### FINLANDIA UNIVERSITY

## the Bridge Fall/Winter 2011 • Volume 64, Number 2



A Home Field Advantage





## From the President PHILIP JOHNSON

Dear Friends and Alumni,

I know you will enjoy reading this issue of *the Bridge*. It is packed full of expressions of Finlandia's core values: student learning and growth, teaching excellence, heritage, innovation, collaboration, strategic achievement, and more.

Institutional core values, however, are only as good as the people who embody and live them. People matter. In fact, people matter the most. There is a West African proverb, "People are the thing." We know this. Yet, we often live as if it were not so.

In this issue, we remember and celebrate one of those people who belong to our story, now past: Gloria Jackson. In this donor edition of *the Bridge*, it is appropriate to pause and remember Gloria, a woman who chose to live so generously. Below I share a part of the homily I delivered at Gloria's funeral this past May.

Gloria lived life well. She lived life fully. She filled it to the brim, it seems to me. She filled it with family and with faith.

She filled it with trips. She traveled almost constantly.

She filled it with dozens of civic and philanthropic commitments, chief among them, education.

She filled it tirelessly championing all things Finnish and Finnish American.

She filled it with friends, lots of friends.

She filled it with projects. Gloria loved projects.

She filled it with summers in Eagle Harbor and winters in Paradise Valley.

Though Gloria loved both residences, I believe her heart always resided in the U.P.

She filled it with her dogs over the years: Rocky, then Toni, then Nuppi, and Flicka.

Gloria made every effort to be kind toward others. This is not to say she held no judgments about people.

But you had to earn judgments from Gloria. She did not hold them without good cause.

She set the bar high for herself and those around her.

She valued integrity and strong follow through.

She kept her commitments and expected everyone else to do the same.

Gloria was not a quitter. She was uncommonly methodical, deeply caring, a quintessential host.

Gloria would not infrequently speak of plans that I, honestly, thought were a bit out of reach: more recently we talked about biking the Superior Circle Tour, and in a year or two summiting Kilimanjaro. Such plans seemed unrealistic at times. I tried not to notice because she took such great joy in imagining and planning such things. And, truth be told, I more often than not would be simply caught up into her enthusiastic anticipation of another new experience, another personal challenge to chase down.

Gloria could laugh at herself. One public slip we laughed about more than once was during a Finlandia commencement address when she, intending to wish our graduates "the best success," wished them instead "the best sex." Though the former would have been well received, the latter packed a better punch. She could laugh about this.

For these reasons and so many more, Gloria's death is untimely. She had at least another 25 years worth of grandmothering to do, projects to complete, places to visit, guests to host, and life to live. So, her death is not welcome. Death has taken her from us, and God, in Christ, has received her. So we celebrate a life well-lived, hearing and believing a promise that brings hope that will endure long after today's grief.

Philip Johnson, Ph.D.

President



"They are all exceptional American artists, period."

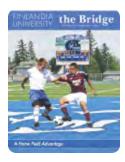


"Tanzania gave me a new way to look at myself and my life."

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"Campus and Community" is changing lives and contributing to Hancock revitalization.



**Cover Photo:** Freshman Lions defenseman Alan Arthur, Ironwood, steals the ball from an opposing player at a Men's Soccer contest versus Robert Morris University on September 11 at McAfee Field. Photo by John Kolbas.

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Mr. Philip Musser, Houghton

### News from the Archive The Finnish American Historical Archive and Museum, established in 1932, continues to build its collection of Finnish and Finnish-American artifacts and historical documents. Here are a few recent highlights. "As you'll see, the Archive collection includes much more than books and papers!" says Heritage Center director James Kurtti. "I encourage others to donate the Finnish and Finnish-American artifacts that may reside in their attics and basements."

#### A Kansallispuku, Martta Dolls ... and Genealogy

This July, Glenn and Linda Wendela, Lexington, Mich., delivered two separate donations to the Finnish American Historical Archive on behalf of Glenn's aunt, Esther, and his sister-in-law, Susan.

The first is a handmade kansallispuku (national costume) from Saaksmäki, Finland, which was purchased in Jalasjärvi, Finland,

Finnish Martta dolls

in the 1920s by the late Esther (Wendela) Lindberg. After Esther's death in 1996, the dress was inherited by Esther's sister, Beth (Wendela) Collman, who lives in the Phoenix area and is the donor of the dress. Glenn is Esther and Beth's nephew.

Esther took great care to preserve the dress, which she purchased when she was in her early 20s. She wore it just a few times, but for many years loaned it to several downtown Phoenix department stores for their Christmas window displays.

The second (and third) gift is two Martta dolls made in Finland in the 1930s. The collectible dolls join a third Finnish Martta doll in the Archive's collection. The donor of the Martta dolls is Susan (Taras) Wendela, formerly of Bath, Mich., now of Tennessee, who inherited the dolls from Esther.

Esther was born in Houghton, and with sister Beth and brother Hugo (Glenn's father), was raised in Detroit. With their parents, Elvira (Saari) and Nicholas (who met and were married in Houghton), the Wendela family often traveled to the Upper Peninsula and Crystal Falls to visit their maternal aunt and uncle, Hulda (Saari) and Charles Mannio, and cousin Kauko.

Elvira and Hulda's mother, twice-widowed Matilda Kellosaari Riitaniemi, emigrated to Michigan in 1939 to live with Elvira in Detroit. Matilda is buried in Crystal Falls. Matilda's parents were Valentin and Elizabeth (Ylikanto) Suomula.



The kansallispuku donated by Beth (Wendela) Collman

Glenn has two second cousins (once removed) in the U.P.: Karen Groop, Crystal Falls, and Ruth Ball, Skandia. Their mother was Hilma Erkkila; and their grandmother, Edla Kellosaari, was the sister-in-law of Matilda.

Esther retired from a decades-long career as a teacher and counselor at East Detroit High School. In their retirement, Esther and her husband, Veikko, lived in the Phoenix, Ariz., area. Esther spoke and wrote Finnish fluently and often visited her cousins in Jalasjärvi.



#### Rare Sound Recordings

Eva Mouilso, Alpena, the sister of Toivo Taro of Toivola, donated a collection of 21 rare music recordings from her late brother's estate. During his lifetime, Taro was frequently seen at western Upper Peninsula Finnish-American events recording the music of U.P. musicians. The donation included Taro's 1948 Webster-Chicago "Model 80" sound recorder, with which he made the recordings.

A \$2,750 gift from Eva Mouilsio has made it possible to digitize the fragile recordings, which

require special equipment to play them. Audio Restorations by Art Shifrin, New York, New York, will convert the historic recordings to mp3 digital files. Notably, Shifrin was wire transfer engineer on the 2008 Grammy-awardwining historical record "The Live Wire: Woody Guthrie in Performance 1949."

When the project is completed, selections from the recordings will be available online and all the recordings will have been preserved digitally for future generations to enjoy.





Finlandia University Gallery • December 1, 2011, to January 14, 2012

# A Retrospective of Exceptional Expression

In his introductory essay to the exhibit catalog for the Finlandia **■** University Gallery's Contemporary Finnish-American Artist Series 20th Year Retrospective, Chicago-based art writer and journalist Jeff Huebner writes that the exhibit series "embraces a group of people whose work represents not only the range and diversity of Finnish-American cultural expression—from abstracted landscapes to ceramic vessels, from realistic paintings to photographic portraits, from stainless-steel sculptures to fiber art—but also the wide-ranging heterogeneity of the American art experience itself."

Huebner stresses, however, that, "While these artists and their appealing works are part of our American heritage, they also reveal varying levels of engagement with their ethnic identity, or nationality. Some directly explore themes and images related to their Finnish-ness (suomalaisuus), Finnish-American-ness, or Sámi heritage ... other artists show a more tenuous connection to their ancestry, their work more concerned with formal issues ... [and] some of these artists mine veins of magical realism, psychological realism, or surrealism."

"Though justly proud of their heritage, I'd venture to say that most of the artists in this exhibition would prefer not to be classified by such limiting, hyphenated labels. They are all exceptional American artists, period." Huebner concludes, adding that, "Except sometimes through the surname, you wouldn't necessarily know these folks were Finns."

"The Finlandia University Gallery gratefully acknowledges each of the 19 artists who have been part of the Finnish-American Artists Series," says gallery director Carrie Flaspohler. "It is their commitment that has made it a success. They are an inspiring, professional, and generous group of artists."

The exhibition and catalog are supported in part by Finlandia Foundation® National, Finn Spark, Inc., Patricia Van Pelt, and a gift in memory of The Hon. Dr. Gloria Jackson.

The Contemporary Finnish American Artist Series 20th Year Retrospective catalog can be ordered through Finlandia's North Wind Books. The 48-page soft cover book includes 19 full-color reproductions of the artwork featured in the exhibit.

#### Finlandia University **Contemporary Finnish-American Artist Exhibit Series Participants**

1993 Kathleen Oettinger

1994 Peder Kitti

1995 Yeshe Linda Helander

1996 Gerald Immonen

1997 Elsa Bekkala

1998 Marlene Ekola Gerberick

2001 Arno Rafael Minkkinen

2002 10-Year Retrospective

2004 Petri Flint

2005 Vaino Kola

2006 David Salmela

2008 Désirée Koslin

2009 Bruce A. Niemi

2010 Dina Kantor



A scene from "Rockland," the opera

#### "Rockland," the Opera

"Rockland," the opera, premiered at the Rozsa Center for the Performing Arts, Houghton, July 15 and 17 to enthusiastic capacity crowds. The opera was commissioned and produced by Pine Mountain Music Festival (PMMF), a classical music festival in the Upper Peninsula. The opera was the brainchild of John Kiltinen, a retired math professor at Northern Michigan University, Marquette, who, with his wife Pauline, is a long-time friend of Finlandia. The Kiltinens were the primary underwriters of the opera's premiere in Michigan.

The opera is based on actual events in the western Upper Peninsula copper-mining town of Rockland where in 1906 two striking Finnish miners were killed in a confrontation with sheriff's deputies. "Rockland" had an orchestra of 43 and a cast of about 50. The librettist, Jussi Tapola, is a prominent stage director in Finland, and the composer, Jukka Linkola, is a well-known Finnish composer.

On a parallel track, the opera was adopted by the Jokilaakso Music Foundation, Nivala, Finland, and its production was primarily underwritten by the late Gloria Jackson, whose maternal grandmother was from Nivala. Mrs. Jackson was chairperson of the Finlandia University Board of Trustees at the time of her unexpected death in May 2011. The Nivala production, in June 2011, was dedicated to her memory.

