

Connections

A Publication of the Warren/Alvarado/Oslo Public School
Education Foundation

We Can't
Succeed
Without You

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From WAO to the Crown to the Collar



Pastor Megan performing a baptism

By Duane Swanson

Megan Torgerson, a Warren-Alvarado-Oslo graduate of 1998, has already accomplished as much at this stage of life, at age 34, than most people do in a whole lifetime. From academic honors to winning beauty pageants to answering the call to the ministry, there has never been a dull moment. She bases her success on her faith and a strong family influence that starts with her parents. They are her father, Wayne, a grain and beet farmer, and mother, Bev (Hanson), a WAO High School English teacher, who are both 1972 WHS graduates. Megan is the second of three sisters which include Kaia, WAO 1996, and Kaitlin, WAO 2003. Megan is married to Chris Vitko and they have a 9-month-old daughter, Fiona.

After her graduation from WAO, she moved on to Concordia College. While pursuing her

Bachelor's Degree at Concordia and her Master's Degree at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, she competed in beauty pageants. Her "crowning achievement" culminated in 2003 when she was crowned Miss Minnesota and then advanced to the ultimate beauty contest, the Miss America pageant. After that exciting experience, she continued working on and received her Master's Degree in Divinity. She is now pastor at Augustana Lutheran Church in West St. Paul.

The following is an interview with Megan via the modern miracle of email. It profiles her inspiring progression

from high school student to Lutheran minister with lots of good stuff in between. You will find her responses very entertaining and most exhilarating.

Ed Foundation: What are some of your fondest memories as a student at WAO High School?

Megan: After I went to college, I learned that not everyone got a chance to be in any extracurricular event that they wanted. I got to play multiple sports and also be in band, choir, musical, speech, one act play, mock trial, and be involved in all sorts of other activities. If I wanted to try it, I could! This was an unexpected bonus of being a part of a smaller school. It helped me be the well-rounded person I believe I am today. Because I got to be involved in all of these events, I got to know my classmates well, share lots of adventures together, and learn

more about myself. Most of my good memories at WAO center around this vibrant extracurricular life.

Ed Foundation: What were some of your favorite subjects and who were some of your favorite teachers? (yes, you can include your mom)

Megan: I never did have my mom as a teacher! Aside from one semester where she was long-term subbing, my mom and I were never in the same classroom. She was my speech coach, but I'll have to admit that I was pretty negligent in scheduling coaching times with her. One of my favorite teachers was Mr. (Rick) Schmiedeberg. While I was never good at math, he challenged me both as a teacher and a track coach and never let me get too comfortable with myself. I also loved Spanish with Mr. (Gary) Schuler. I haven't truly spoken Spanish in over a decade, but the little bit that's still stuck in my head is a testimony to his teaching.

Ed Foundation: Do you think it was an advantage or disadvantage going to a small rural school?

Megan: There are always trade-offs when you consider the size of high school you attended. I remember being jealous of my college classmates because their larger high schools afforded them a more diverse set of classes, extracurricular, and leadership options. However, when I learned how anonymous they sometimes felt in their classroom, or how they never developed any close friends from high school, or that they could only pick one extracurricular, I knew that my high school experience had been right for me. I wouldn't pick anything else.

(continued on page 6)



WAO
Education
Foundation
Golf Scramble
Friday, July 25

Join the WAO Education
Foundation for their
10th Annual

**Golf Scramble
Fundraiser**

Friday, July 25, 2014

at Riverside Golf Course,
Warren, MN

18-hole, 4-person scramble
or come for lunch and
play 9 holes for fun.

Registration starts at 7:30 a.m.

Shotgun start: 8:30 a.m.

\$50.00/person

**Pre-registration strongly suggested,
(see form on the left)**

contact us at

(218) 745-4646 ext. 1317 or

email: edfoundation@wao.k12.mn.us

**To reserve a golf cart, call 218-745-4028
and leave a message. Your call will be
returned.**

FUN, FOOD, GAMES, PRIZES!

WELCOME ALUMNI!!



Marshall County Fair
July 23-27

Visit the WAO School Buildings
during the Marshall County Fair!!

Dates and times will be
posted!!

Golf Registration Form

Please return this with your entry fee. (\$50/person)

Team Member's Names: _____

Contact email _____ Contact Phone: _____

Team Name: _____ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Make Checks Payable to: WAO Education Foundation Mail to: WAO Ed. Foundation, P.O. Box 125, Warren, MN 56762

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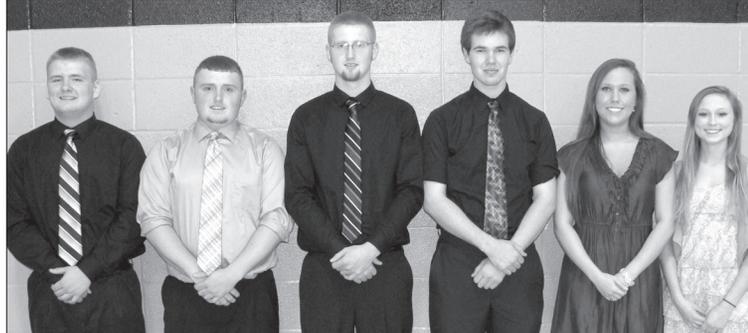
Recipients of 2014 Scholarships facilitated by the WAO Education Foundation



**Muriel Maruska/
Roley Scholarship –**
Molly Roller



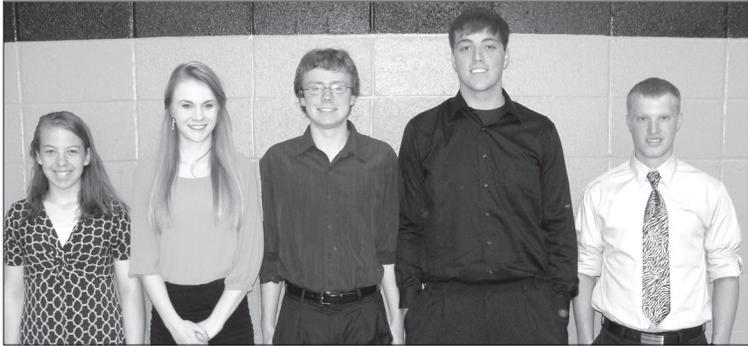
**Jumpstart
Scholarship –**
Caitlyn Magedanz



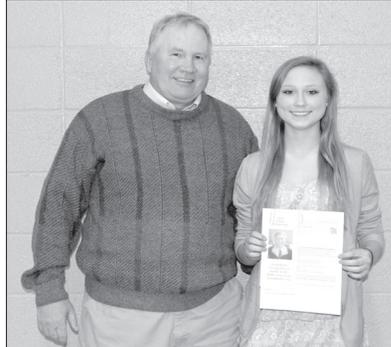
WAO Education Foundation Scholarship – Dylan Stinar, Alex Marcotte, Matt Bergh, Isaac Loeslie, Annie Pahlen, and Cassidy Mercil



Lyle H. Engelstad Scholarship – Katie Kleven, Adam Judovsky, Gunnar Bowman, and Annie Pahlen



Greg M. Haugen Memorial Scholarship – Danelle Pageler, Dara Narlock, Andrew Matelski, Danny Schmidt, and Jase Pederson



