



MOUNT VERNON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

ALUMNI NEWS

PLEASE SUPPORT THE ALUMNI ASSOC. WITH YOUR DONATION... SEE BACK PAGE

MAKE PLANS NOW TO ATTEND HERITAGE DAYS 2012 AND THE ALL-ALUMNI-COMMUNITY EVENTS JULY 13 & 14

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Mark Rodman'82 and wife Deanna talk with Ann Koppenhaver'78

2012 Heritage Days Events Coming Up!



Picture at left: Sarah Bly 1991, Vince Ellison'92, and Dana Vig'92. Center picture: Dave Brown'65, Mike and Trish Brown'81 (Dave is the oldest and Trish is the youngest of the six kids of Reynold and Arlene Brown.). At right Gabe Kringle'09 and then-future alum Jacob Timm'12 meet to shoot some baskets

July 2 – Post-mark deadline to submit your nominations for the Alumni Awards. See page 19. **DON'T DELAY – SUBMIT AN ALUM YOU THINK IS DESERVING OF EITHER A SERVICE, ACHIEVEMENT, FINE ARTS, OR ATHLETIC AWARD NOW!** Who can nominate? **ANYONE** – you do not have to be an alum to nominate.

July 13 and 14 – It's Heritage Days in Mount Vernon and that means a flurry of activities for alums. Be sure to attend the ever-popular All-Alumni and community breakfast at the High School on Saturday morning (8-10:30 am, serving from 8-10 am). The event is a popular meeting place, and a unique opportunity to see alums from 2012 to the 1930s (and even future alums!), as well as familiar faces from the community. Then, visit the Alumni-Community Reception area up town near the Bingo Tent on Friday and Saturday – on Friday from 4-9 pm and Saturday from 11:30 am-until approximately 7 pm. Who will you see there? See pages 10 and 11 for pictures from last year's activities. Heritage Days runs from Thursday night through Saturday night (see page 11).

NEW! Two additional events have been added this year by the Kernoustie Golf Club – An All-Alumni-Community Social on Saturday evening the 14th, and an Alumni Golf Shoot Out on Saturday. See page 3 for complete information.

July 14 – Let's play some basketball ball! Join other alums for a pick-up game or just to shoot some baskets in the High School Gym. Open from 2-4 pm.

ALL ALUMNI EVENTS ARE OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY AND FRIENDS OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND SCHOOL DISTRICT

ALSO IN 2012... Friday, Sept. 21 – is Homecoming and Alumni Hall of Fame Award Ceremony events. Watch for more information to come.





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 or email alumni@mountvernon.k12.ia.us

**HOMECOMING & ALUMNI
AWARD CEREMONY
DATE IS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21**

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER is published twice yearly for alums and friends of the Association. Views are those of the authors. Articles and advertisements (preferably digital) may be submitted by email to alumni@mountvernon.k12.ia.us or by mail to 525 Palisades Road SW, Mount Vernon, IA 52314. All materials submitted are subject to review by the Alumni Association Communications Committee. For advertising rates write or call 319-895-8845.

MV Community Events www.visitmvl.com

2012

| | |
|------------|---------------------------|
| June 2 | Chocolate Stroll |
| July 4 | Antique Extravaganza |
| July 12-14 | Heritage Days |
| Sept 22 | Lincoln Hwy Arts Festival |
| Oct tba | Chili Cook Off |
| Dec tba | Magical Night |

2013

| | |
|------------|------------------------|
| May 4-5 | Chalk the Walk |
| May 27 | High School Graduation |
| July 11-12 | Heritage Days |

2012 REUNIONS

ALL-ALUMNI-COMMUNITY EVENTS

FRIDAY, JULY 13 AND SATURDAY, JULY 14 Reception Tent, Uptown MV on Main Street (west of Bingo Tent)

SATURDAY, JULY 14

- Breakfast (by donation) at new High School
- Kernoustie Country Club Golf Shootout & Scholarship Fundraiser (see next page)
- Kernoustie Country Club Social 4-8 pm (see next page)

CLASS REUNIONS

(look to see if your class has a Facebook page)

2007 - 5 YEARS July 14

at Palisades Park, Shelter 1, 10am-1pm
Contact: Kevin Wolters
Phone: 319-895-6404
Contact: Rachel Craig
Phone: 319-533-5918

2002 - 10 YEARS July 14

at Bryant Park from 5:30p.m. to 8p.m.
Food and beverages.
Children are welcome.
Contact: Teresa Britt Patterson
Phone: 319-558-6488
Email: teresa.patterson@yahoo.com

1997 - 15 YEARS tba

Contact: Nick Boots
Phone: 319-560-0836
Email: nboots@lisbon.k12.ia.us

1992 - 20 YEARS July 14

www.facebook.com/MvhsClassOf1992
Contact: Amy Reyhons Glick
Phone: 563-357-7482
Email: amymglick@gmail.com
Contact: Vince Ellison
Email: vellison74@yahoo.com

1987 - 25 YEARS July 13-14

on facebook by looking for Bob Blythe
Contact: Bob Blythe
Phone: 319-895-0188
Email: bob@pollyanns.com

1982 - 30 YEARS July 14

All-Alumni Breakfast and Kernoustie Country Club 4-8 pm
Find us on Facebook - Mount Vernon High School Iowa Class of 1982
Contact: Sonia Essex Redmond
Phone: 319-895-8259
Email: mvred3@aol.com

1977 - 35 YEARS July 14

Find us on Facebook - MVHS Class of '77
Contact: Annie Lehman Currie
Phone: 319-895-8518
Email: mustangmama77@msn.com

1972 - 40 YEARS July 14

All-Alumni Breakfast and Kernoustie Country Club 4-8 pm
Contact: Diane Zinkula
Phone: 319-395-7152
Email: dzinkula@aol.com

1967 - 45 YEARS July 14

All-Alumni Breakfast
1-5 pm at 1st St Bldg Library - bring your own drink, snack, pictures
Kernoustie Country Club 5-8 pm
Contact: Larry Pisarik
Phone: 563-852-7229
Email: lkpisarik@netins.net

1962 - 50 YEARS July 12-13-14

July 12 - Country Club Steak Fry & Fireworks
July 13 - Sutliff
July 14 - All-Alumni Breakfast and Evening Picnic Reunion at Bill Ellison's
Contact: Linda Buresh Brouillette
Phone: 619-447-1678, 619-992-0564
Email: Linda.Brouillette@cox.net

1957 - 55 YEARS July 14

July 12 - Golf Club Steak Fry & Fireworks
July 13 - Majors Gathering
July 14 - All-Alumni Breakfast, parade, Golf Events - optional, Sleep Inn after 7:30
July 15 - Bowers Brunch
Contact: Karen Jilovec Martin
Phone: 319-895-8255
Email: rkmartin3@juno.com

1956 - 55 YEARS July 13-14-15

July 13 - evening reception at Schnittjer's
July 14 - All-Alumni Breakfast, parade, evening dinner at Sleep Inn
July 15 - Brunch at Smith's
Contact: Leona Reyhons Smith
Phone: 319-895-8097
Email: Leonasmith@yahoo.com
Contact: Roger Schnittjer
Phone: 319-895-8817
Email: rmschnittjer@gmail.com

1952 - 60 YEARS (1949, 1950, 1951)

held fall 2010

1947 - 65 YEARS All-Alumni Breakfast July 14

1942 - 70 YEARS

July 14 - All-Alumni Breakfast - optional
July 14 - 11am at Gwen's Restaurant
Contact: Mary Carol Plattenberger Lambertsen
Phone: 319-247-9913
Email: elambertse@gmail.com

Did you go to school at Mount Vernon in the 30s or 40s -- feel free to join these other folks at the Breakfast -- they would love to have you there!

1937 - 75 YEARS @ Alumni Breakfast

1932 - 80 YEARS @ Alumni Breakfast

Your class may not be having a reunion, but come enjoy seeing classmates, other alums, teachers, and your friends from the community.

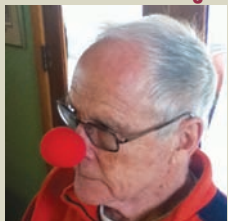
You are a student once, but an alum for a lifetime.

**VOLUNTEER TO HELP AT HERITAGE DAYS
ALUMNI BREAKFAST OR RECEPTION AREA**
-- Call 319-895-8845 or write
alumni@mountvernon.k12.ia.us

NOTICE TO CLASS OF 1948
Our 65th Reunion is coming up in 2013. We would like for you to let us know if we should plan a Reunion Dinner, or if we only plan to meet at the Alumni Breakfast.
Let us know --
Frances Pitlik at 319- 362-8172
or Ruth Reyhons Hinz at 319-462-2869

CLASS OF '55
We are still unorganized as to what we will do, but the "Class of 55" is planning a get-together this Heritage Days weekend 2012 and encourage all to come to the Alumni Breakfast. If you are coming please let Kay Lind know by phone at 319-377-2079 or by email to kaylind38@gmail.com

**THIS IS NO JOKE,
The Class of '56 is Having A 56th!**



Roger Schnittger is encouraging classmates to come to Mount Vernon for a fun-filled weekend reunion. The Class of 1956 is planning a 56th Reunion for the weekend of Heritage Days. Here is a rundown of activities:
FRIDAY, JULY 13:
-5-7pm Cocktails & appetizers at Schnittgers
-Evening - Enjoy events on Main Street (Alumni tent open)
SATURDAY, JULY 14:
-8-10am All-Alumni Breakfast at MV High School
-11am - Heritage Days Parade
-Afternoon - Enjoy events on Main Street (Alumni tent open)
-5-10pm - Cocktails & Dinner at Sleep Inn
Alums from other years are invited to join us after 7:30 pm
SUNDAY, JULY 15:
-10am - Brunch at Leona's (with kolaches)
More information will be coming to classmates so plan to attend.