Peter Van Pelt, PMMF executive director, said that Michigan audiences embraced the opera since it told so much about the people, working conditions, labor-management relations, and social issues of 19th and 20th century U.P. mining towns. Similarly, Van Pelt observed that Finnish audiences felt the opera was their story, too, as so many of them had ancestors who had emigrated to mining communities in the Upper Peninsula. "The opera was a great success on both sides of the Atlantic," Van Pelt concludes. "We are most grateful to the Kiltinens and Gloria Jackson."

#### **UP-wide "Reverse Transfer" Agreement**

It is well known that associate degree credits can be applied toward bachelor degree requirements. Lesser known is "reverse transfer," in which academic credits awarded at the baccalaureate level are applied to an unfinished associate degree. To increase awareness of this option, Finlandia and five other Upper Peninsula higher education institutions have forged a formal agreement to help students complete a reverse transfer associate degree while working on their bachelor's degrees. The institutions' presidents hope the agreement will address three issues in particular: undocumented learning, increasing and promoting associate degree completion for transfer students, and encouraging students to complete their bachelor's degrees. Other U.P. schools participating in the agreement are Michigan Tech, Bay College, Gogebic Community College, Lake Superior State University, and Northern Michigan University. Students interested in the reverse transfer program should visit the registrar's office of their college or university for more information.



Well-known Finnish folk musician Arto Järvelä performs a tune at this July's Finnish Folk Music Camp

#### Finnish Folk Music Camp

This summer the lure of learning Finnish folk music from the masters brought musicians all the way from Maine... and California... and even Alaska! More than 70 people of all ages and skill levels traveled to the Lahti Retreat Center, near Hancock, for a three-day immersion in Finnish folk music in an awesome waterfront setting on Lake Superior. Three evening concerts by Music Camp students and instructors brought dozens more to the site. Organized by Finlandia's Finnish Council in America and Finnish American Heritage Center, the Finnish Folk Music Camp, July 12 to 14, featured instruction in kantele, fiddle, mandolin, and bones. And those with other interests weren't forgotten: the camp included workshops to learn wood carving, birchbark weaving, and Finnish cooking and baking. Camper feedback left little doubt that this inaugural event should become an annual one. Stay tuned for information about next year's Finnish Folk Music Camp.



Left to right: International School of Business faculty and staff (back row) Michael Bausano, Paula Oye, Amber Campbell, Kate Hagenbuch, Dean Terry Monson, Chris Salani; (front row) Sharon Cuffe, Mary Jane Hatton, Carol Bates, Rekha Ambardar, Marilyn Clark

#### **Business School Awarded Campus Compact Grant**

The International School of Business (ISB) announced that Michigan Campus Compact (MCC) approved their \$2,400 grant proposal, "Increasing Business Student Participation in Community Affairs." The ISB is one of 13 MCC member institutions to receive the grant. ISB dean Terry Monson says the grant will encourage Business students' participation in community affairs. In particular, it will fund the purchase or license of several business and accounting-related software packages. With these tools, the ISB will engage four student teams in service activities at three local organizations over the course of this academic year.

Two teams will provide marketing and accounting assistance to the Copper Country Community Arts Center (CCCAC), Hancock; another will provide project assistance to the Hancock Business and Professional Association (HBPA); and the fourth team will provide business consulting assistance at Finlandia's small business incubator, the Jutila Center for Global Design and Business.

"We are grateful to the CCCAC, the HBPA, and the Jutila Center for supporting this grant and their willingness to work with our students," Monson says. "I believe it is an undertaking that will benefit all of us." The MCC is a coalition of college and university presidents who are committed to fulfilling the public purposes of higher education.

#### Finlandia Named Military Friendly School

G.I. Jobs, a magazine for military personnel transitioning to civilian life, has awarded Finlandia designation as a 2012 Military Friendly School. The annual list of U.S. colleges, universities, and trade schools recognizes the top 20 percent of surveyed institutions that are doing the most to embrace as students America's military service members and veterans.

More than 20 full- and part-time active duty military personnel and veterans are enrolled at Finlandia this fall. "Finlandia's campuswide mission is to make sure all students have opportunities for one-on-one, individualized attention and the personal and (continued on page 8)

#### **Faculty and Staff News**

Assistant professor of business **Rekha Ambardar** had published numerous fiction and non-fiction writings in recent months, including "Karma Capitalism" by The World and I Journal; visit her website at rekha.mmebj.com.

Professor **Carol Bates** was appointed assistant provost for academic affairs; she continues to oversee distance education and teach Elementary Education courses.

Professor of science **Judith W. Budd** is among co-authors of an article awarded the Chandler-Misener Award by the International Association for Great Lakes Research. The paper, "Approaching Storm: Disappearing Winter Bloom in Lake Michigan," was published in the Journal of Great Lakes Research.

Studio arts professor **Yueh-mei Cheng** is among the artists featured in the book 100 Midwestern Artists by Ashley Rooney; the book was published in November by Schiffer Publishing, New York.

Professor of fiber/fashion design **Phyllis Fredendall** exhibited artwork inspired by maps of Hancock's Quincy Mine at a gallery in Kuusamo, Finland, this summer; the exhibit was titled "Greetings from New Lapland / Terveisiä Uudesta Lapista."

Adjunct faculty member Kevin Hodur opened a retail art supplies business, Keweenaw Archives, in Finlandia's Jutila Center; Hodur teaches composition and public speaking.

**James Kurtti**, editor of the Finnish American Reporter, received a Good News Award Certificate of Merit for his September 2010 editorial "Seems Like Yesterday."

Assistant professor of English Mark Lounibos had published in the academic journal Essays in Romanticism his article "Frame-Breaking: Byron, Bellingham and the Object of Persecution."

Kelley Martin, director of student affairs, completed a master's of science in education, majoring in student affairs administration, at University of Wisconsin-La Crosse.

Terri Martin, assistant to the EVP for academic and student affairs, completed a master's of arts in English at Northern Michigan University.

Professor **Terry Monson**, dean of the International School of Business, was named to the board of the Michigan Tech Employees Federal Credit Union.

Associate professor of sociology Christine O'Neil was appointed dean of the Suomi College of Arts & Sciences (SCAS).

Lori Sullivan, assistant professor of nursing, completed a master's of science in nursing at Fort Hays State University.

Assistant professor of elementary education Wade Tillett was appointed assistant dean of SCAS; he was also invited to serve on the local Great Explorations core steering team.

#### Job Promotions and **New Full-time Employees**

Pam Audette is now chair and assistant professor for the Medical Assistant program.

Marilyn Clark is assistant professor and outreach coordinator for the International School of Business.

**Jill Codere** ('11) is office coordinator for the Business Office.

Robert Grame, associate professor of graphic design, teaches graphic design and multimedia courses.

Assistant professor of psychology Leslie Johnson teaches psychology courses.

**Jason Keefer** is head Women's Basketball coach.

Randy LaLonde is a full-time instructor for the Criminal Justice program.

Michelle Lambert, LMSW, is a personal counselor providing free and confidential individual and group counseling to students.

Amber (Letourneau) Weber, assistant professor of nursing, teaches upper-level Nursing program courses and labs.

Mark Lounibos, assistant professor of English, teaches composition and literature courses.

Juan Marin, Jr., assistant professor of mathematics, teaches courses in algebra, calculus, and statistics.

**Pete Rouleau** ('04) is head Men's and Women's Golf coach.

**Terry Smith** is head Men's Basketball coach.

Anne Marie Stein, assistant professor of nursing, teaches courses in pediatrics, medical/surgical procedures, and acute and urgent clinical nursing.

**Hilary Virtanen** is coordinator of the Paloheimo Fellows program and programs coordinator for the Finnish American Heritage Center.

academic support they need," says senior enrollment officer Craig Kangas. "This is often of particular importance to veterans."

Finlandia is approved by the U.S. Dept. of Veteran Affairs and participates in the GI Bill and the Post-9/11 GI Bill, which provide educational benefit programs. The university also participates in a long-standing Army and Air Force ROTC collaboration with Michigan Technological University, and is a member of the Service Members Opportunity Colleges Consortium, a group of 1,900 accredited colleges and universities that are committed to various practices that ease the process for service members to earn academic degrees.

John Stierna

#### Trustee John Stierna Receives Conservation Award

Finlandia Board of Trustees chair John H. Stierna ('63), a natural resource economics expert and consultant for American Farmland Trust (AFT), is the 2011 recipient of the Norman A. "Norm" Berg Conservation Legacy Award. The award recognizes individuals working in the Washington, D.C., area who have made outstanding contributions in advocating natural resources conservation. It is granted by the National Capital Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society, a

scientific and education organization for conservation professionals.

Stierna, Haymarket, Va., has over 45 years' experience as an economist and policy analyst in both the public and private sectors. Stierna provided significant leadership in economic analysis, policy formation, and legislative analysis during his career with USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service. A veteran of five U.S. farm bills, he is especially well-known for his work developing working lands conservation programs and the concurrent legislative language and analysis used for policy proposals. During his USDA tenure, Stierna received numerous achievement awards and was the 1997 USDA Economist of the Year.

AFT is the nation's leading conservation organization. It is dedicated to saving America's farm and ranch land, promoting environmentally sound farming practices, and supporting a sustainable future for farms.

#### **Copper Over Gold:** FinnFest USA 2013 **Plans Well Underway**

With only 20 months to go, a cadre of volunteers is working diligently to ready the Copper Country for FinnFest USA 2013, which has taken the theme, "Copper over gold, sauna over spa, and pasty over paté."

A 15-member board of community leaders—the festival's executive committee and a growing group of 200 volunteers on numerous sub-committees are planning activities pivoting around the tori (market), religious heritage, music, and athletics. And while it's still a bit early to announce specific performers and presenters, 2013 festival-goers



FinnFest USA 2013 is June 19 to 23 in the Copper Country

can rest assured that the FinnFest USA 2013 schedule of events will remain true to its theme and to the Copper Country way of life.

The FinnFest USA 2013 board incorporates representation from Finlandia, Michigan Technological University, the cities of Houghton and Hancock, the Keweenaw National Historical Park, the Keweenaw Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, and several other area businesses and organizations. To contribute your enthusiasm and expertise to FinnFest USA 2013, call festival board secretary Robin Bonini at 906-487-7205.



