Judith Liberman was born in 1929 in the city of Haifa—then part of Palestine and now part of Israel. Just 10 years old at the beginning of World War II, she was close enough to the Holocaust to know of its horrors, but too far removed to suffer its consequences directly.

“I remember the day Hitler invaded Poland in 1939,” Liberman says. “I was in a restaurant in a seashore community having lunch with my father. The news came over the radio, and my father said, ‘We are now at war.’”

Liberman, LLM ’56, would go on to become an artist renowned for her work inspired by the Holocaust. But as a child, she learned of the war’s atrocities through the incidental relationships of her young life: a Latvian schoolmate whose parents had been murdered, for example, and her childhood nanny, a Polish immigrant deeply concerned for the parents and brother she had left behind.

After World War II—just before Israel was about to become a state of its own—Liberman’s father sent her to the United States for college. She studied journalism at Syracuse University, earned a BA from the University of California at Berkeley, earned an MA from the University of Chicago, graduated with a JD from the University of Chicago Law School, and earned an LLM from the University of Michigan in 1956.

She enjoyed many aspects of Ann Arbor and Law School—including a favorite professor, Jack Dawson, who taught comparative law, and “all the beautiful houses with gardens in front.”
Not everything about Law School suited her, however. “My worst memory was doing my research, going up into the stacks through this narrow winding metal and wood staircase, and finding these tomes, these decisions of international courts, that were several inches thick and mostly in French,” Liberman says. “I think it was at that point that I realized I was in the wrong field.”

Liberman had come to Michigan after deciding to pursue a career as a law professor. But her education ended up being a roundabout way of finding her life’s work—not as a journalist, as her father had hoped, or as a teacher of law, as she had planned—but as an artist.

The work for which Liberman is best known depicts the Holocaust and is dedicated to the memory of her husband, Robert Liberman. They met at the University of Chicago, and he, too, received an LLM from Michigan in 1956.

Before his law studies, he was part of the U.S. forces that helped liberate Europe at the close of World War II. “He saw Dachau in 1945,” Liberman says of her husband, “and never forgot any of it.”

Liberman has produced work in whatever medium best fit her vision at any given time; she has worked in oils, acrylics, graphics, collage, wall hangings, mosaics, and ceramics. Her work appears in collections in such museums as the Yad Vashem Museum in Jerusalem; the Museum of our National Heritage in Lexington, Massachusetts; The William Benton Museum of Art in Storrs, Connecticut; The Temple Museum of Religious Art of Temple Tifereth Israel in Cleveland, Ohio; and the Florida Holocaust Museum in St. Petersburg, Florida.

The Holocaust pieces were created several decades into her career. When she was just starting out in the 1960s, she completed a flowers series, several self-portraits, and a series she calls Mother and Child. Typically, she pursued each subject as a series so she could explore it in depth.

“In retrospect, I’m very proud of all of it,” she continues. “But my father never saw a connection between what I was raised to do—to serve Israel—and what I was doing.”

Liberman’s father—a Zionist Jew who had immigrated to Palestine from Russia in the 1920s—had hoped his daughter would absorb Western values through her schooling and then return to Israel as a journalist.

He died in 1968, not long before Liberman produced her first socially conscious work: a series about the war in Vietnam. “I think my father was very disappointed when I went into art,” Liberman says.

Her career took a detour beginning in the 1970s, when her husband suffered a heart attack and then a stroke. “He became terribly depressed, as a stroke will do to anyone,” Liberman says. “Looking back, between his stroke and his death, I created a lot of very careful artworks to cheer him up. A lot of landscapes, things like that. He loved those.”

Robert Liberman died in 1986. Within months of his death, his wife began producing her Holocaust work.

And that, at last, helped Liberman connect with her heritage, and her father’s vision for her life. Her mother lived long enough to see it—and appreciate its relevance.

“My mother was herself an artist and poet, but still, she was hoping I would pursue the path my father had chosen for me,” Liberman says. “My mother died in 1990, but she, at least, saw reproductions of some of my Holocaust work. When she saw it, she said, ‘At last, you are using your education.’ I think that’s where the circle was closed.”

1946
Edward S. Noble, retired from practice, received a certificate from the president of the Ohio State Bar Association honoring his 65 years of practice. He began law school in 1940; his legal education was interrupted by World War II, so he returned to law school in 1945. Upon graduating, he returned to his hometown of St. Marys, Ohio, and started a solo practice that has evolved into the firm Noble, Montague & Moul. He served on many local boards and started the St. Marys Community Foundation.

1959
John M. Barr, an attorney in private practice and Ypsilanti City Attorney since 1981, was honored by the State Bar of Michigan with the Frank J. Kelley Distinguished Public Service Award. The award acknowledges those who serve in public office in a way that strengthens the American system of justice under the law. He was recognized for his “utmost regard for the community” by advocating for justice, democracy, and fairness.

1961
William J. Giovan, partner in the Detroit firm of Charfoos, Giovan & Birach LLP, and retired chief judge of the Wayne County Circuit Court, has been elected chair of the newly established Wayne County Ethics Board.

1964
Albert S. Golbert received the 2012 Warren M. Christopher International Lawyer of the Year award. This award is presented annually by the State Bar of California to a California lawyer for achievement in international law. Golbert is a former senior partner of Bryan Cave and has been a certified specialist in taxation law for several decades. He practices international tax law in Los Angeles, and he has wide international experience, having practiced in Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Australia, and the Far East.

1965
Joan V. Churchill, retired, was sworn in as the 33rd President of the National Association of Women Judges (NAWJ) at its 2012 Annual Meeting. She is the first immigration judge, and only the third administrative judge, to take the helm of the organization. She served on the Immigration Court for Washington D.C./Arlington, Virginia, from 1980 until her retirement in 2005, during which period she served five tours as a temporary member of the Board of Immigration Appeals. When she was appointed in 1980, she was the second woman to be appointed to that court, and she becomes the first NAWJ president from a court located in Virginia.

1966
Michael Harrison of Foster Swift was presented with the 2012 Glen L. Taggart Award for Community Contribution to International Understanding, an award given by Michigan State University. He was recognized for his longstanding passion for international understanding and cooperation through his work to assist Libyan students in East Lansing this past year. After the students were cut off from funding as a result of the civil war in their homeland, he worked to develop a support network of attorneys to handle political asylum matters and assist Libyans at MSU in other ways as well. Before joining Foster Swift in 2001, he served as a judge of the 30th Judicial Circuit of Michigan for nearly 25 years.

1967
Michael Adelman has accepted an invitation to become a fellow in the Mississippi Bar Foundation. The invitation to become a fellow is one of the highest honors a lawyer in Mississippi can receive and is based on career accomplishments as well as commitment to the profession and the public. No more than 15 lawyers may be selected for membership in a given year.

A. Vincent Buzard, leader of the Harris Beach Appellate Litigation and Advocacy Practice Group, became chair of the American Bar Association’s Council of Appellate Lawyers at the Appellate Judges Education Institute Summit. He is a member of the executive committee of the ABA Judicial Division’s Appellate Judges Conference and the executive committee of the Appellate Judges Education Institute. The council provides the opportunity to talk about appellate issues informally with the top appellate practitioners in the country, as well as appellate judges from state courts and from the federal circuit courts. Council members conduct a number of programs on appellate practice, the most significant of which is the Summit on Appellate Practice held every year. Buzard has chaired and moderated a number of programs on appellate practice at ABA meetings around the country.

