



MOUNT VERNON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

ALUMNI NEWS



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

2019 Service Hall of Fame recipient Michael Seiler waves to the crowd from his Corvette during the Homecoming parade.

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TIME TO CELEBRATE - THIS IS THE ALUMNI MAGAZINE'S 15TH YEAR OF PUBLICATION!

2020 Alumni Events

January 1-Dec 31 - Hey...we have changed our calendar year for donations/support/ dues to January 1 through Dec 31. So, now is a great time to think about supporting one of your favorite organizations - the MV Alumni Association! See back page.

May 1 - DON'T DELAY - NOMINATE AN ALUM YOU THINK IS DESERVING OF A SERVICE, ACHIEVEMENT, MV COMMUNITY IMPACT, FINE ARTS, OR ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME AWARD NOW! SEE PAGE 14.

Who can nominate? ANYONE - you do not have to be an alum to nominate.

July 10 and 11 - Heritage Days in Mount Vernon along with alumni events & reunions

Fall 2020 tba - Homecoming and Alumni Hall of Fame Ceremony.

More information about events in the Spring 2020 Alumni News issue.

2019 Alumni Hall of Fame

The Mount Vernon Community School District Alumni Association is pleased to announce the following alums were selected as 2019 Alumni Hall of Fame winners:

- Fine Arts - Sarah Sadie Busse (Sarah Martin) 1990
- Athletic - Robert 'Bob' Bowman 1958
- Service - Michael 'Mike' Seiler 1967
- Community Impact - Richard 'Dick' Moore 1952 (d)
- Achievement - Lloyd Duffe 1951

Richard Moore



They received their awards on Homecoming weekend, September 27, 2019. Turn to page 4 for recipient bios and photos of this year's Hall of Fame events.

From left to right:
Michael Seiler
Barbara 'Babs' Beckhelm Moore '53
representing Richard Moore
Sarah Sadie Busse
Robert Bowman
Lloyd Duffe





Mustang ALUMNI

2020 REUNIONS

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To advertise in the Alumni News - call 319-389-8602 or email alumni@mvcasd.org

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER is published twice yearly for alumni and friends of the Association. Views are those of the authors. Articles and advertisements (preferably digital) may be submitted by email to alumni@mvcasd.org 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

2020

Antiques Extravaganza July 4
Heritage Days July 9-11
Magical Night in Dec
other events: Lincoln Hwy Arts Festival
Chili Cookoff, and more

Heritage Days Weekend:

Friday, July 10 and Saturday, July 11
Reception Uptown MV on Main Street
location tba

Saturday, July 11 All-Alumni-Community
Breakfast (by donation) at High School

2015 5 years

Contact: Courtney Maddocks
Phone: 319-895-6316 319-826-4634
Contact: Abbey Teubel
Phone: 319-455-0147 319-651-4712

2010 10 years tba

2005 15 years - tba

Contact: Chrystal Covington Wherry
Phone: 319-540-1879
Email: Crystaal2005@yahoo.com

2000 20 years - tba

Find us on Facebook
Contact: Lauren Sauter
Email: lauren.r.sauter@gmail.com
Phone: 917-528-8891
Contact: Jenny Mick Ballard
Email: jmick1230@gmail.com
Phone: 510-654-7116 319-329-6666
Contact: Paul Easker
Phone: 515-203-9764
Email: paul@easker.com
Contact: Katey Forest Sanders
Phone: 319-551-4136
Email: ksanders133@gmail.com

1995 - 25 years - tba

Contact: Kim Stoner
Phone: 319-899-8542
Email: dyanstoner@aol.com
Contact: Sarah Woods
Email: sarah.woods@ge.com

1990 - 30 years - July 11, 2020

Saturday, July 11, 7-9 pm. The Local-Glyn Mawr Winery (main street MV) More info to come! Please join our class Facebook page:

Mt. Vernon High Class of 1990.
Contact: Brittany Kaalberg Booth
Phone: 319-533-1358
Email: boothjb@q.com
Contact: Paul Morf
Phone: 319-841-3472
Email: pmorf@simmonsperine.com

1985 - 30 years - tba

Contact: Jennifer Spencer Toriggino
Phone: 303-792-3484
Email: sdtori@aol.com
Jennifer would like to know if one or more of her classmates would like to step forward and plan this reunion and/or future reunions.

1980 - 40 years - tba

Contact: Chris Kinley Osborn '80

1975 - 45 years - tba

Contact: Lori Lehman Reihle
Phone: 319-310-2639
Email: lar917@msn.com
Contact: Carol Woods Boren
Phone: 319-350-4662
Email: woodsboren@gmail.com

1970 - 50 years - tba

Contact: Gwen Stewart Drahos
Phone: 319-455-2873 319-455-2565
Contact: Marsha Siggins McWhinney
Phone: 319-895-8671
Email: marsha_siggins@juno.com
Contact: Nancy Vislissel Norlin
Phone: 319-462-4674
Email: glnknorlin@msn.com
Contact: Judy Hess Greco
Phone: 319-624-2059
Email: jagquilt@yahoo.com

1965 - 55 years - tba

Contact: Susan Mounts Fisher
Phone: 319-389-3686
Email: SusanJFisher@netins.net

1960 - 60 years - Heritage Dayst

Plan to meet at the Alumni-Community breakfast on Saturday, July 11. Other plans tba.

Contact: Annamae Stoneking Baker
Phone: 319-895-8979
Email: abmrk@gmail.com
Contact: John Rife
Phone: 319-310-8105
Email: jtbr2@q.com

1955 - 65 years - tba

Would you like a gathering? Please let Kay know.

Contact: Kay Jilovec Lind
Phone: 319-377-2079 319-538-6244
Email: kaylind38@gmail.com

1949-1950-1951 - 70 years - July 11

Alumni-Community Breakfast
Contact: Dick McKeen '51
Phone: 319-248-0502
Email: rmckeen933@aol.com

1945 - 75 years - July 11 Alumni-Community Breakfast

Contact: Betty Pospisil Wolfe
Phone: 319-895-8125
Contact: Marilyn Woods Overman
Phone: 319-362-0248

Your class may not be having a reunion, but come on Heritage Days weekend, July 9-10-11, to enjoy seeing classmates, other alums, teachers, and your friends from the community.

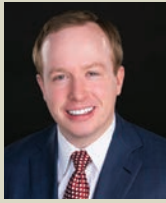
You are a student once, but an alum for a lifetime.



VOLUNTEER TO HELP AT HERITAGE DAYS ALUMNI BREAKFAST OR RECEPTION Call call or text 319-389-8602 or write alumni@mvcasd.org



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Andrew Morf '94
Alumni Association
President

2019 is in the books and as I reflect on the year I am reminded how much we all have to be grateful for as alums of Mount Vernon.

How wonderful to be part of a town and community like Mount Vernon where alumni can come home...either to live or to return to visit family and friends. Every year we receive so much positive feedback from alums that have attended their class reunions or Heritage Days and reconnected with friends and classmates.

How grateful we should be for having attended a school district that has been filled with, and continues to be filled with, talented and devoted educators. We are all in some way a product of these dedicated souls who poured themselves into our development, lives and educations. I am sure we all have stories of teachers who played a key role in shaping our interests and trajectories as adults.

Finally, as an alumni board we are so grateful for all of you. We are blessed to have alumni that are supportive of this association in so many ways; volunteering, writing articles for this publication, hosting events, labeling newsletters and providing financial gifts to sustain the work we do. Please turn to pages 24-26 to review the list of alumni that helped make this year's work possible.

Peace & Joy To You This Holiday Season,

Andrew

Pictures:
Board
members
in session



THE MUSTANGCAST

Mount Vernon's home of high school sports broadcasts with free, live, play-by-play of Mustang athletics!

It's easy to access the Mustangcast!

Just go to www.themustangcast.com and click "Listen Live!"

You can find our broadcast schedule at that location as well. If you have questions about The Mustangcast email Sean Moore at sean.michael.moore36@gmail.com

WILL YOU HELP?

Mount Vernon Schools Superintendent Greg Batenhorst would like your help... please go to the link provided at right and give him your feedback about education in our school district.



MOUNT VERNON ALUMNI -
We need your feedback!
Please complete the survey found
at the link below.

bit.ly/mvcsdalumni19

Your input is appreciated!



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First, if you are a current subscriber go online to www.mvlsun.com, click E-EDITION at the top of the page. You may also receive news alerts. Current and archived.
Second, online at www.colelibrary.org, to find Mount Vernon news from 1860 to the Sun of 2013

WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT OF THE MV ALUMNI ASSOCIATION!

TURN TO THE BACK PAGE TO LEARN HOW YOU CAN HELP US CONTINUE THIS PUBLICATION AND OUR TRADITIONAL ALUMNI EVENTS



2019 ALUMNI HALL OF FAME



Community, alums, family, and high school students attended the 2019 Alumni Association Hall of Fame Awards Ceremony in the High School gym on Friday, September 27.



2019 Mount Vernon Alumni Hall of Fame: Service Hall of Fame recipient Michael Seiler 1967, Community Impact Hall of Fame recipient Richard Moore 1952 represented here by Barbara Beckhelm Moore 1953, Fine Arts Hall of Fame recipient Saddie Busse (Sara Martin) 1990, Athletic Hall of Fame recipient Robert Bowman 1958, and Achievement Hall of Fame recipient Lloyd Duffe 1951



Community, alums, family, and high school students attended the 2019 Alumni Association Hall of Fame Awards Ceremony in the High School gym on Friday, September 27. Group picture above of Alumni Hall of Fame winners with nominators and special guests: Front row from left to right, Service Hall of Fame recipient Michael Seiler '67, Community Impact Hall of Fame recipient Richard 'Dick' Moore '52 who is represented here by Barbara Beckhelm Moore '53, Fine Arts Hall of Fame recipient Sadie Busse '90 (Sarah Martin), Athletic Hall of Fame recipient Robert 'Bob' Bowman '58, and Achievement Hall of Fame recipient Lloyd Duffe '51. Middle row from left to right, School Board Representative Nannette Gunn, Sandi Erenberger Hanna '67, Jerry Ringer '55, Andrea Mott Zastrow '90, Marilyn Dean Schnittjer '58, Mary Lee Parks representing Jack Stanton '49, Master of Ceremonies John Rife '60, Foundation President Ann Koppenhaver'78. Back row from left to right, Foundation Executive Director Ben Brannaman'05, High School Student Council President Jack Ossenkop '20, 1957 Football team mate Bob Lenz '58, Superintendent Dr. Greg Batenhorst, High School Principal Steve Brand, Alumni Association Hall of Fame Chair Dennis Jordan'87. Not pictured: 1957 Football team mates Robert Kruse and Bruce Mullen who were present, and Harold Clements.

Hall of Fame Events took place on Thursday and Friday, September 26 and 27. On Friday, high school students and staff and the public were invited to attend the Alumni Association Hall of Fame Awards Ceremony at 9 am in the Mount Vernon High School Gym. Following the ceremony, a reception was held in the High School Library. A President's Hall of Fame reception was also held on Friday for recipients.

Thursday evening was the Homecoming Game and presentation of Alumni Hall of Fame recipients during halftime at the Football Field, and the All-Alumni-Community Reception 'Tailgating Under The Tent' at the top of the bleachers. The Mustangs beat Tipton. The Alumni-Community Reception tent was open from approximately 6 pm until after the game.

In addition, student events included the Thursday evening Parade and Crowning of the Homecoming Queen and King and their Saturday Homecoming Dance. Due to impending stormy weather, the parade and game were moved to Thursday night instead of Friday. The pep assembly and powderpuff game were postponed.



John Rife from the Class of 1960 was master of ceremony at the 2019 Hall of Fame Award event. This was John's 11th year as host.



THANK YOU to photographer DAVE THACKERY for taking this year's official Hall of Fame ceremony pictures





Achievement Award Winner Lloyd Duffe, class of 1951, was nominated for this award by alum Jack Stanton, class of 1949, represented at the Hall of Fame events by his niece Mary Lee Parks.

