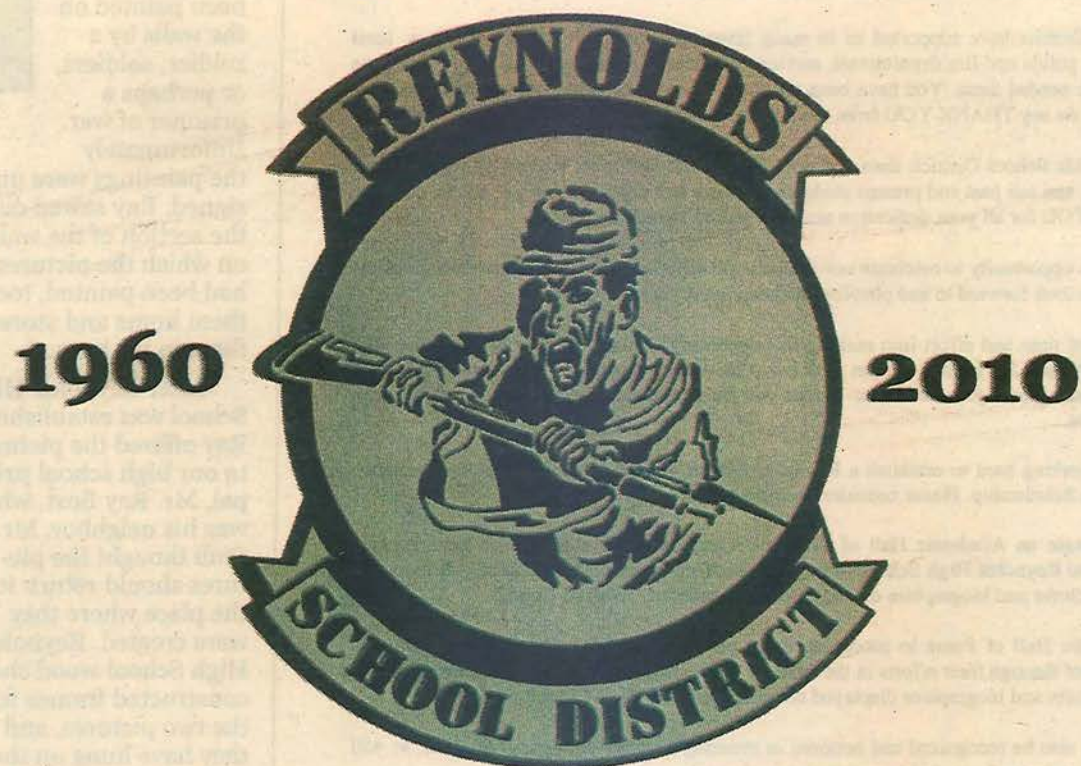


Reynolds Reflections

— 50 years of education



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

published by The Record-Argus





CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

REYNOLDS SCHOOL DISTRICT

50th Anniversary Steering Committee

531 Reynolds Rd., Greenville, PA 16125

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Email: scombine@reynolds.k12.pa.us

Email: bcbbnelson@verizon.net

Dear Citizens of the our Community:

I am honored to inform you that Reynolds School District officially turns 50 years old this school year!

For 49 years, the people of our District have supported us in many important ways. Citizens of all types, local business owners, elected officials, police and fire departments, service organizations, and religious institutions have always been there for us when we needed them. You have been willing to share their time, talents, ideas, support, and resources. For that, and to all, we say THANK YOU from the bottom of our hearts.

We should all be proud of Reynolds School District, then and now. We should feel great pride with regard to our fine history and accomplishments, and our past and present students, teachers and other employees, teams, coaches, leaders, and volunteers. THANK YOU for all your dedication and hard work through the years.

Our 50th Anniversary offers us the opportunity to celebrate our past, to pull together now and take advantage of the opportunities of the present, and to look forward to and plan for an exceptionally bright future.

Many fine people have put a lot of time and effort into making this upcoming school year one to remember. Our official festivities begin Sunday, August 30, from 2 – 6 pm with our Anniversary Kick-off Celebration, which will mostly be held in the High School. Please join us! Other events will be conducted throughout the school year, especially during our sports seasons.

Several Reynolds graduates are working hard to establish a Reynolds Alumni Association. They hope to establish and endow an Alumni Association Scholarship. Please consider becoming involved.

Plans are being formulated to create an Academic Hall of Fame to recognize those alumni who have brought distinction, honor and excellence to Reynolds High School through their efforts in academic pursuits. All inductees will be honored by having their pictures and biographies displayed on an Academic "Wall of Fame."

We also plan to create an Athletic Hall of Fame to recognize those participants and teams who have brought distinction to Reynolds High School through their efforts in the field, or on the mat or hardwood. Inductees will also be recognized by having their pictures and biographies displayed on an Athletic "Wall of Fame."

Past participants in "the arts" will also be recognized and honored in meaningful ways throughout the year, as will students, employees and volunteers who performed in important leadership roles.

Thanks very much to the 100+ volunteers, especially the chairpersons, who have put a lot of time, thought and effort into developing events and activities to celebrate our 50th year.

