

Iron Mountain Public Schools Alumni and friends NEWSLETTER

Winter 2013

1932 Valedictorian donates to Science

Although 81 years have passed since Elaine M. (Alexander) Adams graduated from Iron Mountain High School, her alma mater has remained dear to her heart.

Mrs. Adams, who now lives in Plainview, Minnesota has donated \$15,000 to the IMHS Science Department.

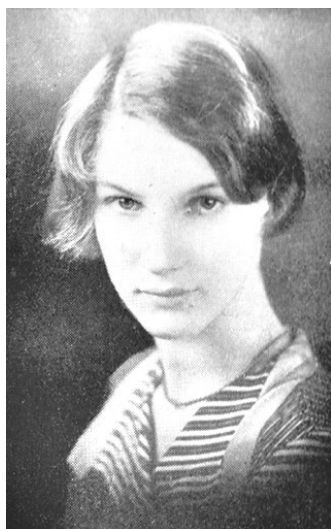
She has always had a love for math and science, which was sparked during her time at IMHS. The donation has been used by the science department to purchase probes for the lab at the high school. With matching funds, the school was also able to purchase 16 MacBook computers for the science lab.

The new Vernier probes are high motion lights used to collect the pH data for the science classes. The new technology can be used for a variety of classes including chemistry, biology, middle school science and environmental science.

The probe makes it easy to measure the dissolved oxygen concentration in water. Students can measure dissolved oxygen concentration in surface water or perform a wide variety of experiments to determine changes in dissolved oxygen levels, one of the primary indicators of the quality of an aquatic environment.

Mrs. Adams' love for science and math at IMHS led her to pursue a degree in teaching from St. Scholastica, graduating in 1936 and then go on to get her master's degree.

She taught both science and math in the Upper Peninsula and later in Minnesota. "But Iron Mountain has always been close to her. She had a fondness in her heart for Iron Mountain." said Maryann Boddy, principal at IMHS.



Boddy has been in contact with Mrs. Adams' cousin, Lois Alexander of Appleton, Wisconsin, who helped coordinate the donation to the school.

While a student IMHS, the 1932 senior class yearbook listed Elaine "Laney" Alexander as being the valedictorian of her class as well as vice president of her class as a freshman and sophomore.

She was also a member of the Latin Club, National Honor Society, and the Jun-to Club, which was a club to "study short stories, parliamentary law, word study and etiquette."

For the future teacher, a fitting quote by Addison was placed next to her senior picture in the yearbook, "Knowledge is that which, next to virtue, truly essentially raises one man above another."

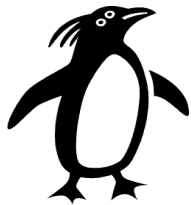
Mrs. Adams had two sisters, who also graduated from IMHS, Junetta who was salutatorian of her class



SAVE THE DATE

DATE: Friday, June 27, 2014 at The Pine Grove Country Club

FORMAT: 6 person ~ 18 hole scramble



“JUST ONE MORE”

Golf Sponsorships Available

Email questions to Chris Hartman

hartmanc@imschools.org

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.



Early in the fall of 2012, the IMHS Class of 52 had their 60th Reunion at Pine Grove Country Club. At that time, a hat was passed around by Reunion MC Jack Hamm of Lower Michigan and Reunion Chairman Myrna McNamee for a gift to our Alma Mater.

The donations given purchased two chairs for the IMHS Auditorium. At the time of the gift presentation to Superintendent Tom Jayne, a very nice photo was taken, but the ‘52 amateur photographer lost the memory card with the photo. This photo was taken of 10 class members who had breakfast together on October 10, 2013.

Present for the occasion was Maddie Holcomb of Arizona who spent two weeks visiting the area. All oth-



**“It’s Iron Mountain. It’s our High School.
The Pride of every Mountaineer”**

Seated: L to R—Vera (Zeitsus) Hasenjaeger, Charlene (Johnson) Qualley, Pat (Negro) Christesen; 2nd Row—Dorothy (Hansen) Edlund, Myrna MdNamee, Orice (Theisen) Walters, Maddie (Tomasi) Holcomb, Barbara (Moroni) Hamari; standing back - Keith Granger, Martin

FROM OUR MAILBAG...

Enjoy the newsletter—Always looking for a familiar name. Stella Fassbender '43

Keep up the good work. Enjoy all the news. Victor Badini '45

Thanks for the updates and the interesting articles and photos. Pat Hinkley Szechtman '66

I love getting the newsletter, Iron Mountain has a really warm spot in my heart. My wife (who is from Ludington) has always been treated as if she was part of the class at each reunion.

Paul Mortensen '57

Enjoyed the article of my brother, Urban Rahoi and also all the other news. Keep up the good work.

Phyllis (Rahoi) Ewig '43



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

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.

Superintendent's Corner

Dear Alumni and Friends:

As I enter the third year as the district's Superintendent, I am taking this opportunity to update you on two donations by our generous alumni and updates to our current bond project improvements, made possible by the current school districts residents.

