

“ALL IS CHANGED AND IS NO MORE, YET WILL ALWAYS BE”

Greetings from beautiful downtown Pellston, home of the Hornets! It's hard to believe another year has passed since our last Newsletter to you. We hope it's been a good year for you, our dear friends.

Let's start off this Newsletter with

EXCITING NEWS FROM PELLSTON

AVIATION CLASS FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Through a group effort of the Alanson, Harbor Springs, and Pellston School Districts, a new high school aviation program will take place at the Pellston Regional Airport beginning this Fall. Alanson Superintendent Dean Paul was instrumental in getting this program started. A pilot himself, he thought about offering a private pilot ground school in his district. But after doing some “digging”, he found that the state already has standards in place for a high school aviation program. It falls under the career technical/vocational education program. Mr. Paul contacted the Harbor Springs & Pellston School Districts and they were very willing to jump on board.

The program will partner with Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City. If a student in the aviation program wants to continue in that field in college and has taken a private pilot written test, Northwestern Michigan College will give five class credits free in the private pilot ground school. If the student has also earned a private pilot license, another five credits will be awarded.

The class at Pellston Airport will be a two-hour block offered at the end of the day to a limited number of junior & seniors (as of right now, the plan will be to take five students from each district for a total of 15 students). A bus will make a loop between the three districts so students can get to the airport.

Mr. Paul is quite certain the program is going to sell itself. “There's nothing like it up here in Northern Michigan or in the UP”. Mr. Paul mentioned that in addition to the assistance and cooperation of the Pellston & Harbor Springs School Districts, kudos should also be given to Pellston Airport Manager Kelley Atkins, who has been phenomenal in working with Mr. Paul from the airport's standpoint.

What a wonderful opportunity for these students!!!!

EXPANSION OF WELDING & BRAZING PROGRAM FOR HIGH SCHOOL

The welding & brazing program at Pellston schools has expanded. Due to an overwhelming interest from Pellston students eager to enroll in a state certified CTE program, the school has enlarged the space and types of welding opportunities for students enrolled in this program. Classroom space is nearly triple the size it was, and with this expansion comes additional welding stations, state-of-the-art air filtration systems and Oxy-Acetylene welding stations.

Again, what a wonderful opportunity for Pellston students!

BEYOND THE SCOREBOARD

For the past ten years, Beyond the Scoreboard (an award program in Northern Michigan whose motto is “Pursuing Victory with Honor”), has honored the best athletes, teams, coaches, fans, and more throughout Northern Michigan.

This year, the Team of Character Award was presented to the Pellston High School girls’ volleyball ball team, coached by Brooke Groff.

The Hornets earned their ninth straight district title on the court this season, with a team filled with National Honor Society, including school valedictorian Samantha Stark and salutatorian Susan Brilley.

Congratulations to all the girls and Coach Groff for bringing this honor to Pellston Schools. We thank you for representing Pellston Schools with honor and integrity!

PELLSTON PROPERTY SERVING AS VETERAN RETREAT

Brave Hearts Estate, a project of Operation Injured Soldiers, is open in Pellston as a retreat center for veterans and their families.

Operation Injured Soldiers is actually based out of South Lyon. They aid in the physical and mental rehabilitation of wounded veterans. The foundation raises money to provide disabled soldiers with hunting, fishing, camping trips, and now a retreat center in Pellston.

Brave Hearts Estates is located on Ely Road, just north of Pellston. The property was donated to Operation Injured Soldiers by the estate’s owner, also a veteran, who wishes to remain anonymous. Per Larry Thueme, an Operation Injured Soldiers Board member, the owner of the estate chose Operation Injured Soldiers as he wanted to give it to a veteran organization. The only stipulation given to the organization was that it must be used for veterans. For veterans and their families to qualify for a stay at Brave Hearts Estates, the veteran must be 30 percent disabled or have served in combat. Veterans stay at the estate for free, with all expenses paid for by OIS, other than their transportation.

The estate is an 8000 square foot home on 283 acres. It has eight bedrooms, several with enough beds to accommodate up to four, and even six in each room. There are three dining rooms, and an expansive kitchen with lots of counter space and seating. All three levels have large living rooms, and all the furniture in the house was donated by the original owner when he donated the estate to OIS.

The estate’s brochure lists the benefits of Brave Hearts: A place of physical and mental healing; a place for families to reconnect; a place where service to our country is recognized and honored; a place where burdens can be forgotten; a place to relax, rest, and play. Amenities include a pond with a waterfall, campfire circles, horseshoes, volleyball net, cable TV and board games.

