

# IMHS ALUMNI & FRIENDS

NEWSLETTER

Winter-Spring 2011

## Superintendent McClure Retiring

After over thirty years working in the field of education, Scott McClure will retire as Superintendent of the Iron Mountain School District on June 30<sup>th</sup> of this year. He began his career as a Kindergarten Teacher in the Norway/Vulcan Area Schools. He also served as the elementary principal in the Norway/Vulcan Area Schools for two years. Mr. McClure then spent the majority of his career with the Iron Mountain School System. He was hired as the North and East Elementary Principal in 1989. He began his Superintendent duties on July 1, 2009. Mr. McClure is grateful that the Iron Mountain Board of Education allowed him to lead the district during the past two years. These two years allowed Mr. McClure to reconnect with Middle and High School students and families he had known during his term as Elementary Principal. He was also

able to gain a broader understanding of the varied talents among the staff throughout the district. After spending time with the staff he is even more confident that the Iron Mountain School System is providing an outstanding education for the students of our community.

Mr. McClure has many fond memories while working in education. The most rewarding experience has been the day-to-day connections he has made with young people. He has always felt that young people want and need to be shown respect. Those same young people will shine beyond what they could imagine with the support of caring adults. Mr. McClure believes that support can be as simple as a pat on the back for success in the classroom or acknowledging a student who may be suffering through some difficult times.

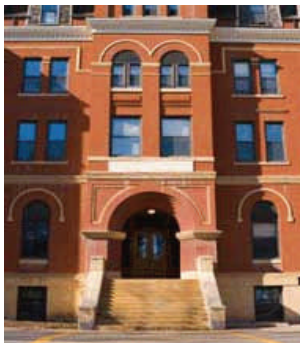
Mr. McClure says that he will miss the contact with parents, staff mem-



bers, and School Board Members who work together to provide the best possible programs for all students. He is excited about what lies ahead for education. He believes technology will create major changes concerning how children are educated. He also senses a real interest and desire to investigate additional ways to collaborate between school districts.

Mr. McClure will be leaving his position as Superintendent, but feels a loyalty to the school district and will be available to help out in any way he can during the upcoming transition.

## Lee Earl Amidon



**Roger Amadowne** was born near La Rochelle, France where members of the family still exist. He was a Huguenot, and in 1628, when La Rochelle was captured by the Catholics, he migrated to England. His next move was to America and his name first appears in this country in 1637 in the records of Salem, Massachusetts. He

lived in Boston and in 1648, settled as a farmer in Rehoboth, Plymouth, where he died in 1673.

**Lee Earl Amidon** began his life as a lineal descendent in the eighth generation of Roger Amadowne.

Continued on Page 2

IMHS Math Teacher Honored	3
Upcoming Reunion Info	5
Next TJ Memorial Golf Outing	7

## 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](mailto:alumni@imschools.org).

## Lee Earl Amidon continued.....

Born in Hamilton, Indiana on February 4, 1865, Lee Earl Amidon was the son of Seth and Jeannette Amidon . In 1877, soon after the death of his mother, Lee was placed in the care of Henry and Mary Watt and was raised on their farm in Ainger (Montpelier) Ohio. Lee received training from the Watts in industry, honesty and thrift. Obtaining his education in the area schools, he then taught in those same schools for three years. Lee later pursued his studies at Wooster University in Wooster, Ohio, teaching winters and studying summers to catch up for lost time. In 1892, he graduated from the classical department at the University of Michigan. In the ensuing five years, he was superintendent of schools in West Bend, Wisconsin. Lee entered Harvard University in 1897 and acquired his post-graduate degree in 1898.

Lee accepted the superintendence of Iron Mountain Schools later in 1898. He belonged to the Upper Peninsula Education Association and served as their president

in 1906. Mr. Amidon became a member of the Michigan State Teachers' Association in 1893 and the National Education Association in 1899. Lee Amidon considered himself a Democrat. He attended the Presbyterian Church and was also involved in the Michigan Society, Sons of the American Revolution.

