



NORTHERN MICHIGAN
UNIVERSITY

FOR ALUMNI & FRIENDS

CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT NEWS

ISSUE #16 WINTER 2023

News from Marquette since early last summer:

There has been quite a bit going on around Marquette – particularly around the campus, the Jacobetti and the Construction programs. In this issue, we'll try to catch you up on some of things you may have missed. We have done a little traveling, a good amount of temporary relocating, quite a bit of adjusting, hosted some events, altered some plans, completed a lot of community service projects, graduated some seniors, and had a really good time along the way.



is now the Innovation Hall, which will be about 6,000 sf of space for us to hold our Hard Hat Ceremonies and various other events.

The main South Entryway has undergone a significant transformation. Some of the old structural steel is temporarily left in place in the far left picture. Nearly 45,000 sf was removed from the south section of the Jacobetti. The new framing

creates a grand entry in the middle picture. Progress through mid-January is on the right

The Career and Engineering Technology Facility renovation is going very well. Trevor Poupore (2016) and Eyn Nye (2023), have been keeping a close eye on production, quality, safety, and taking time out to provide tours and guest lectures since August.



A few progress views of the SW corner, which used to be storage and a loading dock. It

is now the Innovation Hall, which will be about 6,000 sf of space for us to hold our Hard Hat Ceremonies and various other events.

The Team is set up extremely well in the NE quadrant of what remains of the Jacobetti this academic year. The Woodshop and High Bay labs are still lab areas, but they also contain temporary classrooms and faculty offices. Additionally, the labs become event space when needed, as well as a convenient, planned or impromptu, meeting location.



CONGRATS TO THE GRADUATES



Our December 2022 graduates left a positive imprint on the NMU and surrounding community. Our Hard Hat Ceremony was held on Friday, the 16th of December, and **Justin Blubaugh** ▶ provided the Keynote address to the audience.



◀ **Garrett Carpenter** (Middleville, MI) – found the best fit for him, and will be a Project Engineer with Dykhouse Construction in Byron Center, MI

Jackson Scandin ▶ (Green Bay, WI) – is excited to start as a Field Engineer with W.W. Clyde in their Salt Lake, UT office.



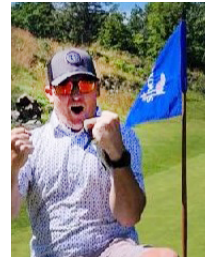
Jared Fox ▶ (Portland, MI) – accepted a new role with Commercial Contracting out of Auburn Hills, MI



◀ **Don Schetter** (Marquette, MI) – is a Journeyman Carpenter and a Firefighter, but will soon be a Project Estimator with Prime Mechanical in Marquette, MI.



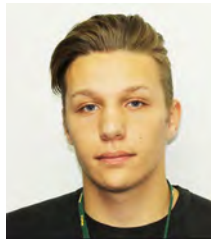
◀ **Cooper Herman** (Green Bay, WI) – will be working for Mortenson's Renewable Energy division, and will be on the road soon.



Dylan Sibilsky ▶ (Marquette, MI) will be packing for Denver, CO to be a Field Engineer with Hensel Phelps.



Noah Loukkala-Burckhardt ▶ (Royal Oak, MI) – is looking to travel a bit, and then select the employment opportunity that fits him the best.



◀ **Gavin Teteak** (Madison, WI) is hanging up his Wildcat Willy uniform, and is looking to start his career with Findorff in Madison.



◀ **Brandon Maki** (Howell, MI) – will be employed by the Christman Company.



Bradley VanRemortel ▶ (Iron Mountain, MI) will be a Project Engineer with MJ Drilling.



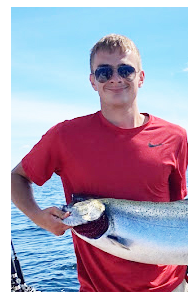
Anders Pietila ▶ (Brighton, MI) – will be taking December to weigh options and opportunities before making a decision about where to start his career.



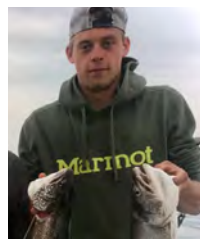
◀ **Michael Willaert** (Clinton Township, MI) accepted a Project Engineer position with the Christman Company, and will likely be working out of their Detroit, MI office.



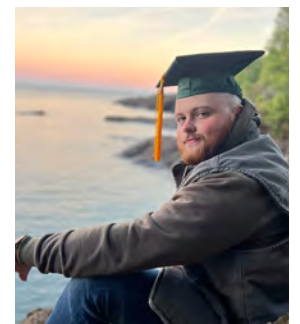
◀ **Devon Pietila** (Heartland, MI) – is going to work for Barton Malow out of their Southfield, MI office, and plans to travel.



Ted Pietila ▶ (Brighton, MI) – recently accepted an opportunity as a Project Engineer with Clark Construction out of their Lansing, MI office.



Nick Windle ▶ (Chicago, IL) will be employed by Barton Malow, and has been assigned to a battery facility outside of Nashville, TN.



WELCOME MESSAGE

As the Director of Continuing Education and Workforce Development at NMU, my focus is typically on non-credit trainings and offerings to address high-demand needs in our community and surrounding areas. We offer professional workforce development training for individuals interested in continuing their education, updating their skills, or furthering their professional development. We partner with businesses and industries to build, sustain and retain a skilled workforce that supports the current growth and future needs of the region.

Because my department is situated in the same division as Construction Management (CM), I have the pleasure of working alongside the strong and dedicated CM team. Each member of the team brings his/her own impressive strengths and when combined, it is a powerful force. It's rare to find a crew where everyone shows up each and every day ready to do their part. The CM faculty and staff are so talented and driven but somehow manage to remain extremely approachable to current students, prospective students, and colleagues.

The Construction Management program continues to build on their stellar reputation year after year. One of the biggest components of their success is that they never sit idle. There are times in the world of higher education that a program is deemed a success and so the program exists that exact way for years. The CM team is always moving forward. Always upping their game. We meet together to explore new ideas and expand on what currently exists. These meetings often lead to exciting discoveries and the potential for collaboration. Currently,



Stephanie Zadroga-Langlois

Director of Continuing Education and Workforce Development

we are working together on bringing drone training and fall-protection training to students and the surrounding workforce.

I have the utmost respect for people who are willing to move the needle. I gravitate toward the type of energy they generate. Even with full academic schedules, CM manages to offer many different top-notch opportunities for students (past, current, and future) throughout the year. From Women in Construction events to the career fair to the Alumni Golf Outing. I'm not sure when this team finds time to sleep. They even host a couple of pop-up apparel sales each year (I'm a huge fan).

Out of everything that CM is constantly cooking up, my absolute favorite is the Hard Hat Ceremony. It is such a heartwarming, relaxed way for the faculty and staff to honor their graduates in front of friends and family. It is seriously one of my favorite events each semester. The message is always made clear during the ceremony that the relationship between the graduates and the faculty has just begun. That is the moment that the relationship shifts from teacher/student to mentor/alumni and eventually to colleagues, future CM Advisory Committee members, and best of all....peers.

I could go on and on because I have so much more to say. However, I will wrap it up by saying that I am proud to associate with the Construction Management team at a professional level but more importantly, I am lucky to call each of them a friend. Their intelligence, passion, and genuine personalities are a perfect representation of what it means to be an authentic NMU Wildcat.



The Hard Hat Ceremony (HHC) has grown in scale and scope over the last few graduation cycles. We now have cookies at the end! All 15 Seniors participated, with nearly 100 friends, families, and loved ones in attendance.



Find us on:

Instagram

@nmu_construction_management

SENIOR PROJECTS

Janzen House

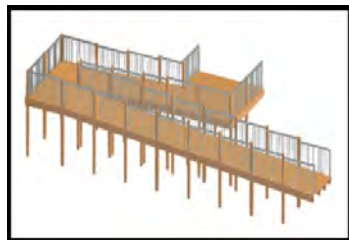
The Janzen House team consisted of (back row - L to R):

► **Daniel Vince, Kole Atasoff, Eyn Nye, and Noah Newton.**

Front row L to R: ► **Will Jaeger, Colin Erickson, and Trent Schrage.**

The Janzen House Executive Board is a long-time community partner of the Construction program. Built in 1888 as a Railway Depot, it was luxurious at the time, because it had hot and cold running water. It was purchased in 1984 by the "Save the Janzen Committee, and is currently operating as a Non-Profit shelter for transitional housing.