Get your nomination in today
for the 2012 Award Winners
Hall of Fame!
Deadline is July 2 Postmark
See page 9

Kernoustie Golf Club presents a
SOCIAL RECEPTION - JULY 14
**4-8 PM AN ALUMNI & FRIENDS SOCIAL EVENT
FOR FUN AND ULTIMATELY TO RAISE MONEY
FOR MV STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS**

Enjoy a feast of hors de ouvres from 4 to 8 pm while you are having fun visiting with other alums and community friends. Register for prizes and help us raise some money for MV Student Scholarships too!
The Reception is open to ANYONE who would like to attend. This year the classes of 1972, 1982 & 1967 will also be meeting at this Reception. REGISTER by mailing this form and your check to:
Registration, c/o MV Alumni Alumni Association, 525 Palisades Rd SW, Mount Vernon, IA 52314
or call Kernoustie Golf Club at 319-895-8193 or email MVALumniEvent@gmail.com

SOCIAL RECEPTION -- 4PM TO 8PM SATURDAY, JULY 14

| First and Last Name, and Year if MV Alum | Email | Phone | RECEPTION PRE-REGISTRATION | RECEPTION DAY OF |
|--|-------|-------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 _____ | _____ | _____ | \$15.00* | \$25 |
| 2 _____ | _____ | _____ | \$15.00* | \$25 |

Kernoustie Golf Club presents the
**ALUMNI GOLF SHOOTOUT
JULY 14**
**AN ALUMNI & FRIENDS GOLF EVENT FOR FUN,
SOME BRAGGING RIGHTS, AND ULTIMATELY TO
RAISE MONEY FOR MV STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS**

One more way to keep the fun going during Heritage Days -- play GOLF during the day with a foursome of your choice, and then join others at an All-Alumni and Friends RECEPTION from 4-8.
REGISTER by mailing this form and your check to:
Registration, c/o MV Alumni Alumni Association, 525 Palisades Rd SW, Mount Vernon, IA 52314
or call Kernoustie Golf Club at 319-895-8193 or email MVALumniEvent@gmail.com

GOLF -- 7AM TO 4PM SATURDAY, JULY 14

- REGISTER YOUR FOUR-SOME BELOW FOR \$17.50 EACH (Individual golfers welcome)
ANYONE may play golf, you do not have to be an Alum
- FIND A CORPORATE OR PERSONAL SPONSOR FOR YOUR GROUP OF \$20 OR MORE THAT GOES DIRECTLY TOWARD STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS. Sponsors receive recognition on signage and in Alumni and Foundation publications.

**HOLE AND PRIZE SPONSORS
NEEDED --** if interested call Mark Kerr
at 319-895-8193 or write
MVALumniEvent@gmail.com

NAME OF FOURSOME (for example, Class of 70, the Duffers, the 'Stangs, Techies, etc)

GOLF TEE TIME YOU WOULD LIKE

| First and Last Name, and Year if MV Alum | Email | Phone | Golf Only | Golf AND RECEPTION |
|--|-------|-------|-----------|-----------------------|
| 1 _____ | _____ | _____ | \$17.50 | \$32.50 |
| 2 _____ | _____ | _____ | \$17.50 | \$32.50 |
| 3 _____ | _____ | _____ | \$17.50 | \$32.50 |
| 4 _____ | _____ | _____ | \$17.50 | \$32.50 |

SPONSOR NAME (for \$20 or more) _____ \$
Sponsor may mail in their portion separately





Kevin Rogers '81
Alumni Association
President

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Earlier this spring I found myself in a central Iowa school high school for two and a half days. In the grand scheme of things, this in itself wasn't out of the ordinary for me. But the one thing in life that I have learned over my years, especially over the last decade or so, is that

even though something might appear ordinary, it might not always turn out to be ordinary.

And further, always expect the unexpected.

As I meandered what seemed like ten miles of hallways within this school with a couple of school administrators (my first day), expected, there were the occasional students' stray glance and whispered conversation; who is this 'strange duck' in our school and what is he doing here? And while some might argue the fact, curiosity is merely a simple part of everyday life. But when those curiosities turn into conversations with students, faculty, or with anyone, something more valuable evolves: *connections*.

For a fair amount of time during my two and a half days at this central Iowa high school, I found myself tucked away in a corner of the school's library, tending to the tasks at hand or involved in conversation with students who had volunteered to help out at the 2012 Iowa Academic Decathlon (IAD) event, school faculty, academic coaches, or other tournament volunteers. (I am a volunteer and on the board for the IAD organization.) First let me say, school libraries of today are vastly different than the school libraries of my - many of

our - high school days. Where once stood row upon row of towering bookshelves surrounded by strategically placed tables and chairs, now there are row upon row of computer monitors with scattered relaxation areas. In this particular library, areas with oversized (and comfortable) chairs. And in this particular library, there was even a Beverage Bar, and yes I'll admit, I did indulge.

The scattered relaxation areas also provided the ideal setting for open conversation. I know, "Gasp, talking in the library?" Yes, within limits, in this library talking was allowed and conversation was encouraged. But the one topic that still amazes me was my mere utterance of, "I'm from Mount Vernon," how it seemed to spark a plethora of conversations.

Oh, you are from Mount Vernon

- Mount Vernon has one heck of a girl's athletic program; what haven't they earned a state championship in, in recent years?
- What about their boys' basketball team this year, they're heading for the state tournament.
- Don't they have one of the state's better Robotics teams?
- Their superintendent; she was a principal at the school district I attended school or taught previously.
- I have a cousin that works in Mount Vernon's administration office, small world.
- A new high school (how long ago), a major overhaul of the former high school, and now a substantial addition and major renovations to the elementary school, in just a very short period of time; speaks quite highly of the district
- Quite remarkable how you honor their outstanding alumni every year like you do.
- Wished our district had an alumni program like Mount Vernon's . . .

As alumni of Mount Vernon Community Schools; present and future, no matter how large or small your contribution, we all play an important part in the achievements, accomplishments, and recognition Mount Vernon Community Schools has. It is the ongoing pride from the students, alumni, faculty and staff, and the community of Mount Vernon that makes Mount Vernon Community Schools an institution everyone recognizes and looks up to.



Classmate and Former Board Member Bob Penn'81 (right) thanks Kevin Rogers for all his work volunteering for the MVCSD and encourages everyone to get involved in supporting their local schools.

ALUMS IN OUR SCHOOLS



On May 11th eight alums volunteered to listen to speeches given by 4 speakers selected by the senior class and teaching staff. Of those 4, alums were asked to advise which two speeches would be the best speeches for the graduation ceremony. Left to right: Leona Reyhons Smith'56, Anna-mae Stoneking Baker'61, Alumni Association President Kevin Rogers'81, Heather Armstrong'88, Jane Costello Fink'59, Paul Morf'90, Sharon Thuerlauf Grice'86, and Nargi Rayman Steinbrech'55



Each year the Alumni Association helps to sponsor the Honor Society Induction ceremony by providing the cakes and servers. Thank you to alums who were servers for the 2012 Honor Society Reception in April. Pictured below from left to right, Susan Mounts Fisher'65, Lynn Woods'97, Diana Huffman Crowley'97, and Vicki Ellison'96



Alumni Association Treasurer Susan Mounts Fisher'65 and President Kevin Rogers'81 present 2012 graduates with Mustang alumni pins. Shown here with Valedictorian Maggie St. Clair'12



Alum Jeremy Clark'05 participates in the Middle School Career day. Here he is representing Mount Vernon Bank & Trust Company and talking to students about finances and careers in banking in the class of teacher Abby Neal Bock'99

**YES
I'm a 50
percenter!**

Any chance we could get 50% of our alums to support the Alumni Association?
See back cover

THANKS!

Another mailing, another gathering of some volunteers to get it done. Here volunteers meet at the District Office to label Fall Newsletters.



Clockwise from left are Betty Pospisil Wolfe '45, Maggie Quinn Ellison '62 (d), Joyce Loomis, Jan Lowe Majors '57, Karen Jilovec Martin '57, Kay Woods, and Betty Moore Stoneking '56



Left to right are: Betty Moore Stoneking '56, Jo Kroul Clark '64 and Nargi Rayman Steinbrech '55



Left to right are: Wayne Gugler and Shirley Swanson Gugler '65, Lizzie Wolfe Kroul '43, Jean Pavelka Litts '53, Betty Pospisil Wolfe '45 and Maggie Quinn Ellison '62 (d)

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to everyone who volunteers for the Alumni Association events - couldn't happen without you!!!



Pictured here at left are some of the Burke Family - Scott '09, Mollie '05, Matt, and Chiara Niederhauser Burke '78.
At right are Stuart Seiler '69 and Brian Seiler '71

CORRECTIONS

Our apologies for missing Harold Goodrich '63 and Aaron Goodrich '79 in our list of alums who work in Mount Vernon in the 'A Walk Down Main' article in the last issue. Harold is owner of Bathquarters and Home Decorator Warehouse located in Lisbon, and his son is construction supervisor for Bath-quarters.

ALUMNI COMMENTS ALUMNI COMMENTS

Following are some, or portions of, comments the Association has received over the past year. Thank you to everyone who took time to write an email or note to the Association or President Rogers. alumni@mountvernon.k12.ia.us



The Class of '61 presents Kathy Staskal with an Aloha shirt in appreciation for all her efforts on behalf of all MVHS alumni over the years. From the left, Randy Hoidahl, Vic Wallace, Barb Bys Michael, Kathy Staskal, Mike Troyer, Dick Miner, Linda Stasny Bragg ('60), and Ritch Blew.

"Thank you to the Class of 1961 for the Aloha shirt. It was a fun surprise and I am appreciative of your friendship and token of thanks."

Kathy Staskal, Alumni Association Communications

(in response to email sent to Alums)
"What a thrill for the boys basketball team to be playing in the Championship Game. We will be in front of the tv to watch the game.

CONGRATULATIONS to the team and coaching staff. The fans and city of Mt. Vernon should be VERY proud of the accomplishment of these fine young men. Go Mustangs!!!!

Ilene 'Susie' Emerson Tuetken '59, Monticello, Iowa

F O U N D A T I O N

MOUNT VERNON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
"Fulfilling the Promise of Excellence in Academics, Arts, and Athletics"

a glimpse of the deteriorated facilities



Artist's rendering of new bleacher installation



Renovated lights and new score board

We need your help to continue our proud tradition...



Dear Mustang Alums

Wow! We asked for your help and you responded in a big way. Mustang alumni, friends and community members have generously donated over \$57,000 toward renovations to the football field. Your generosity has made this project one of the most successful fund raising projects for the Mount Vernon Schools Foundation, second only to the Capital Campaign for the new High School. When we ask...you respond.

