

University High School Newsletter

July, 2005

No. 58

A University High memorial service

celebrating the life of Richard Shafer will be held Saturday, August 27, at 2 p.m. in Schorling Auditorium (1202 School of Education Building, known to U High alumni as the University High School). Walter Slocombe '59 will be the principal speaker. Light refreshments will follow the service.

This non-sectarian event is open to all who wish to attend. Bill Morrison '59 heads the planning on behalf of Mr. Shafer's family and U High alumni.

People who would like to offer brief remarks, or those who have pictures or other memorabilia that could be photographed or scanned for display on a large screen at the service, should contact Bill at the address below. The planners regret that it may not be possible to honor all requests, but all will be reviewed and responses will be given. Bill is looking for specific help as the planning goes forward. He may also need a few people to reprise their roles in class plays. He asks people to watch the web site for more information and casting calls.

A message board will be set up to display brief notes or messages from people who cannot attend. Prior to the service, most messages received through the web site will be scrolled on a large screen in the auditorium. If you would like to add a message, post one on the web site or mail it. Messages will not be returned. They should be mailed to Bill by August 12.

If enough people are interested, Bill's committee will look into having a dinner on the evening of the memorial service (August 27) where everyone can gather to share stories and renew acquaintances. Those interested should e-mail Bill.

In all correspondence, alumni should include their class years and, if their names have changed since high school, both their former and current names. Contact Bill at <uhs@morrison3.com> or at 14205 Shadywood Drive, Plymouth, Michigan 48170. Phone: (734) 455-6513 or (734) 451-7650.

Very limited metered parking is available on streets near the School of Education Building. Parking should be readily available in a rather new city structure in the 600 block of Forest Avenue – two blocks directly east of the School of Education.

As new information becomes available it will be posted at: <http://www.uhigh.net/html>.

What's special about Dick Shafer?

Every student cohort at University High School can lay claim to some special teachers – exemplary educators who inspired, who enlightened, who in some cases changed students' lives forever. Over the last decade, as editor of this newsletter, I have received hundreds upon hundreds of letters, many containing glowing comments about one teacher or another who was the best, the brightest, the most self-sacrificing, the paragon. [At this point, I decided to list some of the names that frequently are cited. Big mistake! For every name I wrote, I thought of two more that could not be left out. So, please insert your own list here, if you need one!]

Recently we witnessed the demise of Mr. Richard Shafer, an extremely popular and beloved tenth grade English teacher. In the year before his death, a scholarship was begun and considerable money contributed, and that fund already has exceeded minimum qualifications for endowment status. As we learned Dick's cancer was not to be overcome, a special issue of this newsletter was published, and this current issue of the newsletter devotes an unprecedented amount of space to Mr. Shafer. And now a special U High memorial service has been planned for August.

From time to time, we're forced to put on our tattered mantle of editorial objectivity and ask, are we being disproportionate? Do we somehow lessen the memory of others by doing more for one? After all, Dick joined University School in 1947 – roughly the mid-point of the school's existence. Half the alumni never had Dick as a teacher. And no teacher is best for everyone. Dick would be the first to tell you that he was not everyone's cup of tea.

Certainly Dick was much more than a competent teacher, as were most others at U High. No one doubts his knowledge and skill in his field. And no one doubts his dedication to his pupils or to the arts he embraced. We have to admit, moreover, that Dick was extraordinary in certain respects:

- the size and enthusiasm of his following
- the length of his career at U High

Continued from page 1

- his devotion to the school and its alumni long after the doors were closed.

This last point claims our attention now. Dick loved the essence of, and the alumni of, U High when U High existed only in our minds and hearts. He attended countless alumni activities. Many alumni visited him at his home. Even when his eyesight was failing, he was devoted to proofreading this newsletter. He got on the trail of nearly every “lost Cub” on our mail list, and he combed the obituaries in the *Ann Arbor News* daily to gather every scrap of information for the newsletter.

A personal incident may illustrate his single-minded attachment to U High: I knew Dick had been ill, but I didn’t learn until May 1 that his treatments weren’t working and that he had entered Arbor Hospice. Unfortunately, I had just developed a terrible cold and I wrote him a note that I would visit as soon as I could go in good conscience to a place where sick people live. The cold lasted almost ten days. When I arrived at his room, he blurted out, “Hello! I’ve been wanting to see you! I think we have some things we must discuss!” Foremost on his mind were:

- the scholarship fund in his honor
- the special edition of the newsletter
- the disposition of yearbooks in his possession
- the location of a list of newsletter address changes that he thought he had brought with him to Arbor Hospice. He had me look in every drawer and behind every door, but he was mistaken. I did see that the note I had written – bearing a drawing of the façade of U High – was taped to his closet door so he could see it from his bed.

Only when we had resolved these issues could we discuss his health, his visitors, and – my agenda, not his – his biographical information that could be used in conjunction with the granting of the award.

Dick had no close blood-relative survivors, although he certainly had the love of family associated with his late brother, Bob. In many respects U High was Dick’s family. He needed us, and we needed him.

A contributor to the memorial fund, a ’33 alumna, wrote, “I was at U-High long before Mr. Shafer, but I wish I had known him. English was my favorite subject and I had the inimitable Ms. Ryder and Ms. McKinney, both great teachers. But I have heard so much about Mr. Shafer and last year I wrote him about the Depression era non-yearbook of 1933 and had such a great letter back from him. The scholarship is a great idea.”

Dick Shafer is a superlative symbol of so much that was good in U High that lives on in us. He is worthy of whatever accolades we can muster. Maybe we should have done more for others, but we could do no less in his honor – or symbolically in honor of all who have been part of U High.

—Eric Warden

Richard Shafer:

Richard Smith Shafer was born to Albert and Anna Smith Shafer on a Sunday – February 13, 1921 – in Pioneer, Ohio, a town of some 700 people in northwest Ohio, near the Michigan and Indiana state lines. Their other child, Bob, was born 13 years earlier.

The Shafers owned a small family-operated bakery and grocery in Pioneer, but – concerned about the adequacy of schools in Pioneer at the time – they sold the store and moved to Ann Arbor, where they entered into a purchase agreement for a similar store, on Washington Street. Bob graduated from Ann Arbor High School and Richard attended Mack Elementary School in Ann Arbor through fourth grade.

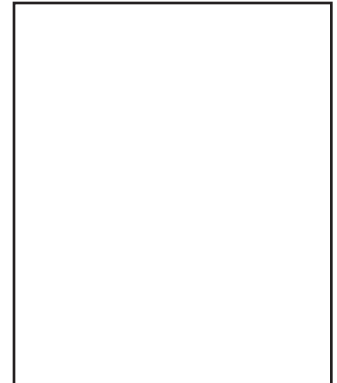
The Great Depression forced the purchaser of the Pioneer store to give up that enterprise, and in turn, the Shafers had to leave the Ann Arbor store

and return to Pioneer. Even as a child, Richard enjoyed meeting the public as he worked in the family store.

One benefit of the depressed economic times was that better teachers were available to accept positions in Pioneer, and the schools there improved. Richard graduated from Pioneer High School at age 16. Then at Bowling Green State University in 1939 he completed a two-year program that permitted him to teach in elementary schools. At Bowling Green, Richard found a member of the education faculty, Professor Zaugg, particularly inspiring.

After teaching in Ohio elementary schools for three years, in 1942 Richard was called to service in World War II. He entered the army at Camp Perry and served there throughout his entire military career. While in the military, Richard was able to complete some college course work, and after the war he attended the University of Michigan under the G.I. Bill. At U-M he received a BA degree in education in 1947 and an MA degree in 1949.

A faculty member in the School of Education became a mentor for Richard after Richard objected to the professor’s marking on a paper Richard submitted. Long after the course was over, the professor and Richard would chat occasionally, and one day the professor informed Richard that there was an opening in theater and English at University High School. “I didn’t think they would be interested in me,” Richard confided. “I didn’t even have my master’s degree yet.” Nonetheless, he applied and endured a concurrent interview with Professors Fred Walcott, Raleigh



from Pioneer Ohio to U High School

Schorling, and John Trytten. "They wanted to wait to see who else might apply," Richard noted, "and said they would get back to me later in the summer. However, not too long afterwards, Principal Trytten offered me the position." Having started coursework toward a doctorate in speech, Richard asked his adviser, Professor William Halstead, for guidance on taking the position. "Take it," was the advice, "and don't count on doing everything right the first year."

Becoming a high school English teacher was an easy decision for Richard. Throughout his school years he had a love of reading and literature. And, although he liked teaching young children, with older ones he was able more directly to apply his interest in literary subject matter. Student teaching in eighth grade classes had confirmed his choice. Throughout his career, he maintained a keen interest in the education of junior high school students.

The voracious reading of childhood became a life-long habit. As an adult, he favored *Barchester Towers* by Anthony Trollope, *David Copperfield* and *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens, *Vanity Fair* by William Makepeace Thackeray, several works by Jane Austen, and *Huckleberry Finn* and *Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain.

