinerary. When he returns, he's sure to have many more stories—if only there were time to tell them all.

—**Matthew Schneider '04 BA**

**Robert Holmstrom '79 BS** of Daleville, Ala., is an executive officer with the 1-14th Aviation Regiment of the U.S. Army. roholmstrom@yahoo.com

**Shelagh Williams '79 BS** of Redford studied at Harvard University last summer. Shelagh is a principal in the Detroit Public School System. Swilli425@aol.com

## 80s

**Edward Cook '80 BS** of Zion, Ill., was promoted to police sergeant at the Northwestern University Police Department in Chicago last February. e-cook@northwestern.edu

**Linda (Parkkonen) Hosking '80 AB** of Green Bay, Wis., is a group controller for the retail lending division of US Bank. In 2003, she obtained a bachelor of arts degree in accounting from Lakeland College in Wisconsin. She then went on to earn the certified management accounting designation. Linda and her husband, **Barry '84 BS**, have two daughters and a grandson. yoooper78@hotmail.com

**Colleen Maki '81 BA** of Port Huron teaches French in the Croswell-Lexington Schools.

**David Sevick '81 BFA** of Lakewood, Colo., is the principal and creative director of D. Sevick Communications. "I just moved and wanted to keep friends and classmates updated with my new information." dsevick@comcast.net

**David Forsberg '82 BS** of Lansing has been hired as the community and government affairs leader for the Upper Peninsula Power Company. For the past three years, David's firm, Forsberg Golenda Communications and Government Relations, had been UPPCO's lobbyist at the Michigan state capitol. David is a past recipient of Northern's Outstanding Young Alumni Award.

**James Jeakle '82 BS** of Kalamazoo has served for the past 10 years as

director of research and development for KDF Fluid Treatment. James and his wife, Lorraine, hope to move to New Mexico and start a consultancy. varkie@chartermi.net

**Eileen McGill '82 BS** of Clarkston is a regional director for the Carlson Marketing Group. erabbit@comcast.net

**Curt Tucker '82 AT** of Saginaw is the president of Teamtech Motorsports Safety, which internationally distributes patented race car driver safety restraints and related products. Curt.Tucker@TEAMTECHMotorsports.com

**Bren Bildner '83 BS** of Waterford is a senior buyer for General Motors. bren.bildner@gm.com

**Edward Buchynski '83 BS** of Ypsilanti has been the principal of Harry S. Truman High School for six years.

**Bill Slough '84 BS, '90 MAE** of Gladstone has been selected as the middle school principal in Gladstone.

**Craig De Damos '85 BS** of Rockford coaches Rockford "RAM" Rocket Football and is president of the Rockford Wrestling Club. He works as a senior program manager for Altacor. He and his wife, Lisa, have two sons, Dominic, 13, and Anthony, 10.

**Andre Driver '85 BS** of Chicago, Ill., graduated from Lake Forest Graduate School of Management with a master of business administration degree in June 2004. He works in purchasing for W.W. Grainger. andredriver@yahoo.com

**Donald Meyer '85 AB** of Ishpeming has owned and operated Meyer Transit for almost 19 years. His company hauls forest products to area mills. He is actively involved in several organizations that restore, maintain, and fly World War II era aircraft. "Traveling on board a 60+ year-old aircraft to an event is incredible! You meet some wonderful people—including many veterans and their families. It never gets old."

**Kurt Person '85 BS** of Farmington Hills was promoted to vice president



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of engineering at the Robert Bosch Corporation.

**Charles Roberts '86 BS** of Lansing is operations manager for construction, maintenance, and interior design at Michigan State University.