Through the years, we've had some great times and some challenges. One thing seems to remain constant... *Raider Pride*. Reynolds people truly bleed blue and gray! Let's all make it a point to especially do so during our 50th year!

Sincerely,

Barry Nelson, Chairman
50th Anniversary Committee
and
School Board Vice President



Thomas shares early Reynolds memories

“When Camp Reynolds closed in early 1946, one of the men who was dismantling one of the barracks buildings was Raymond Stull from Jamestown. He found two pictures that had been painted on the walls by a soldier, soldiers, or perhaps a prisoner of war. Unfortunately the paintings were unsigned. Ray sawed out the section of the walls on which the pictures had been painted, took them home and stored them in his barn.

“After Reynolds High School was established, Ray offered the pictures to our high school principal, Mr. Ray Bost, who was his neighbor. Mr. Stull thought the pictures should return to the place where they were created. Reynolds High School wood shop constructed frames for the two pictures, and they have hung on the walls of the high school ever since.

“Who painted them? Where is that scene? Whose garden was he remembering? Was the painter someone who went on to become a great artist? Maybe he was a prisoner of war because Camp Reynolds housed several prisoners from Europe late in the war. Maybe the painter



Thomas

was someone who went on to give his life for our country. Maybe it was one of your ancestors who served in World War II. Wouldn't it be fun to know? There is a wealth of information about Camp Reynolds on the Internet, which is really interesting. Also, there's lots on John Fulton Reynolds, after whom the army camp was named.

John Fulton Reynolds was killed at Gettysburg.

“We went round and round back at the beginning (of the school) trying to pick a mascot. The school board threw Raiders at us. I think they had input from Reynolds kids-to-be in other high schools for that, and we had a competition trying to get ideas for a 'Raider'. I can't remember where the raider came from, but we considered Indians, all sorts of animals, pirates, and I don't remember what else. The soldier with the rifle and bayonet was supposed to combine both North and South from the Civil War era. But he was not an officer; the blue and gray was from the War too.”



Mr. Don Thomas was the Reynolds art teacher from 1960 to 1990.

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Kick-Off Celebration just the start of Reynolds' 50th festivities

By ERIC KLAMUT

eklamut@recordargusnews.com

PYMATUNING TOWNSHIP — Pulling together a once in a lifetime celebration is no easy feat — especially when the memories and stories of so many are involved.

The year-long celebration of the 50th anniversary of Reynolds School District will begin with an inaugural event Sunday afternoon with the Kick-Off Celebration.

Since April, a handful of committees have been planning for the 50th anniversary commemoration. One of those committees — the Kick-Off Celebration subcommittee — has been chugging along to ensure every last detail is set.

"We are bringing attention to all the successes that the district had," said Sue Combine, co-chair of the Kick-Off Celebration subcommittee. "It's helping to build Raider pride. It's a nice opportunity to bring friends together."



Eric Klamut/R-A

PYMATUNING TOWNSHIP — Brad Reichard, a member of the Kick-Off Celebration subcommittee for Reynolds School District's 50th anniversary celebration, and Sue Combine, co-chair of the Kick-Off subcommittee, study a piece of memorabilia sent to the district for a display at Sunday's Kick-Off Celebration. The district received more than 300 pieces of school memorabilia.

The Kick-Off Celebration will feature a vintage car cruise-in; speeches by state legislators; former coaches, homecoming queens, student leaders; a display of Reynolds memorabilia from the past 50 years; a scavenger hunt; a television giveaway; and tours of the school

campus.

In organizing the celebration, Reynolds has come to establish three organizations the district has been in need of, some subcommittee members said.

"It has created an opening to establish the Alumni Association, Academics Hall of Fame and Athletics Hall of Fame," said Brad Reichard, a member of the Kick-Off Celebration subcommittee. "These are things that we've probably gone too many years without."

Signaling the start of the new school year, Combine said the Kick-Off Celebration pays special attention to members of the Class of '61 — the district's first graduating class.

"It's really a coming together of the Class of '61," she said. "They're the most close-knit class I have ever met. Just to hear these peoples' stories. ... This isn't a typical school district."

See Kickoff, page 8

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Mom & Dave

Genesis of an institution

By SCOTT DeJULIA
news@recordargusnews.com

Reynolds sprang from an Army camp, built from a menagerie of districts and ideas

Every great story has a beginning, and the saga of Reynolds School District is no different. How the district was formed by taking pieces, parts and, in some cases, the whole of other schools, and welding them together into one student body and faculty is a story worth repeating for future generations.

Richard "Dick" Sherwood taught health and physical education, and was one of the early wrestling and track coaches at Reynolds. He's also a scholar of the school district, having been through the struggle to create it.

A group called the Greenville Businessmen, including Bob Parker, Jesse Dart and others, was the driving force behind the Reynolds School District project, Sherwood said. The United States Government decided it didn't need Camp Reynolds, the local Army base, following World War II and the group saw a great opportunity there. Dick said they envisioned an entire

community constructed around the former Army campus, and they wanted to build a school to attract families.