This year's group of seniors were originally tasked to build an efficient and secure bike storage structure. Many of the residents rely on their bike to travel to and from their work, and theft had become a problem. A



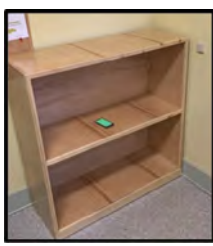
great plan was developed, but property boundaries prevented construction.

The team switched gears to move toward fixing the ramp and deck, which is need of some attention. A variety of concepts were presented

that addressed better materials, barrier free access, and code compliant railings. Alas, the refurbishment was significant enough to trigger the requirements for a stamped set of drawings and a permit...which made it not feasible, based upon available time.

With less than two weeks left in the semester, the group successfully pivoted again, to design and build three cabinets that would be used for storage and display. In about one week, they were able to complete, and deliver & install, the three cabinets that are fully functional and

very useful for the Janzen House residents.

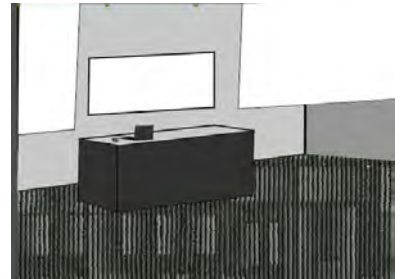


NMU CM

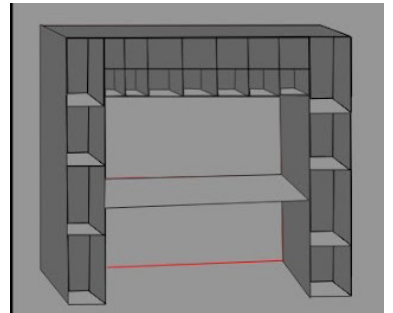
The NMU CM team was given a feasibility study for cost analysis of dozens of proposed options. They worked closely with the faculty to narrow the scope down a bit. Pictured ► L to R is **Nick Windle, Wyatt Wonnacott, Brandon Martens, Danny Parks, Jared Fox,** and NMU Dean & Associate Provost, Dr. Steve VandenAvond.



A new classroom in the High Bay lab that would contain a multitude of materials and systems. Dual retractable screens are shown in the elevation view, and arcing seating surrounding the lecture area is shown in the plan view

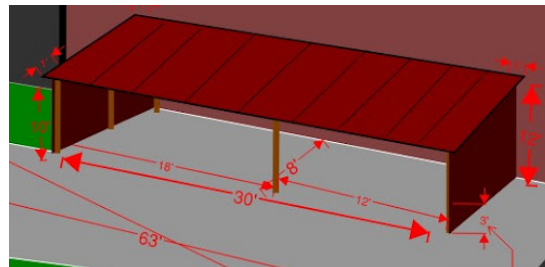


A major renovation of the tool cages, tool storage, maintenance, and inventory. Constructing some custom cabinets would help solve the cordless tool storage and charging conundrum. The fastener storage system would aid in keeping all of them off the floor. The team reviewed a number of different inventory systems, and recommended a scanner that could incorporate QR codes for each tool.



A new exterior storage area with an arcing driveway along the east side of the Jacobetti and adjacent to the Wood shop. The storage area would be for dimensional lumber and sheet goods, which would greatly enhance the use of interior space. The arcing driveway would

allow easy delivery, as well as an easy storage location for the program's enclosed 8' x 15' trailer.



SENIOR PROJECTS

A complete renovation of the woodshop office. Commissioned in 1980, the office is due for an upgrade. The group took a good look at making the space more efficient for an office, and less a dumping ground for everything.



True North Treks

The TNT team:
(front row L to R)

► **Hannah Reaman, TNT Property Manager (Kile), and Colton Terbeek.** Back

row L to R - ►

Cooper Herman, Avery Martin, Ted Pietila, Nick Pietila, Peyton Larson, Max Hofweber, Don Schetter, and Michael Willaert.

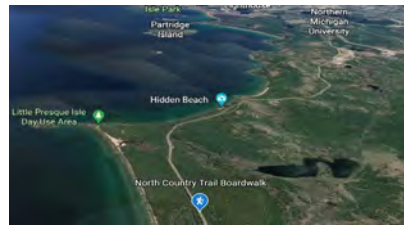


North Country Trail Network

The North Country Trail Network team, comprised of (L to R) ► **Bradley VanRemotel, Dylan Sibilsky, Garrett Carpenter, Wyatt Niemela, Anders Pietila, Gavin Teatek, Derek Crane, and Devon Pietila** removed an old section of the old pedestrian boardwalk, then procured and built a new section.



Of the 120 miles of trail through the central UP, the students' replacement scope was located immediately off CR550, just past Little Presque Isle, and across the street..



The old boardwalk no longer served its original purpose. It was built low, in a low area, which resulted in it being submerged for most of the year. The project was a bit remote from the Jacobetti, and no power source was available.



The new pedestrian boardwalk had some pitch, and some offsets between trees, but proved to be a great connector between two existing sections.



Some members of the team are flanked by North Country Trail Network Committee volunteers that held a ribbon cutting ceremony.

True North Treks – The Walden Institute is a non-profit organization that focuses on providing recovery care for adult cancer survivors. This year's project picked up from last year's design and permitting scope, to incorporate changes and build the structure.



The team inherited a stamped design from the 2021 team (all since graduated), and immediately went to work on coordinating with the TNT group in order to make improvements to the design, determine logistics of construction, and then execute the game plan.

With the site being 40+ miles from campus, logistics were critical if efficiency was to be realized. TNT took care of scraping topsoil and preparing the site for the students to begin grade work. The students coordinated material pick up and/or delivery, rental equipment and tools needed for each work day, which was no small set of tasks.

After the slab pour, they built the sauna and changing room before setting the rest of the framing into place. In early December, the steel finishes were completed.



They performed all of the work and it appeared as if each student took a tremendous sense of pride in the work they completed.



SENIOR PROJECTS

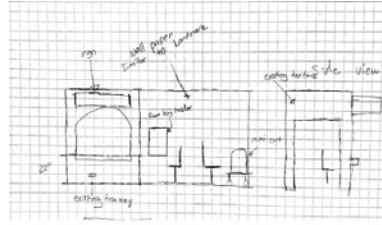
Upper Peninsula Children's Museum

The Upper Peninsula Children's Museum worked with the Landmark Inn in hopes of creating a mini-Landmark room within the museum. The seniors that selected this project were able to use a ton of creativity when coordinating with, both the UPCM and the Landmark Inn, in order to complete their scope.

Pictured (L to R) - **Brandon Maki, Raija Stille, Seth Berenz, Kody Richlen, Brad Klinger, and Noah Luokkala-Burckhardt.**

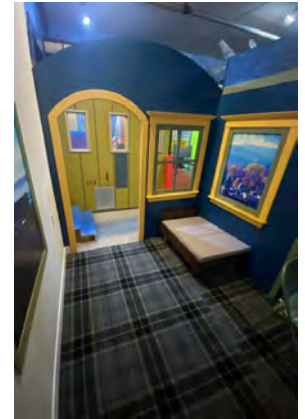


The group needed to keep the exhibit true to the Landmark (built in the 1920s), make it fun/educational for the children that visit, and tie it to the surrounding exhibits. No small set of goals, but they plugged away. Early concepts were simple, yet elegant. Things quickly



evolved as materials were selected, donated and procured.

There was a tight time frame, so coordination between design and construction took a consistent amount of work. The final design was a scaled down replica of the Landmark lobby. The framing was definitely the easy part.



Industrial Graphics provided some wall hangings that mimicked the view if looking out the windows from the Landmark. The perspective was outstanding.



The end product was an exceptionally accurate version of the Landmark. The Museum loved their newest addition, so much so, that the Landmark exhibit became the focal point of the annual fundraiser.

