



Kewanee Schools Foundation

ALUMNI UPDATE

Volume #18 Number 1

Spring 2016

NEW SCHOLARSHIPS ESTABLISHED

Todd ('84) and Diane (Reiff) ('85) Reeser and their family are thankful for the great educational foundation they received at Kewanee High School and have created this scholarship as a way to give back to KHS students and promote higher education.

The Reeser Family Scholarship is in the amount of \$2500 a year for up to four years (\$10,000 maximum). The student must maintain a 2.0 college GPA (or higher).

The requirements for this scholarship are: The student must have attended KHS all four years; be in the top 25% of their graduating class; be attending a four year college or university to earn a Bachelor's degree; and is a graduating KHS senior.

Pictured below are this year's recipients of the scholarship Zachary Brown and Cole Vickrey, along with Todd and Diane Reeser. Zachary will be attending St. Ambrose University majoring in Mechanical Engineering and Cole plans to major in Accounting at Illinois State University.

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ROBERT GRABBE MEMORIAL AWARD



The Robert A. Grabbe Memorial Award was established in 2015 to honor his memory. Born and raised in Kewanee, Robert graduated from Kewanee High School in 1980. His education career began in 1989 as a Henry-Stark Special Education teacher.

Robert later became an Administrator for Henry-Stark Special Education Cooperative. He loved teaching and enjoyed interacting with students, especially helping them with their plans for the future.

This award will be given annually to one male and one female graduating senior who exemplifies a positive attitude towards learning and shows concern for their fellow students.

This year's recipients of the award were Ian Kelly and Evelyn Cortes.

ANNA L. SHEAHAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



The family of Anna L. Sheahan established this scholarship in 2016. Anna passed away on November 8, 2015, after teaching Spanish at Kewanee High School for 32 years. Anna was a beloved teacher who shared her passion for language and culture with her students daily. Through exemplary instruction and summer trips to Europe, Anna inspired many of her students to pursue careers related to language and culture. In addition to her outstanding teaching, Anna displayed her incredible musical talent and dedication to her students through volunteering as a pianist for the choir and theater departments at KHS. Anna dedicated her life to her students, and she would be honored to help them pursue their educational dreams.

This year's recipient of the scholarship is Hailee Talbot who will attend University of Iowa, majoring in Pre-Med.

KEWANEE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1975 SCHOLARSHIP

A \$750.00 scholarship was established by the Class of 1975 at their 40th reunion to give back to the school that did so much for all of their class!

The scholarship is given to a qualifying senior who: 1) Is enrolled and attending Black Hawk College-East Campus in the fall semester following graduation; 2) demonstrates financial need or other hardship(s).

The recipient of the 2016 scholarship is Rene Torres who is majoring in Animation.

KEWANEE REBEKAH LODGE #512 SCHOLARSHIP

This \$1,000 scholarship is awarded to a graduating Kewanee High School senior who will attend a community college or university pursuing an education in the health professions and based on the following criteria: 1) Administrative recommendation; 2) Scholarship; 3) Written essay; 4) Financial need, school activities, and community service.

The 2016 recipient of the Kewanee Rebekah Lodge Scholarship is Kailey Komnick, who will be attending University of Illinois, majoring in Biology.

THANKS TO YOU KHS GRADUATES RECEIVE OVER \$80,000 IN AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Forty seniors received the following awards and scholarships at commencement and awards assembly 2016:

ALEJANDRO ALEJANDRE: Kewanee Park District Scholarship; **TANNER ARZOLA:** Lions Club Plaque, Harriet McCarthy Math Scholarship, Robert L. Petersen Memorial Award; **ADEE ATHIYAMAN:** Rodney Rogers Memorial Medical Arts Award; **NATALIE BALUNIS:** National School Choral Award; **JACK BREEDLOVE:** Joe Hill Memorial Award, Belle Alexander Dennis Scholarship, Zarvell Scholarship, Troy Bryner Agriculture-Mechanics Scholarship; **KAITLYNN BROWN:** St. Francis Alumnae Association Scholarship, Robert E. Breedlove Scholarship, Loraine Lambert Memorial Nursing Scholarship, Ruth and Edmond Beauprez Memorial Scholarship, Adam Lazar Memorial Scholarship; **ZACHARY BROWN:** David Hepner Football Memorial Award, Harriet McCarthy Math Scholarship, Brian P. Murphy Memorial Scholarship, Bradley and Joanne Waugh Family Memorial Award, George Cernovich Auto Service Scholarship; **ANNE CONE:** Louis Armstrong Jazz Award; **EVELYN CORTES:** Robert A. Grabbe Memorial Award; **JARRETT DAVIS:** Odd Fellows Plaque, Susan Smith Memorial Plaque, Matthew Scott Memorial Award; **MCKENZIE DEVILDER:** Kathryn L. Kirley Memorial Scholarship, Bernie VanWassenhove-Johnson

