



Columbus Public Schools Alumni News

Spring 2006



All school reunion set for June 30

Columbus celebrates 150th B-day

KC Belitz
Class of 1986

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

In the 1850s, Americans were turning their eyes to the West. Hardy settlers had been traveling the plains for the past decade. In 1856, a group of men, most from Columbus, Ohio, selected a spot near the confluence of the Platte and Loup rivers as the place they would start a new town.

150 years later, Columbus, Nebraska celebrates its Sesquicentennial, or 150th birthday.

This year, celebrations will range from Memorial Day through October. May 29th is the day that the original settlers arrived on the spot that would become Columbus, that day will be marked with a birthday party including an 1856 picnic, birthday cake and vintage baseball. That weekend will also welcome the Pawnee Plunge water park to Columbus. A multicultural day and Tour Nebraska Car Show will mark the next weekend, June 3-4.

The celebration hits its high point over the long holiday weekend from June 30 to July 3. Columbus Days will move from its traditional date in August to this weekend for one year.

An all-school reunion will be Friday evening, June 30th. The reunion will take place at Ag Park with the doors opening at 7 p.m. The cost is only \$5 to hear four outstanding bands, which feature several CHS alums. Taking the stage will be Fast Track, Freedom Road, Thudwinker and Soul Incorporated.

Over that weekend, the Columbus Barbecue Classic will feature seven

Come march in the parade

CHS Band needs your help

Marty Antholz
CHS Director of Band

ATTENTION CHS BAND ALUMNI!

Ten hut! Time to dust off those old instruments and/or marching shoes! The CHS Band needs YOU!

As part of the Sesquicentennial Celebration this summer, the Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce has moved the Columbus Days Parade to Sunday, July 2. I thought it would be fun to invite alumni to go along with us as we march. Don't worry, I'm not going to have to fit you for a uniform, and you don't even need to be in step. We will be having special T-shirts made to commemorate the event.

This will be a fun way for you to relive the glory days of marching in the CHS band. Information will be finalized for this event soon, so if you're interested, please email chsalumniband@esu7.org, and we'll put you on our mailing list.

You can also access information on our website. The direct link is <http://teachers.esu7.org/cpsmusic/Alumni>. You can also call CHS Band Director Marty Antholz at 402-563-7050.

We'll be glad to have you! E-mail or call me with any questions!

outstanding barbecue vendors. Activities will include an air show, talent show, historical events, and much more. The Columbus Days parade will be July 2nd at 4 p.m.

Leading up to the traditional Jaycees' Fireworks show on July 3rd, family activities are scheduled for all afternoon at Ag Park. And this year's fireworks display will be the largest in Columbus' history.

Lots of commemorative items will be available for those wanting to mark the observance. From a children's book

authored just for the celebration to collections of historical photos, from a commemorative Columbus Monopoly game to a book about our hometown's founders...you will truly find something for everyone who might need a gift.

From a proud past filled with characters like Buffalo Bill Cody and the North Brothers, to a current city of 21,000 filled with industry and advanced agriculture, it has been 150 years of "Power and Progress." This summer is a celebration 150 years in the making!

Lifetime & Annual Members

The cutoff date for this newsletter was May 5. Dues paid after that date will be printed in the winter newsletter. Dues can be paid at any time of the year. If you wish to become a member, please fill out the form in this newsletter. Thank you for paying your dues.

Lifetime Couples

1937 Charles & Jean Fricke Ashby
1939 Laird & Lois Carlson Loomis
1939/36 Robert & Eleanor VanBerg Loshbaugh
1943/44 Calvin & Pat Heynen Gloor
1943/44 Dr. Karl & Mimi Hahn Mueller
1950/49 Ronald & Roberta Nielsen Saalfeld
1951 Dr. Robert & Carole Smith Quick
1951/52 Marvin & Sandra Davis Trofholz
1952/55 Charles & MaryAnn Dietrich Johansen
1952/56 Gerald & Delores Klug Mueller
1952 Dwayne & Virginia Van Berg Smith
1953 James & Sandi Briswalter Ernst
1953/57 Gerald & Nadene Loseke Karlin
1953 Gary & Janice Potter Nantkes
1953 Harlan E. Petter
1955/56 Jolaine Loseke Nielsen
1957 James & Kathryn Ericksen Lohr
1958 David H. Kuper
1958 John & Julie Floyd Schutz
1960/61 Richard & Mary McEnerney Goc
1962/63 Ken & Karen Rice Gigstad
1962/63 John & Kay Asche Nelson
1963 Dr. Lawrence Hake
1963/64 Dr. Gerald & Bonnie Hay Luckey
1965/74 James & Gayle Massman Oppliger
1966/67 Bruce & Sheryl Cattau Channer
1966 William Fleischer
1968 Larry P. & Chari Rumbaugh Nyffeler
1969 Don & Sue Brouse
1969 Dr. Greg C. & Judy Bock Warner
1970/72 Brian & Barbara Tank Nelson
1972/73 Dr. Dana & Nancy Winkle Bailey
1972/73 Dr. Richard & Cindy Palmblade Kant
1974 Dr. Ronald & Ann Bremer Ernst
1974 Rick & Marsha Hopp Joseph
1977 Loren R. & Michelle Bellum Goedeken
1986/88 Chris & Amy Busteed Blaser
1989 Craig & Becky Kuncl Andreasen