Richard joined the staff of University High School in the fall of 1947 as a teacher of sophomore English. His first tenth-grade class was the class of 1950. He taught at University High for 21 years, and in addition served as homeroom teacher, developed a lighting system for school stage productions, directed musicals and plays, served as an adviser for *Nunc Dimittis*, the school yearbook, and for part of his career was head of the English Department. He also accompanied classes to Stratford, Ontario, to see great stage classics. Frank McKowen, who taught music at U High 1952-56 recalls

three musicals they jointly produced: *The Fortune Teller*, 1953; *The Mikado*, 1955, and *The Lowland Sea*, 1956.

When University of Michigan Regents closed University High in 1968, Richard accepted a position at the newly formed Huron High School in Ann Arbor Public Schools. However, since the Huron High School building was still under construction, his first Huron High classes were held in the Ann Arbor High School building that replaced the older structure in 1956. When the new Huron High opened in 1969, Ann Arbor High – ironically – had been re-named Pioneer High School – the same name as the high school from which Richard was graduated in Ohio. For Huron High, Richard taught tenth grade English and had an opportunity to develop a favorite course in dramatic literature. "I particularly enjoyed teaching *The Way of the World*," Richard reflected. This 1700 English play by William Congreve "was one the kids didn't know, and it was a little scandalous," Richard noted, with a wry smile.

After ten years at Huron High School, he retired. During retirement he traveled annually to Great Britain, often with extended stays at Stratford-on-Avon where he enjoyed the "felicity of so many friendly townspeople" and, of course, the plays of Shakespeare. Richard particularly relished one production of *Titus Andronicus* that featured Sir John Gielgud and Dame Edith Evans.

In 1990 Richard's brother, Bob, died, leaving Richard with no close blood relatives, although family members who were affiliated through Bob's marriages remained dear. Richard died May 24 at Arbor Hospice. A funeral was held June 4, and a University High memorial service has been planned for August 27. (See page 1.)

Thanks so much

Somewhere in each issue of the *University High School Newsletter* we try to include an expression of gratitude to the people whose special skills have made our publication possible. For some time, we have thanked: • Laurie Stoianowski at the School of Education for keeping up our mail list and serving as our liaison to University service units; • Kolossos Printing – a University School family – for superb service and quality at good cost. We would add • Ann Arbor Printing and Mailing Services for their preparation of our mailings and for their speedy service for the special issue in May.

And, of course, we say a final thanks to Dick Shafer, who originated this newsletter and was its sole editor into the mid-1990s. Then he remained an excellent proofreader but, more important, he was our human reference work on most names related to U High. Typically Dick also did furnish from his own correspondence some classnotes and almost all of the faculty news. And, he assiduously read the obituaries in the *Ann Arbor News*. Because obituaries often don't mention the deceased's high school, someone with Dick's knowledge of U High names was especially helpful in this context. He would phone every time a U High graduate's obituary appeared so that I could clip it. Eventually, whenever my son David would see SHAFER RICHARD on our caller ID, he would shout out, "Dad, somebody died!" Now, truly, a *somebody* has died; and we shall miss him.

—Eric Warden

Richard Shafer Fund exceeds a minimum goal; funds still actively sought

As this issue of the *University High School Newsletter* was readied for printing (June 8, 2005), the Richard Shafer Scholarship Fund had exceeded its minimum goal. Approximately 140 gifts had been recorded, totaling just over \$35,000.

The minimum goal for the fund was set at \$25,000, the minimum amount at which an endowment can be opened at the U-M School of Education. Proceeds from the endowment will provide tuition support annually for a U-M student preparing to become a teacher of secondary school English. At U-M, endowments return some of the income to the endowment in an attempt to keep pace with inflation.

Of course, the larger the endowment, the more tuition support can be given. In 2004-05, undergraduate in-state tuition was approximately \$9,200 for the academic year. To provide full tuition support for the academic year would require a \$184,000 endowment.

The fund was initiated at a reunion of the class of 1959 last summer by arrangement of Bill Morrison and Sue Wagoner Clay. Mr. Shafer immediately took a strong interest in the fund and frequently asked about its progress up to the time of his death on May 24. Mr. Shafer had entered Arbor Hospice May 1 after he, his family, and his doctors decided to end aggressive treatments for bladder cancer.

Contributions to the fund are still actively sought. To make a gift to the Richard Shafer Scholarship Fund:

Go on the internet to: http://www.uhigh.net/html/shafer_scholarship.html and download a form to assist in the process.

OR

- Make a check payable to *University of Michigan*. Write *Shafer Scholarship* on the memo line or elsewhere on the face of the check.
- On a sheet of paper, write your current name and (if different) your name while you were in school. Provide your home address and your e-mail address (if any). Indicate your class year, or "faculty" or "friend" or other affiliation with University High. Also print how you would like name(s) to be listed in recognition lists. (If you would like to be excluded from recognition lists, write "anonymous.")
- Mail to: Bill Morrison, 14205 Shadywood Drive, Plymouth, Michigan 48170. You will receive a receipt from the University of Michigan that can be used for tax purposes.

For more information, phone Bill at (734) 455-6513 or (734) 451-7650 or e-mail <uhs@morrison3.com>.

Donors to the Shafer Scholarship Endowment

as of June 7, 2005

Faculty: Eric and Sherry Warden, Zelma and Milan Marich, Justine and Eugene Phillips, Robert and Louise Markhus Dixon, James E. McClurg, Gloria Hunter, Edna S. Gross, Carolyn Ingham Chandler, Vivian Anspach Boersma, Pat and the late William Mills, Susan Deo Kinde, June Brown Wilson and Dave Wilson, Carol Billings (Huron High School)

• Class of 1933: Charlotte B. Lewis • Class of 1936: Phil Newman • Class of 1938: Jack Dobson • Class of 1939: Anonymous • Class of 1941: Ann Alling Edwards, Isabel Morrison Reade, Mary V. Huntington, Howard Wikel • Class of 1942: Emmons E. Smith • Class of 1943: Angela Dobson Welch • Class of 1944: Al Gallup, Betsey Shaw Bobrinskoy, Sally Stimson Huber • Class of 1945: Ingrid Burklund Hall • Class of 1946: Theodore Crane, Shirley Jedele Eskelung • Class of 1947: Margaret "Ranny" Towsley Riecker • Class of 1948: Mary Sue Hopkins Coates, G. Craig Ramsay MD • Class of 1949: Martin Edwards, Sue Ross Hodges • Class of 1950: John Riecker, Sue Bromage Paterson, Dave Shipman, Sylvia Huntley Horowitz, Jane Finkbeiner Mack, Geraldine Criss Hunter, Dorothy Hammett Allen, Richard H. Moehl • Class of 1951: Marilyn Crandall, Mary Northrop Tyler, Edward N. Willey, MD, Alice Esterer Sickels, Joanne Galpin Hammond, Charles M. "Chic" Hollis, Caryl Ann Stuhrberg Osborn, Margaret Fralich Moehl • Class of 1953: Charles C. Wilson, Hal Johnson, Mary Jane Templeton Kutz • Class of 1954: Annie Olson Goldberg, John L. Etter, Cyrus C. Hopkins, Sharon Carrigan • Class of 1955: Susi Finton Pinyuh, Lee Price Arellano, Patty Hall Laswick, Judy Marckwardt Getis, Bruce S. McEwen • Class of 1956: Tom Atkins, Sam DeCamp, Kerstin Sutherland Stempel, Tom Stempel, Richard Bird, Michael McVaugh, Anonymous • Class of 1957: Marty Drouyor DeCamp, Jack Belvedere, Ted Leshner, Nicholas Kim Hooper, Mary DeJong Obuchowski • Class of 1958: Chuck Wright, JoAnne Ivory, Elizabeth Mosier VanLiere, Judith Mansfield Goodman, John and Martha Hicks in memory of Jerry L. Beard, Anthony Illich • Class of 1959: Alan Hutchcroft, Walter Slocombe, Memory of Janet Crane, James Turner, Julie Fisher Staelin, John Yeager, Sue Wagoner Clay, Ellen Bird Stamelos, Jonathan Schmidt, Carl Clarke, Richard Daniels, Marilyn Tobias Weaver, Margaret McNamara Pastor, James Reiter, Patricia Kessler Dupke, Gary Brownell • Class of 1960: Christine King, Doug Bailey, • Class of 1961: John E. Swisher III, Susan Holt, Mark W. Frankena, John and Kathleen Davis, Joe Weisman, Nancy Jane Smith Weber, Frances Couch MD • Class of 1962: Anonymous, Bruce Fox, Bruce B. Cohen, Karn Lohela Woodworth, Julian Cook • Class of 1963: Margaret Leslie, Greg Nelson, Maggie Hawley and Craig McEwen, Bill Mills, John and Eva McFadyen, Carole Taylor • Class of 1964: Jane Holt, Ruth Howell, Kathie Kock Hewko, David Sundelson, Lynn Towsley White, Richard Borso, Michael Alexander • Class of 1965: Wesley Maurer Jr., Peter Gooch, Paul A. Favreau, Kate Kirkpatrick, Kit Land and Roy Poczik • Class of 1966: Mike Reade, Colby Willis, Robert Sattler • Class of 1967: Ellen Finch, Anne Hayes Knuth, Sarah Leshner-Alfonso, Nancy Mills • Class of 1968: Elizabeth S. Bishop, Anonymous, Mary H. Thieme, Nancy (Shari) Tull Byers • Class of 1969: David R. Barton • Class of 1970: Winnie Harbeck Tuthill • Other Friends: Wendell and Kathleen Schwartz, Jane Michener, Mrs. Winston Kock (parent)

Faculty:

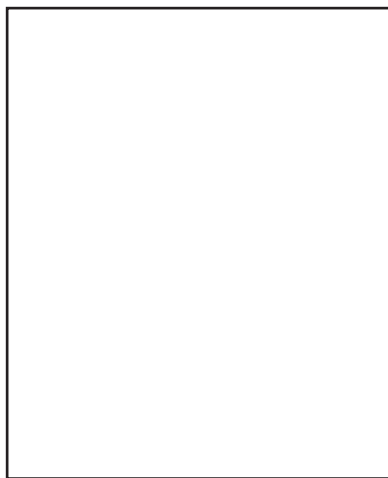
We regret the absence of a faculty news section in this issue of *the University High School Newsletter*. Generally over 90 percent of the faculty news was provided by Richard Shafer from his holiday correspondence. With his illness and death this spring, that compilation was not available. Faculty, please send your holiday letters and/or notes to Eric Warden at the address on page 15. We look forward to a full faculty news section in our next issue.