From these contributions, \$33,000 has already been invested in lighting improvements, additional lights and the purchase of a new scoreboard. The next step is the replacement of the wooden home-side bleachers at the football field. The football bleachers have fallen into serious disrepair as evidenced by the picture to the left. To view more photos, capture the QR code above with your smartphone or go to www.SaveTheMountVernonField.com. At minimum, \$100,000 is necessary to start the process of football bleacher replacement.

In recent years, the Mount Vernon Community School District has invested significantly in its educational facilities. In the past seven years more than \$20 million has been invested in building a new high school, renovating the old high school to become a more modern home for the middle school, and now expanding the elementary school to meet the needs of a growing student population.

While these projects rightfully prioritized classroom needs, the school district faces many challenges in bringing its athletic facilities up to modern standards. Immediately, the historic football field is in need of improvements and your financial support. A huge **thank you** to everyone who has contributed to this project - see the Foundation donation pages in this issue for a list of Save The Field contributors. We are requesting that other alums consider donating to the Mount Vernon Community School Foundation for this football field project.

The Mount Vernon football field is a place of community gathering and is a place to build fond memories for all of us. Your donation would help us achieve the immediate goal of replacement of the wooden bleachers. Funds received in excess of the goal will also help the District move forward on other facility needs such as the baseball field, tennis court renovation and track improvements. It would take 100 donors of \$1,000 each (or more) to gather the momentum needed to complete these football field goals. Please consider being a part of this group, however any financial support is greatly appreciated. If you have already contributed to this project we appreciate your generosity.

Your tax deductible donation can be mailed to: Mount Vernon School Foundation, 525 Palisades Road SW, Mount Vernon, IA 52314. Please indicate on your check the donation should go towards the Save The Field fund. Your donation will help ensure future Mustangs have quality athletic fields. On behalf of the past, present and future Mustangs of Mount Vernon, thank you for your support.

Save The Field Committee

Shannon Amundson, Jenny Hampton '91, Wayne Hormann '85, Jodi Hormann, Jeremy Hotz '99, Lindsey Kerr Hotz '01, Ann Koppenhaver '78, Joy Kuntz '76, Tasha Whitman, Cathy Stoner '69, Sandra Reid, Carol Woods '75, and Becky Whitman '77

SaveOurMVField@gmail.com



REUNION PICTURES REUNION PICTURES REUNION PICTURES

**COMPOSITES ARE UP TO DATE in
the High School Commons
SEE THEM ON HERITAGE DAYS
OR STOP BY ANYTIME**

**Some great pictures from
recent class reunions... many
thanks for their submission
by reunion organizers!**



▲ **Class of 1946 - 65 years**

Members of the class of 1946 met at the All-Alumni-Community Brakfast, and were joined by others from the 1930s and 1940s.



▲ **Class of 2006 - 5 years**

The class of 2006 met at DonMar lanes on the Saturday afternoon of Heritage days 2012 for our 5 year reunion. We had around 20 classmates and guests come in and visit. It was a great opportunity to catch up and laugh while sharing our favorite MVHS stories.

Front Row L to R: Dusty Berner, Seth Ray, Clayton Niehaus, John Trachsel
Middle Row L to R: Tesfay Russell, Jessica Corcoran, Gretchen (Havill) Light, Danell Stewart, Jake Vozenilek, Travis Bails, Tyler Fountain, Jesse Rodman.
Back Row L to R: Evan Stevens, Grant Freeman

▶ **Class of 1996 - 15 years**

The Class of 1996 met at Ben Pospisil's home over Heritage Days Weekend 2011. About 30 people attended. Tom Wieseler, School Board President and father of 1996 classmate Ryan, came to talk about the district. We look forward to our 20 Year Reunion over Heritage Days Weekend in 2016.



▲ **Class of 1971 - 40 years**

Back Row: Chuck Franks, Rick Busenbark, (deceased) Steve Meyer, Scott Peterson, Jim Baker, Jay Gunn, Robin (Dwight) Ware, Brian Seiler, Becky Kroul Donovan, Greg Larsen, Denny Kirkpatrick, John Pisarik
Denny Clark, Denny Stewart, Susan Gaston Sherwood, Jeff Hughes, Julie Loomis Stephenson, Bonnie Pisarik, Jean Pospisil Larsen, Jim Marshek, Wendy Kaplan Johnson, Peggy Travis Powell.
ABSENT for pictures: Karin Hylbak Capri, Dave Koch, Terry Wallace Huisenga

The Class of 1971 had their 40th year Reunion on Heritage Days weekend. Friday night several talented members played at the C and D Lounge, and on Saturday morning many attended the breakfast and later on a great time was had by all at the Mount Vernon Bowling Alley. We were so fortunate to have had Rick Busenbark with us as he passed away this past December.

REUNION PICTURES REUNION PICTURES REUNION PICTURES



▲ Class of 1961 - 50 years
 Left to Right: Dave Studt, Patti Bolton Erlenbaugh, Randy Hoidahl, Jim Vislisl, Kathy Jennings Jamison, Don Jilovec, Barb Bys Michael, Al Cejka, Helen Blue Holder, Steve Becicka, Darrell Jordan, Ruth Ford Warren, Dick Miner, Roy Caldwell, Marcia Reyhons Lehr, Bunny Williams Mulligan, Mike Troyer, Sharon Becicka Brokel, Ritch Blew, Janet Meroshek Wikert, Marilyn Asplund Buchanan, Vic Wallace.

The Class of '61 held its 50th reunion during Heritage Days 2011. The reunion was actually a four-day event, beginning with a visit on Thursday to the Maid-Rite in Marion -- a tradition for some of the class during reunions. Friday night was the customary get-together at Baxa's in Sutliff. Former schoolmates, from classes before and after the Class of '61, were invited and many attended. Many of the classmates enjoyed the Saturday morning Alumni Breakfast and the noon Parade, followed later by their evening banquet held at the Cornell College Commons. Most of the class members and spouses, a few schoolmates from other classes, and two former teachers were in attendance. A special guest, MV Supt. Dr. Pam Ewell, was also present to give opening remarks to the group. After-dinner speakers included former teacher Bob Stephen, and Dr. Winston Addis, who was a past teacher, MVHS Principal, and MV Supt. Sunday began with worship at the Bertram Methodist Church, pastored by classmate Rev. Marilyn Asplund Buchanan. This was followed by lunch at the Vislisl farm. Classmate Jim and Melanii Vislisl have welcomed the class into their home, spacious yard, and machine shed many times over the past 40 years for dinner, dancing, and discussion. But even though there's little dancing now, and everything has been discussed, everyone still enjoys a good dinner, along with the chance to say goodbyes to each other as they head home, and look forward to the next get-together. As for this reunion, "A wonderful time was had by all."



Class of 1961 members capped off their 50th Reunion weekend with a picnic at the Jim and Melanii Vislisl farm on Sunday, July 10. From the left, Al Cejka, Dick Miner, Ritch Blew, Helen Blue Holder, Charles Sievers, Dave Studt, Kathy Jennings Jamison, Marilyn Asplund Buchanan, Randy Hoidahl, Patti Bolton Erlenbaugh, Don Jilovec, Jim Vislisl, Ruth Ford Warren, Barb Bys Michael.



Members of 1961's Conference and Sectional championship Mustang basketball team, left to right: Randy Hoidahl, Mike Troyer, Dick Miner, Vic Wallace, and Dave Studt.



Former MVHS Superintendent of Schools Winston Addis (right) enjoys talking with his former calculus student Vic Wallace. Addis was a guest of honor.

▼ Class of 2012



Welcome to new alums from the Class of 2012. Approximately 92 seniors graduated May 27th.



REUNION PICTURES REUNION PICTURES REUNION PICTURES



▲ Class of 1981 - 30years

Seated in front, left to right : Molly (Niederhauser) Bertling, Terry (Telecky) Smith, Sharren (Loomis) Hawtrey, Jude Smith, Tyler Bontrager, Karren Loomis, David Koffron, Ellen (Soukup) Townsen, Kevin Rogers, Denise (Henik) Brannaman, and Melany (Venditti) Reinboldt.

Standing or seated in middle: Laurie Reilly-Gruhn, Barb Bremner, Rhondi (Staley) Ewing, Jim Koehn, Chris Lyon, Bob Penn, Lance Campbell, Deb Wright, Donna (Becicka) Nichols, David Tuel, Steve Franks, Annette Palmer, Steve Pisarik, Diana (Chittenden) Musgrove, Cheryl (Stepanek) Al-Muhawish, Kim (Mortenson) Raim, Ron Corkin, Julie (Lee) Ruden, Andy Blinks, John Wallace, Mandi Colehour, Carol Dolezal-Ng, Robyn (Niswonger) Shingler, Brenda (Harms) Lynch.

Not pictured: Robyn Dochterman, Kim (Klinsky) Broulik

PLEASE SUPPORT THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WITH YOUR DONATION ... SEE BACK PAGE

We had a very, very heartfelt gathering...it's a very close class and this was our FIRST reunion where we had lost any classmates. (We were a very lucky class to have made it this far with no deaths.) We shared memories of those classmates and when Ellen read the letter that Kraig had written about his life, it touched everyone's heart deeply. When I sent the check to the Mission of Hope, which Kraig spoke of very highly and specifically in his letter, I included a copy of the letter and everyone at the shelter was so happy to know how they had made a positive impact on Kraig's life. All in all, the class of 1981 is a strong group of amazing people who really care about each other, and enjoy staying in touch. Looking back, I would not have missed this for anything. "For those alumni unable to attend, you were there in spirit, and we hope to see everyone next time." - Rhondi



Donna (Becicka) Nichols, Steve Franks, Rhondi (Staley) Ewing, Jim Koehn, Karren Loomis, Molly (Niederhauser) Bertling, Jude Smith, and Barb Bremner



Reunion attendees Carol Dolezal-Ng, Robyn (Niswonger) Shingler, and David Koffron share a laugh

▼ Class of 1986 - 25 years

Reunion was over Heritage Days Weekend. Golf on Saturday morning. Darin Vig's on Saturday night with band and Gwen's food.

