

MOUNT VERNON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

ALUMNI NEWS

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2011 ALL-ALUMNI and COMMUNITY EVENTS

•JULY 8-9

Find the Alumni tent on Main Street during Heritage Days. Stop in to enjoy displays and friendship

•JULY 9 ALUMNI BREAKFAST

Don't miss this incredibly popular event, serving from 8-10, open from 8-11, High School, by donation, friends and community welcome

•HOMECOMING

and Alumni Reception, Alumni Band, Alumni Awards, Fall date tba

•AWARD CELEBRATION

Alumni Award Ceremony and Annual Meeting, Fall Award Reception, Fall date tba

All of our events are open to friends, family and community

Celebrating the 2010 Alumni Award Winners!

Two years ago the Association introduced the MVCSD Alumni Awards which annually recognizes four Mount Vernon alumni and their lifetime accomplishments. This year's award winners represent a sixty-six year span in Mount Vernon School's history. The Mount Vernon Community School District Alumni Association is pleased to announce the following alums were selected as 2010 Alumni Hall of Fame winners:

- Achievement: Leo Beranek, Class of 1931
- Fine Arts: Elizabeth Stoner, Class of 1997
- Service: David Van Metre, Class of 1955
- Sports: Joy Jordan, Class of 1987

The Alumni Association presented these awards during Homecoming weekend, October 8 and 9. Weekend activities included participating in the homecoming parade, visiting with high school students Friday afternoon, 'Tailgating Under The Tent' and halftime activities at the Friday night football game, and the Alumni Award Ceremony and Reception Saturday Morning. More about the 2010 Hall of Fame recipients on page 8 and additional pictures on pages 6 and 7.

According to Alumni Award Co-Chair Jennykaye Moore Hampton'91, "These four awards both continue to enhance the homecoming tradition and recognize MV alums as role models and examples for our current students. Again this year, the competition among alums for these awards was extremely tight. The four individuals selected are excellent representatives of our school district and Mount Vernon alumni."



Celebrating 5 Years!



'the spirit lives on in you'

Mustang ALUMNI

THANK YOU ADVERTISERS!

Alums -- please support and thank the following publication advertisers:

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If you are interested in advertising in the Alumni News -- call 319-895-8845

Get your nomination in today for the 2011 Award Winners Hall of Fame!
Deadline is June 15!
 See page 19

2011 Mount Vernon Community School District Events

www.mountvernon.k12.ia.us

Mustang Madness - Soup & Sandwich Supper, Prizes
 -Boys Basketball Friday, Dec 10
 -Girls Basketball, Friday, Dec 17
 -Wrestling, Thursday, Jan 27
 Spring Musical April 14-15-16
 Graduation May 29

2011 MV Community Events

www.visitmvl.com

May 7-8 Chalk the Walk
 June 4 Chocolate Stroll
 July 4 Antique Extravaganza
 July 8-10 Heritage Days
 Sept 24 Lincoln Hwy Arts Festival
 Oct tba Chili Cook Off



Kevin Rogers '81
 Alumni Association
 President

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



MOUNT VERNON - A HISTORY TO BE PROUD OF!

It's events like our annual alumni Heritage Days events and our Homecoming weekend events that bring us back to a sense of reality, reminding us of what our Mount Vernon Community School District Alumni Association is all about. Yes, our organization first and foremost exists to keep alumni connected, but as I embark on my third year as president of your alumni organization, I have come to realize that our Alumni Association's existence represents so much more.

While I very much enjoy speaking to and visiting with Mount Vernon alumni in person throughout the year, via e-mail, on Facebook, or on the telephone, I equally enjoy just standing/sitting (as inconspicuously and quietly as possible) in the background. Admittedly eavesdropping on the spontaneous mini-reunions that frequently occur during our alumni events. The firm handshakes, the "Oh my goodness, (fill in the name) is it really you?", followed by a hug, and the occasional shedding of a tear by alumni young and old, that really speaks to who we are as individuals and what we as Mount Vernon alumni are all about. There is also one phrase that resonates repeatedly during our alumni events, "Do you remember back in 19xx, when"

We all have and hold distinct memories about our years in Mount Vernon schools, but it is ultimately the coming together of those memories that binds our Alumni Association together. Individually those memories of years gone by, one might think, "That's great." But when you cumulatively bring these memories together and to look at the 'big picture', "That's great," turns into "WOW!"

Take for instance.

We all know that Mount Vernon has had some outstanding athletic teams, not to mention outstanding athletes over the course of its existence. Most recently, the girl's athletic programs have earned bragging rights, and the rights to stand in the spotlight. And while what the girl's athletic programs have achieved over the last couple of years is nothing short of phenomenal, their successes just add to Mount Vernon's outstanding and rich athletic history. With the assistance of David Ryan - class of 1985, Gary Knutsen - class of 1965; Tom Childs - class of 1963, and the late Reid Hanley - class of 1964, a list of state championship and state runner-up titles has been pulled together spanning nine decades.



Girls Basketball State Championship: 2010; Boys Basketball State Championships: 1922 (Class B Title), 1973; Football State Championship: 1974, 1993, 1994; Football State Runner-up: 1973, 1978, 1989, 2002, 2003; Girls Track & Field State Championship: 1985, 2009, 2010; Girls Track & Field State Runner-up: 2008; Boys Track & Field State Championship: 2004; Boys Track & Field State Runner-up: 1974, 1982; Girls Volleyball State Championship: 1984, 2009; 2010, Girls Volleyball State Runner-up: 1985, 2007, 2008; Boys Wrestling Duals State Championship: 1988; Boys Wrestling Duals State Runner-up: 1989; Boys Baseball State Championship: 1997; Boys Baseball State Runner-up: 1995; Girls Cross Country State Championship: 2008; Boys Cross Country State Championship: 2005; Boys Cross Country State Runner-up: 2001, 2003, 2004.

Viewed individually these accomplishments represent a single memory tied to a single point in time. Viewed cumulatively, these accomplishments represent memories and Mustang pride tied to Mount Vernon's outstanding athletic programs. Viewed in context of our Alumni Association, this is what we strive continually to achieve – not singling out the greatness of one specific group or event in time, but celebrating the outstanding accomplishments of all Mount Vernon Community School District athletic programs. No less important are all the conference championships, district and regional titles, and the hundreds of individual athletic achievements/awards/honors earned by Mount Vernon athletes over the years. It is my hope that within the next year (two years at the most), working in concert with the school district, we can create a comprehensive database that will bring together all accomplishments

of Mount Vernon Community School District athletic programs and those alumni involved.

But lest we forget that Mount Vernon Community School District's history and heritage is more than just about athletics, let's look farther. Academics should always take center stage, and it does at Mount Vernon Community Schools. There are and have been the journalism classes that have produced award winning yearbooks; a robotics club that has earned their way to compete in national and international competitions, and the Academic Decathlon team that has consistently earned top honors, just to name a few. Another powerhouse in Mount Vernon Community School District's past has been the Fine Arts programs. While we have yet to get a list to cover all the vocal and art honors, here is a partial list of instrumental music program honors.

A special thanks to Don Stine, instrumental music instructor (1966-1992), for his assistance in pulling together a plethora of information for the Alumni Association. Spanning a twenty-six year period of time between 1966-1992 Mount Vernon's instrumental music programs was another Mount Vernon Community School District standout. Concert Band: 24 Superior – 1 ratings over 26 years; Marching Band: 19 Superiors – 1 ratings over 26 years; Marching Band: 7 consecutive years, winner of the Maquoketa Octoberfest Field Marching Contest, Maquoketa, Iowa; Marching Band: A long history of participation in the Eastern Iowa Band Festival, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, earning top honors as 'best in class', and in 1981 earning the McDonald's Festival Award, awarded to the best overall marching band at the festival; Concert Band: Four time participant at the Iowa Bandmasters Convention. National

Booster Club put up new Athletic State Champion Signs on both Hwys 1 and 30 this fall



Recognition: Two time participant, Aquatennial Parade, Minneapolis, Minnesota; City of Festivals Parade, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Veiled Prophet Festival Parade, St. Louis, Missouri; International Lions Parade representing the state of Iowa, Chicago, Illinois; International Lions Parade representing the state of Iowa, San Francisco, California; One of two marching bands from the state of Iowa selected to participate in the Nation's Bi-Centennial Parade, Washington, D.C.; and the grand daddy of parades, the National Cherry Blossom Festival, Washington, D.C. Small Group State Competitions: Often up to seventy solo and ensembles participated, frequently returning home with in excess of forty superior ratings. And again, no less important are the individual students that consistently were selected as All-State performers. And then there was the movie *Dribble*, back in 1978, starring Pistol Pete Maravich. Haven't heard of it? I am not surprised, it was a flop. But nonetheless, it was students and staff of the Mount Vernon instrumental music program that starred as the pep band in the movie!

I think it goes without saying that we have just begun to scratch the surface where Mount Vernon Community School District's outstanding group achievements, programs, and individuals are concerned.