The businessmen needed a point man to lead the push to build Reynolds, and they chose Carl Welsh to be the school's first superintendent. Dick said Welsh was instrumental in setting up the new school. Every school requires a principal to be the head of the faculty and students, so a Jamestown transfer by the name of Raymond Bost was tabbed for the job.

"They made a really wise choice in hiring a principal," Dick said. "Bost had a knack

for bringing people together."

Fredonia and Delaware were smaller high schools, Dick said, and the businessmen knew West Salem Township had its children farmed out to other schools



Contributed photo

PYMATUNING TOWNSHIP — School directors lay the cornerstone for the high school at Reynolds. The district sits now where the former Camp Reynolds Army Base hospital parking lot was once located.

around the county.

Ray Harpst was a 1956 graduate of Fredonia-Delaware High School. His wife, Eiola, was a secretary for Reynolds in the early-to mid-60s, and had worked under both Welch and Bost. Even when he gathered up his diploma, Ray knew his would be among the last classes to graduate from Fredonia-Delaware.

"Years before, the school board members were trying to close the school up here and form one central organization," said Ray. "One rea-

son was our enrollment was getting too large up here."

Eiola described her arrival at Reynolds as "different." She said there were so many more classes and so many more students per grade than at Fredonia-Delaware.

"I was used to 30 to 33 (students per class) in Fredonia, then it jumped up to 100 at Reynolds," said Eiola.

Eiola said her time at Reynolds was of the nicer jobs she had. She said there was always something different there, and both Bost and Welch were very good to work for.

At the time, it was kind of hard to see the school shut down, Harpst said, but after having four children graduate from RHS, it lessened the blow.

Teens came from places like Farrell — where the kids from Transfer area went to school prior to Reynolds — Jamestown, Greenville and Fredonia-Delaware, Dick said. One of the big things which kept the school going was the unified faculty.

"The kids saw that we

See Genesis, page 16



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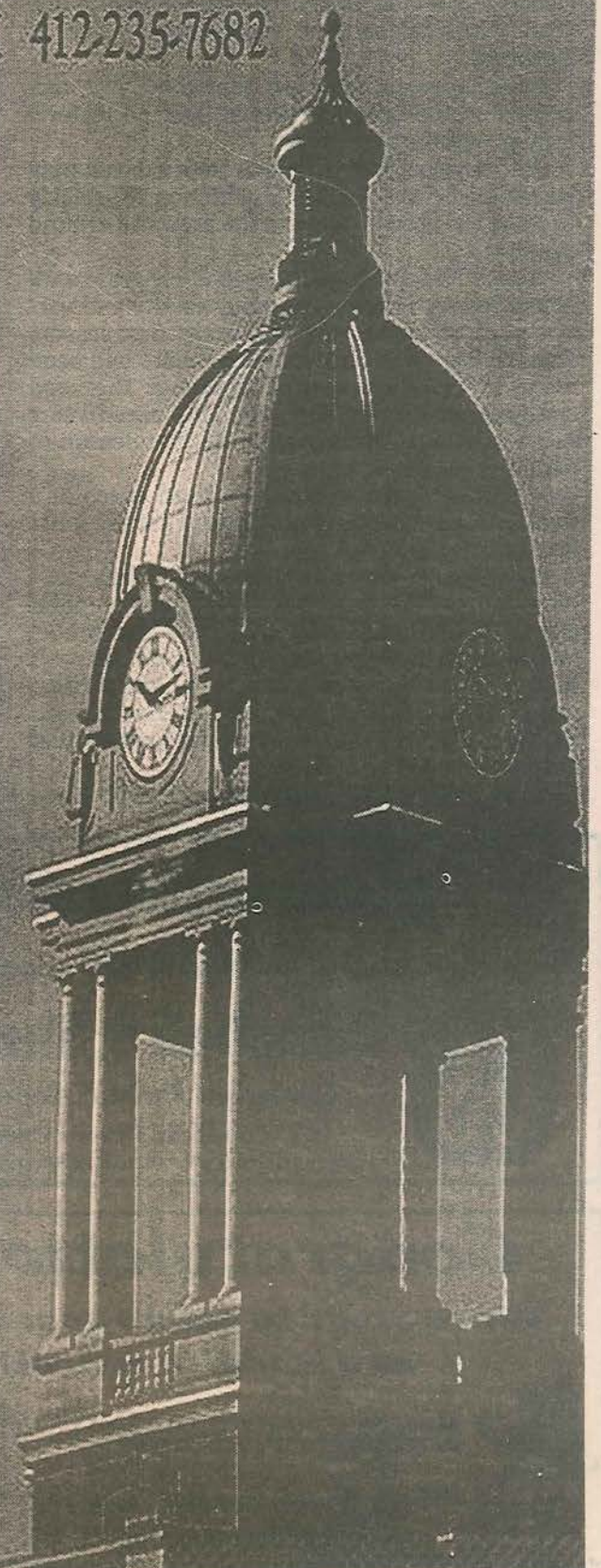
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GREGORY T. PHILSON
gphilson@recordargusnews.com

PYMATUNING TOWNSHIP — Frank Amato had the unenviable task of teaching football to a group of kids from all over the area, some of which never watched football let alone played it.

Tom Harpst was one of the football players without any football background coming from Fredonia/Delaware Township school.