The university's Hoover Center, on Quincy Street, has a fresh coat of paint and great curb appeal! The three-story house, which is home to the President's Office, Advancement, and Communications, is sporting two shades of blue with off-white and light gray trim.



The contemporary folk ensemble "Blink" performs September 20 at the Finlandia University auditorium

#### 13th Annual Sibelius Festival

The 13th annual Finlandia University Sibelius Academy Music Festival welcomed an international group of musicians to Chicago and the Upper Peninsula September 18 to 24. The six musicians from Finland, Estonia, Denmark, Sweden, and Norway presented six concerts for close to 1,000 music lovers of all ages. Next year's Sibelius Fest is September 23 to 28, 2012. Visit www.finlandia.edu/sibelius-fest to view photos of the 2011 concerts.



Left to right: TyAnn Lindell, President Johnson, and Bay College president Laura Coleman

#### Bay College, Finlandia Forge Transfer Agreements

Finlandia and Bay College, Escanaba, Mich., are working together for student success. The Upper Peninsula learning institutions have forged an agreement which makes it easier for Bay College associate degree graduates to continue their education toward a bachelor's or other degree at Finlandia. "Through this articulation agreement, students attending Bay College have a roadmap that matches specific Bay College classes to bachelor and associate degree course requirements at Finlandia," says TyAnn Lindell, EVP for academic and student affairs. Equivalency sheets have been developed for 14 Finlandia degree programs. The agreement was formalized at a public signing ceremony June 13 in Escanaba. "Forging this agreement has opened an important dialogue between administrators, staff, and faculty of both institutions," says President Johnson. "It is our hope that we have established a foundation that encourages and supports future cooperation."



Just in time for the start of the fall 2011 semester, the university's dining hall was relocated to Finlandia Hall, the university's residence hall on Summit Street. The all new 4,600 sq. ft. multilevel cafeteria is beautiful! Students, staff, and faculty are all enjoying the upgraded facilities, which include raised seating, specialty food stations, enlarged kitchen areas, and new restrooms.



Finlandia Art History students and teachers in Chicago. In front are Jessica Inglod (left) and Cait Spera.

#### Art More Keenly Felt

In early November, a Finlandia Art History III class took a trip to experience art and design in person. "The trip inspired the students to think more deeply about the art they have seen in books, and made them eager to learn more," said Denise Vandeville, dean of the International School of Art & Design.

Their first stop was the Kohler Design Center, Kohler, Wis., where students inspected the lavishly designed household fixtures and furniture. The second day, the students entered "the hallowed halls" of The Art Institute of Chicago to experience iconic paintings like Seurat's "A Sunday on La Grande Jatte," and Picasso's "The Old Guitarist."

The class was studying art from the period 1940 to 1960, in particular, and the Chicago museum had much to share. Finally able to eliminate the barrier of distance, students closely observed the subtleties of the original artwork and more fully comprehended the scale of pieces by Barnett Newman, Jackson Pollock, Robert Motherwell, and others.

One student observed, "The intent of the artwork is much more keenly felt in person. It's easier to have an emotional reaction to a piece when the original is in front of you."

On their final day, the group headed to the Milwaukee Art Museum, where they visited the work of modern artists Roy Lichtenstein, Andy Warhol, and others.

"Being able to see these prominent works of art in person was so inspiring. I came home with a better sense of the art I was studying and a head full of ideas," another student shared.

The trip was funded in part by Choice Dollars<sup>SM</sup> directed to Finlandia by Thrivent Financial members. Sincere thanks to junior Art & Design student Cait Spera, Iron Mountain, for writing this follow-up article.

#### Finlandia Welcomes AmeriCorps Member Kevin Korte

Kevin Korte ('11) is building relationships and putting into place the tools and resources to make it less threatening for high school students to pursue postsecondary educational opportunities. To help accomplish this, he is recruiting and training Finlandia students and others as College Positive Volunteers, or "Navigators."



Kevin Korte

"There is a strong disconnect in our tri-county area between students intending to pursue a postsecondary education and students who actually obtain one," notes TyAnn Lindell, Finlandia EVP for academic and student affairs. "Kevin and the College Positive Volunteers are working to help close this gap."

An important date on Korte's calendar is February 12, 2012, College Goal Sunday, a nationwide initiative to help families complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which is often viewed as a major hurdle in reaching education beyond high school. In the Copper Country, College Goal Sunday will take place at Finlandia's Jutila Center campus.

From Kennewick, Wash., Korte is a graduate of Finlandia's International School of Art & Design.

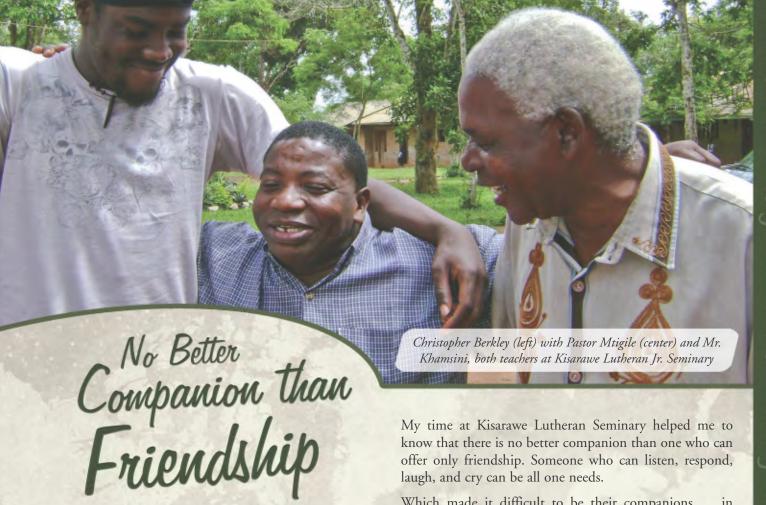
His AmeriCorps position is supported by Mentor Michigan, Michigan Campus Compact, and Finlandia University. Finlandia was one of only nine sites in Michigan to be awarded the 2010-2011 College Positive Communities/Keweenaw Compass grant from Michigan Campus Compact, in partnership with the Michigan College Access Network (MCAN).



Dominic Fredianelli

#### "Where Soldiers Come From"

"Where Soldiers Come From," directed by Houghton native Heather Courtney, is a documentary film that follows the stories of Finlandia Art & Design junior Dominic Fredianelli and several of his friends and fellow soldiers, all them in the 1431st Engineer Company of the National Guard, Calumet. Each of the young men graduated from Hancock High School in 2005, all were deployed to Afghanistan in 2009, and all have now returned to the Upper Peninsula. The film premiered in several major U.S. cities early this fall and aired on PBS stations in November. Learn more at www.wheresoldierscomefrom.com.



by Christopher Berkley

In May 2011, for the sixth annual Finlandia University Service and Learning in Tanzania experience, five Finlandia students and two faculty leaders spent three weeks learning and serving in Tanzania. Hosted by Kisarawe Lutheran Jr. Seminary and families of the Kitunda Relini Lutheran Church, the students taught courses at the school and took part in family and community life on the outskirts of Dar es Salaam. This year's participants were Christopher Berkley, Jamie Clishe, David Hendrickson, Dawn Hilts, and Lindsey Usitalo; faculty leaders were René Johnson and Mark Miron.

Tanzania is a very interesting place. Yes there is poverty, yet they live happily; here people seem to have something that we Americans don't often have: satisfaction. Tanzania's big picture may not be perfect, but it is one of great value and beauty.

You can see it in the fly-covered smiles of a child and feel it in the handshake of a polio-stricken man. The overwhelming odor of human bodies was something that surprised me, but the wonderful views of the mountains, the endless plains, and the sight of wildlife made up for it. It was overwhelming trying to take it all in.

A wise person once told me, "If you ever wake up and what you see around you doesn't affect you, it's time to go." That morning never came while I was in Tanzania.

My time at Kisarawe Lutheran Seminary helped me to know that there is no better companion than one who can offer only friendship. Someone who can listen, respond, laugh, and cry can be all one needs.

Which made it difficult to be their companions ... in Africa's much bigger picture, my problems seemed inconsequential, just small, simple cracks.

Spending three weeks in Africa opened my eyes to so many new things and experiences. Returning to America, I am more grateful for what I have. The things we take for granted—food, water, education—are things Tanzanians must struggle for each day. Everyone should have these things that are so vital to life.

I am thankful to have taken this trip. It helped me to know that I am truly blessed. It has also helped shape my future in more ways than one.

Tanzania gave me a new way to look at myself and my life. The sight of so many people living in poverty—yet continuing to fight for a better life every day—was motivating. Observing the drive of these strong people gave back to me a spark I felt I was losing. I am grateful for this unforgettable life-changing opportunity.

Christopher Berkley is a sophomore Marketing student from the Hampton Roads area of Virginia. Raised by a single mother of three, Christopher learned the meaning of struggle and hard work at a young age, also learning that hard work brings achievement and rewards.

Christopher describes himself as personable, intelligent, determined, and motivated and refreshed by new faces and new challenges. He is a student with goals, and on the right track to accomplish them.



Gloria Jackson congratulates Ashley Bracco, Class of 2011 Physical Therapist Assistant program (A.A.S.) graduate

"I have heaps and heaps of wonderful memories of Gloria. The memory I want to share with you goes back to the earliest times that we knew each other. It was a husky safari adventure and, later, just the mention of the words 'husky safari' would starts us laughing uncontrollably. That is how I will always remember Gloria – a lovely lady, smiling sweetly, laughing spontaneously and warmly, always with the friendliest twinkle in her eye.

"One winter Gloria and I spent a long weekend in Lapland in Finland with a small group. One day we went on a husky safari. Gloria and I formed one of several teams. After having been told how to handle the dogs and the sledge (one team member drives by standing on the feet of the sledge, while the other sits), we started the tour. Gloria and I were equally inexperienced in handling the sledge and it made us laugh nearly hysterically as the sledge was thrown from side to side, at times nearly capsizing. At one point, the sledge did roll over and we found ourselves waist-deep in soft snow. The strenuous process of getting back onto the hard, narrow sledge track was a long and hilarious show, and it invited roaring laughs from all teams. After that the safari re-started, taking us through unbelievably beautiful, untouched Lappish nature."

Ms. Leila Mustanoja-Syysmeri, Espoo, Finland
 CEO, Mustanoja Consulting Oy
 National contact in Finland for Transparency International

"When I began serving on the Suomi College Board of Trustees in 1987, Gloria and I became immediate friends as we were both Finnish and Lutheran. Gloria was a marvelous gourmet and health foods cook, another common interest. She made the most marvelous breads and meals."