First picture: Mary Diers, Sharon Theurauf Grice, Darin Grice
2nd Picture: Rodney Sherman, Katey Kinley, Bill Douglass



Front Row: Beth Drongesen Mhire, Melissa Story Frantz, Katey Kinley, Peggy Yock Wagner, Adriene Newman Gragg, Tracey Allen, Sara Hanson, Charlie Babcock, Darin Vig, Sharon Thurauf Grice
Middle Row: Dan Frantz, Ty Wagner, Skeeter Myers Montgomery, Stella Beltz Judkins, Mike Davidson, Linnea Noble Hite, Graham Harman, Rose Melchert Sesker, Gary Heims, Jane Hill, Stephanie Parish West, Mary Diers, Polly Neiderhouser Blythe, Shawn Voigt, Donna Wood, Rodney Sherman
Back Row: Bruce Koffron, Steve Buchmeyer, Deb Winchip Douglass, Monti Krob

MAIL BY JULY 2

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 2012 on September 21, 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 JULY 2, 2012 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.

2012 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 July 2, 2012 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.



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

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PICTURES FROM HERITAGE DAYS 2011

Another fun and well-attended All-Alumni-Community Breakfast and Reception Tent during Heritage Days 2011.



Former instructor Chuck Halsey eats breakfast with his daughter Gail Halsey Bertram '94 and grandbaby from Wisconsin



Family time at the Alumni-Community Breakfast -- left to right are Colin Squiers, Alex White '14, Wade Squiers '84 and daughter Isabella Squiers, Lisa Squiers White '88, daughter Samantha '19. Standing at left is Lisa's husband Todd.



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Dwight Ware '71, John Rife '60, Former MV Superintendent Adrian Ringold, and Dwight's wife.



1965 classmates Susan Mounts Fisher, Dave Brown, Florene Allard Akers, Gary Knutsen, Shirley Swanson Gugler and Dave Hartel



Alums visit at the Reception tent, from left are Danielle Dye '09, Rachel Young '03 Eric Dye '04, Tyler Leeper '03, and Teresa Britt Patterson '02



Vance Rahn '66 and his wife Janine, in from South Carolina for his reunion, look at composites



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2011 classmates Adrienne Smith and Jen Gee



Nicole Mehaffy on the left and her mom, Karen Mehaffy.



Al Klouda '48 and his wife Ruth visit at the Reception tent



Visiting in the Alumni Reception tent are front left Sis Woods Pitlik '47(d) and Lizzy Wolfe Kroul '43, standing behind them are John Rife '60 and Michael Troyer '61. Seated at right is Jean Pavelka Litts '53, and standing at right are 1981 classmates Rhondi Ewing, Jude Smith, and Kevin Rogers



Randy Hoidahl '60, Gary Knutsen '65, Michael Troyer '61, and Dennis Akers '64 meet during Alumni Open Gym time



Carol Soukup, former District employee, was back from Colorado. Here she is visiting with Harry and Delores Suhomel. Harry was former District Maintenance Supervisor.



Krystle Bragg '03, Amber Gerth '03, Jenny Baxa '08, and Sam Weber '08



Steve Horton '68(d) and Frank Benesh '56(d) visit

2012 Heritage Days Events

THURSDAY, JULY 12

6pm-9pm -- Activities and Family Night at Kernoustie Golf Club
Dark -- Fireworks Display at Golf Club

FRIDAY, JULY 13

7-4pm -- Kernoustie Golf Club Alumni Golf Shootout
Noon-Midnight -- Entertainment on Main
Street Stage Uptown MV
Noon-10pm -- Food Vendors, local & regional favorites
Noon-10pm -- Midway, First Street West, Rides, inflatable's, children's games, street vendors, bingo and more
Noon-4pm -- Discover Your Heritage, Visitor's Center, Free family heritage search.
4-9pm -- Alumni-Community Reception Tent Open (next next to the Bingo Tent)
5:00pm -- Business Olympics (in front of main stage)
5-8pm -- MV Fire Department Waterball, City Hall parking lot
6pm -- Kids Fun Run, MV Football Field
6:30pm registration -- Flag Football Tournament (see below)

SATURDAY, JULY 14

7am-4pm -- Kernoustie Golf Club Alumni Golf
8am -- 5K Run/Walk leaving from MV High School
8-10:30am -- All-Alumni-Community Breakfast at High School (Serving from 8-10am)
9am -- Bike ride starts in front of Skillet Cafe
10am-5pm -- Trade Vendors of all types, First Street West, Various artists and merchants
11am -- Parade, First Street West - starts on First Street West, winds down 5th Avenue North and ends at 7th Street. Line up begins at 10 am
Noon-10pm -- Food Vendors, local & regional
Noon-10pm -- Midway, First Street West
Rides, inflatable's, children's games, street vendors, bingo and more
11:30-approx 7pm -- Alumni-Community Reception Tent Open (next next to the Bingo Tent)
Noon-midnight -- Entertainment on Main
Street Stage Uptown MV
Noon-4pm -- Discover Your Heritage, Visitor's Center, Free family heritage search.
Noon-4pm -- Car Show, First Street West
2-4pm -- Open Gym at the High School
For any alums or friends that would enjoy a pick up game or shooting some baskets.
1-8pm -- MV Fire Department Waterball, City Hall parking Lot
3-6pm -- Old Time Family Fun Zone, Memorial Park
3-6pm -- Petting Zoo, Memorial Park
4-8pm -- Kernoustie Alumni-Community Social Reception, see page 3
5:30-7:30pm -- Swim Night, MV Pool Open

see complete list of events at www.visitmvl.com

Friday night, July 13 -- alums are welcome to join the Class of 1962 and others at Sutliff.

Class of 1956 welcomes other alums to join them at the Sleep Inn on Saturday, July 14, after 7:30 pm for visiting



FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

2nd ANNUAL

FLAG FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Get your classmates together for a team!

Get the old team together!

Get your friends together for a team!

Sponsors welcome!

Heritage Days 2012!

**Friday, July 13th • MV high school football field
6 pm team sign in • 7 pm Games begin!**

\$20 per person [includes a team t-shirt]

Minimum 5 people per team • 18 years and older
Teams must be pre-registered to play. Brackets will be created prior to tournament.

Proceeds benefit Mount Vernon Football Field Bleacher Improvements.
Register by June 30 to guarantee a team. Space is limited!

To register contact Jodi Hormann
at jodi.hormann@gmail.com or 319-895-9876.



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Tom Kortemeyer and Lynn Brokel '78

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DVDS AVAILABLE



Thank you to Tom Childs '63 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.

Also Thank you to Conrad Leighton '67 from the Class of 1967 who has donated picture files to the Alumni Association he shot during his years as school photographer

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

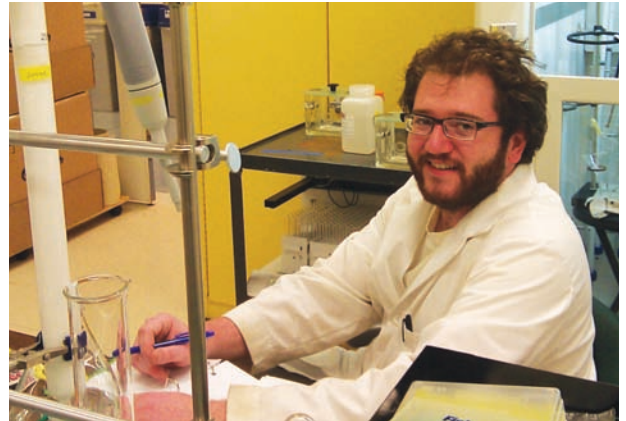
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Lapel pins available at ALL alumni events
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Mustangs...what are they doing now?

■ JORDAN GUNN '05



I am currently a graduate student in the Department of Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmacognosy at the College of Pharmacy, University of Illinois at Chicago. The group focuses on the botany, chemistry, and biology of natural products. My work is based on an ethnobotanical approach to natural product drug discovery. Put another way, I am seeking to find single compounds within effective traditionally used remedies, with interesting in vitro and in vivo biological activity.

One of the purposes of identifying single active compounds within these remedies is the development of clinical drugs. Although there is a general perception of natural products themselves being weak and safe (neither of which is necessarily true), naturally derived compounds and their analogs represent just under 50% of all clinical drugs, and pharmaceutical companies continue to search for new drugs from traditionally used plants despite soaring costs due to increased awareness of genetic and intellectual property issues from indigenous populations who inspired their development.

Another purpose of identifying single compounds within effective herbal remedies is the standardization of dietary supplements. This is important because many of the dietary supplements which are being used by the public are not standardized to their active ingredients. What's more, we often don't know the active ingredients. Finding the active components of effective natural products and then standardizing them by these compounds helps to make dietary supplements safer, and ultimately more effective.

My area of expertise is anti-diabetic natural products. I am currently study-

ing two species that have been used for several millennia in Traditional Chinese Medicine for the treatment of diabetes, *Alisma orientale* (Alismataceae) and *Cornus officinalis* (Cornaceae). Previous findings in various in vivo and in vitro models suggest these plants have hypoglycemic and antihyperglycemic properties, possibly as a result of GLUT-4 translocation induction in the process of insulin dependent glucose uptake in muscle and fat. Due to these findings, and these species' strong history of use in and out of China, I am using in vitro adipocyte models and will perform bioactivity guided fractionation to isolate and structurally elucidate insulin mimetic and insulin sensitizing agents within these species. I hope to provide information for the development and standardization of alternatives to insulin (as it is orally inactive), and for the development of insulin sensitizers to help in the fight against Type 2 Diabetes.

I ended up at this university and in this field, as a result of the interplay between a few different interests. One was a love of science, which I gained from my grandfather and through my experience in the Mount Vernon schools.

Another was philosophy, which I grew to love as a result of my mother, and my experience at Coe College in my undergraduate years. These two areas were forced to sit close to one another, for me, during two trips to Southeast Asia where I studied traditional medicine and wondered how legitimately effective remedies can be found using such strange logic. That question turned out to be exceedingly deep, but I decided on a certain level it was somewhat irrelevant. If you play the odds that you know what a shaman means, and also play the odds that he is right, then you

can look at it from a strictly western perspective and it should produce drug leads a small percentage of the time (believe it or not, these odds I speak of currently produce hit rates higher than those of any other method for attaining new drugs). There are only a handful of schools in the U.S. that are dedicated to teaching and practicing this strategy, and that's how I ended up in Chicago.

Every one of my teachers needs to be thanked for giving me a great education, pushing me to achieve more, and giving me opportunities to grow not only as a student but as a person. As I look back, I feel very blessed for having gone through the Mount Vernon Schools, and having lived and played so close to the people which make it great.

