

## TOPEKA HIGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY News from the Paul Fink Room

THS Historical Society/Alumni Association, 800 SW Tenth Ave, Topeka, KS 66612 Website: thshistoricalsociety.org Phone: 785-295-3200 Email: thshs2001@yahoo.com Vol. 39 No.2, June 2020

## **Trojans Making a Difference**



Much has been reported in the news about the response of individuals and companies using 3D printing to respond to the lack of PPE for healthcare workers and first responders. Topeka Public Schools are among those who have been using technology resources to respond to this need.

A little over a year ago a 12 printer 3D printing lab was purchased and installed at

TCALC (Topeka Center for Advanced Learning and Careers) as a part of the Engineering and Applied Math pathway. Students enrolled in that pathway come to TCALC from all TPS high schools and as a part of their courses they learn about 3D printing. They learn how to download models from the internet, prepare those models for printing (slicing) and adjust and run the printers to create finished products. They also design models and teach other students at TCALC how to do 3D printing.

As a response to the Covid-19 crisis, the TCALC printers were put into service and have, to date, printed over 100 masks that are earmarked for first responders in our community. This project was funded by the Topeka Public Schools Foundation who purchased the 3D printing plastic filament, elastic and filters that are all required to create a finished mask like the one shown

Ms. Evelyn Eubank is the Engineering Pathway instruc-

tor who initiated the project and printed the masks with the assistance of Topeka West senior, Garrett Jones. Due to social distancing requirements, assembly of the masks was done at the Eubank home with a great deal of help from a familiar Topeka High face, Steve Eubank, retired THS Choral Director who happens to be Evelyn's husband.





"Keep Calm and Empower On." Those are the guiding words for the YWCA Northeast Kansas as it

navigates the challenges of caring for the vulnerable during a pandemic.

Leading the charge is a Topeka High School graduate: Kathleen Marker (1971, the YWCA's CEO.

"Like a lot of non-profits in the greater Topeka community, working in crisis mode is not new to us; adapting our services to fit the changing needs of Topeka and Shawnee County is not new to us," Marker said. "Being resourceful when we have limited resources or uncertain resources is our norm. That's what keeping calm and empowering on is."

Of particular concern during the COVID-19 pandemic are ensuring continued assistance to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking at a time when help is needed even more than ever, and keeping the childcare center open to serve children of essential workers, Marker said.

Topeka police have reported an uptick in domestic violence since the start of the pandemic due to sheltering in place, social distancing and job losses.

"At the root of violence in relationships is power and control - the desire to establish and maintain power and control on the abuser's part over their environment," Marker said. "When an abuser loses that control that exacerbates the risk of violence. The financial stress alone creates a ticking time bomb for some families with a history of domestic violence.

"Being forced to shelter in place removes

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many of the coping strategies that victims use to avoid exposure to their abuser. We are especially concerned that survivors may be unable to reach out for help due to their abusive partner monitoring their behaviors while they are in isolation. Here in northeast Kansas, what we are seeing is that the clients who are coming to us have experienced more severe abuse or trauma. We believe this is because they are waiting to leave their abuser, thinking they can ride things out." During the first week of sheltering in place, the YWCA saw a drop in the number of clients reaching out for help.

"We feared they thought we were closed and not offering services," Marker said. "I reached out to the Shawnee County District Attorney and our Board member who is employed by Kansas Gas Service and shared my concern. The Kansas Gas Foundation and the Shawnee County District Attorney helped us produce a public service announcement that has been airing on all of the local television stations and other media. Our numbers steadily increased. With the support of the Topeka Community Foundation, Topeka Collegiate school, the United Way, and private donors, we have been able to cover the increased costs in serving our clients."

When statewide safe-at-home orders were issued, the YWCA staff told clients who were living in the Y's residence for domestic abuse survivors that they would need to shelter in place at the residence. The YWCA began placing new clients in hotel rooms. "What this has meant is that we have had to provide more meals for the folks we are sheltering both in our shelter and in hotel rooms," Marker said. "We also help clients prepare protection from abuse orders filed teers who are like-minded." with the county. Our advocates keep in close contact with the clients we are sheltering and support them in any way we can, including reaching out to community mater. partners that can offer support such as housing, household items, and food."