Scholarship; **BRANDON EVANS:** Martin Rapczak and Rodney Rogers Memorial Patriotism Award; **LILLIAN FEENEY:** American Legion Post 31 Scholarship; **FREYD GUERRERO:** Grace Hepner Memorial Award, Dean L. Bates Scholarship, R. Lynn Saey Memorial Scholarship, Ken Sullens-James Golby Scholarship; **ANTOINETTE HALL:** Kewanee High School Theater Scholarship, Dr. Ronald Thompson Scholarship; **RYAN HANSEN:** Jerry Nell Memorial Award, Ken Fristad Memorial Golf Scholarship; **JOSHUA HENKINS:** Mary Lee and H.T. Mercer Fine Arts Award, Margaret Ririe Memorial Award, Richard Mautino Memorial Government Service Learning Award, Hilding Beck Scholarship, Ken Fristad Memorial Golf Scholarship; **HANNA HOLMES:** Class of 1934 Memorial Scholarship Award, Dean L. Bates Scholarship; **ELIZABETH JAMISON:** Mary Lee and H.T. Mercer Fine Arts Award, Chris R. Ketridge Memorial Journalism Award, Star Courier Journalism Award; **COLTON JOHNSON:** H.F. Brockman Memorial Athletic Award, Geoffrey R. Schmidt Memorial Scholarship; **RILEY JONES:** Industrial Ed Award and Galen and Mary Landis Award; **IAN KELLY:** Robert A. Grabbe Memorial Award; **KAILEY KOMNICK:** Kiwanis Cup, Lions Club Plaque, John Phillip Sousa Band Award, Barry Lee Ensley Memorial Scholarship, Glidden Family Scholarship, Harriet McCarthy Math Scholarship, Kewanee High School Theater Scholarship; **KATY KUCHLE:** National Arion Foundation Award-Band, Woody Herman Jazz Award, Katie Woods Creative Spirit

Award; **ALYSSA NANNINGA:** Frank and Fannie Lay Kewanee High School Award; **KARINA NUNEZ:** National Arion Foundation Award-Choir; **DONOVAN OLIVER JR.:** Frank and Fannie Lay Kewanee High School Award, Tom Blake Memorial Basketball Award, Dean L. Bates Scholarship, R. Lynn Saey Memorial Scholarship; **ALEC PADILLA:** Geoffrey R. Schmidt Memorial Scholarship; **MIKAYLA PUSKAR:** Hardt Family Memorial Scholarship; **ADRIENNE RAY:** Family and Consumer Sciences Advisory Council Award, Dean L. Bates Scholarship; **HAILEE TALBOT:** Elks Trophy, Hilding Beck Scholarship, Dean L. Bates Scholarship, Richard A. Ruzas Jr. Memorial Track Award, Harriet McCarthy Math Scholarship, Heidi L. Goodbar Memorial Art Scholarship, Anna L. Sheehan Memorial Scholarship; **SARA TIMBERLAKE:** Laurence Horler Scholarship; **RENE TORRES:** Kewanee High School Class of 1975 Award; **FAITH TURNER:** Chamber of Commerce Award, Bradley Wessels Memorial Award; **QUENTIN VANDESAMPEL:** Doctor Smith Loyalty Award, Pauline Scott Memorial Award, Marvin Damron Memorial Scholarship; **JORDAN VANMELKEBEKE:** Dr. Robert Breedlove Memorial Athletics Scholarship; **COLE VICKREY:** Lions Club Plaque, Dean L. Bates Scholarship, Masonic Lodge 159 Scholarship; **SHAURI VOGT:** Adela Wesebaum Award, Leo A. Saey Memorial Award; **ANGEL WASSELL:** Ethel C. Tillman Scholarship, Wayne and Hazel Zang Memorial Scholarship; **ANDREW WELGAT:** DAR Good Citizen Award, Ken Fristad Memorial Golf Scholarship.

IRVING SUMMER SCHOOL STUDENTS GIVING BACK TO COMMUNITY

Kewanee first graders are learning with lemonade. Students hosted a lemonade stand to learn social-emotional skills, practice math skills by counting and making change, communication and sales-advertising skills during June summer session. The profits from the lemonade stand will be donated to the "Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation," which helps children with cancer, in memory of their classmate, Ty Sanford. This opportunity was made possible by the 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant obtained through the Bureau, Henry, Stark Regional Office of Education.