1928:

Frances Thornton Stutzman and her husband, King, still come faithfully to Ann Arbor from Wilmette, Illinois, for all home U-M football game weekends. Although they have decided their traditional annual trips to New Hampshire and the Kentucky Derby are more than they want to undertake, they are leading fulfilling lives and having fun times with family in the Chicago area. The year 2004 was the 100th anniversary of Frances's sorority, Alpha Gamma Delta. Its convention was in Chicago, and Frances surprised the convention-goers and herself with her active attendance.

1932:

Billie Carr Gillis rode horseback about every morning through Del Monte Forest when she and her new husband moved to the Presidio in 1935. "I thought life would always be like that." But then war changed everything. In the course of their 69 years together they have lived in Germany, Paris, Verona and now a few miles north of San Francisco. When Tom retired in 1965, they went west with two of their three children. Now the children live on the east coast but visit often. • **Carl V. Wurster** died August 16, 2004 at age 89. He earned BA and MBA degrees from U-M. He served as a captain in the army in World War II. His professional career as tax accountant spanned 46 years with General Motors and Ford Motor Co. • **Daniel Hopkins Schurz** died



Billie Carr Gillis

April 12. He was a swimmer and baseball player. He was employed by Argus Camera and later became the director of public relations for Bendix Aerospace.

1933: "I am so grateful for the newsletter, which has meant so much to me since moving to North Dakota 20 years ago. It's been inspiring to read about the activities and achievements of people I remember in school and those of all the subsequent generations up to the closing," writes **Charlotte Lewis**, who learned the cello – sharing the instrument with another student. Charlotte was taught "by a wonderful student teacher, **Marian Works**." Charlotte received a degree in home economics and taught for a year and a half at Dundee. She ultimately got two degrees in cello performance at U-M School of Music. From 1961-84 she taught string instruments in her home studio to students aged 3 to 50+. In 1984 she retired and moved to North Dakota to be with her sister **Elisabeth '37**. "I still play my cello and also play piano in three nursing homes weekly and when needed for church services in these homes." • Jean Walbridge writes, "My mother, **Marjorie Jean Hofer Walbridge**, passed away May 13, 1999. Colon cancer caused her early death. My father, Howard A. Walbridge, U-M class of 1936, died three years later of Alzheimer's." • The family of **Rudolph C. Weiner** report that he died on July 4, 2001.

1934: **Bill Penhale** periodically re-lives wonderful high school days through a copy of *Nunc Dimittis* sent to him by **Harriet Dana Carroll** years ago. "We were so lucky to have such great teachers and been in a school with such esprit that a newsletter still exists many years after the school closed. ... After graduating from U-M Medical School in 1942, I became a pediatrician. I was in the Army Medical Corps as a neuropsychiatrist (what else do you do with a pediatrician?), 1944-46. After another year of pediatric training, Millie (whom I met in German I) and I moved to Concord, New Hampshire, to start a very busy solo practice. After ten years a group of us formed the Concord Clinic." Bill and Millie had four successful sons and three grandsons who visit in summers. In 1974 on the wooded shores of Little Bay, Durham, New Hampshire, they started building a house that Bill designed; they moved there after retiring. "I took part in the UNH Marine Docent Program for 15 years, several conservation groups concerned with the Great Bay Estuary, and have written newsletter columns for years." Millie, who worked as a clinical psychologist in Concord and at the University of New Hampshire now is a part-time assistant editor at NHPTV. Over the years, **Harriet Dana Carroll**, **Don and Helen Byrne May**, and **Betty Bishop '48** have visited. The Penhales met **Dr. Phil Newman '36** and wife Yvette in Paris. • After his first wife passed away, **Dave Lansdale** writes, "I became friends with a widow who liked to do the same things I like to do, and we have now been married 18 years. We live in a retirement community in

Pennsylvania and spend our winters in Naples, Florida. I took up roller-skating when I turned 80 and I'm still doing it. Fox News heard about it and took pictures for the national news. Maybe some of my classmates saw me skating." In January, Dave and his wife watched a dramatic sunset. "There was a rare green flash as the sun disappeared. We talked about it with a fellow standing next to us. In the course of conversation ... he said he lived in Ann Arbor. I told him that I used to live in Ann Arbor and that I went to U High in the class of '34. He said he went to U High also and he was in the class of '53. He told me his name, but it left my senior mind before I returned home to write it down." Dave notes he still puts out the U-M '38 Engineering newsletter: "Fewer people write but they have more to say. **Bob Beuhler '37** is one of our 38E class and he helps a lot."

1935: **Elizabeth (Betty) Badger Ward** died October 11, 2004. She was graduated from U-M and married Robert W. Ward, who preceded her in death in 1982.

1936: **Jean Hurd Langford** reports, "Life is very pleasant for Rex and me. Except for the usual catering to our old bodies with various sorts of pills and unguents our lives are full and busy. Family – his four and my four and their various appendages – take our time and energies in a rewarding way." • **Amy McFee** informs us of the death of **Doris Gibb McFall** on May 6 at her residence in Lakeside, Arizona. Her husband predeceased her, and they had no children. "And," Amy adds, "Isn't it about time we put the *U High Newsletter* to rest?"

1937: **Robert G. Long** says, "Though news of the class of '37 is thin, receiving the *U High Newsletter* makes my day. I have fond memories of my classes and teachers, even to the memorizing of the beginning of Cicero's oration for Latin class. Every night I read by the floor lamp made in **Marshal Byrn's** metalworking shop. My wife died in November, 2003; son Richard is on the faculty at Western Michigan University, and daughter Kathy teaches fifth grade in Sevierville, Tennessee." • In handsome calligraphy, **Laurence (Larry) Allen** writes that he has been in private medical practice 50 years and married 64 years. "Fantastic daughter, two 6'8" grandsons." Larry notes he has taught his specialty, accident and disease prevention, in China, Japan, New Zealand, Australia, all 50 states, Canada, England, Scotland, Ireland, Germany, Romania, Austria, and the West Indies. • In our last *Newsletter*, **Edward Perkins** read that **David Lansdale '34** lives in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, "the self-proclaimed mushroom capital of the world. This area is steeped in revolutionary war history and settled by Quakers. Having lived in Kennett Square for some eleven years prior to moving to Chapel Hill, North Carolina, I am disappointed in not having met David." • **Suzanne Bragg Schomburg** died September 13, 2004 in Ann Arbor. After graduation from U High she

married Edward Brooks Bragg Sr., who preceded her in death in 1961. Seven years later she was married to Carl W. Schomburg, who preceded her in death in 1981. She had three children.

1938: **Mary Hayden Burgess** last summer completed her autobiography, *Both Sides of the Canvas*. It's available on-line at Borders and Amazon. "This is a humbling experience," she notes. Five children – Sheridan, Molly, Tyler, Heather, and Jamie – live in different areas of the U.S. "Grandchildren and great grands are all thriving." Mary still lives in Sheridan, Wyoming. • **Robert "Doc" Gibson Lovell** died December 31, 2004 after a six-year battle with cancer. He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Betty Sweeney, and his brother, **Alfred Lovell '34**. Bob completed undergrad studies at U-M in 1941 and received his MD from U-M Medical School in 1944. Shortly after graduation, he was diagnosed with tuberculosis, as were 10 percent of medical students of that time. His first published book, *Taking the Cure*, described his experiences as a TB patient during World War II. He was assistant dean of Medicine 1957-59 and was clinical professor of internal medicine at retirement in 1969. In 1970 he fulfilled his dream of teaching himself to play bagpipes; in 1978 he was certified as a senior instructor by the Scottish College of Piping, Edinburgh, Scotland. • **James Woodruff** didn't graduate from U High: "In the fall of 1937 the family went to Florida and I enrolled for my senior year in Winter Park's high school. When at Christmas time we returned to Ann Arbor and I tried to re-enter U High, **Dr. Edgar Johnson**, the principal – who knew me only too well – decided I should finish my senior year elsewhere. After a somewhat disastrous spring semester and summer school, I graduated, chastened, not from U High but from Ann Arbor High. In retrospect, I suspect it was a good thing. ... I remember with great fondness our first homeroom teacher, **Miss Cudlip**, and the story she read of the medieval boy who out-ran the tide to save Mount St. Michel. I remember **Mr. Carson** who helped with our dance band, "The Cliff Dwellers," that **Bob Lovell** had organized. Bob played the piano, **John McMurry** the sax, and **Howie Treadway '39** the trumpet. I belabored an elderly set of drums, more or less in time ... while we assaulted "Red Sails in the Sunset" interminably in the Rec Room during lunch. If these "dances" were less than memorable, [who] doesn't remember the Christmas play? Each class, singing a familiar carol, marched into the darkened auditorium; the pierced lanterns, made by **Mr. Byrn** in his shop class, casting points of light that danced on the walls. ... My favorite was the 1932 Christmas play written by the music teacher **Ms. Olsen** [which was about] an Indian boy who takes pity on the poor settler's family and provides presents for the children – played by [**M. Hubbard**] "**Mousy**" **Wheeler**, **Emily LaRue** (I think) and me. ... If I didn't