The 2022 Senior Projects provided a lot of opportunities and challenges for the students. None of the five projects would have had a hope of completion without the students' efforts. More than 2,000 hours were infused into the NMU, Marquette, and surrounding communities. Scopes ranged from a feasibility study to a few full design-builds.

On Friday, the 9th of December, each team presented in front of their community partners, colleagues, and a panel from the Construction Management Advisory Committee.

GOLF OUTING

The annual golf outing included a bit of rain along with some 50 degree temps, which made for a festive party-like atmosphere.



◀ **Joel Klahn** and **Paul Bentley** were prepared for the weather.



Kate Havel ▶ was also very prepared, as she launches a 300 yard drive into the stratosphere. Had she kept accurate score, Kate likely would have been 11 under par for the round.



The group braved the elements, and made it back to 80 Edgewood for a Border Grill lunch and some warmth.

The football crew carried on at the homecoming game in the beer garden of the Superior Dome. L to R: ▶ **Danny Elmore, Levi Perry, Kyle Swenor, and Michael Oswald** enjoy the game from the best view in the house... except for the President's Suite.



CAREER FAIR

Once again, Homecoming provided a great opportunity to reconnect with alumni, have a career fair, golf a little, and enjoy some other social activities. The festivities started on Wednesday, the 21st of September with information sessions by multiple companies.



◀ **Bob Mantz** (2011) and **Nick Hughes** (2021) talked about a career with Hensel Phelps.

Other sessions were provided by AZCO, Boldt, Miron, Mortenson, Power, and Whiting-Turner.

Socially, alumni tend to gravitate to Black Rocks. Following the information sessions, the faculty team was joined by (L to R): ▶ **Nick Hughes, Cody Nehls, Jon Nehls, Dan Kennard, Collin Cav-in, Bob Mantz, Darrin Pursely, Andrew Plomer, Levi Perry, Michael Oswald, and Dan Elmore.**



The Career Fair set an amazing record in 2022. The virtual session in the morning had 23 companies attending (which was great), and we then hosted

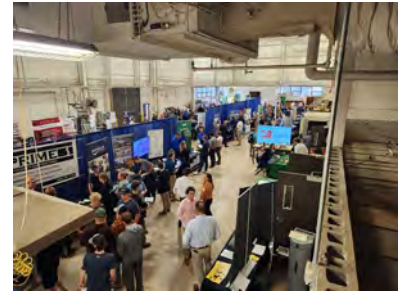


60 companies for the face-to-face event in the afternoon. Interestingly, the Jacobetti renovation project includes a 6,000 sf space called Innovation Hall, which was originally viewed as a good location for our career fair. BUT we've already outgrown it....before it is complete. The High Bay lab was utilized, and all 10,000 sf were incorporated. The woodshop became our elegant dining facility for the day.



◀ The calmness of an event space that is ready to roll, but before anyone is there.

▶ Students and employers are filtering in, and getting acquainted and things are in full swing, which made for an unbelievable afternoon, and an awful lot of opportunities for our current student body.



After the Career Fair, a couple different waves of alumni made their way through the hallowed doors of Black Rocks.



As a great show of support for our program and alumni, Black Rocks became a primary sponsor of the Alumni Golf Outing!



FACULTY CONNECTIONS



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FUN BUNCH REPORT

Hensel Phelps in Denver

Hensel Phelps offered a visit in June which invited faculty from schools where they recruit. **Mike Andary** attended, and got to see two amazing projects in downtown Denver, CO. Also got to see some alumni, current students, and got to golf an ugly round in a beautiful setting. **Bob Mantz** (2011) coordinated the visit, and was a tremendous tour guide. Under Bob's guidance, a number of students have either interned, or are working full time for HP over the last six-plus years. Pictured (L to R) ▲ are **Will Jaeger, Cooper Herman, Bob Mantz, Colton Terbeek, and Nathan Thomas.** Missing from the picture are Pat McFadden, KC Brockel, Tyler Lenderink, and Parker Hebden.



▶ **Bob** and **Mike** on the 14th floor of a high-end mixed use project.



▶ **Nick Huges, Bob,** and **Mike** on the entrance to the convention center expansion.

▶ **Bob** and **Mike** at the HP Open. Bob golfed, while Mike took big swings without big results.



Other noteworthy ambassador type activities

We attended a retreat in Ishpeming for our academic division. It involved strategic planning (wink). **Kate & Heidi** ▶ played a modified game of ring toss.



▶ We kept winning events, so we had to take a time-out.



There was a wedding over Labor Day weekend, and the official Officiant was none other than **John Van Eizenga** ▶ (2013)...aka Johnny V. For the record, his pink furry robe was not the officiant's attire for the ceremony.



▶ Steve VandenAvond organized a division-wide bowling night in December.



ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Members of the Construction Management Advisory Committee visited Marquette in early-December to recommend scholarship recipients, panel the senior project presentations, and enjoy the exclusive benefits of being a CMAC member.

▶ L to R: **Chris Cardinal, Jim Johnson, Cole Thoreson, Kayla (Voss) Billmeier, Heidi, Paul Bentley, Evan, Amber (Hallack) Burden, Jeremy Bubb, Mike, Kate, and Curtis Brown.**



CAMPUS LEADERS VISIT

The Construction Management team hosted NMU's Board of Trustees and the Executive Leadership team in the Jacobetti on December 15th. Dean and Associate Provost (Dr.



Steve VandenAvond) arranged everything, and it was a tremendous event. We were able to spotlight our building, alumni, current students, and faculty team. All in all – a fantastic way to spend a day!

Trevor Poupore ▶ (2016) led a personalized tour of the Jacobetti renovation project.



The roundtable discussion was great, because **Jim Johnson** ▼ (2007) was able to talk about the role of the Advisory Committee, and **Michael Oswald** ▼ (2003) was able to pipe in from Dallas to explain the unique relationships that exist between the faculty and the alumni. Additional discussion focused on community service projects, building relationships, and growth planning.



Current students (L to R) **Devon Pietila, Hannah Reaman, Will Jaeger, Garrett Carpenter, Eyn Nye, and Raija Stille** were able to highlight their NMU experiences at the roundtable, and more intimately, at lunch. The BOT and the Executive leaders were very impressed by their internships, plans after graduation, and their overall presence in the way they carried themselves.



The team snagged a picture with new NMU President, **Dr. Tessman**, before their meetings reconvened after lunch.

▲ Back row – L to R: **Evan Lucas, Jim Conlin, Devon Pietila, Garrett Carpenter, Eyn Nye** and **Andary**.

Front row – L to R: **Heidi Blanck, Hannah Reaman, Will Jaeger, Dr. Tessman, Raija Stille** and **Kate Havel**.

Mark your calendar!

CAREER FAIR

September 14, 2023

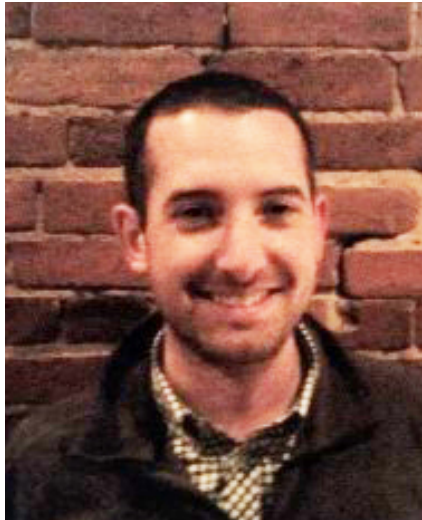


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ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Adam Glover (2008)
Superintendent II with
Power Construction

Adam was raised in the North Suburbs (Lake Forest), IL, and graduated from Lake Forest High School. He attended the University of Illinois during his freshmen year of college and studied Architecture. He didn't see an easy avenue to use architecture to get



into managing construction projects. Once in the architecture program, he realized he didn't like architecture. He started looking at various options for degrees more closely related to construction, and found construction management. Adam came across NMU in an internet search, and the rest is history.

