

ATHENS HISTORY CIRCLE BOOK CLUB HONOREE:

BARBARA BERNARD STEIN

Barbara Bernard Stein enjoyed 30+ years in the ICCSD as a teacher, assistant principal, and teacher librarian. She worked with students, parents and colleagues at Lincoln, Roosevelt, and Weber Elementary schools. A highlight of her career was getting to be a part of the opening of Weber school in 1994.

She loved being a part of a learning community, where the focus was developing life-long learners. She loved the collaborative environment she worked in where staff created meaningful, purposeful, and connected learning for students. Her particular interests involved finding good books for all kids and helping teachers find materials to enhance their units.

She still lives in Iowa City and works at Raymond James Investment Services and in the Prairie Lights Children's Department. She is a member of a bookclub and an art club called Raphael Club. She feels fortunate to live in a community with a rich cultural life.

BORLAUG HONOREE:

ROB HAIGHT

Rob Haight joined the Iowa City Community School District in 2008. After serving at Wickham Elementary for five years, he transferred to Borlaug as the lead custodian in 2013. Prior to working for ICCSD, Rob spent 10 years as the lead custodian at an elementary school in the Bettendorf Community School District. After having Rob in our school for a couple of years, it is clear to see why his former school in Bettendorf had an annual "Mr. Rob Day" complete with a lifesize cutout of Rob!

From his very first day at Borlaug, Rob has exuded positive energy. He is always cheerful and engaging with the students. He recognizes when help is needed and usually offers before even asked. He always has a smile on his face, and students often comment on how much they like him. One student said, "He is so helpful to everyone at Borlaug no matter what. He is we Love about Borlaug."

The Borlaug staff, students and parents feel fortunate to have Rob as part of our community and hope that he will be with us for many years to come.

CITY HIGH HONOREES:

MARK BROCKMEYER

Mark Brockmeyer is completing his 29th year of teaching, the last 26 in ICCSD at City High. As an undergraduate, he majored in Biology, Earth Science and Secondary Education. After moving to Iowa City, Mark earned his Master's and Doctoral Degrees from The University of Iowa, focusing on curriculum design, instructional strategies and program administration.

At City High, Mark has taught Foundations of Science and Earth Science, served as Technology Services Director, advised student clubs and served on numerous leadership committees. For the past 8 years, Mark has also served as the District K12 Science Curriculum Coordinator and a Staff Development Facilitator. Mark is one of those unique educators with the ability to be an outstanding classroom teacher and the expertise to apply those same strategies to design and deliver quality professional development for teachers in Iowa City and across the nation.

Mark Brockmeyer has had a positive impact on hundreds of teachers and thousands of students in his teaching career and we at City High wish him all the best in his new role as ICCSD Teacher Leadership Program Facilitator.

RANDY BROWN

In 1979 and 1980, Randy taught GED and ESL classes at South Tama High School. From 1980 to 1983, as well as from 1984 to 1987, He taught language arts classes and debate at East Coweta HS (Senoia, GA). From 1983 to 1984, Randy taught language arts and newspaper journalism at McIntosh HS (Peachtree City, GA). From 1987 to 1990, he taught language arts and debate at Iowa City West HS. From 1990 to 2015, Randy taught, at Iowa City HS—The School That Leads—among other courses, Advanced Placement World History.

In 2009, he taught an Asian and Pacific Studies Institute (APSI) for the Belin Blank Center for Gifted Education at the University of Iowa. From 2007 to 2009, He led seminars for the National Consortium for Teaching about Asia (NCTA). In 2006 Randy was an instructor for a University of Iowa methods class, "Teaching about Asia." Between 1998 and 2003, Randy taught courses for Belin Blank. The program was called Iowa Talent Search. The courses included "Architecture" and "Dropping the Bomb."

ANNE CROKER

Anne started her ICCSD career at Southeast Jr High in the fall of 1990 working in the SCI classroom as a one on one associate for 2 years, then moved to the Autism classroom for a year. In the fall of 1993 she moved over to City High in their SCI program for 4

years. In 1997 Anne took a job in the Attendance office. Switching over in 2000 as the Receptionist in the City High main office. In 2002 Anne was named Principal's Secretary/Office Manager and has remained in that position until her retirement on June 30, 2015. She feels it has been a wonderful 25 years of working alongside some really great colleagues and will miss all of them very much (not the work).

SARAH RICHARDSON

Sarah Richardson received a B.A., magna cum laude, from Brown University in International Relations, an M.B.A. in Marketing and Finance, with honors, and an M.A. in International Relations from the University of Chicago. She worked in international business development for Sonoco Products Company and Pepsi Cola International in Canada, Mexico, Western Europe, Russia and Ukraine. After living and working overseas, she returned to her home state of Iowa to help expand Barker Apartments in eastern Iowa. She worked as a volunteer in education for 14 years before joining iJAG (Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates). She feels lucky to have had the chance to work with the wonderful students of iJAG helping them unlock their potential and pursue positive postsecondary paths. The opportunity to work with the outstanding administrators, faculty and staff at City High has been a great honor and a privilege.

LORAIN SMIRL

Loraine Smirl has taught Advanced Placement Calculus at City High for twelve years and Pre Algebra at South East Junior High for one year. Loraine graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Math from Lamar University in Texas and a Master's degree in Math from the University of Michigan. After college, Loraine taught secondary math for thirteen years in New Mexico, Arizona and Texas.

