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Alumni Notes

Alumni Notes includes news gathered from alumni, their families and friends, corporate news releases, and Michigan newspapers. Submissions received after the deadline for this issue will appear in the spring/ summer 2012 issue. Use the form in this section to share news about you!

1933–1959

Ray L. Urban, BME'35, celebrated his 100th birthday this summer surrounded by family and friends at Oakmont Sterling Senior Living in Sterling Heights. He was born on July 30, 1911, in Pittsburgh and grew up in Hamtramck.

Ray was hired as a clerk in the Detroit post office in 1941, launching a lengthy career. He advanced to draftsman, supervisor, superintendent, and director of plant maintenance before retiring in 1975 as the U.S. Postal Service's first postal plant engineer.

Over the years, he was on the front lines in the mechanization of the postal system, including high-speed letter sorting, ZIP code reading, automatic parcel sorting, and volume speed cancelers. He is perhaps best known as the designer of curbside mail drop boxes originally called the "Crazy Lady."

1960–1979

Alfred M. Bartick, BSEE'62, of Redondo Beach, CA, has won a U.S. patent for a "fuel/air mixture control device and method" that tests show can reduce fuel consumption for automobiles by 12 percent. The device takes the place of an exhaust-gas/oxygen sensor by using a substitute signal generator circuit that stimulates the engine control module to be more lean-running at highway speeds.

William A. Moylan Jr., BSCE'74, wrote an article on the value of membership in the Engineering Society of Detroit (ESD) in a recent issue of the organization's publication, Technology Century. Bill is a member of the University's Capital Campaign Steering Committee and a 1999 winner of the "Ray" Award, which recognizes alumni volunteers for their leadership and service.

1980–1989

Richard L. Fertell, BSEE'87, is the director of corporate quality and laboratory manager for Proteus Industries, a Mountain View, CA, firm that makes devices to handle and measure the movement of liquids. The Livonia native was featured in a recent article in the Livonia Observer about his career in metrology, the science of measurement.

Brian B. Byndas, BSME'88, is the Ford Taurus program manager for Ford Motor Co. Brian's career at Ford has revolved around component engineering and program management. His most recent task was sifting through a mountain of customer feedback on the 2010 Taurus, then systematically translating customer suggestions into production reality.

Stephen D. McCarthy, BSME'88, was appointed to the engineering team at Relume Technologies, an Oxford-based manufacturer of light-emitting diode (LED) products and smart grid control systems for outdoor lighting applications. He is responsible for leading Relume's new product engineering and R&D programs.

1990–1999

Christopher "Bob" Rayes, BSAr'92, Bar'94, Mar'09, was appointed a partner at Berkley-based SHW Group LLC, an educational architecture and engineering firm. Bob joined SHW Group in 2006 and serves as the firm's chief information officer.

Natalie A. Rankine, BSAr'95, Bar'97, was hired in March as the new director of the Downtown Development Authority in Wyandotte. Natalie is also the city's special projects coordinator and continues in that role while taking the DDA director's position on a parttime basis.

Harry Hunter Jr., MBA'98, received a PhD in Industrial/Organizational Psychology from Capella University in Minneapolis. Harry is director of the Office of the State Employer/Employee Service program in Lansing and an adjunct professor in the Wayne State University School of Social Work.

Zack M. Ostroff, BSAr'98, GcertADP'09, owns and operates ZO Architecture in West Bloomfield and is currently finishing up his master's degree at Lawrence Tech. His 10-year-old firm, which specializes in creating barrier-free plans for the physically disabled, was featured in a recent article in the Detroit Jewish News.

2000–2011

Jason R. Amott, BSAr'01, Mar'04, is owner of Earth Environments LLC, a full-service design through construction firm in Romeo. Though just three years old, Jason's firm has already won three awards in Detroit Home magazine's annual recognition of outstanding projects in Michigan.

Jeffrey M. Roman, BSCvE'01, PE, was selected as the 2011 Engineer of the Year by the Florida Engineering Society, Calusa Chapter. Jeff is a principal and director of engineering at EnSite Inc. in Fort Myers, FL.

David M. Giroux, BSAr'02, Mar'05, was promoted to associate at Integrated Design Solutions LLC in Troy. He also passed the construction documents technologist exam from CSI.

Garrett J. Polk, BSET'02, and Sherry Hosler were married in September at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Bad Axe. Garrett is employed by Motor City MINI in Shelby Township.

Cuneshia C. Sanders, MBA'04, was hired as director of the Westover Job Corps Center in Chicopee, MA. A Detroit native, he was previously director of the Detroit Job Corps Center and the Flint/Genesee Job Corps.

Don A. Manfredi, MBA'05, joined Ann Arbor-based Coherix as vice president of the firm's automotive operations in the Americas. Don is also an adjunct professor in Lawrence Tech's College of Management.

Clarence M. Sevilian, CIMBA'05, is the new president and CEO of POH Regional Medical Center in Pontiac. Clarence has been with Flint-based McLaren Health Care since 1998 and previously headed Doctors' Hospital of Michigan, also in Pontiac.

Habib I. Baydoun, BSEE'06, MSMSE'09, has moved to Costa Mesa, CA, to work in the Electrical Sensing and Controls Division of a supplier to the aerospace industry. He will be working on flight deck control panels for airplanes, helicopters, and military jets.

Sean M. Simpson, BSME'07, is a senior consultant at the Troy office of Booz Allen Hamilton, a management consulting firm. He is also co-owner of Autobike LLC.

Jennifer K. Henriksen, Mar'08, is a registered architect in the Ann Arbor office of Quinn Evans Architects. She joined the firm in 1998 as an architectural intern.

Andrew J. Nielsen, BSAr'08, recently graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Recruit Training Center in Cape May, NJ, and was promoted to the rank of seaman.

Andrew Maurer, BSME'09, married Allison Frownfelter in August. Andrew is an intellectual property intern at Howard & Howard Attorneys PLLC in Royal Oak and is pursuing a law degree at the Thomas M. Cooley Law School.

Nicholas J. Wallis, BSAr'11, married Kathryn O'Hara in July at St. Patrick's Church in Rockford. Nicholas is employed by S3 Architecture LLC in Farmington.

VINCENT KAYE, BEE'35, believed to be the oldest living alumnus of Lawrence Tech, celebrated his 103rd birthday in September at Manogian Manor Assisted Living in Livonia.

Born in Amasia, Armenia, on Sept. 24, 1908, he attributes his longevity to his happy marriage. "Marrying Rose was the best thing I ever did," he said of Mrs. Kaye, who died in 2002 after 67 years of marriage.

Vincent was four years old when he came to the United States with his mother and baby sister to join his father, who had fled war-torn Armenia earlier to avoid being conscripted in the opposing Turkish army. The family later settled in Highland Park. He changed his surname from Keshishian to Kaye because it was easier to spell.

Lawrence Institute of Technology, as the school was then known, had just opened when Vincent transferred there from the University of Detroit. After graduation, he started a radio repair business. During World War II, he was an electrical engineer in charge of machine gun production for Kelsey Hayes Wheel Co. in Detroit.

Over the years, Vincent worked for the federal government, Ford Motor Co., and General Motors Corp. He worked on the team that built the first simulated spacecraft docking station for the U.S.