**Lisa (Yax) Sayers '86 BS** of Girard, Pa., is a self-employed independent consultant with Arbonne International. [botanicalyou@adelphia.net](mailto:botanicalyou@adelphia.net)

**Todd Sliktas '86 Dipl., '97 BS** of Fraser teaches woodworking and coaches football at Fraser High School. [Todd.Sliktas@fraser.misd.net](mailto:Todd.Sliktas@fraser.misd.net)

**Treacy Duerfeldt '88 BA** of Olympia, Wash., recently launched an independent alumni site for the Gamma Delta

brothers of the Phi Kappa Tau fraternity at [www.gammadeltanmu.com](http://www.gammadeltanmu.com). Treacy hopes that folks visit the site and remember the fun times they had. Treacy works as a manager for Olympic Advisors. [Treacy2@comcast.net](mailto:Treacy2@comcast.net)

**Ian Jellis '88 BS** of Roseville graduated in May 2004 from Wayne State University with a master of arts in teaching. He teaches 5th grade in the Roseville School District. [jellisi@hotmail.com](mailto:jellisi@hotmail.com)

**Marcia Mufti '88 BSW** of Granite Falls, Minn., became the director of financial aid at Minnesota West Community and Technical College in November 2004. [mmufti@gf.mnwest.mnscu.edu](mailto:mmufti@gf.mnwest.mnscu.edu)

**Michael Schopieray '88 BS** of Mansfield, Ohio, was named the housing coordinator at The Ohio State University-Mansfield campus. Michael is a former associate director of housing and residence life at NMU.

**Dan Pilarski '89 BS** of Rockford is a systems analyst at Calvin College. [dpilarsk@calvin.edu](mailto:dpilarsk@calvin.edu)

**Michelle Vinoski '89 BS** of Superior, Wis., recently earned a master's degree in educational administration with an emphasis in K-12 principalship from the University of Wisconsin-Superior. She is a middle school mathematics teacher and assistant principal at Cathedral School in Superior. [mmvinoski@aol.com](mailto:mmvinoski@aol.com)

## 90s

**Tom Baranowski '90 BS** of Birmingham is a regional sales manager for Terminal Supply Company. [tbaranowski@comcast.net](mailto:tbaranowski@comcast.net)

**Laurie (Geniesse) Bruce '90 BS** of Mansfield, Pa., has been the assistant women's basketball coach at Mansfield University for six seasons. Last season her team had the best record in the school's history. Laurie has been married to her husband, Bobby, for 13 years and has two children. [lbruce@mnsfld.edu](mailto:lbruce@mnsfld.edu)

**Tammie (Anderson) Mrachek '90 BS** of Merrill, Wis., started TM Training and Consulting two years ago. She specializes in training for Cisco phone systems and computers. Tammie has been married for seven years to her husband, Darin, with whom she has two daughters: Rylee, 4, and Reese, 2 1/2.

**William Bowerman '91 MA** of Central, S.C., has been promoted to associate professor with tenure at Clemson University. He is a wildlife ecologist/toxicologist with the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources. He has been researching bald eagles in the Great Lakes region for 20 years. Bill is a past recipient of

an NMU Outstanding Young Alumni Award. wbowerm@clemsun.edu

**Christian Johanneson '91 BS** of Duvall, Wash., works for Microsoft as a global business development manager. He and his wife, Alice, have two sons, Jack and Finn. cjohanneson@yahoo.com

**Sheila Kirt '91 BS** of Concord is a veterinarian. She owns Kibby Park Animal Hospital in Jackson. timansheila@frontiernet.net

**Ken Mercier '91 BS** of Manitowoc, Wis., teaches science at Kewaunee High School in Kewaunee, Wis., and has coached baseball and softball for several years. His wife, **Julie (Birkle) '92 BSN**, is a midwife. kmercier@lakefield.net

**Michelle (Zochowski) Sanchez '91 BA** of Brownsville, Texas, works for Customs and Border Protection as a supervisory entry specialist. msanchez@sc2000.net

**Veronica (Graves) Scrimshaw '91 BA** of Grand Rapids and her husband, John, celebrated the birth of their son, John Henry, in September 2004. Veronica is the director of corporate communications at National Personnel Associates in Grand Rapids. vscrimshaw@comcast.net

**Dave Danis '92 BS** of Marquette is the sports director for Northern Star Broadcasting, WNGE 99.5-FM. He announces the play-by-play for NMU football, hockey, and volleyball. davyd1983@aol.com

**John Hand '92 BS** of Sanford, N.C., is the program director of cardiac rehabilitation at the Fayetteville Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