Lifetime Single

1938 Martha Boehm Kusek
1938 Bernice Brock Hegi
1939 Vera Ellen Gertsch Weller
1940 Frances Behlen Brakel
1940 Julian Meyer
1940 Ryland R. (Rip) Nantkes
1940 Dorothy Yonkie Folden
1942 Norm Loseke
1942 Bill Smith
1943 Walt Lips
1944 Walter Kiuntke
1944 Donald Smith
1945 Edward Babka
1945 Nan Klassen
1945 Clarence Brunkhorst
1946 Delores Cattau Ebel
1946 Robert Osborn

1947 Bob Jaeggi
1947 Jean Johannes Johnston
1947 John R. O'Neal
1948 Bernice Gates Gengenbach
1948 Wayne A. Schild
1948 Rudy J. Winkelman
1949 Larry Blaser
1949 Vernon C. Feye
1949 Dorothy Held Glaser
1949 Roland W. Kluver
1949 Charles W. Walden
1952 Karen Norton Cook
1952 Donald Rice
1953 James Murphy
1953 Kenneth D. Peterson
1953 Robert L. Pope
1953 Donald M. Schupbach
1953 Ronald Tschauner
1953 Judd Wagner
1953 Louis Welch
1954 Jeanette Fickel Blaser
1954 Frederic Krebs
1955 Barbara Boyd Park
1955 Jeanie Frey Randall
1955 Edward D. Riggins III
1955 Loretta L. Williams Meistrell
1956 Douglas M. Groteluschen
1956 Helen Korte Campbell
1956 Larry B. Novicki
1956 Ronald D. Rice USAF(Ret.)
1957 Mary Kluver Lauber
1957 C. Ronald Lambert
1957 Sylvia Rodehorst Hermone
1957 Dick Whitcomb
1958 Jane Evans Douglas
1958 Larry Ray Krumland
1958 Sharon Welch Lehr
1958 Mike Liddy
1959 Geri Austin
1959 Mary Ann Behlen Hruska
1959 Mary Coffey Frauendorfer
1959 Leonard J. Fleischer
1959 Betty K. Kaspersen Hegi
1959 Con Keating
1959 Deanna Osborn Augustin
1959 Richard L. (Stoney) Stone
1959 Steve Ellenburg
1960 Gary J. Hoge
1960 James Jura
1960 David Kathka
1960 John Lohr
1960 Joan Marr Nichols
1960 Joe Matejka
1960 William K. McAuliff
1960 Sheila R. Nelson Backes
1960 Jerry L. Norris
1960 Gayleen Oppliger Hingst
1960 Larry Schmidt
1960 Keith VanVelkinburgh

1960 Paula Jean Arndt Verdoorn
1961 Steve Ahl
1961 Bob Ahrens
1961 Karlyn Kuper Carson
1961 Gerald L. Whitcomb
1962 Cecil Bykerk
1962 Jean Groteluschen Schmidt
1962 Glenda Loseke Kleinkauf
1963 Kent W. Behlen
1963 Mathew (Bud) Fleischer
1963 Janet Kummetz Hansen
1963 Sandra Ottsen Davis
1963 Kathryn Varner Overturf
1964 Joseph W. Augustine
1964 Russell Muller
1965 Mickey Brazeal
1965 Henry E. Clausen
1965 David L. Ernst
1965 Mary Holy Kuhlmann
1966 John Anderson
1966 Mark S. Anderson
1967 Emily Cameron Shattil
1967 Thomas L. Hagel
1967 Don Oppliger
1967 Gary D. Uphoff
1968 Steve Anderson
1968 Michael Floyd
1968 Janice Groteluschen Oeltjen
1968 Robert C. Jones
1968 Robert Lohr
1968 Donald Sieh
1968 Connie Welch Sylvester
1969 Yenni Gembol Fuglei
1969 Jamie Johnson Snyder
1969 Mary Sims
1970 Brad Berlin
1970 Dr. Michael Brown
1970 Virginia Curry
1970 Peggy Dankert
1970 Steven W. Eymann
1970 Danny Gernstein
1970 David Kincaid
1970 Greg Kluck
1970 Janelle K. Krumland Shepherd
1970 Gary Osborn
1970 Thomas J. Rich
1970 Ronald Walters
1970 Yvonne Mihulka
1971 Jennifer Allen Mills
1971 Robyn Gembol Ryan
1971 Greg A. Gersib
1971 Jolene Hellbusch Scalzo
1972 Susan Dixon Bowman
1972 Judy Ernst
1972 Thomas Folsom MD
1972 Kelly George Shada
1972 Thomas M. Heiser MD
1972 Daniel W. Miller
1972 Michael J. Robak