TOP: left to right, Instructor Maggie Quinn Ellison '62 shown in 1984 is High School Speech Team Sponsor and takes her All-State students to State; Class of 1984 speech contestants; High School students in 1984 earn State Academic Decathlon honors and head to Nationals; Class of 1984 All-State band and vocal seniors prior to their All-State Performances -- Dan Drahos, Ted Ault and Daryl Becicka; 2010 Robotics Team

OPPOSITE PAGE: Top row: 2010 Girls Basketball Team earns 1st Place State Finish; 1984 State Volleyball Championship Team; Class of 1994 Football Team earns State Football Championship and team member junior Tim Overman '95 celebrates
OPPOSITE PAGE: Bottom row, Class of 2009 Cross Country Team and Girls take 1st Place at State; Class of 1994 1st Place State Football Team

Class of 1971 — 40th Reunion

Reunion Date: July 9, 2011
Contact Person: Wendy Kaplan Johnson
(319)-895-8278

Class of 1981 - 30th Reunion

Mount Vernon Heritage Days Weekend
Friday and Saturday, July 8-9, 2011.

Friday-Main Street Heritage Days venue,
Saturday- The Barn, at the wonderful Sutliff Cider
Co. (www.SutliffCider.com)
Additional details coming in spring.

Find us on Facebook: MVHS Class of 1981

Contact: Rhondi (Staley) Ewing
Email: Rhondi@EwingDesign.com

Contact: Kevin Rogers
Email: mvcsd_alumnipres_81@hotmail.com

NEW DVD AVAILABLE



Thank you to Tom Childs from the Class of 1963 who has donated a video to the Alumni Association he made from some home movies filmed during the 1962 Football season. Thirteen minutes, full color, and although there is no sound, it features the football players, Homecoming Parade with band, snake dance, & uptown buildings and people.

NOW for sale at \$5, or \$7 to include shipping.
Pick one up at any Alumni Event or contact
alumni@mountvernon.k12.ia.us
or 319-895-8845

NOW AVAILABLE
Show your Mustang pride by
proudly wearing a MV Alum
LAPEL PIN



Lapel pins available
at ALL alumni events
\$2 each

2011 REUNIONS

ALL ALUMNI-EVENTS

**-Friday, July 8 and Saturday, July 9
Reception Tent, Uptown MV on Main
Street (west of Bingo Tent)
-Saturday, July 9 Breakfast
(by donation) at new High School**

CLASS REUNIONS

2006 - 5 YEARS

Contact: Kim Smyth
Contact: Jesse Corcoran

2001 - 10 YEARS

Find us on Facebook
Contact: Jamie Wallace
Phone: 319-540-1879
Email: jamie-wallace@uiowa.edu
Contact: Shauna Applebee-Dye 8074
Phone: 319-329-9815
Email: shauna_d_dye@hotmail.com

1996 - 15 YEARS

Contact: Ben Pospisil
Phone: 319-895-0220
Email: bennyp1984@yahoo.com
Contact: Maggie Lessmeier Willems
Phone: 319-929-4542
Email: maggieless@hotmail.com

1991 20 YEARS

Contact: Jenny Moore Hampton
Phone: 319-651-3439
Email: ijdsphamp@mcshi.com

1986 25 YEARS July 8-9

Contact: Deb Winchip Douglass
Phone: 641-755-3055
Email: debbilld@netins.net

1981- 30 YEARS July 8-9

Find us on Face Book
Contact: Rhondi Staley Ewing
Phone: 805-499-1415
Email: Rhondi@EwingDesign.com
Contact: Kevin Rogers
Phone: 319-643-5543
Email:mvcsd_alumnipres_81@hotmail.com

1976 - 35 YEARS

Contact: Glori Holtz Roman
Phone: 319-396-2991
Email: glor17@msn.com

1971 - 40 YEARS - July 9

Contact: Wendy Kaplan Johnson
Phone: 319-895-8278
Email: wendy.johnson@kirkwood.edu

1966 - 45 YEARS July 8-9

Contact: Margaret Ellison Duffy
Phone: 319-930-0917
Email: Margy.917@live.com

1961 - 50 YEARS July 8-9

Contact: Richard Blew
Phone: 816-529-3750
Email: rkblew@comcast.net
Contact: Barbara 'Bunny' Williams
Mulligan
Phone: 319-377-7644

1956 - 55 YEARS

Contact: Leona Reyhons Smith
Phone: 319-895-8097
Email: Leonasmith@yahoo.com
Contact: Roger Schnittjer
Phone: 319-895-8817
Email: rmschnittjer@gmail.com

1951 - 60 YEARS (1949, 1950, 1951) held fall 2010

1946 - 65 YEARS

Contact: Helen Peterson (Blinks) Meeks
Phone: 319-351-2273
Contact: Margaret Clark Reilly
Phone: 319-895-6090

1941 - 70 YEARS @ Alumni Breakfast

1936 - 75 YEARS @ Alumni Breakfast

1931 - 80 YEARS @ Alumni Breakfast

Your class may not be having a
reunion, but come enjoy seeing
classmates and other alums at the All-
Alumni Breakfast.



You are a student once, but an alum for a lifetime.

Get your nomination in today
for the 2011 Award Winners
Hall of Fame!
Deadline is June 15!
See page 19

IN THE SPRING 2011 ISSUE...

2010 REUNION &
HERITAGE DAYS PICTURES
SUPPORTER & DONATION LISTS
ALUMNI 2011 REUNION INFO
SCHOOL DISTRICT YEAR IN REVIEW
send in your news by april 1



Top picture: Association board is introduced at the Annual Meeting

Bottom picture, left to right: John Pospisil '66, Dennis Jordan '87 and Michael Langer '88

NEW BOARD

At the Annual Meeting held October 9, John Pospisil '66 was re-elected and Michael Langer '88 and Dennis Jordan '87 joined the Alumni Association Board. Thank you to outgoing board members Dennis Drahos '59 and Jerry Niederhauser '75 for their contributions to our Association.

JOHN POSPISIL '66. "My wife Cindy and I have raised 3 sons in the MV system; Jared '94, Scott '95, and Joe '98. I have served one term as director in the Mount Vernon Alumni Assn. I like what the Association is doing and appreciate the opportunity to continue as director for a second term. Thank you."

DENNIS JORDAN '87 "I am 1987 graduate of Mount Vernon High School. I am also a graduate of Kirkwood Community College, the University of Northern Iowa and the University of Iowa. I currently serve as Interim President/Vice President Economic Development for Priority One, Economic Development Division of the Cedar Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce. I live in Marion, Iowa with my wife Angela and we have four children. I am honored to serve on the Mount Vernon Alumni Association Board of Directors."

MICHAEL LANGER '88 "I attended Mount Vernon Schools from 3rd grade through my senior year. My wife, Tess, and I have been married for 20 years, and have 4 children. We live in Iowa City where I am the pastor of a Presbyterian church. I look forward to serving on the Alumni Board because much of my life story was shaped in Mount Vernon."

THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ASSISTS AT GRADUATION

Last May the Alumni Association made its debut appearance at Graduation when President Kevin Rogers '81 and Treasurer Susan Fisher '65 joined the Reception line during Commencement. In addition to greeting and shaking hands, each of the 87 graduates was given a Mustang Alumni pin on behalf of all alums (see ad with picture on page 4).

Prior to the ceremony, on May 11th alums Carolyn Neal-Palmer '42, John Rife '60, Association Secretary Shauna Applebee Dye '01 and President Kevin Rogers met to judge senior commencement speaker candidates; selecting what they believed to be the best male and female speeches.



At left, President Kevin Rogers '81 and Treasurer Susan Fisher '65 wait to congratulate the Class of 2010. At right, Kevin greets graduate Hannah Goldsmith '10.

HONORARY CAPTAINS

The Mount Vernon High School Football Team and Head Coach Duane Orr once again welcomed Honorary Captains to each week's football practices and game. Congratulations to the following who were selected this year's Honorary Captains:

- Chris Piarik '95**
August 27 vs Marion
- David Hoke '72**
September 3 vs Maquoketa
- Mike Martin '84**
September 10th vs Williamsburg
- Jon Bellamy '79**
September 17 vs South Tama
- Lucas Stanton '02**
Sept 24 vs Solon
- John Kroul '77**
Oct 1 vs Washington
- Dave Van Metre '55**
Oct 8 vs Grinnell
- Nick Bjork '98**
Oct 15 vs Benton Community
- Luke '00 and Grant Rasmussen '01**
Oct 22 vs CC-Amara

VOLUNTEER AT UPCOMING MOUNT VERNON EVENTS...

ACADEMIC DECATHLON MARCH 4-5

Once again, Mount Vernon Community School District is hosting the State Academic Decathlon Tournament. Volunteer judges and test proctors will be needed on both days.

This is the perfect opportunity to support your alma mater!
Call 319-895-8845 to volunteer.

WAMAC SPEECH CONTEST FEBRUARY 12

The Mount Vernon Speech Team is hosting the WAMAC Individual Speech Contest on Saturday, Feb. 12, 2011

Organizers Karla Moran and Amy White need help from alums and community members to provide school greeters, room hosts, event timers, concession workers and score tabulators.

Please contact Karla at 213-0147, steffran5@gmail.com or Amy at 895-8352, amyloope@gmail.com if you are interested in helping

The Foundation's annual Fall fund raising campaign was mailed recently. Did you get your copy?

As the calendar year draws to a close, it is an excellent time to consider making an investment in the potential of all students by donating to the Mount Vernon Community School District Foundation.

Contact Bethany Campbell Tvedt, Foundation Director, at 319-895-8845 x1006 to make a donation or request your copy today.

A NOTE TO EVERYONE: DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS?