BELLE ALEXANDER TEACHER EARNS AWARD



Bree Summers

Since 1991, the Dispatch/Rock Island Argus in Moline has sponsored an award program to honor teachers.

This year a panel of judges selected 13 teachers to join the elite group of master teachers. Among this year's winners was Bree Summers, kindergarten teacher at Belle Alexander School. She is the first teacher to receive this prestigious award in Kewanee School District #229.

Bree was nominated by Becky Sedlacek whose son Ty Sanford was a 2015 student in her classroom. Once nominated, candidates submit their educational criteria, teaching philosophy, professional organizations with offices held, and community service in addition to a letter of support.

"Bree's hard work and dedication to her students has made her one of the best teachers out there," Sedlacek said. "I don't know many teachers who would have done as much as

she did for Ty during his battle with DIPG. Hence my nomination of her for the Master Teacher award."

Bree and fellow master teacher recipients were honored at an awards banquet at the iWireless Center in Moline.

KHS FRESHMEN SUPPORT SWAZILAND SCHOOL



Pictured front row from left are Kelsey Nimrick and Kerrigan Kelly. Back row from left Courtney Jackson, Tyra Bond and Timothy Nolan.

Kewanee High School freshmen received a grant from the Kewanee Schools Foundation and the Harry Anderson Trust to support the African Library Project (ALP).

Through the ALP, the Class of 2019 was matched with the Mvubula Primary School in Swaziland, who had requested 1000 books in order to start their own school library.

The books will help Mvubula primary school build and maintain their literacy skills, which is critical in Africa where one in three adults is illiterate.

KHS students and parents donated books, and the students researched countries in Africa.

KEWANEE FFA RECEIVES GRANT

KHS FFA Chapter members and agriculture classes will plant and tend a garden this summer donating the produce to a local food pantry as a result of a Community Improvement Grant Program funded by 1st Farm Credit Services.

Last year's garden produced more than 2,800 pounds of vegetables.

Throughout approximately 150 hours spent on the project, members and students will learn to till the soil, plant vegetable liners, harvest the produce and deliver it.

"Young people in FFA give back to others each and every day, making our communities great places to live," said Jesse Edlefson of 1st Farm Credit Services. "The work being done on these projects benefits the community and the volunteers in ways that make a positive impact for years to come."



Visit Us at
www.kewaneeschoolsfoundation.org

CENTRAL'S GRETCHEN ARZOLA IS TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Central School fourth grade teacher Gretchen Arzola was surprised in her classroom with the announcement that she had been selected as the Star Courier's 2016 Teacher of the Year.

Gretchen smiled as six students from her class read their handwritten nominations, which told why they thought their teacher deserves the award.

"She always makes learning so fun," student Chloie Miller read aloud. "She also is very supporting. She has been there to make us laugh and to make school as fun as she can. Mrs. Arzola as a math teacher is never boring. All of these reasons is why when I go to fifth grade I will miss Mrs. Arzola the most. That is why I nominate her for best teacher in the whole entire school."

Letters from Jesus Cepeda, Matthew Mullen, Kaydence Fraker, Hope Peed and John Murray Jr. also mentioned Mrs. Arzola's kindness and helpfulness.

"Mrs Arzola is the best teacher I have ever had through Pre-K until fourth grade," said Murray. "She is so cool, everything in class is cool."

Mrs. Arzola was also commended on her center teaching approach, and how through the use of games the children learn.

Arzola has been a teacher for the Kewanee School District for the past 12 years.

The annual award is presented by the Star Courier during National Teacher Appreciation Week. The winning teacher was presented a bouquet of roses, balloons and other gifts donated by area sponsors, valued at \$450.



Pictured from left Chloie Miller, Jesus Cepeda, Matthew Mullen, Kaydence Fraker, Hope Peed and John Murray, Jr.

KHS KEY CLUB MEMBERS BRING AWARDS HOME FROM ILLINOIS-EASTERN IOWA CONVENTION

The Kewanee High School Key Club won a number of honors at the 66th annual Illinois-Eastern Iowa District convention and leadership conference in Springfield. Twenty club members attended.

The club's Good Fellow's Christmas Basket project took first place in the Single Service Project category. This entry will now advance to Key Club International and will compete with all other first place Single Service Projects from Key Clubs throughout the world.

Kewanee's t-shirt design also earned a second place trophy. The club received banner patches for mailing an officer roster on time, paying dues early, 100% monthly reporting and 100% on-time monthly reporting.

Club members winning individual awards were: Distinguished Club President — Hailee Talbot; Distinguished Junior Club Member — John Mott; and Distinguished Sophomore Club Member — Elizabeth Gustafson. Kewanee was represented in the House of Delegates by John Mott, 2016-17 club president; and Ty Jones, 2016-17 vice president.