Norma Nominelli, Hancock, Mich.
 Emeritus Member, Finlandia University Board of Trustees, 1989-2007

#### A Life Filled to the Brim

Some memories of The Hon. Dr. Gloria J. Jackson (1940-2011), especially recalling her sense of humor

The Hon. Dr. Gloria Jackson was a Finnish-American, a genealogist, and Emeritus Honorary Consul of Finland for the Consular Corps of Arizona. Her grandmothers emigrated to the U.S. from Nivala, Finland, and she was a member of the Finnish Expatriate Parliament.

She was a mother, grandmother, spouse, and friend. She was a volunteer and public servant, a politician, and a philanthropist. She was a businesswoman and a sports enthusiast. Gloria was a major donor to Finlandia University, and she served on the university's Board of Trustees more than 20 years, at various times as chairman, vice chairman, and secretary.

"When I offered Gloria a small ownership share of my football team (Kuopio, Finland's KuPs soccer team), Gloria had asked, 'What will happen to the players after their football careers, since the Greyhounds do not seem to have much of a future ...'

"In Kuopio, Gloria and I were about to leave for a football game. Gloria confessed that she had never been to a football game and was wondering whether she should wear her pearls or diamonds ..."

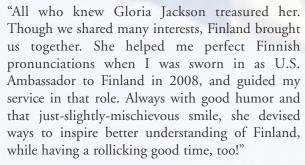
Eija Vähälä, Kuopio, Finland
 Kuopio Academy of Design, Savonia University of Applied Sciences
 Member, Finlandia University Board of Trustees, 1997-2007

"For the new opera, "Rockland," commissioned by Pine Mountain Music Festival (PMMF), Gloria made important financial contributions to the commissioning phase and the opera's production in Nivala, Finland. The collaboration between PMMF and the Nivala organization is, as far as we know, the first such collaboration between American and Finnish arts organizations, and Gloria was instrumental in making that happen."

Peter Van Pelt, Eagle Harbor and Hancock, Mich.
 Executive Director. Pine Mountain Music Festival

"Gloria's financial support of causes she believed in has been known to many for many years. For my husband John and me, her generosity in helping fund the opera "Rockland" touched us deeply."

- Pauline Kiltinen, Marquette, Mich.



- Ambassador Barbara Barrett President and CEO, Triple Creek Guest Ranch, Montana



Gloria Jackson with Ambassador Barbara Barrett

"What I immediately noticed about Gloria was her gentle but confident leadership style. She spoke softly, but nonetheless was highly influential. Gloria had a sense of humor and frequently used it to loosen up our Board meetings. More often than not, the jokes were related to the Finns in some way. The twinkle in her eyes was unmistakable during her delivery."

> - Dr. Sylvia Fleishman, Nampa, Idaho President, Finlandia University Board of Trustees, 2007-2010

#### Gloria June Jackson, 1940-2011

Gloria June (Jussila) Jackson, 70, Eagle Harbor, Mich., and Paradise Valley, Ariz., passed away unexpectedly May 18, 2011, at her home in Eagle Harbor.

Gloria was born June 22, 1940, in Marquette to Charles and Aune (Hendrickson) Jussila. She graduated from Graverette High School, Marquette, in 1958, and in 1968 graduated summa cum laude from Northern Michigan University with a bachelor's degree in accounting. Gloria was granted honorary doctorates by Finlandia University and Northern Michigan University.

Gloria married William (Bill) Jackson in 1959. In 1971, she and Bill started Satellite Systems Corp., a cable television

business, which later became Satellite/Cable TV Corp., then Cable America, for which she served in an advisory capacity until her death.

Gloria was a member of the P.E.O. Sisterhood, the Marquette County Republican Party, and the Keweenaw County Historical Board. She served on the governing boards of Finlandia University, Northern Michigan University, and Thunderbird.

She is survived by her husband, Bill; two sons and a daughter and their families, including six grandchildren; two sisters; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

#### advancement



Duane Aho

#### New challenges...

A year ago I wrote about new beginnings: my daughter's wedding, my son starting college life at Finlandia, meeting new faculty, and the excitement of a record number of incoming freshman and transfer students. And new beginnings continue in my life, such as anticipating becoming a first-time grandpa in December.

We are all familiar with life's peaks and valleys. During the peaks, we may become complacent or perhaps relax just a little too much. That's why you hear so many say they are trying to find the right balance in their lives. It would be nice if we could stay on an even keel most of the time.

Ironically, during the valleys I learn the most about myself. As humans, we are constantly trying to rationalize things, both what we have control over and what we don't. For example, this fall our student enrollment fell from its exhilarating peak in fall 2010. It's one of life's valleys, and many on campus are working to figure out why.

Appropriately, the lion's share of Finlandia's operating revenue is from student tuition, so fewer students on campus this fall meant we had to make some tough decisions. Ultimately, however, I believe this process of reducing expenses will strengthen our future.

We've identified new efficiencies, eliminated redundancies, and strategically realigned operations ... all with the resolve to avoid spending money we don't have right now. While it's unpleasant, sometimes even heartbreaking, to reduce budgets, it has required the Management Team and others to take a very close look at our operations; it's a process that will pay future dividends.



In a previous *Bridge* article I wrote about the need to "stop and smell the roses." I find it interesting that now, during this valley at Finlandia, I am often taking the time to do just that. Maybe it's part of the rationalization process I mentioned.

I see so many positive things on campus in this new academic year. For example, over the previous four years, Finlandia's overall enrollment trend is up-nearly 16% since 2007. And new student enrollment is also up: 22% over the same period.

We opened a brand new dining hall this August, and Food Service reports a significant increase in the number of meals served. We broke ground this spring, and completed and dedicated in August, Phase I construction of the Finlandia University Athletic Complex, which is McAfee Field.

The Hoover Center has a fresh coat of paint; resident students are enjoying redecorated and improved lounges and a 24-hour computer lab; and we welcomed a number of wellqualified staff and faculty members and coaches.

There are far too many positives to mention them all here, but I believe we are fortunate. I encourage you to visit our website, www.finlandia.edu, and check out the photo galleries. It's said that a picture says a thousand words. You'll know that's true as you browse these photo galleries.

In conclusion, it's your meaningful and consistent support that helps make all these good things happen at Finlandia. Thank you. It is exciting and encouraging that our base of support continues to grow. More than 100 new donors joined us between July 1 and September 30, 2011. Considering the difficulties of our economy, Finlandia is blessed. I'm sensing that we are heading for another peak!

Kiitos,

Duane W. Aho

Chief Advancement Officer EVP for External Relations



#### A Note of Thanks from President Johnson

In a letter mailed this March, I challenged first-time and annual Finlandia Fund donors to consider an additional gift to help provide extra scholarship support to new and returning fall 2011 students. I am pleased to announce that 172 of you responded with gifts totaling more than \$31,000. On behalf of all the students that were helped by your generosity, we thank you. Your support makes a difference.

#### Thrivent Financial for Lutherans™

#### Opportunities and choices — we face them every day.

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans has launched an opportunity that makes some choices a little easier. Choice Dollars<sup>™</sup>, part of the Thrivent Choice<sup>s™</sup> charitable grant program, gives eligible Thrivent Financial members the opportunity to direct charitable outreach dollars to designated Lutheran organizations. Finlandia University is among these designated Lutheran organizations, and Choice Dollars<sup>™</sup> has already provided support to two recent Finlandia activities.

• This May's sixth annual three-week Service & Learning in Tanzania experience for five students, led by René Johnson, servant leadership director, and Mark Miron, assistant professor of nursing. "The relationship between Finlandia and Tanzania continues to grow and develop," says René Johnson.



Lindsey Usitalo joined the May 2011 Service & Learning in Tanzania experience

For example, Mark Miron has developed a health care track for next spring's service and learning trip in which three nursing students will learn and serve at Muhimbili National Hospital in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania's capital city.

• The September SEEDesign Forum & Expo at the Jutila Center, which showcased the impact of creative disciplines on the region's economic prosperity. "SEEDesign highlighted the value of design in business and positioned the Jutila Center as a leader in design and innovation education," said Fred Knoch, Jutila Center corporate relations director. The day-long event engaged about 60 students in opportunities for team building, leadership, creativity, and innovation,

including exhibits, speakers, workshops, design consultations, business a makeover challenge.



For more information about how Thrivent Choice Dollars<sup>sm</sup> are creating opportunities for Finlandia students, contact Robin Bonini, director of foundation relations, at 906-487-7205 or robin.bonini@finlandia.edu.

To find out how you can choose to help Finlandia with your Thrivent Choice Dollars<sup>sm</sup>, visit www.thrivent.com, call 800-847-4836, or contact a Thrivent Financial representative.



Shannon Vairo

#### Double-or triple-your impact

My name is Shannon Vairo and I am the external relations coordinator at Finlandia. Although new to Finlandia, I am no stranger to university fundraising and I have

more than 18 combined years of employment experience in sales, marketing, fundraising. I know first-hand how critical the monetary support from alumni and friends is to a university.

I'd like to call to your attention an easy way to double-or even triple-your annual gift to the Finlandia Fund. Do you know that many employers match, dollar-for-dollar, gifts given by their employees to higher education institutions and other charitable institutions? Often, gifts of this kind given by spouses and by retirees are also eligible for the match.

To find out if your company offers a matching gift benefit, just contact your employer's human resources office. They will provide you with a gift-match form or direct you to an online site where you can download the form. It's that simple to multiply the impact of your annual gift to Finlandia!

So, this year when you are contacted by Finlandia's annual giving program, remember to call your employer's human resources office to obtain the required form. Then, complete and mail it to Finlandia along with your gift or pledge payment. You'll make a significant and direct impact in support of Finlandia students and their educational goals.

Thank you! If you have questions about employer matching gift programs, I'd be pleased to talk with you. My direct phone number is 906-487-7206.

Sincerely,

Zhannon Vairo

Shannon Vairo

#### A Niece Pays Tribute

#### Scholarship Named In Memory of William and Aune Kinnunen

To honor her late uncle and aunt, William (Bill) and Aune Kinnunen, Clare Atwood of Gladstone has funded an annual scholarship in their name at Finlandia University.

Although neither Bill nor Aune attended Suomi College, they had an interest in the school, its heritage, and the surrounding area.