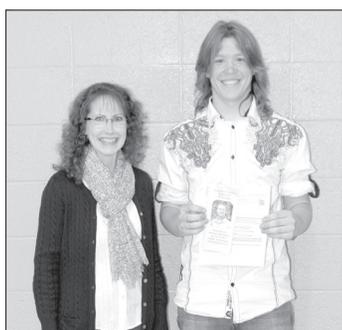
Gary Schuler Endowment Scholarship
Dewey Swanson and Cassidy Mercil



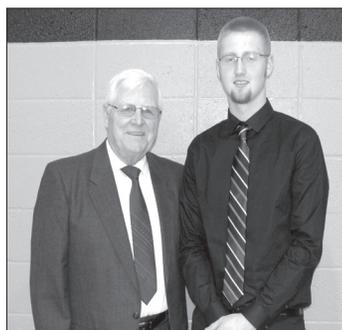
Jeff Evin Memorial Scholarship –
Nicholas Evin, Heather Evin, Alex Marcotte, Wanda Evin, and Betty Evin



**Coach Phil Beving Memorial
Scholarship –** Katlyn Olson
and Isaac Loeslie



**Richard P. Nelson Memorial
Scholarship –** Sheila Nelson
and Gunnar Bowman



Magda Spilde Scholarship –
Sig Silnes and Matt Bergh



Robert L. Strandberg Memorial Scholarship –
Glenn Johnson, Hayden Strickler, Katie Kleven and
Ruth (Strandberg) Johnson



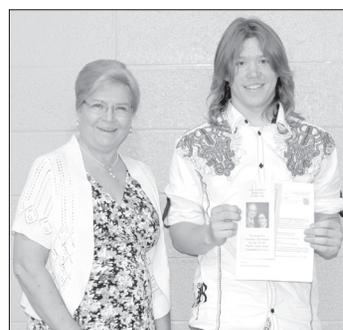
**Alvarado Lions
Scholarship –**
Dylan Stinar



**Richard Melgard Memorial
Scholarship –** Caitlyn Magedanz
and Jesse Pineda



**Fern Gilbert Memorial
Scholarship –** Pat Gilbert
Carlson and Katlyn Olson



**Percy Gilbert Memorial
Scholarship –** Pat Gilbert
Carlson and Gunnar Bowman



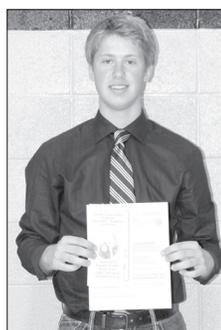
**Vivian Olson
Scholarship –**
Lisa Grega



Myron & Margaret Carlson Scholarship –
Janet Aakre, Dara Narlock, and
Mylo Carlson



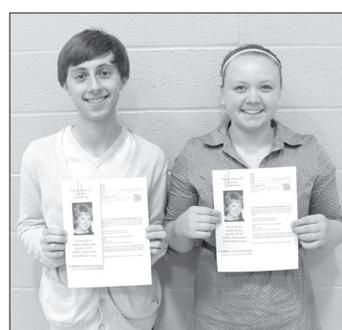
**Newell E. Aas
Memorial Scholarship**
– Matt Bergh



**Earl & Treasure
(Toby) McGregor
Agriculture
Scholarship –**
Hayden Strickler



WHS Class of 1953 Scholarship
– Lisa Grega and Sig Silnes



**Tracy Chruszch Sherouse
Memorial Scholarship –**
Adam Judovsky and
Molly Roller



**Clifford and
Richard Adrian
Memorial
Scholarship –**
Andrew Matelski



**Morris and Ivy
Maruska
Memorial
Scholarship –**
Katlyn Olson

Recipients of 2014 Scholarships facilitated by the WAO Education Foundation



Gary Christofferson Memorial Scholarship – Pat Christofferson, Levina Brosdahl, and Cassidy Mercil



WHS Class of 1957 Scholarship – Treasure Omdahl, Thomas Helgeson, and Delores Sedlacek



WAO Class of 2003 Chris Riopelle Memorial Scholarship – Jesse Pineda



Scott E. Forbes Memorial Scholarship – Thomas Helgeson



William G. Porter Memorial Scholarship – Katlyn Olson



Elizabeth A. Porter Honorary Scholarship – Molly Roller

NEW SCHOLARSHIPS IN 2014

Fern Gilbert Memorial Scholarship

With a special interest in caring and love for education, Fern spent 29 years teaching in the Warren Elementary School. She instilled the love and need for education in many students, her children and grandchildren during her 95 years of life. She was an involved community member and a women's champion golfer. This scholarship was established by her three children in honor and in loving memory of their mother.

Percy Gilbert Memorial Scholarship

With a special interest in caring and a love for education, Percy spent 32 years in the Warren Public Schools as a junior high principal and later as a the senior high counselor. He was "on duty" at every school ballgame, concert, class plays, etc. during his tenure at Warren. He is remembered for being quietly concerned about every student. This scholarship was established by his three children in honor and in loving memory of their father.

WHS Class of 1953 Scholarship

With thanks for a well-rounded education at WHS, it is payback time! This scholarship was established after many class reunion gatherings over the years as a "thank you" for helping the class gain the knowledge that they needed, along with the social skills and conduct to face the world ahead with all of its expectations. The quality of the curriculum and the staff and faculty who mentored them along the way were the key to their success. Now they wish to help students venturing outside of the school walls with their education. This scholarship was established in 2014 by members of the Class of 1953.

Elizabeth A. Porter Honorary Scholarship

Eliz spent 32 years working as a registered nurse where her dedication to the medical field and the community was apparent. She loved the opportunity to work in obstetrics and emergency. She also taught prenatal classes, trained CNA's, worked with the migrant program in the summer and was instrumental in helping bring the Lifeline service to the area. In addition to her medical work, she is very involved with her family, church and many community organizations. Continuing education and quality health care for the community is a high priority in her life today. This scholarship was established by Eliz and Bill Porter.

William G. Porter Memorial Scholarship

William (Bill) Porter dedicated his life's work to helping students become future leaders and find success in the world. Bill was not just a teacher; he had the knack of sharing his knowledge. He taught business courses at WHS for 29 years, each year sharing his expertise on manual and electric typewriters as well as in other business courses. Bill's favorite past times included hunting, fishing, travel^oing and spending time with his family. Bill instilled in his students a love of learning and stressed the importance of always striving to achieve their best. Since continuing education was such a high priority, Bill and Eliz Porter established this scholarship as a memorial.

Gary Christofferson Memorial Scholarship

With a deep appreciation for the opportunities that his education at WHS opened for him and enabling him to work in education most of his life, this scholarship was established. He was a teacher, coach, and advocate for teachers, students, and education through his work with Education Minnesota. Gary died in an accident in August 2013. This scholarship was created by his family in loving memory of Gary.

Chat with the Chairman

Greetings from the WAO Education Foundation!

Spring has finally arrived in the northern valley after a long winter! This past week, 45 scholarships that are facilitated (6 of which are funded by us) by the Foundation were presented to 21 graduating seniors that submitted applications. Some of these are renewable for 4 years of college. Wow! What a boost for the college-bound students along with the college in the classroom classes that many have taken while at WAO.

Thoughts of class reunions are on the minds of many as they are planning visits "home". The Oslo/VNHS All School Reunion will be held on June 21st and many individual classes of the three schools will be holding reunions throughout the summer. It's always an exciting time to meet and renew acquaintances with alumni. We hope that many alumni, family, and friends will participate in our 10th annual golf scramble on July 25th during the Marshall County Fair. The fee remains at \$50.00. You may e-mail us to sign your team up for a fun day of golf, fun, food, and prizes!