For more information, you can visit Operation Insured Soldiers at injuredsoldiers.org or call them at 231-539-7111. If you are in the area, be sure to stop at Brave Hearts to take a look around! It is a beautiful estate!

SENIOR TOP HONORS

Valedictorian Samantha Stark

Pellston School officials have named Samantha Stark as valedictorian for the graduating class of 2016. Samantha is the daughter of Vicki Stark and the late James Stark. She will graduate with a 3.97 grade point average.

While in high school, Samantha was active in student government, volleyball, softball, and the Red Cross Leadership Lives Program. After graduation, Samantha plans to attend Elmhurst College in Chicago and study biology and biochemistry.

Salutatorian Susan Brilley

Susan Brilley, daughter of Kathi Brilley, has been named salutatorian with a grade point average of 3.96. While in high school, Susan was active in student council, the National Honor Society, volleyball, softball, the Healthy Center Youth Advisory Club, SAFE Youth in Northern Michigan and was also a peer tutor. She served as class president and as the president of the National Honor Society.

After graduation, Susan plans to attend Central Michigan University and study chemistry.

Congratulations to Samantha & Susan and all the 2016 graduating seniors. We wish you all much success and joy in the coming years!



LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS FOR 2016 GRADUATING SENIORS

- Jeffrey P. Bodzick Scholarship *****Alexandra Alkema
- North Central Michigan College Presidential *****John Chanda
- Frey Family Foundation & Sunset Rotary*****Anthony LaCombe & Courtney Hammond
- Pellston Firefighters*****Austin Wiatrolik
- Marshall-Smith Scholarship *****Susan Brilley & Hanah Carter
- Mary McClutchey-Amacher Scholarship***** Samantha Stark
- Barry Potter/Hope Scholarship*****Samantha Stark
- Pellston PTO*****Susan Brilley
- Pellston Alumni *****Hanah Carter & Olivia Grant
- Pellston Masonic Lodge*****Samantha Stark
- DAR Good Citizen Award*****Susan Brilley
- Construction Technology *****Alexandra Alkema & Alexandra Brisson
- Red Cross Award*****Susan Brilley & Olivia Grant
- Pellston Sports Booster *****Susan Brilley & Hanah Carter
- U.S. Army Athletic Awards*****Hanah Carter & Anthony LaCombe
- E.C. Pagel Award *****Hanah Carter
- Bruce Scott Award *****Anthony LaCombe
- Richard & Lottie Hayes Scholarship*****Olivia Grant
- John McLarty Family Scholarship*****Samuel Greenman
- Edward Cadwell Scholarship*****Susan Brilley
- Andrew & Barbara Mroz (Axium) *****Hanah Carter

2016 WALL OF FAME ADDITIONS

Pellston Public Schools inducted six new members into the Hall of Fame on Wednesday, May 18th (2016). A special dinner for honorees and their family/friends was held in the Middle School/High School Commons. Dinner was served by members of the National Honor Society.

The inductees include:

- 1) **Calvin Ball** – Mr. Ball is a 1952 graduate of Pellston and a graduate of Michigan Technological University. Ball served in the Army and was employed by NASA as an aeronautical research scientist. He has served his community through various boards, Kiwanis, Boy Scouts of America, and his church.
- 2) **Conn Nowland** – Mr. Nowland spent 43 years teaching in the State of Michigan. He retired in 1970 after spending 26 years at Pellston as a junior high school teacher, bus driver, and principal.
- 3) **June Passino** – June Spray Passino graduated from Pellston High in 1949. She was a teacher/educator at Cheboygan High, Pellston High, and North Central Michigan College. Mrs. Passino completed her reading specialist degree from Central Michigan University. She started girls' basketball in Pellston and coached for the first three years.
- 4) **Nikolas Burkhardt** – Nikolas was valedictorian of the Pellston High School class of 2005. He studied art at Hope College and has had work exhibited in Chicago, Berlin, and New York. He also painted murals for the Petoskey District Library and the Emmet County Fairgrounds.
- 5) **Ronald “Pinky” Wilson** – Mr. Wilson was a 1953 graduate of Pellston. He volunteered to coach the basketball team at Pellston from '56-'58. His skills led him to a successful 44 year career in construction.
- 6) **Judy Kay Kalbfleisch Brun** – Mrs. Brun graduated from Pellston in 1960 and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in 1964 at Michigan State University, a Master of Science degree in 1967, and a PH.D in 1970 from Iowa State University. She has had a 40-year career in education.