KEWANEE BASEBALL TEAM ENDS 71 YEAR DROUGHT TO WIN BOYS REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

For the full article go to
www.kewaneeschoolsfoundation.org

KHS GRAD PRESENTED LIVING LEGEND AWARD



Randall B. Lindsey '59

Kewanee High School alum Randall B. Lindsey '59 was featured in the spring issue of Western Illinois University Alumni News.

In June, the National Council Professors of Educational Administration will present Lindsey with the Living Legend Award preceeding its annual conference in Detroit.

According to an online biography, Lindsey is emeritus professor at California State University, Los Angeles, "and has a practice centered on educational consulting and issues related to equity and access." Prior to higher education faculty roles, he served as a junior and senior high school history teacher, a district office administrator for school desegregation, and executive director of a non-profit corporation. All of his experiences have been in working with diverse populations and his area of study is the behavior of white people in multicul-

tural settings. It is his belief and experience that too often white people are observers of multicultural issues rather than personally involved with them, the bio says. He works with colleagues to design and implement programs for and with schools, law enforcement agencies, and community based organizations to provide access and achievement. Lindsey received his master's degree in social studies from the University of Illinois in 1968 and his doctoral degree in educational leadership from Georgia State University in 1975.

His first book, published in 2001, was dedicated to his father, the late Hermon Lindsey. His mother was the late Eula May Lindsey.

According to the article in the Alumni News, Lindsey credited his time at Western in the early 60s for helping "shape his career path on many levels including presenting him with an opportunity to learn more about cultural diversity."

Lindsey said his time at Western presented him with a variety of opportunities and learning about the predominant cultural issues of that time. One of those was certainly the modern Civil Rights movement.

"My hometown, Kewanee (IL), had a very small African-American population," Lindsey told the Alumni News. "Being at WIU, I had more opportunities to meet and become acquainted with African-American fellow students. The climate at WIU, similar to our country, was that issues of race were always present," Lindsey said.

Congratulations to Randall Lindsey on receiving this award.

PASSINGS

Class of '33

Isabel (Srbjanin) Unakis –
1/31/16

Class of '36

Sophie (Kasbeck) Spets –
6/6/15

Class of '38

Olive (Davis) Hodgett –
1/5/16

Class of '40

Jack Bennett – 12/13/15

Class of '41

Fred Buswell – 5/7/16

Class of '43

Letha (Skeeters) Stokes –
10/2/15
M. Barbara (Kirman) Craig –
5/13/16

Class of '44

Dorotheal (Teece) Snider –
1/9/16

Class of '45

Lois (Osborne) Bennett –
12/19/15

Class of '47

Robert Berlinski - 6/3/16

Class of '48

Jean (Smith) Coleman –
11/3/15
Milton Seyller – 1/5/16
Annabelle (Daniels) Bunce –
10/23/15
Mary Ann (Trumble) Estes –
1/27/16

Class of '49

Barbara (Wood) Lazar –
3/22/16

Class of '51

Joyce (Ziegler) Sadowski –
7/4/15

Class of '53

Francis (Frank) Gusman –
5/20/15

Class of '55

Juanita Noble – 3/21/15

Class of '56

Dianne (Thiessen) Getter –
5/31/15

Class of '57

Alvin E. Reiff – 4/16/16

Class of '58

Catherine (Lyle) Johnson –
12/27/15

Class of '60

Sandra (Smith) Wiegand –
4/7/16

Class of '61

Diane (Kramer) Bennett –
3/26/16

Class of '62

Judy (VanDierendonck) Davis –
8/4/14

Class of '64

Freddie Martin, Sr. – 2/5/16
Nancy J. (Ince) Petty – 3/10/16
Peggy (Matchett) Smith –
3/20/16

Class of '65

Carol (Malone) Durnil –
12/13/15

Class of '66

Patricia (Millslagle) Brown –
4/17/16

Class of '67

Vicki (See) Hamilton – 3/29/16

Class of '69

David H. Washburn – 3/25/16

Class of '70

Mary (Bickers) Ashpole –
3/24/16

Class of '72

Walter A. Skovronski – 4/23/16

Class of '73

John M. Thurwanger – 12/11/15
Rose (Shinkevich) Ratliff –
3/20/16

Class of '74

Charles W. Graf – 2/21/16
Joann Lansbarkis – 2/27/16

Class of '77

Elena Padilla – 2/2/16

Class of '80

Kathryn (Clong) Foreman –
1/21/16

Class of '90

Jill Warner-Goulding – 1/16/16

Class of '95

Joanna (Moore) Witte – 1/31/16

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KHS Alumni Class of _____



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