Currently a resident of Columbia, South America, Lloyd has lived a life of accomplishment that showcases both his love of the United States and making the world a better place. Following high school Lloyd studied two years at the University of Iowa, leaving for two years to serve in the U.S. Army. He completed his degree at Iowa, graduating in Labor Management & Relations in business studies in 1957. Two years later Lloyd left for Washington D.C. with an assignment as a Diplomatic Courier for the Department of State, only the second person from the State of Iowa to earn this assignment. During the next twelve years he traveled the world, working as a Courier and Courier Officer out of Manila, Philippines and Frankfurt, Germany, then traveling to embassies and consulates in over 150 countries. Later he went to Argentina as an Immigration Visa Officer for over two years, followed by a year in Venezuela as an Administration and Consular Officer, then resigning his commission in 1970.

1973-75 found Lloyd changing course and going to Southern Colombia as the second oldest Peace Corps volunteer in the country. Here he raised funds to oversee and build a rural school in 1973 that is still functioning and educating over 80 students yearly in Versilles, Colombia. He was also responsible for taking care of, vaccinating, overseeing, and maintaining Cebu cattle on 13 cooperative farms for poor and beginning farmers that was sponsored by the Colombian government Department of Agriculture.

He married a Colombian National during this time and they returned to the Ely area in 1975, calling it home for thirty years. He worked construction, and at Wilson and then Farmstead Foods as a maintenance and sanitation employee.



In 1990 Lloyd was cleared by the U.S. government for top secret projects. While his children grew up in small-town Ely, he was sent to the Far East as a Control Officer with many interesting assignments over the next 15 years. In 2005 Lloyd retired and he and his wife moved to her native Columbia.

Jack wrote in his application to nominate Lloyd:

" My initial introduction with Lloyd Duffe in 1947 at high school, occurred while I was a junior; he as an entering freshman. Lloyd and I developed a memorable friendship, which continued during college. ...His transferring to attend MVHS came when the Ely School Board chose to close its High School because of small student enrollment. Lloyd, along with a few others from the Ely area entered our high school in the fall of 1947, and graduated in the spring of 1951. I always thought this change for him must have been somewhat traumatic.

Lloyd was somewhat quiet and a slim, ramrod-straight "farm kid" from the Ely, IA, area. We played sports together and even though I managed to "letter" four years, he was the better athlete, making "All-Conference" selection in football - receiving those honors for two years. I thought this an amazing accomplishment since Lloyd had not previously played this sport.

After high school Lloyd and I began to lose track of each other, as we traveled our separate ways, each pursuing our life's work, continuing education and careers. Fortunately we were able to renew our friendship in 2005, during a three-class (1949, 1950 and 1951) MVHS reunion. Lloyd and I have renewed our friendship by exchanging e-mails on an informal but quite frequent basis. This has provided me the opportunity to become generally familiar with his life and endeavors after graduation, including some of his international, worldwide, life's work. I have come to appreciate his accomplishments which includes providing his knowledge and agricultural skills to others. This resulting in what I believe to be a significant contribution to making this world a better place for different peoples, cultures, and forms of government. All far removed from his/our beginnings in...Mount Vernon.

With my personal experiences while consulting internationally in Southeast Asia, I believe I can relate to and appreciate some of the challenges Lloyd has faced and met while achieving success during his interactions with many other cultures, religions and customs. And knowing Lloyd as I do, I'd bet he was never thought of as

continued on next page



an "Ugly American," as too many USA citizens have been in their travels and during such international endeavors! All of which I'm certain has yielded friendships for him far beyond where he and I were born. Lloyd has served us all in this country's military, in the U.S. State Department, and especially with the USA Peace Corp...All this has given me insight and an appreciation for his gracious sharing of his agricultural knowledge, talents, wisdom and experiences all while successfully transferring it to peoples in several developing countries. I'm certain he has truly made significant improvements for those with whom he worked while changing for the better the individual lives including families, in the countries where he worked.... I believe his efforts striving to help others...make his life's work his living and lasting legacy."

Among his milestones Lloyd placed second as a 6th grader in raising war bond pledges in 1944 in competition with all schools in Linn County and getting his picture in the Cedar Rapids *Gazette*. In high school he was chosen by the Ely Legion Post 581 as their representative to Boys State at the end of his freshman year. During his senior year he was class president, student council president, and lettermen's club president.

Over the years he has been a member of the Putnam Pals 4H Club 1943-50, the U of Iowa Alumni Assoc., National Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity, the U.S. Diplomatic Courier Association, and was Past Grand Master and member of Independent Order of Odd Fellows 1951 to present.

Lloyd says "It was my good fortune to attend MVHS, which provided a strong foundation in preparing me for life. Though I came from the out-lying small community of Ely, I was readily accepted in the classrooms and other school activities. Classroom competition was challenging. In the classroom I managed to improve and was in the upper quarter of my 1951 graduation class." In athletics Lloyd earned nine varsity letters and was named to the All-Conference football team twice. He organized the first reunion for his 1951 classmates in 1971 after working and living overseas.

Lloyd can be reached at 750 Rugby Rd, Brooklyn NY 11230-2410 or villanidia2000@yahoo.com



fine arts

Fine Arts winner Sarah Sadie Busse, formerly Sarah Martin, class of 1990, was nominated for this award by classmate Andrea Mott Zastrow.

From high school English to City of Madison Poet Laureate, Sarah's belief in the potential of language to create connection has fueled her life and work.

Sarah is the author of five collections of poetry, as well as co-author of a children's picture book. She was the co-editor and publisher of three anthologies and a poetry magazine, *Verse Wisconsin*, which for five years published poets from all over the world. Over the last twenty years, her poems have appeared in numerous journals, magazines and anthologies, and she's been awarded prizes from the Council for Wisconsin Writers for best group of poems and best book of poetry. She also received the coveted Pushcart Prize for her poem "Silhouettes."

Declared Poet Laureate of Madison in 2012, a position she shared with her colleague Wendy Vardaman, Sarah served the City of Madison in an official capacity as representative of the arts in civic life from 2012-2015. In that time, she and Vardaman took the opportunity to feature the voices of poets from around the City whenever they could, raising the profile of poetry by bringing poets to open City Council meetings with a poem, hosting panels and readings at book festivals and other cultural events, and writing poems to commemorate Sister City relationships and other city celebrations and civic institutions.

Believing that poetry and the arts have a role to play alongside history and journalism in capturing and giving shape to lived human experience, she encourages poets to write not only from the heart, but also what they see, hear, witness and experience in their lives.

Her poems now appear on the sidewalks of Madison, for adults and children alike to discover while waiting for the bus, lining up for frozen custard or heading into dance class.

Sarah's interest in the arts started early and never abated. In high school Sarah

participated in four years of band, choir, chamber choir, and speech and drama, with lead roles in 'Brigadoon,' 'You Can't Take It With You,' and 'Guys and Dolls,' and five years of jazz band. Among her high school honors she was selected for 3 years of All-State Music (1 year orchestra/2 years choir), along with multiple superior ratings from state competition in Speech and Drama and Music Solo and Ensemble. She was a member of Honor Society, a National Merit Scholar and was awarded the Mount Vernon Music Association Scholarship.

After high school, Sarah earned a BA with distinction in Comparative Religions, magna cum laude, Carleton College in 1994 and a MFA in Literature and Creative Writing from Bennington College in Vermont in 2003. She is currently founder of Studio Sadie, a studio for creatives of all kinds. She is a writer, poet, teacher, dance instructor, creativity coach and proud mother of two. With the founding of Studio Sadie, Sarah says "I am interested in continuing to explore the possibilities inherent in creative community and community co-creation. Mount Vernon has found unique and exciting ways to model these possibilities too and it feels like a true homecoming to receive this award."

Sarah says she has always been interested in the intersections of community and art, and the creative frictions and possibilities therein. She says "as Poet Laureate of my community and as a publisher, I have had the opportunity to raise the profile of poetry and the arts more generally. I believe the arts give voice to human experience in ways nothing else does. And it is important for as many voices as possible to have access to the stage, microphone, and recording studio. I have tried in everything I did over the years to create platforms and opportunities for others."

Sarah is a certified Qoya Dance Instructor, certified Master Creativity Coach, and is a teacher for Loft Online Writing Classes. She participates yearly as an instructor at the University of Iowa Summer Writing Workshops (teaming up with her mother Jacqueline Briggs Martin), as well as the University of Wisconsin's Writers' Institute.

Sarah can be reached
c/o Studio Sadie, 6709 Raymond Rd
#195, Madison WI 53719, or
sarah.sadie.1313@gmail.com



ACCEPTANCE SPEECH by Sarah Sadie Busse

When I was in high school, no one knew I was writing poetry. I was heavily involved in the arts, and I was on stage a lot through drama and speech, band and chorus. I *performed*. But writing, and especially writing poetry, was very much something I did at home, alone, far away from anyone else.

When I was 15, 16, 17, poetry was just playing around with language because it was fun. It was messing around, trying things out. It was a puzzle. It was interesting. And it was private.

One of the things a poet does, I think, is to explore this relationship between the private and the public, to find the intersections, to build a bridge between the me and the you. That is what is happening right now, here, in this moment.

So last night I decided I'm just going to scrap some of what I thought I would say today, and be as real as I can be for a minute. I'll start by telling you something you already know: life is messy and rich, confusing and sometimes fabulous and sometimes overwhelming. I'm here to tell you it keeps being that way, even if we like to pretend otherwise. As you heard last night out on the field, sometimes I'm Sarah, sometimes I'm Sadie, my last name shifts and blurs and occasionally dissipates, evaporating entirely into sea foam.

As human beings, we think we're nouns but we're verbs. We keep becoming. We're on the move. One of my favorite poems by Alice Walker includes the line, "This new face I turn up to you, no one else on earth has seen before."

What we can experience, what we can know, is this moment. That is what poetry and the arts gives us. Right now. It's glorious and scary, exhilarating and nerve wracking. As the artist Georgia O'Keeffe, said "I've been absolutely terrified every moment of my life and I've never let it keep me from doing a single thing that I wanted to do."

See, words are still interesting to me. This little three minute speech has taken me to places I didn't know I would go. Including a yellow Corvette in a hometown homecoming parade. So here I find myself, arrived wrapped in the skin of this moment, grateful and astonished. I'll end where I maybe should have begun, with gratitude.

Gratitude for my parents, for creating a home that nurtured and valued language and creative expression.

Gratitude for Mount Vernon Schools for allowing me to explore a variety of opportunities in the arts and in literature, giving me ways to deepen my relationship to music and language, to text, to performance, and to the discovery of my own personal voice.

Gratitude to the Alumni Association for this recognition, and for bringing us all together here.

Gratitude to my high school classmates and peers for modeling not only talent, vision and achievement, but enthusiasm, support, generosity and friendship over the years. You continue to teach me so much.

And thank you, finally and first, to the town of Mount Vernon, a place where small town community and connection intersect with the arts and creative expression of all kinds in a way that is rare. If this felt like home when I was growing up, truthfully it feels even more like home now, when I return. Thank you.

Desire

A love letter to a home town

I write, *Desire is my home town*
and coffee spills, spreading its sepia
stain over maples and apples, or maybe

it's tent caterpillars, their sticky love,
Love, where roots of centuried trees
push year by year the sidewalk paving squares

further into their odd and hazardous angles.
Unpicked fruit stains the walks,
calls bees and flies, and makes a kind of honey.

We're all at one remove or more, but here we are.
Somewhere piano. Laughter through a wall. An empty stage,
overstuffed chairs left from the last production.

You have to feel for it,
to know what brings us out again and finally to this hilltop,
gazing at folded quiltwork fields and Springville Road,

a traintrack stitched across the heart's own ground
where now they're putting up houses, houses, houses.
Stay a minute. See


those rolling hills, the freight train whistling through,
and summer's vowels like a blues refrain.
No one knows me quite like you.

