

Ye Olde



Sneak a Peek

INSIDE

The Season's Reunions

Dozens of gatherings filled this summer and fall calendars. See them beginning on Page 2.

Former Secretary and Teachers Pass

Over one hundred years were dedicated to Huron students by the three who passed away. See Page 5.

Fall Sports Results

The fall sports season ended about Thanksgiving as state competitions wound down. See how our Tigers did in all the sports beginning on Page 8.

Meet Our Newbies

On Page 5 meet our new French teacher with a new method of teaching foreign languages. On Page 10 meet our new math teacher, and on Page 11 our new Athletic Director.

Poverty Takes the Stage

The entire school staff underwent a simulation experience of what it means to be poor. See how it went on Page 10.

Those We Have Lost

The past six months have seen too many of our grads pass. We suspect there are more than those listed. If you live out of the area and learn of any who have passed but may not have been listed in the local newspapers, please let us know. On page 13, see those we have as of our November 28 print deadline.

Athletic Hall of Fame Class 2024



The 32nd Annual Athletic Hall of Fame Inductions took place during Homecoming Week in September and saw six nominees inducted, along with a champion football team from 1974. A seventh nominee was unable to travel up from Texas and will be inducted next year. Congratulations to all!

Tiger Girls Take 5th in State Cross Country

Huron girls have fast become a force to be reckoned with in running events. Last spring's first place finish at the state track meet was followed this fall by a first place in the SBC, and fifth place finish at state in the cross country events. Hard work and determination, with great coaching, pay off. Details on page 9.



The girls remain focused as they ready for the gun at the Huron Invitational.

Huron Grad's Carving Skills



The *Edmund Fitzgerald* stares up from atop a Huron Public Library table, as her master carver, Lynn Meyers, '59, proudly surveys her. When Lynn was in Huron High, the art program consisted of drawing and painting. On his own Lynn developed his carving skills after graduation. On page 12, read about, and view, some of his collection of ships created in his retirement.

Classmates from '54 Celebrate 70 Years



Congrats to the class of '54 who were one of the first to announce their gathering and celebrated with joyful reminiscing about their youth spent in Huron. Another dozen or so would have liked to have made it, but distance and health issues conspired against them. See you all again in five!

Present were:

Peggy Breay, Diane Hoffman, Shirley Schupe, Linda and Al Sender, and Amy Hoffman Svoboda, '84, who drove up a ways to celebrate with her mom.

Class Reunions, Summer 2024

The summer of '24 was especially busy for class reunions, from both the five-year, regularly scheduled meetings, the many monthly gatherings, to a few spontaneous surprise get togethers. The most common themes running through these returns to their roots were how happy they were to have been raised in a small, close knit community, how much they enjoyed school and their school chums - though they would never have admitted that back in the day - and how thankful they are today for the values that were imparted to them by parents, the schools, their churches, and even the nosy neighbors who called their folks to report an occasional altercation somewhere in the village. These kinds of renewals are always good. Keep them going!

Class of '57 Breaks Fast Together



Members of the Class of '57 meet monthly to enjoy a breakfast and good fellowship together, opting most months to test the waffles at the breakfast buffet at Sawmill Creek's Miller's Table. This particular month, attending were:

Left: Barbara Griggs Burris, Jeanann Stout Osterling, Ted Winkle, Virginia Burseil Mataleska's granddaughter from California (Virginia herself had passed away earlier that week.) At the end: Patricia Dunham Right front: Marna Haber Muehlhauser, Dick Schenk, Joan Bardshar Tracht, Sue Dunham Boldman

The '59 Pizza Contest



The '59ers' monthly excursion to the Pizza House was special this month as they celebrated their 65th anniversary. They normally take over the back room there and invite any and all to join as they reminisce and carry on about being the class that gave the present high school its proper breaking in.

Class of '60 Gathers Again

Several times every year, members of this close-knit class gather at Bar North for a fine meal and a couple hours of catching up, with one or more from out-of-state returning.

Names of classmates are: Carol Pfefferle, Pat Sowecke, Sherry Otto, Marge Billman, George & Mary Ellen Ritzenthaler, Marta Richards, Dottie Presutto, Roy & March Gadd, Char & Bob Zeno, Karen & John Doyle.



Class of '61 Small but Enjoyable

Some days find more folks able to attend a monthly gathering than others, but for those who do spend that hour or so visiting with long-time friends, it's a welcome time of joy and a break from noontime routine of last night's warmed up leftovers or PBJ sandwiches. We salute all those who share their time and make all feel how great it is to be alive, for so many at these lunches remark how they never expected to live this long.

Still going strong are Bill and Deb Fisk, Ken Strayer, Ron Krock, Nonie and Jim Peterson, Angela Myers, and Rose Ann Gerber.



Charles and Phyllis Wright, Marge Billman, Jim McKelvey, Sherry Otto, Dorothy "Dottie" Presutto, George Ritzenthaler, "Mick" and Linda Comstock, Bob and Char Zeno

Class of '62 Hits Its Big 80



A good crowd of the '62 bunch regularly gathers toward the end of each month. Mostly attended by the locals, because the day of the month remains the same, out-of-towners can time their trips back "home" to attend.

Share the Class's 80th Birthday Day party pictures in the online Newsletter

Kathy Faller, Marilou Dunham Pankow, Sally Majoy, Len and Kay Rudy Dixon, Bill Boos, Sharon Barnes, David "Blue Gill" and Barb Majoy, Pat Sowecke, Ron Faller, Bob Barnes, Linda Green Haley, and Ed Boose.



Class of '63 at Lakeside

The Class of '63 annually meets for lunch at a restaurant in Lakeside, then repairs to the home of Marcia and Don Ramsey for an afternoon of heavy conversation and heavier desserts! This year these folks made it over:

(L to R) Leslie Gockstetter Wilson, Jack Sender, Marcia and Don Ramsey, Peggy Klahn, Barbara Kromer, Sharon Jameson, Bill and Mary Anne Koehler, Meri Sender, Martha Taylor and Mark Shell

Class of '68 Helps Break the Local Drought



The Class of '65 welcomes fall each year, by gathering near the Boat Basin to reconnect once again. Regardless of weather, rain this time, they tough it out for the opportunity to review the past and catch up on present activities. Sometimes a few wiser ones dry off and meet again the next morning for breakfast at Sawmill Creek.

'69 at 55



The Class of '69 chose to celebrate their 55th anniversary informally, with no dinner, just a potluck, no dress-up, just the daily duds, no speechifying, just one-on-one and group conversations. All went well, and they stayed dry.

Class of '74 After Half Century



The Class of '74 poses before the Huron Yacht Club concluding a weekend celebrating their 50th year since graduation. Their planning committee had done a masterful job of providing activities each day to bring together classmates from all over the country. They toured their old haunts at the high school, bemoaning the fact that they could not find a library anywhere, but amazed at the renovated science rooms. There followed socializing at a local refreshment establishment, then golf, picnicking, and finally their buffet banquet. Some even remembered their first class party after graduating, thrown for them by a teacher who had lost his bet over the Nixon resignation date and paid up with a keg party in his garage. Those were the days! Stay well, all!