"Bill was passionate about the U.P. and he loved the area's mining history, and Aune shared those interests," Atwood says.

Bill's family emigrated from Finland to Calumet, where Bill was born and where his father worked in the mines. The family later moved to Detroit, but Bill never lost touch with the U.P. Bill retired from a long career with the United States Postal Service in the late 1960s.

Aune's parents also emigrated from Finland, but to Munising where Aune was born. Following high school Aune attended what is now Ferris State University, Big Rapids. She worked as a housekeeper in the Detroit area until the late 1950s, when she returned to school to become a licensed practical nurse. In the mid-1960s she returned to Munising to care for her mother, and worked as an LPN until her retirement.

Bill and Aune were acquainted for many years, but it wasn't until 1971, when they were both in their late sixties, that they married.

"It was a first marriage for both of them and they spent more than 20 years enjoying marriage and the leisure of retirement in



William and Aune Kinnunen

Florida," Atwood said. Bill and Aune both passed away in 1993.

In their later years, Bill and Aune became friendly with Les Niemi ('54), a former pastor of Eden Lutheran Church, Munising, who fostered their interest in Finlandia and the Finnish American Heritage Center and Historical Archive. In the 1990s, Bill donated to the archive the Otto Kinnunen Collection. which includes Otto's naturalization certificate (Houghton County, Mich.), his Finnish (Soviet) army discharge papers (1890), and correspondence sent by Otto from Pihtipudas, Finland. Otto is Bill's father.

For Clare Atwood, establishing the scholarship at Finlandia is the perfect way to honor Bill and Aune's memory and their interest in learning and heritage.

"With this scholarship I feel that I'm giving something back that was so important to them both," Atwood said. "It's great that each year it will help several Finlandia students with the cost of their education."





#### Time Is Running Out on the Charitable IRA Rollover

The Charitable IRA Rollover is set to expire December 31, 2011. If you're over the age of 70-1/2, don't miss this opportunity to give a gift directly from your IRA to Finlandia University without having to recognize the distribution as income on your tax return. Contact your financial advisor to complete this simple process or visit www.finlandia.edu/ira-rollover.

#### **Donor Recognition**

In each donor edition of the Bridge, we are pleased to recognize and thank the many individuals, organizations, churches, clubs, associations, and businesses that generously donated to Finlandia University in the preceding fiscal year ending June 30. Some have pledged deferred giving or named the university in their wills. Some have given in memory of loved ones or to honor a special date, event, or person. Others have made donations out of a sense of loyalty - cherishing their time at Finlandia University or Suomi College. We are grateful for the thoughts and prayers of our friends and alumni, and for their gifts in support of our students' educational goals

Sincere thanks to all who have supported Finlandia University between July 1, 2010, and June 30, 2011, and in years past.

#### **Cumulative Giving**

#### President's Circle

- (\$50,000 and above)

Lifetime membership in the President's Circle is granted to those who have given \$50,000 or more to Finlandia University during any five-year period, and to those who have named the university in their estate plans for \$50,000 or more and informed the university of their intentions. The list excludes deceased President's Circle donors and entities which no longer exist.

REINO E. ALANEN TRUDY J. ALTER SAMUEL & ELINOR BENEDICT NORMAN & SHARON BERG OSCAR & PATRICIA BOLDT DAVID & ELSA BRULE ALBERT W. CHERNE FOUNDATION WILLARD & LOIS COHODAS COLEMAN FOUNDATION DORIS DERSE TAUNO EKONEN GORDON W. ELSON EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA FORD MOTOR COMPANY FUND ALLEN K. FREIS LUCILLE J. GEBHARDT ROLLIN M. GERSTACKER **FOUNDATION** 

JOHN GOOD JOHN & JOAN HAMAR ARVO & LAILA HEINO PHILIP HILLMER RAY & RACHEL HIRVONEN DAVID & PATRICIA HOLLI WILLIAM JACKSON MELVIN & NORMA JOHNSON KEK FAMILY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP W.K. KELLOGG FOUNDATION RUDOLPH & DARLEY KEMPPAINEN LEROY R. KERANEN JOHN & PAULINE KILTINEN URHO & SYLVI KIVIKOSKI MICHAEL & SHARON LAHTI NANCY LEMATTA RAYMOND & LOIS LESCELIUS RICHARD & LOIS LINDGREN W.W. FINNY & STELLA MARTIN

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#### **Distinguished Giving**

#### **New Members of the Second Century Society –**

These new members of the Second Century Society have pledged deferred giving to the university in writing between July 1, 2010, and June 30, 2011.

C. THOMAS & JANE KANGAS

#### Nikander Club -

–(\$10,000 and above)

Juho Kustaa Nikander (1855–1919), born in Lammi, Finland, helped found Suomi College and served as president from 1896 to 1919. An ordained Lutheran pastor, Nikander traveled to the Copper Country from Finland in the fall of 1884. As a national leader of Finnish-American communities, he helped advance local congregations and fight the discrimination many of the immigrants faced.

SAMUEL & ELINOR BENEDICT FUND, RAPID RIVER, MICHIGAN ROY BROMAN ESTATE. COLEMAN FOUNDATION, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS ERICKSON TRUST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS ROLLIN M GERSTACKER FOUNDATION, MIDLAND, MICHIGAN MR JOHN C GOOD

MS ELIZABETH A HAKOLA MR & MRS RAY HIRVONEN/RAY & PEG HIRVONEN FOUNDATION. MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN RUSSELL & ELEANOR HOYER ESTATE MR & MRS LAURI J ISAACSON REV & MRS MELVIN L JOHNSON KALEVA PARK ASSOCIATION, FARMINGTON HILLS, MICHIGAN REV DR & MRS RUDOLPH KEMPPAINEN MR LEROY R KERANEN

LEMATTA FOUNDATION. VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON REV DR & MRS ANTTI A LEPISTO MR & MRS ALEXANDER MCAFEE PATRICIA NELSON ESTATE MR JOHN A NIKANDER & DR SUSAN VINES PALOHEIMO FOUNDATION, SOLVANG, CALIFORNIA MS JUNE RAWL PHILIP E RUPPE FUND. JENKINTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

MR TAITO SAVOLAINEN DR & MRS KENNETH D SEATON MR & MRS JOHN R SILLER SAMUEL SIURUA ESTATE REV DR & MRS DALE R SKOGMAN SUPERIOR NATIONAL BANK, HANCOCK, MICHIGAN HARRY A & MARGARET D TOWSLEY FOUNDATION, MIDLAND, MICHIGAN DR & MRS NEAL VANSTROM MISS ESTHER S WILKMAN

#### **Nisonen Associates Council-**

(\$5,000-\$9,999)

In 1922 Martti Nisonen (1891–1946) left Finland with his wife and four children to become Suomi College's music instructor. He created a music program that drew many Finnish-American musicians. A noted composer and arranger of cantatas, operas, and several orchestral works, Nisonen is remembered as a tireless and dedicated instructor, not only of music, but also of cultural and moral development.

MR DALE W APP
FINN GRAND FEST 2005, MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN
MR & MRS ALLEN K FREIS
A WILLIAM HOGLUND ESTATE
REV DR & MRS PHILIP R JOHNSON
DR & MRS SAKARI T JUTILA
KARLO KELJO ESTATE
AUNE KOSKI ESTATE

MR & MRS PAUL A KNUTI
THE HON & MRS MICHAEL A LAHTI
ELLEN LEINONEN TRUST, HANCOCK, MICHIGAN
MR & MRS MICHAEL MATTILA
DR & MRS MICHAEL MCCUE
MS HELVI J PALOJARVI
MR & MRS JOHN J PERRAS

HERBERT & ELSA PONTING FOUNDATION,
DETROIT, MICHIGAN
MRS CHRISTINE M RAGLAND
THRIVENT FINANCIAL FOR LUTHERANS,
APPLETON, WISCONSIN
MRS SHELLEY WILLIAMSON
WISCONSIN PUBLIC SERVICE FOUNDATION,
HOUGHTON, MICHIGAN

#### Wargelin Council

- (\$2,500 - \$4,999)

Dr. John Wargelin (1881–1970) was president of Suomi College from 1919 to 1927 and 1930 to 1937. In 1896, at the age of 15, Wargelin enrolled in the college's first class, graduating in 1904. In 1906 he graduated from Suomi's former seminary. Wargelin served as a Suomi College trustee for 36 years. In 1966 the university's library and science building was officially named for him.

MR & MRS DUANE W AHO
MR HOWARD L COHODAS
MR & MRS RONALD P HELMAN
MR & MRS ARTHUR A HULKONEN
DR & MRS PAUL D ISAAC
THE HON DR GLORIA & MR WILLIAM JACKSON
REV & MRS C THOMAS KANGAS
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Waino "Pop" Lehto graduated from Suomi College in 1918. From 1920 until 1962 he served as instructor and dean of the business, commerce, and liberal arts programs at Suomi College.

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#### **Old Main Society** -

- (\$500-\$999)

Built in 1899, for many years Old Main was the sole Suomi College building. In its early years it housed classrooms, offices, a cafeteria, and a dormitory. Today it is the home of the Office of Admissions and administrative offices.

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#### **Quincy Club**

- (\$250-\$499)

Quincy Mining Company helped develop the region that Finlandia University serves. The company employed thousands of and Finnish immigrants including many who helped establish and support Suomi College. Finlandia University's campus on Quincy Street in Hancock sits on a hillside once mined by the Quincy Mining Company.

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#### Minnie Perttula-Maki Circle -

– (\$100-\$249)

Minnie Perttula-Maki (1880–1957) was Suomi College's only woman president to date, serving from 1922 to 1923. She was born in Lohtaja, Finland, and was a member of the college's first class, graduating in 1904. She continued her education in Chicago, Duluth, and at the University of Helsinki.

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Daniel Wilkman

Miss Esther Wilkman

Bessie Kangas Wilson Ms. Judith Wilson

Sulo Wuori

Mr. Kurt Wegelius Mr. & Mrs. Philip Wuori

Ila Wuorinen Dr. Gust Wuorinen

Ettii Yanson

Mrs. Richard Lindberg

Sylvia Ylitalo Mr. John Ylitalo/Northern Auto, Inc.

Mildred Wiskari, Charlestown, RI

#### **Donors to the Finnish American Historical Archive & Museum Collection**

Finlandia University is grateful to the many individuals and organizations that have donated records, artifacts, and monetary gifts to the Finnish American Historical Archive and Museum between July 1, 2010, and November 4, 2011. While every item is significant, recent donations underscore the growing importance of the Finnish American Historical Archive collection to the preservation and promotion of Finnish culture in North America.

