

Book Exchange Boxes to promote reading at ETHS

Next fall, ETHS students and staff will be able to borrow a book in a new way—from one of six Book Exchange Boxes located throughout the school campus. They may keep the book for as long as they like, no due date, no library fine. They only need to return it to a box so someone else can borrow it.

The Book Exchange Boxes are the brainchild of ETHS librarian and cataloguer Miriam Rosen, whose mission, of course, is to promote literacy.

At a library conference she attended, a school presenter mentioned having a cart where students could take books and leave books. Rosen came home determined to replicate at least the “take-leave” concept at ETHS. “I wanted something that’s easy and practical,” she said.

She shopped her idea with her department colleagues and with the Geometry in Construction teachers, Matt Kaiser and Maryjoy Heineman, who agreed to help. This course, where students learn geometry and then apply the math to building a house—so far the course has built three houses—seemed a natural fit for the book boxes.



Gillian Rosenberg (at l.) and Grace Spalding, students taking Geometry in Construction, worked on building one of the Book Exchange Boxes.

In fact, last year the Cradle-to-Career community program commissioned the course to build several boxes to install in parks across Evanston. For the ETHS boxes, students taking the course for honors credit must help build the boxes in fourth quarter during their free time or before or after school.

The book-box design is vertical, free-standing, and cement-based for sturdiness. Most boxes will have two openings, although one box, to be located near the child-care center, will

be shorter to accommodate the reach of little kids. Each box will hold 20-25 books. Students in the AP Studio Art course will paint the boxes, and the Art and Graphic Design Clubs will decorate them.

Most of the boxes will be located “where there’s a lot of traffic, where students will see them,” said Rosen. Funds

for materials will come from library fines, and some leftover materials from this year’s house project in Geometry in Construction will be recycled for the book boxes.

Stocking the boxes with books will be a collaborative process as well. Rosen said that books are frequently donated to ETHS from a variety of sources such as the Evanston Public Library, some District 65 sources, people who review books for journals and get the books for free, and from ETHS Faculty and Student Book Clubs.



Drawing of a Book Exchange Box that ETHS will install.

All of the books, even those donated by the in-house book clubs, will be young-adult books, most of them award-winners. “We want to get teachers to promote these books to their students and talk to them about the books,” said Rosen. The child-care center box will offer picture books and books with an early literary focus.

Rosen is excited about the project and the building that is underway. “I’m just trying to get more literature out there,” said the dedicated librarian.

From the Alumni Association Executive Director

WOW! For the past few years I have been privileged to serve as Executive Director of the ETHS Alumni Association. I have been able to witness a growth spurt for the Association in many ways.

We have had more events, on our own and with the ETHS Educational Foundation, around the Chicago area and around the country. More volunteers have helped us in many ways: on our Association Board, at events, working with their classes on reunions, and sending in informa-

tion on their classmates and themselves. Thanks to you, we are seeing bigger gatherings for milestone reunions, especially for classmates celebrating their 50th. And, we have an annual growth of over 700 new members each year as new classes matriculate through ETHS and become alumni.

Over this time, we have stopped collecting dues and recognize that everyone who went through the halls of ETHS is an alumnus. We have expanded our scholarship program

for current graduating seniors, and our mini-grant program to support current needs at ETHS. And you have provided significant support to the ETHS Educational Foundation that has helped with long-term capital needs of the district so future generations of Wildkits will have the same type of facilities you had as a student – the best that can be provided.

Thanks to you, we have had to expand this issue of *The KIT* from 12-16 pages. More and more of you have sent in updates



David Futransky, '69

on your activities or those of your classmates and friends. KEEP IT UP! We want to share your stories. For example, in this issue we look at a group of alums who served on the ETHS School Board their senior year. We would love

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NEWS FLASH

Did you know you can find the ETHS Alumni Association on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram? We'd love to connect with you! Follow/Like us to get the latest updates on the school and your fellow alumni.

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Superintendent's Letter

ETHS: Welcoming and Nurturing

One of the keys to our success at ETHS is making our school a welcoming and nurturing place. Research shows that when students feel accepted and valued, when they have positive relationships with adults in their school and feel cared for, they learn better.

We have been intentional about making ETHS that kind of school. We have made many changes to set that tone. For example, the front lobby has been given a facelift. There is comfortable upholstered furniture that gives the space a home-like feel where students can socialize, relax, and do their homework. A refreshment kiosk sells nutritious smoothies, beverages, and snacks before and after school.

During the winter, the two majestic lobby fireplaces are lit every day so

as students arrive, walk through during passing periods, pause during lunch, or hang out after school, they can enjoy the warm glow of the fireplaces and know they are welcome here. It's joyful to experience the sights and sounds of teenagers "at home" in the lobby. By 6:30 each morning, students start to gather in the lobby, and small groups regularly sit there until 7 p.m., visiting, studying, and feeling welcome.

As we have shared before, the main floor H-hallway has been completely reimaged as Heritage Hall with glorious photos and images representing ETHS's storied history, expressing many of the things that have defined our Wildkits over the decades: leaders, scholars, innovators, friends, and family. The message to all students: you belong here; you follow in the footsteps of those who walked these hallways before you, and

you are now part of the rich history of ETHS.

The Hub, our contemporary Student Center, is a big, colorful space with large flat screens, tables and chairs, plenty of technology with USB ports and charging stations, soft furniture (even bean-bag chairs) which offer an inviting space that students can call their own. Around the perimeter of this huge space students have easy access to academic study centers staffed by teachers, the College and Career Center, and the Student Activities and Community Service offices. The space was designed with student input and with the intention of making ETHS more welcoming and supportive. It is utilized daily by hundreds upon hundreds of students.

Besides the physical spaces, the most important part of ETHS's welcoming and embracing is the spirit and culture we are nurturing within our school. Adults and students greet each other daily in the hallways, the cafeterias, and



ETHS Superintendent Eric Witherspoon

the classrooms. We even have student, parent, and alumni ambassadors. Visitors to ETHS comment all the time on the feeling of friendliness and how students smile and acknowledge them. When students know this is their school and they belong here, they extend that hand of friendship to visitors.

They also extend those feelings toward each other, appreciating our diversity and learning about our similarities and differences. Moreover, adults at ETHS genuinely value our students as individuals and strive to have positive relationships with them

that show how much they care about each student's success.

Offering extraordinary academic classes with top-flight teachers is an ETHS hallmark, as well as providing abundant extra-curricular opportunities and student support. By combining all that with a culture that is welcoming, nurturing, and embracing, we can maximize the positive outcomes for our students as they benefit from attending one of the top high schools in America. That's the Wildkit Way.

It's a great day to be a Wildkit.

ETHS Class Notes

Let your friends and former classmates know where you are and what you are doing.

Please provide your contact information (print clearly):

First name	(Maiden name)	Last name	Class year
Spouse's first name		(Maiden Name)	
Is spouse an ETHS alum? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, class year			
Street address	City, State	ZIP + 4 Home phone	
Is this a new address? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes			
Home phone		Work phone	
Email address			
Job Title		Business name	
Business street address	City, State	ZIP + 4	

When returning this form, please include a separate sheet providing additional information (marriage, children, awards, memberships, etc.) and a recent photo of yourself (we will return it unharmed if you ask us to).

Please return this form, additional information, and photo to:
ETHS Alumni Association
1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston, IL 60201

Foundation, Alumni Association reorganize staff

The ETHS Educational Foundation and the Alumni Association have appointed three people to lead the foundation's philanthropy efforts and to assist the alumni association in outreach and engagement of graduates.

Joanne Bertsche is the Foundation's new Executive Director, and Sarah Schmidt is the new Associate Executive Director. Both have worked in ETHS alumni and foundation positions over the past few years. LaKesha Lockett recently joined the staff as the Alumni & Donor Relations Specialist.

Bertsche previously served as the foundation's Major Gifts Officer raising significant funds for capital projects at ETHS. She will now concentrate on major and planned giving as well as developing donor relationships with alumni, parents, and the broader ETHS community.



Sarah Schmidt

Schmidt previously was Assistant Director of Alumni & Donor Relations, working with alumni reunion classes and helping to plan foundation events. Now she will handle direct-mail campaigns for the foundation, oversee a strategic communications plan, liaison with the foundation's special events

committee, and cultivate mid-level annual donors.



Lakesha Lockett

Class of '98 alumna Lockett returns to serve in the role of Alumni & Donor Relations Specialist. She comes to ETHS after working as the Development Coordinator at UCAN, a Chicago-based social service agency focusing on youth who have experienced trauma. Her experience includes writing, marketing, event planning, and solicitation of gifts from individuals and organizations.

David Futransky, '69, continues in his role as Executive Director of the ETHS Alumni Association.

The KIT

Alumni Association Officers
Kevin Mack, '95
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Newsletter of the ETHS Alumni Association

ETHS Superintendent
Dr. Eric Witherspoon

David Futransky, '69
Executive Director, Alumni Association
Kathy Dalgety Miehl, '64
Editor, The KIT



Joanne Bertsche

What's New at ETHS?

Huge year in athletics for ETHS

Team success and individual accomplishments rarely seen in some ETHS athletic programs marked the fall and winter seasons for 2016-17. (Spring sports will be recapped next fall.)

Wildkit fans were also privileged to watch two players who stamped themselves as being among the best individuals ever to come through the girls' and boys' basketball programs in **Leighah-Amori Wool** and **Nojel Eastern**.