From Somewhere Piano (Mayapple Press 2012)




Mount Vernon Family Dentistry

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Class of 1989



Class of 1996




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JEREMY HOTZ '99, Agent jhotz@hotzagency.com
SPENCER DRAHOS '14, Agent sdrahos@hotzagency.com

Service Hall of Fame winner Michael 'Mike' Seiler, Class of 1967, was nominated for this award by classmate Sandi Erenberger Hanna.

It is important to know what Mike did during his life to understand his drive for volunteering today. Since retiring in 2008 from the U.S. Naval Air Force, Mike says he has tried to put the same level of effort he applied daily to his service with the Navy into his volunteer work. He says "I assessed what was going on and tried to find ways to improve it. There is an old adage that says, "The man who knows 'how' will always have a job, but the man who knows 'why,' will always be his boss." Being a volunteer doesn't mean just "being there" to fill a seat, complete paperwork, assign tasks to others, or drive a vehicle. It should mean that while doing the assigned job, one should assess whether "that way" is the best way to do the job. If you think there is a better way, work within the system to make it so."

Mike retired in 2008 after serving 40 years within the Executive Branch of the government, working for the U.S. Navy (6 years Active Fleet, 34 yrs. U.S. Civil Service). He was employed primarily with the Naval Air Force Staff in San Diego, CA. Duties required Mike to travel throughout the United States, Aleutian Islands, Hawaii, Guam, the Philippines, Japan, New Zealand, and Bahrain. He served as a civilian Special Projects Officer, Aircraft Class Desk Officer for jet engine programs, and finally as Deputy Director for Aviation Maintenance Policy with global oversight of Naval and U.S. Marine aviation repair facilities. Among his milestones in service are his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy in 1973, a BBA (SCL) in 1998, post-graduate work at the Naval War College through 2001, and many Naval Air Force Special Recognition Awards. He was awarded the "Fliedner Trophy" for excellence from the Naval Air Systems Command as a leader in the Naval Aviation Propulsion Community.

In San Diego, Mike serves as chaplain, historian, and judge advocate for American Legion Post 282, which supports local U.S. veterans. He has served several years as a volunteer for the annual "Veterans Village Stand Down," a San Diego homeless veterans program. He is Chairman of the San Diego County Planning Commission; President of the Bonita Highlands Homeowners' Association of 667 homeowners; President of the Sweetwater Valley Civic Association; President of the Sweetwater Authority Rate Payers Association (a non-profit watch-dog group); a member of the San Diego Zoological Society's "Keepers Club;" and a past tutor of algebra and geometry for the Sweetwater Community Union High School District.

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community impact

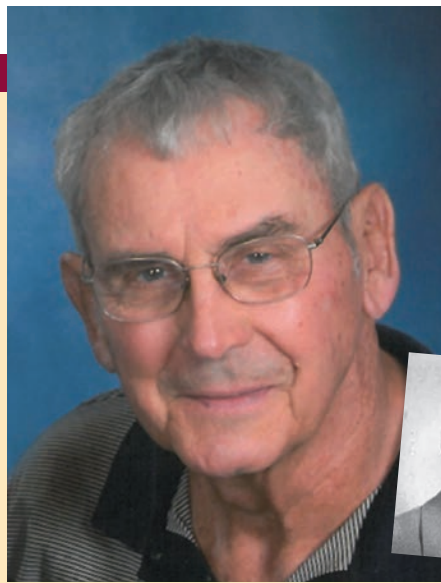
He has also helped with many humanitarian endeavors, including time as Past Master (CEO) and current Secretary of La Mesa Masonic Lodge No. 407, where he was twice honored as their "Mason of the Year." He is a Certified Masonic Funeral Master, a 32nd Degree Scottish Rite Mason with the Valley of San Diego; an Al Bahr Shriner who plays in the Drum & Bugle Corps, a Past President of the Al Bahr Past Masters Club, and a past "Samaritan Driver," transporting crippled children to the Shriners Hospital in Los Angeles. Combined, these Masonic groups support public education, remedial reading programs, free childhood medical clinics for speech disorders, orthopedic and burn treatments.

Mike explains, "What motivates me to engage in these efforts are the Midwestern community core values instilled in me as I grew up in Mount Vernon. While honed by college and adult experiences, the basic skills and values were nevertheless engrained in me by my parents, grandfather, MVHS teachers, and even a dose of MVHS Principals (Mssrs. Addis and Ringold). I still take people at their word, "act on the square," and strive to live by San Diego County's motto: "The noblest motive is the public good." I expect that many other MVHS graduates do the same. I hope so, anyway. A quote from a Masonic scholar, Albert Pike, stays with me too: "What we do for ourselves dies with us. What we do for others and the world remains and is immortal."

Mike says that by receiving this award he "hopes to motivate other graduates to become more involved in their local communities and humanitarian services. Retirees and middle-aged citizens are perfect for such service positions, and you often meet the nicest, most interesting people too."

In high school, Mike participated in marching and concert bands, speech competitions, was the sophomore and junior year class president, and served as the senior year Student Council president. Among his high school milestones, he was selected for All-State Band during his sophomore, junior and senior years (he says "thanks to the teaching and motivation skills of band instructor Ken Smykil").

Mike can be reached at 5911 Wheatstalk Lane, Bonita CA 91902-3044, or m.seiler@cox.net



MVCS D Community Impact winner Richard 'Dick' Moore, class of 1952 was nominated for this award by classmate Ann Vislisl Pavik and her husband Al, represented at the ceremony by Jerry Ringer '55. Dick was represented at Hall of Fame events by his wife, Barbara 'Babs' Beckhelm Moore '53. Well known in Mount Vernon, Dick was a founding board member of the MV Alumni Association, serving to establish our bylaws and pitch in wherever he was needed.



As a boy he attended a one-room school, Caraway School, located on Mount Vernon Road, through 6th grade. In high school Dick lettered in football, basketball and track. He was a four-year band and chorus member, and was in several musicals. He graduated as both president of the Senior Class and Student Council, and he was the salutatorian at his graduation.

A football scholarship enabled Dick to attend the University of Nebraska where he graduated with a degree in agriculture in 1956. He received a commission as a 2nd Lt. in the Air Force upon graduation and also a treasured pilot allocation. Dick later earned a Masters Degree in education from Pepperdine University. He retired from the Air Force after 28 years with over 7,000 hours of flying time, at the rank of Colonel. Upon retirement in 1983, Dick was able to take up his original career plan, that of returning to Mount Vernon with his wife and MV alum, Barbara 'Babs' Beckhelm Moore from the class of 1953, to farm the land where he was raised and which had been in his family since 1849. He often claimed how fortunate he was to have two such satisfying careers in one lifetime.

His community service included member and chair of the Mount Vernon Board of Adjustment for 24 years, a volunteer and mentor at Washington Elementary for various projects, and a volunteer at the high school for projects in support of then principal Dennis Walsh. Dick was active in community organizations including the Mount Vernon-Lisbon Rotary Club for 25 years where he was twice past-president, served as chair of the Community Service Committee, and was coordinator of the annual blood donation drive. He was often a volunteer at the SE Linn Community Center and provided many rides for clients.

At the United Methodist Church in Mount Vernon where he was a member for 25 years, he was chair of the Church Council for 24 years, a choir member for 25 years, taught middle school Sunday school as needed, lead adult Sunday school bible class as well as additional Bible classes.

Dick passed away at the age of 81 on June 30, 2015. Friends say Dick was "often described as a walking encyclopedia of trivia." This former pilot/teacher/farmer was known to recite Shakespeare or poetry at a moment's notice.

Babs can be reached at 1103 3rd St SW, Mount Vernon IA 52314 or mooremanor@mchsi.com



athletics



Athletic Hall of Fame winner Robert 'Bob' Bowman, Class of 1958, was nominated for this award by classmate Marilyn Dean Schnittjer. Marilyn says, "As a friend and classmate who has known Bob since we were young children, I can say that he is a person who is trustworthy, talented, and loyal to his roots in Mount Vernon. He is faithful in supporting reunions of his class and has always been a person who one can count on. His days as an outstanding athlete are behind him, but he has found new arenas in which to shine his light. It is a privilege to nominate Bob for this MVHS honor."

In high school Bob was engaged in many activities, but he excelled in athletics, especially football. He started playing football in elementary school and continued on from there. He was the first MVHS student to letter in five sports in one year (football, basketball, baseball, track, and cross country). When Bob was a senior, their 1957 football team was the first in Mount Vernon's history to complete a perfect season, while both scoring the most points in the conference and giving up the fewest.

A state playoff system was not established until 1972 and so, while the 1957 team began the year ranked 3rd in state, Bob says 'we were never able to make claim to even a mythical state championship given that one team ranked above us remained unbeaten and the other, with one loss, was better known to the pollsters in Iowa's heartland. On the eastern side of the state, the Cedar Rapids Gazette referred to us as a 'black shirted powerhouse,' but we were never able to change the narrative to the 'black shirted state champions.'" The 1957 team remained as the only team to record an untied and unbeaten season since the turn of the century, until Mount Vernon's state champions came along in 1974.

Upon learning that he was to receive this award, Bob was more than adamant that he would not have been selected for the Hall of Fame except for the exploits and accomplishments of the entire 1957 team. Under the

coaching of Don Hipple, the only players who stepped onto the field during that season were, as listed in the program, seniors Bob Bowman, Bob Kruse, Bruce Mullen, Steve Heady, Don Sievers, Dick Bowman, Don Neal, Roger Martin and Harold Clements and juniors Dennis Drahos and Dennis Koch.

Bob was one of two players from our conference (EHC) named to one of the seven All-State teams selected by the Des Moines Register and only one of ten players chosen from the "small school division." (See next page for more information about the fall 1957 football team.)

In high school Bob was selected to the EHC All-Conference first-team in both his junior and senior years. He was voted by his teammates as 'most valuable player' in 4 out of their 8 games. He compiled 480 receiving yards, 25 receptions (including 7 receiving touchdowns), and was selected to the 44-man WMT Collegiate Honor Roll of high school football players - one of two who were selected from the EHC.

Five of the six individuals named above from the 1957 title team played at the college level. Three of the five played at Cornell College, Bob and his brother Dick, and Bob Kruse (along with Jim Bellamy during his senior season) and became mainstays on a team that turned around over a decade of losing football, with only one winning season in eleven years. As varsity players, they achieved the most wins in the first 83 years of Cornell football - from 1891 through 1969 when the Midwest Conference adopted a 9-game schedule. In their final season, 1961, Cornell shared in its first conference title in 25 years after narrowly missing titles in 1959 and 1960.

All earned all-conference recognition or mention in one year or another - with Bob being selected as a first team performer his senior season - setting the bar for others from Mount Vernon who would follow. Personally Bob received honorable mention on the Associated Press 1961 Little All-American football team, and was selected to the Midwest All-Conference first team in football, also leading the team in tackles. In 1991, he was one of ten named at the Defensive Line position on the Cornell College Football All-Century Team Ballot.

Following college, Bob was recruited to play professionally with the Denver Broncos. "The long and short of my days in training camp was that as expectations for me seemed to rise by the day - so did my doubts as to whether or not professional football was the path to follow." In the third week of his tryout he decided that doing it for sport was one thing, but doing it for a living - because of the career implications at that time - was quite another. And so he walked away from the game, "But doing so remains the hardest thing I have ever done." Just for the sport of it, he did play semi-professionally with the Elmhurst Travelers for the 1964 season - on another title team - this time the Southern Division of the Central States League.

In high school Bob participated in almost every activity available through the school. Some of his activities included Student Council, the school newspaper, school plays, mixed chorus, and band. Marilyn says "Bob was interested in everything and had many friends throughout his school days. He often gave credit first to others, not seeking recognition for himself—always for the team or other group."

