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Timothy J. Nelson

## A

NMC's Board of Trustees unanimously appointed Chris M. Bott, a 1983 alumnus and practicing CPA, to fill a vacant trustee slot in April. He will serve through Dec. 31, 2016.

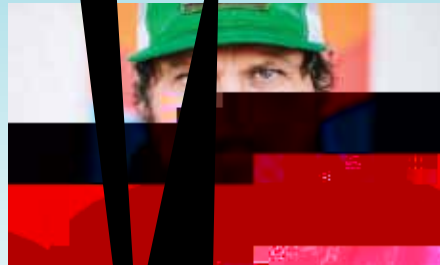
"I want to give back to what I consider a hidden gem in this community, and one that my nieces, nephews and grandchildren should consider as their first step in their college education," Bott said, noting that six of

his siblings and his own three children also attended NMC.

Bott was one of ten individuals who applied to fill the vacancy created by former trustee Cheryl Gore Follette's resignation in March. Per Michigan law, Bott

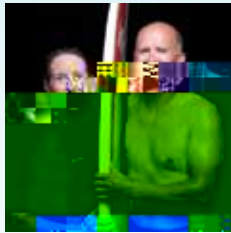


# UCESMPC STAFF



Aaron Drapkin

Aaron Drapkin is a member of the NMC since 1993. He is a member of the NMC and has been a member since 1993. He is a member of the NMC and has been a member since 1993.



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**New program sets down roots**

Former NMC students now have the chance to offer input and help build their alma mater's first official Alumni Relations program from the ground up.



Betsy Coffia

NMC's newly-appointed Director of Alumni Relations Betsy Coffia, a 2005 graduate, is conducting a Listening Tour to gather alumni input as well as seeking representatives to serve on an Alumni Committee. Programming under consideration include mentoring opportunities, professional development and career services, learning opportunities featuring favorite professors and stand-out alumni, networking events, professional webinars and discounts to on- and off-campus services.

"The ultimate goal is a slate of alumni relations offerings and initiatives that

inspires pride and engagement, and adds value to our former students' lives," Coffia said.

NMC has more than 44,000 alumni, with a significant concentration in the Grand Traverse area.

**Nursing alumni aim to help their own**

For years, Health Occupations instructor Linda Walter spent at least 20 hours per semester going to bat for financially-strapped nursing students, "just calling, asking, begging for help" from community support organizations, whether the need was gas, books, uniforms, or exam fees.

Thanks to the efforts of NMC nursing alumni, Walter now only has to make one call. The Barbra Griner Mikowski NMC Student Nurse Resource Fund, created

in 2013 by the 1963 nursing grad and other alumni, provides financial assistance to students facing a hardship that could prevent them from graduating.

"Many of our students are working full time, plus attending school full time and maybe 80 percent are parents on top of that. We have students who work midnight shifts and then are in class all day," Walter said. With time, energy and money so stretched something like a car breakdown – which could leave a student without transportation to clinicals, say – can spiral into a threat to graduation.

Last year the Student Nurse Resource Fund got a further boost with the generosity of community donors who, inspired by the effort, established an endowment to ensure that it is funded in perpetuity.

- X Got ideas? Want to learn more about alumni programming in general or for nurses? Contact Betsy Coffia at (231) 995-2825, bcoffia@nmc.edu or 1701 E. Front St., Traverse City, MI 49686.
- X On social media, join the NMC Alumni LinkedIn page for valuable professional contacts and "like" the Northwestern Michigan College Alumni Facebook page to stay in touch.

**A  
C**

Imagine nine women, each running the equivalent of a marathon. Imagine repeating that for seven straight days. In the tropical heat of the Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo in May.

Those are the conditions 1982 alumnus Timothy Young, right, had to prepare for as the Run Across Congo in-country logistics coordinator. From maps to water to bandages for blisters, the all-female team relied on the Honor resident, president of Benzie-based Food for Thought, member of the NMC Foundation Board as well as the Traverse City-based nonprofit On The Ground, sponsor of the run.