'79's 45th on the River



The reunion rules these days seem to be: keep it informal, wander about after a few drinks, keep moving and visit, avoid group pictures, and have a good time. It works! Hence, the scarcity of a class picture for posterity.

'84 Loses It



Some guys have all the luck!

The Class of '04

The Class of 2004 also met on a beautiful summer evening at the Harbor House on the river for an informal gathering of the flock. They are emblematic of the modern grads who prefer not to rent a hall for a formal sit-down dinner, hired music, and limited contact with former classmates. At a venue such as they chose, they can wander from group to group to visit, order whatever drinks and appetizers they want whenever they feel the need, and enjoy whatever group happens to be playing that evening. See you at the quarter century, if not sooner!



*Back Row L-R: Mike Jett, Nathan Ging, Justin Saunders, Faith Greenawalt, Damon Durbin, Alex Suter, Amanda Furey, Anthony Frank
Middle Row: Jaron Jeffries, Todd Gardner, Lauren Barbour, Kristy Bollenbacher, Susan Folger
Front: Anthony Muntz, Jackie DeMuth, Abbey McCoy, Megan Borgelt, Jennifer Wilson, Aimee Steinmetz, Heather Mikolay*

Nancy Freitas, Beloved Secretary, Passes at 95



Nancy Freitas, age 95, passed away on September 26, 2024, at home, as she would have wanted. Gone are the warm smile and gentle ways that so many of you knew as she served as the high school secretary for over 25 years. Born in Leipsic OH, she attended high school at Lima Shawnee, then graduated from Key West HS where the family had moved when her dad enlisted in the Navy during WWII. She met her husband of 65 years, Jack Freitas, in college at BGSU, then returned to Key West for their wedding and their honeymoon in Cuba. Her travels were not soon over as her husband's jobs in education required moving often, but during that time she raised four children until they settled in Huron permanently. With the children older, she joined the labor force in July, 1965 and helped manage Rocky Larizza's move into the high school principalship that fall. She was a steady hand behind that counter and greeted every student and staff member with a smile, courtesy, and respect. She had a way of calming down even the most charged up on entering, so much so that members of the staff began referring to her as "Moms," a nickname she wore proudly.

George "Ed" Taylor Passes Away



George "Ed" Taylor, '61, age 81, of Huron, passed away peacefully on, June 15, 2024, at his home. Ed was born in Ontario, Canada, a fact which often began the kidding among the staff - he could never be elected president of the USA. His rejoinder: "I make a better coach!" Ed was a farm boy through and through. From his dad he learned truck farming, as in plowing and tilling, planting, then hoeing the weeds, and finally harvesting. Crawling on one's needs chasing strawberries and beans all day teaches a good work ethic, and that Ed tried to implant in all of his students and athletes. Ed earned his first degree from Ashland College in Health, Physical Education and Recreation while minoring in English. Later, from Bowling Green State University, he obtained a master's degree in Guidance and Counseling. He began teaching at the junior high for his alma mater, then moved up to the high school where he taught English and then later worked in the guidance department. For 35 years he inspired students and athletes and formed life-long relationships. As a coach he was inducted into the Huron High School Athletic Hall of Fame for his work in several different sports, most of which he had participated in and performed well. In retirement Ed returned to the nature that he loved. He was never so much at ease as when outdoors hunting and fishing, admiring Nature's beauty, whether on the waters or in a woods, then teaching his own children, and later grandchildren, how to fish, usually in Florida.

Janet Fortune Passes



Janet Hinde Fortune, '60, age 81, of Huron, passed away on June 20 at FRMC. Armed with her Bachelor's degree from Baldwin Wallace College, Jan began her career in education. She was consumed with a passion for teaching, especially at the elementary level to guarantee students a good start. After 32 years there, she retired and for the next ten years substituted at EHOVE. She was devoted to her children and grandchildren, from teaching Sunday School to being a Den Mother, and touting her reputation as the biggest booster of all things athletic.

What's New in French?

Huron's High's newly hired French teacher is Madame Courtney Miller, a New London native with twenty-five years of experience in the field. After high school she graduated from the University of Miami with her degree in French, then continued for her Masters Degree from Kent State, supplementing her work with studies also in Boston University and in Paris. She taught in the North Olmsted Middle School for a while and then at Mid-view before settling in Oberlin where she lives today.

Students can't nap in her room - there are no desks, just a box of clipboards if students want to take notes and stacks of chairs. Courtney is using a method of foreign language instruction called Comprehensible Input. Gone are the hours of memorizing vocabulary lists, conjugating verbs and practicing noun declensions. So what gives here? Desks are viewed as barriers to language learning. Instead, students and teacher interact with one another in various ways, actually using the language and many other intermediaries so that students can comprehend what a word means. They converse with one another, they may act out skits, view short videos, read cartoons or comics to one another or write their own, follow teacher's commands as she acts out new words, always using vocabulary in ordinary daily activities, usually social ones to encourage dialogue. The proper syntax is picked up as they go along, the same way you learned how to put words in the right place within a sentence without memorizing rules. And the beauty is that students don't even realize that they are improving their languaging abilities.

Student self-esteem increases every time that they realize how their facility in the language is increasing. Courtney has certainly bought into this language pedagogy, with no English being spoken during class and students, through any of many methods used, motivated to comprehend word meaning. They are encouraged to use what they are learning daily, not to worry if they mess up a little bit occasionally because the more they talk, the sooner they will hit upon the proper way. Eventually, too, they begin to read in the target language and are motivated all the more to experience the joy of reading in more than one language. Courtney's students have bought into this system and are progressing well. The proof will come someday, perhaps, when they find themselves abroad or even just as far as Quebec. As our world becomes more globalized in our transactions, we shall all surely meet with situations for which we will be mighty thankful for the learning we enjoyed with the likes of Madame Miller.



Madame assists her student by demonstrating, in French, of course

Athletic Hall of Fame Inductions for 2024

The 31st Huron High Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony occurred on Thursday of Homecoming Week, September 19, at Mesenburg's Plaza Place. Six individual inductees were honored as well as the undefeated football team from 1976, the first year of the play-off system in Ohio. In addition, one more was finally inducted after being chosen in 2015 but being unable to attend because of his military duties, Major General John Nichols.

The ceremony this year displayed its usual good time, with relatives, classmates, and friends attending to whoop it up for each inductee. After a delicious buffet was downed, the serious business began of inducting the honored ones and listening to their stories. But many times, the ceremony became more serious as each inductee stressed how important it was that the entire community was partially responsible for their success because of the tremendous support they give all the teams. They mentioned how the community members helped instill good character in each athlete, how they instilled confidence in the players, and how they helped them build the values, attitudes, and the positive spirit that has led them to success in their adult lives.

Next year's ceremony will be held on September 21. Anyone may submit the name of a Huron athlete or team to the selection committee for consideration. Contact AD Matthew Ayers at mayers@huronhs.com to obtain an application form and instructions.