Lifetime Single

1974 John A. Curry
1974 Brian Miller
1974 Mary Nosal Chen
1974 Rex Porter
1975 Michael J. Burrows
1975 Jane Hopp Beltz
1976 Ann Ewert Richards
1976 Kyla George Reising
1976 Mark Redrow MD
1977 Duane Olsufka
1977 Jim Schwartzer
1978 Kathy Curran Maca
1978 Randy J. Eihausen
1978 Mark Jilek
1978 Bob Shively
1978 Alan Siemek
1979 Karen E. Koppel
1979 Leslie Nielsen Hitchner
1979 Kenneth E. Robinson USA
1980 Kathi Miles Nickman
1981 Ralph Castner
1981 Dana D. Ernst
1981 Jeff Johnson
1981 Teresa Osterhoudt Filsinger
1981 Todd Robinson MD
1981 Bob Shepherd
1981 Steven P. Zaura
1982 Mark Bellum
1982 Christine Nielsen Hancock
1984 Janet Arnold Keating
1984 Cindy Hinze Conkling
1984 Tom Nelson
1985 Anna Castner
1985 Beth Schupbach Buehler
1986 Kip Anderson
1986 Kerry Belitz
1986 Robert Cruise
1987 Elizabeth (Lisa) Staroscik Wilke
1988 Donette Brase Smejkal
1988 Russ Eihausen
1988 Shelly Nielsen Schmidt
1989 Jon Bellum
1989 Chad M. Johannes, DVM
1990 Brent Griffith
1991 Jim Kennedy

Annual Couple

1939/42 Carroll & Lois Johnson Jones
1943/46 John (Jack) Joyce Johnson Schultz
1948 William & Elizabeth Ernst Grant
1948 Don & Betty Hoge Haskins
1948/50 Fred & Genie Clark Ingold
1949/51 Gene & DeLellis Geiser Luchsinger
1952/56 Lee & Sharon Weisenfluh Blaser
1952/55 Fred & Liz Frederickson Geiser
1952 Richard & Goldyn Hook Liebschwager
1956/59 Bud & Karen Robertson Plantz
1957/59 Robert & Lynita Rohde Swanson
1958/60 David & Arlene Osten Blessen
1958/60 Jack & Nancy Salak Pittman
1959 Bill & Tammy Egger Henke
1960/61 Martin & Jean Treinies Munson
1960/62 Ted & Sharon Aerni Otte

1968/65 Ronald F. & Maureen Taylor
1967/79 Connie & Cindy Jasper Reese
1968 Gene L. & Kaye George Nyffeler
1969 John & Sue Cronin Burns
1969/70 E. W (Bill) & Leta Oppliger Greene
1971/72 Tom and Karen Bogus Zimmerman
1973 Ron & Stella Merry Medinger
1977 Patrick & Ernie Turek Augustine
1977 Jo Bartholomew Shaddy
1978 Larry & Julie Mihulka Labens
1981 Shari Dohmen Logue
1983 Kevin & Julie Staroscik Zuroski USMC
Ron & Gayle Callan