1963
The Class of 1963 reunion will be Oct. 4-6, 2013.
By Lori Atherton

As a child growing up in New Jersey, Bruce Tuchman, ’89, had “two abiding interests” for when he entered into adulthood: He longed to travel the world, and he dreamed of working in entertainment. It’s no surprise, then, that as the president of AMC/Sundance Channel Global Networks, Tuchman found a way to turn his passions into a career.

“I loved history and stories about other places in the world,” Tuchman recalls, “and I was fascinated by television and movies. At that time, broadcast media was very closely confined to national boundaries, but now you can go to so many places and watch TV channels, programming, and brands from all over the world.”

The concept of all of those networks showing their programming fascinated Tuchman. “I was eager to experience the incredible diversity of culture and life across the world,” he says, “so when I got to college I applied myself in international relations and put a lot of work into perfecting my Spanish-language abilities and going abroad.”

Tuchman studied at Boston University and, after earning his international relations degree, put his Spanish to use in the historic Mediterranean port of Alicante, Spain, where he began working for a group of Spanish toy companies. His goal was to further his international studies, however, so he applied to law school, taking the LSAT in a tiny elementary school on an American military base in Madrid. He was accepted to Michigan Law, which made an immediate impression on him when he came to visit.

After law school, Tuchman began working as a mergers and acquisitions attorney at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom in New York, then relocated to the firm’s London office. While there, he earned a master’s degree in international relations from the London School of Economics.

Tuchman had been working at Skadden for five years when he, after returning to New York, decided in a now-or-never move to pursue his dream of working in the entertainment field. “I thought that if I didn’t make a real, concerted move to break into entertainment, I may never get there or be as fulfilled occupationally as I could be,” he says. He sent resumes to numerous entertainment companies, asking if there were any legal jobs available. He received a call from MTV Networks, which was getting ready to accelerate its launch of TV channels internationally and needed a lawyer to oversee the legal side of their expansion.

“I was thrilled,” says Tuchman, who served as vice president of business affairs and senior counsel of international development. “I was a young guy who loved music, and I was involved in the launch of MTV Asia, which got me started in the television business.”

From there, Tuchman moved to the business side of the company, and became general manager of Nickelodeon Global Network Ventures and then senior vice president of Nickelodeon New Media Ventures. He developed and oversaw Nickelodeon channels and new media projects in Europe, the Asia-Pacific region, and Africa.

In 2001, he joined Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer and became president of MGM Worldwide Networks, a division of MGM, where he developed and managed the company’s interests in cable, satellite, and other television networks globally. He was appointed to his current role with AMC Networks in 2011.

“When I look at the launch of cable and satellite TV systems across so many countries, it really started around the time I got into this business,” Tuchman says. “I went to India after law school in ’89, and there was no cable TV. Now, there are more satellite and subscription homes in India than there are in the United States, and this all happened in 10 to 15 years.”

Tuchman often speaks about his experiences with students in Michigan Law’s International Transactions Clinic (ITC), a clinic he would have taken if it had been offered when he was in law school. “I think back to when I was a student, having accepted a job with Skadden following my 2L summer there, my desire to do international transactions, and appreciating how truly enriching it would have been to take a clinic like this. That’s why I wanted to get involved: to speak to the students about the real-world challenges I’ve faced, as well as some real-world things that have happened beyond the transaction and how to deal with them.”

The ITC has proven to be a great opportunity for Tuchman to encourage students to follow their passions—just as he did when he took a leap of faith and sent his resume to entertainment companies all those years ago—and to share his love for Michigan Law.

“Never give up, and never sell yourself short,” he advises students. “I was just a kid who dreamed of going abroad and getting into entertainment, but I didn’t have any way of getting there. What made all the difference is Michigan. It has opened up so many doors for me and still does to this day, and I’m eternally grateful for that.”
“I always thought that if I were ever in a position to help someone, I would.”
—Curtis Mack, LLM ’73

Curtis Mack, LLM ’73: Giving Back and Paying It Forward

By Lori Atherton

Back when Curtis Mack, LLM ’73, was just beginning his time at Law School, his mother already wanted to know what he was going to do for the University, he recalls.

“My mother used to say to us, ‘It’s not about what folks give to you or about being successful for yourself; it’s about giving back to others,’” Mack says. “When I came to Michigan Law as a Cooke Fellow, she asked me, ‘What are you going to give back?’”

A self-described “poor farm boy who grew up on the southernmost tip of Georgia,” and whose school was a “tiny African American church started by my ancestors,” Mack says his mother (his father died when he was 18 months old) instilled in him the importance of an education and the value of helping others. He has taken those lessons to heart.

In addition to maintaining an active labor and employment practice at McGuireWoods in Atlanta, Mack gives back through his service to numerous organizations, including the We Are Family and Just the Beginning foundations, where he serves on the boards. An ardent supporter of U-M, he is also an Alumni Association board member and serves on the Law School Development and Alumni Relations Committee.

Mack regularly meets with students, most of whom he hasn’t met previously and who are referred to him, never passing up an opportunity, he says, to share his experiences, highlight the value of a Michigan education, or even help them land a job.

He recently helped a Michigan Law student who wanted to clerk for a federal judge Mack is connected to through the Just the Beginning Foundation. After talking with the student at length about her aspirations and why she wanted the clerkship, Mack was so impressed he put in a good word for her with the judge. The judge, too, was impressed, and hired the student on the spot.

“I feel good about the opportunity to help young folks like that student,” Mack says. “I’ve had such a great life for a kid who had so little. Why can’t I, and why shouldn’t I, have time to help others?”

Years ago, on a flight from Atlanta to Seattle, Mack was chatting with his seatmate when the conversation revealed an unlikely connection. It turned out that Mack’s fellow passenger was the son-in-law of Judge Sam Street Hughes of Lansing, one of Mack’s mentors while he was an undergrad at Michigan State University. Judge Hughes regularly visited Mack at his job in a Sears auto shop, offering advice and support and later writing a recommendation for him when he applied to law school.

“He was one of those great guys who made an impact on my life,” Mack said of the judge, who is one of the reasons Mack pays that help forward through his own mentoring of young people in need of guidance.

“There were so many people who were helpful to me when I was a young man, and I can’t forget that,” says Mack, who also is an adjunct professor of labor law at Michigan Law. “I always thought that if I were ever in a position to help someone, I would.”

Mack says he learned many of those lessons from fellow alum Stuart Dunnings Jr., ’50, whom Mack met as an undergrad at MSU and got to know as a legal processor server for Dunnings’ office. “He was my adviser, mentor, and friend. He quietly demonstrated not only how to be a great lawyer, but taught me how to be an even better person.”
1968
The Class of 1968 reunion will be Oct. 4-6, 2013.

Michael Bixby was honored at the 2012 Academy of Legal Studies in Business (ALSB) Annual Conference in Kansas City with the Distinguished Career Achievement Award. The prestigious award has not been given since 2008. The purpose of the award is to recognize faculty members of the ALSB who serve as exemplars of excellence and are recognized as leaders and standard bearers. Professor Bixby was a full-time faculty member at Boise State from 1981–2011, teaching classes dealing with legal and regulatory issues.

Lee Hornberger, of the Arbitration and Mediation Office of Lee Hornberger, moderated the Conflict Resolution Services’ in-service on “How Judges Treat Mediated Settlement Agreements” in Traverse City, Michigan, in October.