Major General John Nichols, '88



(l) John and his wife, Michelle Willinger, '88, and a three generation picture of their family and grand-dog.

During his high school career, John starred in football, basketball, and track. For Huron's first ever OHSAA playoff win, he captained the '87 football squad that beat archrival Wynford. He was a North-South All Star and made 1st team SBC Conference and All-Ohio, together with Academic All-Ohio.

John then graduated from the Air Force Academy in 1992 to begin his stellar military career, eventually earning two more stars as Major General before retiring. He served in intelligence for a while, did his pilot training on the B-1's at Vance AFB in Oklahoma, then saw action and served as command pilot abroad. He served as commander of operations groups and a bomber wing at several AF Bases around the country. Finally he served as Director of Global Power Programs and lastly as Director of Global Operations at Offutt AFB in Nebraska. In all he says he served in more than 18 positions during his long career. John has flown over 2,500 hours, including 600 combat hours, many in the B-1's, B-2's, B-52's among others.

Jeff Wentz, '70

Jeff was known for being a dedicated and outstanding wrestler.

In 1970 he was the SBC champion at the 107 lbs. level and qualified for the state tournament in 1971 with a visual impairment. His dedication and work ethic helped set the standard for the many years of successful Huron wrestlers to follow at the state level.

Jeff's brother Doug accepted for Jeff, as Jeff learned of his induction into the Hall of Fame just before he passed away in April of this year.

Jeff's family members of siblings, nieces and nephews were pleased to attend the induction ceremony in honor of Jeff.



The Esposito's - Joe Sr., '57, and Joe Jr. , '82

The two Joes may have graduated 25 years apart but they set on fire the teams for which they played. When Huron was in the Lakeland Conference, Joe Sr. in 1956 helped his football team to an 8-0 record. He followed that up with two trips to state for his wrestling prowess.

His son, Joe Jr. starred for the '81 season when he set the record of 36 catches and 6 touchdowns. He eventually set school records of 54 receptions and 715 yards, in the process earning First Team All-SBC honors as he helped the team to an 8-2 record.



The two honorees above, and three generations of Clan Esposito enjoyed dinner together.

Amanda Fox Van Laningham, '05



Amanda made her mark on the volleyball and basketball courts. In 2002 she was part of the state VB champion team, and in 2003 she played on the unbeaten team, earning First Team All-District. As a senior in 2004 she helped lead the team to the regional finals, earning All-SBC First Team Honors. Along the way she set a school record for 35 kills in one match against Margaretta and ended her career with 805 kills and 494 points.

Today Amanda and Cory reside in Westerville OH where she works as a Licensed Professional Counselor - when not chasing Snicklefritz.

Fred and Geraldine Kirby Fox, both '74 grads, with Cory, Amanda, and Snicklefritz.



Vontilla "Voni" Rasnick

Voni entered into the Huron community when she married her husband Kim, a '72 grad, and immediately adopted Huron. She was inducted into the Hall of Fame as a citizen, not as an athlete, for her many years of service to the athletic community of Huron.

Voni was employed in various capacities throughout each of the buildings in the Huron City Schools over the years, and retired as head night custodian at the high school.

She was especially fond of the girls' athletic programs and began keeping score for the volleyball teams and never gave it up for almost twenty years. She also keep score for the girls and boys basketball games for over twenty years. She was always dedicated and close to the teams and would do anything for the players who may have needed help. Many athletes privately refer to her as "Mom" or "Grandma" these days but never to her face. She is NOT old, and we will probably continue to see her around different events for many more years to come.



Athletics

1976 Football Team

As the 2024 Football Season was beginning, the 1976 Football Team was inducted into the Huron Athletic Hall of Fame. Head Coach Tony Munafo was at the peak of his coaching career, as shown by that team. They had two rushers for over 1,000 yards in a single season, Greg McGory with 1,157 yards and Dave Cramer with 1,082 yards, an SBC record at that time. They finished the season at 10 - 0 and were the first Huron team to qualify for the State Playoffs. We finally lost to Elyria Catholic, playing on damp artificial turf for the first time.

The runners were assisted by 1st team All- SBC end Craig Saunders and tough-as-nails linemen such as All-SBC First Teamers Rip Shearer at Tackle, Pat Cahill at Guard, and Doug Armstrong at Center. The defensive team took second place to none either in the conference, with the likes of First Team All-SBC Jim Chapman as Defensive End, Doug Armstrong as Cornerback, Bill Simsa as Defensive Back, and Ron "Bearcat" Wright as Tackle. Heck, some say that this year these guys could still suit up and beat the Browns!

At the Homecoming Game, the tradition is that newly inducted members into the Hall of Fame the evening before the game, and those who could return for the game, are then introduced to the crowd between quarters.

Shown here are some of the 1976 team who were able to return to the sidelines for an introduction:
 Ron "Bearcat" Wright, Kevin Ritzenthaler, Dudley Cramer, Tony Munafo Jr., Craig Saunders, John Kenning, and Chis Sudsina



Football

Coach: Sam Hohler Record: 7 - 5
 Playoff Games 1 - 1

- Tommie McDonald - First Team SBC Bay Div Off Receiver
- Jason McNulty - First Team SBC Bay Div Linebacker; First Team All-Ohio Div VI
- Tommie McDonald - First Team SBC Bay Div D-Back; Second Team All-Ohio Div VI
- Cameron Manner* - First Team Bay Div Specialist - Kicking; First Team All-Ohio Div VI
- Landon Hohler - Second Team Day Div Quarterback; Second Team All-Ohio Div VI
- Jackson McNulty - Second Team SBC Bay Div Receiver
- Dominic Muratori - Second Team SBC Bay Div D-Line
- Paul Maloney - Second Team SBC Bay Div
- Ben Davis - Honorable Mention Off Guard

* Unanimous Choice



Volleyball

Coach: Don Wood - All-Ohio Co-Coach of the Year Record: 14 - 10

- Maggie Orzech - First Team All-SBC; All- Ohio First-Team in Div V
- Azure Waldock - First Team All-SBC; All-Ohio First-Team in Division V
- Cami Adams - Second Team All-SBC; All-Ohio Second-Team in Division V
- Adelyn Van Sickle - Hon. Mention All-SBC; All-Ohio Second-Team in Division V
- Reese Hotz - All-Ohio Third Team in Division V



Soccer

Boys Soccer

Coach: Matt Asher Record: 6 - 11 - 2

- Cameron Manner - First Team SBC All-Conference Attacker; All-Ohio Div. V
- Peter Cencer - Second Team SBC All-Conference Defender
- Jackson Gray - Second Team SBC All-Conference Mid-Fielder
- Scott Allen - Hon. Mention SBC All-Conference Keeper
- Caleb Holmes - Hon. Mention SBC All-Conference Defender
- Mason Schindley - Hon. Mention SBC All-Conference Mid-Fielder



Girls Soccer

Coach: Josh Thompson Record: 6 - 10 - 1

- Lillian Thompson - First Team SBC All-Conference Midfielder
- Lucy Hiners - First Team SBC All-Conference Goalkeeper



Golf

Girls Golf

Coach: Jeff Hippley **Record:** Second in TNY Pl

- Ashtyn Spooner - First Team All-SBC Bay Div.
- Teagan Miller - First Team All-SBC Bay Div.
- Gabby Bricker - Second Team All-SBC Bay Div.
- Samantha Laffay - Honorable Mention All-SBC Bay Div.



