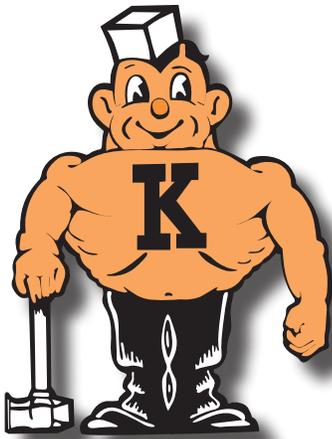


## Kewanee Schools Foundation

# ALUMNI UPDATE

Volume #24 Number 2

Fall/Winter 2019



### WELCOME EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MRS. LIZ BREEDLOVE



Liz Breedlove joined the Kewanee Schools Foundation as executive director on September 17, 2019 replacing Bruce Dennison who retired in June. With more than 17 years of fundraising experience, Breedlove is looking forward to assisting the Foundation in fulfilling its mission of strengthening educational opportunities for students of Kewanee Community Unit District #229, and promoting community engagement in the Kewanee School District.

Breedlove received a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Iowa. She was president of the Kewanee Hospital Foundation from 1992 – 2000, and left her position to raise her two children, Adam and Mark, now alumni of Kewanee High School. She returned to the workforce as an adjunct business instructor for Black Hawk College East Campus in 2009, and most recently retired as executive director of Black Hawk College East Foundation, a position she held from August, 2010 – September, 2019. She and her husband, Dan (also a KHS alumnus) live in Kewanee.

### KEWANEE SCHOOLS FOUNDATION ON THE MOVE

The Kewanee Schools Foundation is moving to a new location. Construction is nearing completion and we should be in the new office by mid November. The addition is located behind the KCUD #229 Administration Office located at 1001 N. Main, Kewanee. Our phone number remains the same 309.856.8702; fax number 309.852.5504. Stop in and say hello! We would love to show you our new space!



## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2019 ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

The KHS Athletic Hall of Fame recently held their induction ceremony at Kewanee High School. The inductees ranged from the 1946-47 football team to the 2009 state wrestling champion, Adam Breedlove.

The weekend events began with the inductees being introduced prior to the KHS vs. Princeton football game. On Saturday evening, October 12, nearly 180 guests and inductees attended a catered meal by PL Damron's in H.F. Brockman Gym, followed by the Hall of Fame ceremony in Petersen Auditorium. Mike Miler welcomed the 200+ guests. The evening held special memories for many of the inductees who thanked their coaches, teaching staff, family members and friends.

This year's inductees are as follows: Friends – Dr. Bob Breedlove '70 and Garry Costenson '80; Distinguished Alumni – Dr. Bob Breedlove, Mike Krause '85 and Jonny Henkins '04; Male Athletes – Bob White '43, Ron Saey '69, Steve Carlson '67, 1967 880-yard relay team (Kurt Beranek, Dick Carlson, Steve Carlson and Ron Saey), Gary Hill '71, Don Harvey '71, Chad Kelly '90 and Adam Breedlove '09; Female Athletes – Ashley Goodrich '02, Becca (Davis) Kinzer '00, 2005 Girls 800m Medley Relay Team (Sara (Cervantez) Nimrick, Kelly Cruse, Clarissa LaFlora, Rachel (Stalzer) Smith); Teams – 1946-47 Football Team, 1985-86 Basket-

ball Team.

The KHS Athletic Hall of Fame would not have been possible without the tremendous efforts of the Hall of Fame Committee. Members included Matt Costenson, Tim Atwell, John Blachinsky, Jon DeBord, Mindi Goard, Russ Hughes, John Jagers, Mike Miler, Tom Miler, Jerry Salisbury, Bill Stewart, Frank Tocha and Jim VanHootegem.

The first Athletic Hall of Fame ceremonies were held in 2004 and have been held every other year since. "It is quite common for schools to induct numerous athletes from the alumni ranks during the first few years after establishing a Hall of Fame because of the large backlog of outstanding athletes deserving the honor," said Dr. Chris Sullens, District 229 Superintendent, "After that, the selection process becomes more difficult."



Chad Kelly - Male Athlete



Jonny Henkins, Chad Kelly, Becca Davis-Kinzer, Peggy Costenson and family, Don Harvey and Gary Hill.



Pictured left to right Mike Miler, Adam Breedlove '09 - Male Athlete and Bill Breedlove.



Bill Stewart and John Becker, teammates of the 1985-86 Boys Basketball Team.