**Eric Bastian '93 BS** of Grand Ledge is a parole/probation officer with the Michigan Department of Corrections. BassRipRock@aol.com

**Laura (Lutz) Lonergan '93 BS '98 MPA** of Novi is a project technical adviser for TriMedia Consultants. llonergan@trimediaconsultants.com

**Bob Morin '93 BS** of Macomb Township has been hired as a science



## For Kids' Sake

**Al Behnke '98 BS** is nearing the end of his scheduled one-year tour in Iraq. When contacted via e-mail in November, he was stationed at the Logistical Support Area Anaconda, about 45 miles north of Baghdad. As headquarters commander, Behnke is responsible for administrative and logistical functions of the 126th Finance Battalion.

Like Major Paul Phillips, whose story is featured on page 14, Behnke was involved in supervising the renovation of a school. His battalion also distributes supplies and visits with the children.

"The building was very dilapidated," he explained. "There were no renovations or major repairs done since it was built in the 1960s, and it lacked indoor plumbing. Most of the textbooks were written by the Baath Party and made Saddam out to be a great Iraqi hero. The students are very excited and happy to see us. Whenever we visit, they come running up to greet us as we arrive."

Behnke said the vast majority of Iraqis are friendly toward Americans and are happy that Saddam Hussein is no longer in power. "As always, there's a small portion of the population that isn't happy because they are not in charge," he added.

When asked how he would respond to those who object to the U.S. military presence in Iraq, Behnke replied: "Regardless of how they feel, the important thing is that they continue to support the troops that are over there."

—**Kristi Evans**

teacher at Utica High School. He will also be coaching varsity hockey at Utica Eisenhower High School. Rm22mucs@ucs.misd.net

**Shawn (Ketchum) Nowicki '93 BS** of Marquette is a fishery biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. snowicki@nmu.edu

**Anthony Caduto '94 BS** of Oak Creek, Wis., is a senior programmer with M&I Trust and Investment Management in Milwaukee. tony.caduto@amsoftwaredesign.com

**Matthew Driscoll '94 BS** of Sheboygan Falls, Wis., is the principal of James Madison Elementary School in the Sheboygan Area School District. mdriscoll@sheboygan.k12.wi.us

**Patrick Wercinski '94 BS** of Payson, Ariz., works for the U.S. Forest Service as a forest protection officer. He has completed assignments in Arizona, Nevada, and New Hampshire. pwercinski@yahoo.com

**Mike '95 BS and Melinda (Carlson) Long '97 BS** of Hopkinsville, Ky., welcomed their daughter, Avery Katherine, into the world on Dec. 12, 2003. longatc@msn.com

**Kari (Kibin) Szczechowski '95 BSN** of Wyandotte gave birth to her second child, Nickolas Robert, in May 2004. Kari is a registered nurse and works part-time in the critical care area at Oakwood Hospital and Medical Center in Dearborn. klszcz@yahoo.com

## ALUMNI IN PRINT

### Settlement



1st Books Library, 2002  
**Donald Giesen '56 BS, '64 MA**

In response to the national sex-abuse scandal in the Catholic church, Donald Giesen explores what can happen in an organization when there is too much secrecy. His book centers on a fictional Upper Peninsula Catholic parish; a priest who abuses his power, his office, and his vows; and a bishop who allows it to go on despite complaints from parishioners.

### A Matter of Courage

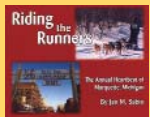


Beaver's Pond Press, 2004

**Joann (Austin) Hakala '73 BS, '75 MAE, '88 Ed.S**

At a gathering of high school friends, a wrestling accident changed **Gerry Hakala's '87 BS** life forever. His neck was broken, and there was a 95 percent chance he would never walk again. But Gerry was not about to sit quietly and watch life pass him by. In this book, Joann recounts the story of her son's determination and her family's commitment to him.

### Riding the Runners



Oak River Publishing, 2003

**Jan Sabin '74 BS, '86 MAE**

Jan Sabin compiled this photo essay to commemorate the 15th anniversary of the U.P. 200 Sled Dog Race in Marquette. The photos, which chronicle the first 13 races, capture the community spirit of the race and show the motivation and drive of the mushers and their sled-dog teams.