The pandemic makes the stress of domestic violence worse.

"Being able to just leave and stay with family members or friends may not be an option when folks are quarantining," Marker said. "Having financial independence can be difficult for a person in an abusive relationship when the abuser has control over finances. Finding a job to gain independence is difficult in this environment and many times there are children to consider. How do you protect children from the violence in the home?

"Domestic violence is complex and difficult to navi-

gate in the best of times and the pandemic has amplified so many of these challenges. We are hearing from leaders and experts in the domestic violence arena across the country that the fallout from the pandemic will be with us for some time."

As for serving children of essential workers, Marker said, "Our daycare center remains open and as always we work to make sure the kids have routines and normalcy in their lives. We stress empathy for one another and model that behavior. We give kids the opportunity to share how they are feeling and help them with ways to express their emotions in a positive way. The children have taught us how to adapt." Marker said the YWCA has experienced a decline in revenue due to the pandemic, so several anonymous donors have stepped up to match up to \$10,000 in donations that the public makes. More information on donating is available at www.ywcaneks.org/donate. Marker hasn't always worked in the nonprofit world but has found that kind of work is her passion. She spent more than 20 years as a commercial banker in

"When I moved back to Kansas in 2013, I was intentional about working in the non-profit arena and I can't imagine doing anything else," she said. "This isn't a job to me. This is an opportunity to be part of a movement shared by YWCAs across the country. I'm passionate about the mission and how we put that into action in northeast Kansas. I am so lucky to come to work every day and be inspired by staff and volun-

northeast Kansas before moving to France for 12

years where she managed international business de-

velopment for a French biotech company and taught

graduate students courses related to managing diversi-

Marker said she is proud Topeka High is her alma

"My husband and two of our daughters are also Topeka High alumnae," she said. "Our youngest daughter, Allison, always felt left out when we would reminisce about fond memories of Topeka High and what a special place it is. Since she attended middle school, high school and college in France she missed out." But since school didn't start in France until mid-September, one August while visiting Topeka Allison was treated to a trip to Topeka High by a family friend who was then a THS student – Michelle Neis (2006) who is a current member of the Topeka High School Historical Society Board.

"Allison got to see what a special place it is for herself," Marker said.

#### **Memorial Rocks**

Julie Jacobsen Phillips (2001) has always been a nurturer and giver. She started working with kids when she was 15 and has been working with "at-risk" and traditionally underserved youth for 13 years. She worked at Big Brothers Big Sisters, Boys & Girls Clubs and Juvenile Intake. She spent 3 years at Topeka High doing case management and providing programming to help kids stay in school for Communities in Schools of Mid-America. Last year she became the grant writer for the program. She is a proud Topeka mom of two sons who is honoring people killed by gunfire by painting and placing rocks throughout the city.

To date, Phillips has created and placed over 100 orange rocks, some were her former students.

She's a part of the group Moms Demand Action, a group fighting for public safety from gun violence. The group wanted to do something for the virtual Wear Orange Day, so they painted rocks.

Phillips wanted to do something different by adding names. She started with the kids she knew who died from a gun.

"I've worked with so many at-risk youths that have lost their lives to gun violence and are judged by their choices," Phillips said. "We don't take enough time to realize that it was a life cut short and that it was a life full of potential."

She wanted to add more names, so she put the word out to get the names of the lives that were cut short. "I reached out on Facebook to friends, and the names started pouring in," Phillips said. "Once I got to 50, I figured, if it's already this big, I might as well just let Everyone share names."



The rocks all have a name and an age. The oldest age, almost 70 years old, with about three rocks dedicated to unborn babies.

"Of all the statistics I could share, the simplest and most powerful was the age," Phillips said.

The rocks can be found all over Topeka, but the message is to show we can all do something to stop gun violence.

"Hopefully I won't have any more rocks to make some day," Phillips said.