Bob retired in 2002 after serving as chief executive officer for three different banks as well as on the boards of numerous banking, business, civic and philanthropic organizations and was a member of the advisory committee of the BAI's Graduate School of Community Bank Management for years.

Closer to home, he has received Cornell's Leadership and Service Award in 1993 as a member of The Steering Committee of the Cornell College Club of Chicago and again in 2001 as one of the key drivers behind an endowment campaign that was established to create the Delta Phi Rho Lecture series on Cornell's campus. The endowment fund now tops \$800,000 and has brought many nationally prominent figures to campus.

Bob can be reached at 2550 Indian Ridge Court, Glenview, IL 60026, or bowmanrbb@comcast.net.



ABOUT THE 1957 FOOTBALL TEAM an excerpt from information written by Bob Bowman '58

"Mount Vernon's 1957 football team was the first in its history to compile a perfect season. During the season, the team scored the most points in the conference and also gave up the fewest. The 1957 team was not only the first to record an untied and unbeaten season since the turn of the century (insofar as we know), but it was the only team to do so until Mount Vernon's state champions came along almost twenty years later in 1974.

According to a great deal of research that was conducted from available records and numerous contacts with former athletes, only two other teams - the 1932 team in the Iowa Seven Conference and the 1952 team in the EIHC went undefeated in conference play. Both lost their last games of the season to WaMac Conference foe, Marion. The 1957 team kicked off the season by beating Monticello, then the defending champion of the WaMac Conference.

As a footnote, save for the last four years of Coach Hippie's eleven year run, Mount Vernon's win-loss ratio for that period compared favorably to the 74% win-loss ratio compiled under the program's winningest coach, Jim Bellamy.

At the individual level, three players from that team were named EIHC first-team performers, and those were Don Neal (T), Bob Kruse (B) and Bob Bowman (E). Unquestionably the best quarterback in the conference, Ed Staskal, was named to the EIHC second team. As to how those individuals might have fared in terms of all-state recognition under the five-class system that replaced the one-class system in 1974; one would speculate that three or four would have been selected to the Class 2A first or second teams given the opportunity for all-state recognition.

MORE HISTORIC DOINGS... Five of the six individuals from the 1957 title team played at the college level. Three of the five played at Cornell College - along with Jim Bellamy during his senior season - and became mainstays on a team that turned around over a decade of losing football, with only one winning season in eleven years. As varsity players, we achieved the most wins in the first 83 years of Cornell football - from 1891 through 1969 when the Midwest Conference adopted a 9 game schedule. In our final season, 1961, Cornell shared in its first conference title in 25 years after narrowly missing titles in 1959 and 1960. Four of its five losses during that period were by a total of 14 points. Individually, all three earned all-conference recognition or mention in one year or another, setting the bar for others from Mount Vernon who would follow."



ROW ONE: D. Carney, B. Bowman, D. Bowman, S. Heady, D. Sievers, D. Drahos, D. Neal, B. Mullen, R. Martin, V. Wallace. ROW TWO: D. Jilovec, R. Scott, J. Beaver, D. Koch, J. Walker, H. Clements, E. Lenz, B. Kruse, E. Staskal, R. Glatly, D. Macaulay, Assistant Coach, K. Reed, Head Coach, D. Hippie. ROW THREE: Assistant Coach, C. Wallace; D. Brokel, B. Rhoads, P. Herboldsheimer, G. Pospisil, J. Vislisel, J. Hunter, W. Bratton, B. Inks.

THE MUSTANGS GO UNDEFEATED!

The 1957 Mt. Vernon Football Team finished the season with an 8 win, 0 loss record to mark the first year that Mount Vernon had produced an undefeated football team. An inspired Mustang Eleven swept the conference for seven straight wins, and defeated the defending Wamac Conference Champs in the season's opener. This was the smallest team, both in stature and in number, which Mt. Vernon had fielded in some years. Twenty-four men composed the entire team; consequently, the blint of the playing fell on the shoulders of nine returning lettermen and four eager replacements. The reserves saw action in most of the games. The will to win, unselfish team effort, a fine coaching staff, tremendous spirit, and added "fire" when the chips were down, resulted in the winning combination of the Eastern Iowa Hawkeye Conference Champions.

GAME SCORES

September 13	Mt. Vernon 13 -- Monticello	6
September 20	Mt. Vernon 25 -- New London	6
September 27	Mt. Vernon 40 -- West Liberty	13
October 4	Mt. Vernon 18 -- Wilton Junction	13
October 11	Mt. Vernon 40 -- Columbus Junction	7
October 25	Mt. Vernon 13 -- West Branch	6
November 1	Mt. Vernon 41 -- University High	13
November 7	Mt. Vernon 20 -- Wapello	8

HALL OF FAME HISTORY

2008

ACHIEVEMENT	SERVICE	ATHLETIC	FINE ARTS
 Dr. James Croft '47	 Jean Minish Stoner '37	 Gary Knutsen '65	 Marcia Russell '89

2014

ACHIEVEMENT	SERVICE	ATHLETIC	FINE ARTS	COMMUNITY IMPACT
 Lindsey Borg '85	 Myrt Clark Bowers '57	 Greg Randall '82	 Paula Holcomb '72	 Ann Koppenhaver '78

2009

ACHIEVEMENT	SERVICE	ATHLETIC	FINE ARTS
 Richard Bowman '58	 Ireva Moore Heiser '50	 Paul Hufford '80	 Kristin Stewart '99

2015

ACHIEVEMENT	SERVICE	ATHLETIC	FINE ARTS	COMMUNITY IMPACT
 Joan Suhomel '74	 Chris Lyon '81	 Deb Winchip Douglas '86	 Alex Morf '99	 Dan Gaines '77

2010

ACHIEVEMENT	SERVICE	ATHLETIC	FINE ARTS
 Leo Beranek '51	 David Van Metre '55	 Joy Jordan '87	 Elizabeth Stoner '97







2016

ACHIEVEMENT	SERVICE	ATHLETIC	FINE ARTS
 Barrenell Manager Thomas Zinkula '75	 Carol Croft Kent '51	 Vic Wallace '61	 Richard Nelson '50

2011

ACHIEVEMENT	SERVICE	ATHLETIC	FINE ARTS
 John Rife '60	 Millicent Hoggard Zenisek '47	 Randy Hoidahl '61	 Mark Benesh '83

COMMUNITY IMPACT

					
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The Stompers: Bill Bauman '66, Steve Edwards '65, Brian Harman '69, Greg Harman '65, and Randy Harman '68

2012

ACHIEVEMENT	SERVICE	ATHLETIC	FINE ARTS
 Graham Harman '86	 Dolores 'De De' Staskal Hicks '50	 John Hearn '75	 Margaret 'Maggie' Quinn Ellison '62

2017

ACHIEVEMENT	SERVICE	ATHLETIC	FINE ARTS	COMMUNITY IMPACT
 Mark Hylbak '87	 Janet Johnston McCannor '55	 Matt Kroul '04	 John Gaston '82	 Becky Thumm Whitman '77

2013

ACHIEVEMENT	SERVICE	ATHLETIC	FINE ARTS	COMMUNITY IMPACT
 Darla Stoltz Templeton '64	 Richard McKeen '51	 Dennis Wolrab '64	 William Pringle '72	 Karen Jilovec Martin '57

2018

ACHIEVEMENT	SERVICE	ATHLETIC	FINE ARTS	COMMUNITY IMPACT
 Michael Bowers '87	 Matthew Borg '90	 Carol Woods-Boren '75	 Dewane Hughes '88	 Mike Smith '68



Seniors Sara De La Rosa (2019 Homecoming Queen) and Eli Steiner were student hosts at the public reception held in the library for the Hall of Fame recipients.



Above, Hall of Fame recipients spent time in class with students. From left to right are Mike Seiler '67 and Lloyd Duffe '51 who talked with students in Maggie Lessmeier Willem's '96 World History class, and Sarah Sadie Busse (Sarah Martin) '90 and her nominator Andrea Mott Zastrow '90 spent time in Tom Stephen's Language Arts class.



At right, Barbara 'Babs' Beckhelm Moore '53, representing her husband Dick Moore for his Community Impact Award, is congratulated by Foundation representatives Ben Brannaman '05 and Ann Koppenhaver '78, Superintendent Dr. Greg Batenhorst, High School student council president Jack Ossenkop '20 and School Board member Nannette Gunn.





Members of the 'Black Shirted Power House' football team from 1957 were honorary captains at the Homecoming game. Here they are pictured ready to go out on the field for the coin toss with the senior captains. Left to right are: #18 Zach Baker '20, Bob Kruse '58, #8 Sam Adams '20, Bob Lenz '58, Bob Bowman '58, #23 Garrett Hormann '20, Bruce Mullen '58, and #88 Nolan Brand '20. Photo by High School principal Steve Brand.



1990 Classmates at the Community Reception are Brittany Kaalberg Booth and 2018 Service Hall of Fame recipient Matthew Borg.



Rosalie Bowman Gallagher '63 and 2014 Athletic Hall of Fame member Dennis Wolrab '64



District Secretary Amy Weber helped Barb Thomsen Neal '64 host the community reception held in the High School library after the Hall of Fame ceremony.



Nidia and Lloyd Duffe visit with 2013 Service Hall of Fame recipient Richard McKeen '51 and his wife Kathleen



1967 Classmates come to support Michael Seiler for his honor. Left to right are Dennis Allard, Roger Pitlik, Sandi Erenberger Hanna, Larry Pizarik, and Michael.



Above, Stuart Seiler '69 rides with his brother Michael Seiler in a Corvette at the Homecoming Parade.

Below, 1957 class members meet for a reunion lunch to honor the 1957 football team members. Left to right, Ben Jamison, Howard Clark, Bruce Mullen, Bob Lenz, Dave Kroeger, Larry Kramer, Bob Kruse, Bob Bowman. Seated in front is Marilyn Dean Schnittjer.



MAIL BY MAY 1

How will we ever choose just five 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 announced in July and presented during Homecoming weekend, but please don't wait! We encourage you to fill out this nomination form and mail it in.

If you don't know all the qualifications for the person you are nominating, fill in as best as you can or work with your nominee. We will also mail a questionnaire to each nominee.

DEADLINE IS A MAY 1, 2020 POSTMARK -- GET YOURS IN THE MAIL NOW!

'The Spirit Lives On In You

ALUMNI AWARDS

All nominees must be an alumna of Mount Vernon High School at least 28 years of age.

NOTE: If you have already submitted a nomination, you do not need to resubmit, and your nominee will be considered for an award this year.

MVCSD Alumni Achievement Award

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

Criteria:

- 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:

- Service must be for a not-for-profit organization in a non-compensated capacity.
- Exhibits high moral character.

MVCSD Community Impact Hall of Fame

Awarded to alumni who should be rewarded for their service impact on the Mount Vernon Community.

Criteria:

- Significant service contributions either while in school and/or post-high-school to the Mount Vernon Community.
- Service may be for any purpose.
- Service may be in a non-compensated or a compensated capacity.

Other considerations:

- Outstanding character and leadership.
- 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:

- 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 Athletic Hall of Fame

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

Criteria:

Other considerations:

- Statistical records and/or awards received.
- All-conference all-state and/or state championships earned.
- Outstanding character and leadership.
- Successful participation in college and/or professional athletics.

2020 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):

- Achievement Service Mount Vernon Community Impact (service) Fine Arts Athletics

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.mvalumni.org. Nominations will be reviewed and selected by the Awards Committee, and approved by the Alumni Association Board. Nominations are held. Questions - 319-389-8602 Kathy, or alumni@mvcasd.org

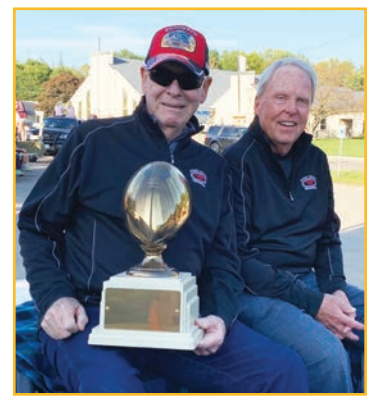
Send this form postmarked by May 1 to: Alumni Association, 525 Palisades Rd SW, Mount Vernon, IA 52314.