The following is his complete memorial as printed from the 1917 Argonaut:

### In Memoriam

*Mr. Lee E. Amidon, age fifty-one years, for seventeen years superintendent of the Iron Mountain schools died at the Presbyterian Hospital, Chicago, Illinois, November twenty-ninth, nineteen hundred sixteen. Mr. Amidon spent his early life on a farm in Ohio and later attended the University of Michigan where he graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. For five years following graduation he was superintendent of the schools of West Bend, Wisconsin. Just before taking up his work at Iron Mountain*

*he received the degree of Master of Arts from Harvard University. He was singularly well fitted for his life work for he excelled in administrative and executive ability. His aim was to have a perfect school; perfect in instruction, perfect in discipline, perfect in tone and spirit. During Mr. Amidon's school administration the Lincoln, Fulton, Farragut and High School buildings and the Carnegie Library were constructed and the number of teachers was increased from forty six to seventy six. Mr. Amidon enjoyed an extended reputation as a successful superintendent and was held in high esteem by his associates. For years he was one of the leading spirits in the Upper Peninsula Educational Association and at one time was president of that organization. We, the seniors of nineteen hundred seventeen, spent eleven out of our thirteen years of school life under his influence and the memory of his fine personality will remain with us always.*

Mildred Johnson '17

## Go Green And Help Us Save On Mailing Costs!

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

## IMHS Teacher Honored

### Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching

By LINDA LOBECK



IRON MOUNTAIN — An Iron Mountain High School math teacher is one of 103 math and science teachers named Monday by President Barack Obama as recipients of the prestigious Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

Renee Yake of Iron Mountain will join the other educators from across the United States later this year to receive her award in Washington, D.C.

She is the only teacher from the Upper Peninsula selected for the honor.

The Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST) is awarded annually to the best pre-college-level science and mathematics teachers from across the country.

Yake was notified in August 2009 that she was one of three state finalists for the PAEMST and her name had been forwarded to the national selection committee. Up to 108 awards could be given in this process; 103 were selected as award winners this year.

Yake is an algebra, pre-calculus and advanced placement calculus teacher at IMHS. She is completing her 13th years teacher at IMHS and her 15th year as a teacher. She also worked two years in the Portage View School District and is originally from Kalamazoo.

Winners of the PAEMST are selected by a panel of distinguished scientists, mathematicians and educators following the initial selection process at the state level. Each year, the award alternates between math and science teachers who teach at the K-6 level and 7-12 level. This year, the award was for the teachers at the 7-12 level.

For the state of Michigan, Yake was the winner in math, and Nathaniel Childers of Rochester Hills was the science recipient.

Winners of the presidential honor receive a \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation to be used at their discretion. They also receive an expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C. for an awards ceremony and several days of educational and celebratory events, including visits with members of Congress and science agency leaders.

“Science and technology have long been at the core of Americas strength and competitiveness, and the scientists and engineers who have led America on its remarkable path to success share something very precious — science and math teachers who brought these critical subjects to life,” said President Obama. “Today, we honor some of the best of these teachers and thank them for their dedication. They are inspirations not just to their students, but to the Nation and the world.”

Once Yake had been nominated by IMHS Principal Maryann Boddy last year, she was invited to complete an extensive application process. This included videotaping a class, providing three letters of reference, and answering questions on the five dimensions of teaching.

“I’m proud to be a part of the math program (at IMHS). It is a strong program and a strong school district,” Yake said. “It’s such an honor for me to just be nominated. I’m very blessed to have a job I enjoy so much.”

Yake graduated from Western Michigan University with a bachelor of science degree in secondary education majoring in math. She then went on to receive her master’s degree in math education from Northern Michigan University in 2002.

She and her husband, Pete have three children, Tyler, a student at Albion College, and Madelyn, a second grader and Sam, a kindergartener, both at Central Elementary School in Iron Mountain.