**Stephanie (Andrzejewski) Boytim '96 BS** of Canton is taking a year off from teaching to spend time with her new daughter, Allison, who was born in July 2004. Stephanie has been a math consultant in Wayne-Westland Schools as well as a classroom teacher for the last four years. s22374@comcast.net

**Matt McLachlan '96 BS** of St. Petersburg, Fla., recently accepted a newly created position with the City of Bradenton, Florida, as assistant director of the department of development services. Matt and his wife, Christine, celebrated the birth of their daughter, Amelia Rose, in September 2004.

**Gregory Wood '96 BS** of Urbana, Ill., is an Andrew Mellon Predoctoral Fellow in the University of Pittsburgh's History Department. Gwood182@yahoo.com

**Scott Frappier '97 BS** of St. Louis, Mo., is an embedded software engineer with the Boeing Company. He has been selected to participate in an executive learning development program for the next two years. Scott is married with two children and recently completed his master's in engineering management from Washington University.

**Brandy Burns '98 BS** of Dunn, N.C., is a community services coordinator for RHA Health Services. She graduated with a master of public administration degree from NMU in May 2004. bburns@intrstar.net

**Heather May '98 BS** of Johnson, Vt., is attending graduate school at Johnson State College, where she works as the director for two residence halls. mayh@jsc.vsc.edu

**Michael Rochon '98 BA** of Manistique has completed a master's degree in school guidance counseling and plans to teach part time and counsel part time. Michael is a Spanish teacher and guidance counselor in the Manistique area schools. mrochon@alumni.nmu.edu

**Jeremy Stover '98 AS, '00 BS** of Green Bay, Wis., is a corrections officer with the Outagamie County Sheriff's Department. jpstover@hotmail.com

**Danielle (Tasson) Stupsky '98 BS** of Minneapolis, Minn., and her husband, Ryan, welcomed their baby girl, Teagan Rose, to the world on May 18, 2004. dstupsky@comcast.net

**Marianne (Bissett) Donoghue '99 BS** of Lake Orion works in the Pontiac Community Schools as a math teacher. MBISSETT48817@YAHOO.COM

**Braden Graham '99 BS** of Ferndale is the national promotions and events manager for Carlson Marketing Group. bradengraham@yahoo.com

**Bruce Herr, Jr. '99 BSN** of Newport has completed requirements for a master of science in anesthesia degree at Wayne State University and is now eligible for board certification as a certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA). He is now working as a CRNA at the Washington Hospital Center in Washington, D.C. simbakahn@chartermi.net

## 00s

**Brian Gibson '00 BS** has been employed with the United States Secret Service for three years. He is a special agent.

**William Moore '00 BS** of Chicago, Ill., graduated from John Marshall Law School in June 2004. He accepted an associate position at the law firm Adler, Murphy, and McQuillen in June and was admitted to practice law in the State of Illinois in November. wmoore@amm-law.com

**Toby Soboleski '00 BS** of Redford is a worker's compensation claims specialist with Crawford & Company. He is assigned to a seven-state region for which he detects fraudulent claims. TOBYSoboleski@hotmail.com

**Toby Kilbourn '01 BS** of Deford recently graduated from the Damage

Control Assistant Course (DCA) at Surface Warfare Officer School in Newport, R.I. The DCA course is designed to provide shipboard DCAs with training that includes in-depth study in damage control administration and training, systems, equipment, maintenance procedures, battle damage evaluation and containment, fire-fighting, and chemical, biological, and radiological defense procedures. Toby is an ensign in the U.S. Coast Guard.