The first few weeks on campus at NMU were a bit rough. Marquette was isolated, he was more than six hours from home, and he was not getting responses to his questions when emailing Andary. It turned out that Adam's emails were getting sent to Spam, because they were coming in as "AG Lover". Once they met and worked through a few details about communication, Andary was more responsive and Adam was more at ease. BUT the nickname has stuck since 2005. It is likely that Adam will forever be G-lover.

Adam interned with Power Construction in the summer 2007, and has been with them since graduating in 2008. He started as a Project Engineer, but realized he wanted his career to be in the field. He took the Superintendent path, and has no regrets. Adam loves facing the day to



day logistics of actually building a job. The complexities provide zero down time from project to project. He has been building relationships and camaraderie for 15 years, so each new project brings quite a few familiar faces. There are a lot of instances where people and companies he worked with as an intern or young project engineer end up on his projects today. He enjoys the challenges that material and trade coordination brings. It is what gets him rolling each morning.

He has been extremely appreciative for the opportunities provided by Power. They gave him as much leeway as he could take, and allowed him to work through the outcomes in order to learn. There has always been lots of support in the background, as needed, to keep the hiccups to a minimum. Adam has on some incredibly challenging projects with Power. The Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University was a prime example. Materials were expedited from all over the world. There was a very tight time frame, which was made more difficult, since he came in half way through the project. The shape of the building was a "K", so the angular nature of the structure presented some extremely interesting scenarios. The project hit the deadline, and Adam helped Power develop a fantastic relationship with Northwestern University.

Until recently, Adam could be found (in his spare time) at his property near Gurnee Mills, where he stored tools and equipment. He recently sold that, and moved to Lincolnshire, IL. The new dwelling will soon be getting a sizable addition to the workshop. As a hobby, Adam spends time doing site development, excavation, and utilities for a couple of smaller excavating contractors around his area. It provides a sense of relaxation for him. It allows a mental break from the strain of urban construction. Hands-on work is still very rewarding.

He and his long-time partner, Alexa, live in Lincolnshire, and Adam's family lives nearby. His Mom, Dad, and sister are all a short drive away, which also helps.

Adam's relationship with NMU has continued to thrive. He has been a member of NMU's Construction Management Advisory Committee for many years, and has been very active with outreach events in the Chicago area.



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

The "Fast Five" with Adam

1. What is your favorite movie?

Rudy – since he was the consummate underdog.

2. What is your best NMU memory?

All of them....The NMC trip that went to New Orleans stands out. It was a camaraderie-building trip, he got to help others in need, and got to meet Norm Abrahms from "This Old House." That group of students raised funds, coordinated all of the details, and executed a fantastic experience. Great friendships became life-long bonds. Hurricane Katrina devastated the South, and we were able to help rebuild a number of dwellings in a short period of time. Really enjoyed the classes, the friendships, and the connection to NMU.

3. What is your greatest professional accomplishment?

Developing younger staff, and helping them work through challenging situations / projects. It is an ongoing process that is very rewarding. Many of the folks he has mentored have since gone on to earn larger titles.

4. What is the best part of coming back to Marquette?

Being in the city itself. Its relaxing. Seeing familiar faces that have helped me since my undergraduate days.

5. Who is the person you would most like to meet?

Nick Offerman. He's a tremendously talented actor, but has roots in a small town outside of Joliet, IL. Humble beginnings and a passion for woodworking helped shape his career...a very successful career.

CURRENT STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Nathan LeMere (May 2024) from Green Bay, Wisconsin is a current junior in the Construction Management program, but his path here was not direct. Nate graduated from Ashwaubenon High School in 2020. His initial intent was to study pre-med at the University of Minnesota, but plans changed after his visit to NMU. During a campus visit, he was standing in front of the large metallic wildcat sculpture near Jamrich hall. The tour guide mentioned that you can keep your hunting rifles and snowmobiles on campus. Nate turned to his mom and told her that he was coming to NMU. No regrets – it has worked out quite well thus far. Nate's major changed soon after arriving at NMU – from Pre-med to Mechanical Engineering Technology. He took MET for a semester, and learned that he wouldn't enjoy it. He thought that sitting behind a desk looking at models all day was not appealing. By the winter semester of 2021, Nathan was a Construction Management major. He is carrying a 3.29 g.p.a., with nearly a 4.0 in the technical concentration. He really appreciates the "hands on" and practical approach to the teaching style within the construction program. It is the most effective for him to learn.



Although his experience lies primarily metal fabrication and facility maintenance. Nate did spend part of the summer 2022 working for Iron Shore Properties, where he worked on quite a bit of facility upgrades and maintenance.

Most proud of:

Nate is proud of his ability to balance two jobs while excelling at school and also having a fun social life. He

works at Lowes for about 30 hours per week, and Iron Shore Properties for about 5 – 10.

Plans

Looking to spend the summer of 2023 with a Wisconsin-based company, although his plans are currently fluid. Upon graduation, he is open to travel for a while, but would ultimately prefer to end up in the Fox Valley of Wisconsin.

Most memorable

Everything about the NMU Power Sports Club. That is a big portion of Nate's limited free time. Hanging out with the people, fixing things and taking the annual trip up to the Copper Country on snowmobiles. Motor cycles are also a popular hobby during the "non snow" months. There are quite a few construction students involved in the club, so it makes things even more fun.



Why NMU

As mentioned above, Nate was sold on being able to store his hunting accessories on campus. That, along with all of the other things NMU has to offer, made his decision easy.

Interesting Fact

Nate thoroughly enjoyed CN252 – which is the Codes and Inspection class. He doesn't understand why, but while everyone else was struggling, he was thriving with a nearly 100% for the entire class. Pretty sure that he is the only student to admit that publicly.

GLOBAL CAMPUS STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Michael Auz is an experienced Project Manager and Technical Assessor for Bureau Veritas in the Chicago market. He is also a high performing student in the Global Campus Online Construction Management Program and anticipates graduating in 2025.

Family

Michael was born and raised in Homewood, IL. He lived in the south suburbs until



recently when he and his family moved to Crown Point, IN. Michael lives there with his wife, Ashourrina, and their two black labs, Buddy and Maggie.



Career

Bureau Veritas is a project management and assessment company. Half of Michael's job description is project management and includes large commercial retail renovations. He handles everything from the bidding process through punchlist and closeout. The scopes range from parking lots to full interior renovations. The owners have multiple locations for their projects and do not have the internal resources available to, for example, renovate the bathrooms in their nationwide locations.

The other half affords him the opportunity to be a property condition assessor. Hospitals, industrial warehouses, and banks are some of their clients. He assesses the condition of properties, which is a happy medium between no information at all, and a full-on after the fact insurance assessment following a devastating fire. These reports detail the full condition of physical interior and exterior conditions and MEP systems which gives owners a full breakdown of any costs they may incur with necessary repairs and replacements. With the nature of this job, Michael needs to know a little about everything!

Both aspects of his job incorporate niche markets, which makes it interesting and fun on a daily basis.

Michael is also part owner of Signature Rental Proper-



ties where he buys, renovates, and rents properties. He is pictured here with his favorite multi-family unit, after a significant renovation.

Goals

Michael is looking to graduate in 2025. His primary goal of earning the bachelor of science degree is to earn an opportunity with a large General Contractor in the Chicagoland area. He loves working with the subcontractors every day in the field, and this degree is an excellent starting point to get his foot in the door.

Fast Five with Michael:

1. What is your favorite breakfast meal?

French toast at a breakfast diner on Sunday mornings.

2. What is your favorite thing to do when not working?

Bowling and bike riding. Road biking on the paved paths is very enjoyable.

3. Where do you want to be in five years personally and/or professionally?

Working for a reputable GC in the Chicagoland area and he would love to add at least another five properties to his rental portfolio.

4. Who is the person that has inspired you the most throughout your career thus far?

His wife. Ashourrina is in the construction industry as a data analyst for Power Construction and is a tremendous supporter. She also works with him on the rental properties, taking care of much of the paperwork.

5. What is your ultimate vacation destination?

Hawaii – he got married there a year ago, and loved it. He would go back in a heartbeat.