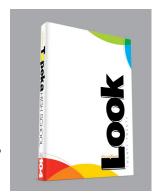
Since Phillips started she's painted 100 rocks, with the names reaching more than 260 people. She also wants people to know she doesn't care what the reputation of the person was, or if they lost their life to suicide. She just wants people to understand this was a real person. On the bottom of each rock, it gives information on how you can be a part of the project. When you find a rock, don't keep it. Relocate it for someone else to find

Phillips started a Facebook page for people to request rocks, see the finished products, and to share pictures when you find one. The page is called "Say Their Names Rock Project."

## Yearbook Angels By Heather Hooper, THS Journalism Advisor

Thank you so much to the many "Angel" donors who purchased yearbooks for deserving students. We had an outpouring of love & support from alumni from several different states, who purchased 26 books for students. Not only did this provide a meaningful gift to several students, but also gave the struggling yearbook budget a \$1,560 boost that we really needed in a time of pandemic and lost sales.

We asked teachers to nominate seniors that they believed would really appreciate receiving a book, and we also posted a message on Instagram for students to nominate themselves or their friends. In the end we gave books to 21 seniors, two juniors, two sophomores and one freshman. We were able to distribute most of the books in our drive-through distribution on June 9.



The response was very heartwarming from the students and their parents:

THANK YOU SOOOOO MUCH you are a true blessing! - Mom of a senior girl who was on the state basket-ball team.

Wow! Really? That's so fun! - a senior yearbook staffer who worked on the last two books and has never purchased one.

#### **Black & Gold Report**

- George Schrader (1949, THS Hall of Fame) will be conferred with the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Texas Woman's University in August 2020. Mr. Schrader is a principal of Schrader & Cline, L.L.C. and owner of Schrader Investment Company. He served as city manager for the cities of Dallas, Mesquite and Ennis, Texas.
- Jessica Whitfill (2016), Maria Hernandez (2016) and Brandon Moreno (2016) were honored as Washburn Bonner Scholars. Each member is required to complete 1,000 hours of community service during their four years of undergraduate work.
- Daniel Bailey (1977) was appointed Executive Vice President, General Counsel, HGS North America, HGS, Inc. on June 1, 2020 in Westminster, Colorado. Dan graduated with a Business Administration degree from Washburn University in 1981 and graduated with a Juris Doctor degree from Washburn University School of Law in 1987.
- Lindsey Kufahl Helt (1997) has been promoted to Vice President of Human Resources for Merchandising at Walmart headquarters in Bentonville, Arkansas.

### TROY TODAY

- Nijaree Canady (2022), sophomore forward, Lady Trojan Basketball, was named to the All-State 2020 Basketball Team. Nijaree is Topeka High's first Top 5 selection since Crystal Kemp (2002). She was one of three finalists for the girls basketball Best of Kansas Preps Player of the Year.
- **Hannah Alexander**, was named All-State Coach of the Year, 2019-20.
- **Ky Thomas (2020),** who finished his career as the No. 2 all-time rusher in Kansas history, was named Kansas' top football player for the 2019 season in the Best of Kansas Preps virtual sports awards show. Currently at Minnesota preparing for his freshman season, Thomas amassed 7,703 yards in his high school career, including 3,009 yards as a senior, the sixth player in Kansas history to top 3,000 yards in a single season.

### THS HALL OF FAME

For safety reasons, the 2020 THS Hall of Fame Ceremony will not take place this year. However, former students and graduates will have their pictures displayed with previous inductees in the THS Hall of Fame Room. The 2020 honorees are Robert Merrill Gage, Coleman Hawkins and John and Charles Scott. The names of Shirley Huttenhoff, Don Gleckler and Ora McMillan will be added to the Distinguished Staff plaque hanging outside the THSHS Paul Fink Museum and Office. Watch for more information about these people in a future newsletter.



The Kroger Stores sponsors the Community Rewards Program of Dillons. Go to www.dillons.com/communityrewards and shop for Topeka High.



## SHOP AND GIVE WITHOUT SPENDING A DIME - It's easy!

- Start at smile.amazon to support the THS Historical Society every time you shop.
- Amazon donates.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.
- AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service
- Support your favorite charity, the THSHS by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com.

Wondering what to do with your used car, truck or motorcycle? Donating your old vehicle to the Topeka High School Historical Society is convenient, easy, and may qualify you for a tax deduction. And best of all, your donation of that used vehicle will



make a big difference in supporting Topeka High projects.