1969
William C. Oltman—recently retired from 35 years at the Seattle University School of Law—was honored with a professorship created in his name, The William C. Oltman Professorship of Teaching Excellence. It recognizes that the strength of the faculty depends on both scholarship and on classroom teaching. He came to the law school in 1974, shortly after its founding, and has taught property, trusts and estates, and community property.

1970
Richard J. Erickson, Florida State University Alumni Association national board member, has been appointed chair of the Scholarship Committee for 2012–13.

1972
Barbara Rom had an annual award named after her by the Eastern District of Michigan Chapter of the Federal Bar Association Bankruptcy Committee. The Barbara J. Rom Award for Bankruptcy Excellence honors individuals who have exhibited the highest level of overall excellence in the practice of bankruptcy law. The criteria for receiving this award include overall excellence, civility, sophistication of practice, community involvement, Bar Association and Court activity involvement, and pro bono participation.

1973
The Class of 1973 reunion will be Oct. 4-6, 2013.

Paul Fisher has started a new law firm in Glenview, Illinois: Fisher Cohen Waldman Shapiro LLP. The new firm also is becoming a principal with the investment banking/consulting firm of S-K Partners Ltd., which specializes in debt restructure, capitalization and recapitalization of real estate transactions and businesses (real estate and others), and the sale and purchase of debt and asset protection. While the new law firm will include practice in the areas in which S-K Partners Ltd. specializes, it will be a full-service law firm.

1978
The Class of 1978 reunion will be Oct. 4-6, 2013.

Jeffrey S. Ammon of the Grand Rapids, Michigan, office of Miller Johnson is the recipient of the 2012 Stephen H. Schulman Outstanding Business Lawyer Award. He was chosen because of his contributions to Michigan business law, business lawyers, and those whom business lawyers serve and assist. Honorees of this prestigious award exemplify the highest quality of practice; the utmost professionalism; dedication to service and commitment; and ethical conduct and collegiality within the practice. Ammon represents a wide range of business entities in matters relating to business organization and expansion, finance, real estate, and construction, with an emphasis on economic development incentives.

Bill Bay, a partner at Thompson Coburn LLP in St. Louis, became the chair of the American Bar Association Section of Litigation. As chair, he leads a national team of professionals dedicated to serving Section members and engaging their passion for practice, public service, and the profession. He is devoting his year-long term to leading a transformation of how the section approaches leadership, membership, and stewardship.

Elizabeth Campbell, partner and chief diversity officer at Andrews Kurth LLP, has been named one of Houston’s 50 Most Influential Women of 2012 by Houston Woman Magazine. Those selected for the honor are considered to be individuals with vast networks of social and professional connections who have earned an enviable reputation for possessing an expertise in a particular field or arena.
Bruce Celebrezze, partner and chair of Sedgwick LLP’s Insurance Division in San Francisco, has been elected senior director of the Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel (FDCC). During the one-year term, he serves as a member of the board of directors, which is responsible for leading the FDCC, and is working on special projects for the FDCC president and other leaders of the organization. He has held several key positions at the FDCC, including vice president and dean of the Litigation Management College Graduate Program. He also is the former chair of the FDCC’s Insurance Coverage Section and a recipient of the John Alan Appleman Award, which honors the chair of an FDCC Substantive Law Section who has made outstanding contributions to the advancement of the FDCC’s education goals through the work of his or her section.

Jeffrey T. Johnson, a partner in the Denver office of Holland & Hart LLP, has been named to the American Arbitration Association’s Employment Law Panel of arbitrators. He continues to practice labor and employment law at the firm, representing employers throughout the Rocky Mountain West and nationally.

Clyde J. Robinson served as coeditor and contributor to Michigan Municipal Law, a legal guide for attorneys recently published by The Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Ann Arbor. He has spent 32 years in municipal law practice and has been the city attorney for Kalamazoo, Michigan, since 2008, after service with the city of Battle Creek, Michigan, in the same capacity from 1999–2008.

G.A. Finch was named the new chief of staff for Cook County (Chicago) Board President Toni Preckwinkle. Previously, he was a partner with Hoogendoorn & Talbot LLP, where he was a member of the business, employment, real estate, and litigation practice groups. He also has an extensive background in government, having served as a City of Chicago deputy planning commissioner in Mayor Harold Washington’s administration and as general counsel for the Chicago Housing Authority.

Peter Maassen has been appointed the 22nd justice of the Alaska Supreme Court, replacing Justice Morgan Christen. He is a partner at the Anchorage law firm Ingaldson, Maassen & Fitzgerald, and also serves on the board of directors for the Anchorage Youth Court and the Alaska Bar Association board of governors.

Betty Olivera, ’80 (right) and Elaine Nekritz, ’82 (left) participated in the DuPage Railroad Safety Council’s national conference, “Prevent Tragedy on the Tracks: Safety is Good Business.” Olivera is assistant general counsel of the Huron Consulting Group and moderated a panel discussion on the issue of Suicide by Train.

Mark Lezotte, shareholder with the law firm of Hall, Render, Killian, Heath & Lyman, was recently re-elected as a member of the National Board of Trustees of United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) Association at the organization’s annual meeting in Washington, D.C. He has been active in serving UCP, on the local and national levels, for almost 20 years. For the last 10 years, he has chaired or co-chaired UCP’s governmental activities committee, helping guide the organization’s national legislative priorities and lead its efforts in lobbying and public policy, and coordinating with other national disability advocacy organizations.

Dustin P. Ordway was elected chair of the Environmental Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan for the 2012–2013 term. His practice has been devoted to environmental litigation, regulatory compliance, and enforcement defense since 1986, and he now works out of offices in Grand Rapids and Traverse City. He also serves as a facilitative mediator in state and federal court cases, as well as facilitating settlements in non-litigation disputes.

Peter R. Silverman, partner in the Toledo, Ohio, office of Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick LLP, has coauthored the Annual Franchise and Distribution Law Developments, 2012, published by the American Bar Association. The book includes extensively researched case law from August 2011 to August 2012 and is compiled into an easy-to-use reference guide. Silverman is a member of the litigation practice group and has extensive experience in a number of specialty areas, including franchising, alternative dispute resolution, intellectual property, and antitrust. He also is an active arbitrator and mediator, and is a member of the American Arbitration Association’s Large, Complex Case Arbitration Panel.
Bob Stefanski, ’89: Lawyering at Warp Speed

By John Masson

Bob Stefanski, ’89, learned the importance of speed and sound judgment on the football field. But the Northern Michigan University Hall-of-Fame receiver didn’t fully appreciate the value of the lesson until years later, when he gave up the white shirts and wingtips of Big Law for the blue jeans and sandals of Silicon Valley.

How he went from corporate attorney to entrepreneurial adviser, he says, had more to do with seizing opportunity than any built-in entrepreneurial bent on his own part. But key to his subsequent success—and the success, he says, of any attorney working in the entrepreneurial arena—was his ability to analyze a situation rapidly and get the right advice to the client, right away.

“The kind of guys I’m used to working with, you don’t always have time for in-depth analysis,” says Stefanski, the former executive vice president, general counsel, and secretary to the board of directors at TIBCO Software Inc. “It’s more like, ‘What should I do, and how fast can I do it?’ You need to be able to synthesize law, and you need to understand their business really well. Things are moving extremely fast, and very quick judgments have to be made.”