The Fulks/Novak Memorial will be dedicated on July 26th at 10:00 AM. This bench and planter will be placed by the bell at the entrance to the WAO HS gym parking lot in memory of two students and a teacher who drowned during a trip to Lake of the Woods in 1947.

We're so pleased to have Carol Bowman as a board member to fill the position vacated by Art Drenckhahn.

Our database is constantly being updated. If you relocate, PLEASE send us an e-mail at edfoundation@wao.k12.mn.us or call us at 218-745-4646 EXT 1317 to give us your new address, e-mail and phone numbers. We certainly appreciate all of the updates that we've already received.

Please consider making a donation to the WAO Education Foundation. If our board can be of any assistance to you with more information, please feel free to contact me or one of our board members. "We Can't Succeed Without You!"

School Grant Established In Tribute To Carol Anderson

A Warren High School alumnus wanted to honor Carol Anderson, a long-time WAO elementary teacher, with a lasting tribute to be called the "Carol J. Anderson Endowment For Education."

She came forward with a challenge for all interested parties to donate to this cause and over \$15,000 was raised. The endowment will be used for direct needs for students at the WAO Elementary and High Schools to help further their classroom education needs.

This is a great honor bestowed to Miss Anderson, who was a great classroom teacher, and, now, as president of the WAO Education Foundation, has spearheaded many fundraising projects for classroom needs and scholarships for WAO graduates.

Anyone wanting to contribute to this fund can send their donation to the WAO Ed. Foundation and designate it for the Carol J. Anderson Endowment For Education.



Duane Swanson, Ed. Foundation Board Member, presents Carol Anderson, long-time chairman of the Ed. Foundation, with a school grant established in her honor.

Pending Scholarship

WHS Class of 1969 Scholarship Fund Raising

The WHS Class of 1969 is still seeking donations to become fully endowed. Any donations to this fund would be greatly appreciated. Please designate on the donation envelope if you are adding to this fund.

The scholarship fund is now at \$6,845.

Tribute and Memorial Gifts

November 1, 2013 – April 30, 2014

In Tribute to Aaron Wall

Lexi Loeslie
Sarah Finseth
In Tribute to Adelaide (Dobias) Vanek
Romelle Vanek Ferris

In Memory of Alden Pederson

Bill & Carol Sedgeman
Dorvin & Lori Wendt
Jim & Karen Pearson
Michael & Judy (Gulden) Weiland
In Memory of Alison Geary
Doug & Jo Sorenson
Jeremy & Jamie Woinarowicz
Mike & Deb Schmidt
Steve & Marie Goodwin
Wayne & Beverly (Hanson) Torgerson

In Tribute to Allie Carl

Roger & Treasure (Soltis) Omdahl

In Tribute to Amber Sannes

Lexi Loeslie

In Memory of Art Bossman

Patty (Bossman) Hines

In Tribute to Ashley VonGroven

Alyssa Loeslie
Thomas Bienek

In Tribute to Bill Sedgeman

Sarah Finseth

In Memory of Carl Johnson

Florence Johnson

In Tribute to Carol J. Anderson

Al & Marilyn Chruszcz
Annabelle's Wish
Annette Merriken
Arlyn & Marilyn (Kuznia) Stroble
Arthur & Charlotte Drenckhahn
Betty (Anderson) Evin
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Bill & Yvonne (Engelstad) Bossman
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Chuck & Lovie (Johnson) Graham
Cliff & Marilyn (Erickson) Bennett
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Dale & Nadine (Anderson) Peterson
Darrel & Melanie (Fulks) Nelson
Dave & Mona (Heggestuen) Schroeder
David & Donna Gehrls
David & Mary (Lundgren) Hauck
Dean & Mary Jo Chandler
Dennis & Elizabeth (Spilde) Anderson
Don & Corrine (Goplin) Slaughter
Don & Ellen (Fillipi) Strickler
Don & Gioranne Loeslie
Donald & Connie (Arnold) Omdahl
Donald & Melba Laidley
Donna (Copp) Drews
Doris (Wimpfheimer) Erickson
Dorothy Oberg
Dorothy (Anderson) Malm
Doug & Jane (Bennett) Safar
Doug & Jo Sorenson
Doug Brown
Dr. Ken Henry

Dr. Tim & Kate Erickson

Dr. W.L. & Janice Lamb

Duane & Jerrilyn (Olson) Potucek

Duane & Shari Swanson

E. Neil & Marilyn (Erickson) Mattson

Earl & Linda Johnson

Ed & Renee (Rehder) Rosendahl

Elizabeth Porter

Ellen Skorseth

Eric & Nancy Mattson

Ericco Tool & Mfg.

Erik, Abigail, & Kennedy Sauro

Fern (Hendrickson) Fleck

Fern Anderson

Frandsen Bank & Trust

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Gary & Stephanie Goroski

Gerald & Suzie (Omdahl) Jevning

Greg & Sandy (Jagol) Johnson

Hazel Hendrickson

Helen (Johnston) Plencner

Ina (Ranstrom) Loeslie

James Boardson

James & Muriel Bateson

James & Paulette (Olson) Thompson

James Boardson

Jay & Jodi Tescher

Jeanette (Nordling) Anderson

Jeanie Ulferts

Jerry & Ginny Kruger

Jerry & Mary (Sorenson) Sedlacek

Jerry & Patrice Pribula

Jerry & Rita Dalzell

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Jim & Janice (Hanson) Pulkrabek