CORALVILLE CENTRAL:

BECCA BENDER

Everyone knows Miss Becca at Coralville Central, and everyone loves Miss Becca at Coralville Central.

First and foremost, she takes care of all the families at our school, and she is professional and confidential in her comments around the building. Becca is instrumental in helping parents find resources they need, even if this means working evenings or weekends. She makes everyone feel comfortable, even in what may be uncomfortable situations. She is a wonderful driver as she takes kids to appointments for eyeglasses, as she takes parents to the doctors, as she picks up families for parent-teacher meetings. Miss Becca runs childcare at our school on conference days. Miss

Becca facilitates our Homework Club. She is our co-PBIS coach and is instrumental in the positive atmosphere of our Check-In/Check-Out Program. She runs many of our Family Nights. Miss Becca is rarely in her office, but is often found interacting with kids, taking them on breaks, and even offering a shoulder to cry on. We wish everyone could see Becca with the students at Coralville Central, because she makes each one feel special and loved. We are lucky to have Becca Bender at our school.

JESS FIEDOROWICZ

Jess Fiedorowicz is the founder and coach of the Coralville Central Chess Club. He has done everything in their power to make Chess Club available to all students at Coralville Central. His generosity is evident in the purchasing of chess sets for each classroom in the school to have for indoor recess, thus giving each child access to the game. Jess asked if he could have a spot on the school webpage to put information for parents. He has asked teachers if they have any students showing interest in their rooms, and if so, he has contacted the family. Jess has picked kids up in the morning for Chess Club if they don't have an early morning ride, and they have picked children up for tournaments. He has been an ambassador for the game of chess and exposing the children of Coralville Central to the great game. Jess has contributed to the education of many children at Coralville Central.

DPO HONOREES:

ANN FELDMANN

Ann Feldmann began her career in our district in 1997 as Assistant Principal at West High for two years, until she became Director of Human Resources for seven years. She then served in the Cedar Rapids district, returning to Iowa City in 2008 as assistant superintendent. She oversaw secondary school matters, at-risk students, enrollment, and student transfers. Ann has been recognized as an Outstanding Alumnus of the Drake University School of Education and has won a national award for collaborative work with teacher associations. She shared that when she first began teaching, she realized the huge amount of work that went into daily class preparations, coaching three sports, and facilitating a school club. Plus she had little money left after paying bills, and she wondered if it was all worth while. But a note from a fresh graduate, thanking her for being an excellent teacher, gave her the inspiration needed to pursue her chosen career. In retirement, she will enjoy the Arizona sunshine, play golf, travel and spend time with friends and family. Superintendent Steve Murley shared, "Ann is a tremendous educational leader. She brought a passion and positive spirit to the District that was difficult to match. Her joy for education and love for the Iowa City Schools will be greatly missed."

PAM EHLY

Pam Ehly served our school district for 35 years. She started as a Special Education teacher at Central Junior High and then served as staff development facilitator before becoming Assistant Principal at City High, and then Principal at Lemme Elementary. In 1992, Pam became Director of Instruction where she oversaw programming and curricula. Pam has provided endless resources to teachers and principals and has contributed greatly in areas ranging from lesson design to district policy to national education trends. She shared that some personal highlights of her career have included partnering with community organizations such as Hancher, the UI and the Kennedy Center to provide enriching experiences for public education students. Her favorite memories involve watching students' excitement and satisfaction as they learn about nature at School of the Wild, perform in musicals such as *Evita*, and master orchestral suites such as Gustav Holst's *The Planets*. In retirement, she will enjoy her new grandchild. Superintendent Steve Murley shared this: "Pam has provided unrivaled leadership in the area of curriculum and instruction. Pam set and continued to raise the achievement bar in a manner that has ensured Iowa City students remain among the best in the State and nation. This level of expertise and wisdom is not easily replicated or replaced."

GARNER HONOREE:

NATHAN OSTLUND

Nathan Ostlund is one of the night custodians at Garner Elementary. As you can imagine being one of the custodians in the largest elementary school in the district has its challenges. Nathan is always willing to help and the PTO is constantly thanking them for his effort above and beyond during special events in the evening. Nathan is the father of twins and loves to talk with anyone about his beloved Cyclones. Everyone at Garner truly appreciates Nathan's efforts in making sure that the school is ready for the next day.

PRISCILLA GOMEZ-STREAM

Priscilla Gomez-Stream has been a teacher in the Iowa City District for 25 years, and sadly will be retiring at the end of this school year. She began her career in the district in 1990 at Horace Mann Elementary as a Resource Teacher during that time she also traveled to Lemme, Longfellow, Lucas, and Lincoln. During that time she was also the Reading Recovery Teacher at Lucas. In 1998 she transferred to Wickham Elementary to be a Resource and Reading Recovery Teacher. She then moved into 1st grade in 2000, and has been there ever since. In 2010, Priscilla came to Garner and was a member of the first staff in the new school in North Liberty. Priscilla has had an impact on so many

children during her career, and if we had to bet she will continue to teach and educate kids even during her “Retirement” in Colorado.

SAFETA SALESEVIC

Safeta Salesevic is also a night custodian at Garner Elementary, and we are sure that many of you have been in the school for an evening practice, Cub Scout meeting, or some other special event. If you have been there you can see Safeta cheerfully doing her job each night and is always willing to lend a helping hand. If you stop to talk to Safeta you will certainly hear about her grandson Adam, and that story will be accompanied by the biggest smile. The Garner Elementary staff truly appreciates all of the extra effort Safeta puts in on a daily basis.