Pictured left to right Etta LaFlora, Clarissa LaFlora - Female Athlete and Alvis LaFlora.

## **CENTRAL TEACHER, STUDENT GO TO L.A. TO PRESENT CLASS'S CLAYMATION WORK**

*by Susan DeVilder,  
Freelance writer for the Star Courier*

“You don’t leave home unless home is the mouth of a shark,” said Marc Nelson, paraphrasing a popular line from a British Somali poet that has become a rallying cry for refugees and their advocates.

Nelson, the Central School art teacher, and one of his students, Chloe Miller, recently presented the class’s claymation film, “Estrella, An Asylum Seeker’s Story” at the Japanese American National Museum (JANM) in Los Angeles.

The claymation film began last year as a class project by the 7th grade class at Central School.

Nelson finished the editing over the summer and uploaded the film to YouTube in August.

The film caught the attention of NPR reporter John Burnett, who passed it on to Amy Cohen, a child psychiatrist and co-creator of “Detained in America,” a program showing the experiences of children trying to cross the US border with their families.

Cohen specializes in childhood trauma, according to Nelson, and saw the film and extended an invitation to take part in the program to Nelson and Miller, who narrated the part of Estrella in the film.

Nelson, Miller and Miller’s mother, Amanda, flew to L.A. courtesy of Cohen, and the program’s co-creator, Claudia Sobral. Once in L.A., Sobral acted as their host.

On Sept. 21, Nelson and Miller closed the two-hour program at the JANM by giving a short speech explaining the inspiration behind their film, “Estrella.”

The program included about 17 school children from the local L.A. school area. The students, ranging from six to 17 years old, read letters from not only children who were detained in Japanese internment camps during WWII, but also testimony of children at detention centers on the US’s southern border. The border children’s testimony included a lack of privacy and food, soap, changes of clothing and poor treatment by the guards as some of the hardships they have endured.

“There wasn’t a dry eye in the house,” said Nelson, who described the program by the students as very emotional and powerful.

The program was held in an open area outdoors.

“People were being drawn in from the streets to hear it,” Nelson said.

The claymation film was screened several times that day. A recreation of barracks at a Japanese internment camp served as the film’s backdrop.

Nelson said people came up after the film and asked for a link so they could watch again.

The Central art teacher has spent the last several years focusing his creativity and art on the plight of the Syrian people, but said he may begin to focus some of his attention and artwork on the children at the border “We ended it (the program) by giving them hope that there are ways to end this crisis,” Nelson said. “We use art to cultivate empathy.”

Travel-wise Central art teacher, Marc Nelson and student Chloe Miller traveled to Los Angeles last month to participate in ‘Detained In America,’ a program about the plight of children at the US southern border. The pair were asked to participate after the Central School 7th grade class Claymation film, ‘Estrella: An Asylum Seeker’s Story,’ was viewed by the program’s creators.



*Central art teacher Marc Nelson and student Chloe Miller.*

*For more pictures and articles go to:  
[www.kewaneeschoolsfoundation.org](http://www.kewaneeschoolsfoundation.org)  
[www.kcud229.org](http://www.kcud229.org)  
Facebook at Kewanee Schools  
Foundation*

## IRVING APPLE SCIENCE

Irving second grade students are learning about apples and the science behind the apples. Pictured is Ms. Heinrich's class taking data on the different kinds of apples available in the stores. Data collection includes a taste test! Yum!



really like to thank Brian Johnson and the park district employees for making sure they had everything needed to make the event a success!

## SCHOOL LUNCH NEVER LOOKED BETTER!

From WQAD - Denise Hnytko

This is in Kewanee, where presentation counts!

From ABCs of School Nutrition: This gorgeous display of fresh fruits and vegetables was sent to us by Trisha Behnke from Kewanee School District #229!

The district serves about 1400 students daily through eight kitchens, with three of those kitchens preparing all of the food. Staffers clean and cut the fruits and vegetables then display them in a colorful pattern. The nutrition program procures the produce through the USDA Department of Defense Fruit and Vegetable Program at no cost.

Behnke says, "Our kids love [the] variety and beg for watermelon, strawberries, grapes, and blueberries the most."



## KEWANEE SCHOOLS PROJECTS ARE FUNDED BY THE HARRY ANDERSON TRUST



Harry Anderson Trust funds are utilized for children who need training and guidance in order to get a good start in life and to become useful and desirable citizens.

These programs provided an opportunity for children to meet, with adult supervision, for training, guidance, and education.

