

Iron Mountain Public Schools

Alumni and friends NEWSLETTER



Life-long love for flying...

1938 Iron Mountain High School graduate Urban Rahoi has been busy since graduation living his life. His senior motto was "It matters not how long we live, but how." Urban has been living proof of this motto. He has had many interests over the years, but starting at a young age up to the present he has had a love for airplanes and flying.



The interest in flying was sparked in high school by his shop teacher who had his students build a low wing, wire braced, monoplane that resembled a Boeing P-26. This craft was powered by a Velie 5-cylinder radial engine, but according to Urban, it should have had a 7-cylinder.

Urban started flying in 1934 at the age of 15 and soloed that same year in a Taylor Cub. Once he graduated high school, he got a job working for the Highway Department of Michigan surveying bridges and building roads. After his work day was over, he studied aircraft mechanics at night school.

Urban had a commercial pilot license when World War II started. Since he wasn't a college graduate, he figured he was not eligible for Army flight training. With the help of an Army officer, who was his old flight instructor, he graduated Army Flight Training. Because of his excellent flying abilities, he flew bombing missions over southern Germany and helped teach green bomber crews. Once the war was over, Urban stayed on as an Air Force reservist.

As a member of the 449th Fighter Squadron in the Air Force Reserve, Urban flew or helped operate many military classics such as the North American F-82, C-47, Twin Mustang, Lockheed F-94 STARfire and the Northrop F-89 Scorpion.

In 1947 he started flying charters in Alaska. He owned and flew an Aero-onca Sedan on floats, a Piper Super Cruiser and a Cessna UC-78 Bobcat. In the '50's Urban flew for Alaska Airlines, Lavery Air Service, and ERA Mining. In the '60's he flew for Tom Olsen's Air North in an Aero Commander. This kept Urban busy during the winter months when his other business interests were slow.

In 1950 Urban became a big game guide in the Territory of Alaska. When the territory became a state, it required guides to be licensed. Urban paid his fees early and received Alaska State Guide License #1, which he still holds today. Each time he flew he would take a different route back so he could learn the country. He knew all the dog team trails and cabins so that in case of an emergency he had access to food, shelter and help for his and his passengers' survival.

People half Urban's age have a hard time matching his energy level. Get him started on a subject he is passionate about and you will know what I mean. He seems ageless in his ideas and energy.

Urban's latest exploit is piloting a P-51 Mustang, a WWII fighter plane which he never had the chance to fly while serving as an Army Air Corps pilot during the war. His co-pilot, John Posson said, "Urban did most of

the flying. I did the take-off, and he did the landing." Urban has a natural ability to maneuver the airplane with his 70 plus years of flying experience. Urban has a gift—it's like he is part of the plane. "He has used his skill as an aviator to train airmen, fight a war and maintain safety standards in commercial aviation," the Federal Aviation Administration said in 2006 when he received the Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award. "He has rescued people in trouble and supplied people in the bush with the necessities of life."

Urban's contribution to aviation has spanned 78 years. He has contributed to the State of Alaska and provided many people a chance to see the wild and beautiful places there. His recipe for a long and happy life: "The only person who can make you happy, is you." That is something we can all live by and learn from.

Urban Rahoi was married for 70 years to the love of his life Vienna and has three children: Eugene, Holly and Ricky. He currently resides in Fairbanks, Alaska. He has a love for life and clearly a love for flying...



In-

formation for this article came from:
www.newsminer.com
Federal Aviation Administration

Do you remember us?



Picture donated by Rita Monroe—1948)

Arlene Jermac—1948, Alice Maki—1948, Mae Jermac—1949 and Rita Goulet—1948

Drawing of the Hulst School

(Picture donated by Flossie McKenna)



CLASS OF 1962

The Iron Mountain High School Class of 1962 recently celebrated its 50th reunion. Members of the class presented a check for \$1,385 to Superintendent, Tom Jayne. The money was used to purchase an auditorium seat; \$200 was donated to this newsletter and \$1,000 to the general scholarship fund. This money was raised through individual donations, a 50/50 raffle and a silent auction. Shown presenting the check for the Class are (left to right)

Karen Gorrell Fortner, Suzie Leardi Romagnoli, Julie Jensen Rogers, Jack Richtig, Superintendent, Tom Jayne, Ann Uren Bolander, Diane Mendini Lindberg, Pauline Rigotti Werner.