Boys Golf

Coach: Toby Miller **Record:** Finished First in TNY Play

- TJ Murray - First Team All-Conference
- Jack Murray - Second Team All-Conference
- Grant Humphry - Second Team All-Conference



Girls Tennis

Coach: Taylor Gosser **Record:** 10 - 10; SBC: 7 - 5, 4th in league

Rachel Merkens Silver Racket Award for maintaining best GPA while playing



The loneliness of the long distance runner



Cross Country

Boys: **Coach:** Taylor Dunn **Finished First in SBC Conference Meet Div. III**

- Sage Enderle-Bork - First Place SBC Meet; 11th at State Div III
- Jake Case - Third Place SBC Meet; 64th at State Div III
- Jason Nims - Eleventh Place SBC Meet
- Sam Case - Thirteenth Place SBC Meet
- Caleb Holmes - Twenty-first Place SBC Meet
- Carter Schlessman - Twenty-third Place SBC Meet



Sage Ederly-Bork wins district race, takes 11th at state in Division III

Girls: **Coach:** Taylor Dunn **First in SBC Conference Meet; 5th in State in Div III**

- Sam Lesnak - All SBC Div. III; Second in All-SBC Conference Meet Bay Div.; 35th at State
- Sasha Fry - All-SBC Div. III; Sixth in All-SBC Conference Meet Bay Div.; 87th at State
- Claire Putman - Third in All-SBC Conference Meet Bay Div.; 55th at State
- Liz Heidl - Fourth in All-SBC Conference Meet Bay Div.; 86th at State
- Kaitlyn Kurtz - Seventh in All-SBC Conference Meet Bay Div.
- Olivia Kohlman - Thirteenth in All-SBC Conference Meet Bay Div.
- Emma Keller - Eighteenth in All-SBC Conference Meet Bay Div.
- Ella Schwartz - Nineteenth in All-SBC Conference Meet Bay Div.
- Brynn Dennis - Twentieth in All-SBC Conference Meet Bay Div.



Sasha Fry (l) and Claire Putnam (r) run at State, helping to lead Huron's girls team to 5th place finish in State Div III.

Viewing and Experiencing Poverty

On Monday of Thanksgiving Week, Huron's students had begun their holiday vacation while the staff participated in an enlightening workday. The Second Harvest organization, a nationwide Foodbank provider of food to those suffering from food insecurity, provided the entire staff of Huron City Schools a simulated experience of what elements of society contribute to families lacking proper nourishment. Preparation for the simulation had begun the day before by setting up the high school gymnasium with the necessary "hardware" for the simulation to operate. Then personnel began arriving around seven AM, found the makings for a quick breakfast, and by 7:30 began assuming their proper places and receiving instructions as to how the simulation was to take place. Numerous times the organizers reminded participants that what they were about to experience was not a game but instead was based upon what actually occurs in society today that makes overcoming hunger so difficult for those living at or near poverty levels.

The participants were divided into two parts – those representing typical families found in poverty situations and those who operate the organizations found in every community, from social services to established providers of economic benefits such as banks, utility companies, pawn shops, even schools offering day care. Every service was stationed at tables around the perimeter of the gymnasium, with many by community volunteers with expertise in each area – except for the Pawn Shop manned by a certain principal playing Scrooge.

On the tarped playing floor of the gym were the homes of the impoverished families. Four or more chairs were grouped together facing one another to form a family. Specific ages, genders, duties, and life situations were assigned to each member, from a one year old who desperately needed a diaper changed to 80 somethings with ailments and needing services. Participants were asked to play their roles as realistically as possible. Then the simulation began.



Evictions in Action

Each family had four different simulations to act out, so that every fifteen minutes – each representing a full week – they were to open their instruction packet to learn what their survival challenge was for that week. Each family began with a certain amount of money, but the challenges presented gradually eroded their incomes and forced them to make survival choices that led to anxieties experienced daily by families in every community, Huron included. Do I pay the rent or feed the kids and risk eviction if I fall too far behind? Do I pay to place a child in day care or leave it at home, cared for by a teenager sibling while I go to work at my minimum wage service job? What can I sell to obtain funds for this week's groceries? Where do I turn if banks can't help me borrow what I need to work my way out of poverty? What do I do if my home is robbed or vandalized



Frustration = Acting Out = Jail

by irate neighbors? Family members discussed each issue, and using the funds provided them in their packets - always insufficient, of course - tried to solve the problems while still being able to feed the families.

In the last week's exercise, some of the families were visibly angered or disgusted at how the system in many cases made it almost impossible to help solve the problems. At the conclusion of the simulation, there was much silence in the gym as participants ruminated over what they had experienced. At that point, the facilitator of the exercise from Second Harvest, Kimberley Hazelgrove, led the group in a one hour debriefing of what they had suffered through. Her questions were attempting to evoke the feelings each experienced as it became evident during their "weeks" that many things were not working to their benefit and were, in fact, pushing them further into poverty, filled with skipped meals, long wait times in line only to face rejection, crying children, increasing illnesses and further loss of self esteem as they felt themselves sliding backwards. Teachers and staff both were open in how they responded, and any observer who just wandered among the families during the simulation could see that attitudes at the end were somewhat altered from the first week of problem solving. Most were understanding that in their daily interactions with students, the simulation would influence how they perceived their students in the future and better understood their stresses. Empathy can sometimes become a better instructional aid than the best structured lesson plans. The entire simulation seems to have left deep impressions upon all participants. Time will tell what the effects will be upon the student body, the staff, and community.



Long waits before rejections

Meet Math Man Matt Smith

Huron High's newest math teacher, Matthew Smith, hales from Sandusky, with 21 years of experience in education. He did his undergraduate work at Robert Morris University near Pittsburgh, playing football and basketball for them all four years. He followed that with a Masters Degree from Ashland in Education Administration. He then taught algebra and geometry thirteen years for Perkins and served as Assistant Athletic Director for four of those years. Wanting a change, he then went to Margaretta where he served eight years as Director of Buildings and Maintenance. However, he missed the direct contact with students and decided to return to the classroom. When a position opened in Huron, he applied and was accepted. He would like to spend the remainder of his teaching career with Huron.

In addition to his math classes, Matt also oversees all non-athletic student activities and clubs. He enjoys working with the teachers and especially with the students tackling their projects.



The only problem Matt has encountered thus far has been in finding shirts with Huron Tiger graphics on them that are large enough to fit his frame. Ah, where is Pfefferkorns when needed?

So welcome aboard, newly hired teachers, Courtney and Matt, and Matt Ayers, our new AD. Many successful, productive, and happy years working with our students!

Meet Our New Athletic Director

Meet Matthew Ayers who came to us this past summer upon the retirement of our long-time Director, Steve Camella. In fact, Matt's full title is Director of Athletics and Activities at Huron High. Any student clubs, activities on or off campus, or out-of-class events are under his purview.