Annual Single

1926 Jay C. Brown
1927 Lorena Blaser Johansen
1929 H.O.(Oppy) Oppliger
1935 Henrietta Gumm Denman
1936 Margarette Louis Kassmeyer
1936 Vicki Nelson Merha
1937 Arthur H. Garbers
1937 Duane J. Janicek
1938 Cliff Elston
1938 Ardith Enzminger Hamilton
1938 Arline Weber Perkins
1940 Dr. William Aldrich
1940 Mildred Karlin Meyn
1940 Robert C. Mills
1940 Elmer O. Morlok
1940 Kenneth L. Mueller
1940 Bette Schwantje Braithwait
1940 Marjorie Wolfe Korte
1942 Catherine B. Branigan Horan
1942 Lester Gertsch
1942 Phyllis Nelson Phillips
1942 Bette Alice Woods Leatherbury
1943 Dorian Guettler Purtzer
1943 Maxine Luchsinger Traudt
1943 Clarence E. (Jack) Spitz
1943 Betty V. Van Berg Scholz
1943 Virginia Walter Bartlett
1943 Lucille Walters Wolf
1943 Bernice Wergin Nansel
1943 Helen Whiting Gerber c/o Arbor Place
1944 Dolores Grotelueschen Schmidt
1944 Lynn Hentges Tredway
1944 Bob Ridenour
1944 Dwaine Schmit
1945 Leatrice Ewert Barentson
1945 Doris Fricke Corbridge
1945 Norma J. Nyffeler Kelly
1945 Sylvia A. Stevens
1945 Dona Jean Willman Chalquist
1946 Clarice Blaser Everett
1946 Charles (Bud) Boettcher
1946 Mark Buchholz
1946 Dolores Heibel Montag
1946 Dorothy Lu Johnston Brinkman
1946 F. Kent Luchsinger
1947 Margery Camp Cator
1947 Robert Henke
1947 Suzanne Lehr Bullington
1947 Donna Lusche Wood
1947 Robert Lusche

1947 Frank H. Starkey
1947 Dick Thimgan
1948 James D. Brenneman
1948 Mary Ellen Brown Thurber
1948 Mildred Flamme Gabel
1948 Robert J. Gay
1948 Dave (Doc) Jelden
1948 Jerald Loseke
1948 Clara Ruth Miessler Loucks
1948 Lorene Rosenberry Cerny
1948 Frank L. Schwartzer
1948 Clifford W. Shaffer Jr.
1949 Dorothy Behle Cattau
1949 Mary Kaye Fricke Carlson
1949 Don Kuhn
1950 Carroll Krumland
1950 Ronald Lassek
1950 Wilma Schild Kilgore
1951 Mary Jane Louis Bryant
1952 Delane R. Bell
1952 Harold Dey
1952 Gordon L. Ernst
1952 Ellen Feye Martin
1952 Vergene Frost Wolfe
1952 Martin J. Kaplan
1952 Ruth Kluck Lauer
1952 David Kraus
1952 Ruth E. Morlock
1952 Robert L. Plantz
1952 Jim Schultz
1953 Marilyn Burman Becic
1953 Beverly Egger Schaefer
1953 Donald D. Ehlers
1953 Shirley Mae Ewert Fischer
1953 Dorwin Hild
1953 Florence Kolm
1953 Claudia Lange Blaser
1953 Darlene Louis Mueller
1953 Ginger Mahlin Zabka
1953 Janice Mueller Nelson
1953 Sally O'Neal Smith
1953 Mildred Fittje Liss
1954 Fred A. Aerni
1954 Betty Becker Hansen
1954 Virginia Blaser Seberg
1954 Larry Brezinski
1954 Ardis A. Levine Sperber
1954 Harold Marlar
1954 Virginia Marx Baca
1954 Kathleen (Teenie) Murphy Jones
1954 Donald Potter
1954 Sally Schwantje Dreyer
1955 Terry Gaver
1955 Russell Gertsch
1955 Joan Mikkelsen Mimick
1955 Donald Mueller
1955 Mary Ann Speck Lehr
1955 Byron Speice
1956 Marilyn Clark Kaup
1956 Leon Janssen
1956 David P. Miller
1956 Gene R. Peterson
1956 Kathleen Swanson Schelert
1956 Gene Van Allen

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Excitement builds over CHS project

The excitement builds as the high school construction project moves forward.

The small, cramped media center has been replaced with a new 7000 square foot facility. The new media center was completed in December and is more than double the size of the old one.

Student access no longer needs to be restricted because of noise and space. The acoustics are very good in the new center, so two classes can easily be accommodated, and there is still room for students who walk in.

The media center comfortably seats 90 people, and the lights are adjusted to reflect off the ceiling, so people will not get shadows when they read. The new environment is quiet, pleasant and inviting. There is also adequate room, so students and teachers can easily see items on the shelves.

Over Christmas break, the new kitchen and main office area were finished. With the completion of the new kitchen, students no longer need to watch out for commodities being delivered.

In the past, people delivering commodities had to cross the hall to get to the kitchen, and now these items can come directly to the storeroom and not interfere with staff or students. The flow through the new serving lines is also a lot smoother.

Work is wrapping up on the first floor classrooms in the west wing and first and second floor classrooms in the north wing. However, the floor coverings in these areas have not been installed due to the demolition work still being done.