DATE: Friday, June 28, 2013

SITE: Pine Grove Country Club
1520 W Hughitt Street
Iron Mountain, MI

FORMAT: 6 person ~ 18 hole scramble

This year's dinner reception coincides with the IMHS 40 year class reunion, so the Class of 1973 will join us for the evening festivities!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Golf Registration 10:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.
Shotgun Start 11:30 a.m.
Reception 6:30 p.m.

On behalf of the Tom Johnson Memorial Golf Outing Committee, we welcome you to join us for "Just One More" in Tom's memory and to take part in our golf outing to support IMHS athletics.

This year's event will be tied to an IMHS 40th class reunion

Each golfer is welcome to attend the evening reception as part of their golf package. Guests are also welcome to attend the reception by paying \$5 at the entrance gate to Pine Grove Country Club that evening. The evening reception includes a cash bar, hors d'oeuvres and live music.



Golf Sponsorships Available

Email questions to Chris Hartman, hartmanc@imschools.org



WOULD YOU LIKE TO HONOR A FACULTY MEMBER IN A UNIQUE WAY?

The following former faculty of Iron Mountain Public Schools have a partial donation made in their "honor or memory" to the IMHS General Scholarship Fund. This means that they have not yet reached the \$100 required to add their name to the SIXTH General Scholarship Plaque. If you would like to make a donation to anyone listed below, or in "honor" of a current faculty member, this is a wonderful gesture. To date, the General Scholarship has awarded **OVER \$180,000 to 97 graduating seniors** of Iron Mountain High School. For this to continue, we need and greatly appreciate yearly support. The faculty names follow:

- | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Richard Allen | Donald Antonetti | Greta Betti | Thomas Clarke |
| Richard Debelak | Dennis DeMerse | Barbara Edberg | Marvin Harry |
| Pauline Hill | Robert Hill | Norman Johnson | Tom Johnson |
| Jane Kamper | Jerry Kriegl | Nancy Lakari | Walt Lakari |
| David Menghini | William Mugford | Art Noel | Charles Novara |
| Dorothy Occhietti | Richard Olds | Duane Phillips | Jack Richtig |
| Ken Swan | Wally Swanson | Donna VanHolla | Ken VanHolla |
| Dennis Veale | Robert Youngren | | |



Please mail donations to:

**Scholarship Administrator
Iron Mountain High School
300 West B Street
Iron Mountain, MI 49801**

Or email: laydonm@imschools.org with any questions

How is Iron Mountain Public Schools doing?

SURVEY BELOW

We would like to know what you think about the Iron Mountain Public Schools. Please take a minute and fill out the survey below. **Circle the best answer.** Then drop it in the mail to: Alumni & Friends Newsletter, 217 Izzo-Mariucci Way, Iron Mountain, MI 49801. [Feel free to leave comments.](#)

Circle the best answer

An atmosphere of respect and trust exists.

True False

There is a sense of pride in the district.

True False

I am encouraged to give my time to support school activities.

True False

I believe students are disciplined in a fair and consistent manner

True False

I believe the principal and staff are effective in managing student behavior on the campus and in the classroom.

True False

I feel welcomed at the school.

True False

I support the school attendance policy.

True False

I support the school's mission statement.

True False

Students are informed of behavior expectations in school and at school activities.

True False

Students are recognized for their accomplishments.

True False

How is Iron Mountain Public Schools doing...Survey continued

Students are taught to act in a safe and responsible manner.

True False

Students have a positive attitude towards school.

True False

Success is expected of all students regardless of social or cultural differences.

True False

Teachers have a positive attitude towards school.

True False

The principal promotes the recognition of students for their successes.

True False

The school and parents work together to achieve school goals.

True False

The school buildings and grounds are clean and well maintained.

True False

The school has a written plan that indicates what the school is trying to achieve.

True False

The school provides a safe environment for children.

True False

The school provides a variety of opportunities for involving parents.

True False

GO GREEN AND HELP US SAVE ON MAILING COSTS!

Please consider subscribing to the newsletter online. Just send an email to: alumni@imschools.org and put "subscribe" in the subject.