Your email address is as valuable as your mailing address these days. Having your email address in the alumni data base is a great way for other alums, your class representatives, and the alumni office to contact you. If you are not receiving occasional emails from the alumni office, then we probably don't have a personal email address for you. Please send your email address (as well as any updates like addresses, phone, name changes) to alumni@mountvernon.k12.ia.us or call 319-895-8845

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CLASS OF '78
AND MOUNT VERNON COMMUNITY SCHOOL
DISTRICT FOUNDATION PRESIDENT

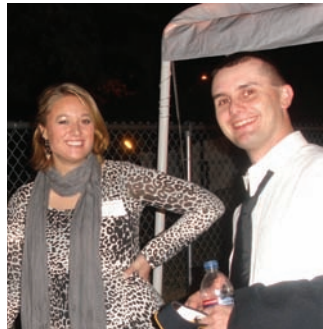
204 GLENN ST SE MOUNT VERNON, IA 5 2 3 1 4

TEL 319 895 6001

FAX 319 895 8437 ann@koppenhavercpas.com

PICTURES FROM HOMECOMING 2010

It was a gorgeous fall weekend as alums came to join in the festivities of Homecoming. Here are some pictures from the Thursday night parade, the Friday night Alumni Award winner announcements and 'Tailgating Under the Tent', and Saturday's Award Ceremony and Fall Award Reception.



Katie Forest Saunders '00, and Tom Ash '00



Gary Kaplan '64 helps to tear down after the Alumni Reception at the game



1987 Classmates Krista Meeker Sorensen, Dennis Jordan, and Joy Jordan

Classroom Cash
Investing in Education
\$13,000
(Total Earned for Mount Vernon Schools)
Earn money for Mount Vernon Schools each time you use your Hills Bank® debit card.



Mary Thomsen '75, and Ben Neal '96



Making Homecoming a mini-reunion event are Craig Stepanek '80, Sue Studt Barrett '82, Guy Kuehl, Jeff Kuehl '80, Kelli Kuehl '82, with Craig from Vinton, IA, Sue coming over from Council Bluffs, Jeff from Mount Vernon and Kelli from Arizona

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Sisters Wiladene Willming Hoggard '50 from Texas, Vernelle Hoggard Willming '45 from Oregon, and Millicent Hoggard Zenishek '47 from Mechanicsville make Homecoming a family event



Brandon Keen, future class of 2015, with Ray Stoner '64 and Cathy Humphries Stoner '69

Mount Vernon MOTEL

"We've always wanted to own our own business, and now we have the motel in our home town. We especially love to have MV alums as guests -- we hope we can make their visit extra special."

Beth Drongesen Mhire '86 and husband Dave Corinne Wilcox Drongesen '56

353 Hwy 30 SW
To make your reservation, stop in, visit us online at
www.mountvernonmotel.com
or call toll free 877-895-4087
local 319-895-4039



John Krumm '65 and Jane Maxon Penfield '64



Kay Jilovec Lind '55 and Pat Pisarik '68



President Kevin Rogers '81 and Dan Drahos '84

2011

HERITAGE DAYS DATES ARE JULY 8 and 9, 2011
HOMECOMING DATES WILL BE LISTED IN SPRING NEWSLETTER

LOOKING FOR 2010 REUNION AND HERITAGE DAYS PICTURES? WATCH FOR THEM IN THE SPRING 2011 ISSUE OF ALUMNI NEWS



Board members help before, during, and after Alumni events. Here Jean Kuntz Bowman'64 takes lights down after Friday's Homecoming Reception, and at right Jerry Niederhauser'75 helps to set up for Saturday's Award Reception



Roger Schnittjer'58 and Cathy Humphries Stoner'69



Fine Arts Award Winner Elizabeth Stoner'97 with grandmother Jean Minish Stoner'37 (2008 Service Hall of Fame Award winner) and cousin Kimberlee Stoner'95



Fine Arts Hall of Fame award winner Elizabeth Stoner'97 enjoys her ride in the Homecoming parade, along with President Kevin Rogers'81



Superintendent Pam Ewell, last year's Service Award Winner Treva Moore Heiser'50, Allan Viktor'69, and Bob Penn'81



At right, Dennis Drahos'59



Dave Van Metre'55, Karen Jilovec Martin'57, and Barb Neal Hutchins'57



Left, Maggie Quinn Ellison'62, on right front, Marilyn Dean Schnittjer'58



left to right, Linda Jordan, Truman Jordan, Carolyn Neal Palmer'42, Joy Jordan'87, Krista Meeker Sorensen'87 and daughter



Diana Kafer LaVoie'64, Annamae Baker'62, and Jane Maxon Penfield'64



Left, Dick Moore'52 and Treva Moore Heiser'50



Clockwise from front left, Carol Van Metre, Barb Neal Hutchins'57, Dave Van Metre'55, Janet Johnston McCannon'55, Don Walden'53, and Carol Hartenberger Walden'55

A special thank you to alums Darlene Hartl Allard'69 and Cathy Humphries Stoner'69 for organizing and hosting this year's ALUMNI FALL AWARD RECEPTION. As you can tell by the pictures above, the food was delicious and the table and room festive!

About our 2010 Alumni Award Winners...

Leo Beranek'31

Achievement winner Leo Beranek is best described as the pioneer of modern acoustics and an early contributor to the development of today's Internet. Leo graduated from Mount Vernon in 1931 and went on to study at Cornell College while working as a radio and small appliance repairman. He received a doctorate from Harvard University, then during World War II managed Harvard's electro-acoustics laboratory, which designed communications and noise reduction systems for World War II aircraft as well as other military technologies. Beranek remained on staff at Massachusetts Institute of Technology as professor of communications engineering from 1947 to 1958. In 1948, he helped found Bolt, Beranek and Newman, serving as the company's president from 1952 to 1971. This company is known for inventing the internet and email; sending the first email ever and the development of the @ symbol in email as well as the first Internet protocol router. His book, 'Acoustics' is considered the classic textbook in the acoustics field. His book 'Music Acoustics and Architecture', developed from his analysis concert halls throughout the world became a classic and he has participated in the design of numerous concert halls and opera houses world-wide.



Among his honors are Gold Medals from the Audio Engineering Society and the Acoustical Society of America, honorary membership in the American Institute of Architects, and recipient of the 2002 National Medal of Science in Engineering, the Per Bruel Gold Medal of the A.S.M.E in 2004, and the Eta Kappa Nu Vladimir Karapetoff Award in 2008. The Eta Kappa Nu's most prestigious award is given annually to an electrical engineering practitioner who has distinguished him/herself through an invention, discovery or development that has demonstrated a long-term positive impact on the welfare of society. He is past president of the President of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Current President James O. Freedman said "Leo Beranek's wide-ranging work in science and engineering has helped shape the world, from the beginnings of the Internet to the architecture of concert halls and opera houses...(he is) a scientist and business man who has achieved great distinction in his profession and a concerned citizen who has served countless education and cultural institutions."

Leo was nominated for this award by Thomas Bergmann'60 and Kevin Rogers'81. Leo can be reached at 776 Boylston St, Ste E10A, Boston, MA 02199 or at beranekleo@ieee.org

Elizabeth Stoner Cameron'97

Fine Arts Award Winner Elizabeth Stoner Cameron from the class of 1997 was selected for her award because of both her high school fine arts achievements and her commitment to her current vocation as an educator and performer. Highlights of her High School achievements in theater and speech are noteworthy; four years of IHSSA competition in storytelling, acting, literary program, one-act play, reader's theater and musical theater. A class Salutatorian, she earned some fifteen Division 1 ratings at District and State levels of competition and received the All-State Outstanding Performer recognition for her performances in readers' theater, literary program, and acting. She earned Thespian Honor Status and the Best Thespian Award. Her achievements in vocal music and orchestra matched those in the speech/theater fields, where she earned twenty-five Division 1 ratings in solo and ensemble music contest and was named to the All-State Chorus for three years and the Iowa Honors choir for four. Elizabeth was also selected as a soprano soloist with the Iowa Ambassadors of Music in 1994.



Elizabeth completed a double-degree program in theater and vocal performance at Lawrence University and Conservatory of Music, graduating magna cum laude. She earned her masters from the Manhattan School of Music and her Doctorate from the University of Michigan School of Music and Dance. Elizabeth performed in twenty-five major and secondary roles while in college. She has also directed, conducted, and planned the costuming for several productions. Elizabeth is currently teaching at Grand Valley University, Western Michigan University, and is the Soprano Soloist with the Spectrum Brass Quintet. She performs acting and operatic rolls and holds workshops around her teaching schedule. Commenting on Elizabeth's 'Gershwin' release, Timothy X. Troy (Professor of Theatre Arts and the J. Thomas and Julie Esch Hurvis Professor of Theater and Drama at Lawrence University) says "I'm especially impressed by her latest success, collaborating with the Spectrum Brass Quintet. Her work on Gershwin's songbook adds a great deal of understanding of this iconic American sensibility. We're all enriched by her honest, passionate and sensitive interpretations...we are proud to count her among our most successful students."

Elizabeth was nominated for this award by Donna Jacobs. She can be reached at 3520 Hidden Lake Dr, Grand Rapids, MI 49546 or at speranze@aol.com

Dave Van Metre'55



Although his achievements are many, Service Award Recipient Dave Van Metre is well-known in the Mount Vernon School district for his high school athletic abilities and generous donation of equipment to the High School; and in Omaha where he currently lives because of his ability to organize and promote improvement projects at schools throughout the Omaha Public School district. He has turned his focus from success in the business world to success in improving

Get your nomination in today
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Hall of Fame!
Deadline is June 15!
See page 19

facilities and fitness in students. Dave provided personalized Mustang weight training and fitness equipment in Mount Vernon at the High School in 2000 (now the middle school) and to the new High School in 2005. Dave has provided new weight training and cardio equipment to the Omaha School District's seven high schools and eleven middle schools, as well as to both the North Omaha and to the South Omaha Boys & Girls Clubs.