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Ken & Barb Peterson

Ken & JoAnne (Maruska) Kostka

Ken & Kathy Dagoberg

Lee Hestnas

Lila Golden

Lowell & Shirley (Mykleby) Hamrick

Marc Kurz

Marjorie Harlow

Mark & Claudia (Roley) Thompson

Mark & JoAnne (Olson) Saunders

Marla (Madsen) King

Marlys (Aamot) Kohlhasse

Mary Jo Banks

Maynard & JoAnn Laymon

Michael & Donna (Laymon) Miller

Michael & Jan Riopelle

Murray & Betty (VanBaalen) Goodwin

Mylo & Marlene (Bonnette) Carlson

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Nancy (Anderson) Schmitz

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Rodney Carlson

Roger & Treasure (Soltis) Omdahl

Ron & Jean Leverington

Rovella (Franks) Weiland

Sandra (Stone) Forslund

Scott & Tamara (Johnson) Oberg

Selmer & Elaine Heck

Sigvart & Marlene (Wittman) Silnes

Stanley & Marilyn (Strickler) Sirek

Steve & Marie Goodwin

Steven & Catherine Lindenberg

Tatum Schuler

Tim & Linda (Haugen) Conely

Van & Amy Hapka

Vernon & Brenda (Forslund) Borowicz

Wanda Evin

Wayne & Beverly (Hanson) Torgerson

Wayne & Carole (Stroble) Edgar

Wayne & Deanna (Carlson) Zink

Wayne & Shawn Spidahl

William F. Forbes

In Memory of Catherine Sorenson

Sigvart & Marlene (Wittman) Silnes

In Memory of Chief Warrant Officer Anthony Rakowski

John & Lucille Rakowski

In Memory of Chris Riopelle

Class of 2003

In Memory of Christopher Bossman

Bill & Heidi (Anderson) Sabol

In Tribute to Class of 1958

Maybelle (Tucker) Gordon

In Memory of Clifford & Richard Adrian

Garth & Richelle Kruger

In Tribute to Dana Larson

Sarah Finseth

In Tribute to Dennis & Mary (Madsen) Garry

Mylo & Marlene (Bonnette) Carlson

In Tribute to Dennis Carpenter

Sarah Finseth

In Memory of Dennis Vansickle

Carl D. & LaVerne Anderson

Carol J. Anderson

Glenn & Ruth Ann (Lundberg) Johnson

Harold & Joann (Hanson) Skunes

John & Sharon (Strunk) Carlson

Murray & Betty (VanBaalen) Goodwin

In Memory of Diane (Storstad) Brown

Keith & Linda Storstad

In Memory of Donald Novak/Bruce & Deane Fulks

Marvin L. & Hansena Swanson

In Memory of Donald Ranstrom

Carol J. Anderson

Gene Ranstrom

In Memory of Doris Aase

Allyn & Susan Roley

Carol J. Anderson

Elaine (Aase) Myrfield

Wayne & Shawn Spidahl

In Memory of Doris Johnson

Cameo Folz

In Memory of Doris Mae (Bengtson) Bossman

Patty (Bossman) Hines

In Memory of Duane Jagol

Joe & Margie Jagol

In Honor of Eilizabeth Porter

Bill and Eliz Porter

In Memory of Eleanor Wallenberg

Richard & Mary Beth (Maruska) Edman

Roger & Treasure (Soltis) Omdahl

In Memory of Elmer & Janet Sabol

Bill & Heidi (Anderson) Sabol

In Memory of Elsie Marek

Don & Ellen (Fillipi) Strickler

In Memory of Erling Lundgren

Susan (Lundgren) Anderson

In Memory of Evelyn (Fischer) Cernousek

Annette Merriken

In Memory of Evelyn Engstrom

Stan & June (Goplin) Dewerff

In Memory of Fern Gilbert

Mintie Ferguson

In Memory of Gary Christofferson

Patricia Christofferson

In Memory of Gerald Carlson

Betty (Anderson) Evin

Bill & Carol Sedgeman

Dona Nielsen

Duane & Jerrilyn (Olson) Potucek

Murray & Betty (VanBaalen) Goodwin

Richard & Mary Beth (Maruska) Edman

Tony & Michelle Gullikson

In Memory of Gerald Pokrzywinski

Duane & Jerrilyn (Olson) Potucek

In Tribute to Hank Johnson

David Johnson

In Memory of Harry Howard

John & Paddy (Soderberg) Devins

Stan & June (Goplin) Dewerff

In Memory of Harvey Loeslie

Carol J. Anderson

David & Donna Gehrls

Don & Ellen (Fillipi) Strickler

Duane & Jerrilyn (Olson) Potucek

Ed & Linda (Engelstad) Turn

Gerald & Suzie (Omdahl) Jevning

Jim & Karen Pearson

John & Rachel Peterson

Michael & Betty (Bjorgaard) DuBore

Murray & Betty (VanBaalen) Goodwin

Ronald & Sharon (Edgar) Abrahamson

In Memory of Hazel White

Arlyn & Marilyn (Kuznia) Stroble

Gerald & Suzie (Omdahl) Jevning

In Memory of Henry Klegstad

Allyn & Susan Roley

Bill & Carol Sedgeman

Carol J. Anderson

Chuck & Lovie (Johnson) Graham

Don & Ellen (Fillipi) Strickler

Jim & JoAnne (Edgar) Ranstrom

John & Rachel Peterson

Kipp & GERALYN (Kuznia) Loeslie

Michael & Jan Riopelle

Michael & Judy (Gulden) Weiland

Paul & Janet (Carlson) Aakre

Rick & Marie Schmiedeberg

Ron & Jean Leverington

Ronald & Sharon (Edgar) Abrahamson

Steve & Marie Goodwin

Tony & Michelle Gullikson

WAO Staff

In Memory of Herman Schuster

Richard & Marge Verarud

In Memory of Irene Grange

Mintie Ferguson

In Memory of Jean (Parkin) Johnston

Al & Marilyn Chruszcz

Carl D. & LaVerne Anderson

Carol J. Anderson

Chris Johnston

Darrell & Kim Rindy

Don & Ellen (Fillipi) Strickler

Dorothy Oberg

Doug & Jane (Bennett) Safar

Duane & Shari Swanson

Gene Johnston

Glenn & Ruth Ann (Lundberg) Johnson

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Rick & Marie Schmiedeberg

Robert & Barbara Peterson

Robert & Mona Rae Fagerstrom

Steve & Marie Goodwin

Steve & Renae (Anderson) Troyer

Steve L & Tracy Olson

In Memory of Jean Strickler

Bill & Yvonne (Engelstad) Bossman

Carol J. Anderson

Duane & Jerrilyn (Olson) Potucek

Jim & Janice (Hanson) Pulkrabek

Jim & Karen Pearson

John & Rachel Peterson

Mylo & Marlene (Bonnette) Carlson

In Memory of Jerome Quanrud

Betty (Anderson) Evin

Carol J. Anderson

Jim & Diane Sanders

Leona Neegard

Rovella (Franks) Weiland

Steve & Marie Goodwin

Steve & Mary (Ovsak) Gazda

In Memory of Joan Johnson

Allyn & Susan Roley

Bill & Carol Sedgeman

Bill & Yvonne (Engelstad) Bossman

Carol J. Anderson

Fern Anderson

Ken & Barb Peterson

Michael & Judy (Gulden) Weiland

Murray & Betty (VanBaalen) Goodwin

Selmer & Elaine Heck

Steve & Marie Goodwin

In Memory JoAnn (Boardsen) Pinkerton

Harold & Virginia (Anderson) Berg

James Pinkerton

In Tribute to JoAnne Ranstrom

Audrey Bienek

In Memory of Joyce Lunke

Arlyn & Marilyn (Kuznia) Stroble

In Memory of Joye (Potucek) Olson

Bill & Carol Sedgeman

Donations

November 1, 2013 – April 30, 2014

Aaron & Alison Wall
 Al & Marilyn Chruszch
 Aldon & Janice (Botko) Filipi
 Alvarado Lions Club
 Anne (Saetre) Josephson
 Arnette (Johnson) Nelson
 Ben & Erin (Aakre) Anderson
 Ben & Kari (Stinar) Miska
 Bremer Bank
 Brent & Terry Anderson
 Cal & Betty Melgard
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 Carl & Linda (Potucek) Gornowicz
 Carol Borcher
 Carol J. Anderson
 Caroline Sedlacek
 Carolyn Nelson
 Charles & Dolores (Weiland) Zammert
 Charles & Rosemary (Wilkinson) Berget
 Clinton & Vynnette Perkins
 Comstock Township
 Corinne (Carlson) Nelson
 Dale Haakenson
 Dan & Marilyn Edman
 Daniel Hornbaker
 Darlene (Sherry) Sitko
 Darrel & Melanie (Fulks) Nelson
 Dave & Mona (Heggstuen) Schroeder
 David Ulferts
 Dean Dahlman
 Dennis & Elizabeth (Spilde) Anderson
 Don & Ellen (Fillipi) Strickler
 Don & Pam (Howard) Slusar
 Donna (Copp) Drews
 Dorothy Oberg
 Dr. Mark & Kristi Pederson
 Duan M. Bjerke
 Duane & Jerrilyn (Olson) Potucek
 Earl & Toby McGregor
 Ed & Renee (Rehder) Rosendahl
 Eloise (Austinson) Wheeler
 Eric & Mary Stanislawski
 Fern (Hendrickson) Fleck
 Florence (Steer) Rood
 Frances (Pinkerton) Fanfulik
 Frandsen Bank & Trust
 Frandsen Bank & Trust Investments
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 Greg Knoll
 H & S Construction of TRF, Inc.
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 Helen Aas
 Helen (Johnston) Plencner
 James Bustrack
 James Olsen
 Jason & Stacy Hanson
 Jeremy & Jaime Woinarowicz
 JoAnn (Hickman) Menk
 Joey & Casey Pierce
 John & Carol Bowman
 John & LaVerne (Storbakken) Messelt
 John & Lucille Rakowski
 John & Rachel Peterson
 John Short
 Jon & Julie (Fulks) Jonasson
 Jon & Patricia Anderson
 Julie Eklund
 Keith & Karen Poverud
 Keith & Linda (Hoverson) Storstad
 Lee & Kareen Daby
 Lon & Michele Jorgensen