HILLS HONOREES:

MARY COUGHLIN-JULIEN

Mary Coughlin-Julien, warmly called Ms. Mary by students, began to impact the lives of students at Hills Elementary in the fall of 2014. Mary works as a supervisory para-educator and also works in the Hills Learning Center, an after school program designed to provide enrichment and additional learning opportunities for students. She has a talent for building a positive rapport and mutual respect with students. Her initiative to reach out and inspire students to do their personal best in academics and citizenship is evident in the positive results students are producing. Mary’s counseling background has been an asset as she has facilitated conflict resolution and friendship skills among students. She has been a positive influence for the Hills Learning Community.

PAM KEYWORDH

Dr. Pam Keywordh has been a special education teacher at Hills Elementary for the past few years. She works in a modified classroom with students who have significant academic and social needs. Pam’s classroom is warm and inviting, and one can instantly tell that her students come first. She holds high expectations, while still maintaining a caring and engaging environment. In addition, she is always surprising her students with gifts that make learning experiences exciting and her peers with surprises for their important life events. Pam’s other career experiences have included being a member of the North African Peace Corps, instructing college students, and teaching special education for students at both the elementary and junior high levels. It is for all these reasons that the Hills Elementary PTO wanted to recognize Pam for her selfless acts that her students and peers will remember for a lifetime. Thanks for all you do, Pam.

HOOVER HONOREE:

DAWN HERREN-WEGMAN

Dawn Herren-Wegman grew up in Anamosa, Iowa, and graduated from Anamosa High School. She attended the University of Iowa where she earned an undergraduate and Masters degree in Elementary Education. Dawn's first teaching position was at Cody Elementary School in North Platte, Nebraska. In 1980, she returned to eastern Iowa and took a position at St. Mary's Catholic School in Riverside teaching fourth, fifth, and sixth grades. In 1984, she accepted a fifth grade position at Horace Mann Elementary in the Iowa City Community School District. From 1985 to the present she has taught at Hoover Elementary School, teaching grades third through sixth.

Dawn's family includes her husband, Joe, a son, Jon, who lives in La Crosse, Wisconsin, a son, Dan and his wife, Bobbie, and granddaughter, Annie, who live in Iowa City.

HORN HONOREES:

YAMINI BHAGWAT

Yamini Bhagwat received her B.S. in Biology from the University of Illinois at Champaign (UIUC). Yamini served as vice-president of the Ernest Horn Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) Vice-President, Newsletter Editor, and District Parent Organization representative from 2010-2011, as President from 2011-2012, and as Co-President from 2012-2013. Among the highlights of Yamini's tenure with the Ernest Horn PTO, was the launching of the Annual Ernest Horn Science Fair (beginning in 2012), which has approximately 100 students participating annually. Yamini has also served on the ICCSD Equity Committee from 2008-2012, and 2013-today.

CECILIA NORRIS

For the past 10 years, Cecilia Norris has been an involved volunteer with the Horn PTO and in the classroom. For three years, Cecilia served as the Horn PTO volunteer coordinator, recruiting and organizing volunteers for countless committees and activities that have enriched the experience of Horn students. She created and then implemented the December teacher appreciation program, coordinated family activities, organized teacher parties for the silent auction, served on two 6th grade party committees and the science fair committee, consistently served as a room parent in all three of her children's classes, and advocated for crosswalk safety improvements. Since 2005 Cecilia has regularly volunteered at a variety of Horn activities from chaperoning orchestra trips to assisting the Girl Scouts in planting a garden at Horn. As her youngest child moves on to junior high next year, we thank Cecilia for her numerous contributions to Horn Elementary and Horn students.

SUSY JUNGE

Susy acquired her undergraduate dual degree in Elementary Education and Special Education/Learning Disabilities at Kent State University and her masters degree in Special Education/ Mild to Moderate Needs from the University of Northern Colorado. She started my career in the Aurora Public School system, teaching 3/4/5th grades for ten years. For the next 14 years, she taught 5th grade at Kirkwood Elementary School and her last seven years as a 5th/6th grade teacher at Horn Elementary. She mentored 6 first year teachers and hosted 19 student teachers in her career.

LEMME HONOREES:

SHARON HACKBARTH

Sharon Hackbarth was raised on a family farm near Ames, Iowa. She received her teacher training from the University of Northern Iowa. After her marriage, she moved to Iowa City and spent the first year being a substitute teacher. By the next school year, she was hired as a first grade teacher at Roosevelt Elementary. Thrilled by the news and still in the hospital for the birth of her first child, she said she could start the job in 3 weeks!

While teaching at Roosevelt, Sharon shared special interests in science teaching techniques and assisted her uncle by giving presentations at state and national science conferences. In 1981, she received the first elementary science teacher award from the Iowa Academy of Science Teachers.

After six years of teaching, Sharon became a full-time mother, but remained active in PTA & school activities, as well as doing some subbing. In 1997, she returned to teaching and has enjoyed working at Lemme for the past 17 years. It's been great to be a Lemme Leopard, but the time is right for Sharon to refresh and spend more time with her loving family and friends.

DIANE SPICKNALL

Mrs. Spicknall started her career in education in August 1978 as a speech/language pathologist working for Heartland AEA in Ankeny. The next year, she married and moved to the Iowa City area. She worked for Grant Wood AEA for thirteen years serving schools in the Williamsburg area and later working at Hoover Elementary in Iowa City.