Charles Garrett worked under the tutelage of Fredonia coach Bud Ebbert and took over the Reynolds basketball team in its first season of 1961.

Richard "Dick" Sherwood had never watched a wrestling match, but coached wrestling for one year before taking over as the track coach at Reynolds.

Neal Lineman followed Sherwood and succeeded on the mats in commencing the historic Raider wrestling program.

All four men played a major role in developing Reynolds School District's athletics to quickly become a respected force in the area and around the state.

Amato had developed a football program with a first season mixed with junior varsity and varsity play. The team went 4-4 in the first season. Prior to his tenure at Reynolds, Amato had been living in Cleveland and he took over the head coaching position at Reynolds after seven years as an assistant, starting with the first season of play.

"I had really wanted to be a head coach of a football team," Amato said. "Once I got the job, I knew I was ready for it."

Harpst, also player on the football team, doubled-up on the hardcourt and was the point guard of the 1962 team that held the school record of wins — 19 — until this past season's Raider squad surpassed that mark. And while a record-setting season is something Harpst looks fondly back on, it was his time in football that brought a brand new element.

"I had never even watched a football game

For 50 years, Raiders sports have been legendary



Contributed photo

PYMATUNING TOWNSHIP — Edward Small and Tom Harpst stand with basketball coach Chuck Garrett in a picture featured in the 1961 Reynolds yearbook

until we played," Harpst said. "Most of us had not. We didn't even know how to put the pads on or anything."

Sherwood also had no knowledge when he coached his one and only year in wrestling.

"I had background in physical education and when Ray Bost came up to me one day in class, I thought he was just observing," Sherwood said. "He told me the school board decided to have a wrestling team and I would be the coach of it. I told him I didn't know anything about wrestling."

Bost assured Sherwood it would be a one year deal for him as the man for the job was one year away from taking over the club.

"I remember asking my wife if the high school she went to had a wrestling team," he said. "She said it did. I asked her how they put their gym together for matches. I didn't even know how they did that."

Sherwood took over the track team that following spring and went on to coach for more than 20 years. The man to replace Sherwood on the mats, Neal Lineman, took the wrestling team over after the 4-4 season. That would be the first and last team to finish with a .500 mark.

Under Lineman, an aura began to grow into the program now known nationwide. Lineman spent time in the military and went to college at Purdue University in Indiana.

But, the success all the sports had early on may seem surprising considering how students from Jamestown, Greenville, Fredonia, Delaware Township, and Farrell needed to come together for a joint mission. That goal worked, according to Garrett and the others because of the relationships developed from the superintendent and the teachers.

"Everybody got along," Garrett said.

Sherwood said a key to showing the students the camaraderie was letting them know the teachers were people too.

"We wanted the kids to know we were more than just authority figures to them," Sherwood said. "We wanted them to see us as normal people. I always insisted I lived in the school district

See Sports, page 14

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Reynolds pioneers recall the early days of school

By SCOTT DeJULIA
news@recordargusnews.com

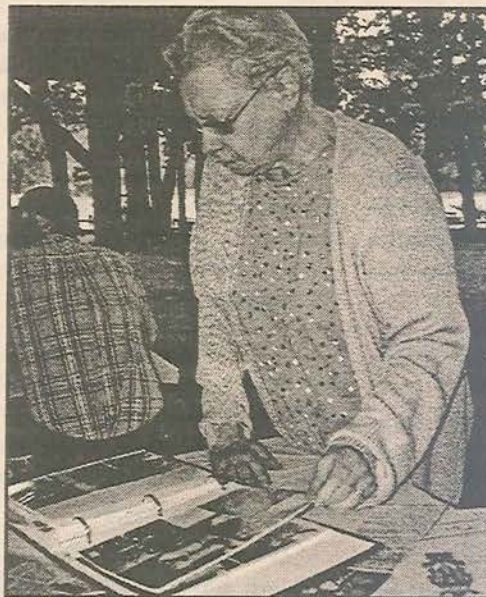
HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP — Imagine going to school for 11 years, building bonds with your classmates, learning the ins and outs of your campus. Now imagine being told you'll be going to a completely different school, with all new classmates, because someone somewhere decided to re-draw the district. This happened for the first graduating class of Reynolds High School in 1961. Despite the challenge, RHS's initial seniors handled the situation with grace.

Recently, the class held its annual reunion at Hempfield Park. Dozens of the first class to graduate gathered with their spouses and friends, and they invited some of their teachers, as well. They enjoyed a potluck dinner as they relived their high school experiences and recounted what had happened to them in the years intervening.

Neal Lineman came to the school in its second year, and he helped to build the dynamo that is the Reynolds wrestling program. He recalled all the original coaches at Reynolds as if he could place a call to them on the intercom today. Frank Amato, one of the early football coaches for the Raiders, was working in Cleveland before taking over the program in its third year, said Lineman.

Lineman was very impressed with the way everyone, despite coming from different schools, rapidly gained an identity as Reynolds High School students. He said they "really gelled" after coming from Fredonia, West Salem, Jamestown and more.