Dave got his idea for the projects when he was home in Mount Vernon for a Cornell golf outing and was invited to the former high school by the principal. He noticed that the weight room was old and not in very good condition and decided to remedy the situation. Former Mount Vernon District Superintendent and Athletic Director, Jeff Schwiebert, noted that the school's football team was the Iowa Class 3-A runner-up in 2002 and in 2003, a feat he attributes partly to the upgraded weight room and says, "The world is certainly a better place because of Dave Van Metre's dedication to fitness and his generosity in giving students the chance of a lifetime to get in shape."

More recently Dave has spearheaded fundraising efforts for three high school football/soccer/track stadiums and a number of baseball and softball competition fields. The most recent project, Collin Stadium at Omaha South High School, replaced a scruffy practice field called "the hole." The new field has received numerous design and engineering awards; most recently receiving the Omaha by Design's Civic Leaf Award.

Dave attended Colorado College on a football scholarship and was drafted by the Los Angeles Rams, served in the U.S. Army, retired as a manager from Smith Barney and was a co-owner of the travel agency, Travel and Transport, Inc., the fifth largest travel agency in the U.S. Among his awards are Nebraska Baseball Coaches Association Man of the Year, Benson High Centennial Award, South High Packer Great, Central High School Hall of Fame, Omaha Public Schools Hall of Fame and UNO Maverick Club Man of the Year.

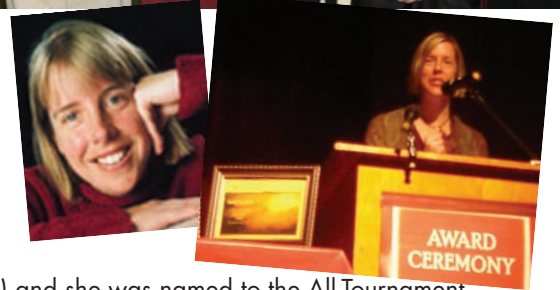
Dave was nominated for this award by Nargi Rayman Steinbrech '55 and also by Carol Hartenberger Walden '55. Dave can be reached at 6611 Davenport Street, Omaha, NE 68132 or at davevanmetre@cox.net

On the football field of Homecoming Halftime are Alumni Association Treasurer Susan Mounts Fisher '65, President Kevin Rogers '81, Fine Arts Hall of Fame recipient Elizabeth Stoner '97, Service Hall of Fame recipient Dave Van Metre '55, High School Principal Steve Brand, Madeline Morrill-future class of 2020 and niece of Joy Jordan, Athletic Hall of Fame recipient Joy Jordan '87, Washington Elementary Principal Terry Eisenbarth, Matthew Morrill-future class of 2018 and nephew of Joy Jordan, and Superintendent Dr. Pamela Ewell.



Joy Jordan '87

Athletic Award recipient Joy Jordan from the Class of 1987 was a leader in Volleyball, going with her team to the State Tournament in Volleyball 3 years. As a sophomore the Mustangs won the Class 1A State Tournament (only 2 classes at that time) and she was named to the All-Tournament Team. As a junior she was again named to the All-Tournament Team while her team placed 2nd in the State Tournament. Both as a junior and a senior she was named to the 1st Team All-State Class 1A, and also named to the Elite Team (all classes), and was named Class 1A Player of the Year as a senior. The three year volleyball team record of 116-8-8 (0.879) stood as the best three year record in Mount Vernon volleyball history for 25 years until it was broken, appropriately enough, by last year's state championship team which compiled a three year record of 109-11 (0.908). Joy earned 12 Varsity Letters - 2 in Softball, 4 in Tennis, 3 in Basketball, and 3 in Volleyball, and was All-Conference in volleyball as a sophomore, junior, and senior; in basketball as a junior and senior. She was named the 1987 Cedar Rapids Gazette Female Athlete of the Year. In addition, she was Senior Class Valedictorian with a 4.0 GPA and winner of the Margaret Garry Award.



She went on to play Volleyball at Indiana University with a full scholarship, playing setter. One of the top setters in Indiana school history, Joy Jordan appeared in every match during her collegiate career from 1987-90. Currently fifth on Indiana's career assist list with 3,129, her total of 1,441 assists in 1990 is the third-highest single season total in school history. She earned honorable mention All-Big Ten honors in 1990. In 1988, Jordan earned second team Academic All-America honors and received first team recognition in 1990. In addition, she garnered Academic All-Big Ten accolades three times and earned the Big Ten Medal of Honor in 1990. She also won the Aline Robinson Mental Attitude Award in 1989 and the Anita Aldrich Award in 1990. Head Coach Tom Shoji said "I have coached some good leaders in my career, but Joy is the best one I've ever had and that's saying a lot because I've had some great ones...Our successes have been due to her." Joy earned her Ph. D. in Statistics from the University of Iowa and is currently Associate Professor of Statistics at Lawrence University. She was a volunteer assistant volleyball coach at Lawrence from 2000-2007. Among her awards are 2001-2002 Lawrence University Outstanding Young Teacher Award, 2005 Lawrence Mortar Board Honorary Award and the American Statistical Association's 2006 Waller Education Award. Most recently Joy was inducted in the Iowa High School Volleyball Hall of Fame in 2006.

Joy was nominated for this award by Lisa Squiers White '88. Joy can be reached at 711 South Story St., Appleton, WI 54914 or at joy.jordan@lawrence.edu



School Foundation Hires Director

Editor's Note: Excerpt from the *Sun*, complete article in October 07, 2010, author Jake Krob

The non-profit Mount Vernon School District Foundation now has its first paid employee with the recent hire of director Bethany Campbell Tvedt.



The Foundation was founded about 20 years ago as a vehicle for people to make financial and property contributions to the school district. A board of trustees oversees the group, with trustees appointed by the Mount Vernon School Board.

Campbell Tvedt and her husband have lived in the community for about 15 years. Campbell Tvedt has worked for the school district for three years; she was first hired to assist with the Grant to Reduce Alcohol Abuse. The couple have two children in the school district, and Campbell Tvedt has spent a lot of time volunteering. She has a degree in journalism from Boston University.

Campbell Tvedt pointed out that the Foundation is "whatever you want it to be as a patron of the school district." Some people donate for a very specific use - they want their investment spent in a certain area. Others give to the overall endowment.

Campbell Tvedt said she'll work with people in whatever way they wish. Donations to the Foundation from school district employees, alumni, and community friends have had a great impact on the district over the years. Earnings from the endowment - unrestricted gifts that currently total about \$150,000 - have been used for such things as teacher grants. Every year, teachers request funds for specific projects or equipment. This year, \$5,000 is available. Last school year, 10 teachers received grants ranging from \$100 for flash drives to \$1,000 for a violence prevention curriculum. Add in donations to the Foundation for specific uses, and there were \$30,000 in expenditures for school district needs last year.

The Foundation has an annual drive each year - typically in November. The Foundation in the past has also been a vehicle for big projects such as the Capital Campaign for the new high school.

Mustangs...what are they doing now?

■ DAN DRAHOS'84



Left, Dan from his 1984 yearbook, center, in action teaching a lab session, and right, posed at his clinic in the surgery room

I have taken a full time position for the Muscatine Community College as their Program Veterinarian. I "officially" took the position July 1st, although I have been working with the program since the beginning of the year.

Duties include teaching, administration, and veterinarian duties for their 2-year Veterinary Technician program. I am finding the teaching part to be a very interesting and intriguing challenge for me.

My wife is "job sharing" the position with me as she is acting as the veterinary instructor for one class each semester. I still maintain my duties at our own veterinary hospital in Muscatine, IA, the Riverside Animal Hospital, but limiting it mostly to surgery. I also continue to fulfill my role as the President/Executive Director of the Animal Emergency Center of the Quad Cities. Juggling which 'hat' I wear at any given moment keeps life entertaining.

Dan can be reached at laptopdoc@machlink.com



■ ROBYN DOCHTERMAN'81

Heading to the Twin Cities any time soon? Make it a point to stop by and visit Robyn's store, The St. Croix Chocolate Company in St. Paul. Or better yet, don't wait and visit her online. Robyn's store is one of four new shops that are revitalizing the Marine on St. Croix. Robyn, a former Web editor for the Star Tribune, launched the business - which features hand-crafted chocolates with fillings such as almond, amaretto and dried apricots.



Robyn began making truffles about 10 years ago at Christmastime. "This is such a common story. So many people start this way ... it's almost trite, but this is my story," Dochterman said. "I started with truffles, and I just kept adding on and trying new things like bonbons." Since then, she has taken classes at both Chicago's French Pastry School and Chocolate Academy, and the San Francisco Baking Institute.

The St. Croix Chocolate Co. specializes in Internet and mail-order sales of custom-designed chocolates. The chocolates look like little works of art - many feature colorful swirls on top. "One of the things I'm interested in doing is finding ways that the culinary arts and the fine arts overlap or dovetail, and you can see that I like pretty things," she said. "People say, 'There's no way I can eat this! It's too pretty to eat!' I have heard that many times. Then I remind them that there are no preservatives in them, so they shouldn't wait too long."