Over \$19,000 was awarded to the Kewanee Schools Foundation to benefit the students of KCUD #229. The funds were used for Social Emotional Learning incentives, dual credit scholarships, Spanish novels, PLATO software, ABCD program, the Dave Ramsey Fin. Literacy program and Accounting Connect for the Intro to Business class.

## ALEX'S LEMONADE AT IRVING SCHOOL

A big shout out to everyone at Irving School. For the past few years Irving first grade students have operated a lemonade stand to raise funds for childhood brain cancer research.

## LYLE HOSTS PRE-K WEENIE ROAST



*Pictured left to right Jill Bartelt, Jen Pickering and Rebecca Baney*

On Thursday, Sept. 19 Lyle Pre-school hosted a weenie roast for families at Windmont Park. Over 400 people attended and thankfully the weather cooperated! The Kewanee Park District was kind enough to extend the use of the covered shelter near the ball diamond and the school packed the place! Lyle School would



## A Message from the Executive Director



Dear Friends,

Thanks to our generous alumni and friends, over 2,000 students in the Kewanee Community Unit District #229 benefitted from state-of-the-art classroom equipment; instructional supplies and materials; and over \$100,000 in scholarship assistance for college tuition, including skilled trades and dual credit coursework this past year. This edition of Alumni Update illustrates the positive work being done in the Kewanee school district as a result of their kind and generous support.

Attaining excellent educational programs and services requires facilities, cultural experiences, state-of-the-art technology, resource materials and, especially, great teachers. Most school districts no longer have discretionary funds for services and activities that exceed minimum needs and requirements. These circumstances require finding new resources to assist in building and increasing excellence in our schools.

We need your help to guarantee that our students will continue to have these resources for many years to come.

Won't you consider a year-end gift of \$25, \$50, \$100, or more? Your donation will ensure the future success of our students. Your gift can be used to support the areas of greatest need, or designate your donation to scholarships, instructional equipment and supplies, or other fund of your choice. Every dollar counts, no matter how large or small!

As the new executive director of the Kewanee Schools Foundation, it is my pleasure and honor to serve the students of KCUD #229. Being a parent of two Kewanee High School graduates, I know first-hand that my children received a high quality education and were well-prepared for college and beyond. With your support, I look forward to helping other students receive the same opportunities afforded to my children, now and in the future. Together, we can do so much!

During this holiday season, we wish to express our heartfelt gratitude for your support and the difference you make to the students of KCUD #229!

Warmest holiday wishes,

Liz Breedlove  
Executive Director  
Kewanee Schools Foundation

P.S. Don't delay! In order to receive a tax-deduction for 2019, your gift must be postmarked by December 31. A remittance envelope has been enclosed for your convenience. Online donations may be made at [www.kewaneeschoolsfoundation.org](http://www.kewaneeschoolsfoundation.org).



## BAYER CROP SCIENCE TOUR

The Agriculture Business class visited the Bayer Crop Science Monmouth Learning Center. Students had a variety of experiences: learned about the history of the corn plant; viewed corn plants from around the world; calculated potential yields and visited their Fantasy Farming Challenge plot. This past spring the Ag Business class chose to participate in the Fantasy Farming Challenge. Bayer Crop Science sponsors this challenge among area high school FFA Chapters.

“This is an excellent opportunity to expose students to some real-life agronomy principles and crop production decision making. Students have to decide their corn seed hybrid, when the crop will be planted, the row spacing and plant population in addition to fertilizer and crop protection inputs,” stated Ag Teacher Mrs. Kindra Callahan.

Prizes are awarded to the school with the: Highest Yield Most Profit.

The prize last year was \$1000 for each winner. The 2018 winning schools were Wethersfield (Most Profitable Plot) and Mercer County (Highest Yielding Plot). Past winners have included ROWVA, United, Rockridge, VIT, Monmouth Roseville, Farmington, and Geneseo.

### WHAT IS REQUIRED OF PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS?

In February, a representative

of Bayer Crop Science came to the ag class and gave a presentation on basic crop production management and described the contest to our students. Then, we had until March 1st to select our management options and submit our proposed plot decisions.

Each participating school must commit to make a minimum of one field trip to visit the Learning Center in Monmouth to see their plots.

The students and Mrs. Callahan were happy with the physical appearance of the plot and are hopeful that after harvest, the results will compete well!

The visit was very engaging. Mr. Coziahr was an excellent host and the KHS students were first class guests!