**Elected or appointed members of the Alumni Association Board are not eligible during their term of service.

Memories from Homecoming 2019



2019 Hall of Fame recipients are introduced during half-time of the September 26 Homecoming game. From left to right, 1958 Football team mates Bob Lenz, Bruce Mullen, Athletic Hall of Fame recipient Bob Bowman, and Robert Kruse, Barbara Beckhelm Moore '53 representing her husband, Community Impact Recipient Dick Moore '52, Service Hall of Fame recipient Michael Seiler '67, Superintendent Greg Batenhorst, Alumni Association Hall of Fame Chair Dennis Jordan '87, Achievement Hall of Fame Lloyd Duffe '51, Mary Lee Parks representing Jack Stanton '49, Fine Arts Hall of Fame recipient Sarah Sadie Busse '90 (Sarah Martin) and Andrea Mott Zastrow '90.



2019 Hall of Fame recipients ride in individual Corvettes during the Homecoming parade. At right, 1958 team members show off their trophy from their historic 1957 football season.



The four 1958 Football team members enjoy meeting local sports historian and the voice of the Mustangs at the football game, Dave Ryan '85, in the center.



Andrea Mott Zastrow '90, John Rife '60, and Fine Arts Hall of fame recipient Sara Sadie Busse '90



Alumni meet during the Homecoming game at the reception tent for hot chocolate, displays, and to enjoy each other's company.



Achievement Hall of Fame recipient Lloyd Duffe '51 enjoys catching up with Ely neighbors Bruce and Donna Nederhiser Griebel '86.



Mustangs...what are they doing now?

■ EMILIE LYNCH MORRISON '08



After graduating from MVHS, I continued my education, as well as volleyball career at Cedarville University in Cedarville, Ohio. I met my husband, Matt, while at a Cedarville and we married July of 2011. I graduated in 2012 with a degree in Early Childhood Education and a Bible minor. I taught pre-K for a year at Mini University then moved to teach First Grade for 2 years at Dayton Christian in Miamisburg, Ohio. I was also an assistant coach for the Varsity Volleyball team!

Currently, we are living in Trenton, Ohio with our two daughters, Teagan(3) and Blakely(4 months). Matt is the Athletic Director and Varsity Baseball Coach at Madison High School. Along with raising our daughters, I run an online health and wellness business from home helping others both locally and nationwide form a personalized nutrition program through a health assessment and optional DNA test. I love being able to coach others based on science! I work with individual clients as well as gyms, chiropractors or any other health and wellness facilities.

I'm most proud of my personal growth over the last several years as a wife, mom and entrepreneur. I've been able to lead a thriving business helping people all across the country with their health and fitness goals all while building reading forts and sorting laundry. It's truly my greatest joy to see others win in all areas of life.

My favorite memory, if I have to choose just one, would be my senior year making it to the State Volleyball tournament and being the State Runners-Up! The relationships and special bonds formed with my teammates is something I'll forever cherish. I always smile when I think back to our pre-game dance sessions and exciting bus rides. The school and community rallied around our team in a way that created such an incredible atmosphere unlike any other. I'm thankful for all the wonderful memories I made from athletics to performing arts to every day classroom activities and am very proud to be an MVHS Alum!

Emilie can be reached at eamorrison4@gmail.com



■ TRISHA BOTHEL ALMOND '88



EDITOR'S NOTE: The following information is excerpted from an August 22nd article from the *Mount Vernon-Lisbon Sun*
www.mvlsun.com

Chief master sergeant Trisha Almond of Puyallup, WA., recently concluded her distinguished military career, retiring from her position as senior enlisted advisor for headquarters at Camp Murray in the Washington National Guard.

The senior enlisted advisor is the highest level of enlisted leadership for the Washington National Guard, and the position is responsible for the welfare, readiness, morale, development and care for more than 7,500 enlisted personnel of the Washington National Guard. She was the first woman to hold this position in the state of Washington.

Following high school Trisha enlisted in the United States Air Force as a command and control battle manager. During her career with the Air Force, she served as non commissioned officer in charge (NCOIC) of combat training and then further advanced to the NCOIC of standards and evaluation division at the Western Air Defense Sector. She participated in Operation Noble Eagle, working under First Air Force and the North American Aerospace Defense Command. She routinely augmented the First Air Force standards and evaluation branch by evaluating other unit combat readiness and effectiveness throughout the United States.

In September 1997, Trisha joined Washington Air National Guard as an active guard reserve member and served as flight superintendent and as operations superintendent at the Western Defense Sector.

Almond's awards include the meritorious service medal, Air Force commendation medal, Air Force achievement medal, Air Force outstanding unit award, Air Force organizational excellence award, combat readiness medal, Air Force good conduct medal, Air Reserve Forces meritorious service medal, National Defense service medal, Global war on terrorism service medal, Air Force longevity service ribbon, Armed Forces Reserve medal with "M" device, USAF NCO PME graduate ribbon, Air Force training ribbon, Washington unit citation ribbon and Washington recruiting and retention ribbon.

She also earned the Seven Seals Award of Meritorious Leadership and Initiative in support of the men and women who serve in the National Guard and Reserve.



■ JUDE SMITH '81



For nearly three decades Jude Smith '81, owner of The Art Makery in Scottsdale, Arizona, has provided customized art solutions for high-end residential and corporate

collections and other discerning art clients. Over the last five years she has become Marriott Hotels AC brand strategic partner and "go to" art designer and curator for new hotels and renovation projects across the country, from downtown Manhattan to the San Francisco Bay Area, as well several projects in the Phoenix metropolitan area. (www.theartmakery.com)

Her most recent major art curation project in Arizona, the AC Hotel Biltmore, was just named "AZ Honors Best New Hotel" by the Arizona Chapter of NEWH, the premier Hospitality Industry Network association at this year's award ceremony held this December. Jude worked in close collaboration with the owner's, artists and design team to embrace the brand's values of harmonious, discerning, and modern with the local context of Camelback Corridor in her curation. She describes her art collection at this hotel as "Combining the rich and timeless Arizona desert with the orange groves of yesterday. Each piece in the collection weaves in these thematic elements through shape, form and color. You will also find a reference to one of

the valley's most influential Mid-Century modern architects, Al Beadle. And the copper highlights and tones reference the state's 'Copper State' nickname and legacy of copper mining." (See photos above.)

Jude received her formal art training and her Fine Art degree from Mt. Mercy University. In 1993 Jude set out on her own and established Art2uinc., an art curation firm with a mission to work directly and interactively with her clients to provide the highest value fine art solutions that meet their tastes, personalities, and values. In 2016 she re-branded as The Art Makery to reflect her emphasis on hand-crafted, fine original art collections. With an impressive list of high-profile clients, the results of her work can now be found in private homes and vacation villas, in corporate headquarters, in prominent golf course clubhouses, in hotels, medical facilities and office buildings.

Jude says "I truly enjoy collaborating with such talented artists that are showcased in museums and galleries throughout the world."

Jude can be reached at jude@theartmakery.com





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On the staff are MV alums Jeremy Elliott '89 and Stephanie Legore Meier '00

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■ BECKY LIVERMORE '88



Editor's Note: This information and picture is excerpted from an article in the Oct 3 issue of the *Mount Vernon-Lisbon Sun* by Nathan Countryman. www.mvlsun.com

Local musicians will forever be connected to some of the Midwest's greatest. Barefoot Becky and the Ivanhoe Dutchmen were inducted into the Midwest All Music Association Hall of Fame on October 5th in Walford, Iowa. Barefoot Becky is the stage name of alum and Mount Vernon resident Becky Livermore.

Becky got her start in music in the 1980s, when she first started taking accordion lessons from Esther Zvacek. Before that, she and her family attended polka dances in Swisher as a young kid.

She loved to play the accordion, and would practice for hours each day. Sometimes she'd go outside to get away from her brother and sister's complaining, and thus she might end up playing barefoot, as she rarely wore shoes when outside on the family's farm. Beginning at the age of 12, Livermore started playing with 'Ed Ulch and The Jolly Bohemians,' based out of Solon. At 17, Livermore stopped taking lessons when her teacher became very ill. When Ulch's own health began to deteriorate, Livermore asked him when he was considering retiring if she could buy some of his music library. In 1988, her senior year of high school, Ulch sold his library and handed off a few dance gigs he had lined up to Livermore. Livermore enlisted the help of some of the musicians who had played with 'Ed Ulch and the Jolly Bohemians' to join with her in this new band, 'Barefoot Becky and the Ivanhoe Dutchmen.'

"The first 10 years of playing it was always the same five people in the band, and at that time we played for fun, friendship, a few beers and a little money didn't hurt. After that, the band

evolved and we were able to downsize into a two, three or four-person band if someone wasn't interested in the full five-piece band."

The band expanded its repertoire outside of polkas and waltzes. Starting in the mid-2000s, performing became a full-time job for Becky and her husband, Terry Ard, who has been with the band since day one.

In 2003, Becky began the Beckster Fest in the Amana Colonies, an annual polka fest that happens every Memorial Day weekend. She says "We perform at so many polka fests, and it's like a family reunion for the dancers and bands for a whole weekend. I love organizing and promoting things, so I thought it would be fun to have this 'party' in our own 'backyard,' so to speak. I love to perform, but it's nice to be on the other side of the fence and be the promoter."

'Barefoot Becky and the Ivanhoe Dutchmen' have toured across the United States, performing in a wide range of venues including house parties, nightclubs, in tents, for town festivals, RV conventions and parades. In 1996, they performed for the Smithsonian Institution's Festival of American Folklife in Washington, D.C. The band has 10 recordings available.

Becky was inducted into the Iowa Polka Music Hall of Fame in 2005 and her husband, Terry Ard, was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2015. The Iowa Polka Music Hall of Fame honors Iowans who have made outstanding contributions to the advancement and promotion of old time music.

Becky can be reached at polkabecy@aol.com.

Thank you to EVERYONE who volunteers to help at Alumni Association events -- we couldn't do it without YOU!



Iowa artist Travis Allen doesn't let blindness hamper his creativity

95 views · Nov 17, 2019

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A rare autoimmune disorder robbed Lisbon, Iowa, artist Travis Allen of his eyesight, but not his artistic vision. Once specializing in photorealist paintings, Allen, 47, now relies on his hands and muscle memory to create intricate clay-paper sculptures and two-dimensional paintings with three-dimensional elements. Read the story: <https://www.thegazette.com/subject/ne...>

■ TRAVIS ALLEN '90

Editor's Note: Alum Travis Allen '90 of Lisbon, was featured in the *Cedar Rapids Gazette's* Nov. 17th entertainment issue. Read the entire article by Diana Nollen online at the *Gazette's* You Tube page at <https://tinyurl.com/t8xydmd>

Following is a small excerpt of selected text from the article: "A rare autoimmune disorder robbed Travis Allen of his eyesight, but not his artistic vision. Once specializing in photorealist paintings, Allen, 47, now relies on his hands and muscle memory to create intricate clay-paper sculptures and two-dimensional paintings with three-dimensional elements. The works sprout from the walls of his immaculate quarters along Lisbon's East Main Street, where everything in his home and massive, attached workshop are neatly in their place. Surrounded by art in his home, Allen plans to open a gallery next spring in space across from his living quarters. For now, his open-concept kitchen/living room is his own gallery. He has created nearly every piece jutting out from the walls. Most were made after he lost his vision to cone dystrophy, which kills cells in the retina that help him distinguish colors and fine details.

His doctor at the University of Iowa told him that only about 100 cases similar to his have been documented or lectured about. It has no cure. Research with stem cell therapy has given him new hope that a breakthrough will happen in his lifetime — maybe even in the next decade.