The tech entrepreneur had started a company called Tekneikon, which digitized Wall Street in the early ’90s and enabled traders to spend far more time trading stocks, and far less time researching them across stacks of separate computer terminals.

Although it wasn’t always so for Stefanski, who also holds a Michigan Engineering graduate degree. He says he was simply following his natural interest in intellectual property and technology to a first job with Weil, Gotshal & Manges in New York.

“When I left Michigan, like most students, I was just focused on getting a job,” Stefanski says. “I knew I wanted to do something around technology, and something around intellectual property—but I was not focused on start-ups or entrepreneurship, per se.”

While with Weil Gotshal in the early ’90s, he represented companies ranging from global behemoths to very small start-ups, and he paid close attention to ongoing developments in the IP and technology fields, which were on the brink of exploding. He also met a succession of high-powered technology executives, learning what he could from each.

It was a little later, when he was corporate counsel and IP chief for Reuters, that he met Vivek Ranadivé, a visionary tech entrepreneur whose innovations had radically changed Wall Street—and who would radically change the course of Stefanski’s life.

The native of Grand Blanc, Michigan, remains actively engaged in his home state, passing on the lessons he’s learned to a new generation of entrepreneurs through outlets such as Michigan eLab, co-located in Ann Arbor and Palo Alto, California. Although it’s partly a business incubator, Michigan eLab is primarily a venture capital fund established by Stefanski and others who have deep ties to U-M’s entrepreneurial side.

It hasn’t always been so for Stefanski, who also holds a Michigan Engineering graduate degree. He says he was simply following his natural interest in intellectual property and technology to a first job with Weil, Gotshal & Manges in New York.

“The kind of guys I’m used to working with, you don’t always have time for in-depth analysis,” says Stefanski, the former executive vice president, general counsel, and secretary to the board of directors at TIBCO Software Inc. “It’s more like, ‘What should I do, and how fast can I do it?’ You need to be able to synthesize law, and you need to understand their business really well. Things are moving extremely fast, and very quick judgments have to be made.”

“Now I could say it was brilliantly planned, but it was an opportunity that no idiot could refuse, to be honest with you,” Stefanski says. “It was clear he was a brilliant, brilliant guy.”

Stefanski gave up his “very corporate practice” in New York and made the move to California, where as a founding member of the TIBCO management team, he says he worked every bit as hard, although in a less buttoned-up environment.

TIBCO became a leader in developing software that helps companies gain a competitive advantage through speedier processing of massive amounts of information. Which, in a way, more or less describes Stefanski’s role at TIBCO: processing legal information and acting on it, rapid-fire, within the company.

“For me, the conversations and interactions are more akin to 140 characters on Twitter than to the long memos of big corporate firms,” he says. “It’s pretty much a full-contact sport, and a super fast-moving sort of practice.”
Growing up in a small town in South Carolina, Catherine Jones, ‘00, never imagined how much of the world she’d be able to see: Spain. Brazil. Colombia. Uruguay. Mexico. Argentina.

After majoring in Spanish at her undergraduate alma mater, Wake Forest, Jones says she was looking for a law school with a global focus. “One of the reasons I chose the U-M Law School was its strong international emphasis,” she says.

During her time on campus, she surrounded herself with people who could help her put her legal expertise to use in an increasingly global world. “It was very exciting to have people around who could show you how to focus on different international aspects,” she says.

Currently, Jones serves as general counsel for Virgin Mobile Latin America (VMLA). As cell phone use in Latin America burgeons, Virgin is targeting a growing youth market segment, ages 18–35, who all want affordable mobile technology.

Jones plays a critical role helping VMLA review contracts in Spanish, finalize loans, and “everything in between,” she says. The Virgin brand might be global, but Jones’s work at VMLA has the feel of a small startup. “I’m working from home right now,” she said during an interview, as the Internet and copier were installed in what would be her new Miami office.

Even with a new bricks-and-mortar space, much of Jones’s work is done virtually. “I work with people located all over the Western Hemisphere, and many of them travel constantly,” Jones says. “We do a lot of our work via Skype and email. We use technology to stay in touch and get things done.”

Some of Jones’s earliest exposure to Latin America came during her first year of Law School, when she clerked for the Supreme Court of Argentina. “I got three credits to do it, and it was a challenge at first. Argentine Spanish is a lot different than what I was used to speaking and hearing. But it was a great experience, and I fell in love with the country.”

Law School mentors such as Virginia Gordan, assistant dean for international affairs, plus Jones’s own work on the Michigan Journal of International Law (MJIL), helped propel her to New York after graduation. There, she worked with Shearman & Sterling, LLP, doing securities issuances for Latin American companies in front of the Securities and Exchange Commission. After more than five years, she moved to Miami to work with Greenberg Traurig, LLC, where her work focused mostly on Europe. However, she missed the developing nations connection, and, in 2008, started a new job at Kerzner International. VMLA came calling this past spring and, Jones says, “I’m in on the ground floor of what I hope will be an exciting venture.”

Jones’s timing might just be perfect. While the economic climate in the United States has cooled, business is heating up in Latin America. “Countries such as Colombia, Chile, and Brazil are doing well,” Jones says. “They’re projected to continue growing, unlike Europe and the United States.”

Her time at U-M helped give her a vision for this international life, including people on the board of the MJIL who would come to campus to speak, not to mention an inspiring comparative international law course she took as a senior. “It was all a wonderful influence,” she says. “I saw people around me doing exciting work, and I started saying to myself, ‘I can do the same thing.’”

1982

Quentin Boyken, firm president of Belin McCormick in Des Moines, Iowa, attended an international conference in Brussels hosted by TAGLaw, a leading alliance of independent law firms from around the world. The purpose of the conference was to educate attorneys from top law firms on legal trends and offer the latest information concerning superior client service and law firm management.

Matthew Kiefer has been inducted into the American College of Real Estate Lawyers. He is a partner at Goulston & Storrs in Boston, and his practice focuses on land-use development for complex urban projects.

Mary Jo Larson, a partner with the law firm of Warner Norcross & Judd LLP, is among a group of nine Leadership Detroit graduates who were honored as “emerging leaders” during the 2012 Leadership Detroit Awards. The award is the first ever made to a group and recognizes its members for continuing the work they began during their Leadership Detroit program to overcome racial lines in the city. In addition, she also was elected to the Forgotten Harvest Board of Directors. She concentrates her practice in employee benefits and executive compensation.

Elaine Nekritz, ’82 (left) and Betty Olivera, ’80 (right) participated in the DuPage Railroad Safety Council’s national conference, “Prevent Tragedy on the Tracks: Safety is Good Business.” Nekritz is an Illinois state representative for District 57 and chair of the Illinois House Rail Safety Commission, and she participated on the legislative update panel discussion.
Steve Vidmar was appointed to serve as United States magistrate judge for the District of New Mexico. His chambers are in Las Cruces, New Mexico, near the U.S./Mexico border. Prior to taking the bench, he was president and managing director of Miller Stratvert PA, a litigation firm with four offices in New Mexico.

1983
The Class of 1983 reunion will be Oct. 4-6, 2013.

Mark Herrmann recently published his fourth book, Inside Straight: Advice About Lawyering, In-House And Out, That Only The Internet Could Provide. The book collects a series of columns that he published on the Above the Law website, and some of the anonymous commenters’ reactions to those columns. The book can be purchased through the American Bar Association web store.