In June 1992, Mrs. Spicknall left the field of speech pathology and returned to the University of Iowa to complete her certification to teach elementary school. She began

her career as a classroom teacher in January 1995 working as a substitute teacher in the Iowa City Schools.

In August 1996, she was hired to teach 1st grade at Lemme Elementary. While at Lemme, Mrs. Spicknall enjoyed the challenges of her roles as a classroom teacher, LARS and reading teacher. She is grateful for the opportunity she had to touch the lives of children and work with many dedicated colleagues.

DIANE JETTER

Diane Jetter started her teaching career in 1976 as an elementary librarian for the Ballard Huxley School District. That job consisted of putting together 3 libraries from scratch and included everything from helping to build the shelves to writing the curriculum. Following that she worked for the Ames Community Schools as what we now call a Title One Math and Reading Teacher for grades 3-6. In 1981 her oldest child was born and she decided to stay home for a few years. She returned to the classroom as preschool assistant teacher, in 1990. In 1994, she became a para-educator at Lemme, where she was then hired as a second grade teacher in 1996, a job she has loved for the last 19 years. Diane is looking forward to traveling, reading, and spending more time with her family, particularly her four grandchildren.

LINCOLN HONOREES:

KAREN CHARNEY

Karen Charney brings to her a job a number of unusual and unique qualities, considering her strong musical background plus her excellent counseling skills. She received her B.F.A. in music performance from the Purchase College Conservatory of Music (NY) and continues to be an active musician in the Iowa City area. She received her Master of Science in Guidance and Counseling from Lehman College in New York City. The discipline and dedication she demonstrates as a musician are echoed in her interactions with all of her students, parents, and staff at Lincoln Elementary School. Karen is full of life and has a sparkling personality, which radiates throughout the building. With her constant source of creative energy, she is able to bring out the best in people during even the most difficult times. In addition to being the school counselor, Karen fulfills many teacher leadership roles at Lincoln. As she completes her eighth year in the district, she looks forward to continuing her tenure with the Lincoln Lions.

JENNY DUFFY

As a former West High cheerleader, Jenny Duffy has spirit, Oh yes she does! She has been a positive, supportive, and generous member of the Lincoln community for more

than a decade. In the last 12 years, Jenny has amassed an impressive volunteer resume during her time as a Lincoln parent. She is a frequent room parent and has volunteered regularly at Pancake Day, flower planting day, book fair, Learning at Lunch and countless other events whenever she was free. Jenny has monitored thousands of rounds of Plinko during her tenure and will be sorely missed at Lincoln Fun Night. Jenny was the Lincoln PTO volunteer coordinator for several years finding people to fill the many roles needed to make events run smoothly. She has served as the DPO rep for Lincoln and NWJHS.

Her husband (Pat) and three boys Tommy (junior at West), Michael (freshman at West) and Charlie (6th grader at Lincoln soon to be at NWJH), keep her busy, happy and outnumbered. Her boys are always her priority and she really enjoyed walking the boys to/from school when possible and participating in their time at Lincoln make use of any 'opportunity' to assist. While she's not volunteering for Lincoln, NWJHS or West, Jenny works as a social worker at UHC children's hospital. Jenny really enjoys reading and having 'mom' time taking in a movie on weekends especially if her mom can join her. We would like to thank you, Jenny Duffy, for always going the extra mile for Lincoln and being a wonderful role model for kids and parents alike.

CURT RITTER

Curt Ritter has been a dedicated teacher at Lincoln Elementary for the past 26 years. Over those 26 years, he has been a teacher, a building leader, a dedicated student council leader, and a mentor to countless student teachers. Curt, or Mr. Ritter, as they call him, loves working with his students and challenges them to always put forth their best effort. He holds his students to high expectations, because he cares for them and wants to see them succeed. He also enjoys reading aloud to his class on a daily basis, because he values the importance that reading can make on many students' lives.

Outside of school, Curt loves to spend time with his wife, Mary, and their two sons, Tim and Hugh. Tim is currently working with AmeriCorps in California and Hugh is a University of Iowa student. In his free time Curt loves to listen to live music and cheer on his beloved Pittsburgh Pirates. Curt is also a dedicated runner and never leaves home without his loyal companion, Gracie. With Curt's leadership and friendly disposition Lincoln continues to be a place where learning is valued, kindness is expected and a positive attitude is seen around every corner.

LONGFELLOW HONOREES:

MARGARET BUETER

Margaret Beuter has been a pillar in the Longfellow community since 1996. With two daughters and countless students who've learned from her, she is an educator at her very core. Wellgrounded in her philosophy and beliefs about physical education and

children, Margaret has provided us all; teachers, parents, and students alike, with new perspectives on education and the benefits of creating healthy habits.

When she's not in the class room teaching students, she can be found working with colleagues on how to incorporate movement into their classrooms and academics into hers. Whether it is building her knowledge through trainings and conferences, facilitating the Longfellow walking club or leading the Jump Rope for Heart initiative, Margaret is always willing to help find positive ways to keep our community healthy. She has a heart of gold and is the Excellence in our Longfellow PRIDE program. For all she has done and all that she is, Mrs. Beuter will be deeply missed by the Longfellow community. Thank you, Mrs. Beuter. Thank you.