"You have some hope, and that's the biggest thing," he said. With renewed spirit, almost two years ago he decided to see where he could take his art. "So I finally got to the point where I said, man, I have to have paint on me again, because I'm usually covered in paint. That's just how I've been since the '90s, and I missed it. I missed the smell, I missed creating, I missed moving people and I missed all of it. So I just went in and started throwing paint at a canvas and said, 'I'm just going to see what happens and let my mind wander...to create some visions I had in my head on canvas."

Allen changed directions earlier in his career after discovering he could spend 40 hours on a canvas and be lucky to sell it for \$200. But by investing just four to 14 hours custom-painting a motorcycle, he could make \$3,000 to \$5,000. He also had been airbrushing the back of bar stools and hard hats while managing a bar in Mount Vernon. A big Steelers and Hawkeye football fan, he would see hard hats sporting just logos at games. He decided to put some art to those, airbrushing faces and designs on them. They became such a hit that he was sending them all over the country.

Same thing happened when he'd wear one of his creations to a game. Soon, he was handing out business cards and getting custom orders. They've wound up on the head of Notre Dame fan Regis Philbin, who brought it onto his talk show with Kathie Lee Gifford and spoke about Allen. The artist later spotted it on a shelf in Philbin's office during an interview on "Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous."

Allen also has painted hard hats for Brian Ferentz from the Iowa Hawkeye coaching staff, radio personality Chick McGee from "The Bob & Tom Show," and former NFL greats Terry Bradshaw and Howie Long.

Allen used to call himself Mad Hatter, but now, by spelling his first name backward, his business has become Sivart Art Studio. He loved discovering that A-R-T has been part of his name all along.

He's picked up his airbrush again, using his left hand as a guide so he can feel where the paint is being applied. And because he's spent his whole life in the trades and working with tools, he still uses some power tools, like a belt sander, miter saw and router for his projects.

His confidence got a big boost in 2018 when he entered pieces in the Lincoln Highway Arts Festival in his nearby hometown of Mount Vernon. "I ended up selling \$1,500 worth of artwork," he said.

His life-size Medusa sculpture, covered in 61 slithering snakes and holding a bow and arrow, snapped up top honors in the recent "Nightmare on 7th Avenue" contest at DKW Gallery & Studio in Marion.

His prizewinning Medusa creation, spanning more than 3-feet-by-3-feet top to bottom and side to side, lived in his head for two or three years before he started bringing it to life in sculpture. He's now working in more abstract realms that often incorporate his love of science fiction imagery — and eyeballs, not because of his condition, but because eyes represent windows between worlds, and their shape is easier for him to manipulate."

Travis can be reached at PO Box 693, Lisbon, IA 52253





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MARRIAGES & ENGAGEMENTS

Kyle Williams '07 to Rachel Spillman on November 2, 2019. The couple reside in Minneapolis, MN

Jesse Rodman '06 married Zach Lerch on October 18, 2019, the couple reside in Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Skylar Lind '09 to Michelle Haught on May 11, 2019. The couple reside in Frisco, TX.

ANNIVERSARIES

Barbara Thomsen Neal '68 and Jeri Neal '66 of Mount Vernon celebrated their 50th anniversary September 12, 1969

Marianne Hansen Garrigan '67 and her husband John of Thompson Station, TN., celebrated their 50th anniversary on August 23, 2019.

Dan Lambertsen '66 and wife Marilyn of Martelle, IA., celebrated their 50th Anniversary on May 28, 2019

Bessie Koutny Telecky '53 and Jim Telecky '49 of Mount Vernon celebrated their 65th Anniversary August 21, 2019

BIRTHS

Kristin Kimm Dvorsky '09 and husband Brian of Mount Vernon, a baby girl, Teresa Frances, April 27, 2019.

Jeff Vislisel '08 and Emily Wilkinson Vislisel '09 of Mount Vernon, a son, Lucas John, July 16, 2019. Grandparents are alum Tom Wilkinson '96 and MV

staff member Erin Wilkinson and alum Steve Vislisel '76, all of Mount Vernon.

Curtis Russell '04 and wife Sheila of Van Meter, IA, a son, Rhett Carl Russell Sept. 5, 2019.

Drew Virlee '02 and wife Renee of Mount Vernon, a son, Pierce Olsen, July 4, 2019.

Jamie Wallace Smith '01 and husband Rik of Mount Vernon, a baby boy, Caleb Benjamin, May 22, 2019.

Nick Rose '97 and wife Michaelann of Brooklyn, NY, a baby girl, Dorothea "Thea" Millroad, Feb. 9, 2018.

Sarah Dillard Miller '94 and husband Andy of Nashville, TN, adopted Jane "Fei Er" Miller on July 23, 2019. Fei Er started her life in China.

EDUCATION & MILITARY SERVICE

Matthew Vislisel '19 graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland in San Antonio, Texas. The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness and basic warfare principles and skills.

Chloe Schumacher '16 earned a bachelor of arts in English from the University of Iowa spring of 2019

Lucy Conroy '15 earned a bachelor of arts in individual studies from the University of Northern Iowa spring of 2019

Courtney Maddocks '15 earned a bachelor of arts with high distinction in elementary education from the University of Iowa spring of 2019

Tristan Rud '15 earned a bachelor of science engineering majoring in

biomedical engineering from the University of Iowa spring of 2019

Haley Smith '15 earned a bachelor of business administration, a bachelor of science in anthropology and a certificate in museum studies from the University of Iowa spring of 2019

Emily Gearhart '14 earned a master of social work from the University of Iowa spring of 2019

Logan Kalm '14 earned a bachelor of arts in management human resources from the University of Northern Iowa spring of 2019

Ashley Shultz '14 earned a bachelor of arts in elementary education from the University of Northern Iowa spring of 2019

Rachel Reimann '13 graduated from AT Still University in Mesa, AZ with a Master of Science in Athletic Training during the summer session. She currently has an athletic training residency with the University of Iowa Department of Orthopedics and Rehabilitation in Iowa City.

Seamus Taylor '13 earned a master of public health from the University of Iowa spring of 2019

Anthony Deibner-Hanson '10 earned a master of fine arts in art from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in spring 2019.

Joseph Feldman '10 earned a bachelor of arts in communication disorders from the University of Northern Iowa spring of 2019

Chloe Benson '05 earned a bachelor of arts in inter-departmental studies and a certificate in critical cultural competence from the University of Iowa spring of 2019

Join Us At Heritage Days 2020

Best time all year to see many people you know at our traditional Alumni-Community breakfast or uptown at our Reception area and Heritage Days events.

JULY 9, 10 and 11

In Memory

of classmates we have lost

Don Minnick 1941

Albany, OR November 15, 2018

John Wolfe 1944

Mount Vernon, IA August 5, 2019

Phyllis Connell Schrupp 1945

Iowa City, IA April 16, 2019

Paul Pospisil 1947

Mount Vernon, IA July 7, 2019

Elaine Jolas Soper 1948

Iowa City, IA July 22, 2019

Anabelle Sturtz Bridges 1954

Cedar Rapids, IA August 22, 2019

Sylvia Krejci French 1956

Snoqualmie, WA September 17, 2017

Shirley Ties Vozenilek 1956

Cedar Rapids, IA August 27, 2019

Bernita Ilene Harris Holdeman 1957

Montezuma, IA September 19, 2019

Ilene Susie Emerson Tutken 1959

Monticello, IA August 22, 2019

Sheryl Hansel Harmon 1961

Jacksonville, FL July 14, 2019

James Plank 1962

Cedar Rapids, IA August 14, 2019

Pamella Clark 1966

Mount Vernon, IA June 28, 2019

Jacqueline Jennings Oxley 1967

Cedar Rapids, Iowa July 5, 2019

Jay Gunn 1971

Mount Vernon, IA October 7, 2019

Terry Merta 1974

Cedar Rapids, IA July 14, 2019

Michael Petrick 1974

Mount Vernon, IA July 27, 2019

Daniel Kinley 1976

Mount Vernon, IA June 21, 2019

Gregory Hughes 1982

Cedar Rapids, IA July 29, 2019

Kent Lambertsen 1995

Evergreen, LA September 6, 2019

(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.)

Before the Mount Vernon Middle School building could open to greet students for this school year, staff members had to put the building back in order after just about everything had been moved into the gym for summer remodeling and construction projects. Here is alum and teacher **Abigail Neal Bock '99**, otherwise known as a Marvel Superhero - 'The Red Vacu-fier' charging into the task. Way to go, Abby!



Don and Judy Stine, former MV band/music staff members, were named Mount Vernon-Lisbon Community Development Group Citizens of the Year for 2019. They are pictured here with Sonia Essex Redmond '82, Assistant Vice President & Customer Service Representative at Mount Vernon Bank & Trust Co, who presented the Stine's with their award.

AND MORE...

Tristan Wirfs '17, a junior University of Iowa offensive tackle, was named the Big Ten Offensive Lineman of the Year. Wirfs only gave up two quarterback hits all season and was a much-improved run-blocker during his junior season. Wirfs was also a semi-finalist for the Outland Trophy, which is awarded to the nation's top offensive lineman.

Emma Cochran '15, recent Cornell College graduate and a member of the women's track & field team earned academic ac-colades by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (UST-FCCCA) for the 2019 indoor and outdoor seasons. Cochran, a two-time NCAA track qualifier in 2019 was named a USTFCCCA All-Academic Individual for the 2nd year in a row.

Devin Kelso '81 of Japan, who founded The Kelso Heartland Homestay Program program in 2004 with his wife, Hiroe, returned to Mount Vernon-Lisbon for its 14th year in the summer of 2019, bringing 12 Japanese high school students together with local host families for a two-week adventure that combines serious study of the English language and American culture with Iowa's natural beauty, hospitality and fun.

Jamie Hampton '91 ran unopposed for re-election of Mount Vernon Mayor. Nov 5

Scott Rose '93 was re-elected to the Mount Vernon City Council Nov 5.

Denise Henik Brannaman '81 was re-elected to the MV School Board in the November elections.

Sydney Meeker '17, a junior libero volleyball player at Cornell College, was named to the 2019 AVCA Honorable Mention All-America Team for NCAA Division III women's volleyball. Sydney is Cornell's seventh all-American player.



Jeff Meeker '89, Cornell's Volleyball head coach, has now crowned at least one all-American in four consecutive years and collected 10 all-America awards since 2011 as head coach. This includes Mount Vernon alums Sydney Meeker '17 (honorable mention 2019), Kylea Weber Brautigam '11 (third team - 2014, honorable mention - 2013), and Taylor Dicus '11 (honorable mention - 2014).

Miranda Chapman '14 of Mount Vernon joined the Mount Vernon Schools staff as a first-year teacher in elementary and middle school special education.

Paul Fugate '09 started in December 2019 as an Associate at Mount Vernon School District's Alt Ed/Transition Center. He is also the high school Boys Basketball Assistant Coach.

Karen Jilovec Martin '57 of Mount Vernon celebrated her 80th birthday in 2019.

Joyce Loomis of Cedar Rapids, former Middle School secretary, celebrated her 90th birthday on December 15.

Maura Holland Arnold '08 opened a new daycare center 'Nurture Early Learning Academy' for the Mount Vernon-Lisbon communities, focusing on children infant to 5 yrs old. Located in the new Budget Blinds building in Lisbon.

continued on next page

A REMINDER, WE HAVE CHANGED...

The Alumni Association has changed its financial year to **January 1-Dec 31**.

Your donations and dues/support now reflect this.

Thank you for continuing to support the Association's publications and activities.



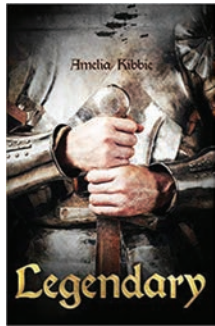
Matt Silliman '75 retired from his position as professor of philosophy at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts in North Adams, Massachusetts. He plans to continue with his scholarship (on the literary form of dialogue in the history of philosophy), garden, build guitars (and learn to play them).