**Jamal Nazir '01 MPA** of Murree, Pakistan, recently completed his judicial clerkship with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Colorado. He plans to return to Pakistan to work as an adviser to the prime minister and to set up a private law firm dedicated to constitutional reforms and promoting animal rights. jamal@alumni.nmu.edu

**Tara (Savage) Pipkorn '01 BSN** of Gladstone is a registered nurse at Marquette General Hospital Home Health in Escanaba. Tarasav@msn.com

**Randy Carlisle '03 BS** of Marquette is a master control operator with Lake Superior Broadcasting.

**Jennifer Giangrasso '03 BS** of Chicago, Ill., is an online specialist account manager for CareerBuilder.com. jennifergiangrasso@alumni.nmu.edu

**Jason Henderson '03 BS** of Iron Mountain is a maintenance engineer for the American Transmission Company. His duties include contracting services from Cable Constructors in Iron Mountain to obtain data pertaining to structures in the transmission system located in the Upper Peninsula and Wisconsin municipals.

**George Jackson '03 BS** of Big Rapids is a land use agent for the Michigan State University Extension. gjackson@alumni.nmu.edu

**Shelley Jiles '03 BS** of Charlotte, N.C., is a theater arts teacher for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools.

**Patricia Williams '04 BS** of Marquette was recently named pro-

gram director at The Crayon Club childcare center and preschool. Patricia has worked for Mister McGregor's Garden, Inc., The Crayon Club's parent company, for five years.

## Marriages

**Charles Vader '67 BS** to Judith Moore.

**Tina Simula '77 BS** to Donald Weiland.

**Rodney Bolton '81 BS** to Linda Laffler.

**John Bleckiner '82 Dipl.** to Jennifer Radcliffe.

**James Jeakle '82 BS** to Lorraine Marais.

**Charles Roberts '86 BS** to Jennifer Hart.

**Darlene Wiese '86 BSN** to T. Tracy Young.

**Blaine Sprague '92 BS** to Amanda Lompre.

**Beth Lullo '93 BA** to Jeremy Bolen.

**Kyle T. David '94 BS** to Christine Kullander.

**Cynthia LaPenna '95 BS** to Vincent Felicella.

**Dale Powell '95 BS** to Sarah Clark.

**Amanda Smith '95 BS** to Andrew Stroth.

**Matt Wiitala '95 BS '98 MPA** to Sheila Freeman.

**Roxanne Kapalla '96 BS** to Greg Thorpe.

**Craig Mallett '96 AS '96 BS to Amy Manninen '97 BS '02 MPA.**

**Gregory Wood '96 BS** to Mihaela Gainusa.

**Melissa Lukach '97 BS** to Nicholas Adams.

**Kimi Fosco '98 BSN** to Frederick Steinberg.

**Kimberly LaMere '98 Dipl., '03 Cert.** to Chad Kakkuri.

**Todd Waurio '98 BS** to Lisa Wiitala.

**Mark Balisi '99 BS '00 BS** to Jennifer Yatchak '03 BS.

**Krystal Koskey '99 AB** to Gilbert Hoffer, Jr.

## ALUMNI IN PRINT

### Daniel's Final Chapter



PublishAmerica, 2004

**John Smith '77 BS**

The murder of Nicholas Doss's girlfriend and his subsequent discovery of an extant version of the original prophetic biblical book, *Daniel*, garners worldwide attention. Accused of his girlfriend's murder, Nick must prove his innocence by identifying the killer and in doing so protect the priceless scroll and its divine message.

### Swapping Lies! Deception in the Workplace



Trafford Publishing, 2004

**Marc Bringman '78 MA**

This book takes on the issue of deception in the workplace. Using a blend of academic research, common sense business advice, and home-spun tales, the author presents a case for change. In doing so, he offers more than 80 tips designed to help the reader navigate today's complex work environment.

### Fatal Network



iBooks, 2004

**Trevor Scott, aka Scott Schmidt '93 MA**

When a tech rep in charge of an avionics outfit at a U.S. Air Force Base in Germany comes up missing, Jake Adams, former Air Force intelligence and CIA officer, is hired to find him. Was the man selling vital technology for the new joint strike fighter? This mystery leads Jake from an aircraft carrier off the coast of Italy to the chilly banks of the Rhine.



## KEEPING TRACK

Lisa Russell '99 BS to Christopher Riccobono.

Heidi Turri '99 BS to Scott Neil Jensema.

Mark Fuller '00 AAS '00 BS to Maria Mendini '01 BS.

Jason Kangas '00 BS to Jodi Reiten.

Christopher Kimpel '00 BS to Tammy Ott.