All you need to do is to complete the Vehicles for Charity simple form on the THSHS website or call 1-866-628-2277 and we'll take care of the rest. We will pick up your vehicle, arrange to have your donation towed, and provide you with a tax-deductible receipt, all at no charge to you. Call 1-866-628-2277 or online at www1.thsweb.org/alumni/vehicles-for-charity.



Consider including the

# TOPEKA HIGH SCHOOL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

In your estate planning

Call the THSHS office for details

(785) 295-3200

#### IN MEMORY OF OUR GRADUATES

Maxine Aldrich Wright 1938
Dorothy Badders Klefstad 1939
Virginia Neil Pringle 1941
Betty Tuffley Spencer 1942
Mary Tew Tolin 1943
Jeanne Woodcox Taggart 1944
Keith D. Gay 1945
Freda Kitt Corbin 1947
Charles R. Abell 1950
Karl Hummel 1951
Donna Dolezilek Koerner 1951
Lenore Matthews Strong 1951
J. Harper Dougan 1951

Clinton Thompson 1951
Derryl L. Johnson 1952
Carmen Lightbody Maupin 1952
Maurine Zachman Owen 1953
Jan W. Leuenberger 1954
Shirley Glasgow Burkhart 1956
Robert B. Wanamaker 1957
Jacquelyn Ann Shea 1957
James L. Schwartz 1958
Jacque Schiefelbein Harper 1959
Patricia Wilder Rokey 1959
Thomas A. Munson 1962
Felipe 'Phil' Ortiz 1964

C. Richard 'Deacon' Oroke 1966
Vicki Luthye Lee 1967
Andrew Steele 1967
Laurie McFarland Ritchie 1970
Roxie Bloom Corber 1970
Denise Lister Richards 1972
Robert C. Dean 1973
Deborah Hoffman Foster 1973
Melissa Northrop Holloman 1974
Debra Briman Latta 1974
Patricia M. Johnson 1978
Calvin Hill 1981

#### ~ 2020 & 2021 CLASS REUNIONS ~

Homecoming 2020 - October 2 - THS vs Highland Park Homecoming 2021 - September 24 - THS vs Manhattan

<u>Class</u>	<u>Dates</u>	For More Information
Class of 1960	September 25-26	jpfuetze@gmail.com
Class of 1965	October 9-10	cadair47@gmail.com
Class of 1970	September 18-19	dwdscednal@yahoo.com (Cancelled)
Class of 1980	October 2-3	mbrentnall@gmail.com, Facebook,
		www.topekahigh1980.com
Class of 1985	October 2 - 3	Chuck Metzger
Class of 1990	TBA	Facebook
Class of 2000	October 2-3	TaCarra82@yahoo.com, Facebook
Class of 2010	October 2-3	williamchristopherdale@gmail.com
Class of 1961	September 24-26, 2021	skipglad43@windstream.net
Class of 1971	May 28-29, 2021	pmorgan379@gmail.com, Facebook,

The THS Historical Society assists class reunions by: 1. providing classmate contact information 2. arranging THS tours 3. facilitating the use of the building 4. offering \$5 discounts for new memberships during reunions. Go to **thshistoricalsociety.org** for words to the school song, THS graphics, information for reunion coordinators and more. **Let the THSHS know if your class is having a reunion and we'll help you get the word out to your classmates.** 

#### (Angels, Continued from page 3)

The 2020 yearbook angels are: Deb Milford (1979), Jennifer Sanders Waters, Mark Anderson (1971), Margaret Buster, Barbara Potter (1971), Sabrina Crevoiserat (2004), Patricia McKinnery (1971), David (1968) & Kathy Thompson (1969) Brooks, Joan Barker (1971), Helen Crow (1970), Monique Pittman, Dot Mallon (Former THS Staff), Ed McClelland (1971), Corinne Shellabarger Sternlieb (1965), Nancy Nolder Ganson (1969), Kara Heitz (1993), Maria Denney (THS Staff) and George Turkovic (THS Staff).