The Congo team ran to raise awareness and funds for female coffee farmers, farming families and cooperatives working toward gender equality in the central African nation. The Congo was the third "run across" initiative organized by On The Ground, and had a special focus to support female victims of sexual aggression, a problem of epidemic proportions in the DRC.

As a runner in On The Ground's 2011 Run Across Ethiopia, Young was uniquely aware of the physical, mental and emotional needs the runners faced. His task during the week was to take care of everything but running, so the runners could focus on logging miles and connecting with Congolese communities on the route.

The Congo team has wrapped up its run on the shore of Lake Kivu, one of Africa's Great Lakes, but efforts to support the women of the DRC are ongoing. Young invites his fellow NMC alumni to learn more at [runacrosscongo.org](http://runacrosscongo.org)



Timothy Young, class of 1982

# 2015

# A

Created in 1988, the award recognizes alumni for professional achievement and community and professional leadership. The 2015 recipients are:



Sally Rogers



Gary Seabrook, MD



Al Zelinski

# D

# , H

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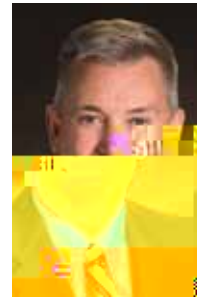
# E

**Congratulations to these 2015 retirees who contributed more than 450 years of service to NMC.**

NAME	NMC Years
Jerry Beatty	13
Jim Coughlin**	28
Jerry Cook	16
Diane Emling**	28
Carol Evans	19
Tim Fader	31
Cheri Garvin	18
Kay Hall	6
Tony Hansen	16
Al Hart**	16



Dr. Jerry Dobek



Brian Heffner

**June 20**

**Kids' Free Fishing Day**

Fishing gear provided or bring your own.

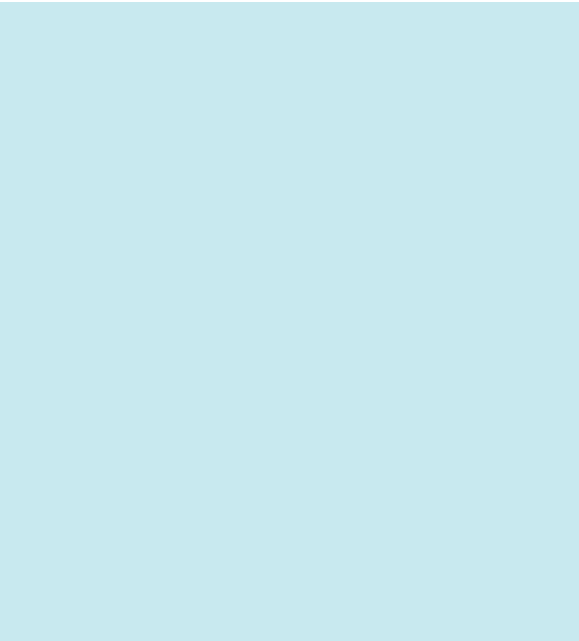


Bruce Byl



**A 6**

Gather your foursome for NMC's annual Scholarship Open, set for Aug. 6 at the Grand Traverse Resort. The largest tournament in northern Michigan, the Open has raised more than \$1.3 million for merit-based scholarships since it began in 1980. Here, Joseph McCarthy, Keely Trombly, Brian Heffner and Mark Southby take a break between holes. Sponsorships are also available. Register and find out more at [nmc.edu/golf](http://nmc.edu/golf)



## M

NMC's Extended Educational Services division offers 10 cooking classes in June, July and August. From a catch and cook fishing charter to Indian or Korean cuisine to canning, freezing and preserving, there's something for every cook (or cook-wanna-be.) Got a young chef in the house? Decorating Cupcakes & Cooking with Kids are for adults and kids together.

X Visit [nmc.edu/ees](http://nmc.edu/ees) and choose "culinary" under the "Find a class" menu.