learn much, I did have a wonderful time with great friends like **Dave Osler, Dave Easlick, John McMurry, the Dobsons** and many more.” Jim concludes with a summary of his career: After serving as an instructor in the air force, in 1946 he returned to U-M for a Ph.D.; he taught geology and physical geography at the University of Georgia for 25 years, retired, then “expanded my hobby of building an occasional house into a construction business. I found this venture satisfying and in conjunction with Ann’s successful real estate agency considerably more remunerative. More important, we raised four children [and have] eleven grandchildren.” Jim says his sister, **Alice Woodruff O’Connor**, did graduate from U High and still is “wonderfully active, bright and acerbic ... widowed, she lives in Fairington Village outside Chapel Hill.”

1939: Several people wrote to express their sadness at the death of **Marjory “Mudge” Killins Bentley**. Her daughter, Susie Griggs, supplied this information: “Mudge Killins Bentley died peacefully in her home on February 2 in Santa Monica, California, following a long struggle with emphysema. She lived in California for many years, but her heart belonged in her beloved Ann Arbor. Mudge stayed in close contact with her many long-time friends until just before her death. Mudge will be remembered for her caring, compassion, loyalty and her great sense of humor.” Plans were for interment at Forest Hill Cemetery and a memorial service on June 25. Mudge attended National Park College, Maryland, and graduated from U-M in 1943. Her work as a surgery clinic receptionist at University Hospital 1943-45 fostered a lifelong interest in medicine. She was also employed for many years at St. John’s Hospital in Santa Monica and at Century Towers in Los Angeles. Susie noted, “My mom lived for the U High reunions and she always had a wonderful time visiting Ann Arbor.” Mudge became the sister-in-law of **Barbara Killins ’35**, who practice-taught a class in which Mudge was a student. • In his holiday letter, **Eugene Fairbanks** wrote that he and Florence were looking forward to the celebration of their 60th wedding anniversary later in December. In the summer, they and brother David and his wife Sylvia visited Portland Oregon, the Columbia Gorge, the old Barlow-Oregon Trail on the southern flank of Mt. Hood, the Willamette Valley, the observation center of Mt. St. Helen’s, and Artists’ Point at Mount Baker. • **Rebecca Grafton Sparks, Peter and Virginia Brooks Olmstead ’40**, and **Willet O’Dell** each sent their appreciation for the *U High Newsletter* and a contribution in its support – and Willet even helped with an address correction for another alum – but none gave us any news about themselves. Write again and tell us what you’re up to!

1940:

The psychotherapist is not so crazy as to spend her summers in the deep south! **Nancy Griffin DuBois** gently points out the error in our last *Newsletter* in stating that her summer home was in Louisiana. Actually it was in Mendocino, in northern California. Unfortunately, Nancy expected last summer to be her last at that ocean side home. “I still have a limited practice of psychotherapy and I am rewarded in being my husband’s Alzheimer care giver. He has moved to the special care unit right across the street in the retirement community where we live.” She also expresses gratitude “to have had my high school education and six happy years at a school that was so close and small. People are amazed when I tell them I know about almost every member of my graduating class and where they are today.” • Word has been received of the death of **Edward M. Stofflet** February 25 at Hartland Health Care. • **Lucy Barnwell Easlick** died December 30, 2004, in Rochester Hills, Michigan. She had suffered from Alzheimer’s disease for seven years. She and her husband, the late **David K. Easlick ’38**, reportedly moved 23 times in the course of his career, which culminated in the chairmanship and presidency of Michigan Bell Telephone Company. • The Florida League of Cities has recognized **Mayor William Koch, Jr.** of Gulf Stream, Florida, for 30+ years of service. His citation noted, “Mayor Koch serves as a prototypical role model for other public servants across the state, and indeed the nation, who work every day to provide the best in municipal service to their citizens.” • **Mary “Molly” Hunter Dobson** reports she had a delightful conversation with **Fitch Tillotson ’37**, a friend of Molly’s late husband **Bill Dobson, ’37**, as a result of a *U High Newsletter* contact. Fitch in turn forwarded a letter from Molly to Gladys Tillotson, widow of **Jack Tillotson, ’30**, who sent Molly a “a long nostalgic letter.” Molly calls this “a wonderful web of happy UHS camaraderie a-spinning, that’s for sure.”

1941: From Denmark, Christopher Boak Comlossy reports that his mother, **Winifred Peters Boak**, died in October, 2003. • **Dick Telfer** provides another chapter on life in Las Vegas: “New Year’s Eve saw the normal large number of nuts in town – we just can’t understand why people mob the strip to see fireworks and then spend hours in long lines of cars heading back to California. [But] things were quiet for us over the holidays. A 55th anniversary and my 82nd birthday the 23rd and 28th of December add to the holiday fun.” Dick says he is completing a book on life as a prisoner of war. “I have just over 50,000 words in what I feel to be good order and have yet to finish being liberated

Regents of the University of Michigan: David A. Brandon, Laurence B. Deitch, Olivia P. Maynard, Rebecca McGowan, Andrea Fischer Newman, Andrew C. Richner, S. Martin Taylor, Katherine E. White, Mary Sue Coleman, *ex officio*

and the mess of my experiences plus the long trip back to the states on a ship that blew a boiler, some bad deals in Ann Arbor upon arriving on leave, and even being charged with being awol while in a base hospital almost two weeks."

1942: **Lucien Terry Finch** of Barnstead, New Hampshire, died January 11. Born in Ann Arbor, he enlisted in the army in 1943 and after three years of service came to U-M to earn a BS degree in electrical engineering. While he was in the army, his fiancée, Margaret "Polly" Carrol completed her U-M degree, and they were married the day after her graduation in 1946. He worked for General Electric, then for Sunbeam International as vice president, assigned to South America and Europe. He retired in 1982. Polly writes, "He had many tales to tell about his teachers, school activities and classmates. What a cohesive group

Writing us a check: Wonderful; Sending news, too: Priceless!

Thank you for your great generosity that supports this publication. Since last issue, 50 households have contributed \$2,215, –average gift of \$44. You are great!

We are, however, puzzled about one thing: Several people sent generous checks but didn't include any news about their activities. It's hard to believe U High grads are shy and retiring, or too busy, or aren't doing *anything*. So, please do send us your news – whether you send a check or not. See "Where to Write," page 15.

Thanks to: Laurence Allen, '37; Elizabeth Allmand, '59; (Frank) Nelson Blanchard, '49; Betsey Bobrinsky, '44; Stuart Bradley, '61; Mary Hayden Burgess, '38; Carolyn Ingham Chandler, Faculty; Bruce B. Cohen, '62; Marilyn Elliott Crandall, '51; Nancy Griffin DuBois, '42; Eugene Fairbanks, '34; Billie Carr Gillis, '33; Jack Gokenbach, '51; Judith Mansfield Goodman, '58; Beverly Granger, '45; Susan B. Griggs in memory of Marjory K. Bentley, '39; Charlotte Fariss Hartlaub, '43; Susan Ross Hodges, '49; Patricia Hume, '44; Jean Langford Hurd, '36; Don and Roxie Roth Johnston, '52; Atlee Kohl, '63; David Lansdale, '34; Charlotte Lewis, '33 in memory of her sister, Elisabeth Lewis, '37, and friend, Margaret Haas Sias, '37; Robert Long, '37; Michael McVaugh, '56; Robert D. and Peggy May Mitchell, '37; Willet O'Dell, '39; Peter and Virginia Brooks Olmsted, '39, '40; Bill Penhale, '34; Susanna Finton Pinyuh, '55; John and Ranny Towsley Riecker, '48, '50; Patricia Brown Seiler, '42; Jack L. Shipman, '41; Alice Esterer Sickels, '51; Nancy Leshner Smith, '66; Rebecca Grafton Sparks, '39; Holly Barlow Sweet, '66; Jewell Mansfield Taylor, '63; Richard Telfer, '41; Nick Themely, '50; Richard Trytten, '43; Winnie Harbeck Tuthill, '70; Elizabeth Mosier Van Liere, '58; Lyndon and Angela Dobson Welch, '43 in honor of Dick Shafer; R T Williams, '68; Richard and Judith Winchester, '51; James F. Woodruff, '38; Gale Yerges, '46.