OBITUARIES

Although gone, the following friends & classmates are not forgotten. Our condolences to their spouses, families & friends:

	Date of Passing
Evelyn Ball Hicks (Class of 1946)	April 21, 2015
Daniel B. Wilson (31 years old – grandson of Blackie Wilson)	June 22, 2015
David Munger (Class of 1952)	July 2, 2015
Donald (Blackie) Wilson (Class of 1953)	July 5, 2015
Elma Elder Judson (Class of 1938)	August 15, 2015
William Guy (Class of 1955)	October 9, 2015
Donald Burkhardt (Class of 1971)	November 18, 2015
Mattie Stoneburner Brosofske (Class of 1961)	January 10, 2016
Don Lumpp (Class of 1960)	January 17, 2016
Thomas McDonald (Class of 1966)	January 20, 2016
Bev Shaufler Lattin (Class of 1961)	January 28, 2016
Clarence (Chub) Clear (Class of 1965)	February 11, 2016
Beulah Ball Reinhart (Class of 1954)	March 10, 2016
Henry Reimann (Class of 1964)	March 26, 2016
Sebastian LaTocha (Class of 1952)	May 2, 2016

Vernon G. Hiar (Class of 1963)	May 25, 2016
John Hayes (Class of 1939)	June 6, 2016
Gayle Pangborn (Class of 1965)0	
Ginny Niger (wife of the late Bart Niger, former teacher at Pellston)	June 5, 2015
George Granger (husband of Avis Mummert Granger - Class of 1953)	August 4, 2015
Faith Ann Ramsby Herscher (wife of Jerry Herscher – Class of 1975)	August 13, 2015
Wm. Carlson (husband of the late Helen Lumpp Carlson – Class of 1942)	October 1, 2015
Phil Nolt (husband of Margaret Eby Nolt – Class of 1966)	December, 2015
George Mason (husband of Theresa Bodzick Mason – Class of 1961)	January 29, 2016
Francis McMahan (former teacher & coach at Pellston)	March 9, 2016
Ron Barr (husband of Michelle Zulski Barr – Class of 1981)	June 10, 2016

Anniversary Wishes

Lowell & Maribeth Barnett	61 years on July 9, 2016
Howard & Lila Ball	60 years on May 25, 2016
Brenda & Roger Warner	50 years on Dec., 2015

ALUMNI BANQUET/REUNION UPDATE

As we discussed at the Alumni Banquet/Reunion in 2014, we, the Committee members, have many reservations regarding the proposed planning of the next banquet, which normally is scheduled for the Fall of 2017.

As we're sure some of you can relate, the average age of our Committee members is 71 years old. And although we do get some much appreciated assistance from other alumni members, the major portion of the planning and organization falls on the shoulders of the five of us. This undertaking is huge and includes sending out reservation forms (then sending the confirmation & tickets), confirming the food/drink menu & deciding on the most economical vendor, preparing table decorations, covering the gym floor (big tarps are laid in order to preserve the floor), arranging for the tables/chairs, organizing the silent auction, clean up afterwards, etc.

It has been our pleasure to do this project but we, as a Committee, have decided we really cannot take on the challenge of another Alumni Banquet/Reunion in 2017.

This is not to say that there will definitely never be another reunion for Pellston High Alumni. We are hopeful that, eventually, younger alumni will show an interest in continuing this reunion tradition. We would be very please and happy to offer assistance in this planning.

If you have any thoughts or input, or are interested in being on a Committee to continue the tradition, please do not hesitate to contact a Committee member.

CORRESPONDENCE DEPARTMENT

Please send all corrections or additions to: Pellston Alumni Association
P. O. Box 583
Pellston, MI 49769

If you have any questions, please call one of the following committee members:

Pat (Zmikley) Mallory	231-539-8548
Sue (Archer) Noel	231-529-6108
Evie (Kilpatrick) Keiser	231-420-0695
Suzi (Mummert) Bodzick	231-529-6303
Betty (Guy) Waak	231-537-2346

WEB PAGE FOR ALUMNI INFORMATION

A web page has been set up for alumni information. We will be posting this and future newsletters and information at: pellstonschools.org/alumni.html.

NEWSLETTER

We, the Committee, have every intention to continue to compose and send out the Annual Newsletter once a year. The subscription to our Newsletter is still \$6.00 for three years (in the past, most people renewed their subscription the year of the reunion). If your subscription is about to expire, you can renew by sending \$6.00 to the P. O. Box 583 address.

Please do not hesitate to contact any committee members with news about anniversaries, graduations, achievements, retirements, or deaths. We appreciate any assistance you can give us.

DISCLAIMER

While every effort is made to insure accuracy, we have been known to make errors. If so, we apologize. Again, you can write us at P. O. Box 583, Pellston, MI 49769 with any news or corrections.