FALL SPORTS

Girls' Tennis. **Anastasia Goncharova's** decision to play high school tennis for the first time as an ETHS junior paid dividends in historic fashion. She became the first female tennis player in school history to win a sectional championship, then battled her way to a 2nd-place state finish, an accomplishment that hasn't been matched in program history.

Girls' Diving. Diver **Lucy Hogan** claimed 2nd-place in her specialty at the IHSA finals for the second year in a row. But, it took a remarkable comeback by the ETHS sophomore, who missed four months of training and competition due to a severe back injury.

Girls' Cross Country. **Enyaeva Michelin** qualified as a junior for the Class 3A state cross-country finals for the first time. She placed 117th at that meet in Peoria, only two weeks after she had to drop out of the CSL South championship race due to shin splints.

Boys' Soccer. The Wildkits boys' soccer squad played three straight overtime games in the postseason before running into a detour on the Road to the Final Four for the second year in a row at the Barrington Supersectional, ending ETHS's season at 19-2-4. It marked only the fourth time in school history that the 'Kit booters earned back-to-back Elite Eight berths.

Football. Evanston bowed to Homewood-Flossmoor

in the first round of the Class 8A state playoffs by a 49-21 margin. Coach Mike Burzawa's team finished 6-4 in the season and qualified for the playoffs in Week 8.

WINTER SPORTS

Rare is the year when both the boys' and girls' basketball programs are regarded among the Top 10 teams in Illinois at the same time, but the Wildkits ranked among the state's elite right from the start of the season in November.

Boys' Basketball. The boys' team embraced the challenge of playing the toughest regular season in school history behind a core of seniors led by Nojel Eastern, the Purdue recruit who is the only player in ETHS history to finish his career with more than 1,300 points, 500 rebounds, and 300 assists in his four-year career; **Chris Hamil**, who set the single season 3-point field goal school record; and **Elyjah Williams** and **Malcolm Townsel**, who joined Eastern and Hamil on the All-CSL South division team.

Coach Mike Ellis's squad finished with a sterling 28-4 won-loss record and won the CSL South championship for the third straight year. Two 'Kit losses came against teams that finished in the Top 10 nationally, and another came in the Class 4A supersectional to eventual state champion Whitney Young. Eastern scored 31 points and added 10 rebounds and 6 steals in the 67-59 season-ending loss to Young in the supersectional. He finished runner-up for Mr. Basketball in Illinois and was selected to every All-State team. The Wildkits finished unbeaten at home for the 2016-17 season.

Girls' Basketball. Like Eastern, Leighah-Amori Wool was a four-year starter for the girls' team and entered her senior season already tied for the school-career scoring record. She netted a total of 1,268 points, but it was Wool's

versatility that stood out as she landed a scholarship at Western Michigan. The 6-footer made an impact as a primary ball handler against opposing teams' pressure defenses as a freshman and was one of the top rebounders and playmakers in program history. Wool led the Wildkit girls to a 27-4 overall record under the guidance of first-year head coach Brittanny Johnson, and the team was ranked No. 8 in the state by the Associated Press.

ETHS won its first outright CSL South division title since the 2012-13 season and captured its fifth regional crown in a row before bowing to Maine W in the sectional championship. Another highlight for the 'Kit girls was a regular season sweep of nemesis New Trier, by margins of 44-28 and 50-44 that snapped an 8-game losing skid against their rivals.

Wrestling. Coach Rudy Salinas's wrestling team established a new single season mark for dual meet victories while compiling a 33-4 won-loss record. It marked the fourth straight year that the Wildkits racked up 30 or more wins, a streak unprecedented at ETHS before Salinas took over the program.

Boys' Swimming/Div-ing. In the pool, Evanston divers **Harel Anolick** and **Trevor Nelson** both scored Top 10 finishes at the state finals, the first time since 1969 that two 'Kit divers have brought home state medals from the same meet.

Boys' Track. Coach **Don Michelin's (ETHS '69)** track team stretched its string of CSL South division indoor championships to 10 in a row behind senior **Brian Daniels**. The Wildkits claimed seven 1st-place finishes, including Daniels' second consecutive win in the long jump and the 200-meter dash. He also placed runner-up in both hurdles races.

By Dennis Mahoney



In March, ETHS players (l. to rt.) Nojel Eastern, Chris Hamil and Matt Hall, celebrated after their win against Waukegan in the Class 4A Sectional championship. (Photo by Michael Schmidt for the News-Sun)



The ETHS Girls' Varsity Basketball team won its fifth regional title this season and was ranked 8th in the state by the AP.

See related sports story in Letters to the Editor on p. 8.

Executive Director Letter, cont. from p. 1

to tell your story in future issues.

There are a number of exciting events scheduled for Fall 2017 that will be reported about in the next issue of *The KIT*. **You can participate** in both the planning AND the event in areas that range from:

- Chem-Phys reunion (Sept. 23, 2017)
- YAMO's 60th Celebration (Oct. 13-15, 2017)
- Opening of Time Capsule from 1967 – ETHS 50 years later (Nov. 18, 2017)

There is more about all of these in this issue of *The KIT* and on the ETHS website at <https://www.eths.k12.il.us/alumni>. You can also send an email to us at alumni@eths.k12.il.us. Don't forget to follow us via social media at Facebook using ETHS Alumni or Will E Wildkit, Insta-

gram at ETHS Alumni Association, or Twitter at ETHSAlumni.

Finally, we are always looking to honor and recognize you and your fellow alumni for their accomplishments. One of the ways we do this is the Distinguished Alumni Award. Over the past 14 years we have selected over 70 graduates who have risen above and beyond in their professional fields and in their communities. These alums have contributed to their neighborhoods, their cities, and to the world. We need your help identifying your friends and classmates who deserve this award. Please use the link through our website to help us find them: <https://www.eths.k12.il.us/Page/515>

Thanks for your continued support.

By David Futransky, '69

LGBTQ+ students supported at ETHS

Evanston Township High School is taking great strides to support students who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning (LGBTQ) and their allies.

On April 7, nearly 200 students participated in the school’s first-ever LGBTQ+ Student Summit that focused on the unique yet diverse experiences of these students.

The summit was planned as part of the high school’s ongoing Social Consciousness Series (SCS) dedicated to supporting the academic success and well-being of all students.

Through a theme of “Pride Not Prejudice,” summit participants addressed topics that affect LGBTQ students, such as representation, gender-inclusive education, bullying and discrimination, and being a supportive ally. Participants also identified ways to help affect change to positively impact the experiences of LGBTQ students in school and in the local community.

The summit was planned by student and adult members of the school’s Gender & Sexuality Alliance and supported by ETHS staff volunteers.

Workshops, presentations, and performances were held throughout the school day to foster a greater understanding of gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation within the school community.

Other SCS student summits hosted at ETHS this school year include the Black Female and Black Male Summits, the Latinx Summit, and the SAME (South Asian Middle Eastern Alliance) Summit.



ETHS school board passes transgender locker room policy

This spring, the ETHS school board strengthened its support for LGBTQ+ students by approving a policy that allows transgender students to use the locker room of their choice.

The new language adds clarity to a previous school board policy on gender discrimination. While transgender students could choose which bathroom they wanted to use, that did not apply to separate locker rooms. Now it does, officially.

“I hope you understand this board just made history,” Supt. Eric Witherspoon said following the board vote. “These are people who have put in place statements and policy about honoring transgender students in a way no other district that we know of in the state has.”

According to board member Gretchen Livingston, “Simply put, we do not treat our students differently on the basis of characteristics like skin color or disability, nor should we do so on the basis on gender identity.”

School board declares ETHS a Safe Haven school district

The ETHS school board unanimously passed a resolution on Jan. 17 declaring ETHS a Safe Haven school district in support of the district’s undocumented students.

The resolution, possibly the first in Illinois, was drafted in part by board member Jonathan Baum, ’74, to create a safe space for undocumented students and their allies.

Students in the ETHS DREAMERS Club spoke with school board members and staff as well as local and state officials about their concerns for their school and their community to remain safe places for learning, regardless of immigration status.

Board member Gretchen Livingston noted that Baum’s law firm provided extensive pro bono work, including a great deal of research into similar resolutions by other school districts in the nation, in crafting the document.

The resolution complements a similar ordinance passed by the Evanston City Council in January that declares Evanston to be a “sanctuary city.”

A couple of weeks after the ETHS board approved the resolution, Evanston’s elementary school district board passed a similar document declaring District 65 a Safe Haven school district.

ETHS enrollment on the rise

ETHS’s student enrollment for the current school year (3,393) is the highest it’s been in 30 years. While enrollment generally fluctuates over time, it has steadily risen over the past five years despite projections to the contrary.

Thirty years ago, 3,234 students attended ETHS. That number declined to 2,624 by 1995-96, rose to 3,164 the following decade, only to fall to 2,890 five years later. Projections done in 2011-12 kept enrollment in the mid-2,800-2,900s for seven years with a projected turnaround in 2019-20 at just over 3,000.

However, the turnaround actually began in 2012-13 at 3,155 and has since risen to its current 3,393.

While ETHS’s racial and ethnic demographics for White, Black, and American Indian students have remained relatively steady for many years, the percentage of Hispanic and Asian students are at an all-time high.