Matt arrived by way of Findlay OH but had graduated from Van Buren High School. He earned his college degree from Bowling Green in sports management. Having graduated in December, he then subbed at Old Fort before being tapped by Huron.

With his small town background, he fits right in with Huron. He enjoys a community with strong families, where folks look out for one another, where the students are respectful and care about tradition. He sees them working hard both in the classroom and on the fields and courts.

As for right now, though, he is gradually becoming immersed in the Huron tradition, learning all the right contacts to make for all the complex scheduling of games done for dozens of sports as well as the bus drivers when needed. He is studying ways to improve attendance at games and matches and is impressed with the way the student body supports one another, a whole team, for example, showing up for an entirely different sport's match and cheering them on. He does see things that could be improved but prefers in his first year to seek input from all sources, truly spending more time studying situations before making any rash decisions. We believe that with that approach, he will get it right each time. We look forward to years of success as he masters the Huron tradition.



Saunders-Foss Golf Scramble

The Saunders-Foss Scramble annually attracts many Huron alumni to help raise scholarship funds and to honor the memory of two Huron girls, Michelle Saunders and Ryan Foss, who tragically perished in an automobile accident in 2002. For over two decades, their families and numerous volunteers have presided over the staging of this event, bringing together grads from all over the country as part of one Huron family helping to memorialize the memory of the girls' contributions to the community during their all-too-short lives.

The event attracts foursomes of all ages now so players can strut their stuff, ignore their pains of aging, and one more time prove that life springs eternal on the links, if only for one morning a year. The Masters and duffers alike mingle to enjoy their time together once more, with laughter over the pranking that still continues, the razzing that covers up a slice that finds its way out onto the Route 2 bypass or into the river, or the tall tales that become legends long after last century's graduations. We hope that this tradition of sportsmanship while pummeling one's friends can continue well into the future and guarantee new grads every year an opportunity to vie for scholarships in honor of the two gals who have to be smiling down on this group every year.



These gals rip up the course every year and then know where to relax.



The Bauer family mans the hole-in-one contest which helps raise funds for a scholarship in memory of little kindergarten Evelyn Bauer who died of sepsis two years ago.

All ages enjoy the day, young to really old.



Needed: A score keeper to assist the older numerically challenged, winners again??? Hmmmm...

Arts After Graduation

Many youngsters, at an early age, display above average talent in some field of the arts, from using their hands to create beautiful work, to sharing their vocal skills in singing until you scream for them to stop, or maybe even by shaking their little body in dance atop a picnic table. Many parents will snap a shot and post it up on whatever social media site is convenient, bore their friends, but perhaps then guide the child along the path to fame by giving the kindergartner piano or tap dance lessons. What next - another Mr. Mozart at age 5 giving his first concert, or the child in a speaking role in a local production by the Caryl Crane Theatre troupe?

In the past we have tried to feature our grads who have done well in their area. Huron can be proud of its schools' nurturing arts programs, beginning way down at the kindergarten level and continuing through graduation. Many folks continue to hone their skills at the college level or even over the years just as a hobby, in the quiet of their own garage or den. They are content to bask in the sunshine of their own patio, so to speak. Their motto they share with the ancients, some thousands of years deceased, but whose timeless dictum is as valid today as it ever was, *Ars gratia artis*. Which is to say that art of any kind has its own beauty, whether shared or not. If one plants a beautiful rose garden in his backyard, and if no one ever sees it there, is it still beautiful? Is one less an artist if he/she does not share?



The Cutty Sark



America

This time we feature a hidden gemstone, one of our grads from the Class of '59. Way back about the time Pluto was still having pups, this lad's father was teaching him the art of carpentry. He had graduated from bird houses to building privacy fences to maybe even helping on a boat dock around town. Whatever the pleasure it gave, he instead followed his own heart, married, raised a family, and retired in 1999 after forty years of foundry work. As retirement descended upon him, he was freed up to pursue other older interests in boating and maritime history. Here is where his familiarity with working with wood kicked in, and he began to closely study ship design. With great precision he began to draw out scale model blue prints of what ships would have looked like to a carpenter. No, he did not retreat to his back yard and recreate a mini-*Mayflower* for neighborhood kids to play on. Instead, he took to the quiet of various rooms and worked on recreating scale models of some of the more famous ships of the past. Every winter since retiring he has spent his free time carving these historic beauties, accurate to a millimeter of the original.

Now one might ask why not just buy a kit and assemble it, following directions from right on the box? However, couldn't a monkey do that? Give enough of them typewriters to pound on and enough time and they could probably produce a Shakespearean sonnet. But the intellectual satisfaction and emotional investment in beginning with nothing and ending with a work of beauty is what makes human creativity entirely different from accidental creativity of critters, from insects like honey bees creating their combs, to apes banging on a drum and making music, or even from Mother Nature using a river to carve out a Grand Canyon.



A Frigate Class Warship

Slowly but steadily Lynn Meyers, '59, has hand carved his masterpieces that today fill his own gallery of a home. Dens, studies, living rooms, and his sun porch Louvre are filled with his products, gracing shelves above and causing visitors to study carefully what skillful hands have wrought. The public had an opportunity to view and admire Lynn's work for several months this fall at the Huron Public Library. The entranceway glass showcase had just enough room to accept two of his favorite pieces, the ill-fated *Edmund Fitzgerald* and Blackbeard's *Queen Anne's Revenge*. Then a later display was set up high above little reaching hands atop book cases to display racing yachts, pirate ships, and Clipper Ships. There folks could read the attached histories of what they were viewing and marvel at Lynn's craftsmanship.

We thank Lynn for finally agreeing to allow the pieces out of his private art gallery home and sharing them with library visitors. We also thank the library for working with us to provide the spaces for displaying Lynn's works of art.

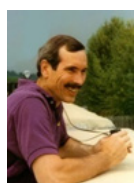


Lynn Meyers poses with his two favorite models, the pirate ship *Queen Anne's Revenge* (l) and the freighter *SS Edmund Fitzgerald*. The "Fitz" today lies beneath the waves of Lake Superior. When launched in 1958, she was the largest freighter on the Great Lakes at 729 feet in length and weighing 13,600 tons - empty! She was known to have put in at Huron with her loads.

The *Queen Anne's Revenge*, built in 1710 as a slave ship, was commandeered by Blackbeard and today lies just off the Beaufort NC inlet.

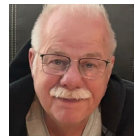
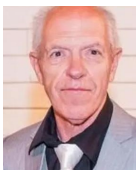
Those Who Have Left Us

Barbara Lewis Barman, '73, age 71, of Norwalk, passed away on March 2. Barbie graduated from buzzing the Ave in high school to loving music and dancing all throughout her life. She was also a fierce decorator of homes.



John Perrin, '65, passed away on March 14. John excelled in wrestling and as football quarterback, in both high school and college. He began a career in teaching, then moved into counseling. He played an impactful role in Administration in Career and Vocational Education in the Cleveland Schools and retired as Director of Guidance and Counseling. He was known for his commitment to service and equality for all.