As we head into the next school year, there are a lot of uncertainties about what our everyday life at school will look like, but rest assured that the Sunflower yearbook will continue. Students are already preparing for the 2021 book, which will be Topeka High's 150th anniversary. We are excited to celebrate the accomplishments of the past as well as the current student body.

In honor of the 150th anniversary, the yearbook is offering a 15% discount through the summer months, which brings the cost to \$51. If anyone would like to purchase an angel book for next year's class, they are available for sale at the Topeka High business office, or at <a href="https://www.balfour.com">www.balfour.com</a>. Just enter Angel ('first name' space) Donation ('last name' space).

Thank you again for all of the support to the Topeka High yearbook and our students.

Topeka High will be 150 years old in 2021. This incredible milestone for Topeka High School deserves our best effort ever, and events throughout next year will help graduates, students and the community connect with each other as we celebrate.

The Class of 2021 will be the first to proudly sport their 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary buttons, which will be given to all students and staff. Tentatively scheduled, a

vendor market will again be held during Homecoming weekend, October 2-4, 2020, giving the public and graduates having class reunions the chance for some early Christmas shopping.

Depending on the state of the pandemic, events in early 2021 might need to be rescheduled to later dates. The opening event of 2021 will be a musical gala and VIP dinner on Saturday, January 30, 2021 featuring

Richetta Manager (1971) whose amazing voice covers jazz, gospel and opera.

Alumni are invited to celebrate THS "Tradition" by joining the cast in singing the opening number of the THS musical "Fiddler on the Roof" in Hoehner Auditorium. Performance dates are Friday, February 19, Saturday, February 20 and a 2 pm matinee on Sunday, February 21. Participants will be asked to commit to rehearsals and performance dates.

The fun continues on Saturday, April 24, 2021, when **Sponsor Opportunities:** alumni can relive their youth at a sock hop that will coincide with the THS prom. The students will be in the cafeteria and the adults in the new gymnasium, where Sal Cruz, (1989) will be the disc jockey.

The Centennial Class of 1971 will share its 50-year reunion on Friday, May 28, 2021 with the community as classmate Gary Krohe premiers his new documentary on Topeka High after an evening of 'Crawling the Avenue' and enjoying the Topeka downtown establishments. The film by the grad who brought us "Portraits of Troy," will be shown at the new Evergy Plaza on Kansas Avenue.

A graduate art show will open on Friday, June 4, 2021, and the annual Chimes Concert will be on the lawn on Sunday, June 27.

When students return for classes in the fall of 2021, the 1871 opening day of Topeka High School on Friday, September 17 will be celebrated with birthday

cake for students and staff.

The main events will, of course, be on Homecoming weekend in September 2021. Alumni are invited to join the Homecoming parade on Friday, September 24, and a special halftime show at the football game will celebrate the anniversary.

The school will be open on Saturday, September 25,

for grads to get together with their classmates and meet those who enjoyed the same extracurricular activities through the decades. A graduate variety show will give alumni from every era the chance to show off their talents.

The finale will be on the front lawn – keep watching for details of this fantastic culmination to our celebration.

You can keep up with events and activities through the Topeka High 150 Facebook page, at TopekaHigh150.com and at the Topeka High School Historical Society website. THSHistoricalSociety.org.

#### Get involved:

clebrat

We need people for committees planning the various events, as well as people to help host & sponsor them. Let us know how you would like to help by sending an email to TopekaHigh150@gmail.com.

- 4-5 fiberglass Trojan statuettes \$10,000
- 150th banners on Tenth Ave. \$1,500
- THS 150th City bus wrap \$1,000 \$3,000
- Birthday cake for students and staff \$1,500
- 150th buttons for Students & Staff \$2,700
- Kick-Off Gala & Concert \$6,000
- Graduate Art Show \$1.000
- Evenings/Afternoons with THS celebrities -\$1,000 per event
- Graduate Sock-Hop \$2,500
- 150 Years of THS, the book by Douglass Wallace (1965)
- 150 Years of THS, the documentary by Gary Krohe (1971) - \$10,000
- Grand Finale at Homecoming \$15,000
- Graduate Variety Show \$5,000
- THSHS 150th Office Assistant \$7,500

Sponsorship donations are being accepted now through the website or by sending a check to the THSHS, 800 SW Tenth Ave., Topeka, KS 66612.