White enrollment has been approximately 44% in recent years, while Black (now 29.8%) and American Indian (0.5%) enrollment has remained consistent. ETHS’s Hispanic population has gradually risen from 15.4% in 2012-13 to 17.7% this school year. In

that same time, the percentage of Asian students rose from 3.8% to 5.5%.

Enrollment in the bilingual/English Learners program has more than doubled between 2012-13 (29 students) and 2016-17 (67 students). These students speak a variety of languages. For many years, Spanish was the dominant language, and still is for long-term English Learners. The most recent arrivals speak Arabic, Swahili, Haitian-Creole, and 19 other languages.

While some new enrollees were born in the U.S. and speak more than one language at home, many new English Learners were born in Central African Republic, Republic of Congo, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Sudan, Tanzania, Rwanda, Iraq, Syria, Belize, and El Salvador.

To help accommodate this influx in English Learners, classes in English as a Second Language have greatly expanded based on English proficiency, as well as the Pre-Algebra class. New elective classes have been created, in collaboration with the Fine Arts and Career/Technical Ed. departments, including Beginning Guitar, Intro to Drawing and Painting, and Tech Apps for Young Adults.



The ETHS DREAMERS Club shared their concerns with ETHS school board members and local and state officials about undocumented youth and immigrant rights.

The Safe Haven resolution is posted on the Equity and Excellence web page of the ETHS website: <http://www.eths.k12.il.us/Page/1338>.

School board service changed lives of student board members

In November 1997, students at Evanston Township High School elected senior **Kim Henoch** as the first student to serve on the ETHS school board. Henoch was among four students—two seniors, two juniors—who vied for serving as a non-voting member of the school board.



Kim Henoch Alexander

The previous spring, Henoch and Student Council president Eamon Kelly floated a proposal to add a student rep to the seven-member adult board. The Student Council, school board, and then-Supt. Allan Alson all favored the idea and approved holding the election. While voter turnout was light (only 519 students out of nearly 2,800 voted), Henoch handily won by 47 votes.

At the time, ETHS and Oak Park-River Forest High School were the only Illinois school districts with students on their boards. Now, according to James Russell, Associate Executive Director of the IL Association of School Boards, six districts—and possibly more—have students that participate on their school boards (Canton, Galesburg, Collinsville, Springfield, Palos Heights, and ETHS).

The 18 student reps since Henoch’s term have become important mainstays on the ETHS school board. “A school board, in order to better understand the policies it advocates and approves, needs to understand from direct sources how it will and does affect students,” said Alson, adding, “While a student board member is a single voice, the stature of the role and its place on the board gives it important and essential recognition.”

Supt. Eric Witherspoon, who has worked with 11 student board members at ETHS, agrees. While each student brings his or her own qualities to board discussions, he said: “They have had many things in common. They have all been smart and informed...quick learners...understood their role of representing all students...sought the views and priorities of their peers and communicated back about school board issues.” But, most importantly, said Witherspoon, “They have all had the best interests of ETHS and of students as their top priority.”

So, how did their board experience impact their lives once they left the school? Quite profoundly, and all in different ways, said five of the graduates who responded to an Alumni Association query.

Henoch, now Kim Henoch Alexander, who teaches Latin and math at Bedford (MA) High School, said her experience taught her: “to learn to love the idea of public education in a whole new way. I had a front-row seat to the work of adults who were so passionate and intelligent, and worked so hard to improve education for all.” She added, “Teaching high school isn’t always an easy job, but as the late, great, ETHS math teacher Ron Sellke once told me, [it’s a job] where you can go to sleep at night knowing that what you do is really important in the world.”



Chasity Cooper

Chasity Cooper, a communications manager for the Climate Action Campaign in Washington, D.C., who served on the board in 2005-06, said the experience helped her find her voice and learn to positively assert herself. Board

service “definitely laid the foundation for future leadership opportunities as well as my involvement within the advocacy and non-profit space once I graduated from college.”



Aon Hussain

Seeing problems through a different lens was a major take-away for **Aon Hussain**, whose board service spanned 2007-08. Now a Chicago attorney specializing in commercial litigation and insurance coverage law, Hussain says this skill has been useful both professionally and personally. “Seeing problems through a different perspective not only fosters tolerance and empathy, it also forces us to come together and promote commonalities over differences,” he said.



Camille Allen

For **Camille Allen**, the experience on the board last school year, “pushed me to expand my personal leadership capabilities and to recognize it was my responsibility to honor the breadth of student opinions, beliefs and personalities.” Now a first-year student at Barnard College pursuing a sociology major and a minor in race and ethnicity, she also was accepted for a unique program that focuses on leadership and gender studies culminating in a social justice project her senior year. “There’s no doubt that ETHS was formative in my lifelong dedication to advocating for people of color,” said Allen.



Jesse Chatz

Jesse Chatz, who served in 2011-12, credits his board service with “igniting my passion for closing the opportunity gap in Evanston.” Chatz, who worked for Y.O.U. and now is the Outreach and Recruitment Manager at Evanston’s McGaw YMCA, said that through his experience on the board, “I gained a wider perspective of the large inequities that exist in Evanston...and it taught me how to make positive and impactful change.”

Nominate for the 2017 ETHS Distinguished Alumni Award

Each year the ETHS Alumni Association honors alumni who bring distinction to their alma mater by achieving notable accomplishments.

Established in 2003, the Distinguished Alumni Award program recognizes ETHS graduates who exemplify the tradition of excellence fostered at ETHS through professional achievements in their chosen fields, through service, and/or through contributions to society.

Do you know any ETHS Distinguished Alumni? Nominate someone who you know has made an impact in his or her community!

Go online NOW to nominate an alum at <http://www.eths.k12.il.us/alumni>.

Nominations for 2017 close on July 1. Nominations are carried for three years. A 12-member committee made up of

alumni, current and retired ETHS faculty/staff, community leaders, and students, will consider the nominations in early fall and announce the 2017 award winners by December.



Last year’s Distinguished Alumni Award winners were (l. to rt.) Megan Twohey ’94, Tanika Island-Childress ’91, Lynne Williams Twist ’63, Steven Gilford ’70, and Greg Klaiber ’78. They were honored in December at an assembly for the senior class and an evening reception for families and friends, ETHS administrators, Alumni Assn. board members, and nomination committee members. During the day, each winner spoke to students in various classes.

ETHS Kudos

STUDENTS

ETHS senior **Allison Negers** was recognized as a 2017 Semifinalist by the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program. The program, which was established in 1964 by Presidential Executive Order, seeks to recognize and honor the nation’s most distinguished graduating seniors.

ETHS students participated in a competition sponsored by the Technology Student Association (TSA), with three ETHS teams finishing in the Top 10 in Illinois. The competition requires teams of up to eight students to work collaboratively with science, technology, engineering and math problems.

ETHS journalism students were honored in the Illinois High School Assn. journalism sectionals and state competition for 2017. Twelve students from *The Evanstonian* newspaper staff and *The Key* yearbook staff competed at sectionals, with ETHS placing 3rd overall this spring. Ten ETHS students qualified to compete at state where ETHS placed 8th overall.

Evanston Township High School students participated in the 2017 National Latin Exam, with 40 of the 84 participating students earning awards. The 40-question exam is taken annually by approximately 154,000 Latin students worldwide. Six ETHS students earned Summa Cum Laude (gold) medals and eight won Maxima Cum Laude (silver) medals.

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards named its national medalists for 2017, representing less than 1% of this year’s 330,000 submissions. Three ETHS students—**Jessica Cardenas**, **Greta Eanes**, and **Corbin Kimrey**—were recognized among the most talented young artists in the nation. Cardenas received two silver awards (painting, ceramics) and Eanes also earned two silver awards (drawing, painting). In photography, Kimrey won a gold award and the photo-

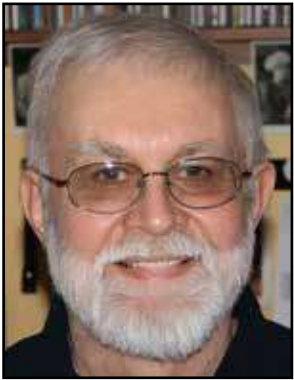


This ceramic plate by **Jessica Cardenas** won a silver award in the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards competition.

graph will be featured in a New York exhibition at the Sheila C. Johnson Design Center Parsons School of Design at The New School and Pratt Institute’s Pratt Manhattan Gallery.

Three ETHS students participated in the 2017 Congressional Art Competition. **Dylan Anderson**, **Momoko Hasselbring**, and **Emma Stein** were among 38 students from 15 area high schools that submitted artwork to the 9th Congressional District as part of national competition called “An Artistic Discovery.” Senior Hasselbring’s scratchboard piece titled “Octopus” won 2nd place in the contest that is designed to showcase and reward the artistic ability of America’s young artists.

RETIRED STAFF



This spring, **John Benson**, retired ETHS math teacher, received the Life Achievement in Mathematics Award from the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics. The award honors one outstanding person each year that has made significant contributions to the field of mathematics education over the course of his or her career. Benson taught at ETHS for 41 years (1969–2010).

ETHS recognized as Google for Education Reference District

ETHS is one of a select group of schools in Illinois recently named a Google for Education Reference District, joining other school districts and independent schools that are leaders in educational innovation and transformation. The recognition is offered by invitation only to districts that reach a set criteria determined by Google.



Google for Education Reference Districts demonstrate excellence and thoughtful leadership through the innovative use of technology. At ETHS, all students, most teachers, and many staff members have a Chromebook laptop computer. In addition, they all have Google Suite for Education accounts, giving them access to a number of creativity, productivity, and collaboration tools.