– so unlike my huge class of 500+ in a New Jersey high school. Terry's class reunions were always more enjoyable than my own. We so enjoyed the last reunion in Ann Arbor. There was even a special visit to Angell School across from Terry's family home."

1943: **Charlotte Fariss Hartlaub**, checks in after having been a "lost Cub" following her move to Summit, New Jersey. "I just went [to U High] from grades 7-9. Then with the war and my father being an army officer I went to three different schools – so I can attest to U High being the greatest!" Do write again, Charlotte, and fill us in on your activities. • **Dick Trytten** sends another report on the activity of the class "Reading Group," which met August 2-4, 2004, at the home of Joan and **Ed Ormondroyd** in Trumansburg, New York. Also present were Lee and **Donald Trow**, Nicole and **John Riegel**, **Eric S. Emory**, **Charlotte Fariss Hartlaub**, **Freddie Shoenfield Brenneman**, and Marilyn and Deborah Trytten. Dick, Marilyn, and Deborah vacationed in Amish country and Hershey and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania en route. "We were particularly interested in the excessive security required to visit the Liberty Bell."

1944: **Betsey Shaw Bobrinsky** updates us on several classmates: "I was saddened by the news of the death of **Lowell Carr's** wife [**Margaret Mead Carr**, '45] this past year. And I learned just now of the death last March [2004] of **Sally Maurice Castelnovo**. Sally and I went on to Smith together, then she transferred to Black Mountain. She had lived in Rome since her marriage. **Pat Hume** and I caught up with **Don and Sally Wyman McCready** last year. I met **John Hunter's** ['40] daughter at the Field Museum! My granddaughter has applied to U-M. ... I told her to tell them she was the granddaughter of a Cub of the Wolverines!"

1945: Both **Bev Granger** and **Frank Nelson Blanchard '49** wrote to tell us of the death of Frank's sister, **Grace Blanchard Iverson**. Frank asks that we include information from a letter distributed by some of Grace's friends and colleagues: "The sudden passing of Dr. Grace Blanchard Iverson on

Fun with statistics: Did you know?

- Thirty-three percent of the honorary doctorates at the University of Michigan's 2005 spring commencement went to U High alumni?
- Nearly two per cent of the active alumni in our classes of 1950 and 1955 received honorary doctorates at the University of Michigan spring commencement? (Our mailing list has approximately 55 active names for each of the classes of '50 and '55). A small percentage, to be sure, but most certainly it's unequaled by any other high school.

OK, OK, statisticians relax. We know percentages aren't meaningful when small numbers are involved. But it's fun! *For details, see pages 10-11.*

April 16 [2004] has saddened us all. ... It was she who inspired the Wilderness Islands Movement in Palm Beach County ... that culminated in our nationally recognized Environmentally Sensitive Lands Program. The thousands of acres of native Florida wilderness protected since 1990 is a testament to Grace's vision and dedication What you may not know is that Grace ... devoted the final decade of her life to banding Florida scrub jays in Palm Beach County and to studying their life history and ecology. Today, this unique and singular Florida bird is in grave danger of being extirpated here, at the southernmost extent of its range. Grace hoped her work might lead to governmental regulations that would ensure the persistence of scrub jays in Palm Beach County."

1948: "Retirement" is a word not recognized by **John Riecker** and **Margaret Ann "Ranny" Towsley Riecker '50**. John still practices estate and trust law on a three-quarter time basis and serves on several volunteer boards. He attended his 50th Law School reunion in Ann Arbor last summer and celebrated 50 years as a member of the Michigan and California bar associations. Ranny's zest for travel on high seas has led them on cruises for eight to ten weeks a year. They planned to spend Christmas 2004 to New Year's 2005 between Singapore and Hong Kong, via Malaysia, Burma, Thailand, and Vietnam. Ranny is chair of the Towsley Foundation and president of the Dow Foundation, served recently as chair of the Carleton College Board of Directors, and is a founder and on the building committee of the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy at U-M. John and Ranny were honored with the naming of the Riecker Surgery Center in Midland, recognizing Ranny's long service on the board of the hospital holding company. They planned to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary this July with a cruise with children and grandchildren in the North and Baltic seas. John's dream of retiring to their Lake Michigan home in Charlevoix keeps getting postponed. *See pages 10-11 for Ranny's latest honor.*

1949: **Harold John "Jack" Lepard** died January 15 in Wellesley, Massachusetts, where he had been living with his son and undergoing cancer treatment. A lifelong Ann Arbor resident until he moved in retirement to Sedona, Arizona in the 1980s, he had been president and owner of Handicraft Furniture Co., an enterprise founded by his grandfather. After U High, he attended Manlius Military Academy and served as a code breaker in army military intelligence. In Sedona, he developed a second career as a charter pilot for Grand Canyon tours. • **Frank Nelson Blanchard** writes, "A number of people from the class of 1949 knew my wife, Mary Gene Blanchard. She died in January after a brief illness. She was born in Ann Arbor, grew up in Los Angeles, and attended U-M. We lived in Ann Arbor five years before moving to Gainesville, Florida. We had been married for nearly 52 years."

1950:

Holiday greetings from **Hugh Barnard** describe a late arrival at their winter home in Florida because of Marilyn's hand injury resulting from a fall downstairs and their enjoyment of an August visit to relatives in Nebraska.

1951: **Alice Esterer Sickels** writes, "Since June 2003, when my husband Bob died, I've traveled frequently, often visiting my daughter and her family in California, and sometimes joining birding hikes. In the late spring, **Nancy Nesbit Crummey** was in Albuquerque with her husband Robert, who participated in University of New Mexico's Medieval Institute. The focus this year was Russia of the Middle Ages. Nancy and I enjoyed the lectures as well as our time together." • **Augustine Ravn Suarez** died September 22, 2004. He had lived in Marlette, Michigan, for four years and previously had lived in the Almont and Dryden area. After graduation from U High, he attended Michigan State University and the Detroit Institute of Art. He had retired from the printing trade and was a veteran of the Korean War. He was an accomplished artist who painted and did wood carvings. Among survivors are his brother, **Miguel Suarez '42**, and sister, **Bridgeen Suarez Cooch '45**. His son, Anton Suarez, wrote that his father was killed when struck by a car while walking near his home. "He was so happy to attend the 50th class reunion and told us many stories of his youth. Thanks to all who organized that event." • "Mostly retired now," is how **Judy Goodhew Winchester** describes her life and that of husband, **Richard Winchester**. Writing from Tuscaloosa, Alabama, in July, 2004, she notes, "We recently bought a lovely new home here in the 'heart of Dixie' and are busy with decorating and putting in flower beds and trees. ... The Gulf is just three and a half hours from us, so the ocean calls to us often. ... We visit Ann Arbor about twice a year. We have two sons with families there, and another son lives near us here. We are healthy and happy and active and have celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary."

1952: **Don and Rosemary "Roxy" Roth Johnston** wrote to inform us they had moved from one home to another in the Ann Arbor area.

1953: In her holiday letter, **Diana Lee Nicholls** described a visit to Florida and fun activities with family and friends, but noted that 2004 was "a bummer of a year health-wise." Problems included weakness from statin drugs, allergies, pneumonia, intestinal problems, and a convergence of these that resulted in a six-day hospital stay. "Home with an oxygen supply, which is a real pain, but better than the alternative. The up side is that I have finally quit smoking!"

1956: **Frederick McClusky** wrote in July, 2004, from Sunrise Senior Living of North Ann Arbor: "I never thought that I would be living in a retirement

home at the age of 65. ... Next month I plan to move Hillside Manor Retirement Center on Ann Arbor's west side. Most of the people I live with are ten or 20 years older than me and female, but I have learned to play bridge here, which I enjoy, as well as the time to read and play the piano and organ. Unfortunately I am physically limited by a back injury and probably could not survive without the three prepared meals per day and housekeeping assistance." • After 40 years teaching history of medicine and science (and medieval history) at UNC-Chapel Hill, **Michael McVaugh** has gone to half-time, which "gives me the fall term off – now Julie and I can come back from our Maine island in September, if we want to. It also makes research and travel easier: in October [2004] we were back in Barcelona for a couple of weeks, taking part in a conference and catching up with old friends. Full-time retirement will come in summer 2007." • In her holiday letter, **Jane E. Kerstin Sutherland Stempel** reports that surgeries have relieved pains in her left leg, although the leg is weakened. Physical therapy has helped immensely. In May [2004] Kerstin felt up to a trip to England to sing at the wedding of her sister Mary's daughter. "The wedding was delightful in a tiny village church in Kent with a tiny village church choir that accompanied Kerstin, with an uncertain organist, in Mozart's 'Laudate Domino.'"