Important 2023 dates:

Fri. 05 May – Hard Hat Ceremony

Wed. 13 Sept. – Info sessions

Thurs. 14 Sept. – Career Fair

Sat. 16 Sept. – Alumni Golf Outing

Fri. 08 Dec. – Senior Project

Presentations

Fri. 15 Dec. – Hard Hat Ceremony

GUEST COLUMN

Michael Oswald (2003) is the Chief Operating Officer for Hill & Wilkinson. They operate offices in Austin, Dallas, and Fort Worth, TX. Michael will be providing at least a three-part guest series, with this broad sweep serving as part #1. The summer edition will focus on mental health issues in the construction industry.



The construction industry is so broad and complex that one article couldn't possibly try and explain it or the role you play in it. Some topics may strike a chord with you today while others might not make sense due to the stage of your life or career. The one thing I would say about the people at Northern Michigan University is that they care and they are trying to best prepare you for the world. For those of you that may be reading this as an alumni you may be able to see these ideas through a slightly different lens due to experience and perspective.

One area in business that gets talked about a lot is training. Training comes in many forms. Sitting in a classroom in school or at your company comes to mind. You will likely get some form of training wherever your career takes you and this will likely be centered around the essentials to help you get your job done. Make no mistake, this training is vital for you to learn your field and truly master the operation of your business. The downside to this training? Well there isn't one.....just the fact that everyone gets to take part in it. How do you differentiate yourself? In my opinion, you will have to start to create your own class schedule on life. How do you do that? . . . If you think back, what if you could have picked any classes you wanted in school and still graduate with a CM degree? No required classes, just a certain number of credits. What would you have picked? Would you have gone with the "easiest" classes or the ones that counselors and industry professionals would have advised to take? You will likely have "required" training throughout your life, but I think the magic happens with the electives!

The type of learning that I believe is a difference maker in business and life is "self-initiated learning." How you view the concept of initiating your own learning will undoubtedly shape your future. Being self-aware enough to realize your lack of education or experience in certain areas and having the ability to "self-start" a path to understanding them is vital. Your ability to research topics, build mentors and utilize trainers within the construction industry and beyond will have a profound effect on your life. Whether it is understanding steel connections or tax strategy, how you initiate is key. Expecting someone else to teach you everything on their time isn't reality. Northern Michigan University's Construction

Management program has created such an exceptional alumni base that it can help with mentorship but it can't be your only avenue. Construction Associations, non-profits, churches and local business organizations can all be a start. This will likely be the most intimidating step in your early careers, and you will have to step out of your comfort zone in order to meet and initiate these conversations. I think that when you are the least educated and experienced person in the room you have the ability to learn and be mentored. That situation may seem intimidating but it is the ideal scenario for your growth. As your experience level changes throughout your career you must continue to identify new rooms in order to be challenged. Just as you need to find multiple mentors you will

need to use various means in getting information. Podcast, business journals, and books are going to be the basis for continued learning. Your mentorship group is going to guide you on what education you are missing and may even suggest ideas for gaining that knowledge but the rest will be on you. Remember, everyone gets the standard training in the typical business environment and not everyone is finding mentors and self-initiating learning. The ability to condition yourself to self-analyze and act on it with the help of input from others is a skill that many do not have.

At different points in my career I've focused on different areas. There was a period of years where leadership and personality traits were paramount to me with input from mentors and coaches. Accounting, real estate and tax law each took their turn over the years. Even though I'm years away from retirement I've shifted my learning to investment strategies and input from those who have retired happily. Keep in mind, you don't need to figure these things out immediately. Your key areas that you have identified at the stage in your career may include concrete or business contract terms. Listen to yourself and your mentors to know where you have to focus your efforts.

Patience is the key in most things in business. Most people think you have to be able to pivot so quickly in an ever-changing business climate. This may be true in some environments, but the fact that people can take years to learn, mature and grow tells us that business evolves with its people. I can't stress enough the importance of patience when you are navigating the business world. Just as people take time to learn, they also need time to be comfortable with change. Sometimes a promotion for one person is change for another. Don't forget to take time to enjoy the process and help others along the way. Before you know it, people will look to you as a mentor in this world that you are trying to navigate today!

WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION



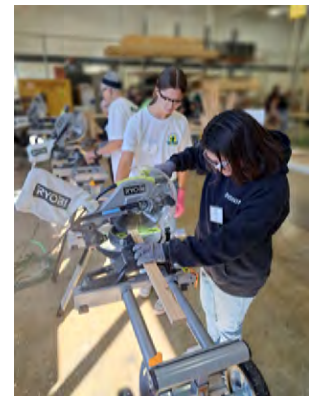
This past fall, the Women in Construction crew packed up the trailer and took the show on the road to the Chicago area in Illinois and the Twin Cities in Minnesota. Between the two events, over 150 students participated, 80+ people volunteered and 11 organizations donated time, swag or money.



In Chicago, the Technology Center of DuPage graciously allowed the WIC crew to take over their amazing facility for the second time since the inception of

WIC. This time around, participants were able to use miter saws, nail guns, orbital sanders and impact drivers as they rotated through the woodshop station making hand crafted mirrors. They were lucky to have assistance from the professionals at the MidAmerica Carpenters Regional Council.

Students also honed in on their management skills during an urban planning activity which involved building, zoning and financing a city made of Legos (Heidi's creation which she has since been encouraged to patent!)



WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION



In the Twin Cities, the WIC crew had the pleasure of hosting the event with Wayzata High School in Plymouth, MN. The school's campus is enormous, absolutely beautiful and was the perfect venue for a WIC event. Students traveled to the event from eight different high schools in the area.

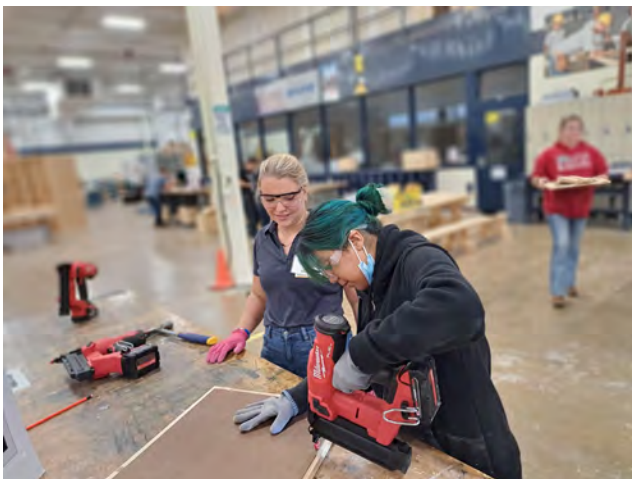
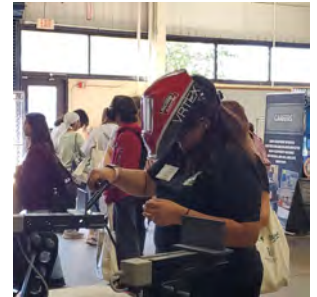
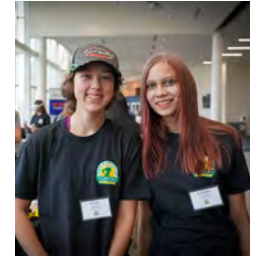
Mortenson played a big role in the event as the Presenting Sponsor and by providing a record number of volunteers to run an Alternative Energy Station.

Students also participated in the Lego urban planning activity and spent time with the following trades who each manned a station:

- Finishing Trades Institute of the Upper Midwest
- Minneapolis Electrical JATC
- LiUNA! Minnesota and North Dakota

Thanks to countless, generous sponsors over the years, we are proud to announce the Women in Construction Scholarship fund continues to grow and we are in a position to give away over \$20,000 starting this fall to students who have participated or volunteered at a WIC event!

Lastly, participants spent time learning about the trades through hands-on activities, virtual reality and simulators in a station run by the Finishing Trades Institute and International Union of Operating Engineers Local 150 .



SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Development has been a focus of the team, and a record was set for the 2022.23 academic year. \$55,000 was made available to the Construction student body for scholarships....more than tripling previous annual amounts. The Construction Management Advisory Committee (CMAC) had their hands full making recommendations for award recipients. The selected students were all well-deserving...as were the students that were not selected.