The IIT Department at ETHS supports technology and training in the classroom and across the school to improve student learning and district

ETHS began issuing Chromebooks to students in 2014. The Student Tech Center (or “ChromeZone”), a student-run help-desk for Chromebooks was created to provide maintenance and repair as well as customer service for ETHS students and staff. Students can earn Information Technology Internship course credit working in the ChromeZone.

services. The Chromebook program gives students and teachers more opportunities to strengthen their digital-literacy skills as they access the Internet or use the many online research and learning tools already in place at ETHS.

ETHS will have an opportunity to share its story with other districts in the area through a variety

of events hosted at the high school. Other benefits include chances for ETHS to publicly share best-practice resources, be showcased in Google for Education keynotes and presentations, and be featured in the Google for Education Newsletter, case studies, and other publications.

Washington Post ranks ETHS as a top school in the nation

On May 5, *The Washington Post* released its annual national list, “America’s Most Challenging High Schools,” ranking ETHS as 22nd in Illinois and in the 97th percentile in the country. ETHS maintained its position as one of the top schools at both the state and national level, and was the highest ranked school along Chicago’s North Shore.

The *Post*’s list ranks schools through a formula that uses a simple ratio: the number of Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate and Advanced International Certificate of Education tests given at a school each year, divided by the number of graduating seniors. At ETHS, the ratio is linked to AP exams.

ETHS’s 2017 ranking can be explained by several factors: fewer students dropping out at ETHS, an increase in graduates, and more schools on the national list due to a greater effort across the country to promote AP participation.

**Keep in Touch
with the
ETHS Alumni Association**

Email — Alumni@eths.k12.il.us
Phone — At ETHS: 847-424-7704
Facebook — Facebook.com/ethsalumni
Twitter — Twitter.com/ethsalumni

Authors’ Bookshelf

Kurt Johnson, ’87, has written a sci-fi novel for young adults, *Raystar of Terra*, about an adopted teenage girl living on a quiet, agricultural planet that gets caught up in a pan-Galactic war. To save herself and her family and friends, she must learn to control her wealth of inherited but untested superpowers. Johnson asked his former (now retired) ETHS English teacher, Dr. Bruce Mitchell, to edit the book and write a foreward. “ETHS helped to nurture me and I am grateful,” says Johnson. Mitchell says: “It is not often that a teacher, particularly one so many years beyond the classroom, gets a chance to witness the extraordinary intellectual and emotional growth of one of his or her charges.” The book is available through Amazon.com. In addition, half of the proceeds from *Raystar’s* Amazon sales until August 1, 2017, will go to the ETHS Evanston Scholars program.

Niles Goldstein, ’84, is a writer and rabbi of Temple Israel in Gary, IN. His provocative new book, *Eight Questions of Faith: Biblical Challenges That Guide and Ground Our Lives*, explores eight key questions from the Bible that highlight the human journey from cradle to grave. The book is as much a meditation on midlife as it is about personal growth, and it is highly recommended for anyone who has ever thought about life’s big questions.

Frank “Ed” Wrenick’s, ’57, second book, *The Automobile Manufacturers of Cleveland and Ohio 1864-1942*, co-authored with his wife Elaine, was just released. This look at the heyday of automobile manufacturing in Ohio chronicles the region’s early prominence in an industry that was inventing itself. His earlier book is titled *The Streamline Era Greyhound Terminals: The Architecture of W.S. Arrasmith*. Both are available through Amazon.



Curtis Wideman, ’11, wrote *Top Dog* to inspire and motivate boys and girls of all races to use sports as a means to get an education and to teach the life lesson that you must go after your goals and dreams or whatever it is in life that you may want. This book also honors ETHS Coach **George Woolridge, ETHS ’80**. *Top Dog* is available on Mascotbooks.com, Amazon.com, BarnesNoble.com, and Books-A-Million.

Jim Gustafson, ’64, is the author of *Take Fun Seriously, Driving Home*, and his latest book of poems *Unassisted Living*. An award-winning poet and teacher, he holds an M.Div. from Garrett Theological Seminary at Northwestern University and an MFA from the U of Tampa, FL.

He teaches World Religion at Florida Southwestern State College and creative writing at Florida Gulf Coast University. He lives in Fort Myers, FL.

Malcolm McCollum, ’60, donated two books he published last year: *Dmitri’s Agenda* and *The Guards: Selected Poetry 1960-2016*, two volumes of poetry, one about a friendship and one filled with 55 years of reflections. He also donated three CDs recorded over the past several years primarily featuring songs he wrote. “This gift is in honor of two former ETHS English teachers, Malcolm Mosing and Barbara Panwitt.”

James Graber, ’69, co-wrote *Lean but Agile: Rethink Workforce Planning and Gain a True Competitive*

Edge with William Rothwell and Neil McCormick. This business text is a practical “how to” book about building commitment for and implementation of a comprehensive system for present and future staffing needs, while retaining the agility needed to be successful in the 21st-century corporate world. Graber and Rothwell also co-wrote *Competency-Based Training Basics: A Complete How-to guide to help you Understand a Competency-Based Approach to Training, Design Training Competencies, and use Competencies in Guide Learning*.

Melissa Kotler Schwartz, ’81, wrote *Strangers I have Known* after blogging about her conversations with strangers for several years. The book is about connecting with people whose paths cross yours and ideas on how you can make the most of the daily encounters in your life.

A Collection of Irish Grandfathers: Tracing the Phalens from 18th Century Ireland to North America by **Bill Phalen, ’61**, is a genealogic study of a family’s exodus

from Ireland and resettlement in North America combining family lore and historical record.

Finding the Raven by **Patty Dickson Peiczka, ’70**, is set against the backdrop of the 1904 St. Louis World’s Fair and is an absorbing story of survival and redemption that looks at the early 20th century through the eyes of women from completely different backgrounds.

Schizophrenia and Psychotic Spectrum Disorders, edited by **S. Charles Schultz, ’64**, Michael F. Green and Katherine Nelson is a primer on schizophrenia that offers an engaging introduction to what is generally considered to be one of the most complicated and severe psychiatric disorders.

Sarah Lewandowski Barthel’s, ’99, first novel, *House of Silence*, dedicated to her Mom and Dad (English teacher Elizabeth Holding, and Science teacher Ken Lewandowski, both retired from ETHS), is a work of historical fiction that provides a suspenseful look at the late 19th century.

Alumni Association Board seeks applicants

Interested in serving on the ETHS Alumni Association Board? The Alumni Association is looking for a few good Board candidates to fill some open seats. If you are interested, please send a letter and tell us something about yourself (see criteria below). All members share an equal general responsibility to fulfill the mission and ensure the organization operates as effectively as possible. The following list reflects the scope of responsibilities shared by Board members to accomplish the goals of the Association.

- ETHS Alumni Association Board members...
- Promote ETHS, the Alumni Association and its mission
 - Commit to a three-year Board term
 - Attend and participate in all Board functions, including four Board meetings per year
 - Participate as a contributing member of at least one standing or ad hoc committee of the Board
 - Promote active member involvement in Association work.

Please send your information to:
David Futransky
ETHS Alumni Association
1600 Dodge Ave.
Evanston, IL 60201

Time Capsules – 50 years later

Do you remember?

Between Thanksgiving 1966 and Homecoming 1967, four time capsules were hidden behind cornerstones in the four new “schools” of ETHS.

The classes of 1967, 1968, 1969, and 1970 were all attending as the four “wings” of the building transformed the school from four halls into four schools-within-a-school.

North School (renamed Beardsley School) was the first with a ceremony in late November, followed in April with East (Michael), in May with West (Boltwood), and at Homecoming in October with South (Bacon). (*Editor’s Note:* this school year, the names of the four schools went back to the directional names as part of the branding and signage-update project.)

Part of the timing issues had to do with construction delays caused by a trucking strike that made it impossible for building materials to be delivered to ETHS. South was also delayed by the need for another referendum in 1967 to raise money to complete the building.

While cornerstones were laid, and time capsules placed, construction continued throughout the first semester of 1967-68 at night and on weekends.

A homeroom president from the class of 1969 (then sophomores), **Ron Blumenfeld**, called the alumni office to ask how the district was planning to celebrate the 50-year anniversary of placing the time capsules. This led to a search through the school archives to find information on the events.

After much research, and with the help of the District Operations Management team, we have confirmed that the time capsules are in place. The class of 1967 will open one of the boxes September 9 during its 50th reunion.

Another opening will be on Saturday, November 18. It is hoped that student government leaders from the classes of 1968, 1969, and 1970 will attend and reminisce with current students about the past 50 years.

The Evanston History Center, Evanston Public Library, and Northwestern University will also play a role in the November celebration. Plans are in the works with the ETHS History/Social Sciences Department to involve students in working with the archival materials found in the boxes.



David Futransky, Alumni Assn. Executive Director, found this treasure in the East School time capsule from 1967. It is currently behind a closet door. Said Futransky, “We opened that one first to make sure it was really full of stuff.”

Alumni will be most welcome to participate throughout the process. Please contact David Futransky, Alumni Assn.

Executive Director, for more information at alumni@eths.k12.il.us or 847-424-7704.