I would like to especially thank Mr. Scarce, a true Renaissance man, for showing me that the world is for the taking and knowledge is for using. When you see someone so unafraid of complexity, you can't help but take a little bit of that attitude with you on your own journey. I would also like to thank Mrs. Richardson for talking me into taking a class I never should have taken, and teaching me in the process that if an option, writing is opportunity to say in a controlled venue exactly what you want the world to know. She taught me that at some point in your life writing will start working for your interests, and your biggest challenge will become keeping to the page limit.

Jordan can be reached at: Department of Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmacognosy, College of Pharmacy, University of Illinois at Chicago, 833 S. Wood St. (M/C 877) Room 272m, Chicago, Il. 60612, or by phone at 319-560-1397, email: jgunn4@uic.edu



■ HOLLY GUNN '04

Holly and her fiancé, Kelly both work at Digital Domain



I am currently working as a Rotoscope Project Lead at Digital Domain Media Group in the Stereo 3d Department. In short, I work with teams of artists who trace out objects, or elements in a scene frame by frame. The work that my teams produce then go to artists to add shaping and depth for 3d conversion. I've worked on films such as G-Force, Transformers 3 Dark of the Moon, and The Smurfs for stereo 3d conversion. I have also worked in the Visual Effects Department on films such as The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo and most recently Rock of Ages.

I honestly never saw myself working in the Entertainment Industry, I always loved to draw and paint growing up. All through elementary, middle and high school I had a passion for anything art and I spent much of my time drawing. After graduating high school in 2004 I got into The School of the Art Institute of Chicago and spent my first couple of years trying out every department I could. When I found the animation department, I fell in love with hand drawn animation. In 2008 I graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts with an emphasis in film, video and new media

and shortly after I moved to Los Angeles. I found In-Three, a stereo 3d conversion company.

I have to mention some of the people who inspired me so much and drove me to be the best I could be. I firstly want to thank Mrs. Zaiger who was a great mentor to me and always encouraged me to expand my horizons. I also want to thank Tony and Sarah Fitzgerald for their help and support throughout my time in Mount Vernon and for their inspiring talents. Mrs. Richardson was also someone who helped me think outside the box and always encouraged me to be ambitious and courageous. And of course my family who always supported a career in art.

For the students and alums in Mount Vernon who hope to pursue a career in art I would say keep your mind open, you never know if you love something or not until you try it. There are so many fun and interesting careers in art!

Holly can be reached at
holly.k.gunn@gmail.com



YES
I'm a 50
percentener!

Any chance we could get 50% of our alums to support the Alumni Association? See back cover

SILLIMAN WRITES BOOK

Alum Matt Silliman '75 has a new book out that is rooted in his educational experience at Mount Vernon High School. Matt is currently is a Philosophy professor at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. He has taught philosophy at MCLA since 1986.

His new book is entitled, "*Bridges to Autonomy; Paradoxes in Teaching and Learning.*" It is available from Piraeus Books (and various online outlets). Matt says "Much of it is rooted in my (now quite distant) educational experience at MVHS, so some former classmates and teachers might recognize themselves, at least as types" within the book. More information is available at: <http://bridgestoautonomy.blogspot.com/> Matt can be reached at msilliman502@hotmail.com




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Mustangs...what are they doing now?

■ KATIE FOREST SANDERS'00



She met American Idol legend Chris Daughtry. Mario Lopez, of "Saved by the Bell" fame interviewed her. And she sat behind "Dancing with the Stars" judges during a taping of what's likely the show's most famous incident, when a dancer chewed out one of the judges. Oh yeah, she also won the Showcase Showdown on the "Price is Right." Katie Forest Sanders'00 had the trip of a lifetime to Los Angeles in late October. Two months later, she gained local fame as a "Price is Right" contestant. She struck it big on the show, winning a showcase that included a trip to Spain and items used by Daughtry's band.

Locally, Katie's best known as the manager of the Mount Vernon pool during the summer. She and her husband, Ryan, a Lisbon grad, live in Atkins. Katie's day job is running a group home for people with disabilities. Her older sisters, Kelly Forest McCool'87 and Kristy Forest Kirby'90, love doing those things people always talk about doing. That led them to a the "Price is Right" a few years ago. In October, it was Katie's turn. She and Kelly made the trip to L.A.

They went to a taping of ABC's "Dancing with the Stars." And they decided to take in a taping of "Price is Right." They didn't get into the first show, and didn't plan to come back in the afternoon for the second taping of the day. But at "Dancing with the Stars," they'd met a talent scout who was also at the morning "Price is Right." The guy told them to come back for the afternoon show, because it was celebrity week and Daughtry would be there.

That's all Katie had to hear. "I voted for him - I loved him," Katie said, referring to "American Idol." Katie explained that before "Price is Right" begins, prospective contestants - in groups of a dozen - are asked one question. The answer is what producers use to pick those chosen to "come on down." The question in the afternoon: "What do you like to do for fun?" Katie knew she could make an impact. "I can be really crazy," she said. So she jumped up and down yelling, "I love to watch the Price is Right!" And when asked what else she did, she proclaimed, "I got to California to see the 'Price is Right!' " She did it donning a t-shirt she had Barnyard Screen Printer in Lisbon make. Gold letters on the black shirt proclaimed, "Iowa is corny for Drew Carey." Katie was the third person called. Daughtry played with all the contestants. Whatever was won, he'd get for the Alzheimer's Association.

Katie was called to the stage after getting the closest bid (\$2,001) on a cherry wine cabinet. And then, she said, "I botched my game." She doesn't know the name of the game, but said it had to do with pulling a lever. All of the screaming from the audience caused her to be flustered. She redeemed herself when contestants spun the wheel to see which two would be in the Showcase Showdown. She was just a few thousand off of the actual value of the showcase and won. The highlight of the Showcase: A trip to Spain in December. She took her sister on the one-week excursion, and got to see Daughtry's concert on a military base.

Katie can be reached at ksanders@netins.net

Editor's Note: Katie's mom is alum Janice Johnson Forest'64. Katie can be reached at ksanders@netins.net See complete article in the Sun, 'Contestant Katie wins big on 'Price is Right' January 06, 2012 by Jake Krob

■ MYRT CLARK BOWERS'57



Congratulations to Alum Myrt Clark Bowers, an RN, BSN, and long-time Mount Vernon resident, who was honored this May as one of 100 Great Iowa Nurses. Each year 100 Great Iowa Nurses are honored and identifies that special nurse who has exemplified concern for humanity, dedication to the profession, and leadership through mentoring others.

Myrt's nursing career spans 52 years of nursing leadership. Her educational background includes: St. Luke's School of Nursing, Coe College, University of Pennsylvania Wharton School Johnson & Johnson Fellowship Program, and University of California Western Network for Education in health administration program. Myrt began her nursing career in 1960 at St. Luke's Hospital where she established a mentoring and caring environment.

She has been a leader both within the profession and the community. The last 11 years, she has dedicated her work with older adults at the Witwer Senior Center, a non-profit organization in Cedar Rapids. She initiated "Healthy Aging Programs" at nine Linn County locations. Other accomplishments include a comprehensive meal program that served more than 200,000 meals in 2011. She successfully led an initiative to become the first in the State of Iowa to achieve Meals on Wheels National Magnet Accreditation, secured \$292,000 in federal funds, achieved a Linn County Board of Health award for healthy workplace environment, implemented a home-based registered dietician nutritional assessment and counseling program, provided leadership in securing alternate food preparation sites during and after the catastrophic 2008 floods (kitchen production was moved five times), and secured more than \$480,700 in flood related funds. Myrt can be reached at myrtb203@mchsi.com

Editor's Note: See complete article in the Sun, 'Long-time Mt. Vernon resident honored among '100 Great Iowa Nurses' May 11, 2012 by Jake Krob



■ EDWARD 'TED' CARLSON '02



Since I left Mount Vernon High School I attended Colorado College in 2002 and then Iowa law school in 2008. In between, I worked in Denver and Tokyo for a year, where I gained eye-opening experiences in the Colorado civil rights community and the Japanese parliament.

I currently work as a policy analyst with National Council de la Raza, the largest Hispanic civil rights organization in the country. Based in DC, I work on a broad portfolio of issues on the civil rights team. I primarily focus on telecommunication, juvenile justice and LGBT issues. On any given day, I track legislation, meet with coalitions which are trying to stop or pass legislation and research and write reports on issues for the project team. It is exciting position that I constantly feel like I get to make an impact on a community I care about deeply.

An accomplishment I am proud of happened the summer between my junior and senior year of college, I was selected as a US Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute intern and placed in the office of the Democratic Leader, Nancy Pelosi. I felt honored to be selected and sponsored to come out to Washington, DC for

a summer but was particularly excited to be placed in a leadership office. The work was largely administrative, but so much of the value of that experience was just being present to some very interesting policy conversations and just seeing how a large policy office works.

As a general thought, I felt like the Mount Vernon community and my classmates were very supportive and incredibly caring. There were so many coaches, volunteers and teachers who helped make living in Mount Vernon and going to Mount Vernon High School a unique experience. In my travels in the US and abroad, I haven't come across a community quite like it. I miss it tremendously.

But two teachers who made a huge impact in my life were Eric Little and Sue Deibner-Hanson. They were both influential in getting me to study abroad my junior year of high school. I initially expressed interest, but both Eric and Sue were the ones who really made it happen. To be honest, I don't think I would have been able to go, but Eric wrote an incredibly strong letter of recommendation to American Field Service in Spain and Sue helped figure out through a local community college how to get my Spanish to a point where I could succeed in a Spanish high school. They both symbolize the great lengths that teachers at Mount Vernon went to making the educational experience second to none.