Lyle & Janet (Larson) Anderson
 Lyle & Lydia Bopp
 Madonna (Batko) Dennis
 Margo (Pfeiffer) Buen
 Mark & Deb Maruska
 Mark & Judy (Evin) Flaten
 Mark & Julie (Hess) Nowacki
 Mark & Leanne (Loeslie) Poolman
 Marla (Madsen) King
 Marvin L. & Hansena Swanson
 Matt & Ashley (Hollen) Vongroven
 Mawami Club
 Michael Carlson
 Michael Turgeon
 Michael & Betty (Bjorgaard) DuBore
 Michael & Judy (Gulden) Weiland
 Mike & Chris Ann (Swanson) St. Germain
 Mike & Renee Borowicz
 Monique (DuBore) Collette
 Mylah (Peterson) Olson
 Myron & Irmay Haugen
 Nathan Wozniak
 Pamela (Fulks) Brule
 Patricia (Neegard) Anderson
 Patrick & Ann (Berget) Zavoral
 Patrick & Kathleen (Vansickle) Carr
 Patty (Bossman) Hines
 Paul & Janet (Carlson) Aakre
 Pete & Dr. Mioki Myszkowski
 Petter & Stacy (Beving) Kommedal
 Price & Donna Jenkins
 Randy & Wanda Gubrud
 Richard & Barbara Olson
 Richard & Margery (Torkelson) Hegrenes
 Richard & Mary Beth (Maruska) Edman
 Rick & Marie Schmiedeberg
 Robert & Delores (Elseth) Ricker
 Robert & Inez (Nelson) Schwegler
 Robert & Sharon (Nordin) Hegland
 Rodney Carlson
 Roger Quern
 Ronald & Mary Nowacki
 Russell & Susan Miller
 Ruth (Kasprick) Beiswenger
 Ryan & Dana (Adolphson) Larson
 Scott & Tamara (Johnson) Oberg
 Sharon (Botko) Kays
 Shirley (Godel) Cockrell
 Sigvart & Marlene (Wittman) Silnes
 Stanley Maynard
 Stanley & Marilyn (Strickler) Sirek
 Stanley Turnlund
 Stephen & Elizabeth Murray
 Steven & Catherine Lindenberg
 Sylvester & Carol Vanyo
 Tatum Schuler
 Taylor & Amber (St. Germain) Sannes
 Thrivent Financial
 Tim & Linda (Haugen) Conely
 Tim & Ruth Finseth
 Todd & Jan (Narlock) Mortimer
 Todd & Kirsten Carlson
 Tom & Jan Aafedt
 Tom & Jayne Anderson
 Tom & Kay (Selnes) Dorrance
 Van & Amy Hapka
 Vernon & Brenda (Forslund) Borowicz
 Wade & Judi Johnson
 Wal-Mart TRF
 Warren Auto Repair
 Wayne & Beverly (Hanson) Torgerson
 Wayne & Carole (Stroble) Edgar
 Wayne & Shawn Spidahl

2014 Class Reunions

WHS 1944 - July 26

Neil Mattson
 218-745-4915

AHS 1949-1950

2nd or 3rd Thurs. in Aug.
Alvarado Corn Feed Day
 Marilyn Erickson Mattson
 218-745-4915

WHS 1959 - August 22-23

Bemidji, MN
 Judy Johnson Dallmann
juddal@cableone.net

WHS 1962 - July 26 4-9

70th Birthday Bash

Micks
 John Johnson
jjjohnson@wiktel.com

WHS 1964 - July 23-26

Dale Ljunggren
duck_fuzz56762@yahoo.com
 218-201-0315

OHS 1964 - June 20

Janice Sherlock Smidt and Sue

Martin Gottlieb
Jan_smidt@hotmail.com
gottliebsusan@aol.com

WHS 1969 - July 26

Jane Bennett Safar
jane_safar@yahoo.com
 218-201-2462

WHS 1974 - July 26

Darlene Torgerson Dvorak and

Sheila Bodell Hoerner
drttdvorak@msn.com
sheilabodell@hotmail.com

OHS 1984 - July 18 - 19

Joni Lind McEnroe
joni.mcenroe@email.und.edu

WHS 1984 - July 25-26

Sharon Larson
 218-745-5688

WA 1994 - July 25

Jeanna Myrfield Kujava
 218-843-2926

WAO 2004 - July 25

Micks 7:00 p.m.
 Laura Jenkins Ondrovich
lauraj199@hotmail.com
 218-201-0460

OHS and VNHS ALL SCHOOL

REUNION - June 21

Alerus Center Ballroom
 Dianne Boroski
dboroski@hotmail.com

WHS 1989

July 23 & 26

Missy Jones
missylynnjones89@yahoo.com
 FB Missy Jones
 701-739-2714

OSLO HIGH SCHOOL - VALLEY NORTH HIGH SCHOOL ALL SCHOOL REUNION

will be held on **Sat. June 21, 2014**, at the Alerus Center Ballroom in Grand Forks, ND. Registration is 4 - 6 pm with Social Hour. Meal at 6 pm, Elvis Performs at 7:30 pm & Dance to Kenny and the Classics from 8:30 - 11:30 pm.

Class Reunions

Please contact the Ed Foundation with your class reunion details. We can give you our most current addresses for your classmates. We ask that you give us any address updates that you become aware of.

Where are they now . . .

Carolyn (Torkelson) Beneke, WHS 1967, was featured recently in the January edition of Minnesota Monthly, a Minnesota public radio publication. She was named one of the "Best Doctors for Women 2014." She is listed under Family Practice at the U of M Medical Center, Fairview, in Minneapolis. Carolyn lives in Shakopee, MN, with husband Brad. They have a daughter and one grandchild.

Corporal Troy Vanyo, ALV 1988, has been recognized for 20 years with the Grand Forks Police Department. Troy and wife **Tammy (Woinarowicz), WHS 1991**, live in Alvarado. She is employed by the Corrections Department as a corrections agent in Grand Forks. They have two boys, Ian and Kaden.

During the "worst winter ever", **Linda Short, WHS 1974**, chose to relocate to sunny California. She was featured in the Grand Forks Herald during one of the region's worst blizzards. Linda spent 32 hours stranded at the GF Airport, with her flight cancelled and nowhere to go. That sums up the kind of winter we had. The Valley has endured several major blizzards and school cancellations with not so welcome makeup days to follow.