Letters to the Editor

Chris Livatino, '91, ETHS Athletic Director, emailed this letter to the collective “Wildkit Faithful” at the end of this year’s thrilling boys’ and girls’ basketball seasons. Even if you couldn’t go to a game and cheer your hearts out, this will give you an idea of how the two teams brought out the Orange & Blue in everyone in the school and the Evanston community.

With the SuperSectional loss last night, our boys’ and girls’ basketball seasons have now come to an end, but I wanted to reach out one final time to thank the many people who helped with this incredible journey these past few weeks, months and years.

First, to the ETHS alumni and Evanston community at large, thank you for the incredible support you provided our boys’ and girls’ teams this season and especially these last few

weeks. We sold over 300 tickets to the SuperSectional in the first 30 minutes of sales on Sunday.

All of the boys’ and girls’ playoff games became more than just basketball games. They were reunions for so many alumni and community members. They brought our often times fragmented and separated community TOGETHER for a common cause of cheering on our ‘KITS! It was a wonderful feeling (and one that doesn’t need to end as the spring sports season is just beginning).

Thank you to the over 20 ETHS faculty, staff, and coaches who chaperoned our student-fan buses for the last two games.

Thank you to Clarinda Harbison, Pat Edwards and Mike Burzawa in our Athletic Department for the extra time and effort they gave to sell 2,407 individual tickets and coordinate 10 fan buses of over 300 students in less than one week with zero profit to our school.

Thank you to our coaches, Brittany Johnson and Mike Ellis, and their incredible assistant coaches for not only coaching our kids to be great basketball players, but for teaching them the core values and characteristics needed to be great human beings.

Which leads me to my last paragraph of appreciation. Thank you to our young men and women

who represented themselves with the utmost class and character this season. They carried themselves with confidence, not arrogance. They showed humility in victory and graciousness in defeat.

I’ve witnessed the end of many seasons that had far less expectations than these two teams had and have never been prouder with the way that our

student-athletes handled themselves after their seasons came to an end. They are scholars and champions in the classroom and on the court. Most importantly, they are genuinely good people who will someday be leaders in our great community and for that I’m most thankful.

E-TOWN, thanks for the ride and, as always... Go ‘KITS!!!

Bess Evans, '03, former Sr. Associate Director/ Policy Advisor, White House Office of Public Engagement, White House Domestic Policy Council, served in the Obama administration for eight years. Jan. 17, 2017, was her last day. She shared with ETHS alumni an email she wrote to her White House colleagues.

“After eight transformative years in the Administration, today is my last day at the White House.

Eight years ago, what drew me to this work was President Obama’s incredible leadership and vision for how government can make people’s lives and the communities they live in better. Throughout the journey, the greatest honor has been getting to do this important work with all of you. You have given me strength, motivation, inspiration, and grace on the best days, and more importantly, on the most challenging. I will forever hold your kindness in my heart. It has been the privilege of my life, and the joy

of my joys, being your colleague, partner, and friend.

And in the words of a good Midwesterner: “Be well, do good work, and keep in touch.”



Letters continued on p. 11

YAMO's 60th Celebration October 13-15!

YAMO alumni from 1958 on! You're invited back to Evanston this fall for a historic event. YAMO alums spanning six decades will return to ETHS, October 13-15, to celebrate 60 years of YAMO!

Whether you were part of the cast, croo, dance company, orchestra, writing team, governing board, or business staff—we hope you'll take part in the weekend festivities! The three-day event is being produced in conjunction with ETHS Alumni Relations, the ETHS Educational Foundation, and the Fine Arts Department.

Tim Herbert, '89, ETHS Theatre teacher and YAMO Faculty Advisor, who was also General Director of YAMO '88 as a student, predicts the weekend will be a memorable one. "The evolution of YAMO is a tremendous thing to consider," Herbert says. "Just getting many different generations in the same room talking about the show is an inspiring and exciting prospect."

Tony Award winner, Jessie Mueller, '01, to Perform At YAMO Benefit Show For ETHS, October 15

It's been 16 years since Jessie Mueller was last on stage at ETHS, but this fall, the Tony Award-winning Broadway actress and singer will be back to perform as part of YAMO's 60th Anniversary weekend on Sunday, October 15.

Mueller will be joining other notable YAMO alumni, spanning six decades, for a matinee performance in the ETHS auditorium – celebrating 60 years of the student-produced, musical comedy revue.

Reflecting on her time at ETHS, Mueller says her YAMO years, which included serving as General Director for YAMO 2000 her senior year, are among her favorite memories. "To be entrusted to produce our own show created the most collab-

orative, creative and challenging environment," she recalls. "It was a huge part of my formative experience in the Arts."

Mueller was most recently seen as Jenna Hunterson in composer-lyricist Sara Bareilles' hit Broadway musical *Waitress* for which she was nominated for a Tony, Drama Desk and Grammy award. She earned all three for her starring role as Carole King in the Broadway smash hit, *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*. In spring 2018, Mueller will next appear on Broadway in a revival of Rogers and Hammerstein's *Carousel*.

YAMO alumni and the ETHS community as a whole are invited to this matinee performance benefiting ETHS and Fine Arts programs. For ticket information, or if you're interested in volunteering, contact the ETHS Alumni Office at YAMO60th@eths.k12.il.us or go to www.yamo60th.com.



In YAMO '63, (l. to rt.) Alice Rosengard, Lory Rosenberg, Libby Pannwitt, and Brooke Myers were "The Visitors."

The 60th Anniversary weekend will include the opportunity to see the current YAMO production, attend the alumni cast and croo party, as well as a special Sunday matinee benefit performance featuring Tony Award-winning Broadway actress, **Jessie Mueller, '01**.

To receive email updates regarding YAMO's 60th Anniversary events/ticket sales, send updated contact information to YAMO60th@eths.k12.il.us or go to www.yamo60th.com. If you'd like to volunteer for the weekend events, or have questions, please email inquiries to the above address as well.

On Facebook, YAMO alums can stay up-to-date on 60th Anniversary news by joining the group "ETHS YAMO Through the Years."



YAMO Faculty Advising Team since the mid-2000s: Aaron Carney '90, Katrina Engel '91, and Tim Herbert. '89.



Jacqueline Harris for The Interval

YAMO Through The Years

1958
With Supt. Lloyd Michael's blessing, ETHS faculty allow a group of ambitious students to stage a single-event "talent" show in the auditorium in ETHS's new Fine Arts wing. The show is seen as an alternative to the annual magazine drive that raises money for student activities.

The show's first Chairman, Wallace Smith, along with Speech Arts colleagues, call the show YAMO, some say in the spirit of Northwestern's WAA-MU show. Although YAMO doesn't stand for anything in particular, it evolves into an acronym for the phrase "Youth of America Marches On." YAMO becomes a huge spectacle with expansive sets and musical medleys, dances, instrumental groups, and specialty acts such as tap dancers and accordion players.

1959
YAMO becomes an annual ETHS fall event.

1962
An Acting Company is added, and skits are interspersed between musical numbers and individual acts, making it the first scripted YAMO.

1963
Students compose original music for the Overture and Entr'Acte for the first time. Faculty Advisor Karen Kuehner allows political satire. YAMO publishes its first showbook filled with paid ads from local businesses, parents, and community supporters.

1964
Gymnastics, including trampoline, is added for individual acts.

1966
Bruce K. Siewerth joins the ETHS faculty and becomes YAMO Faculty Advisor. For the first time, students are responsible for composing and arranging YAMO's musical score.

1968
The 11th production of YAMO marks the first all-original show, beginning the tradition for both

YAMO script and music to be written just by students. Pantomime Company begins that year.

1972
Due to the rising costs of mounting a large-scale show in the auditorium, the 15th YAMO, aptly named "Moving It Up," moves to the Upstairs Theatre (UT) on the third floor of South Hall, a space used as a cafeteria and "Social Hall" for many years. YAMO evolves from a variety show to a more intimate musical comedy revue with more subtle satire.

1973
A thrust stage is added to the UT, plus platforms for seating, a new orchestra loft, a new light board and control set-up, and a new five-screen media format.

1978
The internal "Company" names start to evolve. Pantomime Company becomes Fables Company, which gives way to Unexpected Company in 1987. Impulse Company is added in 1989. In 1991, Chorus Company is eliminated.

1998
Bruce K. Siewerth's final year as Faculty Advisor. **Aaron Carney, '90**, steps into the role in 1999.

2001-02
The UT undergoes its biggest renovation with director's chairs giving way to conventional theater seating. New sound and lighting booths are added, as well as catwalks, a lighting grid, and new restrooms and rehearsal rooms. As a result, YAMO 2001 is postponed until May 2002 in the auditorium. The 2002 YAMO is held in the "new" UT in December.

YAMO Faculty Advisors

- Wallace Smith: 1958-62
- Karen Kuehner: 1963-65
- Bruce Siewerth: 1966-98
- Aaron Carney: 1999, 2000
- **Debbie Guy, '72**: 2001
- Timothy Herbert: 2002 to present, assisted by Aaron Carney and Katrina Engel

Reunion Roundup

Chem/Phys Wildkit Reunion Save the Date Saturday, September 23, 2017

Return to ETHS for a day of mingling with Chem/Physers from across the decades. Possibilities include a renowned speaker, conversations with retired and current science and math teachers, and fun competitions. The planning committee includes Russ Kohnken, Mark Vondracek, John Benson, Terry Gatchell, Mephie Ngoi, Bob Horton, David Dannels, Joel Weiner, Dan DuBrow and Renee DeWald. Email alumni@eths.k12.il.us to get on the invitation mailing list.