1984
Gregory K. Frizzell, United States district judge, has been elevated to chief judge of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma.

1988
The Class of 1988 reunion will be Oct. 18-20, 2013.

Debbie J. Gezon has been elected to partner at Robinson & Cole in her firm’s Los Angeles office. She concentrates her practice in the areas of real estate and real estate finance, and she has extensive experience in several types of real estate transactions, including mortgage financings for affordable housing transactions, tax-exempt bond transactions, and tax credit transactions. She has worked as in-house counsel for a secondary mortgage lender and for a privately held company that operates a national chain of theatres and significant real estate holdings. Prior to moving her practice to real estate finance, she spent several years as a commercial bankruptcy lawyer.

1989
Steven J. Cernak has joined Schiff Hardin LLP’s Ann Arbor office as of counsel in the Litigation and Antitrust and Trade Regulation Groups. Prior to joining Schiff Hardin, he spent 23 years at General Motors as a member of the legal staff. He practiced antitrust and trade regulation law at GM from 1989 to 2012, and served as lead competition law counsel for GM globally, and lead counsel for GM’s Service Operations and Fleet Operations in the United States. He managed GM’s responses to lemon law and breach of warranty lawsuits across the United States from 1999–2012.

Holly Fechner has been promoted to partner at Covington & Burling LLP in the firm’s Washington, D.C., office. She is a leader of the firm’s government affairs group, and has a broad-based practice handling legislative and regulatory matters for clients in areas including health care, tax, intellectual property, education, and employee benefits. She came to Covington after years of service as policy director for Senator Edward M. Kennedy.

Rob Romanoff has been named managing partner of Chicago-based Levenfeld Pearlstein LLC. He succeeds cofounding partner Bryan Schwartz in a planned leadership transition.

1990
Christine Castellano has been elected by the board of directors as senior vice president, general counsel, and corporate secretary at Ingredion Inc., a global provider of ingredient solutions to diversified industries. She joined the Chicago-area company in 1996, and most recently, as Ingredion’s vice president, international law and deputy general counsel, she was responsible for legal rebranding activities as well as for the formation of new legal entities abroad.

James R. Marsh authored a feature article, “Pricing Amy: Should Those Who Download Child Pornography Pay the Victims?” about his efforts to secure restitution for victims of child pornography. The article appeared in the American Bar Association Journal. In addition, the U.S. Sentencing Commission appointed him a member of the Victims Advisory Group (VAG) to a term ending in 2015. The U.S. Sentencing Commission is an independent agency in the judicial branch of government whose principal purpose is to establish sentencing policies and practices for federal courts. VAG is a standing advisory group to the Commission. Marsh is partner at Marsh Law Firm PLLC in New York.
1991
Susan Hartmus Hiser of Vercruysse Murray & Calzone in Bingham Farms, Michigan, was elected as a fellow to the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers. She practices in the areas of labor and employment litigation on behalf of private and public sector employers. She also has conducted in-house training on all areas of employment law, including harassment prevention, legal compliance, and workplace policies, and she is called upon frequently both to assist in and to conduct workplace investigations on behalf of her clients.

1992
Nicolás Cubillos, LLM ’92, is president (rector) of Universidad Finis Terrae in Santiago, Chile. A former Fulbright Scholar, he previously worked at the law firm of Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton in New York City, and was a research scholar at Michigan Law. He is married to Gloria Claro, LLM ’97.

Daniel D. Quick has been appointed a practice department manager at Dickinson Wright in the firm’s Troy, Michigan, office. He is responsible for the firm’s Commercial Litigation, Antitrust & Trade Regulation, Alternative Dispute Resolution, and Sports & Entertainment practice areas. He splits his time between commercial litigation matters with an emphasis on business torts, non-competes, UCC disputes, financial industry litigation, and shareholder disputes, and intellectual property and entertainment litigation, which includes representation of artists, labels, and broadcasters in copyright claims, commercial disputes, and defamation actions. He also is co-chair, Litigation Section, Intellectual Property Committee for the American Bar Association.

1993
The Class of 1993 reunion will be Oct. 18-20, 2013.

Joanne Turner was appointed to the Minnesota Tax Court by Governor Mark Dayton. She has served since 2005 as an assistant commissioner for the Minnesota Supreme Court, where she reviewed appeals and records from the Tax Court. Before joining the commissioner’s staff, she was a partner in the Minneapolis firm of Mackall, Crounse & Moore, where her areas of practice included commercial litigation, appeals, and intellectual property defense.

1994
Otto Beatty and E.E. Ward Moving & Storage received the Better Business Bureau of Central Ohio’s Torch Award for ethical enterprising. Recipients of the award have demonstrated superior character on a daily basis, and consistently exceed marketplace standards for ethics in their relationships with customers, employees, suppliers, industry peers, and the communities in which they do business. E.E. Ward has received numerous awards for its high level of service and has been recognized as one of the nation’s oldest African American owned businesses.

Pat DeWine was elected judge on Ohio’s First District Court of Appeals. Prior to his election, he served for four years as a Common Pleas Court Judge in Hamilton County (Cincinnati), Ohio. He also has served as a member of Cincinnati City Council and the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners.

Marcos A. Ramos, a director of Richards, Layton & Finger P.A., in Wilmington, Delaware, has been confirmed by the New Castle County Council as chair of the New Castle County Diversity Commission. The Commission is responsible for monitoring the county’s policies to promote and encourage business opportunities for small, minority- and women-owned business enterprises, and to ensure that human resources activities are conducted in a manner that provides opportunity for all and ensures the workforce is representative of the community it serves. He is a member of Richards Layton’s Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring Department, and focuses his practice on litigation, including preference and fraudulent transfer litigation, as well as contested matters and other bankruptcy proceedings. He also was recently appointed assistant web editor for the ABA’s Bankruptcy & Insolvency Litigation Subcommittee, as well as the Third Circuit Notes Editor for that subcommittee.

Pia Norman Thompson of Gould & Ratner LLP in Chicago has been elected a director-at-large to the Board of Directors of the International Women’s Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation (IWIRC). IWIRC is a professional organization committed to the connection, promotion, and growth of women in insolvency and restructuring professions worldwide. Her practice focuses on three distinct areas: strategic litigation planning, counsel and planning to C-Suite executives relating to revenue management, and prosecuting and defending covenants not to compete. Her many years of bankruptcy experience allow her to assist clients with all aspects of Chapter 11 proceedings and other restructuring and workout situations from both the creditor and debtor side of the table.
1995

Andrew S. Baer joined Morgan Stanley in New York as managing director, global head of bank regulatory legal, and general counsel of Morgan Stanley Bank N.A.

Marc Spindelman was appointed the Isadore and Ida Topper Professor of Law at the Moritz College of Law (Ohio State University). His scholarship focuses on certain problems of inequality, chiefly in the context of sex and death. He regularly teaches courses on family law, constitutional law, bioethics and public health ethics, and sexual violence.

1996

Moushumi Khan became the first director of legal and compliance at BRAC (formerly Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee), one of the world’s largest development organizations. BRAC is based in Bangladesh and operates in 11 countries. She also serves as the secretary to the board. BRAC’s work includes microfinance, public health, education, and social development, serving 138 million people globally with more than 120,000 employees. Under her leadership, BRAC’s first in-house and Bangladesh’s largest legal department was created, and she has actively recruited, trained, and supervised a team of 60 lawyers and paralegals who provide legal support on corporate, civil, employment, land, international, and compliance issues.