Dochterman, who lives in Scandia, said the timing couldn't have been better for her business to open in downtown Marine. "With the chocolate shop and the restaurant and with the new places opening, there are a lot more things for people to explore. There's the history, but there are also fun things to shop for - and I think it's the kind of place I would want to stop."

Robyn can be reached at EMAIL or find her at www.stcroixchocolateco.com
Editor's Note: Source of article from the St. Paul Pioneer Press (MN), June 20, 2010



■ GRAHAM HARMAN '86

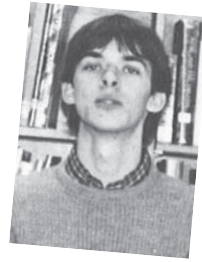


photo by Hannah Lohrer



Graham giving a lecture in Croatia

photo by Tomislav Medick



Graham as a member of the 1984 Academic Decathlon team

Graham Harman '86 is Associate Provost for Research Administration and a professor of Philosophy at the American University in Cairo, Egypt, where he has worked since 2000. He is the author of nine books, which include *Tool-Being*, *Guerrilla Metaphysics*, *Heidegger Explained*, *Prince of Networks*, *Towards Speculative Realism*, and in 2010, *Circus Philosophicus*.

Graham wrote in to tell us what he has been up to... "I should say that my father, Gregory Harman, is MVHS class of '65, so I'm second generation. After Mount Vernon I attended St. John's College, which has campuses in Santa Fe, NM and Annapolis, MD. I did my freshman year in Santa Fe and the last three in Annapolis, graduating in 1990. Then I went on to Penn State to do my M.A. in Philosophy, which I finished quickly the next year, 1991.

For my Ph.D. in Philosophy, I transferred to DePaul University in Chicago, and finished in 1999. My dissertation was on the German philosopher Martin Heidegger. Ironically, I bought my first book by Heidegger the summer before my senior year in Mount Vernon, using money earned from corn detasseling. I didn't realize I would eventually become a specialist on his philosophy, but the seeds for this were planted way back in Mount Vernon days.

While I was writing my Ph.D. dissertation at DePaul, I became a sportswriter in Chicago from 1996-98. I interviewed Sammy Sosa once. But the highlight of my sportswriting career was asking Bobby Knight a question that made him extremely angry. Coach Knight began swearing about the President of the University of Minnesota, whom he disliked, and this story was even covered in the New York media, all because I asked him a tough question.

After finishing my Ph.D., I still wasn't sure if I wanted to be a university professor. My plan was to move to Paris, my favorite city, and see what might happen. In July 1999, two weeks before I left for Paris, the Chair of the Philosophy Department at DePaul called and said she wanted me to stay on as a professor there for one year. They made a good offer, so I accepted.

During that one-year job as a professor at DePaul, I decided I might as well look at the job ads. The two jobs that caught my eye were at the American Universities in Beirut and Cairo (which are rivals, not part of the same system). Cairo made me an offer in February 2000, and I moved there in August 2000 and began work.

At first I only planned to spend a few years in Cairo, but it's addictive. The University takes good care of us, and the lifestyle is exciting. I live in a neighborhood called Zamalek, on an island in the Nile River. The Pyramids are a 20-minute taxi ride from my house. Cairo is a gigantic city, but extremely safe, with a very low crime rate.

Now I am a tenured professor at the American University in Cairo, and this year became Associate Provost of the university. All of our teaching is done in English. Around 85% of the students are Egyptian, and they tend to come from the wealthier classes of the country, since most Egyptians cannot afford American tuition rates. But we do give full-ride scholarships to the top male and top female student in each district of Egypt each year. You may be interested to hear that the scholarship students who study engineering are sent as exchange students to Iowa State for a year.

Before coming to Egypt I had travelled extensively in Europe. Egypt was my 21st country. But because of the convenient location of Egypt for travel, I have now been to 58 countries. In the next few months I will be going to Kenya, Tanzania, Bahrain and Bangladesh for the first time. My goal is to travel to 100 countries.

India is my favorite place to travel. But I also really like Lebanon, which is such a beautiful country. When I was a student in Mount Vernon in the mid-1980's, it was so dangerous in Lebanon that no one would have dreamed of going. These days Lebanon still has problems, but it is safe enough for tourism, and I've seen almost the whole country.

When I arrived in Cairo, I hadn't published any academic work. But I discovered that I really like writing philosophy books. I've written 9 philosophy books since 2002, and my first one in French will be published in November 2010. It was translated by a young French philosopher named Olivier Dubouclez.

Some favorite memories...

The Mount Vernon High School marching band was invited to a parade in San Francisco in 1984, which was only my second time out of the Midwest. We stayed in a dormitory at the University of California at Berkeley. About ten years later I returned to Berkeley for an academic conference, and went and found the dormitory again.

My best friends in band were Kirk Bostwick and Jeff Hunter, both class of '84. Despite being two years older, they were always very nice about including me in their activities.

Graham can be reached at ggharman@aucegypt.edu



CORRECTIONS

The following MUSTANG DONORS were incorrectly listed in the last newsletter under 2008 Fall Donors, and should have been listed as as 2009 Fall Mustang Donors. Our thanks again to these people for their generous donations to the Foundation on behalf of our students.
Bill & Ruth Deskin
John '60 & Thelma Rife
Mary Bowman Seidler '57 in memory of Grace & Roy Bowman



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Are the Alumni Association and the Foundation the SAME thing? NO

The **Alumni Association** was formed to coordinate all-alumni activities. Donations to the Alumni Association are used to support the alumni newsletter, data base, awards and Association activities.

The **Foundation** is a charitable non-profit organization that partners with alumni, businesses, parents, and friends to help support a higher level of educational excellence for students of Mount Vernon Schools. Donations to the Foundation are used to support the school district in ways such as student scholarships and teacher education grants. The Foundation financially supported the Alumni Association in its first years, and continues with financial support of one alumni newsletter annually.

DONATIONS TO BOTH ASSOCIATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Mustangs...what are they doing now?

■ DOUG BOGGS '82



Carlos Santana, Journey, Peter Gabriel, Counting Crows, Steve Morse, Eddie Money, Chris Hedge, Paul Horn, and Robert Shaw, are just a few celebrities that Doug Boggs has worked with over the years since graduating from Mount Vernon High School in 1982.

Doug's desire to "go west" came about long before he finally ventured that way. After a couple years at the University of Northern Iowa and Kirkwood, majoring in music/philosophy, with a duffle bag slung over his shoulder and a very small amount of cash in his pocket, he headed to the city by the bay, San Francisco, CA, alone and eager to play music. In 1985 he entered the College for the Recording Arts to study Music Production, where he met and got to work with some great talents from the music/movie industry.

Doug began editing television commercials and doing voice-overs for corporations and advertising while still writing and producing music. Some of Doug's songs have been judged runners up in National Song-writing contests. Doug is a founding member of a rock band "The Ring" which garnered radio airplay throughout the west coast college radio circuit in the early 1990's. The band split up in the mid-1990's, but not before winning a Battle of Bands, doing some touring, and making it to the Top 50 lists of The Best of the Year countdowns on numerous radio stations. The band has since reformed and began recording unreleased material with some excitement to some music industry insiders.

"I got out of music for a while and became a General Contractor and Real Estate Investor/Developer, and continue to act as consultant in some construction projects," Doug attests adding, "but my desire and love of music and production has never died." In the past few years he has gone back to his original love of writing and producing. He works out of his own studio doing voice-over work for corporations, documentaries, animations, websites and commercials. He is also working with some amazingly talented producers and writers in Los Angeles and New York, writing songs and producing new music.

Doug's continued love of writing, reading, curiosity has also led his life-venture to a blog, which you will find at:

<http://thebanterer.blogspot.com>

He is also currently writing a novel/screenplay and producing a documentary. Airing next year, Doug will be the voice for a PBS documentary that will be recorded in the fall of 2010. Doug is also an Ordained Spiritual Teacher/Minister and will be releasing some meditation music and guided meditations in the fall of 2010. He added, "In the near future, I plan to be holding meditation retreats in exotic locales throughout the world."

Doug can be reach at dboggs07@yahoo.com.



Alumni News...

Send us your information...

Alumni Association
525 Palisades Road
Mount Vernon, Iowa 52314
or alumni@mountvernon.k12.ia.us
or call 319-895-8845

MARRIAGES

Deb Vargason Lord'74 and **Guy Bys'74** of Cedar Rapids were married on June 26, 2010.

Doug Rogers'84 to Lisa Lewke, Prairie du Chien, WI, June 13, 2009

Elizabeth Stoner'97 and Jacob Cameron married on Aug. 22, 2010, in Grand Rapids, Mich., at St. Cecilia Music Center. Elizabeth is the daughter of Ray'64 and Ann Stoner and granddaughter of Jean Minish Stoner'37 of Mount Vernon and the late Virgil Stoner'33.

Anna Bigley'98 and Joel Sabido, both of Houston, Texas, were married April 25, 2010, in a 4:30 p.m. ceremony at the bride's home.

Michael Wieseler'99 of Cedar Falls IA and Laurie Shurtz of Independence, IA were married on July 17, 2010 in Independence. Michael is the son of Vicki Wieseler, high school staff member and husband, Tom.