Ted can be reached at carlson.edward@gmail.com



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Some of the riders who shared a bus route in their school days enjoy seeing each again at Sutliff during Heritage Days 2011. Seated is Roy Caldwell. From left are Bunny Williams Mulligan '61, Diana Kafer LaVoi '64, Annamae Stoneking Baker '60, Gary Kaplan '64, Barb Bys Michael '61, Gary Knutsen '64 and Judy Caldwell Penn '60

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

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or alumni@mountvernon.k12.ia.us
or call 319-895-8845

MARRIAGES

Lindsay Bock'07 to **Jon Thureauf'07**, July 30, 2011
Angie Miceli'07 to Andy Bishop, June 25, 2011
Jacob Ryan'07 to Alexa Smith, November 19, 2011
Alex Smith'07 to Brandy McCracken, April 28, 2012
Jessica Miceli'02 to Derek Ellard, October 8, 2011
Jamie Wallace'01 to Rik Smith, August 6, 2011
Kathryn 'Katie' Ohlfest'00 to Lee Bortz, Nov. 25, 2011
Josh Rife'96 to Megan Stewart, Nov. 25, 2011
David Harrington'93 to Anne Hall, Sept. 10, 2011

BABY NEWS

Jacob Ryan'07 and Alexa Ryan, a son, Brody Kirk, Mar. 15, 2012
Lauren Penn Oliphant'05 and Tim Oliphant, a son, Hayes Cooper, Apr. 29, 2012
Maggie Burke Slaymaker'03 and Brock Slaymaker, a son, Rowan Edward, Oct. 10, 2011
Ryan Whitman'03 and Tasha Whitman, a daughter, Adalynn Jo, Mar. 18, 2012
Evan Yeats'02 and Ashley Fry Yeats, a son, Rainer Dakin Harbolt, September 27, 2011
Ian Dye'01 and **Shauna Applebee Dye'01**, a son, Henry James, Feb. 10, 2012
Aaron Reasland'01 and **Liz Overman Reasland'02**, a son, Titus Elliot, December 25, 2011
Sarah Kleinsmith Dannals'01 and Chris Dannals, a daughter, Susannah Marie, Apr. 24, 2012
Bill Thomsen'01 and Sara Thomsen, a daughter, Teresa Lori, Apr. 23, 2012
Jeremy Hotz'99' and **Lindsey Kerr Hotz'01**, a son, Tucker Lee, September 8, 2011
Mike Wieseler'99 and Laurie Wieseler, a daughter, Ashlan Lea, April 7th, 2012
Chad Pitlik'98 and Devan Pitlik, a son, Micah Douglas, Nov. 9, 2011
Sarah Hauser'97 and Adam Hickman, a daughter, Markie Hazel, Dec. 31, 2010

Katie Schonhorst Farber'97 and Jon Farber, a daughter, Lucia Rae, Jan. 30, 2012
Bryce Chapman'97 and **Kelli Curtis-Chapman'89**, a daughter, Bryli JaxLynn, Oct 6, 2011

Aaron Loan'95 and Elise Loan, a son, Asher Alden, September 13, 2011

ANNIVERSARIES

Mary Ann Boren Jilovec'62 and **Bob Jilovec'63** of Mechanicsville, Ia, 50 years on March 10th
Ilene 'Susie' Emerson Tuetken'59 and Wally Tuetken of Monticello, Ia, 50 years on April 7th
Vernon Burge'37 and Helen Burge of Mount Vernon, Ia, 70 years on April 16th
Robert Zinkula'47 and Mary of Mount Vernon, Ia, 50 years on May 15, 1952

EDUCATION

Jayson Wilkinson'90 completed his Masters degree in Business Administration at the University of Phoenix. Married this July 4th for 15 wonderful years.
Tim Loudenback'11 graduated from the Air Force Basic Military Training on Jan 13, 2012 in San Antonio, TX, and is now in Security Forces Tech School. Timcan be reached at Loudenbacktim@yahoo.com
Sandra Neal Williams'69 completed her requirements for an Associates' Degree in Medical Assisting from the Kaplan University in Cedar Rapids in January 2012. On January 24, 2012, Sandy passed her CMA (AAMA) certification examination and is now a Certified Medical Assistant. She graduated with honors, Summa cum laude on May 11.
Jamie Wallace Smith'01 will graduate from the Genesis Quad Cities Family Medicine Residency Program in June. In the fall she will join the Mount Vernon Family Medicine group.
Jordan Barr'09 and **Melissa Grunder'11** were ranked in the top two percent of students academically in the liberal arts and sciences at Iowa State
Josh Henik'06 was awarded the Graduate Teaching Excellence Award by the Agronomy Dept at Iowa State University
Clinton Currie'05 graduated from Iowa State Fall 2011 with a bachelor of science degree marketing and also majored in international business and spanish



AND MORE...

Some past issues of the Mount Vernon Hawkeye News, find them at...

<http://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=5uu-MYFt2EcC>

Karen Miller Thornton'74 is president of the MV-L Rotary Club

Rachel Sauter'07 (pictured at far right) plays keyboard and sings vocals for the Iowa City five-piece group called 'Emperors Club'. Their music is described as musicians 'who are trading in nimble, exuberant indie rock with a smattering of '90s influences and enough hooks that the music could have come from any decade.' The band's debut EP "The Castle" is just out. See post at <http://buzzbands.la/2011/11/14/download-emperors-club-the-castle/>



Peter Wilch'90, Cornell College vice president for alumni and college advancement, is leaving to accept the position of vice president for university development at the University of San Francisco. He left Cornell College on April 30, and will begin in his new position in California on June 1. A Mount Vernon native and 1994 graduate of Cornell, Wilch oversaw the \$105.8 million Extraordinary Opportunities Campaign, the largest campaign ever by a private liberal arts college in Iowa, in which nearly 60 percent of Cornell alumni participated.

Tim Maaske'72 is in his 36th year teaching and coaching and 19th at Blaine High School, a large suburban school north of Minneapolis, Mn. He writes in that he was 'Blessed to have received an outstanding public education in Mount Vernon and an excellent liberal arts education at Cornell College. My fourth grade teacher Mrs. Lehman, high school principal Adrian Ringold, and my parents Paul and Pauline Maaske have had a profound positive impact on my life. Son Michael, daughter Meredith, and wife Deb are all doing well. Always enjoy the Mount Vernon Alumni news.' Tim can be reached at timmaaske@aol.com

Jenny Baxa'08 was a squad member of the Central College dance team that twice placed at its first national competition appearance March 24 at the University of North Texas. Central's squad was third in the hip-hop routine and took first runner-up honors in the pom routine at the American Dance/Drill Team American Collegiate Championship.

Sean Flockhart'00 is starting a new job as a member of the Mount Vernon Community School District Technology Team in June 2012

Polly Niederhauser Blythe'86 and Bob Blythe'87 Before the end of 2011, Polly Ann's Antiques in uptown Mount Vernon was recognized for 20 years of business. Owned by Polly and Bob, the building is full of all kinds of antiques and collectibles, with the Blythes and about a dozen other dealers selling their wares. They also operate the Blythe Cottage Inn Bed & Breakfast out of their Mount Vernon home. Find both their antique store and their Bed & Breakfast at www.pollyanns.com or www.pollyanns.blogspot.com.



Polly can be reached at pollyanns@mchsi.com and Bob can be reached at bob@pollyanns.com. You can see an article about their 20 years in the *Sun*, online at www.mvlsun.com, Jan 5, 2012

Tom Zinkula'75 Congratulations to alum Father Tom Zinkula who started a new position in February within the Catholic Church as episcopal vicar of the Cedar Rapids region. Before taking this post, he went on a sabbatical to the Sacred Heart Jesuit Retreat House in Sedalia, Colo., then traveled to the North American College in Rome where he was also able to visit holy sites and landmarks in Rome and other parts of Italy, Prague, and London. Father Zinkula then flew to India where he stayed for about two months.

Tom can be reached at dbqzinkula@arch.pvt.k12.ia.us

Sutliff Bridge Three and a half years after historic flooding nearly destroyed it, the Sutliff Bridge reconstruction project has begun to replace the 155-foot long timber approach, which was completely destroyed in the flooding.

In Memory of classmates we have lost

Margaret Jane 'Peggy' Siggins Hendricks'30

Coeur d'Alene, Id., Mar. 7, 2012

Marie Zinkula Kuntz'35

Mount Vernon, Ia., Nov. 25, 2011

Mary Pospisil Russell'35

Mount Vernon, Ia., Dec. 6, 2011

Virgil Crofter'38

Mount Vernon, Ia., Jan. 2, 2012

Esther Dvorak Wilson'42

Sun City, Az., Apr. 25, 2012

Jean Trego Smith'46

Woodstock, Ill., Nov. 7, 2011

Iolene Gaines Clark'47

Mount Vernon, Ia., Feb. 10, 2012

Frank Benesh'56

Mount Vernon, IA, June 2, 2012

Pauline Lincoln Masunaga'57

Wahiawa, HI., Sept. 4, 2008

Roger Roy Martin'58

Mount Vernon, IA, May, 23, 2012

Margaret 'Maggie' Quinn Ellison'62

Mount Vernon, Ia., Dec. 7, 2011

Jane Hammond Brasel'62

OK., Aug. 16, 2006

John Billings'64

Fairfax, Ia., Nov. 13, 2011

Steve Horton'68

Mount Vernon, Ia., Nov. 17, 2011

Barry Roberts'68

Coon Rapids, Minn., Dec. 24, 2011

Rita Pospisil McGinnis'70

Des Moines, Ia., Feb. 28, 2012

Richard Busenbark'71

Peterborough, N.H., Dec. 11, 2011

Leah Idelle Virlee Van Waus'05

Davenport, Ia, May 10, 2012

Friends...

Gary Stamp

Lisbon, IA, Oct. 21, 2011

Carroll 'Mort' Mortensen

Mount Vernon, Ia., Jan. 19, 2012

Elizabeth Casady, 96

Cedar Rapids, Ia, Feb. 11, 2012

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Does your name have an asterik* behind it? This means you have already contributed for the 2012-2013 year. Is your name missing? Be sure to let us know 319-895-8845 or alumni@mountvernon.k12.ia.us.

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PAYING TRIBUTE TO ALUMS ---

We hope you enjoy these articles about three alums who have been honored by 'in memory' gifts to the Foundation by their family and friends over the past year. These gifts are helping and will continue to help students of the Mount Vernon Community School District.

■ JOHN BROULIK '76

John has been honored by family donations given to improve High School wrestling mats.



Pictured from left are: Larry Straw, the former Mustang coach who coached Broulik; John's mother, Geraldine Broulik; John's brother, Robert Broulik; John's son, John Wesley; John's brother, Dan Broulik; and Dave Ryan of the Mount Vernon wrestling club.