Jeff Wentz, '70, age 71, of Vermilion, passed away on April 29. Jeff was state wrestling champion in his senior year, an avid fan of all sports Cleveland, and a member of the Huron Athletic Hall of Fame. He retired from the Lorain and Avon Lake Ford plants after 40 years.



Jerry Luby, '72, age 70, of Sandusky, passed away on May 24. Jerry worked at his family owned business, A-1 Rental, for over 40 years, then worked at Delphi/KBI, and retired from Jeep in Toledo. He could fix anything, was always willing to lend a helping hand, loved traveling on his boat and spending time at sporting events for his grandkids.

Grace Towne Cerniak, '60, age 74, of Joliet IL, passed away on May 28. Grace obtained her BSN from Xavier University, then with her husband Dr. Gerard Ceniak she went to work as a neurosurgical ICU nurse at Mayo-Clinic Methodist Hospital. After a stint there, she was a school nurse at Bolingbrook IL until 1980 when she was incapacitated in an auto accident. Though a quadriplegic, she still fought and swam competitively.



Rhonda Schoenegge Hartley, '83, age 59, passed away on June 3 at FRMC. Rhonda had worked numerous retail jobs over many years including Wal-Mart. She was a very hard-working and kind soul who was always willing to help anyone in need.

Shirley Adkins Sikora, '76, age 65, of Norwalk, passed away on June 3. After graduating from Cleveland State with a history degree, Shirley enjoyed working in the Student Union Hall at Oberlin college for many years and especially connecting with the students there until she retired. She enjoyed making blankets for family and friends.

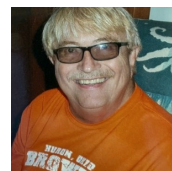


Margaret "Peggy" Nickles Murray, '57, age 84, of Sandusky, passed away on June 6. Peggy had devoted her life to the service of others, serving on numerous boards in the area. Raised a farm girl, she enjoyed nature and the outdoors, helping to found the McBride Arboretum, dedicating the family farmland to Ohio, and establishing the Old Woman Creek Nature Preserve. She was always politically involved, helping to elect candidates who shared her views of working for the common good.

Maria "Mimi" Goglewski Luburger, '52, age 90, passed away on June 7 at FRMC. Mimi had worked her entire career at various capacities for New Departure Hyatt and several other retail establishments. She was heavily involved also as a volunteer at almost every organization in the area, believing that serving others was the noblest profession.



Gregory Sheets, '62, age 79, of Huron, passed away on June 9 at Cleveland Clinic Avon. Greg served first as an electrician for IBEW 867 and then for Ford Motor Company UAW 1216 for a second tour of twenty years. He lived and died for the Cleveland Browns. He enjoyed a passion for travel, and held a deep affection for his family and friends.



Walter "David" Agsten II, '91, age 53, of Huron, passed away on July 3, after a three-year battle with cancer. David had a career in plastics in the automotive industry, with his most recent employment in Erie PA for The Plastek Group.

John Holliger, '65, age 77, of Delaware OH, passed away on March 10 at Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus, OH. After graduation from Oberlin College and Yale Divinity School, John was ordained by the Episcopal Church in 1975. He served churches in Stratford and Bolton, Connecticut; Wooster and Marion, OH, retiring and then embarking on his second career as a nature photographer, a lifetime hobby that sustained and grounded him. He truly followed in his father's footsteps in that regard.



Parmelee "Lee" Jones Jr., '60, age 82, residing in Huron, passed away July 11 at his home. Parm proudly served his country in U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War. Lee was a longtime member of Plum Brook Country Club in Sandusky and Herons Glen Country Club in Ft. Myers, Florida. He was a snowbird who spent his winters in Ft. Myers and especially enjoyed his time on the golf course.

Sharon "Sherrie" Ferguson Majoy, '56, age 85, of Sandusky, passed away at home on July 25. Sherrie had been a metallurgist, retiring in 1992.

Richard Hartley, '58, age 84, passed away on August 3 at the Parkvue facility of Sandusky. A US Navy vet during the Viet Nam War, Richard returned to cover local high school sports, craft his gardening skills as a Master Gardener, and coach boys and girls tennis. He was a true nature lover, dedicating his skills to designing and building a children's garden at Woodlands School and volunteering his talents at the McBride Arboretum. He and his camera were daily visitors at the arboretum where he chronicled every aspect of Nature found there.



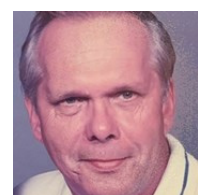
Virginia Bursiel Mateleska, '57, age 85, of Huron, passed away on September 10. Virginia raised her daughters on the same farm where she had been brought up, always enjoying nature and the outdoors. Suffering from Wanderlust, she traveled widely through Europe for her genealogy work, immersing herself in history, making sure her children and grandchildren knew of their family roots. All this and more she did while pursuing her nursing career for 44 years, finally retiring at age 77.

William "Bill" Enderle, '45, age 97, passed away on September 29 at Parkvue Nursing Home in Sandusky. A highly talented baseball player in high school, Bill turned down opportunities to go pro and stayed on the farm. In WWII, he served in the US Army, then returned to farm, officiate sports in the area, work at GM's New Departure, eventually becoming president of the UAW's Local 913. He also served as pastor of Milan's Friends Church for many years.



Camille Hughes Wallace, '60, age 82, passed away October 3 at Crestwood Care in Shelby OH. Born in England, she emigrated in 1945 at age 4 where she attended Huron Schools until she married in 1959 and lived the remainder of her life in Willard. There she worked for MTD for 25 years, raised her four sons, and enjoyed exploring genealogy, crafting, and sewing.

John Bowers, '63, age 78, of Huron, passed away on October 3 at home. After college, he served in the Ohio National Guard and then worked at GM Delphi. He ran a Charter Fishing business for thirty years, winning frequent walleye tournaments with brother Bob and dad.



Stanley Peters, '60, age 82, of Huron, passed away on October 13 at home. A University of Cincinnati civil engineering grad, Stan managed many major projects, including the old Shooters and Radison in Sandusky and Tower City. He was an avid outdoorsman, loved all Cleveland and Ohio athletic teams, loved coaching and rooting for his children and grandkids, but above all was a family man. He was generous to a tee, and always helped out those in need.

George Minton, '69, age 73, passed away on October 23 at home.



George Wallbeck, '63, age 81, passed away on November 15. George served in the US Army from '61 - '84, retiring as First Sgt. He was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in Vietnam. As a 46 year member of the Masonic Order, he was awarded with Knight of the York Cross of Honor for illustrious service. He also served as "The Sign Maker" on the Frontier Trail at Cedar Point.

Memberships and Scholarship Donations

We thank those who continued to mail in their memberships and/or scholarship donations the past six months. Without help from our many alumni we could not continue to carry on our work. We believe that it is important for grads everywhere to maintain connections with their roots, not just the place where one was raised, but the institutions that helped shape adults into what they have become over the decades. Looking back to one's own time spent at Huron High and then following along the trail being left by present generations helps ground a person in feelings of oneness with the past, and gives a sense of pride in having been part of a continuing long line of successes.