After 34 years working in and serving the Warren community, **Duane Fillipi, WHS 1967**, has retired, selling his financial business to Up North Financial, owned by brothers, **Daryl, WHS 1976**, and **Darren, WHS 1983, Evavold** of East Grand Forks. Duane and Marie have moved to Leek Lake near Vergas, MN, where they will enjoy more time with their five children and seven grandchildren.

In a recent Fargo Forum newspaper article, the writer was reminiscing about rock and roll bands of long ago. He wondered whatever happened to the band called *Jerry LeRoy and the Arrows*. The band originated in Thief River Falls and was popular in the late 50's and early 60's. The Sersland brother's **Jerry LeRoy, ALV 1960**, deceased, was lead singer and brother, **John, ALV 1950**, played drums. We learned that John found that the band was not very profitable and went on to teach school for a short time. He worked for the Corp of Engineers for 30 years, retiring in 1990. He now lives in Omaha. *Jerry LeRoy and the Arrows* often played at Carpenter's Corner and the Maple Lake Pavilion in Mentor, which is a memory all in itself.

Three WAO Alumni played for the Northland Pioneer's Women's Basketball Team at Northland College in Thief River Falls this past season. **Sarah Durand, WAO 2012**, daughter of David and Michelle Durand, **Bailey Jenkins, WAO 2013**, daughter of Price, **WHS 1984**, and **Donna Jenkins**, and **Megan Weiland, WAO 2013**, daughter of Mike and **Judy (Gulden), WHS 1985, Weiland**, all helped earn the first NJCAA National Championship for the school. The Pioneers entered the tournament as #7 seed. Sarah was named Tournament MVP, and later received the honor of NJCAA Division III Player of the year. She also scored over 1,000 points during the season. Sarah has signed to play at Bemidji State University next year. Congratulations girls!

Scott Dagoberg, WAO 2002, has moved back to the Midwest from Boise, Idaho, to take a position at Bremer Bank in Grand Forks, ND. He has eight years of experience and is currently working as a Business Banker. Scott and wife, Ashlee, who is employed at Altru in the Learning and Development Department, have one daughter, Amelie.

Michelle (Fillipi) Blanck, WHS 1991, and family have moved from South Korea to Macedonia in Europe. She and husband, Daren, teach in an English school, recently completing the first term of their two-year commitment. They have two children, Elijah and Sophia.

Fusion Boys Track Team Wins Section 8A True Meet



Congrats to the Boys Track Team for making it to State!

WAO to the Crown

(continued from page 1)

Ed Foundation: After graduating, why did you pick Concordia College for your next level of education? What was your major? When did you graduate?

Megan: I decided to attend Concordia in Moorhead for undergrad because it felt like home to me. Something about the campus, the people, and the opportunities made the school exactly the right fit. I've since advised numerous high school seniors to consider the same intangible "it feels right" property of a school. That's what's going to carry you through when you're stressed, busy, and agonizing over your future! I double-majored in Religion and English writing, with a minor in Speech Communication and Theatre Arts. I graduated in 2002.

Ed Foundation: What sparked your interest to get involved with beauty pageants? What was the progression of winning pageants that led to the Miss Minnesota pageant?

Megan: I was honestly never interested in beauty pageants! I never wore makeup and owned maybe one dress. But Brenda Borowicz, who was my childhood babysitter, had gotten involved in the Miss Marshall County pageant. She asked if I'd be interested in competing, and I have to admit that I wasn't. When she told me that scholarship money was involved, I knew I was willing to give it a shot. I am so glad I did. I have met the most incredible young women and volunteers from across the state and country because of the opportunities I gained in the Miss America program. Many of these people are still close friends of mine today. I have a new level of self-confidence and strength because of my pageant life. Plus, I'm much better with mascara and skirts. I first competed at Miss Marshall County in 2000, where I was 1st runner-up. I won Miss Marshall County in 2001, so I competed at Miss Minnesota 2002 where I won the Miss America Academic Award and was in the top 7. I competed at three other local pageants in the Twin Cities area, and became Miss Coon Rapids 2003. I won Miss Minnesota 2003 and was the overall talent and interview winner. I didn't place in the top 15 at Miss America, but I like to say that's because I was number 16. Just missed it!

Ed Foundation: What was your first thought when you were announced as Miss Minnesota? What were some of your favorite activities or events you attended during your year as Miss Minnesota?

Megan: When I was announced as Miss Minnesota, I think I felt like I was living someone else's life! While I knew that this was something I could achieve, and that I'd worked very hard to make it happen, I still wasn't convinced it was something I would actually attain. I was really overwhelmed by everyone's excitement for me, which sort of confirmed how unbelievable the whole thing was. One of my favorite things to do as Miss Minnesota was to travel to the local pageants all over the

state. I got to know lots of the titleholders and committee members very well, and so it felt like a mini-reunion every time I came to visit them. Plus, I loved having a chance to sing at the pageants. The people were always my favorite part of the Miss America system, so the more I got to interact with contestants, titleholders, and volunteers, the more fun I had.

Ed Foundation: What was it like competing with all those other beautiful women for Miss America? Was what you accomplished the fulfillment of a lifetime dream or was it a whim of entering a contest that mushroomed beyond your wildest dreams?

Megan: Competing at Miss America was definitely a whim come true! I had never, ever imagined I would do such a thing. I remember watching Miss America on television as a kid and thinking that those women were so talented, so poised, so intelligent, so far beyond what I could ever accomplish! It goes to show that we simply cannot dream what life has for us.

Ed Foundation: What did it feel like competing on a national stage in Atlantic City? What are some of your best memories of the Miss America pageant?

Megan: I was so excited to perform my talent onstage at Miss America, as it represented so much hard work and passion for me. When I stepped off stage, I was exhilarated. A stage hand was helping me take my body mic off, and I commented how that was the biggest stage on which I would ever perform. He looked at me and said, "I wouldn't be so sure of that." It felt so powerful to have a guy who sees all sorts of talented people come and go recognize what I had accomplished and that still greater things were ahead. But outside of the onstage competition, all my best memories were of my fellow contestants! Miss Wyoming and I became great friends, and I was even a bridesmaid at her wedding. Our parents both went to school in Fargo, and we would jokingly talk back and forth in thick Fargo accents all day. I think the other girls got a little annoyed! Miss Nebraska slept on my couch in Las Vegas while passing through to be an actress in Los Angeles, Miss Iowa and I shared lots of great inside jokes, and Miss North Dakota and I even did a joint appearance. They were all incredible women, and I'm so proud to consider them my sisters.

Ed Foundation: When did you decide to study to become a minister?

Megan: While I was in my freshman year of college, I faced a tough choice. I was pre-law, but wasn't motivated to take any of the courses. When I evaluated the classes I did want to take, I realized many of them were religion classes. I also was called aside by one of my religion professors who strongly encouraged me to consider a profession involving theology. I was never sure that being a pastor was where I was headed until I was actually at seminary. There, surrounded by the right classes, professors, and colleagues, I

started to realize that God really could be calling me to this particular kind of work.

Ed Foundation: Why did you decide to enter the ministry?

Megan: At first, I wasn't sure I could be a pastor. After all, I'm not exactly a perfect person! It took me a while to realize that pastors aren't perfect. Pastors are human, and that's what makes them perfect. I decided to enter the ministry because I began to understand that my gifts and passions were perfectly suited to pastoral ministry. And maybe all my quirks would make me an even better pastor!

Ed Foundation: What was more challenging: competing in beauty pageants or studying for the ministry?