Currently, the old media center is being converted to the guidance area, nurse's office and family and consumer science classrooms. The demolition is completed in this area, and they are in the process of construction.

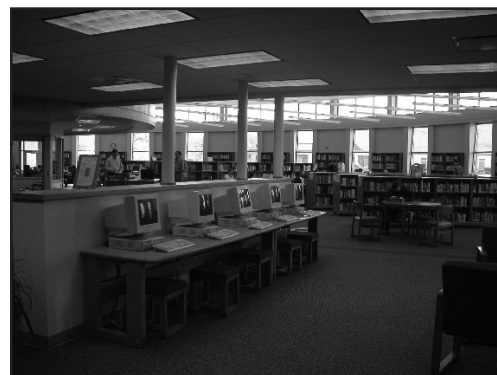
If you walk in the old kitchen and teacher's lounge, you will find it is no longer there. This area has been demolished from the floor to the roof. However, it will not stay that way for long because this will be the location of the new student cafeteria.

When completed, the cafeteria will be



*Left:
Main Office*

*Right:
Media Center*



two stories high with translucent panels around the perimeter. This should make for a very light and airy cafeteria.

A lot of behind the scenes work is going on now on the east end of the building. Work is being done on the electrical, plumbing heating and cooling. This is laying the groundwork for the renovations that will be done to the career and technology classrooms in the summer.

The majority of the work for the summer will include renovations to the west wing on the second floor, auditorium and music area.

The existing boiler room will be demolished, and this area will be converted to classrooms. This project will also allow for expanding of the hallway from the new east entrance to the auditorium.

As you drive by this spring and summer, you will see a lot of activity going on outside. Some of the projects will include: construction of the new track and activities field, additional parking, installation of fencing and sprinkler systems and considerable landscaping.

The construction workers will be on a tight schedule this summer. Due to the extension of the school year

into June and starting of the 2006-07 school year on August 15, they will only have 10 weeks during the summer for construction.

As a result, student and public activities will be moved during that 10-week period. The only area that will be available is the administrative office, and it will need to be shut down from time to time to switch to the new electrical system.

The project will finish up with the installation of the carpeting and floors throughout the building, so it will be ready for the opening of school.

A big thank you needs to go out to the staff and students who have done a tremendous job of adjusting during this difficult time. They have been most cooperative, which speaks highly of these people because at times conditions have not been the best.

The custodial staff has done an excellent job of keeping the high school clean and presentable in these far from ideal conditions.

The Board of Education would like to invite the community to come and see what their tax dollars paid for at the open house on October 29.



Winter Sports Round-Up 2005-06

Bob Markham Class of 1976

A 4th consecutive trip to the state tournament by the Columbus High girls basketball team led the way for the winter sports season. Coached by Dave Licari the CHS girls finished their season with an 11-13 record losing to Lincoln Northeast in the opening round of the state tournament.

With only one player with any starting experience, Erica Soltero, the young team matured and capped their season by winning the A-6 district crown with a 42-31 win over GI. The Discoverers lose only senior Ashley Kamm. Juniors Jodie Boss, Stephanie Powell, Leah Travnicek, Jordan Loschen, Erica Soltero and sophomore Alexi Boettcher return to lead next year's team.

The CHS boys basketball squad

coached by Bob Hopp finished the season with a 3-19 record that was a little deceiving. They were led by senior Nathan Wagner and juniors Jason Schlautman and Tyler Horky. The Discoverers return a nucleus of young players that should make for greater success next season.

The CHS wrestling squad experienced an up and down year with injuries and illness that ended with an eighth place finish at the state meet at Omaha's Qwest Center. Coach Rick Benson's team qualified five wrestlers with all five receiving medals, seniors Jay Sherer (3rd place), Jon Emerson (4th place) Ben Brandt (4th place), sophomores Louie Rambour (4th place) and Evan Bohnet (5th place). Sherer had a record setting career that included two state championships as well as a runner-up finish during his four

appearances at the state meet. A strong group of wrestlers come back next year hoping to build on this year's success.

Jared Sharman and the girl's 400 yard freestyle relay team led this year's crop of swimmers to the state competition at the Bob Devaney Sports Center. Sharman, a junior, qualified for his second state competition in the 100- yard freestyle and 100-yard backstroke setting a school record of 55.36 and a 4th place finish at the state meet. The girls relay team of senior Nikki Sobota, juniors Kristen Jacobson, Sarah Hutson and Anna Boeding finished 22nd with a time of 4:05.37. The swim team is a cooperative of Columbus High/Scotus Central Catholic student athletes and is coached Ramona Kluth and Jan Boeding.