We are constantly reminded of the reach that one's roots have upon so many Huron grads whenever we glance over the published land transfers in the area. So many times we see grads returning who had spent their entire working careers away from Huron, three and four decades most of the time, marrying and rearing their children and now welcoming grandkids into the fold, sometimes located hours and states away or even in foreign countries abroad. Mom and dad have downsized or maybe even passed away, and now, rather than let the homestead go onto the open market, these retiring grads return to the roots they left eons ago it seems. But all that time, an invisible tie tugged at, and something fed them, almost umbilical-like, so they maintained contacts with their real "home." Now they feel that sense of oneness and belonging motivating them to come back and spend their retirement years where they began the adventure.

We see this publication as one of the many lifelines keeping folks connected and helping them make the decision to re-immigrate, so to speak. It is inspiring to observe many of these individuals, after moving back, at a ball game, rooting on the Tigers, in an event where they know absolutely none of the players, except that they are Tigers representing the past as well as the present. They appear at concerts, art shows, and spring musicals where they have no kin of their own nor neighbors exhibiting their talents, but they envision some of the present ones making future marks upon the art world. They follow the political careers of Huronites scattered nationwide, and feel a special pride in having known the families of or even having taught or coached the one elevated to a Supreme Court position somewhere or being elected to some state's congress or quietly serving as mayor or on council in small towns like Huron scattered around the country. In short, they may have been away, but Huron never left them.

So again we thank those who have chosen to join the host of grads in the past in helping to keep alive this, your organization. We ask those who have not yet taken that step to please make this the time when you help continue the work. The next page shows the many ways of joining us. And if you wish to help a graduating senior with a contribution of any size to one or more of the listed scholarship programs, please do so. For scholarship contributions make the check out to the Huron Educational Foundation, and on the memo line specify which fund(s) you wish to aid. All funds can then be sent to the Huron Alumni Association at Box 112, Huron OH 44839.

Members New or Renewing

Dolores and Thomas Hartley	Huron	OH	'59/'53
Pam Ebert	Bay Village	OH	'68
John and Jody Caporini	Huron	OH	'68/'71
Gregory Roth	Richmond	VA	'72
Terry Gundlach Park	St. Cloud	FL	'72

Scholarship Contributions

William Handley	Cape May	CH NJ	'53
Barbara Jones and Family	Huron	OH	'59
Joe Lewis	Laguna Vista	TX	'59
David Puderbaugh	Brookville	OH	'61
Jan Witt	Brecksville	OH	'71
Peter and Kim McQuillen	Stow	OH	'73/'74

Call for Emails

In order to continue the publication of our *Tiger Times* newsletter, we need to consider ways of cutting our costs. The greatest expense is for postage, mostly for the newsletter itself. US Postal rates have increased dramatically in the past few years, even considering that we are a 501 c3 organization, a non-profit whose rates are decidedly lower than what you would pay for a single first class stamp these days. Nevertheless, the incremental growth of even that non-profit rate is pushing us closer to the red side of the ledger.

Many folks have suggested that we just produce an on-line copy of the newsletter and wipe out the USPS middle man. Such a move would also do away with our print costs that have also risen with the increased prices of pulp wood for paper. Excellent idea, except where would that leave over half of our alumni? Without a connection back to their alma mater and home town in most cases. We have always rejected that idea.

Instead, what we are asking is that those of you who presently receive a paper copy of the newsletter and could very well tolerate reading it on-line, signal us that you would like to make the switch over voluntarily. How to do this? Send us an email and maybe a one liner that says just "Switch me over." Include your name and year of graduation and your email address will be added to the rest of those who graduated in your decade. Your email would already include your address. Our email is alumni@huronhs.com Also, if you have siblings or classmates who currently are receiving NO contact with us through the newsletter, ask them if they would consider emailing us for inclusion on our lists.

We understand the concerns of some that by sending us their contact information, if we were to be hacked, then horrible things could happen. An avalanche of spam could descend upon them or somehow bank accounts could be taken over. Except that in almost a quarter of a century of doing this, we have never been hacked. Our data bases are not kept on a computer, so anyone invading us - if they may already have done so - can search for your information forever. Furthermore, we DO NOT sell any of our information to those who would pester people to death. Not that we haven't been approached, but the answer is always in the negative. We make one exception. If a class officer who is planning a five-year reunion and would like an up-to-date listing of his/her fellow classmates, we will share, but with all sorts of stipulations and only to those with whom we have worked in the past. Thus far all have treated the information with utmost secrecy.

Please consider this proposition and let us know. It would be one small step toward preserving our newsletter.

Reminder: Memberships should be renewed in December.
New memberships accepted any time, as are scholarship contributions.
Huron Alumni 710 Cleveland Road West Huron OH 44839

Membership Sign Up

HHS Alumni Association Membership Form

(Member renewals are due in December of each year. New members accepted any time.)

HHS Graduate ___ \$10 per year You and Spouse Graduate ___ \$15 Social Membership ___ \$15
5-year membership ___ \$45 Life Membership ___ \$250 for Grad and Spouse

Name _____ Address _____
City _____ State ___ Zip _____ Phone _____
Email _____ Graduation Year _____
Maiden name, if female grad _____ Graduation Year _____

Huron Booster's Club Membership

Annual Dues _____ "SuperTiger" \$300 (includes two passes to every high school sporting event)
_____ "Tiger" \$125 (includes two home season tickets to sport of choice)
(Circle one: Football Soccer Volleyball Girls' Basketball Boys' Basketball)
_____ Special "Gray" \$50 _____ Regular "Red" \$25

Scholarship Funds

Contribution to General HHS Alumni Association Scholarship Fund \$ _____ (expended annually) or
to the Endowed Scholarship Fund \$ _____ (invested through HEF and earnings only expended)

Contribution to the Science Scholarship Fund (A Perpetual Endowment Fund through the HEF)
Includes Tom Shontz \$ _____ and Jim Seiple \$ _____

Contribution to the Language Arts Scholarship Fund (A Perpetual Endowment Fund through the HEF)
Includes Larry Zimmer \$ _____ and Mary Alyce Harpster \$ _____ Scholarships.

Tanny Vonthron Memorial Scholarship Fund \$ _____ (A Perpetual Endowment Fund through the HEF)

Dee Heydinger Memorial Elementary Ed. Scholarship Fund \$ _____ (A Perpetual Endowment Fund through the HEF)

Jesse and Lynn Hagy Memorial Scholarship Fund \$ _____ (A Perpetual Endowment Fund through the HEF)

The Dick and June Klein Memorial Scholarship Fund \$ _____ (A Perpetual Endowment Fund through the HEF)

The Evelyn Bauer Scholarship Fund \$ _____ (A Perpetual Endowment Fund through the HEF)

The Delight Lewis Immonen Fine Arts Scholarship Fund \$ _____ (A Perpetual Endowment Fund through the HEF)

Huron Educational Foundation Endowment Fund \$ _____ (A Perpetual Endowment Fund administered through ECCF,
the earnings used for student scholarships and teacher grants.)