1958: **Beth Mosier VanLiere** told us about time she and her husband have spent in the Bainbridge Island area, off the coast of Seattle. "We've explored where my grandfather homesteaded in 1909-26 in eastern Washington, almost to the Canadian border: gorges, falls, and mountain lakes! We have also been to the Oregon coast and Portland – both lovely." They still come back to Carp Lake, Michigan, near Petoskey. "We can't leave Michigan altogether! Certainly we do not miss any snow. ... *Do write, fellow 1958 U High-ers!*"

1959: **Elinor "Liz" Allmand's** holiday letter sports a brace of candy canes, two wedding photos, and pictures of three grandkids. "[Husband] Tom is getting around just fine these days, very little after-effects from GBS. Thomas Christopher Allmand was married to Rebecca Hindbaugh on November 15, 2003. Tom still works at Pro Quest and Becky is teaching music at Saline Middle School." • **Johan Michael Katz**, music director of the Barn Sinfonietta of Oxted, reports the orchestra "had a fantastic season – only our third – playing seven concerts in all. Thanks go to the musicians for their dedication, splendid efforts and support. We played concerts with well deserved acclaim at The Barn Theatre and the United Reformed Church in Oxted and at Christchurch in Coldharbour, Surrey (where we have been invited back next year for an exciting new project!). We were triumphant in LSO, St. Luke's in London.

Classnotes continue on page 12

Two U High grads from the '50s get honorary degrees from U-M in April

Two University High School alumni were among six persons receiving honorary degrees at University of Michigan commencement ceremonies April 30 in Michigan Stadium. Both were graduated from University High in the 1950s: Margaret Ann "Ranny" Towsley Riecker, a member of the class of 1950, received an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree, and Bruce S. McEwen, a graduate of 1955, was granted an Honorary Doctor of Science degree.

Ranny was cited for her work with foundations, having been a long-term trustee of the Towsley Foundation and Dow Foundation. She is credited with "improving the work of foundations, especially family foundations, in Michigan through the Council of Michigan Foundations and nationwide through the Council on Foundations." With her husband, John Ernest Riecker '48, she is honorary co-chair of the Michigan Difference, a \$2.5 billion campaign currently running at U-M. "Ranny Riecker is deeply committed to improving her community and its institutions – including the University of Michigan," commented Rebecca Blank, dean of the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy at U-M. This is Ranny's third honorary degree, having previously been awarded a Doctor of Public Service Degree from Central Michigan University and a Doctorate of Humane Letters from Albion College.

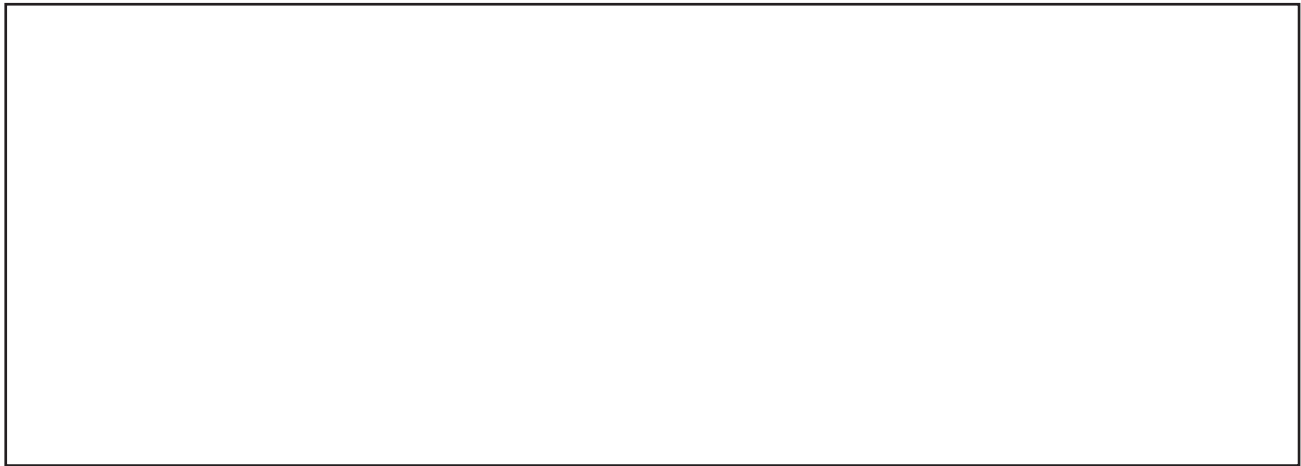
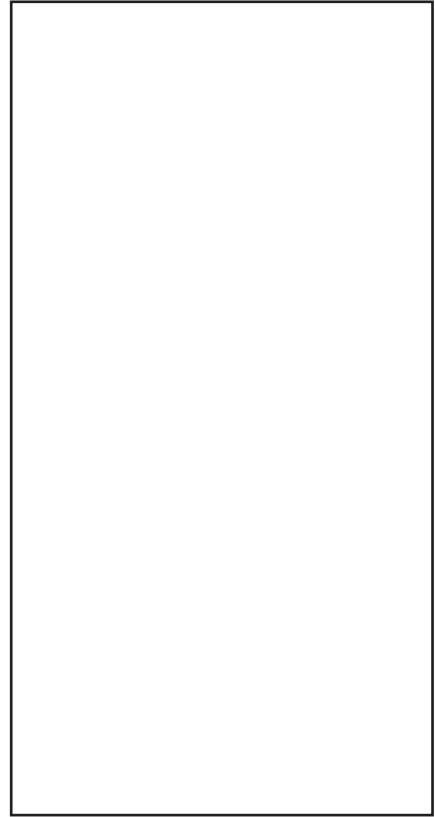
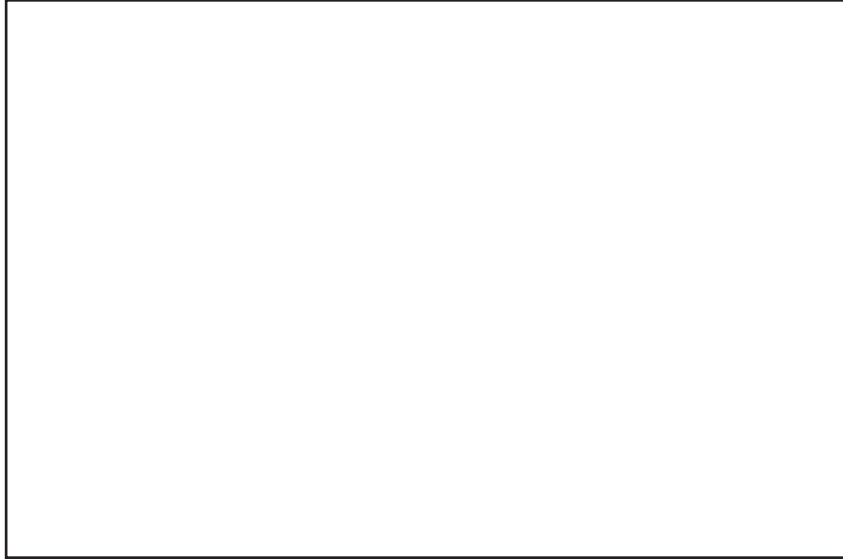
"The studies by Bruce McEwen and his research team at Rockefeller University's Harold & Margaret Milliken Hatch Laboratory continue to elucidate the impact of stress on brain structure and neurochemistry, as well as to define sex differences in the brain," a U-M statement reads. "His laboratory combines molecular, anatomical, pharmacological, physiological and behavioral methodologies and relates their findings to human clinical information. Commenting on his 2002 article, 'The Neurobiology of Stress: From Serendipity to Clinical Relevance,' McEwen said that there is an inevitable price for being alive and we can make choices that help us minimize stress. 'We can never eliminate it! Choices include the things that make sense, like eating sensibly, exercising regularly, getting enough sleep and having a break from work. These are things that our mothers and grandmothers tried to teach us, but they make even more sense when they are based upon an increasing understanding of mechanisms of adaptation and damage,' he said." Bruce is the son of U-M English professor George McEwen. He serves as a scientific adviser to the U-M Mental Health Research Institute.

U High grads receive honorary degrees

Right: Bruce McEwen observes commencement ceremonials.

Below: Ranny Riecker (left) receives congratulations from U-M President Mary Sue Coleman.

All photos on this page are by Martin Vloet and are printed by arrangement with University of Michigan Photo Services.

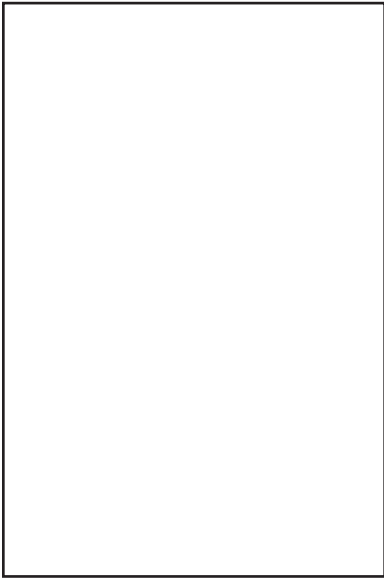


University of Michigan President Mary Sue Coleman, Bruce McEwen, and Ranny Riecker pose with four others who received honorary degrees. From left: Glenn E. "Bo" Schembechler, head football coach of the Michigan Wolverines for 21 years and athletic director 1988-1990; Mildred Dresselhaus, a leader in carbon research for 40 years whose physics research has seen many breakthroughs in the physics of solids; John Seely Brown, chief scientist for Xerox Corporation 1992-2002 and head of the Xerox Palo Alto Research Center 1990-2000; President Coleman; Bruce McEwen; Ranny Riecker; and Henry W. Bloch, who with his brothers developed the United Business Company and the H&R Block Tax Training Schools. Dr. Brown was the commencement speaker who, the University of Michigan Record Online reports, at one point in the ceremonies was cheered by the students for having helped invent spellcheck computer software.