Ardent faculty members of the planning committee include: (l. to rt.) Russ Kohnken, Mark Vondracek, David Dannels, Bob Horton, John Benson, Mephie Ngoi, and Terry Gatchell.

1969 planning ahead for its 50th in 2019



Over 20 members of the class of 1969 met at John Epler's house to start thinking about their 50th reunion in 2019. More "pre-reunion" events are planned for this fall. Information is updated on Facebook at Evanston Township High School Class of 1969, or contact eths1969@gmail.com. Make sure you update your data with the ETHS Alumni Association so you don't miss out.

Class of 1964 makes legacy gift to ETHS students

In 2014, the Class of '64's 50th reunion year, ETHS honored classmate **Jack Rakove**, now a Stanford history professor and Pulitzer Prize-winning author, with a Distinguished Alumni Award.

Enthusiasm grew on the class's reunion website for establishing an ongoing prize honoring both Rakove and the class. The result was the Class of 1964/Jack Rakove Award in History & Social Sciences, an annual \$1,000 prize that goes to a senior who has demonstrated growth and improvement

in history over his/her four years at ETHS.

While funds have been continuously raised since 2014, and the prize has been awarded to three students to date, it's now official: The class has raised \$34,082, enough to endow the award in perpetuity. This is the first communal gift from the Class of 1964 to the school and will benefit students for years to come.

According to the award's oversight committee: "Special thanks to those who proposed the idea; to the

classmates who jumped aboard early and the ones who came on later; to those who volunteered time to strategize the campaign and engineer the logistics; to class members who directly asked friends to pitch in; to our hard-working webmasters; to the alumni and foundation offices for bookkeeping and investment help; to the generous donor who fortified us by anonymously matching gifts during the final days of 2016; and to Jack Rakove and the history department for formulating criteria for the prize."

Class of 1977 – "Dancin' in the Streets" 40th Reunion

BE THERE!
Sunday, July 2, 2017

6–10:00 PM: dinner, drinks, and dancing at Temperance Brewery in Evanston, 2000 W. Dempster St.

Contact **Katie Tucker Trippi** at katiet@mcgawymca.org for more information about ticket pricing and to add your contact information to the ETHS Alumni Database.

'76...'77...friendship spans the years



Donald Johnson, '77, joined in last summer's festivities when the Class of 1976 held its reunion. Pictured from l. to rt. are John Pooler '76, Stacey Moragne Sr. '76, John Llewellyn '76, Donald T. Johnson Jr. '77, and Ronald Strong '76.

Classmates hold a mini- in Florida



Members of ETHS 1963 enjoyed a mini-class reunion attending a presentation by Charles (Corky) Troy about Johnny Mercer in Lake Wales, FL. Pictured here are (l. to rt.) Stephen Packard, Victoria de Lissovoy, Troy, Sue Wadsworth Olmos, and Judith Wennerstrand.

Girls' soccer champs hold 15th anniversary reunion



On April 25, alumnae who played in the ETHS girls' soccer program came to Lazier Field to celebrate the 15th anniversary of its 2002 IHSA State Championship. Coach Marx Succes and several members of the team were on hand to witness the game played that night. Many other alumnae came to reconnect with teammates and to support the girls' soccer program. Picture here are (l. to rt.) Coach Nancy Economou '85, Akilah Moore '04, Kate Fuller Ryan '02, Lizzie Westhouse '02, Coach Marx Succes '08, Stacy Omundson Salgado '03, Coach Harold Bailey, '83, and Coach Steve Brodie.

Class of 1967 to hold its 50th

Gang, this is a ONCE in a lifetime opportunity, to celebrate our 50th reunion! ETHS was a very special place for so many of us. Let's come together to celebrate our past, and our present!

September 8: Friday night we will hold a "Meet & Greet" at The Levy Center from 6 to 11 p.m. There will be a DJ, dancing, and a barbecue buffet from our **classmate Hecky Powell's** restaurant, Hecky's.
September 9: Saturday afternoon there will be a tour of ETHS, followed

by lunch in the cafeteria, and the opening of one of the Time Capsules buried at the school 50 years ago. Saturday night, the "main event" will be at the DoubleTree in Skokie, with a cocktail hour, buffet dinner, some special program events, and a professional photographer.

September 10: Sunday will be an open day, to have breakfast/brunch/lunch/whatever, with classmates.

Tickets will go on sale in early May for all these events. Be sure to check out our Facebook page: Evanston Township High School Class of 1967, AND our website: www.eths1967.org. They have the latest information. **Any questions should be directed to: eths1967@gmail.com.**

SEE RELATED STORY ON ETHS FOUNDATION PAGE, page 15.

Class of 1974 gears up

The Class of 1974 is working on their 45th reunion and looking for missing classmates. If you are a member of '74 and are interested in more information, contact Kate Morand at kate@eths1974.com.

Letters to the Editor, cont. from p. 8

When I graduated from ETHS in 2005, I left for Washington, D.C. to study international relations at the School for International Service at American University, the epicenter of government and national security. I wanted to be where the action was in hopes of becoming a diplomat or civil servant, or serving my country in some fashion.

I graduated from American University in 2009, and in 2012 from Mercyhurst College with a master's in Applied Intelligence. I was fortunate to take advantage of multiple internships while in college that positioned me for success upon graduation. Since then, I have worked as a consultant, a contractor for the Department of Defense, and as a consultant for an intermediary company that worked with public electric utility companies and the federal government to ensure that our electric grid was resilient from both cyber and physical attacks.

All these experiences have helped me, both professionally and personally, to become what I am today: a Special Agent for the Federal Bureau of Investigation in our San Juan, Puerto Rico, office.

Why the FBI? I have found as a public servant there is an inherent sense of duty and pride that comes with the responsibility of protecting the core values this country was built on: The U.S. Constitution. Without the American public, we cannot do our job because we rely so much on their tips and concerns for safety and public well-being. While we live in a politically divided country, faced by a wave of international unknowns, I believe my chosen career has given me the opportunity to give back while also having some adventures along the way.

Most importantly, I wouldn't be here today if it were not for the foundation attained from being part of the diverse Evanston community. The faculty at ETHS encouraged my peers and me to strive to not only be better, but also instilled in us the ability to take an outward viewpoint of the world. I encourage you to become involved in public service; join the FBI or another federal agency and bring your unique talents to provide a fresh perspective and understanding of today's society.

Max E. Spector, '05



Class Notes

1930s

Jack Smothers, '30, continues his active retirement in San Diego. He stays in touch with his sister, **Betty Smothers Olwin, '37**, who winters in Scottsdale, AZ, and summers in Pentwater, MI. jasmoe@sbcglobal.net.

1940s

James Collums, '43, a retired Certified Petroleum Landman, lives with his wife, Mira, in Casper, WY. He writes: "Thank you for sending me the alumni paper. I really !! enjoy it. I was 91-yrs.-old on Jan. 5, and I'm still in good health."

1950s



Dick Stickrod, '50, (above) writes: "Glad to see our class of 1950 only lost one classmate, **Ken James**. We had 502 graduates in June 1950. Our reunion committee thinks we have over 100 octogenarians still living... thank you, Lord. I would like to save the association money by receiving any future KITS via email instead of the costly postal system. My wife, **Jean Murphy Stickrod, '50**, and I have lived in Florida since Oct. 2000. Enjoying Florida winters very much, after living in the Chicago area for 68 winters. The photo was taken at daughter Kim's house on Turkey Day 2016."

Tom Ascher, '52, reminisced: "Looking over the last *KIT* brings back memories of ETHS and appreciation for the foundation it provided me. Although I have not achieved anything outstanding, by virtue of having survived over 81 years, I have put together a few meager accomplishments. After graduating in 1952, I won a scholarship to study engineering at Carnegie Tech, followed by a communications scholarship at the U of Chicago, followed by two graduate degrees: one at GSU, another at U of

IL- Chicago (UIC). Work-wise, I wrote and produced many award-winning educational and documentary films during my 16-year stint as a staff writer/producer at Coronet Films in Chicago. Afterwards, I set-up a training center for special-education teachers in Chicago's south suburbs, followed by many years as director of data resources at UIC. All of which has aided me in becoming a decent enough person to be worthy of my wife of 36 years, who still tolerates me. Jean and I retired in 2000, living summers on Whidbey Island, WA, winters in Sedona, AZ. I still have the energy to do an occasional documentary video that can be viewed on Vimeo."

Christopher Albright, '54, hosts and produces *The Clearing*, a program of meditative, contemplative, and soft styles of music on Saturday evenings on WHYR 96.9 FM or on the internet at whyr.org from Baton Rouge, LA, Community Radio. The show is an eclectic mix of new age, soft folk, jazz, light classical, and ethnic music, as well as spiritual, electronic, and "ambient." The program is archived at www.mixcloud.com/TheClearing/uploads.

Frank "Ed" Wrenick, '57, received a BA degree from Northwestern U in 1961 and an LLB from Indiana U Law School in 1965. He practices in Indiana, Ohio, and before the Supreme Court, and has been a trial attorney for the U.S. Treasury Department and a tax attorney for Standard Oil Company of Ohio/BP. He retired in 1977, and with his wife of 50 years, Elaine, who is from Oak Park IL, manages their various real-estate investments and travel frequently to Europe. In 1980, they founded the AMC Rambler Club, now in its 37th year. Most recently, they have spent Septembers in Switzerland hiking the Alps. They live in Cleveland Heights, OH. His twin sisters, Jean and Joan, graduated from ETHS in 1958 and attended Northwestern.