BRIAN MILDENSTEIN

Brian Mildenstein is the parent of two children in the ICCSD. His contributions to education include serving as a PTA officer and volunteering at many school events. He and his family have made notable donations to our silent auctions. One of Brian's significant contributions was to establish the Math Olympiad program at Longfellow. For over 5 years, Brian has lead a weekly math club for 4th-6th grade students. Brian's leadership has provided students with the opportunity to strengthen math skills, foster mathematical creativity and ingenuity, and stimulate enthusiasm and a love for mathematics.

LORI KRAMER

Lori Kramer is the parent of 4 children. PTA has been her part-time job for the last 7 years, just ask her husband. Lori has served as PTA president for 3 years, chaired many school events, served as editor of the school newsletter for several years, and volunteered at every PTA function ever to hit the calendar. She has travelled to the state capitol to speak with legislators concerning education issues and helped communicate information to other parents. Her passion and energy for all issues concerning education has postively affected our school community.

ROBIN SUEPPEL

Robin Sueppel is the parent of a 6th grade son in the ICCSD. Robin has been active in our school community starting the day her son entered kindergarten. Robin has chaired fundraisers, organized community building events such as our school's participation in the Homecoming parade, and volunteered at many events.

One of Robin's most significant contributions to education is the establishment of the foreign language program at Longfellow. She has created and overseen the before-school program, which has given elementary students the opportunity to learn Spanish, a program which continues to this day.

KATHY MURPHY

Kathy Murphy came to Longfellow over 15 years ago and has been serving breakfast and lunch to Longfellow families ever since. She is an individual with high standards and expectations – hard working and dedicated. Kathy knows each and every one of our Longfellow students and works hard to make sure that the food and nutrition part of their day is a positive experience. Over the past several years, I have had the pleasure of working alongside Mrs. Murphy. Kathy, thank you for everything – you will be missed...and good luck with the golf game!

LUCAS HONOREES:

BARB HAACK

Barbara Haack is currently in her 44th year of teaching. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in 1971 from Florida State University, her Master's Degree in 1981 from the University of Maryland, and achieved National Board Certification in Middle Child Generalist in 2002. Prior to moving to Iowa City, Barbara taught in the following school districts: Des Moines Public Schools, Milford, Delaware, Winston Salem, NC; Xenia, Ohio, Fairfax County, Virginia, D.C. Public Schools, and Northampton County, VA. Her experiences include teaching at all grade levels at a;; grade levels from Kindergarten through fifth grade. She is currently in her 13th year as a teacher in the Iowa City Community School District having taught at Longfellow 5 years, Grant Wood 5 years and at Lucas 3 years.

Barbara's passion for working with children extends beyond her teaching career. She directs the youth choir at Bethel AME Church in Iowa City, and has been an active member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority where she has coordinated a number of community programs for girls.

JUDY ROBERTS

Judy Roberts worked at Lucas Elementary for the past 10 years. She has dedicated her time and energy to help staff and students. During her time here she volunteered in classrooms assisting teachers with many projects they needed done. She also worked as a paraprofessional helping students in and outside the classroom. After all these years her decision to leave Lucas is bittersweet. She will be joining her siblings and moving back to her home town of Wayland, Iowa. She hopes to volunteer in Waco, Iowa to continue her service for the school system. She will also enjoy spending some much deserved time with her brother and sisters drinking coffee, playing games, and catching up on conversation with old friends. Judy was truly an asset to the Iowa City Community School District and will greatly be missed.

MANN HONOREES:

MINDA DAVISON

Minda Davison is a generous friend to the Horace Mann community. Her work in hunger education and advocacy ranges from locally serving as an organizer of the Johnson County CROP Hunger Walk to globally assisting with well building in South Sudan. As a member of Zion Lutheran Church, Mann's neighbor, Minda initiated the Goosetown Operation Backpack program supported by both HACAP and additional grants that she was able to secure. She organizes an intergenerational team of parishioners, neighbors, and Mann parents to prepare 30 supplemental food kits for Mann students each week including most of the summer.

MARTINE DUNNWALD

Martine Dunnwald has been at the heart of community building and fundraising at Horace Mann for the past seven years. She created and organizes one of Mann's most beloved annual events, a spirited night of live local bands, which has raised thousands of dollars for the school. Currently, she is serving as the PTO President and fulfills this role with wisdom accumulated over her years of leadership roles within the organization. As a past PTO treasurer, her attention to financial detail made it possible for the PTO to support the needs of Mann teachers through the purchases including 25 iPads. The Mann library has also benefited from her work coordinating the fall book fair.

NWJH HONOREES:

RON JENSEN

Ron Jensen has worked to two careers in his life; one as a farmer and one as a school custodian. Ron grew up on a farm in rural West Liberty and he has lived on that farm his entire life. In 1984, Ron began working for the West Liberty Schools and, in 1994, he took the job as day custodian of Northwest Junior High where he has worked ever since. Ron lives on a century farm with his wife Rhonda where they also raised their three children, Megan, Wade and Kirsten. Through the years, Ron and Rhonda have hosted several foreign exchange students and they have made several trips abroad to meet with them in their native countries. In retirement, Ron will continue to farm, travel and enjoy his two grandchildren, Malachi and Jolene.