Caitlin Jean Stoner'96 and Ikechukwu Anthony Mogbana, of Allen, Texas were married on Sept 25, 2010 in Northhampton, Mass. Caitlin is the daughter of Ray'64 and Ann Stoner and granddaughter of Jean Minish Stoner'37 all of Mount Vernon and the late Virgil Stoner'33.

Danny Zangger'99 and Jane Chien-Chih Lin of Los Angeles, CA will exchange vows on Oct. 10, 2010

Jenny Blythe'00 to Brian Mertes, on October 17, 2009, couple resides in Johnston, IA

Kelly Dotson'00 and Jim Matthias exchanged wedding vows on May 22, 2010. The couple resides in Brooklyn Center, Minn.

Brandon Hanna'01 and Annie Miller both of Houston, Texas were married on August 14, 2010. Brandon is the son of Lyle'64 and Sandi Erenberger Hanna'67 of Mount Vernon. Brandon is the grandson of the late Ruth Erenberger Mallie'47.

Dina Hoke'01 and Thomas Rashid, both of Cedar Rapids wed on Aug. 14, 2010, at St. Joseph Church in Marion. Dina is the daughter of David'72 and Anne Hoke of Mount Vernon.

Carrie McMahon'01 married Brad Pumphrey May 1, 2010. They reside in Mechanicsville IA.

Rebecca Wumkes'01 married Josh O'Rourke on June 26, 2010 in Tipton, IA. Becci is the daughter of retired teacher, Doug Wumkes and wife, Jayne.

Erin Marie Blythe'03, and Seth Allen Schaller of Cedar Rapids exchanged vows on Oct. 23, 2010. Parents of the bride are Dave'76 and Deb Telecky Blythe'78 of Mount Vernon. Erin is the granddaughter of James'49 and Bessie Koutny Telecky'53.

Tiffany Clark'03 of Mount Vernon and Mehrdad Zarifar of Fort Collins, Colo, June 19, 2010

Ryan Nicol'03 and Rebecca Tupy, both of Austin, Minn., July 24, 2010

Kelly Pisarik'03, to Adam Johnson, November 2010 in Solon. Kelly is the daughter of Ron'75 and Nancy Pisarik and granddaughter of Raphael Pisarik'38 all of Mount Vernon.

Brittany Corkin'04 and **Ben Brannaman'05** married Nov. 5, 2010. Parents of the couple are Rick'76 and Venda Venditti Corkin'77 and Dan and Denise Henik Brannaman'81 all of Mount Vernon.

Karah Goetschius'04 and Erik Hoffer were married on May 30, 2010, in Cedar Rapids. They will reside in New Lenox, Il.

Jessica Ehlt's'05 of Mount Vernon and David Clark of Creston Ia married July 24, 2010 in Ames IA

Kassy Bragg'06 and **David Rice'06** were married on Sept. 4, 2010, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Solon.

Kassy is the daughter of Dan'82 and Peggy Bragg of Mount Vernon and granddaughter of Linda Stastny Bragg'50 of Ely. David is the son of Mike'73 and Kathy Thuerlauf Rice'80 of Mount Vernon.

Gretchen Havill'06 of Mount Vernon and Andy Light of Lisbon were married Sept. 25, 2010, in Mount Vernon. Gretchen is the daughter of Warren'77 and Denise Clark Havill'79 of Mount Vernon and the granddaughter of Maxine Nation Havill'45 also of Mount Vernon and the late Jake Clark '34 and great-granddaughter of the late Ross Clark'14.

Nicholas Ehlt's'07 and Nikita Clay were married on May 22, 2010 in Mount Vernon

continued on next page



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Alumni News, continued...

BABY NEWS

Doug Rogers'84 and wife Lisa, a daughter, Katie Eileen, March 19, 2010

Nathan Bunting '92 and wife Valerie, a daughter Katrina Jean, December 31, 2009

Anne Halsey'92 and husband Jeffrey, a son Jesse Lawrence, June 2, 2010. Grandparents are Charles, retired Mount Vernon teacher and coach, and Linda Halsey of Mount Vernon, IA and Aunt Gail Halsey Bertram'94 of Oshkosh, Wisc

Scott Rose'93 and wife Stephanie, a daughter, Stella Francis, May 6, 2010

Jared Pospisil'94 and wife Sarah, a daughter, Elliette Joy, April 11, 2010. Grandparents are John'66 and Cindy Pospisil of Mount Vernon and great-grandfather, the late Joseph Pospisil'37.

Brad Dvorak'97 and **Kristina Minor**

Dvorak'99, a daughter, Stella Grace, November 5th, 2010

Doug Hess'97 and **Mariah Vonk Hess'99** of Davis, CA, a daughter, Sydney Grace, June 1, 2010

Maggie McWilliams Noll'98 and husband Scott a son, Marcus John, June 18, 2010. Family includes grandparents Steve, former Mount Vernon teacher, and Linda Noll of Lisbon IA, Aunt Betsy McWilliams'99 Brown of Des Moines Ia, Uncle Eric Dye'04 of Mount Vernon

Jeremy Hotz'99 and **Lindsey Kerr Hotz'01**, a daughter, Lillian Jean March 3, 2009

Derek Boren'00 and wife Lori, a daughter Alexis Annalee, July 3, 2010. Grandparents are Terry'77 and Carol Woods-Boren'75 of Mount Vernon and great-grandfather, the late Robert Woods'49.

Gabe Haugland'00 and wife Carolyn, a son, Nicholas Davin Hill, April 20, 2010

Derek Huxley'04 and wife Kimberly, twin boys, Drew Robert and Dylan Dale, July 15, 2010

EDUCATION

Geoffrey George'02 earned a Masters in Journalism from U of Missouri Columbia MO, May 2010

ANNIVERSARIES

Jim Croft'47 and **Diana 'Dy' Pringle Croft'46** celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary this year.

Nelda Conner Techau'60 and Keith Techau of Lisbon, IA celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on June 25, 1960.

Kathy Jennings Jamison'61 and **Ben Jamison'58** of Lisbon, IA celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 26, 2010.

Andrea Jennings Robinson'63 and Jerry Robinson of Pacific Grove, CA celebrated 25 years of marriage on March 17, 2010.

Kathy Klinisky Mallie'77 and husband, Dean of Lisbon, IA observed their 30th anniversary. They were married June 7, 1980, at St. John's Catholic Church in Mount Vernon.

Marvin Stastny'55 and wife Bernita of Solon, IA celebrated their 50th anniversary on June 7, 2010.

Jeff Rogers'82 and **Barb Durfey Rogers'81** of Linn Creek, MO celebrated their 25th anniversary. They were married on October 17, 1985.

MILITARY

Sam Rodman'10 has completed recruit training at Great Lakes Illinois and is now in school in Pensacola, Florida. He is the son of Mark Rodman'82, and grandson of Annamae Baker

AND MORE...

Helen Blue Holder '61 says "For anyone traveling through Austin, MN Nov. 11th-Dec. 19th: You are welcome to come to see our collection of over 800 Nativity sets. Call 507-433-2643."

Kris Bys Beisel'72 says "I am looking for a photo of Mrs Sheets' 3rd grade class for the class graduating in 1972. Anyone in the graduating class from 1972 if you have this photo, I would like a copy. Contact me at 319-455-4096 or pkbeisel@mchsi.com."

Jim Croft'47 Congratulations to Jim, he says "Oshkosh West High (formerly Oshkosh High, where I taught for 18 years) created their first Alumni Wall of Fame for Musicians two years ago. The initial electees were my choral colleague, Fred Leist and yours truly. We were both invited back as guest conductors of our top ensembles, the Acappella Choir and the Concert Band....at different times since we were conducting on concerts we had established individually many years ago. It was a delight with a host of alums returning and enjoying recollections of those super performances that live on forever and the tricks and other mischief played when things got too serious. These are the rewards that are part and parcel of teaching." In addition, Alan Mills' dissertation on "The Life and Work of James E. Croft" is completed and Dr. Mills is determining which form of publication will best satisfy the "throngs" who are eager to read this academic contribution to those acquaintances who might be interested. He is considering print as a book, print by chapter and print from the computer. We will let you know as soon as the information breaks light."

Ian Dye'01, former Mount Vernon math teacher, recently became the secondary principal at Lisbon Community School District as of the Fall of 2010

Lois Hetland '72 was presented with Cornell College's Alumni Association Distinguished Achievement Award this fall. Lois is an art education professor at Massachusetts College of Art and Design and research associate at the Harvard Graduate School of Education's Project Zero

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8-11am (serving from 8-10)
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Tour the High School 9 am

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Fri - 4 pm to 9 pm

Sat - 11:30 am to time tba
Friends, family, community welcome

SATURDAY JULY 9
OPEN GYM location tba
1 to 3 pm

For any alums or friends that would
enjoy a pick up game or shooting
some baskets.

Michael Langer '85, pastor at One Ancient Hope, says "my church has outgrown our space and moved November 21st into the center of Iowa City. We are on the web at www.oneancienthope.com

John Skretta '87 is in his first year as Superintendent of the Norris School District in southeast Nebraska. This is his 7th year in the Norris district overall, where he was previously an Assistant Superintendent and a High School Principal before that. He was named one of ten national Healthy Schools Champion by the Alliance for a Healthier Generation in June.

Barron Bremner '92 was presented with Cornell College's Alumni Association Young Alumni Achievement Award this fall. He is an Orthopedic Surgeon at Moines Orthopedic Surgeons, specializing in sports surgeries, arthroscopic surgeries, joint replacements, and trauma.

