



Ram o Gram

May 2008

www.mvths.org

Seniors—Make plans now to attend Project Graduation!!!

Make plans now to attend Project Graduation 2008. Sign-ups begin May 5, 2008 and will end on May 15, 2008. Tickets can be purchased for the small fee of \$10.00 in the Office of the Superintendent. The celebration will be held immediately following graduation on Saturday, May 17. Graduates will board chartered buses and travel to the YMCA in Evansville, Indiana. They will spend the entire night enjoying the facilities. Graduates will have the opportunity to swim, play basketball, volleyball, and participate in many additional fun activities. There will also be food and prizes.

Project Graduation is not a school-sponsored event but is organized by parents of senior students in order to provide a safe, chaperoned and substance abuse-free graduation celebration. Parents of senior students are busy organizing the event which is entirely dependent upon fund raisers, donations and contributions.

Anyone wishing to make donations to Project Graduation may send a check made payable to: Project Graduation 2008 and forwarded to Terry Milt, c/o MVTHS, 320 S. 7th St., Mt. Vernon, IL 62864.

National Honor Society "Senior Prom"

Members of National Honor Society recently held their 5th annual "Senior" Prom. The event took place at the Mt. Vernon Sunshine Center, and the theme was "Memory Lane." Students dressed in attire from various decades ranging from the 1950's to the 1980's. Dancing, eating cake and punch, taking pictures, participating in the "cookie walk," and getting to know each other filled the afternoon of about 50 senior citizens and high school students.

Every senior in attendance was awarded a door prize thanks to the many businesses who donated to the cause. This event was funded by the carnation sales that took place in early February, and the music was provided by Midwest Light and Sound.

Attention Driver's Education Students

Next year's 1st semester Driver Education students have already been given the opportunity to take their State Rules of the Road test and receive their driving instruction permit. It is the Driver Education Department's intention to give the State Rules of the Road test to next year's 2nd semester Driver Education students sometime around the start of school next year (date T.B.A.). This will enable these students to receive their instruction permits nine months before the end of the second semester, which means they will be able to receive their driver's license as soon as the 2nd semester ends, provided they are 16 years of age.



All Student Debts Should Be Paid Before School Closing

This is a reminder to parents that all school fees, participation or academic fees, driver education fee, ID card fee or any other fees incurred should be paid by this time. All fees are due at the beginning of the semester or at the time incurred. Please check to see that your student has turned in all textbooks, library books, or reading books. If not turned in they will be added to your student's account. You may check your student's account by calling 246-5922.

End of School Year Calendar Set

The 2007-2008 school year is rapidly coming to a close. The following dates are provided so that you may mark your calendars.

Tues., April 29	STRIVE Banquet— 11:30
Mon., May 12	Baccalaureate— 7 p.m.
Mon., May 12	Senior Semester Exam Blocks 4, 5, 6, 7
Tues., May 13	Senior Semester Exams Blocks 1, 2, 3
Thurs., May 15	Honors Program— 7 p.m.
Fri., May 16	Graduation Practice
Sat., May 17	Graduation— 8 p.m.
Mon., May 26	School Holiday
Tues., May 27	Underclass Exams, Blocks 2, 4, 6 2:00 dismissal ELO until 3
Wed., May 28	Underclass Exams, Blocks 1, 3 1:00 dismissal ELO until 2
Thurs., May 29	Underclass Exams Blocks 5, 7 11:35 dismissal
Fri., May 30	Teachers Workshop



Graduation Gym or Stadium

Graduation will be practiced in both Changnon Gym and at J.D. Shields Memorial Stadium. Weather conditions on graduation evening will determine if the ceremony is held indoors or outside. Please listen to WMIX and other area radio and television stations on May 17 for the decision.

In the event that graduation must be held in Changnon Gym, each graduate will be given 5 tickets for family and friends. **TICKETS ARE REQUIRED** for admission to an indoor ceremony.

Rams Apparel Is Now On Sale!

Adult T-Shirts: \$5.00
Adult Long-sleeved T-Shirts: \$9.00
Adult Hooded Sweatshirts: \$17.00
Beanie Hats: \$5.00
Hats: \$5.00

Please call 244-9647 / 246-5308 or email mvthsprom@yahoo.com for more information or to purchase any items.