A few notable additions to the collection include recordings of a Fitchburg, Mass., Finnish-American radio show, a hand-made Finnish national costume in its original packaging, archival records from the Finnish Evangelical Congregational Mission Conference of America and the Knights and Ladies of Kaleva Grand Lodge, materials from the FinnFest USA 2001 organizing committee, and a hand-built kantele.

Elaine Ahlgren, Duluth, MN Ari Aho, Derby, CT Elizabeth Aho (Finnish Evangelical Congregational Mission Conference of America Collection) Quincy, MA Charles A. Altonen, Ashtabula, OH Marlene Anderson, Ishpeming, MI Elaine Anuta, White Bear Lake, MN Dale App, Duluth, MN Kay Asiala, Traverse City, MI Raymond B. Barley, Fort Gordon, GA Glenn Beckman, Lake Worth, FL Kirsti Belle, Gloucester, MA Karen Goodell Brennan, Fairfield, CA Elana Brink, Rockport, MA Roland Burgan, Hancock, MI Edward Burns, Sarasota, FL Ellen Järvenpää Canterbury, Tuscon, AZ Nicholas Childs, Scotts Valley, CA Beth Collman, Sun City, AZ Scott and Andrea Corpolongo-Smith, Ontonagon, MI Sharon Cross, Toledo, OH Effie E. Dekeyser, Gladstone, MI Ginny Diroff, Hancock, MI Mark Duggan, Bolton, MA Arlene Sundquist Empie, La Conner, WA Corey Frederickson, Valencia, CA Aila Sarnivaara Foltz, Plymouth, MN Marie Fowler, Coopersville, MI Karin Garcia, South Range, MI Steven Gifford, Brewer, ME Linda Graham, Ontonagon, MI David J. Granlund, Temecula, CA Don Hagelberg, Sonoma, CA Mirja Hanslin, Charlestown, RI Wilho Harju, Carver, MA Diane Hedman, Apple Valley, CA Bev Heikkinen, Brantwood, WI Roy Helander, Maynard, MA Gale Hellier, Ironwood, MI Waino Herlevi, Orem, UT Sallie Herman, Imlay City, MI Rachel Hetico, Marquette, MI, and Stuart, FL Roy Hivala, Escanaba, MI Bill Hoffman, Brantwood, WI Sharon (Heikkila) Hoffman, Royal Oak, MI Henry and Eva Hirvi, Paxton, MA Hertta P. Holfeld, New Port Richey, FL Carol Hrycko, Ann Arbor, MI Hilma Hubbard, Pulaski, WI

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Lauri and Judy Isaacson, Finlayson, MN David Isola, Atlantic Mine, MI Jacquie Jaaskelainen, Mohawk, MI Estate of Gloria Jackson Einar Jenstrom, Murray, KY Dianne Johnson, Hancock, MI Eeva Kallio, Des Plaines, IL Randy Kangas, New Ipswich, NH Eunice Keljo, Columbus, OH Rudolph Kemppainen, Ishpeming, MI Leroy R. Keranen, Torrance, CA Sandra Keranen, Lake Linden, MI Elizabeth Keski, Akron, OH Elaine Kipina, Allouez, MI Lucille L. Kirkeby, Brainerd, MN John Knodt, Dollar Bay, MI Kimmo Koskela, Helsinki, Finland Barb Koski, Hancock, MI Ruth H. Koski, Virginia, MN Wes Koven, Portland, OR Jeanne L. Krahn, Mountlake Terrace, WA Ray and Kay Kuula, Ironwood, MI Richard Kyro, Red Lodge, MT Walter Lampinen, Cedar River, MI Mauno Laurila, Voluntown, CT Lillian K. Lehto, Birmingham, MI Denver and Pat Leinonen, Almont, MI Antti Lepisto, Duluth, MN Liisa Liedes, Fitchburg, MA Jim Lohmann, Covington, MI Patricia Maatta, Calumet, MI Ralph S. Mackey, Scottsboro, AL Norman Mahla, Duluth, MN Paul Maki, Ishpeming, MI Leslie Mallery, Minneapolis, MN Michael Maryk, Bellingham, WA Ilona Mattson, Belfast, ME Robert Mattson, Marblehead, MA George Maule, Rock, MI Nancy McKay, Gloucester, MA Don Mikkola, Toivola, MI Jim Mikkola, Marion, IA Peter L. Miller, Dayton, OH Eva Mouilso, Alpena, MI Erik Mustonen, Whitehorse, YT, Canada Dr. Robert and Ruth Nara/The Närä Foundation, Lake Linden, MI Elma A. Naumetz, Amesbury, MA Florence Nekervis/Shirley Arvo, Midland, MI Peggy Nettell, Hancock, MI Ken Niemi, Atlantic Mine, MI Paul Niemisto, Northfield, MN Reuben Niemisto, Pelkie, MI

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Jack Wainio, Wellington, OH Vieno Ware, Sudbury, MA Karen Warner, Lake Orion, MI Cristine Weber-Rogers, Milwaukee, WI Susan Wendela, Wixom, MI Anna White, Brooklyn, NY Luella Williams, Iron River, MI Phyllis Wilkinson, Naples, FL

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Woodmark Center/Beth Collman,

Sun City, AZ



#### LIVING AN EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL

### ADVENTUR

by Päivi Hakkarainen

Tpon learning that I had been awarded a 2011-12 Fulbright Center scholarship, and knowing that it would require 10 months away from home, my family and I made the deliberate decision to view the opportunity—and its attendant challenges—as a oncea-in-a-lifetime adventure. As we prepared to leave northern Finland, we boldly took the many leaps of faith it required of us, including finding tenants for our house in Finland, making arrangements for our daughters' to attend school in the U.S., and locating foster homes for our seven dogs.

But now we're here, living our adventure ... and it was all worth it!

This academic year, I am one of approximately 90 Finnish and North American students, scholars, teachers, and professionals awarded a scholarship by the Fulbright Center of Helsinki, Finland. In my case, the scholarship is from the Scholar-in-Residence program, which is funded by the U.S. government and administered in the U.S. by the Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES), Washington, D.C.

The Fulbright Center is a private, not-for-profit organization funded by the governments of Finland, U.S.A., and Canada; as well as by the Finland-America Educational Trust Fund, which was founded by the U.S. and Finland. Each year, the Center awards over \$1 million in scholarships to facilitate cultural exchanges between the three countries.

Seventy-four percent of the Fulbright Center's funding comes from sources in Finland (in recent years increasingly from private Finnish foundations and Finnish institutions of higher education). During the Center's 60-year history, about 3,500 Finnish grantees have completed an exchange to the U.S. and Canada, and more than 1,500 North Americans have traveled to Finland.

Fulbright Center informational materials state that their purpose is "... to increase mutual understanding between

the peoples of Finland and the United States by means of educational and cultural exchange, and to promote international cooperation for educational and cultural advancement."

"Educational and cultural exchange" are words that, for me, sound so solemn and formal. But the words are accurate. They describe exactly what is happening in my life here in the Upper Peninsula; and hopefully they also describe the experiences of the people I meet, right here, right now.

This "educational and cultural exchange" happens as I coteach a course at Finlandia with assistant professor of Elementary Education Wade Tillett, and it's there as we cowrite a research article.

It happened when I discussed with English professor Lauri Anderson what national flags mean to Americans and Finns, and when my new Toivola neighbors, Ann and Rob Lantz, offered me a loaf of homemade bread.

And it happened when International School of Business administrative assistant Paula Oye and her husband, Robin, offered me some much-needed reassurance (I was very nervous.) on my daughters' first day in kindergarten, which led to us sharing our own school memories.

The list goes on and on, growing each day. Thank you to everyone at Finlandia and in the Upper Peninsula for providing me opportunities for this adventure called an "educational and cultural exchange!"

Hakkarainen is a senior lecturer in media education at the University of Lapland, and she is working to complete a Ph.D. in social psychology through the University of Eastern Finland. She holds a Ph.D. in education from the University of Lapland and a master of social sciences/social psychology from the University of Tampere.

In Finland, Hakkarainen and her family live in Välijoki, a small village of around 150 inhabitants in the city of Rovaniemi. In the Upper Peninsula, they reside in Toivola. She and her husband, Ilkka, have two young daughters, Elli and Anni.

At Finlandia, Hakkarainen is teaching a Special Topics in Finnish Studies course and co-teaching Digital Technologies and Applications for Teachers (EDU 203). She is also pursuing her research interests and working to establish in the Copper Country a Suomi Koulu, a Finnish school which offers young people an opportunity to become acquainted with Finnish culture and language.

Por more than a decade, the Leonora and Yrjö Paloheimo Foundation has supported Finlandia University's Paloheimo Scholar program, which connects the university to its Finnish heritage by bringing Finnish-American and Finnish scholars to the university to teach and provide community outreach programming.

The Paloheimo Scholar program, now the Paloheimo Fellows program, is undergoing some exciting changes this year. TyAnn Lindell, executive vice president for academic and student affairs, explains that new, more student-centered goals for the program aim to incorporate additional Finnish studies topics into the student experience, as well as institute a scholar program to encourage upper division students to design research projects for implementation in Finland.

Scholar Hilary Virtanen is on campus to help shape and inform these changes. As coordinator of the Paloheimo Fellows program, and with an inter-disciplinary task force of faculty members dubbed the "Sisu Committee," Virtanen will help develop a pilot "Sisu Seminar."

The Finnish concept of *sisu* can be loosely translated as the "guts," "determination," and "stubbornness" needed to keep one's eyes on one's goals and dreams. Virtanen believes that the Finnish concept is an appropriate one to use in exploring both Finnish ethnicity and student success strategies.

"The task of the Sisu Committee is to develop a first-year course with a strong Finnish heritage component to give new students a common foundation as they begin Finlandia's educational experience," Lindell

identify and draw on the many tools for success available to them, and nurture an understanding of how their own brand of *sisu* can help them reach their life goals."

explains. "The course will help students

"With Finlandia's mix of traditional and non-traditional, local, and international students, nurturing a common recognition that college is both a challenge and a reward is important,"

Virtanen notes. "Using a

model that incorporates Finnish heritage as a core for exploration and discussion is also useful in that it celebrates Finlandia's roots and provides for points of comparison between the many groups represented in the student body. I'm very excited to be working on this program."