Dr Bill Deskin, retired from the Mount Vernon Foundation Board after dedicating almost 20 years to the students of Mount Vernon schools. He has served as a Foundation Trustee since 1991, with service as Board President from 1998 to 2000.

Alumni Association 5-Year Anniversary article in the Gazette at <http://www.easter-niowaschools.com/2010/07/08/mount-vernon-alumni-association-stresses-connectivity-community/>



Alumni Data Base Makes Move to New System

Over the next month the Alumni Data Base is making a move to a new web hosted member management system. Here we will continue to combine membership data, our alumni website, and our individual class websites. We will also have the ability to add online communities, an Alumni Calendar, an RSS feed, and to broadcast information via email. (Do we have your email address?).

We have always had individual class websites, but the software to run those sites has been cumbersome. Class representatives will now update their class website under an easier-to-understand system. Your class representative(s) will be contacted when the change is complete and instructions are available. Every attempt will be made to transfer the information already on the class sites to the new system. The software is designed for use by inexperienced users. If one can use Microsoft Word, they will be able to update their own Class web pages. Some classes are relying on Facebook and other social media sites as a their webpage - if you have a link to your class site please be sure to send it for inclusion by writing alumni@mountvernon.k12.ia.us.

Those of you who like to use the computer to update your own information or find other alums, or make support (dues) donations online, will be able to continue that here. Log-in information will be sent at a later date.

Thank you to all alums who continue to financially support the Association, as this is one way your contributions are being put to use. Thank you also to the Mount Vernon Foundation for their continued support of the Alumni Database and communications.



Thank you

Thank you to **Nargi Rayman Steinbrech '55** for donation of the 1956 and 1957 Music Parents Birthday Calendars

Thank you to the **anonymous donor** who underwrote the first duplication of the Tom Child's DVD.

Thank you to **Craig Hipple '61** for the *Chalk Marks*

Thank you to **John Rife '60** for being the Master of Ceremonies for the third year in a row at the Alumni Awards



Thank you to President **Kevin Rogers '81** for making three Mustang Horses to display at Alumni Events, etc. Shown at left under construction in Kevin's garage, at right the finished product being carried by alum Gary Kaplan '64.



In Memory

of classmates we have lost

Helen Rose Marie Pitlik Neal '37
Howard Fischer '43

Dorothy Reyhons Poduska '45
Harold W. Herring '47

Dorothy Gaines Petersen '47
Audrey Burnett Davis '48

Robert J. Campbell '50

James "Jim" R. Washburn '54

Richard Alan Washburn '57

Dwayne Pavelka '57 (deceased 2002)

Reid Hanley '64

(Please excuse us if your classmate or loved one is not listed here for their recent death, but let us know for inclusion in the next newsletter.)



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Homecoming History...



left to right : Class of 2006 King and Queen Ben Crowe and Whitney Dotson;

Class of 2001 Fall Play 'The Crucible'; Class of 1956 Queen Pat Conner was crowned by Student Council President Roger Schnittjer; In 1971 Viki Peterson '72 twirled with fire as part of the Mustang band performance; and this fall's Alumni Homecoming pin

The Alumni Association adds an insert to the Homecoming Football game program yearly. One of the features of that program is a Homecoming History that highlights the upcoming Reunion classes. Here is this year's history that we hope you enjoy reading about.

5 years ago...Class of 2006

The new Elementary Playground was ready for the start of school. The Fall Play was 'Lend Me A Tenor.' Boys Cross Country earned a First-Place State Title. Ben Crowe and Whitney Dotson are named King and Queen, and the Mustangs lose their Homecoming game to West Delaware. Later that year the Class of 2006 is the last class to graduate from the High School building that is now our Middle School.

10 years ago....Class of 2001

'The Crucible' was the Fall Play, Ian Dye was named King and Sarah Kleinsmith Queen. A Flag Corp was added to the Band. All the fall sports - football, cross country and volleyball, earned District honors, with the Cross Country team going on to State. The Mustangs win 28-9 over North Cedar. Homecoming quote: "We stole their float after they poured water and flour on our cars one night."

15 years ago...Class of 1996

The Mustang football team, ranked No. 1 in the preseason poll, wins every conference game and becomes Conference Champions. The fall play is 'Arsenic and Old Lace'. A 4-way tie was announced among both the king and queen candidates. Ken Madson and Emily Fordyce were named King and Queen. The Mustangs beat the North Cedar Knights, and the Homecoming Theme song was 'Comfortably Numb'.

20 years ago...Class of 1991

A combined Cross Country Team, made up of students from both Mount Vernon and Lisbon, have their first season, with the Boys winning Conference title. The Fall play was 'Our Town'. Ty Ulch and Jenna

Wiebel were named King and Queen. The Mustangs play West Branch.

25 years ago...Class of 1986

Queen was Sharon Thuerauf and King was Charlie Babcock. Volleyball earned a State-Runner-Up title, with Joy Jordan (this year's Alumni Athletic Hall of Fame Winner) named to the All-Tournament Team and earning the Gazette's Prep of the Week honors. The Fall Play was 'The Miracle Worker'. The Mustangs beat Durant at Friday night's Homecoming game 22-6. Jim Bellamy was inducted into the Iowa Football Coaches Hall of Fame.

30 years ago...Class of 1981

For the 2nd consecutive year, Conference coaches gave Mount Vernon the Sportsmanship Award. Fall play was 'The Secret Life of Walter Mitty'. This was the first year that Homecoming events on Thursday night began, with the parade, pep assembly, crowning of the queen and then burning of the 'M'. Ellen Soukup was crowned Queen and the Mustangs beat Durant 48-0.

35 years ago...Class of 1976

Mr. Stine's Wonder Band appeared on the field in new uniforms, the Girls Volleyball team started their second year of competition, the West Branch Bears 'were caught in the trap' as the football team caught them 14-7. Fantasyland was the theme for Saturday night's Homecoming Dance. Kelly Carpenter was named Homecoming Queen.

40 years ago...Class of 1971

Six candidates for Queen were selected. The Mustangs beat the Mid-Prairie Hawks, and Terry Wallace was crowned queen Viki Peterson twirled with fire as part of the Mustang band performance. Coach Bellamy starts his first season at Mount Vernon.

45 years ago...Class of 1966

Homecoming 1965 was the first year 5 girls were selected as Homecoming Court by the senior class, and then voted upon by the entire student body. The Mustangs beat Solon 45-0 and Pam Ellison was named Queen.

50 years ago...Class of 1961

Coronation Ceremonies were held in the Auditorium, naming Shirley Woods as Homecoming Queen. Gifts were presented to the queen by representatives of student groups: the traditional loving cup given by Mike Biderman, a miniature gold football on a chain from the 'M' Club, a bracelet from GRA given by Marilyn Schnittjer, a pen from the Velvet Curtain by Bill Horton, and a compact from Home-Ec Club given by Kay Woods. Margaret Quinn (our own retired Mrs. Ellison) was named winner of the annual D.A.R. Good Citizen competition. Tickets for Homecoming dinner sold out and more had to be printed up.

55 years ago...Class of 1956

Homecoming 1955 started with a Snake Dance through the streets of Mount Vernon on Thursday night, followed by the bonfire 'M' and pep rally on the football field. The Mustangs beat Columbus Junction 21-0 on Friday night and Pat Conner was crowned Homecoming Queen by Student Council President Roger Schnittjer.

60 years ago...Class of 1951

Class of 1951- Homecoming Queen was Pat Young. Mount Vernon beat Wapello 26-0. The 1950 team won 7 games and lost 1. U High of Iowa City beat the Mustangs 18-6. That year in an eight game schedule our team scored 283 points and gave up only 30. In addition to U Highs 18 points, two teams scored the other twelve points. We beat the Wilton Junction team 61-6.

Class of 1950 - Football captain Jim Kent placed the crown on queen 'DeDe' Dolores Staskal. Mount Vernon beat University High of Iowa City for the first time in several years by a score of 12-6.

Class of 1949 - Now the 3rd season under the lights which were installed in 1946. Homecoming Queen of 1948 Homecoming was Joann Blinks.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Sorry - our history into the 1940s, 1930s, and 1920's is a little sparse. Feel free to send info and pictures that we can add to our Alumni Library.



Labeling the Spring 2010 Alumni Newsletter for mailing



Top, hosting the 2010 High School Spring Honor Society event, left, waiting to congratulate graduates at May Graduation ceremony.



HERITAGE DAYS THANK YOU

Thank you to the following people for helping at either or both of the Heritage Days Alumni Breakfast and Reception Area.

