

MVTHS seniors honored by Rotary

By TESA CULLI

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MT. VERNON — A group of Mt. Vernon Township High School seniors were honored Tuesday by the Rotary for their achievements in music, National Honor Society, the Presidential Education Award, scholarship and service.

"This is very special, not only in working with the Rotary, but in honoring these students," MVTHS Superintendent Terry Milt said. "As far as I'm concerned, this is recognizing the best seniors, not just in Southern Illinois, but in Illinois."

Milt said many of the students who were honored during the luncheon at the Rolland Lewis Community Building by the Rotary excelled in more than one of the five areas chosen by the Rotary to honor.

As part of the event, Rotarian John Howard announced the winner of the Myrl M. Lumbattis scholarship, worth \$1,000.

"Myrl M. Lumbattis was a dentist who practiced in Mt. Vernon for over 50 years and was a charter member of the Mt. Vernon Rotary Club in 1920," Howard said. "He was the seventh president of the club and served as governor of this district in the 1953-54 term. He was a member of the Mt. Vernon Township High School Board of Education for many years and was a great supporter of youth and of education. He stressed boys' and girls' work in Rotary activities and is credited with starting our club's annual honors day in 1946 to recognize achievements other than athletics. After his death in late 1969, a scholarship in his honor and memory was established by the club to recognize an honor member of each year's MVTHS

Seniors recognized



Anna Dismang shows off her honors award to her father, Rob Dismang at the Rotary Honors program held Tuesday. The honors program is held annually to recognize seniors who excel in music, National Honor Society, the Presidential Education Award, scholarship and service. TESA CULLI/REGISTER-NEWS

graduating class. The first award was presented to a 1970 graduate who is now a pediatrician in Peoria, Illinois. The first grant was in the amount of \$100. It has increased through the years with the cost of college education and is now \$1,000.

This year's 40th winner is Jessa Hawkins."

Hawkins is the daughter of Jim and Janice Hawkins and will attend St. Louis University next year and major in investigative and medical sciences with a focus on forensics and a minor in anthropology.

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