1961:

Stu Bradley moved from San Antonio, Texas, to Marquette, Michigan in 1992 after retiring from the air force. He is in his 12th year as an investment representative with Edward Jones and in his eighth year on the Marquette City Commission, serving one term as mayor. In April, 2004, he represented his community in Washington, D.C. at the National Press Club, where Marquette was recognized as one of the 30 "most livable" places in the United States. He and wife Bonnie have two children and four grandchildren.

- A book by **James Eggert**, *The Wonder of the Tao: A Meditation on Spirituality and Ecological Balance*, was published in March, 2004, by Humanics Publishing Group. Web site: <http://www.humanicspub.com/bookhtmls/wonder.htm>. Jim is an emeritus faculty member at the University of Wisconsin-Stout and also has written *What Is Economics* and *Song of the Meadowlark: Exploring Values for a Sustainable Future*.



The cover of James Eggert's latest book, published in 2004.

1962: **Susan A. Ivory** recalls dental testing: "I was recently contacted and asked to continue being a participant in the long-standing dental research project at the U-M Dental School. As I'm sure you know, University School students comprise the longest running dental research project in the world. Every ten years, I am contacted and asked to have an x-ray as well as impressions made for their continuing research. (How well I remember having those gooey dental impressions made at University Elementary and High School. It was a great excuse to get out of class!) It makes me feel a part of medical (dental) history. The school may no longer exist, but its legacy is alive and well."

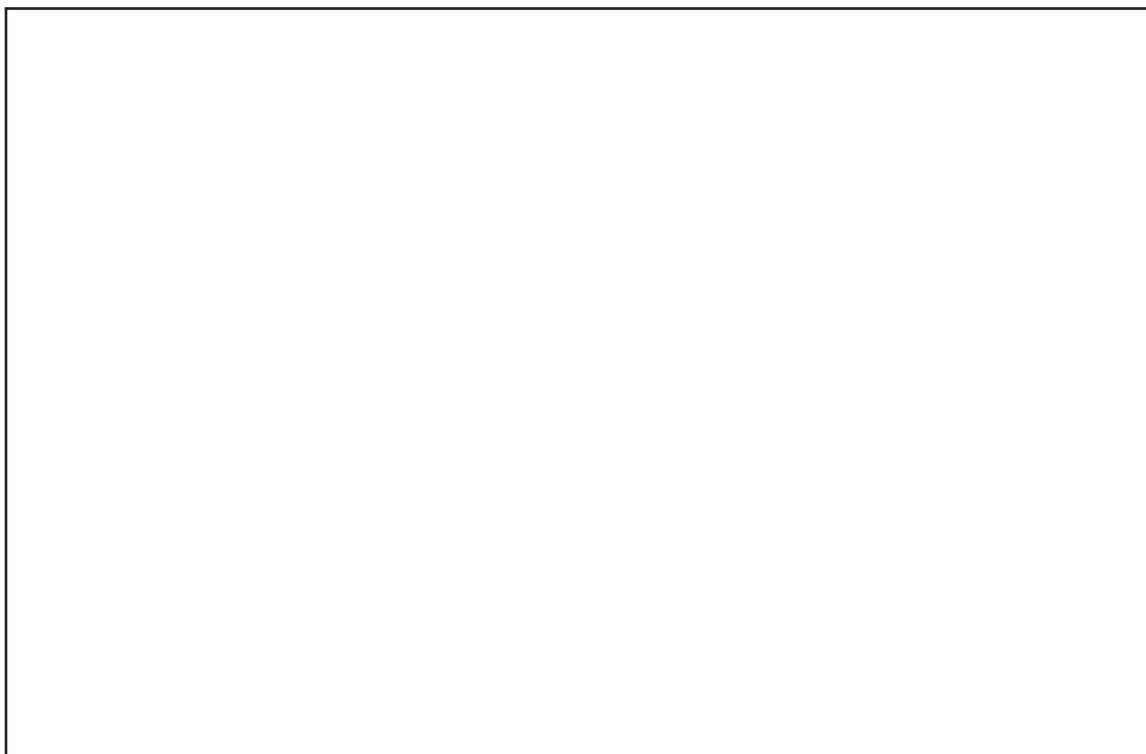
1963: "I was 15 years old when I came from Helsinki, Finland, to Ann Arbor and was in U High for one year because my mother, who was investigating in odontology, had got a scholarship," writes **Viveca Tallgren**. "So I was at U High from the fall of 1959 until the spring of 1960 and would love to see some of my classmates some time again. I can't remember what grade I was in, because the system is different in my country, but some of my classmates were **Alice Wild [Dawes]**, **Judy Aloe**, **Judy McHugh [Gearyl]**,

Sue Cranson [Brown], **Gwen Maddy**, **Katie Ratliff [Guth]**, **Margo Child**, **Barbara Maddock [Buchele]**, and **Jeanie Ouradnik [Zearley]**. There was a Swedish girl in our class, too, **Anna Hedberg**, but it is quite a long time since I have been in touch with her. I have been living in Denmark since 1961, in Copenhagen. I am a teacher of Spanish at the Copenhagen Business College and at an evening college for adults. I also do some journalism and right now I am working on a teaching book for Spanish. I am married to a Dane and have three daughters and two grandchildren. Please let me hear from you: Viveca Tallgren, Bülowsvej 32 B, 2th, 1870 Frederiksberg C, Denmark; e-mail: viveca.tallgren@mail.dk." • "Retirement is wonderful!" exclaimed **Jewell Mansfield Taylor** in her December note. "I worked for 36 years in education, the majority of the time as a special educator for the Washtenaw [County] Intermediate School District. Now I have time to enjoy doing things like sewing, traveling, gardening This fall [2004] I traveled up north, then to New Mexico, and later spent a week on a houseboat in Kentucky. I'm now trying to master my retirement gift, a serger sewing machine. [I do] miss my WISD 'family.' It's great when I see them. My son and daughter are fine, and it's nice having time to spend with them."

1966: **Holly Sweet** came to Ann Arbor in November, 2003, to attend her mother Betty's memorial gathering at the home of Shirley Knudsvig. Betty died on October 17, 2003. Shirley is the widow of **Glenn Knudsvig**, who taught Latin at U High. Attending the gathering were U High alumnae **Martha Ratliff '64** and **Colby Schneider Willis**. Holly has been working on a textbook, *Composing One's Life: Exploring One's Life Through Photography, Art, and the Written Word*, based on a course she co-taught at MIT with a professional photographer. Web site: <http://web.mit.edu/esg-seminars>. Her interest in developing this subject and book was due in part to her mother's recent death, going through her parents' memoirs and realizing the importance of documenting life. Holly also is in private practice as a licensed psychologist and runs an experimental study program for freshmen at MIT.

- **David Williams Copp** died August 5, 2004. After graduation from U High, he completed a degree at Eastern Michigan University in 1970. Respected in the field of broadcasting, media sales and marketing, David was part of the original sales staff for Superstation / TBS, the first advertiser-supported cable network. He became vice president of marketing for Turner Broadcasting, Inc. In 1988, he formed David Copp & Associates, a media marketing firm. He lived in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. • **Stephanie Berg Oram's** holiday letter is a lovely, four-page, meticulously detailed summary of Oram life in Denver. A few highlights: Stephanie became the chief executive of the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the College Music Society. One of the perks of the presidency is being

1967 classmates gather for their 'first annual' fall football mini reunion near Michigan Stadium



These tailgaters had a mini class reunion at the "North End Zone" near Michigan Stadium for the 2004 Michigan vs. Indiana football game: Front row, left to right: Tom Dobson, Tim Reade, Tom Wall. Back row, left to right: John Poinier, Marilyn Ball Pendorf, Katie Heywood, Diane Woods, Vincent Johnson. See article, under 1967 classnotes.

sent to the annual National Conference of the College Music Society, that November at a luxury hotel in San Francisco. In June Stephanie finished a yearlong course she created for the Professional Reading Enrichment Program for the Colorado State Music Teachers Association. "Music and Art in Time" assigned participants to read a music history textbook, look at art books, search out historical events, and map significant locations associated with music and composers of various style periods. • **Nancy Lesher Smith** and her husband, Doug, moved to a 4,000-square-foot house last summer, not far from the home they had occupied since moving to Texas over 26 years ago. "We'll down-size after retirement, but we're really enjoying the space right now, especially when children and grandchildren visit." Nancy has been a quality manager for Tenet HealthSystem for five years and travels extensively. "We travel as much as we can in our spare time, too – in the last five years we've been to Australia, New Zealand, Italy, Belgium, Spain, France, England, Portugal, Hawaii, Fanning Island in the Republic of Kiribari, Canada, Mexico several times, and Puerto Rico." They planned an Alaskan

cruise for September. "We have five children and five grandchildren. All but one are married, three to their high school sweethearts." The four granddaughters and one grandson are aged 5 to 14. "All my siblings attended UES and/or UHS, including my twin brother **Roger**, who is an engineer at Associated Spring in Ann Arbor. My youngest sister, **Valerie** is turning 50 [in 2005] and we've planned a birthday party / reunion for her in Ann Arbor. **Sarah [Lesher Alfonso] '67** lives 15 miles from me in Dallas and another sister, **Megan** (formerly Linda) lives about 350 miles from here in northwest Arkansas. **Deborah [Lesher McNamara] '67**, Sarah's twin, is in Brighton. ... **Dan**, Megan's twin, is in Virginia, and **Ted '57** and **Karen**, the oldest siblings, are in California."