David Nyberg ▶ is the Executive Director of Business Engagement for the NMU Foundation is a key piece of the enhancements. Through his efforts, the Pulte Family Foundation became interested and engaged in giving, as did the Barton Malow Foundation.



The Barton Malow Company and Foundation provided multiple awards for students new to NMU.



Pictured (L to R): ▲ **Eli Kahler, Kat Seidel, Curtis Brown** (BMC and CMAC Representative), **Macy Farrier, Veronica Valdez, and Marcus Chidester.**

Donor Funded scholarships are the original awards, and nearly \$20,000 was made available by the personal and corporate donations received and earmarked for student assistance.

Pictured ▼ – bottom row (L to R) are **Brad Klinger, Marcus Chidester, Will Jaeger, Hannah Reaman, Bruce Scott, Nate LeMere, and Soren Hanson.** Not pictured: **Luca Gemignani.**



The Pulte Family Foundation made multiple awards available for eligible students. This year's recipient was Hannah Reaman. Pictured with attending members of the CMAC are: bottom row (L to R) – **Cole Thoreson, Curtis Brown, Hannah, Mary LeFevre, Kayla Billmeier, and Amber Burden.** Back row (L to R) are **Jeremy Bubb, Jim Johnson, Andy Patt, Paul Bentley, and Chris Cardinal.**



The combined group of students and CMAC members are shown below.



NORTHERN MICHIGAN CONSTRUCTORS

The Northern Michigan Constructors (NMC) has been working diligently in the community throughout the late summer and fall.

During the summer, the NMC was named as the beneficiary for the Michigan Association of Physical Plant Administrators (MiAPPA) conference. That entailed the NMC being recognized at their summer conference (hosted by NMU), and awarded a large donation to help the group continue their exceptional work in the community. Pictured are (L to R) Mary Kallio LeFevre, Andary, and current NMU Senior, Eyn Nye. Mary presented the check on behalf of MiAPPA.



a thermal break between outdoor elements and the growing facility. The addition is a shed-like structure that allows I.A. personnel to have a clean storage area outside of the growing area .



Additionally, one of the volunteer events the NMC assisted with was the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Conference in October. The NMC helped register attendees for the event. This was an all-weekend event that provided an important resource for the Northern Michigan community.

SCAN NIGHT

A group of students and alumni gathered at Michigan Tech as part of the Associated General Contractors Student Contractor Awareness Night (SCAN). Industry professionals, the AGC, along with students/faculty from MTU and NMU get together once per year (in October) to share information.

Pictured (L to R) ▼ are **Andary**
Current students: **Ben Polens, Eyn Nye, Soren Hanson, Moses Waite, Nathan Brundage, Hannah Reaman, Garrett Carpenter, and Bruce Scott.**

Alumni: **Thomas Wahlstrom** (2018...Project Manager for Gundlach Champion), **Cody Berg** (2019...Project Manager for Gundlach Champion), and **Luke Ewbank** (2018...Project Engineer for Granger).

The event spotlighted the addition on MTU's H-STEM building with a cool tour. A campus master plan update from MTU's Jake Guter followed, and then dinner and speed networking wrapped up the evening.



The NMC continued their work on repairing the Marquette Community Garden's fence and gate. A group of fourteen students worked on setting new posts that were needed along the front end of the garden. They also repaired several parts of the fence surrounding the community garden area that had been damaged by snow plowing over the last several years. A group of



freshman and sophomores reinforced the current gates and replaced the hinges to provide better support and rigidity to the structure.

They have also been working on a design-build vestibule structure for the Indoor Agriculture Program on the NorthWest side of the

Jacobetti. The I.A. program was successful in their grant application to receive an indoor growing facility, which is a very fancy container, with all sorts of temperature and humidity controls. Their students and faculty were looking to have a changing room added that would provide



ALUMNI HAPPENINGS

Jalen Brooks ▶ (2019) is a Project Engineer for Mortenson for their Phoenix, AZ Operating Group. He is constructing a \$270M advanced manufacturing facility for the Kohler Company in Casa Grande, AZ. It is a 1M sf facility that will produce premium restroom fixtures (bath tubs, sinks, shower pans...etc). This is Kohler's third facility in North American, and single



largest investment to date. Jalen is managing the enclosure, site, and on-site utility scopes for the project. Completion is scheduled for the fall of 2023.

Sam Clark ▶ (1996) is President and CEO of The Clark Construction Company, which is headquartered in Lansing, MI. Sam Clark continues the Clark Construction Company lineage as President and CEO, being the fourth generation to serve over the firm's 75 years.



He served in the U. S. Army from 1991 to 1994 and was stationed in Fort Lewis, Washington. Upon his honorable discharge, Sam enrolled in Northern Michigan University where he obtained a B.S. in Building Construction Management. Sam joined Clark Construction Company as a Project Manager in 1996 and has held progressive roles during his rise to President/CEO. During his career, Sam has been involved in many market sectors and is most notably known for his expertise in casino and resort venues. Through developing, implementing, and living our core values, Sam has proven himself as a visionary leader within the organization. The company mission "We Build on a Foundation of Trust" aligns the team in success. Sam has led the organization through significant cultural changes with a strategic focus on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. He sits on a lot of local, statewide, and national committees. Sam is Vice Chair of AGC of America Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Chair of AGC of Michigan Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Fund Development Chair of United Way AGC of Michigan Board Member U.S. Army Veteran. Most recently, he accepted a role on NMU's Construction Management Advisory Committee.

James Dube (2013) is a Superintendent with Whiting-Turner in their Omaha, NE office. He is currently leading a 23,000 sf addition and a 27,000 sf renovation of the Museum of Nebraska Art (MONA) in Kearney, NE. The original building was a post office completed in 1911 that requires intensive care around historic limestone, marble,

and terrazzo finishes. The existing building will require all new MEP's and finishes throughout. The addition

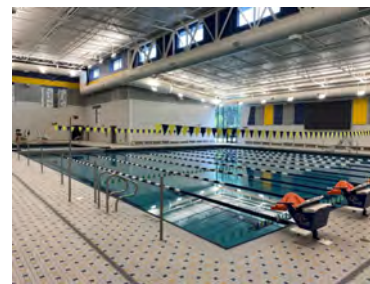


will be molding new to old with mass timber framing, concrete polished flooring, and glazing all around. The addition will have new galleries, a community studio, loading dock, and a large art storage space. The link below helps provide more insight for the project.

Spenser Feld ▶ (2018) is a Project Engineer with Clark Construction out of their Lansing office. He has been active lately. He has a new addition to the Feld family. On October 3rd, they welcomed Cordelia Marie Feld into the world.



After spending quite a bit of time at the Huron Valley Public School projects, he relocated to Grand Ledge and has been there since January 2022. In that time, two projects were completed. First is a brand new Olympic-sized competitive pool and diving boards for one of the Middle Schools. The



second project is a brand new Athletic complex for the same Middle School. The Athletic complex will be used for Soccer, Lacrosse, Track & Field events, and Middle School Football.

Travis Fleis ▶ (2018) is a Project Manager with Miron Construction. He is currently working at NMU on a very important project for the campus community. He broke ground on the new Health and Wellness Center in August of 2022. This new facility will provide a singular campus location for students' physical and mental health needs. The Health and Wellness Center is located adjacent to Spalding Hall and The Housing Office off Lincoln Ave. Con-



ALUMNI HAPPENINGS



struction is scheduled to be complete in June of 2023 in anticipation for the Fall 2023 semester.

Quick Facts:

- On campus pharmacy with a drive thru window.
- 12,787 SF single story facility.
- Architect / Engineer is Neumann/Smith Architecture (Southfield, MI)
- General Contractor is Miron Construction (Neenah, WI)



Matthew Goss (2022) is a Senior Project Engineer with The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company in North Carolina. He is busy at work every day, but on occasion, takes a little time to enjoy time away with his wife, Tania.



Sometimes playing dress up, or going to a Charlotte Hornets basketball game.