KEVIN RECKNOR

Kevin attended the Universities of Nebraska and Iowa, majoring in Social and Physical Sciences and Education. In 1985, he student taught at South East Junior High with Joyce Carman. He taught Government, History, Geography, Sociology, and Economics at Valley

High School in Elgin, Iowa and AP Language Arts, History, and Government in Letts, Iowa. In the late 1980's, he worked as a teacher for Youth Homes in Iowa City, a residential program for At-Risk children. He started teaching in Iowa City in 1990. He taught American Studies at West High and Government at City High, but nearly all of his 25 years in Iowa City have been at Northwest Junior High teaching Global Studies, American Studies, Science, Language Arts, Street Law, and Current Events. For the past 15 years, he has been a Success Center teacher. After retiring, he plans to spend a lot of time with his grandchildren in California and in Iowa. His big dream is to buy a farm and start an animal sanctuary in Iowa and pursue his interest in animal rights. The things he will miss most about Northwest, besides the students and the amazing teachers, are the staff meetings.

STEVE SHULLAW

Originally from Rock Island, Illinois, Steve attended Augustana College, the University of Iowa and the University of Manchester, England. He spent 12+ years in South Florida as a director of community development and served as the first president of the Broward County (Ft. Lauderdale) Planning Association. When his son was a preschooler, Steve relocated to Iowa City for the express purpose of his son attending school in the district, Horn – Northwest – West.

In high school, Steve was an officer in Future Teachers of America. The inspiration to pursue the career came from coaching his son and his son's friends in basketball and baseball. Steve obtained his teaching credentials from the University of Iowa. He did his practicum, student teaching, and twenty-two years of classroom work entirely at Northwest. For ten consecutive summers, Steve took students on educational tours, visiting over twenty countries. Career highlights have always revolved around his students.

Mr. Shullaw's motto is, "Life's a party so you might as well dance." He encourages his students to kick up their heels and try the many wonderful things life has to offer. Our students are the future, and the future is bright.

PENN HONOREE:

Alta began volunteering at Penn when her son was in 1st grade in 1978. Eventually, she was hired and is now completing her 2th year as the Penn Media Secretary. In these 26 years, Alta has worked with only 2 librarians, who both sing her praises and have great appreciation for her work ethic. Alta has always been a great resource for teachers and is willing to tackle any project. Of course there has been much technological advancement over the years, but through it all she is thankful to have worked with two of her favorite things: kids and books.

Alta is looking forward to spending time with her family: her husband of 46 years, Alvin, 2 children and 2 grandchildren. Of course, she'll also continue making jelly and reading.

SEJH HONOREE:

PETE MUIR

Mr. Muir has been connected to South East as a practicum student, student teacher, and teacher dating back to 1979 with his first year of teaching in 1982.

For the first twelve years he taught Language Arts 8 and a variety to electives; media workshop, reading, science fiction, and different writing courses. After this time a position opened to make a change to teaching L.A. 7 in a block with a seventh grade global studies teacher. The teaching partnership lasted for 15 years until the decision was made to end the block scheduling between Language Arts 7 and Global Studies 7.

Since that time until his retirement, Muir taught Language Arts 7, supervised several student clubs, hosted more than twenty student teachers and probably even more practicum students. He was elected to serve on the Faculty Council, the South East building leadership team, many times throughout his career. Besides his work in the classroom, Muir also became active in the Iowa City Education Association, the Iowa State Education, and the National Education Association. Locally serving as the president elect and then president of the association.

What he will miss most after his 34 years working with junior high students will be the relationship built between his students, colleagues, and parents.

CONNIE WICKS (in memoriam)

Connie Wicks came to the District in 1992 as a special education teacher at City High School. She moved to SEJHS in 2004 and served the students and families of SEJHS for the last ten years. Beyond teaching, Connie made a tremendous impact on our students outside the classroom. She served as a track coach, volleyball coach, pom pom sponsor, and basketball coach. We are sad to have lost such a special person this year, but are truly thankful for the time we did have Ms. Wicks with us.

SHIMEK HONOREES:

JENNIFER & STEVE BALLARD

Shimek honors a special husband and wife team which has supported the school through their PTO efforts for 11 years. Jennifer Ballard and Steve Ballard sent three children to Shimek. During this time, Jennifer and Steve solicited and organized the

many donations for the PTO Silent Auction, which is a part of the annual Shimek Carnival. This is a huge undertaking, and one of Shimek's biggest fundraisers. The Ballards have also been involved in many other PTO community and fundraising activities, and in their final year as Shimek Parents, served as Co Presidents of the PTO. Jennifer and Steve are each also involved with community activities, and active as role models and leaders in Scouts. Thank you, Jennifer and Steve, for your work at Shimek and in the Iowa City Community.

TATE HONOREE:

JESSE SMITH

Jesse is a great example of what education and being a great teacher is. He works extra hours to ensure students have the best support and academic success. He volunteers many extra hours to help students fill out job applications, run basketball practice and games, provides rides home, attends volleyball and basketball games for the Iowa Hawkeyes, and provides support in our Phoenix Program.

Jesse does a wonderful job as our MTSS coordinator by building relationships with our students. These relationships help to foster education and emotional growth of our students. Jesse is an asset to our team at Tate. He leads by example and spends hours in the background ensuring testing and academic supports are in place for our students. He is a building PBIS coach. We wish to honor his hard work and let him know how appreciated he is.