The students weren't the only ones who came together fast, Lineman said. The first superintendent of Reynolds School District, Carl Welch, stayed in his position for 25 years. Raymond Bost, the school's first principal, was from



HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP — Coreen Arford McClain, a member of RHS '61 looks through a photo album during the class's annual picnic, held Aug. 3 this year at Hempfield Park.

(Photo by Scott DeJulia/R-A)

Jamestown, and at first, he wanted to set up the new high school and return north,

Lineman said. He stayed at RHS until he retired.

The alums described their experiences much the same as the teachers in the first years of Reynolds. Shirley Mitchell-Lesnett said she made lifelong friends while a student at Reynolds.

"We were all in the same boat," said Lesnett.

Since high school, Lesnett got married, worked in the office at Greenville Hospital, then had two daughters, staying at home with them. She retired from Greenville Dental Clinic.

Scholarship at RHS was a

tradition in Lesnett's family. Her granddaughters were the third generation of her family to attend the school.

While in school, Lesnett was a cheerleader, and she described going to all the games as a lot of fun. She remembered the class held a mock presidential election the year John F. Kennedy ran against Richard Nixon. For the record, Nixon took Reynolds High.

Nancy Eakin-Daugherty co-wrote three speeches for the mock election. She said the issue of students coming

See Pioneers, page 10

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KICKOFF

Continued from page 3

Reichard said that when the district was formed, students from various schools were pulled together, adding for an interesting mix.

"Kids were rivals," he said. "They had to be in class together. It was a big effort that happened rather quietly for the community."

Combine said Reynolds' first class had to learn to overcome many obstacles such as having temporary uniforms for athletics and forming an identity. That aspect, she said, is a lesson worth sharing with current students.

"It was the birth of Reynolds School District," Combine said. "What they went through is a message worth sharing with today's students."

And to preserve that message, Reynolds is working on a special project that will freeze the celebration and generations past in time for future classes to look back on.

The district is working on a time capsule that will include memorabilia and information. It is set to be buried sometime after the Class of 2010 graduates.

Reichard, an alumnus of the Class of '83, said he always was amazed by the history of how Reynolds evolved from potato fields and a U.S. Army encampment, to a fully functioning school district.

"There's a lot of pride in these walls and in the people walking around them," Reichard said as he sat in the boardroom of Reynolds High School.

Getting the word out of the district's 50th anniversary and Kick-Off Celebration was no small task. Reichard employed the use of

Facebook on the Web to track down Reynolds graduates.

Combine said that for the past seven years, the district has actively attempted to track down alumni through advertisements seeking business cards from former students.

"It's interesting," she said. "We've gotten them from all over. There's quite a few professionals. It's very exciting to read those."

Some of the biggest events for the yearlong celebration will include induction ceremonies for the Academics Hall of Fame and the Leadership Banquet. Those events are scheduled in April, and will honor aca-

demic stand-outs as well as past school leaders.

While tracking down alumni for the anniversary's initial event, Combine said the subcommittee put the word out that memorabilia from the past 50 years was needed.

The response was overwhelming, she said.

As of early August, Combine said, more than 350 pieces of memorabilia had been tagged for the memorabilia display.

Everything from athletic uniforms, posters, photos and Reynolds student letterman jackets, to a pen holder which was crafted from the wood of the actual tree that Gen. John F.

Reynolds — the school's namesake — died near at the Battle of Gettysburg during the Civil War.

With all of the pride and planning, the Kick-Off Celebration is an introduction to a very special year for Reynolds.

"A lot of things are going to happen long-term from that four-hour period," he said. ... "It's a community event for all of the people that made it possible."

"It's a whole lot of work, but we have a lot of hard workers helping."

Combine, who is the district's administrative and school board secretary, said although she is not a Reynolds alumnae, helping

to organize the district's 50th anniversary has been rewarding.

"It's been a great experience," Combine said. "Their enthusiasm — that's what keeps us going."



The Kick-Off Celebration will be held from 2 to 6 p.m. Sunday at Reynolds High School. Free food and refreshments will be offered. Orders will be taken at the event for commemorative DVDs. All proceeds from the DVD sale will benefit the newly instituted Reynolds High School Alumni Scholarship Fund.

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Raider matmen to receive special recognition

By **BARRY NELSON**

School Board VP & 50th anniversary Chair

The 2009 Reynolds wrestling season will be special in many ways. Special events are planned to recognize and honor the fine tradition, teams, players and coaches Reynolds produced over the last 50 years.

At the Dec. 16 home match against Erie McDowell we'll honor the teams, wrestlers, coaches, and cheerleaders of the 1960s.

Reynolds wrestling teams of the '60s were coached by Dick Sherwood (1 year) and Neal Lineman. We enjoyed four undefeated seasons, achieved six Mercer County Athletic Conference Championships and were PIAA Section 2/3 Team Champs three times.

At the Dec. 22 home match against Fort LeBoeuf we'll honor the teams, wrestlers, coaches, and cheerleaders of the 1970s.