GET YOURS TODAY!!!



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Mt. Vernon Youth and Government Goes to General Assembly

The sixty-five member Mt. Vernon Township High School Youth and Government delegation made its annual trip to Springfield, Illinois on March 14, 2008. After three hectic days of campaigning, voting, negotiating and lobbying they managed to get seven of their eleven bills passed through both houses and signed by the Youth Governor. Two Mt. Vernon candidates won their respective seats as Speaker of the House and President of the Senate. Jessa Hawkins was elected Speaker of the House while Gabe Cralley was elected President of the Gray Senate. Derrick Burwell was elected Sergeant-at-Arms at Pre-Leg I for the Gray house. The entire weekend was very successful all the delegates were happy to finally get some sleep on Sunday after a busy weekend at the capital. GREAT JOB!!!

School advisors were Mr. Andy Wells, Ms. Jessica Pilson, Mr. Sean Docherty and Sgt. Jim Hawkins.

Parent advisors were Mr. and Mrs. Bill (Becky) Deaton, Mr. and Mrs. Steve (Beth) Quick, Ms. Jeri Roberts, Mrs. Kari Docherty, Mr. and Mrs. Verner (Lisa) Earls, Mr. and Mrs. Jim (Janice) Hawkins.

Hi-Tri Mother-Daughter/Senior Farewell Tea

The Hi-Tri Mother-Daughter/Senior Farewell Tea will be held on Sunday, May 4 at 2:00 p.m. in the cafeteria annex at the high school. All members of Hi-Tri are invited to attend and bring their mother or other special female adult. Refreshments will be served and all senior Hi-Tri members in attendance will be honored.

Senior members of the 2007-08 Hi-Tri Council are Ranzie Kendrick, President; Abbey Morris, Vice-President; and Ashley Shelton, Treasurer. Officers for next school year will be elected on May 6.

There is no charge for this event, however, please make reservations with either of the sponsors, Ms. Tami Lovin in the Guidance Office or Mrs. Carol Hutchison in the Bookroom.

Library Celebrates National Library Week and National Poetry Month

The library celebrated National Library Week and National Poetry Month in April by giving away approximately 200 small poetry books to students who had their favorite poems in their pockets when their English teachers asked for them. Their English teachers gave them tokens to redeem in the library for the books. The library also displayed student written poems during the month.



Art Department News

The Art Department wants to congratulate the following students for placing in the Cedarhurst Spring Art Show:

- Brian Metcalf-Best of Youth for Spiral Staircase, 1st place for Falling Water
- Michaela Burwell-1st place for Fashion in the Forty's
- Nissa Nave- 1st place for Allstar
- Lexi Weinstein- 1st place for Jeffery, 2nd place for Twisted Candy
- Kari Arnold- 2nd place for Moonlit

Other students who were also featured in the show were: Liz Clifton, Ashlyn Downey, Katy King, Brittany Kruger, Courtney Lawrence, Rachel Lee, Jacob Lemons, Audrey Mayo, Maleah Mick, Laina Parsell, Brandon Rose, Quinton Sledge, Haley Smith, Josh Strothmann, and Shelby Timm.

★ MARCH Student of the Month Winners ★	
Mallory Adams	Steven Beckham
Shane Bond	Briea Campbell
Chris Coffman	Gage Cummins
Laura Fleri	Amber Jensen
Andrew Mendenall	Sarah Nociar
Sara Palmer	Kadesia Patton
Jenna Pelaez	Emily Piercy
Annie Schaubert	Darwin Walters

★ APRIL Student of the Month Winners ★	
Chelsea Beatty	Raina Jones
Ethan Capps	Bryce Kujawa
Ashley Dunn	Michael Olson
Taylor Evans	Miranda Smith
Dakoda Hanson	

Class Size Reduction Grant

This school year, Mt. Vernon Township High School received federal grant money for the purpose of reducing class sizes. The money was utilized to continue the additional Spanish teaching position that was created during the 2000-01 school year with this grant. This has made it possible to maintain lower numbers of students in Spanish classes.

Ann Garrett, language arts department chair, reports that the smaller class sizes have benefited students. It has enabled teachers to use innovative teaching techniques and to give students more individual attention. Teachers have been able to incorporate more hands-on activities and get to know their students better.



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