Katharine Cook, '55, (above) who lives in Pt. Reyes Station, CA, grows and distributes native plants of the coastal CA prairie. She makes pre-Columbian burnished blackware, and also writes, journalism and poetry. Her next project is about the acclaimed iris garden her father, pediatrician Dr. Franklin Cook, grew and hybridized. "Many Willard School students were pressed into service digging dandelions out of the lawn and helping with the cross-pollinating."

1960s

Ronnie Reichlin, '62, married Michelle Pluchino in October 2015, and they live in Flat Rock, MI. They have three kids, all living in Chicago: **Dr. Aaron Reichlin, Rachel Reichlin (RN)**, and the youngest, **Joshua**, all graduates of ETHS. On January 8, he and Shelly took their grandchildren, Noah and Talia, to the Lyric Opera in Chicago to see Mozart's *The Magic Flute*. Says Ronnie: "I am still working and enjoying life. I am a professional insurance producer, licensed in both Illinois and Michigan."



Last November, **Rob Mancuso, '69**, (above) was among six Chicago-area business people to receive BBB Torch Awards for Marketplace Ethics from the Better Business Bureau serving Chicago and Northern Illinois. Mancuso owns Mancuso Motorsports Ins. The award spotlights companies that exemplify marketplace trust, excellence, and the highest ethical standards.

Malcolm McCullom, '60, writes: "I remain deeply grateful for the education ETHS provided me. I went to Northwestern (Class of '64) and, after the Army, to Claremont Graduate School, where I received an MA in 1969. Among other endeavors, I taught and/or ran a campus at Pikes Peak Community College for 33 years."

Sheila Markin Nielsen, '67, has been busy as an executive coach and career counselor. She's written and published two books on job searching. She has three "wonderful" girls and lives in Winnetka, IL.



American actress **Ruby Wachs, '69**, (above) now known by her stage name, Ruby Wax, will star in her latest one-woman show *Ruby Wax: Frazzled*, which will run from May 30-June 24 at the Leicester Square Theatre in London. Wax graduated in psychology from the University of California, Berkeley, and in 2013 she gained a [master's degree](#) in [mindfulness-based cognitive therapy](#) from Oxford University. In 2015, she was appointed a Visiting Professor in Mental Health Nursing at the University of Surrey. A classically trained actress, she gained prominence in England as a comic interviewer. Now, she's an author and mental health campaigner using her signature comedy and new knowledge to educate the public.

1970s



Last summer, **David Cole, '76**, (above) was ap-

pointed the new national legal director at the American Civil Liberties Union, placing him at the center of the ACLU's efforts to enforce the government's system of checks and balances, according to a recent article on NPR.com, "ACLU Lawyer Sits At Heart Of Legal Resistance To Trump Agenda." Says Cole: "I get to wake up every morning and get paid to think about how to respond in ways that will preserve our basic rights and liberties. That's a tremendous privilege." He is currently on a four-year leave from his teaching job at Georgetown Law. Cole received an ETHS Distinguished Alumni Award in 2006.



In January, **Commander Denise McCallaCreary, '72**, (above) a 27-year Navy veteran, was elected to a two-year term as President of the National Naval Officers Association (NNOA), the first female to be elected President in NNOA's 44-year history. NNOA actively supports the US Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in the recruitment, development and retention of a diverse Officer Corps. McCallaCreary was born and raised in Kingston, Jamaica, and immigrated to the US as a teenager. She joined the enlisted ranks in 1973 and was later commissioned in the Navy in 1978. During her career, she served in shore-based leadership positions, retiring in 2000. She has been active member of NNOA since 1983, leading the organization's NROTC Coordinator's program, actively participated as a member of the San Francisco Bay area chapter, and most recently served as the Western Region Vice President.



Last September, **Donald Johnson, '77**, a Sports Commentator for Comcast, covered the rivalry game between ETHS and New Trier (pictured from l. to rt., Johnson, color commentator; Perry Williams, play-by-play; and Camron Smith, sideline reporter). Johnson was MVP of the 1977 Wildkit football team and a sophomore Captain of the Evanston Wildkit Hockey Team that captured the Scholastic Cup Championship in 1975. (He scored a hatrick, 3 of the 4 goals in the contest, and played alongside eventual NHL'er Steve Richmond.) Johnson earned a BS degree in communications from Northwestern U in 1981, an MS from NU's Medill School of Journalism in 1987, and played halfback on the Wildcats football team, where he lettered three years and was featured on the 1978 Big 10 highlight reel.

Mark Miller, 1970, is retiring from the City of Evanston on June 1, 2017. He will be spending a lot of time in the hometown of his beautiful wife in the mountains of South America in Mallay, Peru.

Michael Engler, '77, will be the director of Masterpiece/PBS's first feature film that will reunite him with *Downton Abbey* writer Julian Fellowes and star Elizabeth McGovern. The movie, *The Chaperone*, will air on PBS stations nationwide after its initial theatrical run. Engler directed several episodes of *Downton Abbey*, including the finale. McGovern spent part of her early childhood in Evanston but did not graduate from ETHS.

1980s
Crystal LaNette Bowen Johnson, '83, (above rt.) lives with her husband, Jimmy, and family in Mableton, GA. She is a Major Incident & Problem Manager. (crystaljohnson36@comcast.net).



1990s
Tom Hladish, '98, has a Ph.D. in Science, with a specialty in Epidemiology. He is married and has two little daughters. He teaches/does research at the U of Florida, Gainesville, and has lectured and conducted classes in the USA and many countries abroad. Hladish earned his Bachelor's degree at Illinois Wesleyan University and his Ph.D. at the U of Texas-Austin.

Alexis Miehls Moore, '90, received her Master of Science in Nursing degree on May 7 from Aurora (IL) University.



Heather Burns, '93, (above) played the role of Jill in the 2016 Oscar-nominated movie *Manchester by the Sea*. She is an actress and writer. Other film appearances include *You've Got Mail* (1998), *Two Weeks Notice* (2002), and *Bewitched* (2005). Burns has appeared in several films with Sandra Bullock, including *Miss Congeniality* (2000), *Two Weeks Notice* (2002) and *Miss Congeniality 2: Armed & Fabulous* (2005). More recently she starred in the film *What's Your Number?* (2011) and held a recurring role opposite Zach Galifianakis in the HBO series *Bored to Death*. A graduate of New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, she's been married to actor **Ajay Naidu, '90**, since 2012. They live in New York City and have one child.

ABC-TV recently announced that next year it will revive its popular sitcom "Roseanne," which debuted in 1988, for an

8-episode run with the original cast including actress **Alicia "Lecy" Goranson, '92**, who was the original "Becky" Conner. Goranson studied acting in Chicago after ETHS, and was cast on *Roseanne* on her second audition. She played the role of Becky for five seasons, when she left to pursue her education at Vassar College. Since *Roseanne*, Goranson has had several small roles in films and has guest starred in several popular TV series.



Joshua Liebman, '94, a partner in the law firm of Novack and Macey LLP, was named one of the 40 most talented young attorneys in Illinois for 2016 by the *Chicago Law Bulletin's* publishers and featured in a special supplement in the *Chicago Law Bulletin* newspaper and *Chicago Lawyer* magazine.

2000s



Ian Weinberger, '05, (at center) Associate Music Director of the award-winning Broadway musical *Hamilton*, had the pleasure this winter of conducting the show when his former ETHS music teacher, Dr. David Fodor, (at l.) and his wife Sarah (rt.), were in the audience. According to a Northwestern U bio of Weinberger, who graduated from NU in '09: "He plays the keyboard in the orchestra most nights and conducts the show a few times per week. He still feels blessed and surprised by *Hamilton's* success, hav-

ing watched it transition from 'this little musical on Lafayette Street' into the hottest thing on Broadway." Weinberger conducted his first performance of *Hamilton* on Sept. 27, 2015, the night First Lady Michelle Obama attended.

Nicholas Greenberg, '16, writes that he "joined FEMA Corps (Federal Emergency Management Agency, remember Katrina?). Leaving February 14th and will be stationed in Vicksburg, MS."

The **Klamm brothers, Patrick, '13, and Carl, '15**, were named All-Americans for their winning times in the NCAA D3 Indoor Track and Field Championships held in March at North Central College in Naperville, IL. Both attend Bethel University in MN. Carl ran the 400-meters and placed 5th in the finals. Both brothers competed on the 4x400 relay team, which had the fastest qualifying time (out of 12 teams) and which came in 4th in the finals. The NCAA for Track and Field defines the All-American status on the top 8 finishers in each event. So, they are both All-Americans!



Last June, **John K. Girard, '15**, (above) was inducted into the US Naval Academy Class of 2020. He spent this last year at Mercersburg Academy as a Naval Academy Foundation Scholar. Both US Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky and former Congressman Mark Kirk nominated Girard for admission to the USNA.