Carter Bates '20

## 14th ANNUAL FOUNDATION AUCTION WAS A SUCCESS

After months of preparation and hard work by the teachers and staff of District #229 and members of the Kewanee Schools Foundation, the 14th Annual Gala School Auction was held on March 28 with net proceeds of \$7,000. This was a great auction by any measure and considered a huge success. Parents, community leaders, local businesses, school employees, and our board members. The event was attended by over 200 people.

The auction began at 2:00 pm with a silent auction featuring 147 items. Items on the silent auction ranged from beautiful decorated baskets filled with a wide variety of wonderful items like gardening and camping equipment, as well as tools, clothing, and handmade decorations and metal art.

While the silent auction was in progress, desserts were prepared and served by the FCCLA Department. For those who felt lucky, the Draw Down Board provided exciting wagering opportunities.

The live auction began at 3:00 pm. Over 20 items were in the live auction. The auction contained thousands of dollars in beautiful furniture donated by Good's Furniture as well as a wide variety of other valuable and useful items donated by our schools and area businesses, and by Foundation board members.

## PASSINGS

### Class of '40

Cora Mae (Owens) Sopiars -  
8/3/19

### Class of '42

Donald A. Zumber - 8/27/19

### Class of '44

Edward Dura - 6/20/19  
Robert Willetts - 1/6/18

### Class of '46

Robert E. VanWynsberge -  
10/17/19

### Class of '47

Marilyn J. (McBride) Norbom -  
7/30/19

### Class of '48

Frances P. (Ptasnik) Smith -  
10/24/19

### Class of '54

Joseph J. Quagliano - 10/14/19

### Class of '55

Patricia (Lingwall) Heise -  
10/29/19

### Class of '56

Ronald L. Clark - 9/7/19  
Mary Ann Zapisek - 10/4/19

### Class of '58

Laurel (Goodsell) Stone -  
8/26/19

### Class of '60

Lawrence Goodsell - 2/8/2017  
Gary L. Prusator - 10/29/19

### Class of '62

Sharon S. (Anderson) Guthrie -  
8/7/19

### Class of '65

Mary Margaret (Craig) Fordham -  
9/20/19

### Class of '70

Philip S. Lippens - 10/6/19

### Class of '79

Dennis J. Holtschult, Sr. -  
9/25/19  
Kevin A. Marsh - 9/7/19  
Ronald A. Oldeen - 8/25/19

### Class of '80

Garry W. Costenson - 5/28/19

### Class of '82

Daryl J. Jacobson - 9/9/19

### Class of '94

Tammy Lynn Bryan - 10/2/19

### **CORRECTION FROM SPRING NEWSLETTER**

### Class of '51

Joyce (Snyder) Fite - 3/16/19



## ESTABLISHED MEMORIALS

1/1/19 - 9/30/19

Henry Hill Memorial

Garry W. Costenson Memorial

For those interested in contributing to these or other established memorials, please contact Mindi at the Kewanee Schools Foundation.

## CLASS REUNIONS

The Class of 1970 has begun preparing for their 50th class reunion. The reunion will be at Kewanee Dunes (formerly Midland Country Club) on Saturday, September 5, 2020. A free happy hour will be from 5 - 6 pm, followed by dinner/program/entertainment from 6-9 pm. For further information please contact Bill Mattingly at [bmattingly31@gmail.com](mailto:bmattingly31@gmail.com); Bill Breedlove at [lettering@breedlovetshirts.com](mailto:lettering@breedlovetshirts.com); or Don Vanderostyne at [donvanderostyne@yahoo.com](mailto:donvanderostyne@yahoo.com).

The Class of 1965 is preparing for their 55th reunion to be held on September 19, 2020. For further information, please contact Rene Verstraete at [renev0820@gmail.com](mailto:renev0820@gmail.com).

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## **CONTRIBUTING TO AN IRA?**

Annual withdrawals from traditional retirement accounts are required after age 70 1/2, and there is a penalty for skipping a required minimum distribution (RMD) that should have been withdrawn. If you are in the fortunate position of not needing your distribution for living expenses, you can avoid paying income tax on your required withdrawal by donating your RMD funds directly to a qualifying charity such as the Kewanee Schools Foundation. For more information, contact Liz Breedlove, Executive Director at [lbreedlove@kewaneeschoolsfoundation.org](mailto:lbreedlove@kewaneeschoolsfoundation.org) or 309.856.8702.

## **AMAZON SMILE DONATIONS**

This holiday, make a difference while you shop. Shop for holiday gifts and supplies at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com); select Kewanee CUSD as your charity of choice and Amazon will donate .5% of your purchase to the Kewanee Schools Foundation.



Thank you for your support!