### THS Historical Society Supporters (On a mission for THS)

Graduation Year

First Name	Last Name (at graduation)	Current Last Nam	ne
THS Spouse's First N	ame Last Name	Spouse Gradua	tion Year
Street		City	
State	Zip Code	Country	
Home Phone		E-mail	
MEMBERSHIP DUES	- (for operational expenses & THS	HS special events)	
5 Years (\$100)	nembership to:	aduation (i.e. Class of 1966,	Amount \$ \$ \$ \$
Address	City Yearly (\$25)5 Year (\$100)_		<del></del>
Membership levels:	Yearly (\$25) 5 Year (\$100)_	10 Year (\$175)	
		Total	\$
Charge account: □ Vis	ayable to THS Historical Society or a □ Master Card □ American Expr	ess   Discover (\$50 minimum	
Number:	 nYear	CV # (required)	
Expiration Date: Montl	nYear		
Mail to: THSHS, 800 S	SW 10 <sup>th</sup> , Topeka, KS 66612, or pay	dues online at: http://www.thshi	storicalsociety.org

#### **Life Members Can Continue to Contribute**

Life Member Adam Nordstrom (1994) has recently renewed his commitment to the Topeka High School Historical Society by donating to the Society's operations fund. "I realized I joined as a life member when I graduated from high school back in 1994 and I've enjoyed the benefits of being a part of the organization since that time. I believe it's time to renew my contribution to the high school that meant so much to me." Nordstrom was the first recipient of the Ed Love Scholarship, just one of the many ways the Topeka High School Historical Society encourages the students to make a difference in our community and world. "Over half the members of the Society are life members," says Joan Barker, THSHS executive secretary. "I'm now seeing life members re-commit to the organization with donations that will continue to preserve and enhance the traditions and building in the heart of Kansas' capital city. So many life members have realized their original contribution has paid dividends over and over; they now want to contribute toward our opera-

tions and other projects."

The Historical Society now accepts donations for the operating fund that addresses the daily needs of the Society; for the endowment fund that will help sustain the operations of the Society, and through the Tower Society which accumulates funds that can be used immediately for preservation projects within the building and on the schools' campus.

"With Topeka High preparing to celebrating 150 years in 2021," Barker says, "we'd like to encourage our Life Members to donate to the operations of the Society allowing us to create more memories through our 150<sup>th</sup> celebration activities."

Donations of any size are always welcome and can be made through the website at

www.THSHistoricalSociety.org or via mail sent to the Topeka High School Historical Society, 800 SW Tenth Avenue, Topeka, Kansas 66612. Donors can also call Joan Barker at 785-633-2085 (summer) or 785-295-3200 to discuss special gifts or projects of interest.



#### **RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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**REMEMBER TO CHECK YOUR MAILING LABEL (the next time you get a hard copy of the THSHS newsletter):** The date on the first line of your label is your membership EXPIRATION date. New memberships are for 1, 5 or 10 years from the date your payment is received. For renewals, 1, 5 or 10 years are added to the date of receipt or your previous expiration date. A pink highlighted mailing label is a gentle reminder that we want to stay in contact with you.

## The THS Historical Society appreciates our members!

Help us get the word out about our mission to support Topeka High. Encourage a classmate or friend to join the THSHS. Consider giving a THSHS membership to a sibling or classmate as a gift. You don't have to be a THS graduate to be a THSHS member. All who are interested in historic preservation of a Topeka landmark are welcome. You can remit your dues by completing the form on page 7 of this newsletter or by going on-line at thshistoricalsociety.org and renewing via credit card.



## THS HISTORICAL SOCIETY ACCOUNTS

THSHS ENDOWMENT - Established in 2019 to sustain the operations of the THSHS and encourage building preservation - administered by the Topeka Community Foundation

THSHS TOWER SOCIETY— established in 2009 to be used for building projects - list of donors is included once a year in the THSHS newsletter and on the THSHS website

MEMBERSHIP DUES AND YEAR END APPEAL—these funds are used for operating expenses of the THSHS.