Remember to give your name and address so we can remove you from the regular mailing list.

FROM OUR MAILBAG...

It has been a long time. I think I was a member of the class of 1949, although I left Iron Mountain in the summer of 1948 to attend another school. My wife Patricia Strand Gauthier, was a member of the class of 1949. We have just received your newsletter and we thank you for remembering us. We have recently moved into a retirement community. [Pat and John Gauthier](#)

Enjoy the newsletter [Archie '47 and Greta '53 Betti](#)

Although alumni like to know what is happening in the here and now, nostalgia takes over and personal interest stories featuring things from the old days are definitely important to the alumni. When we visit IM we love to watch the channel with school info and trivia. [Martha Schinderle '59](#)

Thank you!! Love the newsletter-I find it very entertaining and informative!! Keep up the great work!!! [Judy \(Mort\) Bouffiou '62](#)

Keep up the good work! I really enjoy the newsletters. [June Brown '53](#)

Keep up the good work [Paul Tobin '69](#)

To the Newsletter movers and shakers, Terrific job on the A & F Newsletter. We love reading it and discussing it with our kids, who also graduated from IMHS. [Joe & Sharon Pollard '53](#)

Hello Newsletter Staff, Thanks for the Mountaineer Newsletter which I enjoy reading. Keep up the very good work! [Joseph Bolognesi '59](#)

Having lived outside of the Iron Mountain area since graduating from IMHS in 1975 I enjoy and appreciate receiving your newsletter. I am fortunate to still have family and friends in Iron Mountain who I enjoy visiting 2-3 times per year and your newsletter helps to update me on others I have lost contact with over the years. Seeing the familiar names from the area and reading the articles brings back so many great high school memories. For those of us who have not had the good fortune to remain in the IM area this newsletter is appreciated that much more.

I have enclosed a donation for the newsletter and would like to encourage my old high school classmates & acquaintances to do the same and include a quick note about themselves. I hope to retire in the Iron Mountain area in the future and would like to look up some of the people from my past.

As for myself, I'm living in a small town (Bryon Center) near the Grand Rapids area but still call IM "Home". I participate yearly in a week of camping at Bewabic State Campground in Crystal Falls with fellow high school classmates Tom LaFave, Bob Strang, Mike Corcoran, Sam Trebilcock, Mark Blomquist, and Brian Brouillette as well as the families of Dave and Mike Celello, Dave Tadych and also Tommy Jayne (hope I haven't left anyone out).

Thanks to (J. Hamm '52) for acknowledging my uncle (his classmate) Don Miller, in your last publication.

(PS .. Hi to brother Jim (class of '71), sister Deb (class of '73) and brother Rick (class of '81) and also to mom Beverlee (Bodine) Miller (class of '47).

Sorry for being so long...[Don Miller...class of '75!!](#)

My name in High School was Florence McKenna in the Class of 1940— I've made all my class reunions. We started kindergarten together & went all through school together. Such fun— Just found this picture of our Hulst School & we all loved it. Why they tore it down was a disgrace to all of us. My thought is maybe some research can be done & create a lasting memorial to all of us. I don't have a computer & I don't send or receive Email. I had my 90th birthday on April 2 of this year. Had a backyard party for 60 people. We moved to in 1954 so I guess I know enough people to have that many in attendance. I enjoyed the whole write up about Georgina Mitchell Johnson

—we were neighbors all our years. Hope you can read this and maybe write about it.

So many of my friends enjoy the newsletter. I knew the Izzo family. So now they like the street named for the guys— Best wishes from [Flossie McKenna '40](#)

ADDRESS CORRECTIONS:

MOVED? Please let us know your change of address.

NO LONGER WANT THE NEWSLETTER? Please let us know.

You can contact us via email or regular mail.

alumni@imschools.org or Alumni, 217 Izzo-Mairucci Way, Iron Mountain, MI 49801

FYI—

The post office charges for the change of address form we receive and/or when the newsletter is "returned to sender".

Help us save on mailing costs as well as keeping our mailing list current. THANKS!



Dear Alumni and Friends:

As I near the end of my second year as the district's Superintendent, I would like to take this opportunity to update all of you on what's new and exciting at Iron Mountain Public Schools.