1967: In a featured article on the front page of the local news section of the September 26, 2004, *Ann Arbor News*, **Tom Wall** is credited with having the idea for, and providing the venue for, the "All Star Hotdog" staff that hawked food, beverages, and souvenirs at home U-M football games. A retired special education teacher, Tom had been renting space at 1011 South Main Street to commercial vendors but figured he

could make money to help mentally retarded students. Students from the Washtenaw Intermediate School District and their advisers staffed the booth. John Williams, the students' teacher at WISD, is quoted by the *Ann Arbor News* as hoping by the end of the year they would have earned several hundred dollars to help pay for field trips. But, the *News* continued, he said it was also inspiring for the students to become integrated with the public. "They are out here and they get a high profile and we want to show the public they can earn money themselves. Our kids can get out and do things. The main thing is social skills and their self-confidence." And now **John Poinier** informs us of a tailgating opportunity open to U High alums: "**Tom** and **Marie Wall** hosted the first annual class of 1967 fall football reunion at their new tailgating facility at 1011 South Main Street, just north of the Michigan Stadium [in fall 2004]. **Alice "Marilyn" Ball Pendorf, Tom Dobson, Katie Heywood, Van Johnson, John Poinier, Tim** and **Joy Reade, Diane Woods** and **Geoff Blow (Nancy Mills' husband)** enjoyed the U-M-Indiana game on the projection TV and had a potluck. Everyone agreed it was a great location and a lot of fun, and we plan to do it again this fall, tentatively when Michigan plays at Iowa on October 22. U High grads who might be interested in attending can send e-mail to <uhightailgate-request@umich.edu>. This will enable organizers to contact you when the date approaches with more details. Tom's place is available for rent for social events. The 'North End Zone' has a seven-foot screen, fieldstone fireplace, complete kitchen and a barrier free bathroom. Tom can be contacted at <tom@northendzone.com> or (734) 665-7374 extension 203."

1968: "A lot has happened since high school," **RT Williams** exclaims. "I have been divorced, now, for about ten years. [On July 10, 2004] I remarried. Doing some research, I discovered that my family name is very Welsh. My bride is of Scottish descent, so we had a Celtic wedding with bagpipe music and all! We had a dance band at the reception, since my bride and I are both swing dancers. I teach swing dancing at a local dance studio. I have two daughters, who are both married. My eldest has three children. ... I currently work for Johnson Controls in Holland, Michigan. I also live there. I am in the Leadership Institute as a training specialist. I do leadership development classes for entry and intermediate level managers. We have a technical campus in Holland and another in Plymouth. I travel often between the two cities, and every now and then I take time to drive down to Ann Arbor and have a look around. It is amazing what changes and what stays the same! Last November [2003] my then-fiancée and I spent ten days in Scotland. She is of the Campbell clan, and we found the ancient Campbell Castle. We drove down to Cardiff to find the Williams tartan. I have a kilt of the National Irish tartan because my

birthday is St. Patty's Day and wanted to get married in my family tartan. One of my hobbies is tailoring, so I made my kilts – which saved me bunches of money! We absolutely fell in love with the United Kingdom and would love to visit there often." Tim and his bride planned a trip to Ireland for March, 2005 and hoped to celebrate the famous saint on the Emerald Isle! • **Aimee Colmery Dixon** describes herself as "retired" at the age of 20 and at that time "was a ski freak in Crested Butte, Colorado; made money as a calligraphist, prep cook and silkscreen printer; hitch-hiked across the continent several times; canoed down the Yukon River while the sun never set; hiked 11,000-foot mountains with no ropes or axes; attended art school in France to learn lithography; and lived with partner, Kurtis, on a communal farm in Michigan (Go Blue!)" In 1979 Aimee left eight acres and a cabin in the Rockies and arrived in Little Rock to help her mother settle in after moving there to work at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Twenty-five years later, Aimee has earned a BA in art and MA in technical and expository writing at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, where she supports faculty in their use of technology. Aimee's daughter, Jenna, and Kurtis now attend UALR. The family enjoy their front porch downtown in an 1883 Craftsman cottage. "The best part," Aimee writes, is the fun she has "working with UALR's faculty in an open-air office filled with amazing co-workers, awesome technology and, of course, lots of art."

[1970]:

Winnie Harbeck Tuthill reports some members of the class of 1970 enjoyed a reunion at Bruin Lake last August. Winnie lives in Springfield, Illinois, and works for the Illinois State Board of Education. She has a daughter in her 20's, teaches occasional classes in art history, loves to camp out and travel, and endures the trials of being a Wolverine fan in the heart of Illinois. She asks to be added to the *U High Newsletter* mailing list; we're delighted to have you on board, Winnie!

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Web site – www.uhigh.net

The class of '59 has set up a web site for University High School alumni at www.uhigh.net. If your class has a web site now, you may send the URL (web address) to Bill Morrison at <bill@morrison3.com> and he will add your class to the home page and link your website to it. If your class does not have a site but would like to start one, drop Bill a line with your name, class and phone number and either he or Jon Schmidt will get in touch with you to help you get one started. The site is established privately and is not directly affiliated with the University of Michigan.

Reunion buzz

1956: Karl Frankena has started gathering materials for a class reunion in 2006.

1955: Tom Butts has arranged for a tour of U High for a reunion June 25.

1945: Tom Siler sent a tongue-in-cheek report on the September 5-7, 2003 reunion hosted by Colin Hamberg at Port Sheldon, Michigan. Tom "first-personalized" his report, asking (rhetorically?), "How do you write much about a reunion in which we didn't do anything?" Tom reminisced about meals, sales of some copies of his own book *Salt Lick* (at his cost), delicious blueberries and late-night chats running past 10:30 p.m. "To me, it wasn't just for recognition of the past, but a continuance of friendship, for the most part our longest and most endearing. To once again be with the wonderful group of people that did so much to shape my life. Not so much to celebrate the ritual of 58 years prior, but to be with those with whom we shared so much prior to June 1, 1945. ... We lamented the losses from our ranks, the absence of ones we would love to have seen again ..."

Lost Cubs

In recent months, mail has been returned from these alumni. If you can provide a new address, please do so. See "Where to Write" on this page. Thank you!

William H. Bradley, '27; Albert Marckwardt, '54; Ed McClellen, '54; Henry Thornton Winchester, '29; (Mrs. Donald) Helen Byrn May, '34; Peggy Cannon Krahn, '40; (Mrs. W.R.) Harriet Merrill Dana Carroll, '34; Mrs. Ferenika Demitrelias Vorriss, '57; Shirley Fischer Henry, '66; (Mrs. Leonard J.) Doris Goodall Fish Coyne, '30; (Mrs. Robert) Virginia Ladd Crane, '28; (Mrs. Paul) Arlene A. Lear McMichael, '42; (Mrs. William L.) Elizabeth B. Shull Russell, '29; Inez Suarez Tagge, '50; Ralph N. Haber, '49; (Mrs. DeForest) Doris Jaffe Piper, '31; Hugh N. Barnard, '50; (Mrs. Frank) Sue Alling Lynch, '42; Sue Herrick Kosmalski, '66; Tom Parsons, Faculty.

Tell us about the reunion!

We are pleased to provide available space for brief summary articles about reunions recently held; and when the confirmed completion of details for a future reunion coincides with our somewhat erratic publication schedule, we're more than happy to add to the advance publicity.

Unfortunately, because of the intensity of time-consuming reunion tasks, the *Newsletter* is not able to assist with reunion planning, publicity, or searches for lost alumni. Your own classmates are a much better and more efficient resource.

Current address information is maintained by Laurie Stoianowski at the School of Education Building. (See "Where to Write," on this page for Laurie's address and for restrictions on the release of address information.)

Where to write

Send *changes of address* to:

Ms. Laurie Stoianowski
University High School Newsletter
1111 School of Education
University of Michigan
610 East University Avenue
Ann Arbor MI 48109-1259

Please include an old address label when available. *Be sure to notify us when you move; for future reference, please clip this notice and put it with your address book.*

We are unable to provide classmates' address information from our mailing lists but will try to forward items on which postage has been paid. Be sure to include the sender's address so the recipient can respond. For large mailings, make inquiries well in advance of need.

Send *news items and contributions* to:

Eric Warden, Editor, *U Hi News*
414 Westwood Avenue
Ann Arbor MI 48103-3553

By all means, send your holiday letters, but in them and all news items indicate year of graduation for all University High graduates. If the year is unknown, indicate that the person is an alumnus/a. Persons whose names have changed since graduation should include the names by which they were known in school. *Make contributions payable to University H.S. Alumni. Thank you!*

***Written contact is necessary;
please do not telephone.***

Newsletter

University High School

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University of Michigan

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