Chad Readler, a partner in Jones Day’s Columbus, Ohio, office, was named a public member of the recently established Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission. Composed of 32 members, 12 legislative members, and 20 public members, the commission is charged with studying the constitution of Ohio, promoting an exchange of experiences and suggestions respecting desired changes in the constitution, considering the problems pertaining to the amendment of the constitution, and making recommendations to the General Assembly for the amendment of the constitution.

1997

Matthew L.M. Fletcher has been appointed as the reporter for the American Law Institute’s Restatement Third, The Law of American Indians, along with his wife, Wenona Singel. He is a professor of law at Michigan State University College of Law, and the director of the Indigenous Law and Policy Center. He also is the chief justice of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians Supreme Court and sits as an appellate judge for the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, the Hoopa Valley Tribe, and the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians. In addition, he is a member of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, located in Peshawbestown, Michigan.

1998

The Class of 1998 reunion will be Oct. 18-20, 2013.

Matthew Wilk was elected to a four-year term as a Trustee of the Northville (Michigan) Public Schools Board of Education. He was appointed in June 2012 to replace a departing trustee, and his elected term runs through December 2016. He lives in Northville with his wife, Kim, and future University of Michigan alums Mark and Elizabeth.

Kathryn Zalewski has been promoted to special counsel in the Litigation/Controversy Department at WilmerHale. She works in the firm’s Palo Alto, California, office.

Brian Gingold has been elected to Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP’s partnership in the corporate department of the firm’s New York office. His practice primarily focuses on mergers and acquisitions. He represents private equity firms and both public and private companies, and he works on joint ventures and other complex corporate transactions. He also represents various investment banks as financial advisors in M&A transactions. While in law school, he was a member of The Journal of Law Reform and received the Solomon Nadler Award for outstanding work related to commercial law, corporate law, and securities regulation, and the Board Award for Excellence in Legal Writing and Oral Advocacy.

Claire J. Holloway has been selected to serve as general counsel for the North Dakota University System, which is headquartered in Bismarck, North Dakota.

Andrew B. Demers has joined Roetzel as a partner in the firm’s Fort Lauderdale, Florida, office—greatly expanding the Business Litigation Group’s white-collar crime and creditors’ rights services. His practice focuses on representing banking and commercial clients in business litigation and commercial contract disputes. A former special counsel to the Ohio Attorney General’s office, he also has experience representing clients in construction and franchise disputes. He previously was a partner with Fowler White Boggs P.A. in Fort Lauderdale.

Sungjin Kang, LLM ’01, has been working as an in-house counsel at LG Display in Seoul, South Korea, since January 2012. LG Display is one of the largest manufacturers of LCD panels in the world, and a key supplier of global electronics companies such as Apple and HP.

Clifford Mendelsohn has been elected to partnership at Tucker Ellis LLP. He is a member of the Tucker trial group, and focuses his practice on defending pharmaceutical, medical device, chemical, automobile, and consumer products manufacturers in a wide range of product liability matters, including toxic torts, mass torts, class actions, multidistrict litigation, and product recalls.

Sean T. Peppard has been elected to the partnership of Ulmer & Berne in the firm’s Cleveland office. He regularly represents public companies, privately held businesses, and private equity and hedge funds in their mergers and acquisitions and corporate finance matters. He has significant experience in securities transactions and reporting, corporate governance, and general business matters, including representing private equity and hedge fund clients in their fund formation efforts. He also represents limited partners in their investments into hedge funds, funds-of-funds, real estate opportunity funds, and other private equity investment funds, in addition to representing growth companies in their fundraising efforts and in the negotiation of strategic partnerships.

Zachary R. Davis has been named a shareholder of Stevens & Lee. He focuses his practice on labor and employment matters, representing employers in labor negotiations, as well as class action and single-plaintiff employment litigation, including cases alleging discrimination, wrongful termination and breach of non-competition agreements. He also has worked with employers in non-adversarial situations, counseling them in Title VII regulations, employee relations, and litigation prevention.

Asim Rehman, president of the Muslim Bar Association of New York, was called to provide expert testimony before the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights on “Federal Civil Rights Engagement with Arab and Muslim Communities Post 9/11.” His testimony focused on civil rights challenges faced by American Muslims and how the federal government has addressed these challenges.

Nicole Snyder is the new administrative partner of Holland & Hart LLP’s Boise office. In addition to overseeing strategic development for the office, she will manage recruiting and marketing efforts, as well as other responsibilities related to the firm’s partnership. She represents clients in matters involving mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance, debt and equity financing, venture capital, restructurings, and other complex business transactions, and she also counsels businesses on all types of employment law matters. She currently serves as president of the board of trustees for the Boise Art Museum.

Brian C. Neal has been elected to counsel with Stites & Harbison PLLC. He is a member of the firm’s Business Litigation and Torts & Insurance Practice Service groups, and he concentrates his practice on trial work in connection with complex commercial disputes, bad-faith insurance defense, products liability, and general litigation. He has served as first-chair litigator in a wide range of matters, and he has experience litigating matters on appeal before the highest courts in Tennessee.
Christopher R. Noyes has been promoted to partner in the Litigation/Controversy Department at WilmerHale. He practices in the firm’s New York office.

Sara K. Orr is being promoted to counsel at Latham & Watkins LLP in the firm’s Washington, D.C., office. She focuses her work on litigation, counseling, and transactions involving environmental, energy, and natural resource matters. She handles a wide variety of matters related to large resource development projects, including the development, licensing, and financing of new mines, onshore and offshore oil and gas development, particularly international new liquefied natural gas assets, and renewable energy projects.

Adam Wiers was named a partner in the Chicago office of Jones Day. As a member of the Business & Tort Litigation Practice, he is a commercial litigator with substantial experience representing clients in trial courts, appellate courts, and arbitrations.

2003

The Class of 2003 reunion will be Oct. 18-20, 2013.

David M. Burkoff has joined HunterMaclean in the firm’s Business Litigation Group in the Savannah, Georgia, office. Prior to joining HunterMaclean, he practiced law for nine years in New York and Boston, most recently with WilmerHale LLP, where he served as counsel in the firm’s Litigation/Controversy Department and Business Trial Group.

Kelly A. Cwiertny has joined Shuttleworth & Ingersoll P.L.C. in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, as counsel. Prior to joining the firm, she worked as an associate in the Environmental and Natural Resources Group of the Best Best & Krieger firm in Riverside, California, and practiced as an associate in the Natural Resources and Environment and Energy groups at a large law firm in Washington, D.C. She also clerked for the Sixth Judicial District of Iowa from 2006 to 2007.

Claire Loeb Davis has joined Lane Powell in Seattle as a shareholder in the Securities Litigation Practice Group. She joins Lane Powell from Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati. She is an experienced securities litigator, and she has focused on defending public companies and their directors and officers in securities class actions, shareholder derivative suits, and investigations and enforcement actions by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. At Lane Powell, she will continue to focus on such actions, in addition to other complex litigation matters.

Liz Flannery became a partner at Baker Botts LLP in Houston. She is one of 15 lawyers to be named to the partnership in Baker Botts’ 173rd year of operations. She works on a range of intellectual property matters, focusing primarily on patent litigation in a variety of industries. She has represented clients in disputes involving technologies that include medical devices, oilfield equipment, and consumer appliances.