Reynolds wrestling teams of the 70s were coached by Mr. Lineman (until 1977) and Mark Reichard (1977-80). Mr. Lineman retired after 16 years with a career record of 201 and 12; the winning percentage of his teams stands at 95 percent. Quite an accomplishment, Mr. Lineman! During the 1970s we enjoyed five undefeated seasons and achieved five MCAC Championships. We were PIAA Section 2/3 Team Champs 10 times. We also were (unofficial) PIAA State Champs in 1975, official PIAA State Class AA State Champs in 1976, and State Runner-ups in 1978.

At the Jan. 5 home match against Slippery Rock we'll honor the teams, wrestlers, coaches, and cheerleaders of the 1980s.

Doug Groover took over

as coach during the 1980-81 season and his team produced the sole undefeated record of the decade. He was followed by Ron Taylor (1981-82) and Ed McClimans (1982-86). Brian Hills took the reins at the outset of the 1986 season, and has been there ever since. The 1980s resulted in eight MCAC Championships and eight PIAA Section 2/3 Team Championships. We were PIAA District 10 Champs three times, and PIAA Northwest Regional Champs in 1986-87.

On Jan. 13 we'll host Grove City and honor the teams, wrestlers, coaches, and cheerleaders of the

1990s.

During the 1990s we achieved two undefeated seasons and eight MCAC Championships. We were PIAA District 10 Team Runner-up twice, PIAA Section 2/3 Team Champs nine times, and PIAA District 10 Champs five times. We were PIAA Northwest Regional Champs four times. The Reynolds wrestling team won the state Championship in 1993 and 1998, and was State Runner-up in 1992.

At the Jan. 27 home match against Sharon we'll honor the teams, wrestlers, coaches, and cheerleaders of this decade.

So far this decade Reynolds wrestling has been on an unbelievable run of success. We have produced seven undefeated seasons. We won four MCAC Championships, and then the conference was dissolved. Since then we have been District 10, Region 1 Champs five times, PIAA District 10 Team Champs eight times, and District Runner-up once. We won the PIAA State Team Championships three times, in 2005-06, 2006-07, and 2008-09. We were State Team Runner-up in 2004-05, and achieved third place in 2004-05. Reynolds was PIAA District 10 Champs

nine times this decade, and PIAA Northwest Regional Champs eight times. We were also PIAA State Champs in 2005, 2006, and 2007, and State Runner-up in 2001 and 2003.

Hill's career coaching record stands at 332 victories, 33 losses and one tie. Information related to all of these team accomplishments was gleaned from the Reynolds Wrestling website, www.reynoldswrestling.com.

Special recognition of teams, coaches, wrestlers, and cheerleaders of each of

See Matmen, page 18

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PIONEERS

Continued from page 7

from three different schools wasn't an issue.

Daugherty, like many of her classmates at the reunion, called to mind students, teachers and administrators who made an impact on their lives as they looked at old yearbooks and photographs. She called Bost the best principal and a really special guy. With a chuckle, she remembered how Bost would stand at the front of the student body during assemblies and bark, "O.K., all you yahoos!"

In 1960, Reynolds' newspaper was called the Blue and Gray, and the yearbook was called The Crest. Daugherty said the yearbook's name was derived from three places — from the crest of the school ring; from where Reynolds rested, on the crest of the valley; and from high school being the crest of the students' lives.

"We never had cliques," said Daugherty. She said the students meshed together, and they were anxious to make the new school work.

Coreen Arford-McClain and her twin sister, Doreen Arford-Yakal, still participate in class activities, though Yakal couldn't attend the reunion because of health reasons. McClain married an Air Force man after school, and she spent time at bases like McGuire Air Force Base in New Jersey and Tinker AFB in Oklahoma City before settling at Altus AFB, also in Oklahoma, for 29 years — nine miles from the Texas border, she said. She and her husband moved back to the Transfer area in 1997. She had two girls and one boy,



Scott DeJulia/R-A

HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP — Members of RHS '61 pose for a photo at the class' annual summer picnic. From left in front are Coreen Arford McClain, Hazel Shelhamer Harpst, Lynda Cooper Ammann, Claudia Musgrove Gardill, Judy Benninghoff Gill, Brenda Saylor Bernard, Karen Hittle Black; in back, Shirley Bancroft Bonam, Nancy Eakin Daughtery, Kitty Watkins Fenton, Shirley Mitchell Lesnett, Jim Murrin, Liz Brown Bolster, Earl Stoyer, and Paul Peterson.

from which came seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren, most in Oklahoma.

Even while living in Oklahoma, McClain said she tried to return to Pennsylvania to attend as many reunions as she could.

"We had to go to school with people we didn't know, but I knew some people from going to Fredonia," McClain said.

Out of high school, Earl Stoyer worked at the Shock Baton concrete factory in Reynolds, then got on with Penn Power. After 33 years, he retired, but he continues to help out whoever is in need, including maintaining his church. Both of Stoyer's sons attended Reynolds.

Stoyer said his experience at Reynolds was interesting. He'd gone to one-room schoolhouses in Fredonia for the first six years of his scholastic career, then he ran into a really big group at Reynolds. Because the school was so large, he didn't get to know everyone, but through the lens of time, he recognized how good his high school days were.

"The transition was easy (for him) because the biggest share of students came from Fredonia," Stoyer said.