Jefferson 'Jeff' White '08 stars in the Paramount Network show, "Yellowstone," a western. The show completed its second season in 2019. Jeff is an actor and producer, known for his appearance in the movies and television series "House Of Cards," "Yellowstone," "Law And Order," "Blue Bloods," "How to Get Away with Murder," and "The Americans."



Amelia Carl Kibbie '02 debuted her novel 'Legendary,' published by Running Wild Press, November 15, 2019.

It is available via Amazon or wherever books are sold. Book description is: "In the time of Queen Elizabeth II's inauguration, a young gay couple has to hide their relationship from the world around them or be jailed, or worse.



At the same time, a dear friend dies and they resign to find out the truth of his mysterious death." Find more information at ameliakibbie.com

Zach Wolfe '96, a photographer and cinematographer in Atlanta, GA, has a film 'Better Man' that is making the rounds of film festivals. Visit this online article on the Bitter Southerner by Chuck Reece who is interviewing filmmaker Chris Stanford about how this film came about at <https://bit.ly/2t6SQCd>. Zach's website is www.zachwolfe.com.



BETTER MAN



Maggie Lessmeier Willems '96, Mount Vernon high school teacher and head volleyball coach, was selected as the 3A coach of the year by the Iowa Girls Coaches Association, and as the 'Gazette's' All-Area Coach of the Year. Her team recently brought home a 1st place state trophy in volleyball.



HALL OF FAME NEWS

Matt Kroul '04, 2017 MV Alumni Athletic Hall of Fame recipient, of Mount Vernon, was selected to join the Iowa High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame Class of 2019. Kroul, along with five other honorees, were recognized during the Class 4A football championship game Nov. 22 at the University of Northern Iowa-UNI Dome in Cedar Falls. At Mount Vernon, Kroul was three-time all-state and all-conference pick at linebacker. He also rushed for more than 1,000 yards in his senior season of 2003. Mount Vernon played in the UNI-Dome in his three standout seasons, including back-to-back appearances in the Class 3A title game in 2002 and 2003. Matt then went on to start a record 50 consecutive games at the University of Iowa as a defensive lineman and played professionally for the New York Jets. (source *Hawkeye Insider*). In other honors, Matt was also 2019 America Needs Farmers, ANF, Wall of Honor inductee.



Myrt Clark Bowers '57, 2014 MV Alumni Service Hall of Fame recipient, of Mount Vernon, was inducted into the Linn County Democrats Hall of Fame and was honored at a ceremony at the Linn County Democrats Bi-Annual Hall of Fame Banquet Oct. 20, at the Double Tree Hotel & Convention Center in Cedar Rapids.



If you have Sirius XM and listen to the 'Highway' country music station out of Nashville, you might have heard the voice of **Miranda Roudabush '13**, requesting Luke Comb's 'Even Though I'm Leaving.' As she was getting ready to deploy to Okinawa, Japan, earlier this year she heard the song, and requested it, perfect for feelings she had about being leaving her 1-year old son Jayton for the first time. She is shown above coming back from that deployment in November. BTU Roudabush is a United States Navy Sailor, Seabee Combat Warfare and Expeditionary Warfare qualified, stationed in Port Hueneme, CA. Her personal awards include a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

NEW DISPLAY CASE COMING Donations Welcome

The Mount Vernon Alumni Association will have a new display case located in the lobby of the new high school performing arts center. In preparation for this case, we continue to ask for memorabilia that we can use to design a variety of displays. We don't want memory items you still treasure... however, if you have memorabilia you would like to donate, please mail to MV Alumni Association, 525 Palisades Rd SW, Mount Vernon, IA 52314, or contact Kathy at 319-389-8602 or alumni@mvcasd.org



Annually, the Alumni Association sponsors the National Honor Society Induction reception by providing hosts and cake. Above from left to right are organizer and Board member Susan Mounts Fisher '65, and Corine Moore '71

NOTE: Watch for pictures from the boys basketball Alumni reception held December 20th in the spring issue of this publication.



At left is a picture of the 1908 football team donated by Clifford Johnson's grandson Jim Cairns. Clifford is on the back row on the left end.



Throwback Thursday

The Oct. 12, 1989 issue of the Sun carried a story about the Mount Vernon High School band's superior rating at the state competition. The photo caption reads: **STREET GANG** — Alexis Stine seems shocked as she sees members of a street gang emerge from an alley. Actually, they are fellow Mount Vernon band members reenacting a part of their winning state performance. From left they are: (front) Sharon Yoder, Sarah Martin, Emily Adams and Shannon Mitchell; (back) Kim Hanna, Kris Poduska, Brenda Ahrens, Chadd Plotz, Jenny Moore.

Enjoy this 'Throw Back Thursday' photo from the September 26 issue of the Mount Vernon-Lisbon Sun www.mvlsun.com

FIND THE SUN NEWSPAPER ONLINE

Find the Sun online in two places: First, if you are a current subscriber go online to www.mvlsun.com, click E-EDITION at the top of the page. You may also receive news alerts. Second, online at www.colelibrary.org, to find Mount Vernon news from 1860 to the Sun of 2013

Thank you to EVERYONE who volunteers to help at Alumni Association events -- we couldn't do it without YOU!

THANK YOU for your Support of the ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

One way YOU can help the Alumni Association is to be a 'Supporter'. We are asking each alumnus and friend for a voluntary contribution of \$15 or more annually (JANUARY 1 THRU DEC 31) to help offset a variety of publishing, event, and Association expenses. **Your financial support is greatly appreciated.**

Following are names of alums who have supported us for the 2019 year. **See back page for the 2020 Support Form.**

Does your name have an asterik* behind it? This means you have already contributed for the 2020 year (as of December 15, 2019). Additional donations are always appreciated.

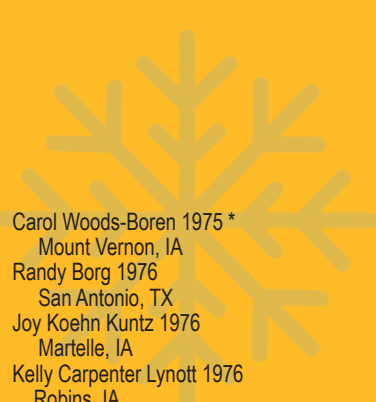
Is your name missing? Call Kathy at 319-389-8602 or email to alumni@mvcsd.org

2019 ANNUAL SUPPORT/DUES DONORS

Thank you to the following who have given either \$15 for a one-year support or \$60 for a 5-year support of Association activities.

Ward Hemenway 1944 Monroe, CT	Larry Edwards 1954 Cedar Rapids, IA	Barbara Clements Stolpmann 1956 Bakersville, NC	Marilyn Dean Schnittjer 1958 Mount Vernon, IA
Robert Lux 1945 Scottsdale, AZ	Bill Macaulay 1954 Henderson, NV	Douglas Wolrab 1956 * Cedar Rapids, IA	David Sparks 1958 Ankeny, IA
Jim Gunn 1946 * Mount Vernon, IA	Rachel Yeisley Miller 1954 Fairfax Station, VA	Myrt Clark Bowers 1957 * Mount Vernon, IA	Jim Clark 1959 * Cedar Rapids, IA
Helen Dvorak Stoner 1946 * Amana, IA	Richard Steiner 1954 Steiner Kingwood, TX	Barb Neal Hutchins 1957 * Marion, IA	Jane Costello Fink 1959 * Anamosa, IA
Millicent Hoggard Zenishek 1947 Mechanicsville, IA	John Studt 1954 Bentonville, AR	Carol Bensmiller Kelly 1957 Huntsville, AL	Ed Fordyce 1959 * Mount Vernon, IA
Dr. Stanley Grant 1949 * Deer Park, WA	Kay Jilovec Lind 1955 Marion, IA	Paul Kent 1957 * Vicksburg, MS	Richard Glattly 1959 * Willow River, MN
George Hill, M.D., 1949 * Baltimore, MD	Janet Johnston McCannon 1955 * Highlands Ranch, CO	Rita Becicka Krall 1957 West Branch, IA	Richard Hoidahl 1959 Johnston, IA
Dorothy Biderman Shestak 1950 Pickerel, WI	Kay Mullen Morrissey 1955 * Monson, MA	Jan Lowe Whitman Majors 1957 * Mount Vernon, IA	Jerry Kroeger 1959 * Mount Vernon, IA
Wiladene Hoggard Willming 1950 * San Antonio, TX	Jane Johnston Perry 1955 Mattoon, IL	Karen Jilovec Martin 1957 * Mount Vernon, IA	John Maxson 1959 * Wheatland, WY
David Wolfe 1950 Los Angeles, CA	Larry Ringer 1955 * College Station, TX	Mary Bowman Seidler 1957 * Des Moines, IA	Nancy Pisarik Mulder 1959 Grand Rapids, MI
Roland Henik 1951 Mount Vernon, IA	Jerry Ringer 1955 * Bloomington, IL	Janet Hess Smith 1957 * Urbandale, IA	George Pospisil 1959 * Lisbon, IA
Richard McKeen 1951 Iowa City, IA	Nargi Rayman Steinbrech 1955 * Solon, IA	Judy Kohl Steiner 1957 Kingwood, TX	Marie Sippola 1959 * Cedar Rapids, IA
Georgia Stadler Schilling 1951 * Cedar Rapids, IA	David Van Metre 1955 * Fort Collins, CO	Mary Bensmiller Armstrong 1958 Saginaw, TX	Shirley Andrews Sparks 1959 Ankeny, IA
Allene Merritt Bys 1952 Cedar Rapids, IA	Carol Hartenberger Walden 1955 Mount Vernon, IA	Rodger Brush 1958 Willow River, MN	Lynn Sutliff 1959 * Tucson, AZ
Ann Vislisel Pavik 1952 * Granite Bay, CA	Phylis Brecht White 1955 * Solon, IA	Janis Glattly Hoover 1958 Poughkeepsie, NY	Sharon Neal Urich 1959 * Iowa City, IA
Bill Yeisley 1952 Cedar Rapids, IA	Betty Coon Ammeter 1956 * Cedar Rapids, IA	Ben Jamison 1958 * Lisbon, IA	Annae Stoneking Baker 1960 Mount Vernon, IA
George Brown 1953 * Kearney, NE	Barbara Pence Conn 1956 * Laurel, MD	Larry Kramer 1958 Marion, IA	Keith Clark 1960 Mount Vernon, IA
Carlyle Bys 1953 Cedar Rapids, IA	David Ennis 1956 Virginia Beach, VA	David Kroeger 1958 * Marion, IA	Willis Clark 1960 Lakeway, TX
Ruth Ackerman Farris 1953 Eatonton, GA	Ken Kaliban 1956 Cedar Rapids, IA	Robert Kruse 1958 * Englewood, CO	Susan Dye Hodin 1960 * Cedar Rapids, IA
Susan Albright Kehrl 1953 * Manchester, IA	Bonnie Clark Keith 1956 Mount Vernon, IA	Bob Lenz 1958 * Marion, IA	John Hunter 1960 * Cedar Rapids, IA
Barbara Beckhelm Moore 1953 * Mount Vernon, IA	Deanne Dean LeVan 1956 * St Ansgar, IA	Tom Neal 1958 * Cocoa, FL	Fran Lanning 1960 * Nevada, IA
Don Walden 1953 Mount Vernon, IA	Janet Miner Sessions 1956 * Kent, OH	Gail Yeisley Rhodes 1958 * Clive, IA	Lumir Nezerka 1960 * Savage, MN
Fae Sparks Edwards 1954 Cedar Rapids, IA	Bert Sippola 1956 Inman, SC	Helen Sproston Schneider 1958 * Center Point, IA	Judith Caldwell Penn 1960 Cedar Rapids, IA