The Sisu Seminar pilot course may be offered as soon as fall 2012.

Also programs coordinator for the Finnish American Heritage Center, Virtanen is organizing various community outreach programs, including enrichment classes and cultural and educational events.

Hilary Virtanen has a bachelor of arts in English and cultural anthropology from Michigan State University, East Lansing, a master's of arts in folklore from Indiana University, Bloomington, and a master's of art in Scandinavian studies from the University of Wisconsin. She is working to complete her dissertation for a Ph.D. in folklore and Scandinavian studies, also through the University of Wisconsin. Her dissertation topic is "Copper Country Finns."

Born in Toivola, Virtanen has deep roots in the Upper Peninsula's Copper Country, although she has lived many places in the U.S. She is fluent in Finnish and conversant in Swedish and North Sámi languages. She and her husband, Ron Stewart, live in Ripley with their three children.

#### Paloheimo Foundation Supplements Student



This fall semester, a cohort of 13 Hancock Central High School Class of 2011 graduates began classes at Finlandia University, claiming their part of the university's "Hancock Award," a 12-year, \$4.2 million tuition remission pledge. The new freshmen join 37 returning Hancock High graduates who have taken advantage of the substantial tuition break.

The Hancock Award and "Campus and Community: Together for Good," is changing the lives of dozens of youth—many of them first-generation college students—and contributing in several ways to the revitalization of Hancock, a small town of about 4,600 residents.

Established in 2009, "Campus and Community" is a strategic and creative exchange of educational resources for two school district properties among the City of Hancock, Hancock Public Schools, and Finlandia.

The properties that are part of the agreement— a 75,000-square-foot historic former middle school building adjacent to Finlandia's main campus, and the former Condon Field, an 11.4-acre athletic field in Hancock just a few blocks from the university—are also reaping rewards.

Recent renovations to the former middle school building include new auditorium seating and updates to the building's façade and lobby. More extensive future renovations will accommodate the growth of Finlandia's College of Health Sciences.

At the athletic field, Finlandia broke ground this June on a \$2.4 million collegiate athletic complex; in late August first-phase construction was complete. The exciting result, McAfee Field, includes a regulation all-weather competition surface, stadium lighting, and a 27 ft. by 25 ft. electronic scoreboard.

The evening of August 31, Finlandia Athletics proudly hosted more than 200 guests at McAfee Field for a "Hear Our Roar" tailgating event for university donors and friends. The muchanticipated opportunity to show off the completed athletic field included a casual meal, socializing, and a program to thank supporters, highlight current field improvements, and discuss future plans for the field. A brief auction, led enthusiastically by Community Partner Steph Olson of Hancock's Wickley Agency, found sponsors for the (future) first varsity football locker, the first varsity soccer locker, and the first grandstand club seat.

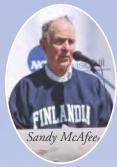
The first-ever athletic contest at McAfee Field was September 1 when the Hancock Central High School junior varsity football team faced the Baraga Middle School Vikings. In the three months since then, the Finlandia Men's and Women's Soccer teams have competed and practiced regularly on the field, and numerous Hancock Central High School junior varsity and varsity football games have been hosted.

On Friday, September 23, McAfee Field was officially dedicated during a half-time grand opening ceremony at a varsity football contest pitting the Hancock Central High School Bulldogs against their long-time rivals, the Calumet High School Copper Kings.



# May 20, 2011: McAfee Field Groundbreaking Left to right: Riku F. Lion, Hancock mayor Bill Laitila, Finlandia trustee Sandy McAfee, athletic director Chris Salani, Hancock Central High School principal John Sanregret, Finlandia trustee John Stierna, and President Johnson July 20, 2011: Earthmovers prepare the competition field for the artificial turf

August 11, 2011: The all-season turf is laid and ready for the next step



#### Sandy McAfee: A Legacy in the Making

Alexander "Sandy" McAfee's monetary support of Finlandia University makes a tremendous difference in the lives of Finlandia students. Now an emeritus trustee, McAfee served on the Finlandia University Board of Trustees from 1974 to 2009.

Sandy McAfee provided a major lead gift for McAfee Field, the now-complete first phase construction of an 11.4acre Finlandia University Athletic Complex. McAfee, with his wife Marianna, is an enduring university supporter. He has invested in campus infrastructure maintenance projects and Internet technology upgrades, provided matching "challenge grant" funds to vitalize annual giving, and generously resourced Finlandia athletics programs. McAfee was the largest single donor to the 2006 Houghton County Arena men's and women's hockey locker room campaign.

"Scholar-athletes are the people who are going to run this country," McAfee predicts. "The more we can support athletics and help Finlandia athletics programs, the better Finlandia and the university's student body will be."

McAfee's love of sports goes way back. At Yale University, where he completed a bachelor's degree in 1950, he played on the football and rugby teams and enthusiastically pursued the sport of downhill skiing. In his youth he says sports meant fun, camaraderie, and "the glory of winning."

"Contact sports—football, rugby, ice hockey, basketball—teach you how to protect the guy next to you, and that guy knows how to protect you," McAfee explains. "You know how to get your hands dirty."

McAfee's first job out of college was as a surveyor for the Cleveland Cliffs iron mine in Marquette. Following his U.S. Marines service in the Korean War, in the early 1950s he returned to Marquette and Cleveland Cliffs.

Soon after completing the Harvard Business School Advanced Management Program in 1973, McAfee was appointed Cleveland Cliffs' vice president in charge of raw materials, purchasing, and transportation. It was through his work at Cleveland Cliffs that McAfee was introduced to Finlandia and he began his service on the university's board of trustees.

McAfee left Cleveland Cliffs in 1981 to become president and CEO of Best Sand, now Fairmount Minerals. In the 1990s, he retired from Fairmount, becoming chairman of the Garick Corporation. In 2010 he sold his interest in Garick Corporation, allowing him to even more generously support his philanthropic interests.

"Finlandia is one of two organizations that I support the most," McAfee says, adding that it's rewarding to give to organizations where he can make a noticeable impact.

Sandy and Marianna McAfee have three children and six grandchildren. They live in Chagrin Falls, Ohio.



August 19, 2011: Workers arrange endzone letters



August 31, 2011: "Hear Our Roar" Tailgate Party Left to right: President Johnson; Dennis Harbour, superintendent of the Copper Country Intermediate School District; and John Vaara, retired superintendent of Hancock Public Schools



September 9, 2011: The Hancock Central High School varsity Bulldogs (in gold and red) shake hands with the Northland Pines/Phelps High School Eagles Left to right: Bulldogs Ross Michaels, Joel Maki, Jari Sague (not visible in photo), and Jared Jarvi



September 11, 2011: Sophomore defenseman Nick Hendrickson, Colon, Mich., moves the ball in a home contest versus Robert Morris University (Photo by John Kolbas)



#### **Superior National** Knows the Score

"We count Finlandia University as a great partner," says Will Fontaine, president and CEO of Superior National Bank and Trust, Hancock, adding that Finlandia and Superior National Bank have enjoyed a long and productive relationship in a number of collective projects through the years.

Superior National Bank is a major sponsor of the 27 ft. by 25 ft. electronic scoreboard at McAfee Field.

"We are proud of Finlandia; we're proud to be in the same town," Fontaine notes, referring to the bank's decision to support the Athletic Complex. "The bank was opened in 1890, so Superior National and Finlandia have both enjoyed a long, rich history for more than a century, witnessing many positive changes and much growth."

"The well-being of Finlandia is important for the bank, too," Fontaine adds. "We're in the same community together. It's very exciting that Finlandia is doing well, growing its student base and its educational programs and facilities. What's good for Finlandia contributes to the area's economic growth, which in turn is good for us—and for the entire community."

The completion of first-phase construction for the Finlandia University Athletic Complex was accomplished with the support of many university friends and donors. Finlandia extends special thanks to Duane and Karen Aho, Andrea Hauge Bacon, Gartner's Gallery, John Good, John and Joan Hamar, Melvin and Norma Johnson, Philip and René Johnson, Leroy Keranen, Paul and Carol Knuti, Michael and Sharon Lahti, John and Joan Leinonen, Antti and Jane Lepisto, Alexander and Marianna McAfee, John and Pam Perras, Richard and Marja Salani, Kenneth and Lois Seaton, Dale and Jo Skogman, Superior National Bank, and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

The university extends special recognition to Bay Electric, Inc.; Gundlach Champion, Inc.; Hastings & Chivetta Architects; JCS, Inc.; MJO Contracting, Inc; OHM; and Pro Grass, LLC.

#### A note from International Alumni Board president Lauri Isaacson



Lauri Isaacson

University Finlandia (when I graduated in 1957 it was called Suomi College) jump-started my focus on becoming a person for others. My Finnish heritage provided sisu to the mix, and with the help of many, my

wife, Judy, and I have been fortunate to financially achieve more than we need to enjoy our retirement years.

As I approach my 75th birthday, I find it's time to share our good fortune with the people and institutions that guided us to where we are today. In a previous issue of the Bridge, Duane Aho explained the IRA Charitable Rollover, a giving option that allows those age 70-1/2 or older to donate funds from IRA accounts to Finlandia (and other qualified organizations) without having to recognize the distributions as taxable income.\*

Over the past few years, Judy and I have taken advantage of this tax-favorable giving option to help support the students at Finlandia University. The IRA Charitable Rollover was extended until December 31, 2011, but it will have to be renewed by Congress to continue past the end of this year.

I encourage you to give a Qualified Charitable Rollover gift to Finlandia University before year-end. Finlandia students rely on your scholarship dollars, especially now as federal and state financial aid awards are shrinking.

> Lauri J Lavacion Lauri Isaacson ('57)

\*For more information about the Qualified Charitable Rollover, contact your financial advisor or visit www.finlandia.edu/ira-rollover.

Paul Salsini ('55) was recently awarded the Sons of Italy Leonardo da Vinci Award for Excellence in Literature. Paul, Milwaukee, Wis., is the author of *The Cielo, Sparrow's Revenge*, and Dino's Story. Visit his website at www.ATuscanTrilogy.com.

David and Mary (Ojanen) Gustafson ('59) of Winthrop Harbor, Ill., celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in the Copper Country August 5.

Dave Betlewski ('75) is a team trainer and consultant for Team USA Pankration. In their quest to make it to the 2012 Olympics, the team is competing in national and international trials. At a recent competition in Serbia, the team captured four gold and three silver medals. Contact Dave at betlewskidave@hotmail.com.

