

News Release

More than 200 Northwest School of Agriculture Alumni, Friends Return to UMC for Reunion Community Invited to Book Signing on June 24 at 10 a.m.

By Krista Lemos, Corby Kemmer on Friday, June 16, 2006

CROOKSTON, MN (June 16, 2006) - More than 200 alumni and friends of the former Northwest School of Agriculture (NWSA) will return June 23 and 24, 2006, for the annual reunion at the University of Minnesota Crookston (UMC) campus. The gathering is a time for alumni to celebrate Top Aggie Award honors, learn more about what's happening on campus, share memories and catch up with old friends, and support efforts at UMC to serve the northwest region of Minnesota .

Four Top Aggies for 2006 will be recognized for their exemplary commitment and service to community, church, education and family as well as their profession. This year's honors go to Daniel Letnes '31, Grand Forks , ND ; Betty McVeety Nisbet '36, East Grand Forks , MN ; Mary Randall Norgart '50, Kings City , OR ; and David Tucker '61, East Grand Forks , MN . The Top Aggie award is the highest tribute to a NWSA alumnus.

Community members are invited to join the festivities on Saturday, June 24, at 10 a.m., for a book signing and discussion with John Christgau, son of former NWSA Coach Rufus Christgau at the UMC Bookstore in the new Student Center . Christgau's book, *Enemies: World War II Alien Internment* , details the stories of several World War II internees held at Ft. Lincoln , North Dakota , just south of Bismarck .

Other reunion highlights include a 50 th reunion celebration for the class of 1956; a fish fry, social, and dance; and the dedication of the Youngquist Prairie Garden on campus. Several "campus kids," children of NWSA faculty who grew up on campus, will also be joining the celebration. The NWSA, a residential high school established by the University of Minnesota in 1906, held its first reunion the last weekend in June in summer 1925.

The University of Minnesota Crookston (UMC) is a four-year baccalaureate degree granting institution, dedicated to learning, discovery, and engagement in the northwest Minnesota region and beyond. To learn more, visit www.UMCrookston.edu.

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