2019 ANNUAL SUPPORT/DUES DONORS *continued*



Mary Reilly Freese 1961 *
Marion, IA

Randy Hoidahl 1961
Aurora, CO

Helen Blue Holder 1961 *
Austin, MN

Kathy Jennings Jamison 1961
Lisbon, IA

Don Jilovec 1961 *
Mechanicsville, IA

Dick Miner 1961
Incline Village, NV

Bunny Williams Mulligan 1961 *
Marion, IA

Janet Meroshek Wikert 1961
Hampton, IA

Michael Biderman 1962 *
Chattanooga, TN

Linda Buresh Brouillette 1962 *
Rio Verde, AZ

James Clark 1962
Mesa, AZ

Christine Hodge Gochenover 1962
Cedar Rapids, IA

Alice Anderson Holtz 1962
Chelsea, IA

Bill Horton 1962 *
Roanoke, TX

Mary Ann Jilovec 1962 *
Mechanicsville, IA

Thomas Childs 1963 *
Burlington, WA

Bob Dvorak 1963 *
Mount Vernon, IA

Sandra Schweitzer Haven 1963 *
Watsonville, CA

Bob Jilovec 1963 *
Mechanicsville, IA

Susan Ellison Kowalczyk 1963 *
Bonita Springs, FL

Gloria Herboldsheimer Krob 1963 *
Lisbon, IA

Steve Kroeger 1963 *
Casey, IA

Allan Miner 1963 *
Carmel, CA

Chris Stoltz 1963 *
Mount Vernon, IA

Warren Stoner 1963
Mount Vernon, IA

Roy Wolfe 1963 *
Rockledge, FL

Ruth Bensmiller-Reed *
Marion, IA

Kathy Blue 1964 *
Williamsburg, VA

Chris Hudson Brown 1964 *
Lisbon, IA

JoAnn Kroul Clark 1964
Mount Vernon, IA

Jeanne Peterson Cork 1964 *
Kansas City, MO

Diana Kafer LaVoi 1964 *
Apple Valley, MN

Ron Longerbeam 1964 *
Marion, IA

Joyce Miller Maxwell 1964 *
Central City, IA

Jane Maxson Penfield 1964
Cedar Rapids, IA

Sam Studt 1964 *
Hiawatha, IA

Jim Wallace 1964 *
Mount Vernon, IA

Dennis Wolrab 1964 *
Cedar Rapids, IA

Pauline Meroshek Erickson 1965
Spring Park, MN

Susan Mounts Fisher 1965
Mount Vernon, IA

David Hartl 1965
Iowa Falls, IA

Gary Knutsen 1965 *
Naples, FL

Terese Pisarik 1965 *
Mount Vernon, IA

Bill Saathoff 1965
Fort Collins, CO

Marlin Smith
Gilbert, AZ

Dennis Steele 1965 *
Peoria, IL

Judith Berends Workman 1965
Cedar Rapids, IA

Susan Dows Brees 1966 *
Whitesboro, TX

Janet Hunter Carmer 1966
Cedar Rapids, IA

James Chadek 1966 *
Michigan Center, MI

Karilyn Mead Eastvold 1966 *
Springfield, IL

William Lighthall 1966 *
Lisbon, IA

Jeri Neal 1966 *
Mount Vernon, IA

John Pospisil 1966 *
Mount Vernon, IA

Cindy Buresh Prewitt 1966 *
Rio Verde, AZ

Vance Rahn 1966
Anderson, SC

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Barb Thomsen Neal 1968 *
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Tipton, IA

Candy Miller Plotz 1968
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Roswell, GA

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Mount Vernon, IA

Laura Werkman 1968 *
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Pella, IA

Diane Kirkpatrick Jones 1969 *
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Wendy Ellison Stryker 1969
Kingsport, TN

Deborah Goudy Ward 1969
Bluffton, SC

Scott Akers 1970
Titusville, FL

Ann Yeisley Becker 1970
Lenora, KS

Marsha Siggins McWhinney 1970 *
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Mary Livingston Moorman 1970
Colorado Springs, CO

Thomas Ohlfest 1970 *
Marshalltown, IA

Jo Ann Thomson Stoner 1970 *
Mount Vernon, IA

Jane Suchomel Carlson 1971 *
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David Ellison *
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Ankeny, IA

Gregg Larsen 1971 *
Ankeny, IA

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Cedar Rapids, IA

Terri Overman 1979 *
Cedar Rapids, IA

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Mount Vernon, IA

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continued on next page

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Brittany Kaalberg Booth 1990 *
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Ben Aalbers 1992
Kyle, TX
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Orlando, FL
Alexis Stine Gallegos 1992
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Madison, WI
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Matt Poduska 1994
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Shirley Thumm
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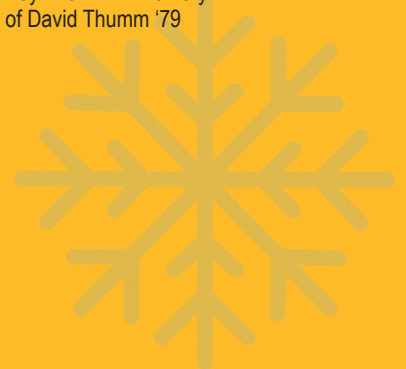
Thank you to the following who have given donations to the Alumni Association, either in addition to their support/dues, in memory of someone, or as a gift to help the Association. December 16, 2018 to December 15, 2019

Maxine Nation Havill 1945
in memory of Mike Havill 1970
Helen Dvorak Stoner 1946 in memory of
Darrell Stoner '46, Suzanne Roberts
Stoner '65, Diana Pringle Croft '46,
Jim Croft '47, and Paul Pospisil '47
Helen Dvorak Stoner 1946
Millicent Hoggard Zenishek 1947
David Wolfe 1950
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Barbara Beckhelm Moore 1953 in
memory of Warren Stoner '63
Barbara Beckhelm Moore 1953 in
memory of Richard 'Dick' Moore '52
Fae Sparks Edwards 1954
Larry Edwards 1954
Leona Reyhons Smith 1956 in memory
of Judy Rundle '56
Bonnie Clark Keith 1956 in memory of
Corinne Wilcox Drongesen '56
Bert Sippola 1956
Class of 1957
Myrt Clark Bowers 1957
Bill and Myrt Clark Bowers 1957
Barb Neal Hutchins 1957 in memory of
Susie Emerson Tuetken '59
Janet Hess Smith 1957
Class of 1958
Tom Neal 1958
Tom Neal 1958
Marilyn Dean Schnittjer 1958
Richard Glatly 1959
Jerry Kroeger 1959 in memory
of Susie Emerson Tuetken '59
Jerry Kroeger 1959
George Pospisil 1959 in memory
of Ileen 'Susie' Tuetken
Annamae Stoneking Baker 1960
in memory of Warren Stoner '63
Annamae Stoneking Baker 1960
in memory of Bonnie Moore
Robert Beckman 1960 in memory
of Gladys Rife
John Rife 1960 and Thelma Rife
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Dick Miner 1961 in memory
of Warren Stoner '63
Dick Miner 1961 in memory of
Allan Viktor 1969
Bunny Williams Mulligan 1961 in
memory of Sheryl Hansel Harmon '61,
Gary Sutliff '61, and Jim Plank '62
Gloria Herboldsheimer Krob 1963 in
memory of Harold Heeren '63
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of Warren Stoner '63
Susan Mounts Fisher 1965,
in memory of Paul Pospisil '47, John
Wolfe '44, and Bonnie Moore
Susan Mounts Fisher 1965 in memory
of Mary Kroul Anderson '66
Susan Mounts Fisher 1965 in memory
of Larry Sprosten
David 1965 and Lana 1966 Hartl in
memory of Mary Kroul Anderson '66
Gary Knutsen 1965
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of Warren Stoner '63 and Mary Kroul
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Cindy Buresh Prewitt 1966
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Allan Viktor 1969 Memorials
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memory of Joan Rhoads Siggins '45
and Donald Siggins
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of Warren Stoner '63
David Pierce 1972
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of Marianne and Julian Bern and
Anne Schutt Reynolds '75
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Warren Stoner 1963
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of Warren Stoner '63
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Dennis Jordan 1987
Dave Lynott 1988
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of Dave Spellerberg '89
Andrew Morf 1994
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Jenna Voss 2002
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Pamela Meyer and Don Kriers in memory
of Warren Stoner '63
Dean and Sheila Borg
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memory of Warren Stoner '63
Kathy Staskal
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of David Thumm '79

Thank You!

Does your name have an asterik* behind it?
This means you have already contributed for the
2020 year (as of December 15, 2019). Additional
donations are always appreciated.

ARE WE MISSING YOUR NAME OR IS
SOMETHING NOT RIGHT? Be sure to let us know
by calling Kathy at 319-389-8602 or email alumni@
mvcsd.org



DONATIONS (listed here) MADE TO THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SUPPORT THIS NEWSLETTER, ALUMNI ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

...turn the page if you would like to donate to the Alumni Association for 2020

DONATIONS MADE TO THE FOUNDATION SUPPORT MOUNT VERNON STUDENTS

ALL-ALUMNI-COMMUNITY BREAKFAST JULY 11, 2020

Plan to join us next year (and every year!) at the High School on Saturday morning (8-10:30 am, serving from 8-10 am) for our annual breakfast.

The event is a popular meeting place, and a unique opportunity to see alumni from the 1940s to 2020 (and even future alums!), current and former teachers and staff, as well as familiar faces from the community.

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WATCH FOR THE FOUNDATION 2019 DONATIONS TO APPEAR IN THE SPRING 2020 ISSUE

May 1 - DON'T DELAY - NOMINATE AN ALUM YOU THINK IS DESERVING OF A SERVICE, ACHIEVEMENT, MV COMMUNITY IMPACT, FINE ARTS, OR ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME AWARD NOW! SEE PAGE 12.

THANK YOU ADVERTISERS!

Please support and thank the following publication advertisers:

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Take a minute...

Mount Vernon Schools Superintendent Greg Batenhorst would like your help... please go to the link provided below and give him your feedback about education in our school district.

MOUNT VERNON ALUMNI -
 We need your feedback!
 Please complete the survey found at the link below.
bit.ly/mvcsdalumni19
 Your input is appreciated!

ALUMNI

FALL 2019-WINTER 2020

MOUNT VERNON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
525 Palisades Road SW, Mount Vernon, IA 52314

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IS THIS THE RIGHT ADDRESS FOR THE PERSON ON THE ADDRESS LABEL? If not, please let us know by calling Kathy at 319-389-8602 or emailing alumni@mvcasd.org

MOMs and DADs, please help us update our contact information for your graduate(s). If you would also like to receive this publication, we can add your name to the list too.



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HERE'S HOW to support the Alumni Association...

ONLINE at www.MVAlumni.org

Select the grey 'LOG IN' box. Use your email to log in. If you have never logged in, select 'forgot my password'. Need help, call Kathy 319-389-8602

OR BY MAIL return form & your check to:
MV Alumni Assoc., 525 Palisades Rd, Mount Vernon, IA 52314

SELECT ONE OF THESE FOR YOUR ANNUAL SUPPORT:

- One-Year Support/Dues.....\$15 per alum
- or Five-Year Support/Dues\$60 per alum

SELECT THIS TO SEND A DONATION:

- additional donation or memorial.....
- in memory of/in honor of _____
- Amount Enclosed \$.....

YOUR SUPPORT AND DONATIONS PAY FOR THESE YEARLY EXPENSES:

Printing and mailing of twice yearly newsletter approximately \$10,000

Alumni Hall of Fame Events & Promotion approx \$2,000

Homecoming Reception approx \$300

Database Software \$2,800 and more

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

2020

Alumni first & last name, including maiden name _____

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

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Country if outside USA _____

Email address _____

Phone Home _____ Cell _____ Work _____

For tax purposes, the MV Alumni Association has been determined by the IRS to be a public charitable organization under Code 501(c)3

MOUNT VERNON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALUMNI Association

Thank you!