Randy Maki ('75) has released "Patriarchs & Prophets," a compilation of experimental Christian rock, with his band Palimaakki. Download digital the album palimaakki.bandcamp.com. "I studied with Grace Sponberg and Melvin Kangas while at Suomi, and they were a great source of encouragement to me," Randy writes.

Laura (Perfetti) Zerbst ('90) was recently promoted to director of partner relationships for Midwest Loan Services, Inc., Houghton. Her new job responsibilities focus on growing Midwest's relationships with its credit union partners. Laura started at Midwest Loan in 2000, and for 11 years was the company's chief financial officer. Laura lives in Atlantic Mine with her husband, Mike, and their two children. Contact Laura at zerbstl@midwestloanservices.com.

Jordan Kivela ('04, '07) recently completed a master's of science in nursing, summa cum laude, with a concentration in nursing informatics, through Walden University. He has begun a new position at the Ukiah Valley Medical Center, Ukiah, Calif., in their Clinical Information Systems Department, as a physician/nurse educator for their CPOE (computerized physician order entry) project. Contact Jordan at jortsu\_2000@yahoo.com.

**Elizabeth Hyrkas ('06)** and David Anderson were married May 14 in Calumet. Elizabeth is employed as a manager at Keweenaw Pines, Mohawk. David works at Lytro Timber Products, Laurium.

**Erica Payne ('07)** was awarded a juris doctor from Thomas M.



Erica Payne

Cooley Law School, Lansing, in September 2010. She recently passed the Michigan bar exam and is employed by Kendricks, Bordeau, Adamini, Chilman, & Greenlee, P.C., Marquette and Houghton. "I am excited to move back to the area and to be able to give back to U.P. communities," she writes. Contact Erica at epayne@kendrickslaw.com.

The artwork of Ronda Jones ('08) was featured at the Copper Country Community Arts Center, Hancock, in September. Ronda's needle-felted wool and mixed media sculptures pay tribute to the magical creatures, friend and foe, she created as a five-year-old to protect and serve, to keep her company, and to explain the unexplainable.



Ronda Jones

Ronda is a full-time studio artist and a full-time mom to a creative child with a wild imagination of his own. Contact Ronda at pinker2@hotmail.com.

Laura Peterson ('08) is compliance coordinator/senior woman administrator for the Athletics Department of Covenant College, Lookout Mountain, Ga., where she oversees NCAA compliance for Covenant's 17 NCAA Division III athletic programs. Laura completed a master of science in sports administration at Valparaiso University. Contact her at laura.peterson@covenant.edu.

**Haley Gauthier ('09)** started a full-time position this summer with MTU Public Safety and Police Services. Contact Haley at hjgauthi@mtu.edu.

Tabitha Kuopus ('09) and Leslie Tolonen, Jr., were married in September. Tabitha is a registered nurse at Houghton County Medical Care Facility, Hancock. Leslie is a self-employed artist and gem and mineral dealer. They reside in Laurium.

"But by This Path," a graphic novel by Josh Jaehnig ('11), was featured at the Finlandia Reflection Gallery in September. Josh was awarded an International School of Art & Design scholarship to publish 300 copies of the novel. Visit Josh's blog at joshjaehnig.blogspot.com.

Amanda Moyer ('11) has begun a position as an entry-level interior designer for Accent Remodeling, Canton. Amanda will be building awareness of the company's sustainable remodeling processes and designs, which incorporate repurposed materials. Amanda is also working with Green Map Detroit. "The future is looking interesting!" she writes. Contact Amanda at amanda.moyer@inbox.com.

Jourdan Leigh Wolter ('11) and Andrew Quinn were married in August. Andrew is employed by Green Bay Packaging. The couple resides in Clinton, Ark.

Matt Wylie ('11) has landed a full-time job at Beltz, Kes, Darling & Associates, an accounting firm in metro Minneapolis/St. Paul. "They were looking for someone to start in accounts payable and move up the ladder to a management position," Matt writes of his new job. "So far, I am enjoying it." Matt played ice hockey for the Lions. Contact him at mwylie8@yahoo.com.

Heather Powers, Houghton, and Nate Dunne were married September 4 in Calumet. Heather is completing a bachelor of arts in communication at Finlandia and is an administrative assistant for Finlandia's Suomi College of Arts & Sciences. The couple resides in Houghton. Contact Heather at heather.dunne@finlandia.edu.

#### Nurses Reunite at Jutila Center

Fourteen of 17 Class of 1961 graduates of the St. Joseph School of Nursing gathered for a 50th reunion this summer at the former St. Joseph's Hospital, now Finlandia's Jutila Center. "These ladies have retired now after long successful careers," said Bonnie Holland, director of the Jutila Center. "They loved that Finlandia has preserved the architectural features and filled the building with new businesses. On our tour, they were looking for Central Supply, Surgery, and the OB Nursery, and they shared many nostalgic stories."

## FRIEND

#### SHARE YOUR NEWS

Did you bump into a classmate while on vacation? Were you recently married? Have you started your own business?

We'd like to hear about it! Please take a minute to write or e-mail us.

Attn: Cheryl Ries, Finlandia Director of Alumni Relations 601 Quincy Street . Hancock, MI 49930 906-487-7317 • alumnidirectory@finlandia.edu



Left to right: Class of 1961 classmates Harry Giltz, Sandy (Tamminen) Giltz, Paul Raappana, Art Ollie, and Ed Saari on the steps of Old Main June 24. The Suomi College alumni hosted a 50-year reunion on campus June 24-26. If your Finlandia University or Suomi College graduating class is interested in planning a reunion, please contact Cheryl Ries, director of alumni relations, at 906-487-7317 or cheryl.ries@finlandia.edu.

#### "Lovely, talented, candy lover, and friend."

These are the words Gladys (Mayry) Aukee ('51) uses to describe her friend and Suomi College classmate Lois (Isaac) Seaton. "Her perpetual smile was catchy, one that encouraged friendship," Gladys adds.

Lois Elizabeth (Isaac) Seaton, 81, passed away September 10, 2011. Lois was born January 14, 1930, in Chicago, Ill., to Pastor Edward and Tyyne (Kallio) Isaac. Pastor Isaac was president of Suomi College from 1952 to 1954.

Lois graduated from Hancock High School in 1947, and from Suomi College in 1950. Later, she completed a bachelor's degree at St. Mary of the Woods College, Indiana.

Lois married her high school sweetheart, Kenneth D. Seaton, in 1952. While Ken completed his military service, the couple lived in Florida, Texas, and

California, eventually returning to the Copper Country. Ken Seaton has served on the Finlandia Board of Trustees for more than 40 years.

Lois was known for her love of music, sweets, and her family. Her sweet tooth, inherited from her mother, was legendary.

"Sweets? Yes, she loved sweets," friend Gladys says. "I recall dinner one evening [at Suomi College]. Lois stayed until table grace was said, looked at the food, drank a glass of milk, and left the room. I was hungry and ate with relish,

wondering how Lois would survive the night without dinner. Never fear! When I returned to the dorm area, there she was eating her beloved candy bar."

Lois was an avid bridge player, she loved playing cards and board games, and enjoyed downhill skiing and golfing. She had a wonderful sense of humor; she was loving and kind; and she had a great faith in God. She was the heart of her family and will be missed dearly.

Lois was recently active on Finlandia's International Alumni Board and Finnish Council in America, and was an active member of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church.

She is survived by her husband of 59 years, Ken, her five children, many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family wishes expressions of sympathy to take the form of contributions to Finlandia University, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, among other organizations.



Ken and Lois Seaton visit McAfee Field August 31

#### IN MEMORY

Nelma Amanda (Kangas) Kananen ('35), 97, born in Green, Oct. 10, 2011.

Signe (Makinen) Churan, 93, Chassell, Apr. 25, 2011.

Ruth (Kotila) Small ('40), 90, Sturgeon Bay, June 20, 2011. Mae E. (Niemi) Lakosky, 89, Manistique, Oct. 5, 2011.

Jean Louise Medlyn ('42), 89, Houghton, Nov. 6, 2010.

Johannes "John" Juntunen, 85, Hancock and Florida, May 26, 2011. Memorials may be directed to Finlandia University Athletics.

William A. Maki, 85, Painesville, Ohio, Aug. 26, 2011. William was a longtime university supporter.

Robert "Bob" Gabriel Chopp ('56), 82, Grand Ledge, Sept. 6, 2011.

Janet Ruth (Girard) Kelly ('48), 82, Fayetteville, Ark., Aug. 2, 2011.

Lois Elizabeth (Isaac) Seaton ('50), 81, Houghton, Sept. 10, 2011. Please see article above.

Hazel M. (Hietala) Kauppi ('50), 80, Royal Oak, Oct. 29, 2011.

Charlotte A. (Sever) Tyler ('68), 79, Calumet, June 18, 2011.

Shirley M. (Raisanen) Anthony ('52), 77, Houghton, Oct. 19, 2011.

Louis Marchiol ('61), 74, Marquette, May 15, 2011.

Marilynn Gail (Johnson) Baldwin ('60), 70, Palatine, Ill., Feb. 24, 2011.

Shirley M. (Uutala) Ciabattari ('59), 70, Hancock, Aug. 16, 2011.

Anita (Hietala) Fierke ('60), 70, Mt. Iron, Minn., Mar. 16, 2011.

Gloria June (Jussi) Jackson, 70, Eagle Harbor and Paradise Valley, Ariz., May 18, 2011. Please see article on pages 12-13.

Roger John Flink ('66), 67, Greenland and South Range, Dec. 13, 2010.

Donna (Roberts) Horn ('64), 66, Calumet, Apr. 9, 2011.

Roy A. Peterson ('72), 66, Bete Grise, Sept. 14, 2011.

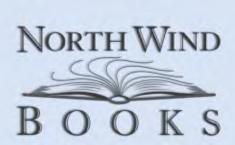
Robert Martin Klein ('65), 65, Sun Prairie, Wis., May 5, 2011.

Deborah A. (Olson) Ovist ('89), 51, South Range, July 22, 2011.

David Allen Chapman, 46, Hubbell, June 9, 2011. David worked as a cook at Finlandia from 2003 to 2009.

Robert Crumley ('63), 69, Warren, Ohio, July 22, 2011.

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North Harbor Publishing and Carl Pellonpaa, 2011

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Pictured are Bennett and Avery Stevens, the children of Finlandia employees Nick and April Stevens

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