Casey L. Reidy '00 Cert. to Paul Richards.

Leigh Schout '00 BSN to Daniel Freberg.

Lindsey Villa '00 BS to Lee Ringuette.

Robby Baumgartner '01 BS to Sarah Winquist.

Melisa Head '01 BS to Adam Gleason.

Danielle LaForest '01 AB to Justin Dove.

Bobbi Nault '01 Cert. to Jason Arsenault.

Michael Picotte '01 BS to Hannah Cuddie '03 BFA.

Justin Schultz '01 BS to Anne Schneider.

Kristy Stevenson '01 BS to Joshua Burt.

Jessica Brown '02 BS to Chris Kovala '02 BS.

Kelly Freberg '02 BS to B.J. Ash.

Steven Johnson '02 BS to Jamie Ziller '04 BS.

Jeffrey Morgan '02 BFA to Christi Smith '02 BS.

Sarah Rousseau '02 BS to Scott Tyler '02 BS.

Laura Guizzetti '03 AAS to Gary Sovey.

Joseph Neumann '03 BS to Alison Granlund '04 BS.

Nathan Plescher '03 BS to Alisha Murphy '04 BS.

Michelle Tass '03 BS to Thomas Phelps, Jr.

Amy Durocher '04 BS to Wade Isham.

Kelly Fulsher '04 BSW to Dean Schultz.

Elizabeth Hubert '04 BSN to Adam Gillis.

Andrea Sherwood '04 BS to Joshua Maxwell.

## Deaths

Sylvia Lescelius '35 LC '46 BS, Sept. 15, 2004, Mass City.

Lila (Liimakka) Elliott '36 LC, Sept. 29, 2004, Ypsilanti.

Roy Brigman '37 BS, May 11, 2004, Traverse City.

Madelyn (Eggert) Dennis '38 BS, June 3, 2004, El Centro, Calif.

Clara (Teague) Gourd '38 BA, Dec. 29, 2003, Dearborn.

Albert Mercure '38 BA, Aug. 14, 2004, Milwaukee, Wis.

Arthur Kortesoja '39 BS, June 30, 2004, Ann Arbor.

Ford Borema '41 BA, Sept. 9, 2003, Melbourne, Fla.

Russell Christian '41 BA, June 29, 2004, Marquette.

Shirley (Blumquist) Nyquist '41, April 12, 2004, Marquette.

Harriet Goodman '43 BS, Oct. 1, 2004, Escanaba.

Kenneth Brami '48 BS, May 26, 2004, Marquette.

Donlin Pangborn '48 BA, July 26, 2004, Munising.

Peter Ghiardi '49 BA, Aug. 20, 2004, Three Lakes.

Harold Schoch '49 BS, Oct. 8, 2004, Ann Arbor.

Michael Anuta '50 BA, Sept. 9, 2004, Marinette, Wis.

Sally (Wood) Roth '50 BS, Aug. 15, 2004, Flushing.

Roland Sandell '50 BA, Aug. 25, 2004, Dearborn.

Laura Parsons '53 BS, May 23, 2004, Leesville, S.C.

Edward Guindon '55 BS, July 23, 2004, Escanaba.

Raymond Smith '56 BS, June 19, 2004, Dearborn.

Glenda (Paris) Robinson '57 BA, May 27, 2004, Marquette.

Bernard Givens '58 BS '62 MA, Oct. 23, 2003, Hancock.

Allan Hackmann '58 BS, July 17, 2004, Chassell.

Barry Torreano, Sr. '58 BS '60 MA, N.D., Chocoday Township.

John Bianchi '60 BS, Oct. 17, 2004, Negaunee.

Gerald Sturvist '61 BS, June 23, 2004, Jacobsville.

Theodore Anderson '62 BME '68 MA, July 23, 2004, Torch Lake.

Nancy Rantanen '63 BS, May 5, 2004, Munising.

John Isaacson '67 BS, June 5, 2004, Iron River.

Aleta (Bell) Arenz '69 BS '75 MAE, Aug. 22, 2004, Marquette.

Ronald Bolenz '69 MA, May 24, 2004, Battle Creek.