Douglas Y. Park recently joined Rimon PC as a partner and chief sustainability officer in the firm’s Palo Alto, California, office. His practice focuses on advising startups, boards of directors, and investors on corporate governance, corporate and securities law, and strategy. He also teaches classes on starting startups and mergers and acquisitions at Stanford University.

2004

John L. Bunyan has been selected to join the partnership at Carlock, Copeland & Stair in Atlanta. He practices in commercial litigation with a focus on professional liability and real estate matters. He defends lawyers, accountants, and other professionals faced with claims and lawsuits in federal and state court alleging professional negligence, breach of fiduciary duty, breach of contract, negligent misrepresentation, and fraud. He also represents lawyers in real estate matters alleging wrongful foreclosure and federal statutory violations, including claims under the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.

Greg Gnepper was named partner at the Phoenix-based law firm of Gammage & Burnham. His practice focuses on commercial litigation, debt enforcement, and bankruptcy. He is married to Christie Hammerle, ‘06. They live in Arizona and have two children, Jordan (age 3) and Alex (age 1).
Len Gray launched inlaw.me in late 2012, and he is the cofounder and president of the company. inlaw.me is an online recruiting aid designed specifically and exclusively for the legal industry. The company aims to reduce attorney recruitment costs by removing headhunters from the process.

Andrew Harwel has been elected partner of the firm Bose McKinney & Evans LLP in the Business Services Group in Indianapolis. Previously employed by a Chicago office of a large international law firm, he represents clients in the manufacturing, insurance, banking, nonprofit, gaming, and real estate sectors. He has assisted Fortune 100 companies and smaller enterprises in mergers, acquisitions and divestitures, SEC compliance, general corporate governance, and corporate restructuring. In addition, he represents issuers and underwriters in connection with public and Rule 144A offerings of debt and equity securities and exchange offers and consent solicitations.

Tammy L. Helminski, an associate in Barnes & Thornburg LLP’s Grand Rapids, Michigan, office, was appointed to the State Bar of Michigan’s Environmental Law Section Council at the State Bar of Michigan Annual Meeting. She will serve a three-year term on the Environmental Law Section Council, and will continue to chair the Hazardous Substances & Brownfields Committee of the Environmental Law Section. The Environmental Law Section has approximately 600 members, including private and public sector attorneys and law students, and provides education, information, and analysis about issues of environmental concern.

Tara E. Mahoney, a partner in Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP’s Labor and Employment Department, has been elected president of the Neutral Zone’s Board of Directors. The Neutral Zone, in Ann Arbor, is a diverse, youth-driven teen center dedicated to promoting personal growth and artistic expression, community leadership, and the exchange of ideas. She has served as a board member and chaired the Human Resources Board Committee since 2008.

Megan Conlon McCulloch, a partner in Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP’s Environmental Practice in Detroit, has been appointed as chair of the American Bar Association’s Book Publishing Board for its Environment, Energy, and Resources Section. As chair, she will provide leadership and oversight to the book program, appoint other board members, and lead the process of developing books of interest for the 10,000 members of the ABA section by selecting important topics and authors. In addition, she has been appointed to serve as a member of the Publications Services Group, which comprises the publication officer and all the chairs of section committees responsible for publications.

Linda Samples was appointed by the El Paso ISD Board of Trustees as its first in-house counsel. El Paso ISD is the 10th largest school district in Texas and the 61st largest school district in the United States.

2006
Fernando Casas Martinez (research scholar) was promoted to the highest professorial rank in the Spanish educational system (Catedratico). He is the youngest person in Spain’s law schools to attain that rank.

2008
The Class of 2008 reunion will be Oct. 18-20, 2013.

Michelle L. Gomez has joined the Albuquerque, New Mexico, litigation team at Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck. She will focus her practice on commercial litigation. Prior to joining the firm, she was an associate at Morrison & Foerster in New York, and Long & Page LLP in Denver. She previously worked as an associate in Brownstein’s Denver office as a member of the litigation group.

2009

Brian Pascal was named a non-residential fellow, with a focus area of privacy, at the Center for Internet and Society, a public interest technology law and policy program at Stanford Law School.

2010
John P. Bringewatt has joined Harter Secrest & Emery LLP’s Litigation Practice Group as an associate attorney in the Rochester, New York, office. His practice focuses on general commercial and civil litigation, as well as government and internal investigations. Prior to joining the firm, he served as a law clerk to Judge Susan L. Carney of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.
Kela Shang joined Hanson Bridgett LLP’s San Francisco office as a corporate associate. He advises public and private companies in a variety of transactional matters, including capital markets, securities compliance, mergers and acquisitions, emerging company formation, and other general corporate matters.

2012

Kelechi E. Adibe joined Warner Norcross & Judd LLP as an associate in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Emily Bakeman joined Warner Norcross & Judd LLP as an associate in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Julie A. Bernard has joined von Briesen & Roper in Milwaukee. She focuses on intellectual property and general business and corporate matters. During law school she was the managing editor of the Michigan Telecommunications and Technology Law Review. She also serves on the Creative Council of FUEL Milwaukee, an economic development initiative of the Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce, and is a member of the Core Committee of Skylight Music Theatre’s young professionals group, SkylightENSEMBLE.

Karen L. Boore has joined Miller Canfield as an associate in the Real Estate Group in the Troy, Michigan, office. She focuses her practice on commercial development, economic development incentives, construction law, and commercial leasing. Prior to joining the firm, she served as a federal court intern for the Honorable John Corbett O’Meara, U.S. District Court Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan. She also interned with Wayne County’s Economic Development Growth Engine.

Amber A. Hay joined Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP in its Detroit office as a member of the Corporate Department. She was a summer associate in 2011 and 2010.

Ryan A. Jackson joined Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP in its Detroit office as a member of the firm’s Corporate Department. He was a summer associate in 2011. During law school, he served as a judicial intern for Judge Mark A. Goldsmith when he was a member of the Oakland County Circuit Court bench, and for Judge Richard B. Halloran in Wayne County Circuit Court.

Jeremy D. Lockhart joined Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP in its Detroit office as a member of their Litigation Department. He was a summer associate in 2011. While attending law school, he served as a judicial extern for Judge Arlene Singer in the Ohio Sixth District Court of Appeals. He also was an undergraduate legal intern in the Ohio Public Defender’s office.

Andrew R. Trafford joined Porter Wright as an associate in the firm’s Litigation Department. He focuses his practice on complex commercial litigation, as well as matters in the firm’s growing Oil & Gas Practice. While attending Michigan Law, he participated in the Campbell Moot Court competition and served as a legal intern for the Ohio Attorney General in the Constitutional Offices Section.

Roll, ‘65: The Hopkins Touch Earns Praise

David L. Roll, ’65, has won praise for his book The Hopkins Touch (Oxford University Press, 2013), written about Harry Hopkins, President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s shrewd, controversial, and chronically ill adviser. Hopkins was one of the architects of the New Deal and was a top diplomatic adviser during World War II, the man primarily responsible for forging and maintaining the country’s alliance with Churchill and Stalin.

The Wall Street Journal review of the book praised the author for “displaying a strong grasp of… historical scholarship, delivering a strong and clear-eyed appraisal of Hopkins’s personal life, and demonstrating considerable narrative talents of his own.”