Jason Schlautman also was named

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1956 Carmen Vauck Crockett
1956 Roger Watke
1956 Betty Wiater McNeely
1957 Rev. Jane Ellefson
1957 James W. Ludwig
1957 Polly Whitney Magula
1957 Mary Brewer Hull
1958 Jini McGrew Washburn
1958 Ann Prentice
1958 Jeanne Uhlmann Johnson
1959 Clifford A. Ferris
1959 Gene A. Nitz
1959 Don Peterson
1959 Ron Salak
1959 Charles R. (Roy) Stevenson
1959 Sylvia Wilke Faller
1960 Judy Aerni Muhle
1960 Mary Schmid Norton
1960 Warren Schupbach
1961 Dianne Swan Amenta
1961 Lois Davis Rosacker
1961 Jeanette Hake Volker
1961 Bernard C. Hay
1961 Carroll E. (Ed) Loseke
1961 Jolene Rundell Timm
1962 Kenneth J. Kohlmeier
1962 Patricia Proskoski
1962 Herbert Stuthman
1963 Nancy Behle Gonka
1963 Fred Greiner
1964 Bill Braithwait
1964 Randy Krumland
1964 LaVae Meyer Lindley
1965 Sharon Hake Franks
1965 Dennis C. Hirschbrunner
1965 Jim Prentice

Annual single

1965 Larry D. Schulz
1966 Joel Leininger
1966 Doris Siefken Koepke
1968 Tedi Lund
1968 Mary Ann Miller Wright
1969 Nancy Hegi-Cuba
1969 Sharon Johnston Noyd
1969 Bonita Michener Willets
1970 Terri Drozd Hoesly
1970 Douglas Kline
1971 Carol Louis McDermitt
1971 Barb Zwiener Hansen
1972 Sandy Sample Boehm
1974 Tom (Hoagie) Hoganson
1974 Cindy Weldon Lacroix
1975 Gary Bredehoff
1975 Roger M. Iwansky
1975 Tom Lange
1975 Dr. Susan Mason Greenwald
1976 Victoria Conkel Turney
1976 Larry Leach
1976 Robert J. Markham
1976 Cindy Nadrchal Vandenberg

1977 Becky Willman Gragg
1978 Steve Miller
1978 Cathy Vahlkamp Schulz
1978 Tammy Osterhoudt Grotelueschen
1979 Marilyn Bernt Busboom
1981 Anton David Divis
1981 Deborah Nienkamp
1984 Mary Olsufka Bellamy
1986 Linda Raimondo Myers
1986 Rob W. Zulkoski
1988 Nancy Czarnick Carr
1989 Paige Norton
1991 Erica Bush Silvester
1991 Denise Wallace Kracl
1993 Christopher M. Mulligan
1993 Kim Norton
1994 Rhonda Bruner Becker
1994 Jennifer Johnson Brownlow
1994 Bryan M. Reichmuth
1995 Joni Andreassen Armbruster
1996 Holly Vollbracht
2000 Danielle Hill
2001 John Lohr

Columbus Alumni Association

2508 27 St. ~ PO Box 947~ Columbus, NE 68602-0947

Phone: 402-563-7000 Ext. 1102 ~ Fax: 402-563-7005

Alumni Association Board of Directors

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Tom Zimmerman `71



CHS says goodbye to long time staff

The halls at Columbus High School will seem a little empty next year as three familiar faces step down.

At the end of the school year, Chuck Francis, Dick Luebbe and Ruth Schlobohm will be retiring.

Chuck Francis is South Dakota native. He earned a degree in physical education and a minor in biology in 1967.

Francis spent a big part of his life in North Platte, Nebraska, as a physical education teacher at the elementary and middle school levels. He has coached football, track, volleyball, basketball, and baseball. He also taught Skills for Adolescence at Madison Middle School for 12 years.

In 1990, Chuck received his master's degree in administration and was hired as assistant principal and activities director at Columbus High School.

Francis identified his "opportunity to work with kids and to touch their lives" as the highlight of his career. As a coach his philosophy stayed the course, "tell kids what you want and they will give."

He remembers one year when he had 13 players receive scholarships to play baseball at the collegiate level. Francis also recalls a rather difficult parent who thanked him for being a better father to his son than he was. He said that's when you know you are making a difference at least with some kids.

One year, he had to cut his own daughter from the basketball team. Francis said it was tough, but he had to make a decision and be fair about it. He used this story to remind students of some of the harsh realities of life.