TWAIN HONOREES:

TEKALGNE TEWABE

The Twain PTO would like to recognize Tekalgne Tewabe for his work at Mark Twain Elementary. Tekalgne, known to everyone as "T", has been the night custodian at Mark Twain for the last 9 years. Before that, he was a part time custodian at Wood Elementary School. When the PTO has Family Nights, we can always count on T to help us with unlocking doors, setting up tables, and cleaning up. He always is willing to help and does not complain about the extra work we cause him to do. T is retiring this year and plans to spend some time with his family in Ethiopia. We wish him the best and thank him for all of his work.

KAREN OBERMAN

The Twain PTO would like to recognize Karen Oberman for all she and her family have done for Mark Twain Elementary. Karen started at Twain in 1994 as the school counselor/grant director. After two years and missing her own classroom, she moved

to a first/second grade position and has since taught first, second, third and fourth grades and has served as a Reading Recovery Teacher. She was a member of Twain's site council, the PBIS committee, Conflict Manager leader, Team Leader, and a member of the Reading Committee. Mrs. Oberman is on a leave of absence this year but volunteers twice a week in Twain's first grade classrooms. She also is teaching a Junior Achievement Unit. Supporting education runs in Karen's family – her mother was a beloved teacher at Horn for many years and her son is currently a popular substitute teacher. When Karen's mother died, the family donated money so that non-fiction books could be added to the Twain library. Karen and her husband Chuck have contributed to many of the fundraisers at Twain throughout the years. We would like to thank her for all that she has done in her role as a staff member and as a volunteer.

VAN ALLEN HONOREE:

LISA HILDEBRAND

I am writing express what a positive and outstanding educator Lisa Hildebrand is to the staff and students at Van Allen Elementary. It is extremely hard to describe someone who makes a daily impact on the education, self worth, and future of all as they have classes with Mrs. Hildebrand. Mrs. Hildebrand models great teaching, and her example encourages others around her to strive for their best. Mrs. Hildebrand teaches physical education at Van Allen. Her positive attitude impacts our school on a daily bases.

Lisa is a graduate of Luther Collage. She has a Masters of Education from Graceland University and has a triple major in Art, Health, and Physical Education and has contributed to the education of students in ICCSD for 13 years.

This year Mrs. Hildebrand has shown leadership in the NFL's Fuel Up to Play 60 grant. *Fuel Up to Play 60* is an in school nutrition and physical activity program launched by National Dairy Council (NDC) and NFL, in collaboration with the USDA, to help encourage today's youth to lead healthier lives.

Mrs. Hildebrand enjoys spending time with her husband and 3 children. She also has 4 chickens and has run 4 half marathons in the last 3 years. Van Allen Elementary is an extraordinary place to learn and develop healthy minds and bodies. Mrs. Hildebrand is a very big factor in its success! It is an honor for us to recognize her today!

WEBER HONOREES:

PAT FERREL

Pat Ferrel has been a head custodian in the ICCSD for 36.5 years. He began his career at SE Junior High, and has worked at Penn, Wickham, and Longfellow, before ending his

career this year at Weber Elementary. Pat prides himself in maintaining a building that is safe and orderly, with a goal of providing a quality environment for learning.

Pat not only takes pride in a clean school, he goes above and beyond to strengthen and be a part of the learning community. There have been numerous examples, over his years in the ICCSD, where he brought out one of his guitars or built props for special events, dressed up in a variety of costumes, helped with composting and gardening projects, or assisted with classroom projects and learning. He is always willing to lend a helping hand.

Pat, thank you for your hard work and dedication to the students and staff of the ICCSD! You will be missed and we hope you enjoy your retirement!

VICKI ARNOLD

Vicki Arnold has been a general music teacher in the ICCSD for 41 years. She began teaching at Twain Elementary and taught there for 21 years, as well as assorted second schools during that time. She helped open Weber Elementary in 1994 and has been teaching there for the last 20 years. At Weber, Vicki has worked tirelessly to integrate music education into the curricular areas in all grade levels. The rich learning and musical performances have been fabulous over the years, due to these connections.

In 1987, Vicki became the district's general music coordinator. In her role as coordinator, she has been instrumental in creating music kits that travel from school to school and exposing students to a variety of musical experiences, including instruments from around the world.

Vicki will continue her work with the Iowa City Girls Choir in her retirement, as well as spend more time reading and playing the piano. You will be missed Vicki Arnold, and we thank you for your contributions to music education in the ICCSD!

CHRIS GIBSON

Chris Gibson has worked in the ICCSD for 23 years, at Hills, Lucas, Wickham, and Weber, as teacher, assistant principal, and principal. Nineteen of her last 20 years were at Weber, the last 10, as principal. Most recently, Chris became Alexander's principal, opening next year.

Mrs. Gibson's powerful vision holds children at the center. She exudes kindness, passion, and joy in everything she does. When teaching, you would find her hunkered down, learning right alongside her students. As a principal, you can find her by her laugh, by the sound of her tap shoes, or by spotting her with her bright yellow, glittery, cardboard sun, the prop used when she danced with the Weber Dolphins in their video for the song *Happy*. "Clap along if you feel like a room without a roof, clap along if you

feel like happiness is the truth!" Thanks for your sparkles and sunshine, Chris!
Congratulations and Good Luck!

WEST HONOREES:

JERRY ARGANBRIGHT

Jerry and his family moved from Omaha Nebraska area in 1984 when he joined West High as the principal. He has enjoyed being part of West High for these past 31 years, watching the students enjoy their many successes over the years. Through his strong leadership West High has grown to become one of the top schools in the state in academics, music, athletics and many other areas. Jerry's dedication and commitment to students and learning, along with his great sense of humor will be sorely missed. Jerry and his wife Glenda plan to move to the Kansas City area to be closer to their families, and to see the KC Royals win the World Series this time!