RENEE YAKE, A math teacher at Iron Mountain High School, was named as one of the recipients of the prestigious Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teacher (PAEMST) presented by President Barack Obama.





**Classes of '61, '71 and '81: Take A Stroll Down Memory Lane Before Your Next Reunion.....**



### 1981 30 Year Class Reunion

Relevant classes	1981
Location	Pine Mountain
Date	July 23, 2011
Time	6:00 (?)
Additional details	Plan to get an email or mailing with the cost and official plan by the middle of March.
Contact person	Sandi Lefebvre
Contact email address	selefebvre@charter.net
Reunion committee members	So far, it's Bob Doney and Sandi Petroff Lefebvre. Anyone else interested in helping with the plans is welcome to help out.

### Class of 1961 Reunion

Relevant classes	1961
Location	Pine Grove Country Club
Date	October 07, 2011
Time	TBA
Additional details	Friday-TBA Tour of Izzo-Mariucci Center IM-KING Football Dinner Program and Social at Pine Grove
Contact person	Tom Clarke
Reunion committee members	Please contact Tom Clarke for all information: 906-774-1644





## Mascoma, Frontier Renewable Resources and Valero Ink Deal to Develop Commercial Cellulosic Ethanol Biorefinery

*Valero invests in Mascoma and signs a letter of intent to help pave way for Kinross, Michigan-based biorefinery.*

**Lebanon, NH – January 13, 2011:** Mascoma Corporation, an innovative biofuels company, today announced that Valero Energy Corporation, the nation's largest independent oil refiner, has invested in Mascoma Corporation. Further, Mascoma, Valero, and Mascoma's operating subsidiary, Frontier Renewable Resources LLC, jointly owned with natural resource management company, J.M. Longyear LLC, have signed a non-binding letter of intent to support the construction of one of the world's first commercial scale wood-based cellulosic ethanol biorefineries, slated to break ground in 2011 in Kinross Charter Township, Michigan. Under the terms of the letter of intent, Valero would potentially invest up to \$50 million of the equity required to finance the project through Frontier Kinross LLC, a subsidiary of Frontier, and would enter into an off-take agreement for the project's ethanol production.

Valero's participation in the project strengthens the financing package for the Kinross biorefinery, complemented with funds from the State of Michigan, through the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). As further support of the project, Valero would provide project development and construction oversight services. The biorefinery is planned to have an annual production of 40 million gallons of low-carbon cellulosic ethanol, to be covered by the off-take arrangement with Valero. Frontier will use hardwood pulpwood, which is selectively harvested, naturally regenerated, and is an underutilized, abundant resource in the area surrounding the Kinross biorefinery. Mascoma's 200,000 gallons of cellulosic ethanol per year demonstration facility in Rome, New York, has demonstrated the viability of the technology over the past two years and sets the stage for the commercial facility.

"Valero's proposed investment in our first commercial-scale production facility proves the economic practicality of Mascoma's technology for the conversion of woody biomass into ethanol," said Bill Brady, Chief Executive Officer of Mascoma. "We are also thrilled to have Valero as a shareholder in Mascoma Corporation as there are many synergies even beyond the Kinross facility, where the technologies we have developed could be helpful to Valero's business."

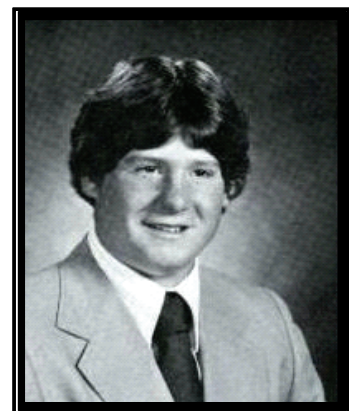
"Adding Valero as a partner is the perfect addition to complete this project," said **Steve Hicks**, Chief Executive Officer of Frontier Renewable Resources and President & CEO of J.M. Longyear, LLC. "The culmination of Mascoma's leading Consolidated Bioprocessing (CBP) technology, coupled with Longyear's expertise in supplying the raw materials, is the perfect compliment for a leading oil company to come in as an equity and off-take partner."