Matthew was working on a medical facility in June (at Camp Lejeune) on base that was being built to service 8000 Marines and Sailors. By the end of June he was handed the day to day

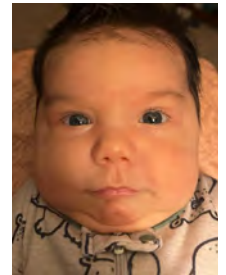
operations of getting the project finished and turned over to the Navy. He finished that project (\$50M) at the end of October, and was then reassigned to a \$53M consolidated chow hall for the tenth and sixth Marines that required a full demo of the current building. It also included building a new parking garage and chow hall. Matthew estimates that it will take approximately two years to complete. He is running the day to day operations as a Senior Field Engineer but also filling the time of Superintendent in order to get the experience to take over his own jobs upon the completion of this one.

Joe Harvey (2000) had a press release from last summer to announce his new position:



Sheryl Van Gruensven, CBO and Senior Vice Chancellor for Institutional Strategy is pleased to announce Joseph (Joe) Harvey, Chief Facilities Officer, who will begin his position on August 8, 2022. Harvey comes to UW-Green Bay from Community First Credit Union, Neenah, WI, where he has been Senior Vice President of Facilities since 2019 overseeing multiple locations across the state. Prior to his role at Community First, Joe served as Director of Facilities and Safety Management for the Kimberly Area School District for eight years and served as Senior Project Manager and a Construction Manager for Hoffman Construction and Design for eight years. Harvey has a bachelor of science degree in construction management from Northern Michigan University and an applied science and liberal Arts degree from Bay de Noc Community College. "I am excited to welcome Joe Harvey to UW-Green Bay. Joe has extensive experience leading complex facilities operations, capital planning activities and large scale construction projects, all of which are extremely important to fulfill our mission at UW-Green Bay. His experience in an educational setting and managing multiple locations make him an excellent choice for this position," said Van Gruensven. Harvey will lead all aspects of the Facilities Management and Planning division for all UWGreen Bay locations. Areas of oversight include capital planning, design, and construction; campus planning and landscape architecture; environmental sustainability, physical plant, building maintenance, central receiving/mail services, custodial operations and space management. Harvey will be responsible for supporting the university's mission through strategic planning activities for short and long-term facility and capital planning direction.

Steve Hunter (2011), and his wife Sarah added to their clan late last summer. Baby Callum joined his siblings, Maggie (5), and Josie (3) on the 20th of August. He was 9 lbs 13 oz, and 22" long.



An impromptu alumni night was a great photo opportunity for a few of the Barton Malow team:

L to R ▶

- Flynn Powers** (2021),
- Steve Hunter** (2011),
- Steve Trester** (2012),
- Curtis Brown** (2012),
- Nick Sexton** (2018),
- and **Daniel Hunter** (2018).



ALUMNI HAPPENINGS

Matthew Kehrer (2011) was recently promoted to General Superintendent with Gilbane Building Company out of the Boston, MA area. He is currently working on a \$100M project in, MA that involves a four-story 214,000 sf building with dual sets of penthouses.

The building will ultimately be a life science "lab" ready facility housing 7 different tenants performing different sciences such as:

- Genomic sequencing to diagnose infection diseases and solve antibiotic resistance
- Therapeutics using micro-droplets to sort out things on a cellular level
- Immunology therapies



Michael LaFleur (2015) is an Integrated Construction Manager for Mortenson's Federal Contracting Group. He has been an active young professional, plus another LaFleur is on the way and expected in late April.

He is working on closing out the Kings Bay Dry Dock. Once complete, this dry dock will house the new Columbia-class SSBN, a nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine.

He is working remotely on the South East Poultry Research Laboratory in Athens, Georgia, which should wrap up at the end of 2023. Once complete, The USDA will use this facility to study highly infectious diseases in poultry that may pose a threat the environment and our nation's poultry industry.

Michael completed coordination for a Data Center (confidential customer) located in Virginia.

He received a promotion at the beginning of 2022, and is now an Integrated Construction Manager. Michael will be maintaining his current role while assisting in business development, project start up, coordination, etc. After the Dry Dock is complete, the LaFleurs are moving up to HQ in Minneapolis, MN.



Luca Lippert (2020) completed his internship at BMC in Stuttgart, and is now a Junior Project Manager in Real Estate for Cushman & Wakefield in Frankfurt, Germany.



Evan Lucas (2011) is a key member of the NMU Construction Management Faculty Team. He and his wife, Ashley, have added to their family. Evelyn Iris was born on 07 September at 6:13 a.m. in the University of Michigan NICU. Iris is a symbol of hope, light, and strength, which has proved to be true. She was not expected to join the family until late-December. Baby Ev was 11.02" long and weighed 710 grams.



The Lucas family has been taking life day by day. Ashley remains in Ann Arbor, working closely with Evelyn's Care Team. Evan splits time between Marquette and Ann Arbor, teaching both in-person and remotely. David is six, and thriving at hockey, skiing, playing piano, and kindergarten. Grandparents in Marquette have helped keep everything rolling in a semi-smooth way.



Evelyn is now over eight pounds, and discussion has begun about timing of her being transferred back to Marquette.

Matthew Marquardt (2020) had a destination wedding in Bozeman, MT during the summer of 2022. Pictured (L to R) are **Tyler Meng, Brandon Makowski, Natalie Blanck, Joshua Maier Aaron Miller, and Andrew Kruse.**



ALUMNI HAPPENINGS

Sophie Park-Hanson ▶ (2017) and **Mitch Hanson** ▶ (2017) are the proud parents of



Yumi Rosemary Hanson. Yumi means full of glory in Korean, and she was born on the first of November 2022.



Levi Perry II ▶ (2016) is a Project Manager with Hill & Wilkinson in Dallas, TX. He is finishing up the Epic Central Complex project in Grand Prairie, TX. ▼ **Dakota Pelach** (2021)



is the on-site Project Engineer, and together, they are working with Executive Vice President, Matthew Shem (2006). ▶

Grand Prairie is rapidly expanding and Hill & Wilkinson is a preferred construction company. The current project that is wrapping up is a \$51 million site development that includes:

Six retail/ restaurant buildings. Five of these buildings are core & shell and tailored to be the home of restaurants and retail stores. The 6th is Loop 9 BBQ; owned and operated by Larry Lavine (Founder & Former President of Chili's). Loop 9 BBQ is your typical Texas smokehouse that serves prime brisket, ribs, chicken, Texas sausages and multiple Texas style sides. The restaurant also includes a Pie Shop where pies are made fresh to order.



Parking structures include a three story precast garage. It holds almost 400 spaces and is integrated with space counting parking technology. Garage 1: A 120,00 SF, underground garage with surface parking. This garage also holds almost 400 spaces and is integrated with space counting parking

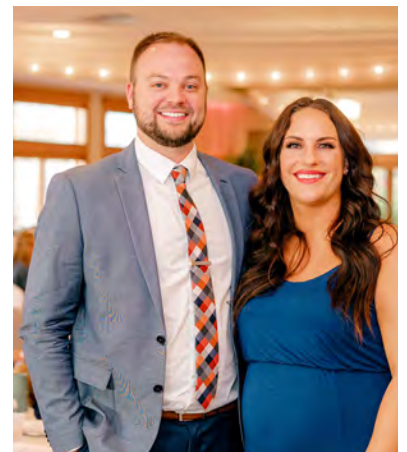


technology. This garage has a retention system on all 4 sides, water injected instead of moisture conditioned at grade and wrapped with a 10mil waterproofing membrane. This parking garage is the main parking for the complex as well as the main parking for the Hotel and Conference Center currently being constructed adjacent to the garage (different GC). The site, which was the most complicated portion of construction, involves a lot of really cool components. There are a total three bridges: 1 overhead pedestrian bridge connected to Garage 2 at the main entry and 2 lower pedestrian bridges that crosses the Corps of Engineer's creek on site. The 2 lower bridges are surrounded by hoops that has light show capability and connected to the Reed Pole Lights around the site and the water show feature (#5) in the existing lake.



They installed a plethora of Reed Pole Lights around the site. This light poles stand 30ft high, has a bend/curve and equipped with multiple light pole heads that displays different colors depending on the program in place. The lighting is tied together with the water show feature in the lake. Although the water feature doesn't have the quantity of the Bellagio in Vegas, the cannons shoot just as high!