Francis played an integral role in helping CHS earn a favorable reputation around the state. Throughout his career he was involved in the following activities:

- Establishing a very active school Booster Club that has strongly supported our activity programs including the development of the renowned and much envied Weight Room

- Increasing athletic and activity opportunities by adding soccer, baseball, softball, Renaissance, and the dance team.

- Purchasing an over the road bus
- Coordinating the renovation of our

south gym

- Coordinating fundraising for the outdoor digital sign to be erected in the near future

- Representing CHS well at the state level of the Nebraska School Activities Association, and this year was recognized as the District II Athletic Director of the Year.

Dick Luebbe came to Columbus High School in 1971 to teach math and to coach.

The highlight of Luebbe's career was "the enjoyment of working with people." He said there may have been certain teams that won a lot of games, but the best teams had kids that gave their best effort, showed good citizenship and built strong relationships with their teammates and coaches. He also noted the strong correlation between good students and their successes on the football field.

Luebbe estimates he coached more than 1,200 athletes at Columbus High School. His message to his athletes was to think of their teammates like members of their family. He said he is very grateful for the community support toward himself and his family. In his 35 years as a coach for CPS, he received only a handful of critical letters.

Family was always important to Luebbe and despite being busy coaching, he always made time for them. His children and grandchildren can often be seen at football games or visiting him at the high school.

Ruth Schlobohm came to Columbus High School in 1971. The road she traveled to reach CHS is interesting.

Some time in the 1960s, she started

college at South Dakota State University as home economics major. After trying that direction for a while, she decided to change majors.

Next, Schlobohm decided to try elementary education and then the social sciences. She found her niche when she took an art design class. This time she switched her degree to art education and a teacher was born.

In 1968, she landed her first teaching job at NP Junior High School as an art instructor.

In 1971, Schlobohm was offered a job at Columbus Jr. and Sr. High School. Her first play at CHS was called "The Stuck Pot." Her final theatre production at CHS was last spring Death of a Salesman. Schlobohm said she is especially proud of this production because it is uncommon for a high school to take on such a difficult and serious play.

She has taught art and theatre at CHS for 35 years. Schlobohm estimates she directed more than 200 plays at CHS.

"All the shows were memorable," she said. "The audiences were receptive to what the students had accomplished and always gave a standing ovation."

Some of her other accomplishments include: earning a master's in art education; directing several plays for Platte Valley Playhouse; serving as concert chairperson for Friends of Music; participating in the Prairie Visions art program; and helping to develop the American Studies and Humanities Curriculum. She was also named the distinguished high school educator for CPS in 2003-04.

Winter sports round up

Continued from Page 5
to the boys basketball GNAC All-Conference.

Jodie Boss and Erica Soltero were named to the girls basketball GNAC All-Conference. The following winter sports participants were named to GNAC All-Academic Teams: boys basketball: Nathaniel Wagner, Daniel Kramer, Jason Schlautman, Jared Thomas and Trevor Wilke; girls basketball: Ashley Kamm, Caitlin Ludden, Stephanie

Powell, Erica Soltero, Leah Travnicek and Lindsey Shannon; boys swimming: Daniel Lindquist, Nathan Mueller and Jared Sharman; girls swimming: Nicole Sobotka, Anna Boeding and Kristen Jacobson; wrestling: Jon Emerson, Jay

Correction

There was a mistake in the fall sports round up, which appeared in the winter newsletter. The last time CHS had a boy qualify for state in cross country was in 2002 and not 1994.



Let's Keep in Touch

Please use this form for address corrections or changes, what's new information, or if you wish to pay dues.

First Name _____ Last Name _____ Class of _____
(Please include maiden if applicable.)

Spouse _____ Last Name _____ Class of _____

Address _____ City, State Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

What's New (job, degrees, comments, suggestions etc.) _____

I/we would like to become an annual member(s) for the year 2006.

_____ Annual Single \$10 _____ Annual Couple \$15

or

I/we would like to become a lifetime member(s).

_____ Lifetime Single \$200 _____ Lifetime Couple \$300

Return to: Columbus Alumni Association * 2508 27 St. * PO Box 947 * Columbus, NE 68602-0947

Thanks for your help! Please write separate checks for the Alumni and Foundation. This helps with our bookkeeping.

School District of Columbus Foundation Inc. Endowment Fund Contribution

Yes I wish to support the schools with a **tax deductible** gift to the Foundation.

Here is my donation in the amount of \$ _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____ Class of _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

The Foundation provides money for Columbus Public Schools programs that cannot be funded from tax dollars. The organization sponsors scholarships, guest speakers and various other activities.