Alumni Scholarship Donors:

The Iron Mountain High School General Scholarship Fund is the recipient of a \$121,000 donation from a former graduate who wishes to remain anonymous.

The General Scholarship goes to recipients who may study at a two or four year college, university or technical school for the career of their choice.

The General Scholarship Fund was established in 1998 through the efforts of the IHMS class of 1938 and Georgina Johnson, who acted as organizer and fundraiser. The first award was made in 1990 in the amount of \$1500. To date, over \$190,000 has been awarded to graduates from IMHS.

This fund is unique in that anyone can make a donation in any amount. Donations can be given in memory/honor of classmates, siblings, teachers, friends or even special life events. Donations of \$100 or more are recognized on an engraved plaque which resides in the High School.

A new scholarship is being established by Mike Pretschold IMHS class of 1959 along with his wife Judy in the amount of \$25,000 in honor of Ms. Caroline Hofer, a former principal in the Iron Mountain School District. The details of scholarship eligibility and distribution are being worked out, but preliminary details indicate the scholarship will primarily be distributed to a graduating senior interested in pursuing a career in teaching while attending a college in Michigan. Mike and Judy have generously given thousands of dollars to the school district over the last few years. Those donations were used to help purchase classroom materials aimed at helping our at risk and special education programs and students.

Music Department Donation:

In June the district was the recipient of a very generous donation to the K-12 Music Department by Mr. Gary Johnson, IMHS Class of 1961 totaling \$200,000.

While growing up and attending school his father Ewald Johnson and Wally Swanson the IMHS Music Director had a profound effect on Gary. According to Gary and his childhood friend Rena Richtig-Cheney, "Mr. Ewald Johnson repaired and refurbished instruments with the most personal care for children, often accepting only gratitude. Mr. Swanson likewise gave of himself. With his passion for music and teaching "Wally" motivated his students to enjoy chorus and band. The love of music learned under his direction lives on in many of the IMHS graduates."

The initial \$100,000 of the contribution has already been put to good use. It was used to purchase over 40 new instruments, four new electronic pianos, chimes, a new elementary curriculum, new choir uniforms, music stands, chairs and musical software. The remainder of the donation will be gifts of \$10,000 for the next 10 years. All gifts are designated for specific contributions to support and enhance the music department in curriculum, instruments and travel, and will be approved under the direction of Rena Richtig-Cheney.

Bond Proposal Updates

The school district has been very busy the past nine months implementing changes within the district as a result of the successful bond proposal passing in February of this year.

The first of three phases of projects is nearly complete. The first phase was centered on improving our outdated district wide technology, installing new furnaces at North Elementary, installing new lockers and gym lights at East Elementary and building a new east end entryway at the High School.

Technology improvements include but have not been limited to:

- New district wide VOIP Phone System
- Installing Wi-Fi at East and North Elementary Schools
- Installing new technology labs at East and North Elementary
- Installing new Drafting Lab computers
- Distributing new MacBook Airs and iPads for the entire teaching staff
- New MacBook Airs for the high school art and science departments for student use
- Distributing new iPads for all 6th grade students
- Reconfiguring two servers
- Installing new switches throughout the district

In addition to those changes the district reopened the East Elementary School as a 4th-6th grade elementary, reconfigured North Elementary School into a EK-3rd grade school and moved the Community Schools Program into the first floor of the Central Building.

The remaining two phases of the bond improvements will occur over the next two years. These phases include the implementation of new and separate district wide heating, security and lighting systems as well as major classroom, office area and auditorium (including the seats bought through the "Take a Seat" project) renovations in the high school, as well as the high school gym locker room areas.

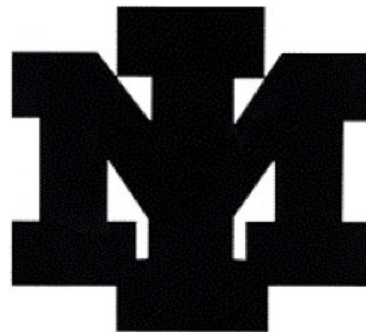
On behalf of the entire Iron Mountain Public Schools Board of Education, Administration, Staff and Students I would like to thank all the new, current, and past donors as well as the voters who helped pass the bond proposal. Your efforts have truly made a positive impact on our students and school district.

Happy Holiday Season to All.

My door is always open,

Tom Jayne

IMHS Class of 1981



Denim Days at Iron Mountain Public Schools

The staff at Iron Mountain Public Schools is giving back to the community. Each month the staff at IMPS contributes \$5 to wear jeans to school for a day. Money collected each month is being donated to charity. Most of the money collected stays in the community to make a difference locally.

In September, \$185 was donated to Northwoods Air Lifeline. October donations were designated for a national cause in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month; Lee Denim Day, which received \$245. 2013 marked the 5th year IMPS has contributed to National Lee Denim Day.