Carla (Chartier) Bonner '69 BA, Sept. 7, 2004, Grand Haven.

Al Prideaux '69 BS, Sept. 13, 2004, Ishpeming.

C. Alexander Moll '71 BS, Sept. 2, 2004, Paulding.

Herbert Boyle '72 BS, June 12, 2004, Marquette.

Richard Loomis, Jr. '72 BS, July 31, 2004, Otter Lake.

Michele (Ogea) Millimaki '72 BSN, Oct. 15, 2004, Ishpeming.

Darryl Dobrzanski, Sr. '73 BS '83 MS, Aug. 6, 2004, Gwinn.

Ronald Hill '73 BS, June 6, 2004, Jamestown, R.I.

Douglas Smith '75 MAE, Aug. 9, 2004, Hawkins, Wis.

Linda (Nykanen) Zimmerman '77 BS, April 24, 2004, Livonia.

Margaret (Peaden) Yelland '78 Cert., Sept. 26, 2004, Harvey.

Judith Miller '82 BSN, Sept. 7, 2004, Marquette.

Terry Schuller '82 BS, Oct. 5, 2004, Marquette.

Francine Malindzak '83 BS, Sept. 28, 2004, Marquette.

Ken Quinn '83 Dipl., May 10, 2004, Green Bay, Wis.

Sean Sullivan '83 Dipl., Sept. 9, 2004, L'Anse.

Gregory Revord '86 BS, May 25, 2004, Munising.

Elmer Heidtman, Jr. '90 Cert., May 12, 2004, Skandia.

JoAnne (Norie) Pietro '91 BS '02 MPA, Aug. 21, 2004, Negaunee.

David Rautiola '96 AS, July 18, 2004, Belmont.

Thomas Katona '00 MPA, June 12, 2004, Cornell.

Joseph Lesner III '00 BS, March 11, 2004, Ishpeming.

James Ruddy '03 BFA, Sept. 19, 2004, Flint.

Noah McNamara '04 AAS, July 3, 2004, Marquette.

## Friends

John Fassbender, June 24, 2004, Marquette. John worked in the Operations and Maintenance department at NMU for 20 years.

Gottfried Hogh, July 30, 2004, Ann Arbor. Gottfried taught biology at NMU from the mid 1960s until 1972.

Evelyn Nystrom, Aug. 28, 2004, Marquette. Evelyn worked in the Financial and Student Employment office at NMU for many years until her retirement in 1995.

Thomas Uhlinger, Sept. 22, 2004, Traverse City. Thomas was a professor in the Music Department at NMU from 1947-65. He conducted church choirs in addition to band, orchestra, and choral ensembles at NMU.

## Stay connected. Join today.

By becoming a member of the NMU Alumni Association, not only will you maintain your connection with your alma mater and receive a host of member-only benefits, you also will help provide valuable programs and services for current students and alumni. Memberships begin for as little as \$35 a year. For more information or to join, contact us at 1-877-GRAD-NMU, e-mail us at alumni@nmu.edu, or fill out our online membership form at [www.nmu.edu/alumni](http://www.nmu.edu/alumni).



## Tell us what's new in your life

Stay in touch with your alma mater! Tell us your exciting news or personal updates so we can put it in Keeping Track. (Attach a separate page if you have a lot to say or don't want to write this small.) Include a recent photo if you have one—we may be able to use it.

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Year of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_ Major: \_\_\_\_\_

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# The laws of complacency

By MARC BRINGMAN '78 MA



Marc Bringman and his grandson, Dante, discussing the flight characteristics of Superman. Marc is an author and freelance business management consultant in north Texas.

I remember while serving in the U.S. Air Force (K.I. Sawyer AFB), we lost a giant B-52 just a few miles south of Marquette. Perhaps some of the older alumni and residents of the Upper Peninsula will recall that day. The accident investigation found no mechanical problems, and all of us protested any thought of pilot error. We knew the crew members. They were good, very good. In fact, this crew was designated as the best in the Wing. They had logged countless flying hours, all were instructors, and some had even survived many flights over Hanoi. Surely, such talented and highly skilled people couldn't make such a fatal mistake. But they did.