Please make checks payable to the Foundation Endowment Fund. Return to: CPS Foundation * 2508 27 St. * PO Box 947 * Columbus NE 68602-0947.

The Foundation is a 501 (c) 3 organization.





CPS Alumni News
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Columbus Alumni Reunion Plans for 2006 & Beyond

1932 - Contacts: Esther Smith Campbell, 305 Beacon Pl., 564-6916; Caroline Siebler Siefken, 2880 29 Ave., 564-8223.

1935 - Local class members meet every 4 months for lunch (Oct., Feb., Jun.). All '35 grads welcome.

1937 - Meets 1st Wed., every 4 months (March, July, Nov.).

1945 - Meets the last Monday of the month at Picket Fence at noon.

1946 - '46 locals meet the first Friday of each month for lunch. All classmates welcome. Contact: Regina Giersdorf Gondringer, 402-564-7000 or Laura Eller Stuefer, 402-564-2057.

1946 - 60th Reunion - July 1, 2006, casual dinner at Country Shadows, social hour 5:30 p.m. dinner 7 p.m. Contacts: Marilyn Hoge, Joyce Schultz and Donna Pfeifer.

1949 - Locals meet the first Monday of the month for breakfast at Picket Fence Cafe. All classmates welcome. Contact: Rosella (Blaser) Norris for info. 402-564-7498.

1951 - 55th Reunion, Sept. 2, 2006, at Wunderlichs. Contacts: Liz Brown Frese, 402-562-8233; Dwight & Patty Michaelsen, 402-564-6903 or Marilyn Gerken Gloor, 402-564-0843.

1956 - Meets at 10 a.m. the first Wed. of every month at Stack & Steak for morning coffee. All classmates welcome.

1956 - 50th Reunion, Sept. 1, 2006, 5 p.m. Isaak Walton and Sept. 2, 2006, 6:30 p.m. at Elks Country Club.

1957 - 50th Reunion, Aug. 31, 2007, Country Shadows. Sept. 1, 2007, 8 a.m. breakfast, 10 a.m. tour of high school, afternoon open and evening at Dusters (informal with DJ).

1960 - 50th Reunion in 2010. Details to follow later.

Combined Reunion - Classes of 1960, 1961 & 1962 - June 30- July 2, 2006. For more information contact, Roger Cooley, 402-359-9091 or e-mail rogernkaren@team-national.com.

1964 - 45th Reunion, Memorial Weekend in 2009. Details later.

Contact: Suzy Viergutz Engel at 402-564-0948, Carolyn Hasek Fitzke, Gary Fouraker, Jim Hellbusch, Randy Krumland at 800-467-0244 or John and Bonnie Knight Kennedy at bonjohnken@msn.com.

1966 - 40th Reunion - June 30 & July 1, 2006. Contact Janie Thomas, 402-564-7616.

1971 - 35th Reunion - June 30, 2006, open to everyone, All School Reunion at Ag Park doors open at 7 p.m. July 1, 2006, 7-11 p.m., Elks Country Club, casual dress. Contact: Tom Zimmerman, 402-564-9294.

1976 - June 24, 2006, at 7 p.m. at Glurs. Contact Linda Nadrchal, 402-563-2627.

1981 - No formal plans for a reunion. However, if you want to come home, June 30, 2006, there will be an all School Reunion at Ag Park with doors opening at 7 p.m. There are also several other events planned for the 150th B-day of Columbus that weekend. Contact: Steve Zaura, 402-563-3549, or Linda Wiese Staroscik.

1986 - 20th Reunion - June 30, 2006, 5-7 p.m. meet at Signatures Bar & Grill then move to Ag Park for All School Reunion. July 1, 2006, 1 p.m. tour of high school followed by ice cream social (children are welcome), 6 p.m. dinner at Elks Country Club followed by dancing. Contact: Shane Blaser, 402-910-8130.

1991 - 15th Reunion - June 30, 2006, meet at 7 p.m. at All School Reunion at Ag Park; July 1, 2006, dinner at Dusters. More information will be mailed out in mid-May. Any questions or changes of addresses can be e-mailed to Shawn Corn Noonan at mm_mommy@hotmail.com or sent to 33121 175th Ave., Columbus NE 68601.

1995 - 11th Reunion - July 1, 2006, 11 a.m. tour of high school; 12:30-2:30 p.m. picnic at Pawnee Park; dinner at New World Inn. Contact: Hope Schneider Freshour, hfreshour@sbcglobal.net.

1996 - 10th Reunion - July 29, 2006, at New World Inn. Contact Salena Revell Hirschbrunner, shirsch@neb.rr.com.