The Mount Vernon wrestling community honored the late John Broulik and his family at the Mustangs' final home meet of the year Thursday, Jan. 19. Broulik died March 8, 2008, after a battle with cancer. He was Mount Vernon's first state wrestling champ, earning the Class 2A title in 1976 at 138 pounds. His family honored him by donating funds to completely rehab two wrestling mats. The Mount Vernon Wrestling Club honored him with a plaque that will be permanently placed in the wrestling room at the High School.

Mount Vernon Wrestling Club leader Dave Ryan '85 pointed out that all three of the Broulik brothers - John '76, Robert '74 and Dan '77 - were multiple state placemen. Ryan says "It's so impressive that the family thought enough of their experience with Mount Vernon wrestling that they decided to do this."

Editor's Note: See complete article in the Sun, 'First Mount Vernon state champ honored with mats, plaque' January 20, 2012 by Jake Krob

■ REID HANLEY '64

Reid has been honored by the development of a scholarship in his name.



Pictured at Homecoming 2008 are from left: Reid, classmates Dennis Akers and Ray Stoner, and Gail and Gary Knutsen '65

Often described as a "big city sports reporter with small-town sensibility," the passion Reid Hanley shared throughout his life evolved from his lifelong love for Mount Vernon. Reid embodied sensibility, humility and generosity in a unique combination that left a legacy among his friends, peers, professionals and followers.

"Last fall, my all-time best friend Reid Hanley passed away," explains Dr. Gary Knutsen '65, "Reid was never one to talk much about his good deeds, but at his memorial service a long list of lives Reid touched and helped became apparent." According to Reid's former colleagues at the Chicago Tribune, there was "nothing [Reid] liked better than a great story about an off-the-radar athlete he felt demanded attention." Reid would champion the unknown with the same enthusiasm no matter the level of athletic achievement.

"What Reid did for so many is truly remarkable," states Knutsen. "Standing at his grave site, I made a personal commitment to start a memorial scholarship fund in Reid's honor to establish a mechanism to provide assistance to aspiring young Mustang journalists and sportswriters desiring to become the next Reid Hanley."

This decision to honor the legacy of Reid Hanley led Dr. Knutsen and his wife Gail to contact the Mount Vernon Community School District Foundation for assistance in establishing a memorial scholarship fund. New this year, the scholarship will help Haleigh Ehmsen further her education by pursuing Journalism as well as literature at St. Mary's College at Notre Dame in Indiana. Setting up a memorial scholarship fund is a significant way to pay tribute to someone because it can

AND HELPING STUDENTS TOO

have a positive impact on many lives far into the future.

This special combination of wishing to honor the legacy of Reid's philosophy lends itself to the significance of creating a memorial scholarship. "We are honored Gary and his wife Gail asked the Mount Vernon Community School District Foundation to be part of this tribute to Reid Hanley," states Foundation Director Bethany Campbell Tvedt. "What better way to honor Reid's philosophy of championing a person than to create a scholarship fund to lift the recipient into their educational career. It's a great fit!"

"Gail and I so very much want Reid's love for Mount Vernon, as well as his journalistic integrity and enthusiasm for life to be remembered by all and respected by the recipients of this award," Gary states. "It will be a delight to see the recipients of this award proceed with their journalism careers."

■ MARGARET 'MAGGIE' QUINN ELLISON '62

Maggie has been honored by the development of a scholarship in her name.



Maggie Ellison's roots ran deep in Mount Vernon. And her influence on others meant many chose to continue to grow here, too. Ellison, a 1962 alum and retired Mount Vernon High School English teacher, drama director and speech coach, died Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2011, at the age of 67. She is being remembered as a tireless worker who had a significant impact on countless people - most of them students - in her 25 years of teaching and beyond. And for many, a direct connection can be made between Ellison and the reason they made this community their home.

"She was from Mount Vernon, she lived in Mount Vernon, she raised her family in Mount Vernon," said Grant Freeman '06 who's among those who were deeply influenced by Ellison. "She loved it here." Freeman chose his career path in large part because of Ellison. "She's 100 percent of the reason," Freeman said of why he studied theater in college, and why he's returned to his hometown and serves as the current MVHS speech coach.

Donna Jacob, a retired MVHS English teacher, worked next door to Ellison during their teaching careers. Jacob said Ellison likely became interested in teaching because of her own MVHS teacher, Gladys Rife. And Ellison, Jacob said, "passed it on." Ellison taught English 10

to sophomores at MVHS. Jacob said she "was a very caring teacher - she recognized the needs of each student." That extended to her leadership of plays and speech teams. Jacob said that regardless of the long day in her classroom, Ellison continued her time at school by coaching individuals and groups in speech, or by directing a play. "She was a coach ahead of her time," Jacob said. Jacob said Ellison's "blocking and staging were beautiful." When it came to speech, Jacob said, Ellison made sure that "no student went to contest unprepared." "She had a natural gift," said Jacob, who considered Ellison a dear friend. That gift influenced dozens of students, many who went on to continue in theater.

As a result Maggie's family and friends established a memorial scholarship. The first scholarship was given this year to senior Annabeth Lucas who is going to study theater arts at Goucher College in Baltimore.

Editor's Note: See complete article in the Sun, 'Teacher, coach, director remembered for natural gift' December 16, 2011 by Jake Krob



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The Mount Vernon Community School District Foundation is a charitable non-profit organization that partners with alumni, businesses, parents, and friends of the Mount Vernon community to support a higher level of educational excellence and opportunities to prepare Mount Vernon School students for the challenges of global opportunities.

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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.

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| Sarah Fitzgerald | Kim Stoner'95 |
| Deneen Fleck | Olivia Stoner'05 |
| JoAnn Gage | Sonya Sullivan'90 |
| Lisa Greif | Doug Swanson |
| Dennis Gross | Jolynn Swartzendruber |
| Nannette Gunn | Ed Timm |
| Ken Hallinan | Stephanie Timm |
| Robert Hanson | Whitney Turner'00 |
| Melissa Hauser | Rebecca Tyrrell |
| Angelina Hawker | Jean Wade |
| Natalie Hayslip | Krista Whitham |
| Kristi Keast | Vicky Wieseler |
| Suzette Kragenbrink | Erin Wilkinson |
| Mary Leopold | Tom Wilkinson'86 |
| Apra Loomis | Maggie Willems'96 |
| Merri Lueth | Carol Woods'75 |
| Susannah Maddock | Mary Young |
| Susan Maurice | Laurie Zaiger |

DID YOU MAKE A DONATION TO THE FOUNDATION?

THANK YOU!!!!



JoAnn Gage
-HS Journalism and Yearbook, received a \$1094 Grant for InDesign Software

The MVCSD Foundation Educational Excellence grant The MVCSD Foundation Educational Excellence grant allowed me to purchase 10 licenses for InDesign CS5.5, the software used by most professional magazines and newspapers for layout and design. I utilize this software in many of my classes because it gives students real-world experience.

The main project I use InDesign for takes place in Advanced Composition. We get into small groups for a three-week unit, where students create and publish their own newspaper. They have the experience of taking digital photos, interviewing others, writing stories, designing a nameplate, and finally, fitting all of their work onto the pages of a newspaper. They use InDesign for the layout—the best tool for the job. It is much less frustrating than trying to use a word processing program or cutting and pasting by hand, like we did back when I was in high school. This year, I was worried because another teacher was given a section of Advanced Composition, but the only copies of InDesign we had were on the four computers in my classroom. It would have been sad for some students to not have the same experience because there were not enough copies of the software. Purchasing these 10 copies allowed us to update from software that was seven years old to what is cutting edge, and it gave all three sections of the class an equal playing field.

In Publication and Design class, yearbook editor Taylor Hauser, a junior, was able to design our cover and endsheets using InDesign. This year, we are planning to have a cover with the words "What Defines Us..." The word "defines" will be dye-cut, and peek through to a photo of a group of students. This student-designed cover will help our yearbook to remain student-driven and vital among our student body. We used to use this software to design all of our pages, but when Jostens no longer supported the outdated version we had, we moved to online layout. Next year we will have the option of producing our entire book with InDesign 5.5.

We use InDesign to create our pages for The Mustang Moon, our student newspaper printed monthly in The Mount Vernon-Lisbon Sun. The student newspaper is an after-school activity. We also publish to our website, www.themustangmoon.com, but student journalists say they like the permanence of a printed paper, and it makes them proud for the community to see their work. We are thankful to The Sun for giving us the platform, and the Foundation for giving us the tools we need.

In addition, I have used the software for small creative projects in other classes and hope to create a unit for my new class, 21st Century Journalistic Writing, which will be offered for the first time next year. This money was spent on a tool I share with as many students and teachers as I possibly can, and it will be put to good use for years. Thank you so much to everyone who donated to the Foundation.

NEW SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The Mount Vernon Community School District Foundation has joined ranks with hundreds of other community organizations to form a **DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS**® chapter. This scholarship program fits the Foundation's mission to provide broader educational opportunities for students, staff, faculty and residents of the Mount Vernon area.

Scholarships awarded through the Mount Vernon Community School District Foundation will be able to utilize the Collegiate Partner benefit starting this year. Look for these opportunities, and additional scholarships to be made available, in years to come as the Foundation grows our local Dollars for Scholars® chapter. If interested in helping, please contact any Foundation Board member or Foundation Director Bethany Campbell Tvedt at mvfoundation@mountvernon.k12.ia.us

Extensive resources, college planning tools, Collegiate Partner lists and additional information about the Dollars for Scholars® program and Scholarship America is on the web at <http://scholarshipamerica.org/dfs.php>

F O U N D A T I O N

YOUR DONATIONS WORK THROUGH FOUNDATION GRANTS

One of the ways your donations to the Foundation work is through 'Educational Excellence' Grants. These awards are given to school district teachers to spearhead innovative projects aimed at helping them take education to an even higher level. The Foundation provided approximately \$5,000 for nine grants during the 2011-2012 academic year.

Recipients of the funds are:

\$390 Joe Wallace-High School Business & Entrepreneur Class, seed money for Fruit Fusion 'smoothie' business project

During the fall of 2011, the Entrepreneurship class at Mount Vernon High School ran a business selling fruit "smoothies." The business was called Fruit Fusion, with the students developing the business idea, creating a business plan, and working through all the aspects of purchasing, pricing, branding, and operating it. At the end of four weeks of selling the drinks, the students had \$606.60 in capital, realizing a net income of \$216 and an overall increase in capital of almost 56%.

newspaper), for small creative projects in other classes and she hopes to create a unit for a new class, 21st Century Journalistic Writing, which will be offered for the first time next year. See note by JoAnn Gage on page at left.