Many times, there is a correlation between experience and mistakes, meaning, the better you are at your job, the more likely it is that you will get complacent.

One dictionary defines "complacent" as "contented to a fault." Complacency is an unintended and natural—albeit unfortunate—product of success. It happens to the most experienced people, and it is not limited to certain professions or skill sets. When pilots make a mistake, they are at work, just like you and me.

Complacency is a natural human flaw. It is not limited just to individuals; complacency occurs in teams, businesses and, yes, even nations. To understand complacency, one must accept it as an integral part of oneself.

Just as fish discover water last, so it is with humans and complacency.

Denial is the most significant problem with complacency. It grows out of the impression that we are infallible; things have gone so well for so long that we let our guard down. We become so sure of ourselves, we don't even prepare for trouble.

To properly combat complacency, one must plan for it. Put processes and procedures in place that force you to "see and avoid." I've learned a few things about complacency and compiled the following rules. I'll borrow from a familiar title and call them, "The Immutable Laws of Complacency:"

- Complacency is governed by natural law.
- Complacency is a by-product of success.
- Complacency occurs when you least expect it.
- Complacency can result in a positive reading of negative signals.
- Crisis management is not the solution to complacency.
- The better you are at what you do, the more likely it will happen to you.

Do not deny the existence of complacency in your life. It can and probably will happen to you, but with awareness (first step), acceptance, and preparation, complacency can be challenged and the effects can be substantially lessened. ■

NORTHERN PERSPECTIVE is a guest column open to all alumni, friends, faculty, and current students of Northern Michigan University. We welcome your personal essays, anecdotes, opinion pieces, short-short fiction or fiction excerpts, poetry, or images. Not all submissions will make it into the magazine, and *Horizons* will not return submissions without a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Text may be edited for space and clarity. If you would like to make a submission to Northern Perspective, send it by e-mail to [horizons@nmu.edu](mailto:horizons@nmu.edu), through the *Horizons* Web site at [www.nmu.edu/horizons](http://www.nmu.edu/horizons), or by mail to Editor, *Horizons*, Northern Michigan University, 1401 Presque Isle Avenue, Marquette, Michigan 49855. Photographs should have a resolution of at least 300 dpi.

Live from Yost Arena in Ann Arbor, Michigan

# NMU vs. Michigan Hockey

Friday, January 28, 2005 • 7:35 pm EST

FOX Sports

The NMU Alumni  
Association brings you  
**Wildcat Night Across  
the Country 2005.**

Get together with your friends  
and watch the NMU Wildcats  
face off against the Michigan  
Wolverines. **Live** on FOX Sports  
(also available via satellite).



Last year, alumni held  
parties in Chicago, Battle Creek,  
St. Louis, Traverse City, and more.

For details on how to have a Wildcat Night  
in your area, contact the NMU Alumni Association  
at 1-877-GRAD NMU or e-mail us at [alumni@nmu.edu](mailto:alumni@nmu.edu).

**Start planning your  
Wildcat party today.**

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## I have so many wonderful memories of NMU.

I remember when I walked across the stage at graduation, a thousand things flashed through my mind. Every professor who had helped me along the way, every friend I had made, every test I had taken, the many "all nighters" I had pulled. They all led up to this moment. I was so proud to walk across the stage with all my friends and know that even though I was leaving Marquette, I could call Northern home for the rest of my life!

I joined the Alumni Association because it allows me to stay in touch with friends from near and far. And since I graduated so recently, it allows me never to lose touch in the first place.

Events like Wildcat Night Across the Country give everyone in the area a reason to come together. And the second I get my weekly edition of "What's New, NMU?" my phone starts ringing.

Without my participation in the Alumni Association, many of the activities and updates I get about Northern couldn't exist. I am so thankful for all that NMU has given me. This is just my small way of giving something back.

**Jennifer Giangrasso '03 BS. Member of the NMU Alumni Association since 2003.**

## Of course I'm a member.

**Are you? Consider joining the NMU Alumni Association today.**

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Photograph of Jennifer Giangrasso by Kim Marsh '80 BS.



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