- Annamae Baker'60
- Ruth Bensmiller
- Jean Kuntz Bowman'64
- Steve Brand
- Alex Brannaman'09
- Betsy McWilliams Brown'99
- Steve Buchmeyer
- Matt Burke
- Chiara Burke
- Scott Burke'10
- Chiara Niederhauser Burke'78
- Molly Burke'05
- Noreen Bush
- Allene Merritt Bys'52
- Carlye Bys'53
- Deb Lord Bys'74
- Guy Bys'74
- Tom Childs'63
- Dennis Drahos'59
- Julie Dye
- Shauna Applebee Dye'01
- Terry Eisenbarth
- Dr. Pam Ewell
- Ruth Fear
- Jane Costello Fink'59
- Susan Mounts Fisher'65
- 'Horse' Richard Glattley'59
- Michele Meyer Grudzinski'92
- Connie Meyer Kahl'59
- Jenny Moore Hampton'91

- Ken Kaliban'56
- Marion Lehman
- Terri Loeb sack
- Dave Loeb sack
- Joyce Loomis
- Deb Lord'74
- Karen Jilovec Martin'57
- Barb McLain
- Bunny Williams Mulligan'61
- Jerry Niederhauser'75
- Linda Peterson Nost'63
- Chris Kinley Osborn'80
- Bob Penn'81
- Judy Caldwell Penn'60
- Roger Pitlik'67
- John Pospisil'66
- Marcia Purington
- Kim Mortenson Raim'81
- Sonia Essex Redmond'82
- Kevin Rogers'81
- Roger Schnittjer'56
- Marilyn Dean Schnittjer'58
- Marie Sippola'59
- Brock Slaymaker
- Maggie Burke Slaymaker'03
- Leona Reyhons Smith'56
- Vern Staskal
- Luke Staskal'00
- Nargi Rayman Steinbrech'55
- Tom Stephens
- Cathy Humphries Stoner'69
- Becky Thumm Whitman'77
- Kevin Whitman'76
- Carol Woods Boren'75
- Bill Yeisley'52
- Mary Young

continued on next page

Thank You!!!

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Corinne Wilcox Drongesen'56

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Thank You!!!

continued

NEWSLETTER MAILING

Thank you to the following group of people who worked to label and get the Spring issue of this newsletter to the printer.

Annamae Stoneking Baker'60
Marie Reyhons Bueter'53
Kay Jilovec Lind'55
Jean Pavelka Litts'53
Joyce Loomis
Marilyn Woods Overman'45
Judy Caldwell Penn'60
Kim Mortensen Raim'81
Marie Sippola'59
Leona Reyhons Smith'56
Bethany Campbell-Tvedt
Kay Woods

HONOR SOCIETY

Thank you to the following who represented the Alumni Association and hosted the 2010 Spring High School Honor Society Induction Ceremony.
President Kevin Rogers'81
Barb Neal'66
Sheri Russell'82
Treasurer Susan Fisher'65

GRADUATION HOSTS

Thank you to President Kevin Rogers'81 and Treasurer Susan Fisher'65 for representing Mount Vernon alums at the High School May Graduation.
Thank you to Carolyn Neal-Palmer'42, John Rife'60, Association Secretary Shauna Applebee Dye'01 and President Kevin Rogers for Judging Commencement Speeches

AND...

Thank you to Judy Caldwell Penn'60 for her continued volunteer work to maintain the Alumni Data Base, to take pictures, and to help with various projects within the Association.



Thank you also to Annamae Stoneking Baker'60, Susan Mounts Fisher'65, Kevin Rogers'81 and Judy Caldwell Penn'60 for their assistance with volunteer recruitment during the year.

HOMECOMING & ALUMNI AWARDS THANK YOUS

High School Tech Department

Annamae Baker'60
Jean Kuntz Bowman'64
Steve Brand
Noreen Bush
Matthew Brunscheen
Eric Butikoker
Dennis Drahos'59
Shauna Applebee Dye'01
Terry Eisenbarth
Brent Ewell
Dr. Pam Ewell
Susan Mounts Fisher'65
Michele Meyer Grudzinski'92
Karen Jilovec Martin'57
Duane Orr
Bob Penn
Roger Pitlik'67
John Pospisil'66
John Rife'60
Katie Forest Saunders'00
Luke Staskal'00
Vern Staskal
Bethany Campbell-Tvedt
Evan Tvedt (future class of 2017)
Emily Tvedt (future class of 2020)
Pam Ewell
John Pospisil'66
Carol Woods Boren'75

ALUMNI FALL AWARD RECEPTION

Darlene Hartl Allard'69
Cathy Humphries Stoner'69

ALUMNI AWARDS COMMITTEE

Jean Kuntz Bowman'64
Deb Winchip Douglass'86
Jenny Hampton Moore'91
Alan Kiser
Maggie Quinn Ellison'62
Jenny Ciha
Janet Dietrich
Carol Woods'75
Bob Meeker



DID WE FORGET YOUR NAME?

We try our best to keep track of names, but if your name was missed please accept our apologies and thank you for your help too!

WHO CAME FROM THE FARTHEST THIS YEAR AND VOLUNTEERED?

It was Tom Childs'63 from Washington State who volunteered while in town for Heritage Days and to visit his family. Thanks, Tom!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER?

As you can see by these lists, it take a lot of people to put together and host our alumni events. If you would like to help just let us know.

We need help every Heritage Days for both the Reception area (do you enjoy visiting?) and the Breakfast, AND every Homecoming for the Reception area and the Awards Ceremony, AND every March to host the Honor Society, AND usually every fall and spring to label newsletters. We'd also welcome help with the Alumni newsletter if you like to write or can help in any other way. We also welcome help prior to events for various tasks.

You don't always have to live in or close to Mount Vernon to volunteer. Several volunteers have come from other states wanting to visit during Heritage Days or Homecoming, and want to help while they are here. And, you don't have to be an alum to volunteer. Thank you to so many friends of the Association for helping!

A big thank you and shout-out to alums Steve Buchmeyer'86 from Mukwonago, Wisconsin and Tom Childs'61 from Burlington, Washington, who traveled to help and enjoy Heritage Days. Many reunion organizers and alums, like 'Horse'-Richard Gattley'59 from Minnesota help when they are in town.

We usually try to send out email requests - so if we don't have your email, send it our way to alumni@mountvernon.k12.ia.us or call us at 319-895-8845 and ask for Kathy.

MAIL BY JUNE 15!

How will we ever choose just four people out of the many deserving alums of Mount Vernon Schools? We'll let the Awards Committee sweat about that -- just get in your nominations!

Award winners will be presented at Homecoming fall 2011, but please don't wait! We encourage you to fill out your nominations and mail them (or submit online at www.mountvernon.k12.ia.us/alumni).

THE DEADLINE IS A WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 2011 POSTMARK -- GET YOURS IN THE MAIL OR NOMINATE ONLINE NOW!

'The Spirit Lives On In You'

ALUMNI AWARDS

MVCSD Alumni Achievement Award

Given to alumni who have earned recognition for their achievements and contributions in their professional life.

Criteria:

- Alumni of Mount Vernon High School at least 28 years of age.
- Demonstrates a high level of achievement in his/her field and makes significant contributions to that field.
- Exhibits high moral character.

MVCSD Alumni Service Award

Given to alumni for specific and meritorious service to the MVCSD Alumni Association, or any other not-for-profit organization. Criteria:

- Alumni of Mount Vernon High School at least 28 years of age.
- Service must be for a not-for-profit organization in a non-compensated capacity.
- Exhibits high moral character.

MVCSD Fine Arts Hall of Fame

Awarded to alumni with exceptional accomplishment in the fine arts while attending Mount Vernon High School. Criteria:

- Alumni of Mount Vernon High School at least 28 years of age.
- Significant contributions in his/her fine arts area.
- Conference honors and/or all-state recognition, or equivalent.
- Superior ratings earned in competition.
- Major roles in theater productions, solos, etc.

Other considerations:

- Outstanding character and leadership.
- Successful participation in college and/or post-college.
- Major roles in theater productions, solos, etc. after high school.
- College scholarships in the fine arts disciplines.

MVCSD Sports Hall of Fame

Awarded to alumni with exceptional accomplishment in athletics while attending Mount Vernon High School. Criteria:

- Alumni of Mount Vernon High School at least 28 years of age.
- Statistical records and/or awards received.
- All-conference all-state and/or state championships earned.

Other considerations:

- Outstanding character and leadership.
- Successful participation in college and/or professional athletics.

NOTE: If you submitted a nomination last year, you do not need to resubmit, and your nominee will be considered for an award this year. Nominations are held and considered for three years.

2011 MOUNT VERNON ALUMNI AWARDS NOMINATION FORM



Name of person I would like considered for an award(s): _____

His/Her address (if known) _____

His/Her phone (if known) _____

Select Desired MVCSD Alumni Award(s):

Alumni Achievement Award Alumni Service Award Fine Arts Hall of Fame Sports Hall of Fame

Description of Qualifications (Attach additional pages as necessary): (Note: a questionnaire will be sent to your nominee)

Name of Person Submitting the Nomination: _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Daytime Telephone (_____) _____ Home Telephone (_____) _____

Email _____

All awards will be granted based on nominations, which can be submitted by mail using this form, or online at www.mountvernon.k12.ia.us/alumni. Nominations will be reviewed and selected by the Awards Committee, and approved by the Alumni Association Board. Nominations are held for three years. Questions - 319-895-8845 or alumni@mountvernon.k12.ia.us
Send this form post marked by June 15, 2011 to: Alumni Association, 525 Palisades Rd SW, Mount Vernon, IA 52314
 **Elected or appointed members of the Alumni Association Board are not eligible during their term of service.

ALUMNI

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ALUMNI Association 2010-2011

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Your support is very much appreciated and also goes to fund alumni organization publications and activities.

New or Renew? FOR JULY 1 2010 TO JULY 1 2011

Yes, I'll be a 'SUPPORTER' of the Mount Vernon Schools Alumni Association

Alumni first and last name, including maiden name _____

Class Year _____ Spouse name (and class year if also an alumna) _____

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additional donation

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

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Renew online at www.k12.ia.us/alumni/ or cut and return with your check to: MV Alumni Association, 525 Palisades Road, Mount Vernon, Iowa 52314