\$1000 Susan Maurice-7th grade science and Mr. Hanson-8th grade science, for one iPad and various applications

An iPad in the classroom has opened doors for students with learning difficulties.

\$656 Katie Poduska-5th grade science, for Biomes Study Kit

Incorporating materials provided by this grant, DVDs, books and activities about biomes, this unit has been an exciting addition to the 5th grade science curriculum. Besides learning basic terms about the ecosystems on planet Earth, these materials have given students a window into planet stewardship.

\$400 Kim Steele-6th grade, for social literacy, 1 net book for technology learning station

Mrs. Steele wanted students to be empowered on a personal level, as well as a 3-6 student grouping level, to quest for knowledge and understanding by accessing information about specific 6th grade social studies and social literacy topics through the internet.

\$300 Jessica Bartelt, for K-4 special education behavior modification teaching materials

To support the increasing number of students in the elementary with behavior goals in their IEPs, Mrs. Bartelt requested funding for materials to reinforce positive social skills.

\$450 Suzette Kragenbrink-MS and HS Media Center, for audio book materials for Middle School and High School media center collections

Students often use audio versions of books to challenge and expand their reading ability. The middle school media center added to its audio book collection to enrich the supplemental reading and "free reading" opportunities for students. Audio materials added to the high school collection focus on supporting the existing curriculum and required reading students have; this provides an alternative method for students to use.

\$220 2nd Grade Team -- Allison Schnoor, Jean Wade, Kacey Schmit, Christina Pfab, for Daily Five Program work materials

The 2nd grade team decided to work towards implementing the Daily Five into the classrooms as part of the team's Professional Learning Community (PLC). The Daily Five offers students a variety of literacy activities while teachers are working with other small groups on guided reading instruction. Daily Five consists of five tasks that students work on during the literacy time block; activities include Read to Self, Read to Someone, Work on Writing, Word Work, and Listen to Reading.

\$490 Kindergarten-1st Grade Teams, for purchase of 'Making Reading Heavenly' Curriculum & Sound Move Cards

Thanks in part to funding from the Foundation, Kindergarten and 1st grade classrooms implemented the Making Reading Heavenly curriculum during the 2011-2012 school year. Students enjoyed learning 'Sound Moves' which are fun movements associated with each letter sound.

\$1094 JoAnn Gage-HS Journalism and Yearbook, for InDesign Software

The MVCSD Foundation Educational Excellence grant allowed JoAnn Gage to purchase 10 licenses for InDesign CS5.5, the software used by most professional magazines and newspapers for layout and design. They use InDesign for layout, and use it in Advanced Composition, for creation of The Mustang Moon (our student



These are pictures of Mrs. Poduska's students trek to Ink Pond. What excitement! The poster is a completed land use map of "Dragonfly Pond" and the classroom picture is of the collaboration of a group in designing that land use. We will also look at rainforests and students will make clay models (brilliantly colored) of the insect/ amphibian/plant they "discover" as a new species which solves a major health or environmental problem facing us today.



Taylor Hauser, yearbook editor, with her printed cover and endsheets designed using InDesign. See message from instructor JoAnn Gage on previous page 27.



High School 'Fruit Fusion' entrepreneurs



Kindergarten and 1st Grade students enjoyed learning "Sound Moves" which are fun movements associated with each letter sound



2nd grade students now have a variety of materials that offer different ways to work on spelling words and word families

*Your Foundation Gift...
your legacy to Mount Vernon Schools*

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT IN 2011-12 a few highlights...

MAY

- MS Principal Noreen Bush resigns and search for new principal begins
- The Iowa High School Press Association awards 'The Mustang Moon' 11 individual awards.
- Two Mount Vernon Robotics teams and their robots compete at FIRST Technical Challenge (FTC) World Championships. Team 3549, 'Classified', finished in 19th place and Team 458, 'Activate Go Initiative!', finished 32nd.
- MS Girls 7th grade track team win WAMAC District and State titles
- MS Musical 'Kokunut Keepers'
- HS Boys Track places 2nd at State

APRIL

- School taxes going down next year 7% from 17.72 to 18.98
- HS Musical is 'Suessical'
- Archery Club earns invitation to National Competition
- Melissa Alger sets new MV program Track Discus record of 135' 8"
- Mike Hansen named new Washington Elementary principal
- MS Students compete in Alliance for Climate Education Biggest Energy Loser Competition
- HS Academic Decathlon earns 4th at state competition

MARCH

- 5th Grade Musical is 'On the Radio'
- Washington Elementary holds Science Fair
- HS Boys Basketball earns 1st place finish at State in 2A. This was 39 years after the school's first state basketball title – and the first state title in any sport in 1973. Head Coach is Ed Timm.
- Junior Cody Burgin was named Mr. MVHS

FEBRUARY

- MV Speech team Large Group All-State recipients were honored in Ames. They are Annabeth Lucas, Zak Moran, Alex Doser, Connett Croghan, Leeann Oelrich, Kaitlin Thune, Seamus Taylor, Emma Conroy, Lucy Conroy, Brandon Douglas, and Sydney Pratt.
- Wrestlers qualified for state competition: Trey Ryan, Josh Cannon, Tyler Rawson, and Kyle Jilovec. With Trey Ryan placing 6th and Tyler Rawson placing 8th.
- HS Speech Team receives 18 Division I ratings and four Division II ratings at State competition.
- Five HS students earned recognition in regional competition at 2012 National Scholastic Art Awards.
- Girls' HS Basketball team is WaMaC East Conference champion
- Boys' High School Basketball team is WaMaC East Conference champion
- HS Girls Basketball player Liz Skotowski

scored her 1,000th career point and Head Coach Bob Kintzen celebrated his 100th win.

- MS 5th and 6th grad ELP students are first in state of Iowa in international Computer Quiz Bowl, and 46 out of 206 teams in entire contest
- 5th Grader Jeremy Ferguson wins state spelling bee and will go to Nationals

JANUARY

- Football shifts from 3A to 2A for 2012

DECEMBER

- ES Students help local Community Developmet Group create Snowflake Chandelier at the First Street Community Bldg facilitated by local artist Stan Crocker
- Roger Johanson retires as Head Cross Country Coach after being 3A coach of the year and building one of the most respected programs in the state

NOVEMBER

- Tanner, the therapy dog, joins the MV Staff and works with students in grades EC-12
- Freshman Lizzie Adams earns a State 200-meter swimming title along with 3 other teammates on the Linn-Mar-Mount Vernon Swim Team
- 7 High School vocalists named to All-State Chorus
- 8 7th and 8th graders selected to Opus Choir
- The MV-L boys cross country team took 4th at state and Conner Smock finished 2nd. The girls finished 10th as a team.
- HS Fall Play is 'Much Ado About Nothing' and performers are invited to perform at UNI Thespian Festival

OCTOBER

- Elementary students raise more than \$18,000 for WeTap's fund raiser.
- Tiny Circus comes to the ES and students work for 6 days to create a new stop-motion animated film titled 'Giraffe Trap'
- HS MV-L Boys are WaMac Cross Country Champions

SEPTEMBER

- Tom Wieseler continues as Board president. Four new members joined a 7-member board, making this a historic election – nine names on the ballot the most in 35 years, and a historic voter turnout, the biggest turnout in the last 12 elections.
- Connett Crohan and Jordan Roe were named co-kings at Homecoming, and Erin Pisarik was named queen. The Mustangs won the Homecoming game over South Tama 20-12

AUGUST

- work starts on 17,500 sq ft addition to Washington elementary
- Mount Vernon starts the year with 1,308 students in grades EC-12

2012 MOVING ON...

THANK YOU and best wishes to the following who are retiring this year.



JAN SAUTER:

What You Taught: Pre-Algebra to Pre-Calculus, Biology, Anatomy, Physiology

Total years at MV: 18

Another teacher or staff member

who was a mentor or helped you? Many teachers and staff have reached out along the way. Adrian Ringold gave me the opportunity to teach here. Mary Ware and Charles Halsey were my earliest mentors. I believe the people who influenced and supported me the most were my parents. They both encouraged curiosity and independence, fostered logical thought and expected us to take responsibility for our actions, work hard, and be honest and sincere people.

Do you remember the first student you taught that you had also taught their parent(s)? One of those students would be Julie Vislisl and her three sons.



ROGER JOHANSON:

What You Coached: High School Boys & Girls Cross Country

Total years at MV: 16

About his time as coach: He leaves

behind a legacy of building a combined Mount Vernon-Lisbon program that's now one of the most respected in the state. He was named Class 3A coach of the year this past season from the Iowa Assoc. of Track Coaches. The boys team won a state title in 2005, and the girls team in 2008. In the past 16 seasons, MV-L has qualified teams for state 14 of those years.



JOLEEN WOODS:

What You Taught: High School and 8th Grade Vocal Music

Total years at MV: 30

About her teaching career: Joleen

leaves behind a legacy of excellence in vocal music. Her successful program drew a large number of students to her classes. Her program produced All-State vocalists year-after-year, the highest individual honor available to Iowa High School musicians, as well as numerous OPUS vocalists. She co-produced the spring High School musical for over 25 years and produced an 8th grade musical for 30. Her solo and ensemble contest participants are known for receiving high scores with many being selected to perform at the Outstanding Performers Award Showcase. After one competition for example, a judge commented "I think without a doubt you are one of the finest choirs in the state of Iowa. I have not heard many 4A schools with the techniques and musicianship you exhibit." Over the years many of her solo and ensemble vocalists have performed at special events including state tournaments.

ALUMNI

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Any chance we could get 50% of our alums to support the Alumni Association?

A lofty goal, but PLEASE BE ONE OF THE 50 PERCENT who do -- and challenge your classmates to do the same!

Your donation assures that we can continue the publications and events we have all grown to love!



MOUNT VERNON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

ALUMNI Association 2012-2013

Your support is very much appreciated and funds alumni organization publications and activities

FOR JULY 1 2012 TO JULY 1 2013

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

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Renew online at www.MVAlumni.org or cut and return with your check to: MV Alumni Association, 525 Palisades Road, Mount Vernon, Iowa 52314