Roll is a partner in the Washington office of Steptoe & Johnson LLP. He also is the founder and associate director of the Lex Mundi Pro Bono Foundation, the nonprofit affiliate of Lex Mundi, the world’s leading association of independent law firms.
E. Lisk Wyckoff Jr., ’60

E. Lisk Wyckoff Jr., ’60, died peacefully in his sleep on November 26, 2012. He is survived by his wife of 26 years, Elizabeth (Kuphal); and his children, E. Lysk III, Elizabeth Hannah, and Jenny.

In the fall 2012 issue of the Law Quadrangle, we ran an article about Mr. Wyckoff. Here, we are publishing the article again in his memory.

“What does the E stand for?” Duke Ellington asked E. Lisk Wyckoff Jr. at the first meeting between the composer/bandleader/pianist and his prospective tax and estate lawyer.

“Edward,” said Wyckoff.

Edward Kennedy Ellington smiled. Yes, thought the Duke, he could do business with this man.

The dazzling client was one face in a parade of high-profile entertainers and business people, both domestic and foreign, whom Wyckoff counseled on tax, estate, and trust matters throughout his career. As an early specialist in foreign trusts, Wyckoff became not only a rainmaker, but a knowledgeable speaker and writer in a then-new area of the law.

“I had the good fortune to be able to generate my own business”—an atypical scenario for a trust-and-estate lawyer in the early 1970s, said Wyckoff. “That brought in a lot of different clients and legal matters.”

As trustee and president of the Homeland Foundation, Wyckoff was instrumental in making two significant gifts to Michigan Law. The first commitment, in 1999, endowed the Chauncey Stillman Professorship for Ethics, Morality, and the Practice of Law. That professorship has been held since its creation by Carl Schneider, also a professor of internal medicine. Recently the Homeland Foundation made a gift of $1 million for the building project as an extension of its previous generosity.

A Leckie Scholar at Michigan Law, Wyckoff earned his bread (literally) as a waiter in the Lawyers Club dining room. His career assumed its first shape when, in his 3L year, he wrote a research paper on an admiralty law topic, under the guidance of the late Professor William W. Bishop. That study, along with Wyckoff’s experience in the U.S. Navy, positioned him well to take a job after graduation with the leading New York City admiralty firm of Burlingham, Hupper & Kennedy.

While he was practicing with Burlingham, he also became counsel to the New York State Senate Judiciary Committee in Albany. “It was a wonderful experience,” he said. “I was drafting laws of all kinds.”

When he got an up-close look at the redrafting of the New York trust and estate law, Wyckoff decided to switch to the field that became his specialty for the rest of his career. He practiced with several small firms, including Valcenti, Leighton, Reed & Pine, where he became a partner and got considerable experience in the creation of foreign trusts by U.S. and other nationals.

Wyckoff went on to co-head the trust and estates department at Kelley, Drye & Warren (1979–93) and to head that department at Kramer, Levin, Naftalis & Frankel (1993–2001), both in New York City.

For nearly 25 years, Wyckoff also served as special counsel to the New York State Bankers Association Trust Division, working on significant laws affecting trusts, like the New York Prudent Investor Rule and the New York Reasonable Compensation Statute for trustee fees. Since 1947 he had been the author for West’s McKinney’s Forms for ESP (New York Estates and Surrogate’s Practice), originally four volumes and now 10 volumes, for which he provided annual updates and systematic recompilations.

Wyckoff, who lived in Old Lyme, Connecticut, also found time to chair the board of the Wyckoff House. The small farmhouse museum, New York City’s first landmarked building, was built in 1652 and stands as a reminder of his family’s history, and of the heritage of the Dutch in North America.—RF
IN MEMORIAM

1930s
Robert C. Boyer, ‘39 11/3/12

1940s
Walter Sklar, ‘40 1/15/13
William E. Carroll, ‘42 2/5/13
Robert E. Fryer, ‘47 11/8/12
Frank Elkouri, LLM ‘48, SJD ‘51 1/18/13
Philip C. Baldwin, ‘49 11/12/12
George H. Davies, ‘49 10/6/12
Robert P. Hamilton, ‘49 11/10/11
J. David Lynch, ‘49 2/6/12
David D. Ring, ‘49 3/11/12

1950s
Paul G. Hoffman, ‘50 12/14/12
John T. Kelly, ‘50 8/31/12
Vernon R. Pearson, ‘50 2/4/13
R. Kendall Sherrill, ‘50 9/20/12
Harold G. Christensen, ‘51 11/14/12
Frank Elkouri, ‘51 1/18/13
Richard S. Hawkins, ‘51 1/28/13
Donald S. Leeper, ‘51 12/31/12
Walter Potoroka, ‘51 11/29/12
Cleaveland J. Rice, ‘51 12/27/12
Peter C. Cobbs Jr., ‘52 7/4/12
Robert S. Griggs, ‘52 10/19/12
George A. Lievense, ‘52 2/14/13
Ellis R. Winham, ‘52 5/4/12
Burton H. Cronin, ‘53 8/7/12
William E. Feldhaus, ‘53 9/28/12
Franklin S. Wallace, ‘53 2/1/13
Dale E. Beck, ‘54 4/1/12
James W. Buchanan, ‘54 11/23/12
John B. King, ‘54 12/29/12
Chester F. Relyea, ‘54 12/10/11
Richard R. Reynolds, ‘54 10/20/12
William A. Swainson, ‘55 1/28/13
Raymond H. Dresser, ‘56 1/25/13
Carl J. Goetz, LLM ‘56 10/26/12
Murray B. Schwartzberg, ‘56 12/7/12
Arthur G. Greenberg, ‘57 1/21/13
Ross A. Kipka, ‘57 12/3/12
Allan L. Bioff, ‘58 10/20/12
George B. Trubow, ‘58 1/7/13
Paul K. Gaston, ‘59 12/1/12
Martin R. Jenkins, ‘59 11/4/12
John W. Kormes, ‘59 12/16/12
Neil O. Littlefield, LLM ‘59, SJD ‘61 12/3/12
William K. Tell, ‘59 11/12/12

1960s
Raymond R. Murphy, ‘60 12/30/12
E. Lisk Wyckoff, ‘60 11/26/12
Neil O. Littlefield, ‘61 12/2/12
Stanley A. Williams, ‘61 4/13/12
Richard S. Brennan, ‘63 10/10/12
John R. Lutz, ‘63 9/27/12
Ivo VanBael, MCL ‘63 2/5/13
George H. Zinn, ‘63 12/13/12
Gerald T. Ball, ‘64 10/22/12
Stanley F. Desmarais, ‘64 8/6/12
John F. Huntley, ‘64 10/28/12
L. Nicholas Treinen, ‘64 1/6/13
John K. Toumin, LLM ‘65 7/2/12
George M. Humphrey, ‘67 11/30/12
Michael J. Close, ‘68 2/7/13
Elliot J. Peskind, ‘68 5/24/12
Lori K. Adamek, ‘69 9/29/12
Louise I. Lander, ‘69 11/6/12

1970s
Michael F. Williams, ‘70 11/13/12
Louis G. Ferrand, ‘71 12/29/12
Richard B. Ginsberg, ‘72 8/29/12
Thomas M. Malone, ‘79 10/8/12

1980s
Darlene Sisneros, ‘85 8/31/12
Cheryl Fackler Hug, ‘87 2/17/13
Kevin M. McKenna, ‘89 9/23/12

1990s
B. R. Hutcheson, ‘98 1/6/12

2000s
Dan Goldman, ‘02 2/5/13