Stoyer said he kept in touch with the friends he made during school at the monthly class meetings.

Jim Murrin was just happy to leave school in

1961, he said. After wandering for a time, Murrin found God and was ordained as a minister at his own church. His education at Reynolds helped him to get through those times, he said.

Retired from active ministry since heart surgery in 2003, Murrin continued to act as spiritual leader for his class. He said the prayer before supper at the recent reunion.

When they get together now, Murrin said he has lots of fun seeing what his former classmates are doing now, and talking about children and grandchildren — he has six children, 15 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren spread out over the entire country.

Liz Bolster worked at Keystone Shoe Store, then got married in 1962. She had two girls, who had four kids of their own, and Bolster said family is her passion today — along with keeping the Class of '61 in touch.

"I love people and I love doing this for Reynolds," said Bolster, noting she had a good committee of six classmates to help her.

Bolster was president of Future Homemakers of America at Reynolds, and said she often helped her home economics teacher, Mrs. Steffey. She was also in Commercial Club and the choir under the direction of Pauline Boyer.

When she first learned she would be leaving Greenville to go to Reynolds, Bolster said, "I had mixed feelings about leaving my friends, but I don't regret it now."

Bolster's class has monthly breakfasts and yearly meetings in August, where they talk about times past, present and future.

The class trip to Washington, D.C. was a highlight, said Bolster, and she remembered football and basketball games as being big events. Prom was held in the gymnasium, and Bolster said Bost and Welch were nice guys who acted like they'd known the students for years, though they were as new to the school as their students.

Active on three 50th anniversary committees, going back to Reynolds High evoked an emotional response in Bolster.

"The smell," she said, "still brings back memories."

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Newly-formed Reynolds Alumni Assoc. seeks members, scholarship support

By PHILLIP A. RAU

prau@recordargusnews.com

If you're graduating from Reynolds High School in the coming year or years take note. Another scholarship opportunity is coming your way, courtesy of the fledgling Reynolds Alumni Association.

The association, co-chaired by Reynolds graduate Mary Lynne Reimold and retired Reynolds teacher and alumnus Tom Harpst, was created as part of the school's upcoming 50th anniversary celebration.

Harpst and Reimold, who say the basic framework of the association — its board and membership requirements and benefits — has been laid, are now on the hunt for the most important pieces of the puzzle: members.

The association's membership drive kicked off with booths at Fredonia's Old Home Week festival and will also have a presence at Transfer Harvest Home, Aug. 25 through Aug. 29.

"We just want to get as big a group (of members) as we can," said Reimold of the association's membership drive. "We want people to socialize, get to know each other and create a strong community that doesn't dwindle after awhile."

The community could potentially be huge.

Academic Hall of Fame planned at RHS

By JOSEPH A. TOROK

RHS Principal and Academics Committee Chair

The academics sub-committee of the 50th anniversary celebration is chaired by Reynolds High School Principal Joseph A. Torok and includes many diverse members. Members include Jeff Colson and Beverly Morrison, school board members; high school teachers Kenda Hoover, Kathy McCann and Katie Tyson; students Sam Geigel, Kara Mostoller and Luke Taylor; and community members and alumni Hazel Harpst and Tom Harpst.

This sub-committee has met three times in June and July. One primary goal is to establish a Reynolds Academic Hall of Fame to recognize those alumni who have brought distinction, honor and excellence to Reynolds High School through their efforts in the realm of academics.

Potential members might be Reynolds valedictorians and salutatorians, as well as graduates who may have achieved Ph.D., M.D., or other doctoral degrees; J.D.; or other advanced academic degrees.

See Academics, page 15

Over 50 years, Reynolds Area School District has graduated more than 5,000 students.

Members are the most important part of the organization, said Harpst, because membership fees equal money for the scholarship RAA hopes to field. The yearly \$5 membership fee paid by alumni will create a scholarship awarded to a Reynolds graduate.

"The main purpose of this organization is to provide scholarships to the students of Reynolds High School," said Harpst, who said the association hopes to offer one scholarship to a graduating student this year.

And if all goes well the association will eventually offer multiple scholarships and could even help graduating seniors defray costs — like trips to science or industry camps — associated with their graduation projects.

"If we are successful ... that would be a second phase of (the association's mission)," said Harpst.

As of now, Reimold said the association's scholarship will not be tailored to a specific area of study.

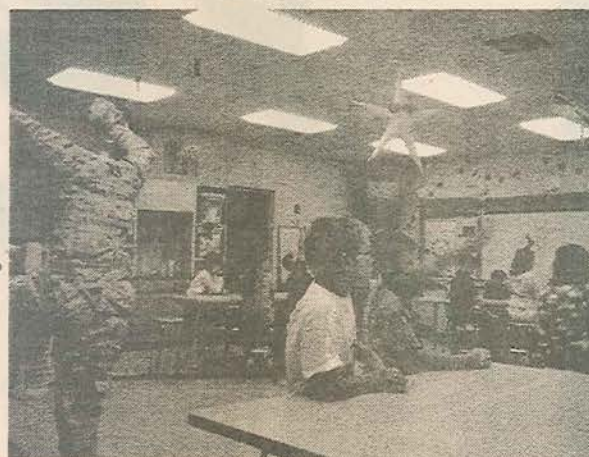
For RAA members themselves, Reimold said the association will hold several social events each year in an effort to bring former students closer together, but the club isn't a substitute for