Megan: I have always joked that being a pastor and being a beauty queen are really pretty similar, and it's really just the wardrobe that's different. Both pastors and pageant girls champion causes close to their hearts, learn to manage people well, build relationships and networks, are passionate about music and the arts, must be strong leaders and speakers, and have to be fearless about revealing who they are and what they do. I don't wear evening gowns and four inch heels any more, but otherwise pageants and pastoral ministry are pretty compatible.

Ed Foundation: What earthly person(s) do you feel have been the most influential in your life?

Megan: I have been truly blessed to be surrounded with loving, caring, influential people. I have had great teachers and professors, compassionate pastors, faithful friends, and now an incredible spouse. But the most influential to me have got to be my parents, who have always challenged me to be my very best self, holding me to a high standard and loving me through all my crazy decisions. I could not have been who I am without them, and not just because I carry their genetic material! To this day, there is no one in my life who is more supportive, more honest, and more encouraging for me than my mom and dad. They have kicked my butt more than a few times, and I needed it.

Now Megan is a wonderful role model who is "kicking butt". She has evolved from a person who was influenced by a very diverse and caring group of people to someone who is making a great impact on more people than she can count. She is truly among the best of the best of WAO alumni and is a shining example of why the Education Foundation is so proud to serve students of the WAO communities.



Warren/Alvarado/Oslo Public School

Education Foundation

Office: 745-4646, Ext. 1317
P.O. Box 125, Warren, MN 56762
e-mail: edfoundation@wao.k12.mn.us
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Life for our children, our grandchildren, and the neighborhood children will be better because of your efforts and contributions. Be a part of this campaign to ensure that our children are equipped to succeed.

WAO students using items purchased by the Ed. Foundation



These students are using colored sentence cubes used to construct sentences.



The children are copying geometric shapes and numerals using colored bands on geoboards.



Students use geoboards for math activities.



This student is using a page from the cut and paste sight word sentence book.



These foldable offices allow children to work without distraction.



Students using magnetic consonants and vowels to form words.

News and Notes . . .

Congratulations to the WAO music department for an excellent production of "Bye Bye Birdie". Out of the cast of 50 kids, 27 are second generation WAO students. **Mona (Heggstuen) Schroeder, ALV 1980**, directed the musical, with alumni, **Linda (Potucek) Gornowicz, WHS 1971, Mike Cheney, WHS 1969, Ken Hanson, WHS 1973, Trista (Anderson) Lund, WAO 1996, and Dillon Novak, WAO 2014**, working behind the scenes.

This is the third rendition of "Bye Bye Birdie" at Warren High. This year, **Peter Durand** played the role of Birdie. In 1984, **Mike DuBore** made the girls swoon and in 1997, **Mark Thompson** was the teenage idol. The most memorable character in all three productions was Mae Peterson, the interfering mother. This year, **Katie Kleven** brought the house down as Mae. In 1997, **Chelsea Backstrom**, was definitely a crowd pleaser and one can never, EVER forget **John Emerson** playing that role in 1984!

Linda Donnelly, from Woodbridge, VA, recently sent an 1889 graduation program featuring the first Warren High School graduation class. The class consisted of 2 students, **Anna Swanby**, valedictorian, and Linda's grandfather, **Olaf Henry Taralseth**, salutatorian. She thought it would be a fun piece of history to share, as 2014 is the 125th anniversary of Warren Public Schools.

In a note from **Kent Hanson, WHS 1980**, son of former **WHS Superintendent, Melvin Hanson**, he writes, "When my dad moved to Warren, he had found his home. He was incredibly committed to making the Warren school district as good as it could be, and he loved every aspect of his job. The role of superintendent fit him like a glove, and when he finally retired in 1988, I believe he was quite sad to turn in his keys. That was over 25 years ago." Mel passed away January 17, 2014. Kent resides in San Francisco, CA.

Jason Boman, VNHS 1991, was recently promoted to Chief Deputy at the Marshall County Sheriff's department. Jason has been with the force since 1995. He is married to **Becky (Michalski), VNHS 1992**. They live in Oslo and have three children.

Vern's Standard Station, owned by Vern and Alice Flaten for many years, has recently been purchased by **Joe Pierce, WAO 1999**, and **Mike Rosendahl, WAO 2002**. It will be renamed *175 Corner Store* and continue to serve the Warren community. Both Joe and Mike farm with R & R Farms near Warren. Joe and wife Casey have two children. Mike and wife **Mandy (Kuznia) Rosendahl, WAO 2002**, have a new baby girl, Makaela Nicole.

Our sympathy to the Flaten family as Alice passed away May 3, 2014.

Ryan Aakre, WHS 1993, owner and operator of Signature Landscapes, Fargo, competed recently in the residential landscape and marketing contest. The North Dakota Nursery and Green House Association awarded him first place in the residential backyard division. Ryan lives near Moorhead with wife, Angie, and children, Caden, Taylor and Avery.

Minnesota Highway Patrolman, **Lt. Brian Cheney, WHS 1994**, was thanked recently in a Fargo Forum newspaper article "Kindness is Contagious". He was called "patient, professional and compassionate" as he administered to the immediate family of victims involved in a tragic car accident. With care and concern, he also visited the only survivor of that crash in the hospital. Brian and wife, Janelle, live in Moorhead. They have three children.

Recently, **Rick Hendrickson, Oslo 1965**, suffered a heart attack outside his home. Mail carrier, Jake Craik, doing his rounds, found him lying on the sidewalk and

started CPR. There is a happy ending, as they met recently giving Rick a chance to thank Jake. Hendrickson has lived in Oslo most of his life, working as a civilian employee at the GF Air Force Base. He proudly boasts of nine grandchildren. Jake is married to **Mallory (Westberg), WAO 2004**. They have two children and live in Warren where Mallory owns and operates Mallory's Studio. It is her wonderful photography that decorates the new hospital facility in Warren. She features local landscapes and animals, capturing a true feel of our rural community.

Receiving a note from **Ann (Berget) Zavoral, WHS 1964**, she remembers her classmate, **Ric Sorenson**, who passed away last year. They had created a Scandinavian wall hanging and presented it to the school 50 years ago. Is it still displayed somewhere in the school?? We are checking. The class of 1964 will celebrate their 50th class reunion, July 23-27. Ann and husband Pat live in Fargo, where he is City Administrator. Ann is retired from a successful career at Concordia College in Moorhead. They have three children and three grandsons.

Kudos to the WAO Foundation...

"Thank you for selecting me for the scholarships I received. I am enjoying my time studying at UND."

Adam Olson, WAO 2013

"Thank you for the scholarship. Without donors like you, many students would not be able to attend college."

Megan Weiland, WAO 2013

"Thank you for the grant to attend the 2014 Creativity Festival at Bemidji State University." **WAO 7th grade students and Mrs. Lund**

"Thank you for the useful learning tools for my classroom." **Mary Beth Edman**

"Thank you so much for the generous contribution to our reading and math needs." **Marilyn, Renee and kindergarten children**

"Thank you for the donation toward our i-tunes literature library. We have purchased all the audio books used in 7-12 English classes." **Mary Stanislawski and Alice Sather**

"Thank you for the generous donation towards the e-books and the Jr. Library Guild renewal. Our library has benefited greatly." **Jeanne Johnson**

"Thank you for all you do for the district and all the kids we serve and invest in." **Kari Miska**

"Thank you for the support in my transition from preschool to third grade. With your help I was able to enhance and organize my classroom library." **Cindy Franks**

"Thanks to the WAO Education Foundation, the instrumental music department was the proud recipient of some quality band instruments. An additional Yamaha euphonium was purchased, and the old marimba was replaced with a new Yamaha marimba that has over four octaves. A tuba mouthpiece was also provided through the Foundation. These instruments were badly needed, and were put to use immediately upon arrival. Recently, a student used the new marimba for his contest piece, and the judge wrote that the performance brought tears to her eyes! Indeed, the WAO Education Foundation's support of our band program is greatly appreciated!" **William Sedgeman, Instrumental Music Instructor**

Recently Deceased Alumni, Staff & Friends

These are death notices of alumni and staff that we have received. If you have additions or corrections, please contact the Education Foundation.