Rashad Lea Young, '12, (above) graduated from Eastern Illinois U on May 7, 2016, with honors in Applied Engineering technology and started working for McCarthy Building Companies, Inc., this past summer. He lives and works in Omaha, NE. Raised by his grandparents, he graduated from ETHS where he played basketball and football. Rashad's grandparents and dad also attended ETHS: **Franchot T. Young, Jr., '78; Franchot T. Young, Sr., '54; and Myra L. Young.**

Andrew Leary, '03, lives in Denver, CO. He wrote to say that in April he led a ski expedition to the North Pole ("yup, 90 degrees north"). "This will be my second expedition to the pole, the last one being in 2013. I am a ski guide for a company based in Wilmette called Polar Explorers. We'll be trekking on the ice for 10 days pulling all of our own gear, camping along the way. Temps are -30 to -40 degrees C despite the 24-hour daylight that we'll experience." Hopefully he took a photo at the North Pole and sang the Fight Song.

Correction: In last fall's Class Notes, we mistakenly listed Capt. Gerald Gallagher as having graduated in 1958. Wrong. He graduated in 1978. We regret the error.

In Memory

1930s

Alice Nordberg Terill, 1935, 1/9/2017
Richard V. Mead, 1937
Marion Stewart Schmitz, 1937, died in 2016
Mary Whitley Nelson, 1938, 8/22/2016

1940s

Barbara White Gazin, 1940, 11/15/2016
Matina Chakides Yspilantis, 1940, 3/16/2017
Donald R. Diggs, 1941, 12/26/2014
Barbara Anderson Braun, 1943, 9/6/2016
Steven Funk, 1943, 6/2015
Dorothy Millard Johnson, 1943, 4/22/2017
Peggy Cushman Ledbetter, 1943, 11/10/2015
Phil Brodt, 1945, April 2017
Robert T. Brumbaugh, 1945
Emrys Davies, 1945, 11/27/2013
Jean Ironside Miller, 1945
John Uecker, 1945, 4/20/17
Doris Buehler Brumbaugh, 1946
Chester Milecki, 1946, 9/13/2016
Robert E. Anderson, 1947, 10/12/2013
Eleanor (Ellie) Heuser Anstaett, 1947, 12/22/2016
David Bockman, 1947, 5/6/2014
Edwin Edelberg, 1947, 5/28/2016
Dorothy Stine Gottschalk, 1948, 7/29/2014
James R. Wall, 1948, 2/17/2017*
H. Clarke Whitmore, 1948
Barbara Rosenstone Gilbert, 1949, 12/9/2016

1950s

Wright H. Erwine, 1950, 7/16/2016
Roland “Rolly” Ford, 1950, 8/8/2015
Robert G. Ward, 1951, 12/2013
Judy Kirby Gustaveson, 1953, 10/9/2016
Moreland “Moni” Whitbeck, 1953, 6/3/2016
William “Bill” Blasdell, 1954, 11/9/2016
Frank “Bud” Paschen, 1954, 12/12/2016

Barbara Marcin Isbell, 1955, 2/17/2017
Ronald James Berrie, 1956, 2/14/2017
David B. Reno, 1956, 4/3/2017
Elaine Lindley Stumbough, 1956, 11/17/2016
Marian Wild Wick, 1956, 1/21/2017
Donald J. McNally, 1958, 2/1/2014
Lucille Holman Morris, 1958, died in 2014

1960s

S. Frederic F. Johanson, 1961, 10/11/16
Meredith Moses Chesterton, 1963, 3/14/2017
Philip Jones, 1964, 3/28/2017
Thomas Kelsey, 1964, 12/24/2016
Ellyn Nimerov Rose, 1964, 3/1/2017
William Robb, 1964, 1/14/2017
Steven Reed Wolnick, 1964, 4/21/2017
John Church, 1965
Ervin W. Pettigrew, 1965, 2/12/2011
Martha Monahan Bromley, 1967, 5/26/2016
Michael A. Lorig, 1968, 1/22/2017
Steve Zich, 1968, 10/21/2016

1970s

Sandra Yasutake Conners, 1971-72, 5/2016
Dr. David Bruce Rogers, 1973, 12/8/2016
Christopher Donald Ward, 1973, 10/19/2015

1980s

Leah A. Callie, 1988, died in 2015

1990s

Gretchen Ane Burns, 1995, April 2017

2000s

Megan Dickie, 2000, 3/10,2017

* Jim Wall was appointed to serve on the inaugural ETHS Alumni Association board of directors. He served a two-year term.

ETHS Faculty/Staff

George P. Osterkamp, or “Mr. O” to his students, friends, and colleagues, passed away April 9, 2017, at age 81. He taught Business Education at ETHS for 27 years and served as the advisor for ETHS’s DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) chapter. He retired in 1995.

Long-time ETHS history teacher **Henry Klein** died Nov. 18, 2016. He taught at ETHS for over 30 years, and was 89-years-old. An avid reader, Mr. Klein was an active docent at the Chicago Architecture Foundation, and a former member of the Beth Emet Synagogue board of directors.

Philip Jones, who worked in the ETHS Operations Department for 38 years in a variety of positions, died March 28, 2017. An ETHS alumnus, Class of 1964, he actively supported the school’s athletics program throughout his adult life. He retired in 2004.

Florida receptions bring together Florida Wildkits

ETHS travelled to two destinations in Florida this year when Superintendent Eric Witherspoon visited the east coast and the west coast. There were Evanston transplants and snowbirds alike in attendance. **Jay ’64** and Alyn Siegall hosted a party at Miromar Lakes with guests milling around their pool. **Len ’62** and Shelly Foxman opened their lovely home on the inter-coastal at Lighthouse Point.

Len Foxman commented to one group that ETHS was wonderful when he was there, “but, let me tell you, I’ve been back multiple times and you should see what the experience is like today for students from diverse backgrounds. Students are exposed to pre-engineering and entrepreneurship, astrophysics and more, and are using advanced technologies.”

Guests reunited with friends from their decades but also met other Florida alums that live near them. Witherspoon spoke to the continuing pride that our school sustains across the country and its reputation as a top-ranked school.

Many guests expressed excitement about returning to ETHS for an upcoming reunion tour or another opportunity to see what the campus has to offer today. Witherspoon invited everyone to come back to walk down memory lane and to see how ETHS is preparing students for college and employment in the 21st century.

If you are interested in hosting a regional alumni gathering in your area, please contact Joanne Bertsche, bertschej@eths.k12.il.us or 847/424-7158. We are especially interested in getting out to L.A. and Texas in the upcoming year.



A large Florida alumni contingent gathered at the home of Jay Siegall, '64 (at center of photo, back row).



Len Foxman (6th from left) hosted another ETHS alumni party at his home in Lighthouse Point, FL, near Boca Raton.

Class of 1967 to honor its 50th reunion with a Legacy Gift

The ETHS class of 1967 has launched an ambitious fundraising campaign to celebrate their 50th-year reunion. Spearheaded by businessman and entrepreneur **Ron Harris**, the goal is to raise \$250,000 to support the ETHS Educational Foundation.

Harris, the original engineer for Bloomberg Financial’s electronic information network, hopes the class gift will inspire future reunion classes to not only meet but exceed their giving amount.

“The biggest reason for me agreeing to take this on, set the goal we have, and put forth the effort for the great amount of work, is that we want the class of ’67 to establish a tradition and legacy that will pay dividends for the children of Evanston far in the future,” explained Harris.

Classmate and reunion committee member, **Nancy Berry Thomson**, is co-chairing the fundraising project. Her work experience includes a long career in education and several years directing a major gifts program for the United Way of Minneapolis. She was drawn into the project when she visited ETHS last October for the first time in 50 years. After



Ron Harris is spearheading an effort by his Class of ’67 to raise \$250,000 for-ETHS Foundation initiatives.

meeting with current students and faculty, she was energized to fundraise for the school.

“We’re the pioneers, the first class to do fundraising on this scale. We hope other classes will follow in our footsteps,” stated Thomson.

Harris affirmed, “Philanthropy really is making sure the future is better for our children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, than it would be without us looking into the future and investing in it.”

Both Harris and Thomson are pleased with the

positive response they have received from their classmates. Many have expressed gratitude for the pair leading the fundraising project and noted the positive impact the school had in their shaping their lives.

“We had racial diversity; and economic, religious and academic diversity. The school still has all of that and it’s a wonderful thing,” acknowledged Thomson. Harris observed, “It is clear to me that Evanston Township High School sent me out into the world prepared to face what came next.”

Outside of raising funds for the school, the reunion planning has helped both alumni reestablish old friendships and build new relationships with their classmates.

Superintendent Eric Witherspoon expressed appreciation for the project: “The Class of ’67 is modeling their commitment to ‘pay it forward.’ They value the gift of the ETHS education they received,

and now they are striving to repay that gift by being the benefactors for students today and in the future. Because of their generosity, they will be making a positive difference in so many young lives for years to come. I am inspired by the Class of 1967.”

To date, the campaign has raised \$100,000. Funds will support the ETHS Educational Foundation’s current initiatives that include the Chem-Phys Theory Center, 3-D Design and Ceramics Studio, and acoustic enhancements for the Music Room.

The Class of ’67 reunion will be held in September. To learn more about the class of ’67 reunion, visit <http://eths1967.org/>.



Fundraising co-chair Nancy Berry Thomson (center) and ’67 classmate Katie Hanley Storer (at rt.) met with Joanne Bertsche, (at l.) ETHS Foundation Executive Director, to discuss the project and see where their legacy gift will be used in the school.

For more information on the ETHS Educational Foundation and how you can support its efforts please visit <https://www.eths.k12.il.us/foundation>.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE and make your gift online: www.eths.k12.il.us/foundation OR call us at (847) 424-7158
Please accept my gift of (Recognition options available for gifts of \$250 and above)
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