February 26, 2013 Bond Proposal Vote Passes 654 Yes to 571 No Votes:

On February 26, 2013, the voters of the Iron Mountain School District passed the \$9.5 million bond proposal by a margin of 83 votes. I cannot begin to thank enough the voters, alumni and all those who helped support and promote the bond proposal. As a result of the support, the district will be able to make major improvements over the next few years to the aging heating and lighting systems in addition to making improvements to the current state of our security, technology and classroom operations. The main concentrations of improvement will take place in the high school, North Elementary School, & East Elementary School. I look forward to working on all the improvements over the next few years as well as keeping the public and alumni informed of all the progress through our media outlets and building tours.

Other updates:

In addition to the previously mentioned changes, the district will be reopening East Elementary School in the fall of 2013 as a 4th-6th grade elementary school, and our Community Schools program will be housed at the Central School building.

The staff and administration are also in the process of forming committees to work on the district curriculum and Mountaineer pride.

"Take a Seat" Auditorium Seat Project:

To date our generous Alumni and/or Friends have donated enough money to purchase 320 seats. There remains room to purchase an additional 374 seats. The costs to purchase a seat range from \$175 to \$200. The movement to actually install the seats is now on the fast track and will be completed no later than the summer of 2015 with the bond passing. Please contact Naida Weinert, 906-779-2600 or weinertn@imschools.org for further information.

Help Replace the Lights at Mountaineer Stadium:

The Iron Mountain Athletic Boosters are working hard to save enough money to eventually replace the light poles and lights at Mountaineer Stadium. This is an expensive but worthy endeavor (over \$100,000) and the club would like to accomplish this by the fall of 2015. If you wish to donate to this cause you can mail a donation to the following address.

Iron Mountain Athletic Boosters
P.O. BOX 65
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Make checks payable to the Iron Mountain Athletic Boosters – Lighting Project.

Congratulations & Thank You:

Before closing, I would like to congratulate our students, teachers, advisors and coaches on their many academic, extracurricular and sporting event(s) successes this school year. I would also like to express my gratitude towards all Alumni and Friends who have generously donated funds to the district. This includes past graduating classes who have bought auditorium seats, donated to our general scholarship fund and/or made personal donations aimed at helping our students. These contributions along with personal donations, are much appreciated and help our students succeed as well as help offset the cost of producing and mailing the newsletter.

It is my pleasure and honor to be able to serve you and the Iron Mountain Public Schools in these challenging but exciting times. Please feel free to call, email and/or stop in my office if I can help you in any way. Thank you for your interest and support of the Iron Mountain Public Schools.

My door is always open,
Tom Jayne
Superintendent
IMHS Class of 1981

Thank you...

Our Newsletter publication relies tremendously on the support and donations of Iron Mountain Alumni; thanks to all who have helped out! If you would like to make a donation toward future issues, checks can be made payable to: IMHS Alumni & Friends Newsletter. Send all donations to:

*IMHS Alumni & Friends Newsletter
217 Izzo-Mariucci Way, Iron Mountain, MI 49801*

***Greta '47 & Archie '53 Betti; Urban Rahoi '38; Michael Pretschold '59;
June Brown '53; Don Miller '75; Joe & Sharon Pollard '53; Joseph
Bognesi '59; Simone (Beauchamp) Kriegl '65; Peter Jensen '71***

**We're on the web!
www.imschools.org**



Please help keep our school grounds BEAUTIFUL!

We continue to look for volunteers and donations for the beautification of our school grounds. Retired Superintendent Scott McClure and his wife Lynn have spent each summer keeping the grounds around the high school campus and football stadium trimmed and well cared for. They have spent time planting flowers, weeding, watering, grass cutting, etc. Iron Mountain Public Schools could use more help in this area. We are hoping to get the Alumni and Friends of this district to join in. We are in need of mulch for around the landscaping and flowers for the large cement planters. Anything you are willing to contribute (either your time or a donation) will be GREATLY appreciated! If you want your donation or time to go to a specific building please let us know.

What are you doing now?

We invite all alumni to share a high school memory about themselves, a faculty member or friend, or an update of what you are doing now for another edition.

Send stories to : Alumni, 217 Izzo-Mariucci Way, Iron Mountain, Michigan, 49801

or you can email them to alumni@imschools.org.