- 1933 OHS Maybel (Oas) Czapiewski
- 1934 OHS Esther (Brodahl) Eide
- 1935 WHS Ralph Knudsen
- 1937 OHS Evelyn Engstrom
- 1940 WHS William "Bud" Anderson
- 1940 AHS Margaret (Sersland) Lydick
- 1940 WHS Milton (Milt) Willer
- 1940 WHS Robert Swanson
- 1940 WHS Leone (Mendick) Awes
- 1941 WHS Melba Williamson
- 1943 WHS Clarinda (Oberg) Huset
- 1943 WHS Luella (Jadeke) Potter
- 1945 WHS Jerome Quanrud
- 1945 OHS Bernadine (Holter) Awes
- 1945 WHS Vernon Roley
- 1945 WHS Dagne (Paulson) Myra
- 1948 WHS Joye (Potucek) Olson
- 1948 WHS Kenneth Johnson
- 1949 AHS Joan (Edman) Bergstrom
- 1950 WHS Jean (Parkin) Johnston
- 1950 WHS Richard Jensen
- 1951 WHS Nancy (Kruger) Olson
- 1951 AHS Rev. Donald Ranstrom
- 1952 AHS Stephen Vanyo, Jr.
- 1952 WHS Dennis VanSickle
- 1955 OHS Ruth Pribula
- 1955 WHS Ronald E. Parkin
- 1961 WHS Arlene Mercedes (Pletsch) Straus
- 1962 OHS Robert Carpenter
- 1965 WHS Carole (O'Keefe) Hebert
- 1966 WHS Gerald Pokrzywinski
- 1984 OHS Diane (Storstad) Brown
- 1989 VNHS Dennis Boppre
- WHS Superintendent – Melvin Hanson
- Oslo Teacher – Rebecca Rennie
- Alvarado Cook - Mildred Olson
- Warren Para – Doris Aase
- Alvarado Teacher – Lawrence Gross
- Warren Para – Joan Johnson
- WAO Bus Driver – Henry Klegstad
- Friend – Harvey Loeslie
- Friend – Nick Plencner
- Friend - Jean Strickler

The WAO Education Foundation appreciates any information sent in to be shared by past graduates from the Warren, Alvarado, and Oslo area. Keep them coming!

Thank You

We, the board of directors of the Warren-Alvarado-Oslo Education Foundation, would like to sincerely thank all that supported the Foundation in the past months and years.

We have heard from many of you. Many of you have paid dues above and beyond what you needed to send or have given memorials or donations. We sincerely appreciate all your support. Without it, we would be very limited with our efforts.

Through your generosity, we are able to honor many requests made by the teaching staff at WAO and award scholarships for secondary education.

Name _____ This gift is in memory of in tribute to

Please specify here whom should receive notification of this gift
 Notice to: _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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Your annual supportive membership is established with a gift of \$25 or more. For accumulated gift totals of \$100 or more, an engraved recognition plate bearing your name will be added to the Recognition Wall in the Warren/Alvarado/Oslo School.

www.wao.k12.mn.us email: edfoundation@wao.k12.mn.us (218) 745-4646

Enclosed is my contribution to support the work of the WAO Education Foundation

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 Class of: WHS _____ OHS _____ AHS _____ WAO _____
 Other: (specific) _____

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ Email _____

I would like information on the benefits of planning a gift to the WAO Education Foundation through my will an insurance policy

Make checks payable to: WAO Education Foundation
 (All gifts to WAO Public Education Foundation are tax deductible.)



Tristan Howard makes good use of the new mouthpiece that was made possible by the Education Foundation. The tuba he is holding was an Education Foundation purchase a few years ago.



Dylan Nicholls is pictured with the new Yamaha marimba that was purchased through the Education Foundation. Dylan received a perfect 40 score on his contest selection when he performed on this new instrument at the recent Region 8A solo contest.



◀ Koby Johnson and Dakota Howard hold the new Yamaha Euphonium that they share between the junior and senior high band periods. The purchase of this instrument allowed their old instrument to be used by an elementary band student.

Moving Forward with Technology at WAO Schools

by District Technology Coordinator, Heidi Thorstenson

As stated by Bill Owens, "We know that, when it comes to technology and the economy, if you're not constantly moving forward, then - without a doubt - you're moving backwards and will be left in the dust." Preparing our students for the 21st century technological skills is a mission we continuously strive for in order to be successful in the world in which we are preparing them for.

Recently, the district purchased two pairs of Google Glasses, created by Google, to share with students and to allow the students to explore their capabilities. Google Glass is a wearable computer with an optical head-mounted display (OHMD). It was developed by Google with the mission of displaying information in a smartphone-like hands-free format. Wearers communicate with the Internet via natural language voice commands. We are also considering piloting some online courses at WAO high school in the next year or so. This would allow students from anywhere to take a course from Warren Alvarado Oslo.

As part of moving forward and making sure our students are prepared, we have a K-6 computer teacher that spends 25 minutes/week with each grade level. Microsoft Office, Podcasting, iMovie, creating their own music, keyboarding skills etc. are some of the applications that are taught by Heidi Thorstenson, the district technology coordinator. Each year, the students are starting school with computer skills at 5 & 6 years old.

Currently, we have one computer lab of 37 iMacs and two iPad mobile labs with 20 iPads in each lab at the elementary. At the high school, we have 20 Macbook laptops in the Business classroom, 25 iMacs in a computer lab, two mobile carts with 15 MacBook Pro laptops in each lab for check out & 15 iMacs in the art classroom for instruction and yearbook. Each teacher has an iPad and an updated computer for instruction. Twenty-four SMARTBoards are in the district that are used in the classrooms for instruction.

During the summer of 2014, the Warren Alvarado Oslo school district website will be redone by Heidi Thorstenson. It will go live in early July of 2014. It will be the same address; www.wao.k12.mn.us

The goal for redoing the district and school web sites is to make it a resource that is easy to navigate for all communities, students & staff with up-to-date information.

As you can see, at Warren Alvarado Oslo, moving forward with technology has been a priority for years. Keeping up with the newest and greatest technology "gadgets" is one area we continue to thrive at. We may not find a right fit for classroom use with all the new technology gadgets, but we feel it is important to expose our WAO students to as much as we can, so when they leave WAO they have technological skills to move forward with their own personal goals.

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Warren-Alvarado-Oslo Public School Education Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofit organization to benefit education.

Gifts of \$100 or more to the Foundation are recognized on an attractive donor board located in the east entrance of the high school.

Please Contribute The Ed Foundation would appreciate your financial support, so we can continue to send you this newsletter.

Give Us Your Ideas Let us know what is interesting to you or what other information you'd like to see in this newsletter.