LYNDA MILLER

Lynda started at West High 30 years ago as the faculty secretary; this involved typing for teachers and running the copy machine. She then became our receptionist and athletic secretary, served for many years as the guidance office secretary and is ending her career as a library secretary. Lynda will miss the students who have kept her young all these years. She will miss the faculty ad staff and all the wonderful friends she has made while working at West. Lynda looks forward to retirement and spending time with her children, grandchildren and friends. She will also enjoy having more time for gardening, reading and travel.

MARGARET SHULLAW

Margaret started working at West 21 years ago and has taught a variety of English classes throughout her career. She was going to say that she will miss everything about West, but decided that is not totally true – she will not miss having essays to grade and not getting at them. The guilt was always worse than knuckling down and getting the grading done. In retirement she is going to write a novel, walk with her dog Oliver, and spend more time with family and friends. She and her husband will spend nasty winter months in Arizona starting this coming winter. Oliver is particularly excited as he loves lizards.

PATRICIA BURGER

Patti received her BS in math from Notre Dame and earned her math teacher certification from the University of Iowa. She has been a math teacher at West High for 24 years and also taught summer school at Northwest Junior High for 12 years.

Patti has had many highlights during her teaching career but the ones that stand out, are being named as a mentor by two high school seniors who received DPO Kate Wickham Education Scholarships! In 2008, the student struggled in math, but was determined to succeed. He went on to graduation from UNI and is now a teacher in Houston. Patti is obviously wishing all the very best to Megan in her teaching career as well!

Patti remembers many students over the years that had difficulty both in and out of the classroom. She has seen the majority of them have success in their own way; they may not be teachers or doctors, but they are doing better than most people would have thought back when they were in high school. She can honestly say she loves and is so proud of them all.

Patti will miss West High, her colleagues and the daily interaction with young people. Teaching has been such a huge part of her life, it will be a major change to not have schoolwork to do every night and weekend!

She is looking forward to not setting an alarm clock and going out for lunch sometimes. More importantly she has 6 grandchildren, none of whom live in Iowa City. So she will be traveling to Des Moines, Kansas City, and San Diego as often as her children will allow.

WICKHAM HONOREES:

CINDY KUNDE

After 40 years of teaching Cindy is retiring. Her early years were spent as a high school English teacher and teacher librarian in Clarence Lowden, North Cedar, and Anamosa school districts. The past 14 years she has been the teacher librarian at Hills and Wickham Elementary Schools. She is an Alumna of UNI and Iowa. She eagerly shares her love of books with children, not only teaching them about books but also teaching about the parts of the library, and the technology that is so vital for them to master. Cindy desires to see children grow to love the library and flourish as readers.

Cindy and her husband Dale live in Tipton, about 35 miles from Coralville. She has been a commuter all 40 years of her teaching career. No doubt she will not miss worrying about the road conditions and the weather reports next year. Their two daughters live in Columbus Junction and Ely. She will love spending more time encouraging both of them in their teaching careers.

Cindy's retirement perfectly coincides with the arrival of her first grandchild in July. Cindy is looking forward to spending time cuddling and caring for Baby K. Cindy has a large extended family in the Tipton area. Retirement will give her opportunity to spend more time with her family and friends.

Best wishes to Cindy as she opens a new chapter in her life. It has been great working with her for 13 years.

MARNEE PENNINGTON

Marnee Pennington is the heart of the Wickham Elementary Library. Since the school opened in 1997, she has been the smiling face behind the library checkout counter. She continually encourages students to check out books that they will enjoy, books that will help them to be stronger readers, books that will help them to grow and learn. Marnee also provides much support to Wickham staff members, helping them find instructional materials. She always knows exactly where to find everything they need! Because of Marnee, the Wickham Library is the favorite place in the building for many Wickham students and staff members.

Marnee and her husband Ed live in Coralville. They have two daughters and five grandchildren. Marnee is an avid Nebraska Cornhuskers fan and a devoted grandmother. In her retirement she plans to attend Nebraska and Iowa sporting events, volunteer at her church, and spend as much time as possible with her grandchildren.

WOOD HONOREES:

MELISSA RYAN

After getting my degree from the university in elementary ed with an early childhood specialization, I have been teaching since 1992. That is 23 years.....(OMG I am old)

I began teaching at a university preschool in the 4/5 year old room. I enjoyed getting the kids prepped for kindergarten. When my second child was 3, I began teaching preschool in my home. I was licensed by the state and had a pre-kindergarten program that was geared at getting students ready for kindergarten. When the kindergarten job opened at Wood, it seemed like a natural progression. I have been here, teaching kindergarten ever since. Kindergarten is a magical year, trying to bridge preschool to school curriculum can be a challenge, but well worth it. Kindergartners still like to have fun, be silly and give and take hugs.

I wouldn't have it any other way.

MANDY BEZONI-PUAINA

I have been a teacher for over 20 years! I've taught every grade from preschool to college level! I LOVE TEACHING! I'm very lucky to be a Wood Wildcat now and teach ELL to amazing students from around the world! I also have an amazingly BIG family with 8 kids, 3 grandchildren, and 2 dogs. I love to travel and go to beautiful places near the ocean. I also love the Iowa Hawkeyes – especially when they are winning!