Kyle Reuter ▶ (2012) is an Estimator / Project Manager with A.C.E. Building Service, Inc. in Manitowoc, WI. He specializes in Design/Build, Butler Pre-engineered metal buildings. Kyle works on the projects starting from producing drawings, through estimating the project and project management. One of the projects he recently completed was a new 67,000 SF warehouse facility for Torginol, Inc. in Sheboygan, WI. Torginol is a manufacturer of decorative paint flakes for epoxy and resinous floors.



He and his wife, Christina, live in Manitowoc and they are currently expecting their first child very soon.

ALUMNI HAPPENINGS

Jorge Rios ▶ (2017) is a Superintendent with Whiting-Turner out of the Los Angeles, CA office. He is currently working on a project for Netflix at the Hollywood walk of fame. They (Netflix) took over a historical theatre called the Egyptian theatre. It opened in 1922, which makes the project a historical retrofit in the heart of Hollywood. They will use it for premieres and award ceremonies, such as the Oscar's. It is still sort of a low profile project. Learn more about the Egyptian Theatre [here](#).



Jon Slack ▶ (2015) is a Project Manager with Rand Construction out of their Brighton, MI office. Most of his work consists of light industrial, retail, luxury climate controlled storage, and office buildouts. Project have been ranging from \$350K to \$15M. Rand thrives in the Design-Build arena, but have solid abilities as a CM for some of the more complex projects. Jon is enjoying the smaller company atmosphere.



A new little person was recently added to the Slack roster. Henry Bishop Slack joined the team in March of 2022. Jon loves all of his children, but admitted that it's kind of nice having another dude around.

Danny Stacey ▶ (2020) was hired on with Kiewit Infrastructure West shortly after graduating. With district offices up and down the west coast, new hires work anywhere from San Diego to Anchorage. He was picked for Anchorage, AK. They shipped up his vehicle and he flew out within a week's notice.



He spent the first few months estimating in addition to some small project engineering tasks, primarily for the Kake Access Road Project in Kake, AK. It was a short scope - 6 miles of green-field road to connect a village to thousands of acres of public land - previously only accessible by boat.

In September 2020, Danny began working rotations on that project traveling between Anchorage and Kake, AK, a landlocked village in the southeast of the state. The company set up a 66-person camp on the island to house workers for the project duration.

Construction ceased in October 2020 and resumed in March 2021. He worked as a Field Engineer for the duration of this project, through completion in November 2021. Here's a [link](#) for a write up about it.

He enjoyed his time and learned a lot working for Kiewit. There were some unforgettable memories along the way. They treat him very well, have a great leadership structure, and provide employees with the best learning experiences possible.

Danny is now employed by Geostabilization International and (2) of their subsidiaries, Dyer All Terrain Excavation and Access Limited Construction this fall. All of these companies specialize in preventing and managing geohazards, such as landslides, rockfall hazards, and avalanche mitigation. He finds much of the equipment and fascinating.



Andrew Steinhauer (2018) was recently promoted to Superintendent with Hill and Wilkinson in Dallas, TX. He is currently working on a Resort and Casino project.

Caity Tefft (2017) has made her entrepreneurial venture a full-time career. Caity's Interior Design business (Linen & Hearth) is thriving in the Dickinson County and surrounding area.



She is working on mostly residential projects, but also has a commercial

office to complete. There are some fun projects in the works: a pool house, an outdoor kitchen, and an entertainment area to name a few. A few samples of her projects and concepts.



ALUMNI HAPPENINGS

Alec Walters (2020) is an Assistant Project Manager for Sundt Construction, and is working out of their Phoenix, AZ office. He offers two points of advice for new graduates: If a mentor is willing to share information – listen



closely. And do not act like you know everything because you have a degree – be humble, trainable, and willing to learn.



He is working on a manufacturing facility for semiconductors, and it is an incredibly interesting / complex project. It is currently the largest project in North America, and the largest crane in the world is on his project.



Daniel Webber (2020) worked for O'Brien Construction Company since graduation. He worked for **Conor Dare** (2006) on the Hotel Eddystone team in downtown Detroit. He enjoyed his time a great deal, but was looking for something more.



Daniel always had an interest in the military, so he enlisted in the Navy. He is currently stationed in Port Hueneme, California and lives on Point Mugu Naval Air Station. He is there with his college sweetheart (now wife), Victoria who he met at NMU. She has a degree in elementary education from NMU and is about to start a family military counseling job with Fleet and Family services on base.

He is with NMCB-5, "Naval mobile Construction Battalion," and is soon heading to Japan on deployment for 6 months. Daniel will be doing a lot of site work and remodeling of a few small buildings on base in Okinawa Japan.

Ethan Williams (2022) moved to Seattle during the summer, after spending a couple of years as an Electrician and Project Coordinator in Marquette. He is now a Project Engineer with HITT Contracting. He is working on a project for TI. He is helping get the back



(East) end of the building ready for turnover.

There is still quite a bit of work progress to be made on the front (West) end.

There have been a significant amount of changes and challenges, but he is very excited about the future, and glad to have made the move to the Pacific Rim.



Other Updates

Brian Anderson

(1995) Check out the new hockey lockerroom project at the Berry Events Center [here](#).



Noah Brown (2021)

relocated back to Marquette, and started Brown General Contracting. His company specializes in renovation and maintenance projects. He remains active with the Army National Guard, and will be attending their Basic Officer Leadership training this year.

Zach Parent (2021) is an Assistant Superintendent with Barton Malow. On pages 94 – 101 of this [link](#), Zach's project is highlighted with photos and information that summarizes the last year and a half for him.

Jared Swajanen (2017) is a Project Manager with C.D. Smith Construction in Lacrosse, WI. He and his family purchased their first home in Holman, WI back in April. Jared is working on a handful of projects – including but not limited to a historic renovation project in Winona MN, office renovation/interior buildout, a new health care clinic, and several miscellaneous projects for existing clients.

Kurt Thiele (2019) has been promoted to Project Manager for Hill and Wilkinson in Dallas, TX.

Heath Walker (1995) is the Director of Sales and Field Training for Nu-Wool Company, Inc. in Grand Rapids, MI.



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THROWBACK



A big crew attended the **Chris Cardinal** wedding in Fond du Lac, WI. The 2012 event was quite a party, and included a strong NMU showing. Pictured (L to R) ▲ in the back row are **Jason Berry, Jim Conlin,** and **Colin Philipp**. Front row (L to R) are **Jeremy Bubb, Chris Bruno, Chris Cardinal** (the Groom), **Ben Herman, Adam Glover,** and **Andary**.



A fantastic group of students from helped build a grandstand and press box at a baseball field in Sault Ste. Marie in early-2006. Pictured (L to R) ▲ are **Chris Bruno, Adam Glover, Steve Poindexter, Jeremy Bubb, Chris Cardinal, Chris Grebe,** and **Adam Covert**. It was a fantastic project that could not have got done without the NMU students. They bolted support frames, clipped on decking, installed the seating (and backrests), and added railings all around the structure, stairs and ramp.

The 2015 senior class was invited to the President's Box for a hockey game at the Berry Events Center as a very kind gesture of thanks from President Erickson. That particular senior class had one project, which was a design-build pavilion at the President's house. Pictured (L to R) ► are **Michael LeFleur, Patrick Fehlberg, President Erickson, Rob Sparks, Trevor LaCombe, Weston Bailey, Sam Peterson, Andary,** and **Trevor Poupore**.



GUESSWHO

No one correctly guessed that our "Guess Who" person from the Summer 2022 issue, was none other than Mr. Evan Lucas. Well, Evan guessed correctly, but that didn't count.

Our new person has definitely grown up a lot, but looks almost identical to this little guy...just bigger ►. And



This person ◀ exchanged some hallowed vows with him.

He no longer wears socks with sandals.... or wild animals on his shirts. AND, he no longer colors his hair blonde.



Is a Carney Kid, but not to be confused with being the son of a carnival employee. Carney (population: 192) the city in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan is his hometown.

Who is he? Submit your guesses ASAP to mandary@nmu.edu

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