Mascoma recently announced the acquisition of SunOpta BioProcess Inc. (SBI), a world-leading fiber preparation and pretreatment company, creating a company with comprehensive capabilities for converting non-food cellulose (wood chips, energy crops and organic solid waste) into ethanol and high value co-products. With the addition of SBI and Valero, Mascoma has now covered the entire process of commercializing cellulosic ethanol, from raw materials supply, to pre-processing, through Mascoma's CBP process and into final distribution.

Mascoma Corporation is an innovative biofuels company committed to developing environmentally sustainable, low cost, low carbon biofuels from cellulosic biomass.

Valero Energy Corporation is an international manufacturer and marketer of transportation fuels, other petrochemical products and power.

Frontier Renewable Resources is owned by Mascoma Corporation, a global leader in cellulosic ethanol research and development, and J.M. Longyear LLC, a Michigan-based national leader in natural resources management. Based in Marquette, Michigan, Frontier and its award-winning team are building a commercial cellulosic ethanol biorefinery in Kinross Charter Township in the eastern Upper Peninsula of Michigan, on schedule to be fully operational in 2013. For more information, visit [www.frontier-renewable.com](http://www.frontier-renewable.com).



Steve Hicks is a 1979 Iron Mountain High School Graduate

**Tom Johnson Memorial Golf Outing Update**



Shown Left:  
The new custom wall mats that have been mounted in the IMHS gymnasium were purchased in part with funds from the T.J. Memorial Golf Outing!

**Laurie Johnson is shown selling the first TJ Memorial Gold Outing ticket to Dan Brown.**



The second annual golf outing is scheduled for Friday, July 1<sup>st</sup> at Pine Grove Country Club. Last year's event earned over \$24,000 for programs in the Iron Mountain School District. The TJ Memorial Golf Outing is in honor of Tom Johnson who was a long time Community Schools and Athletic Director for Iron Mountain Public Schools. Tom passed away after a courageous battle with cancer in October of 2009.

**Mark Your Calendars!!!!**

**The 2nd Annual Tom Johnson Memorial Golf Outing Will Be Held July 1st. Watch for details at [www.imschools.org](http://www.imschools.org).**

# 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*

***Armand Prenevost-'47, Virginia Blair-'39, Denise-'84 and Perry-'85 Jacobs, Jeanne Williams-'65, In Memory of Gloria Selmo Person-'44, Victor Badini-'45***

**We're on the web!  
[www.imschools.org](http://www.imschools.org)**

## From the Mailbag.....

Enclosed is a donation for a memorial in Gloria Person's memory. She and Chet looked forward to the newsletter and may it keep giving joy-comfort and many memories of all our high school years at I.M.H.S.

Sincerely,  
Janice-'55 and Joe-'53 Santi

Enclosed is a donation for the IMHS Newsletter. We look forward to reading every issue. Keep up the good work!

Perry-'85 and Denise-'84 Jacobs

Enclosed is a donation towards your publishing expenses. Thank you for the receipt of all past issues. Moved to Minnesota on July 9, 2010.

Virginia P. Blair

Here's my yearly contribution. Hope I can do it every year. Enjoy your paper very much.

Victor-'45 Badini

Enclosed please find a donation in memory of Gloria Person.

Kind Regards,  
Rhonda (Huotari) Sandri

Thank you for your newsletter.

Jeanne-'65 Williams

Enclosed you will find donations made in the memory of our wife and mother, Gloria Selmo Person, Class of 1944. She was always thrilled to receive the newsletters in the mail. It was a special way she could feel connected to the city and high school that she loved so much. Keep up the good work!

Robert-'42, Cathy-'75 and Joann-'80 Person