Make out your membership check to Huron High Alumni Association (or just plain HHSAA) and mail it to:
Huron High School Alumni PO Box 112 Huron OH 44839.

Your contribution(s) to any of the scholarships mentioned above should be made out to the Huron Educational Foundation and sent to the same PO Box. However, if you would, please make out separate checks for scholarships and memberships as the law requires separation of the two. Thank you.

National Merit Semi-Finalist Named



Congratulations are in order for Maya Vance, a Semi-Finalist in the National Merit Scholarship Program presented by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

The NMSC was established way back in the 1950's as a competition among all graduates-to-be to determine the brightest and the best among all of America's schools. Today highest performers on the PSAT test can earn Merit Finalist while the second band is rated as Semi-Finalist. Both are eligible for a plethora of scholarships out there, from the colleges themselves, to private donors, corporations and numerous foundations. Many donors even provide internships for recipients or fund study abroad programs.

We celebrate this award to Maya as an excellent chance to complete her studies with a low or no student loan debt when she finishes.

There are many Mayas in all grades in the Huron City School system, gradually working their way toward graduation and what lies beyond. Many times a dilemma confronts them if they are from families of modest means or with several children approaching college age. Do I go on to college and amass student debt that will take me perhaps twenty years to pay off, or do I just enter the job market, take my chances of earning enough to make a late entry into college and then move into a profession?

This is why we work to establish scholarships and encourage folks to pay it forward by making a contribution, large or small, to help get these students started. If they once enter college with some of the financial burden lifted by a scholarship or two, they soon learn how to manage their time and personal budget, how to hold down a part time job and attend classes while keeping up their grades, and eventually emerge with the satisfaction of knowing they owe very little student debt and they did it themselves!

Think about it and consider helping to boost these students up onto their own bootstraps. You'll be glad you did.

Gangster Hunter John Oller, '74

Mention gangsters from the past, especially during Prohibition days and the Depression Era and most folks with graying or disappearing hair would recall an actor, Robert Stack from the '50's and '60's, clenching a machine gun and sporting a bulletproof vest, ready for action in the TV series *The Untouchables*. The good guys always drove faster chase cars, toted fancier, more accurate and fast shooting guns, and always nailed the bad guys. Thank you Mr. J. Edgar Hoover of FBI fame. But this all myth. John takes us behind the curtain.



So what was such slick law enforcement like before Mr. Hoover burst upon the scene in the late 1920's and through the 30's, those years when the FBI as we know it was just beginning? John goes on the hunt for the gangsters of that era and those young agents pursuing them and eventually taking them out during the FBI's growing pains in his just-released *Gangster Hunters*. The book is meticulously researched, as attested to by over 60 pages of acknowledgments, copious notes on each chapter, and a bibliography that would render the average person blind. So how was he equipped to perform this task?

John did more than just pay attention during his high school writing classes. In 1979 he graduated as a true Buckeye, with a *summa cum laude* in Journalism, even as he was editing the OSU student campus newspaper, *The Lantern*. After interning at several newspapers, John then obtained his law degree from Georgetown University Law School in 1982. He eventually became a partner in a white-shoe New York City firm where he first specialized in Major League Baseball affairs, eventually becoming involved in the George Brett pine tar fiasco and later the Pete Rose gambling mess. John was always interested in history, had a love for sleuthing until he uncovered truth, undoubtedly as a result of his lawyering profession, and retirement has now given him the time to dig for what really happened. In part, the work tells Mr. Hoover to move over up there on his pedestal and make room for the guys who did the grunt work of bringing down the gangsters.

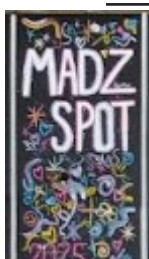
The book is not intended to be a complete history of all the criminal wars going on in those days. Rather, John concentrates upon some of the most notorious characters in small towns across the mid-west and big cities, then brings on the pursuing bumbling Keystone Kops. Inexperienced and limited by law as to what kinds of criminals they can pursue, they often lose. When they finally do capture or terminate the perpetrators, guess who steals the limelight? While he allows Mr. Hoover to have his moment and thus build the reputation of the FBI into a feared and more competent organization, John's real purpose seems to be to give credit to those who did the ground work, who many times took the bullets, exhausted themselves on endless shifts, who brought harm to their own families because of the nature of their work. We learn of the agents' own origins, their family lives, their own aspirations, their relentless dedication to ensuring justice is carried out. Of course, John does not neglect the bad guys either.



No one is born bad, so the reader is introduced to the youthful upbringings of persons like a John Dillinger or Bugsy Moran or even a Ma Barker and her profligate sons. He has researched the socio-economic and familial backgrounds of these characters, showed how over time they evolved to earn their notoriety, but then finally succumbed to their own greed and lust for more power. A careful reader can discern patterns in the lives of these characters from the past - on both sides - and apply them to happenings occurring today. For it seems that John is showing us that there is no real past, just a "now" that keeps repeating, just using upgraded technology so someone else can take the credit. While the work does not wax philosophical, it does tend to help the reader of this and others like it that John has written understand a sense of how society works. You would do well to trot on over to your favorite bookstore or use the modern technology and go up on line to obtain a copy of this work. You'll be glad you did.

John the Gangster Buster is also the Myth Buster. Time to get past the *Untouchables*.

John with '74 classmates Bruce Burdick and Charlie Jones



Watch Where You Park

So what's with all that stuff that invaded our *Tiger Times* banner on the first page?



It's a drone's view of what the student parking lot looks like on the north side of the high school. Last summer the parking lot received a new surface, one sorely needed after decades of wear and a base that was beginning to fail. When the work was completed, a top coating was added and then all spaces were striped, both for student parking and the staff. The staff referred to are the central office administrators and secretaries who, after the Shawnee building was sold, are now housed where the former high school library used to be located. As part of the plan to insure student safety, all entry to the school is now through one set of doors directly facing the parking lot.



A problem arises, though, for many of our students. The bulk of our seniors and many juniors as well are taking courses out at the BGSU Firelands College campus west of town. They receive credit toward their high school graduation and for college requirements for their future degrees. The two schools' schedules are tough to coordinate, thus students are rushing in and out of the building at all times, trying to avoid tardiness. The need for guaranteed parking close-in is aided if each student can claim a specific parking spot and know that it will be available upon their return. Absent such a guarantee, it is possible that a student could be found sprinting from a parking spot practically out in the middle of Cleveland Road in order to make the next class on time.



Students approached Principal Lamb who agreed to allow students to claim a parking spot by painting it with their own, easily recognizable personal "logo." They rushed to the task and in the process showed remarkable creativity, humor at times, and good taste. Best part is winter snow melts faster over them. The picture on the front page shows a drone shot made by Resource Officer and all-around school photographer Keith Lobsinger. If you really want to keep up with school activities, check his website at www.lobspography.com for galleries of all the events that this omnipresent man covers.