In early November donations totaling \$235 were made to the LCPL. Eric Palmisano Care Package Project, to provide funding for shipping packages to soldiers in honor of Veteran's Day.

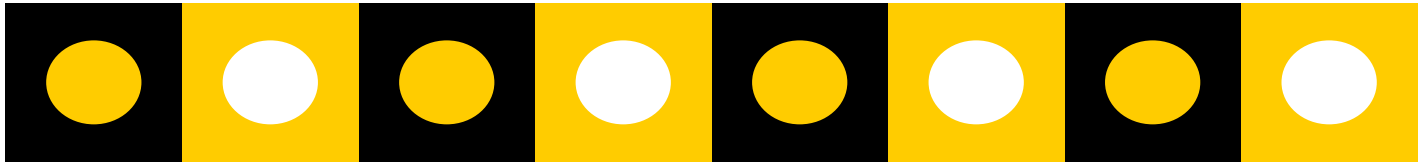
Future denim days will support the TV6 Can-a-thon with non-perishable donations of food for the holidays. Other recipients this year will include The Salvation Army, The Caring House, The Dickinson Cancer Loan Closet, Michigan's MS Society, the IMHS General Scholarship fund, and the Community Foundation.

With \$665 donated so far, IMPS is proud to make positive contributions to the community.



Staff from North Elementary present Theresa Louys from Northwoods Air Lifeline with a donation from denim days.

Pictured left to right: Renee Grenier—IMPS Staff, Bobbi Richtig—IMPS Staff, Theresa Louys—Northwoods Air Lifeline, Nicki Lawler—IMPS Staff



Iron Mountain Pride Committee

The Iron Mountain Pride Committee is up and running again! A group of energetic teachers, parents and administrators have come together to support the students and help make school fun for the kids. Our first meeting was held in September. At that time we focused our efforts on the Iron Mountain-Kingsford Rivalry Week. With the help and support of many people, we were able to...

- Put signs on the lockers for the Varsity and JV Football Teams, Varsity and JV Volleyball Teams, Cheer Team, Dance Team, High School Band, Cross Country Team, Soccer Team and the 8th Grade Girls' Basketball Team.
- All IMHS and MS students were allowed into the Iron Mountain-Kingsford home volleyball and soccer game for FREE.
- ALL Mountaineers in grades Early-Kindergarten through 12th grade were allowed into the Iron Mountain-Kingsford JV football game for FREE. (After the volleyball and soccer games, we realized that all the Mountaineers should get in for free and Mr. Jayne agreed)!
- North Elementary had a Poster and Popcorn Party on Friday afternoon before the "Big Game." East Elementary had a Pep Rally and the high school had a Powder-Puff Girls' Football Game, but we can't take credit for those two events because they were planned before our IM Pride Committee met. The Iron Mountain-Kingsford Rivalry Week is as much fun now as it was when you were in school. Everyone comes home for the IM-K football game!
- On Senior Night, Louisiana Pacific donated mini-footballs that the cheerleaders threw into the fan section after every Mountaineer touchdown. The IM Pride Committee gave away "blinky-light necklaces" to the fans. The necklaces were donated!

The Iron Mountain Pride Committee has been busy making "Spirit Gloves" to sell at the games. All the gloves and yarn were donated, so 100% of the profits went right back to the Pride Committee. We also raffled off two Mountaineer Spirit Bags. The bags included a Mountaineer T-shirt donated by Shirt-Tales, a Mountaineer polo shirt donated by Signature Design, along with Mountaineer water bottles, pens, pennants, balloons, tattoos, chip clips, pins and a black and gold scarf hand-made by Mrs. Marion Opolka.

We are hoping to raise more money so we can buy "Iron Mountain Pride" T-shirts for the basketball games. We would like to give them away to students or sell them at a very low price so our fan section would have matching T-shirts just like Tom Izzo's "Izzone". We are also hoping to purchase mini black and gold megaphones. The megaphones would be sold in the concession stand and filled with popcorn. That way, the students can have a treat and then cheer for the Mountaineers.

Lastly, we are starting a Spirit Club in the high school. We have parent volunteers who will meet with the students every month so the kids can make Mountaineer posters for the gym, locker signs, and spirit posters for the hallways. All IMHS students are welcome!

Our motto is **"Everything we do is for the kids!"**

If you have any suggestions or comments, please e-mail Maria Basanese at basanesem@imschools.org.

If you would like to make a donation to our Iron Mountain Pride Committee, you can send it to our Pride Committee treasurer, Mary Martin at North Elementary, 900 5th Street, Iron Mountain, MI 49801. Just \$7.00 would cover the cost of one t-shirt for our "Izzone!"



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

We're on
www.imschools.org

*Bruce Gall '59, Phyllis (Rahoi) Ewig '43, Bonnie Buchanan '58, Barbara Marinelli
~ In Memory of Paula Jo Swor '62, Donald Roberge '47, Victor Badini '45, Patricia*



**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.