See Alumni, page 15

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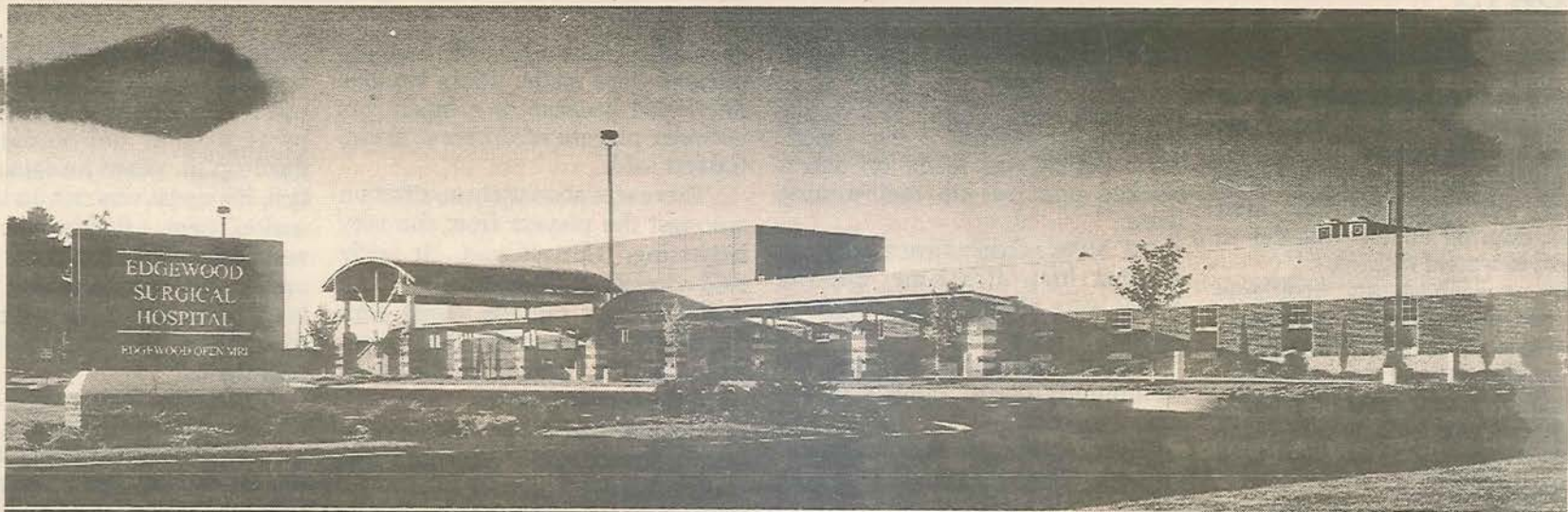
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SPORTS

Continued from page 6

I worked in so the kids could see me mowing the lawn and see that I was just like everyone else."

The relationships built between players and coaches, the men agreed, allowed all the athletics to start off in a solid fashion.

"We never had any problems with getting everyone together," Harpst said. "A lot of the times, kids were neighbors and went to different schools and after Reynolds brought all the kids to the same school, it just got to be neighbors with neighbors."

While the men spent years in their respective programs, certain games and moments still resonate more than others. For Sherwood, an undefeated 1964 mark of 8-0 was the highlight.

"We just had some really good athletes to work with," Sherwood said. "They were great kids that I had the pleasure to coach. We had a lot of state qualifiers that year."

Harpst, of course, has an affinity for the 19-win basketball season, but remembers football games against St. Michael's on the turf as some of the greatest memories despite a rather one-sided affair as

Reynolds defeated the Irish 39-7 in their first match up. However, a comeback 19-18 victory is a classic memory for Harpst. A two touch-down deficit was made up and a blocked punt set up the winning score.

"St. Mike's didn't have a program for that long of a time, but the games were always tough when we played," Harpst said.

Harpst said sports became the "community event" quickly in the school district.

"Every sports was well attended," he said. "They always got everyone out."

Garrett coached the record Raider basketball team of 1962, but takes little credit for the achievement.

"These kids just didn't make that many mistakes," Garrett said. "They played very good defense, but there was a transition from Fredonia to Reynolds."

The transition was not the mix of players from their former schools, it was the court. At Fredonia, the defense was zone-focused because of the quaintness of the confines. The move to a bigger court gave Reynolds a chance to bring in high-

er-quality clubs and still winning seasons were made. Those seasons developed because of a quick mix between players of different areas, Garrett said.

"There was absolutely no division amongst the players from the very beginning," Garrett said. "It really said a lot about these kids."

But Garrett said he, along with the others, believed the ease to create a singular, unified school started at the top with Bost.

"He just had a way with everyone," Garrett said. "He could just relate with them so well."

Garrett remembers a day when two students got in a bit of a scuffle during lunch.

"Mr. Bost went up to them and told them to come with him," Garrett said. "They went to the gym and he told them to fight. Well, after a few minutes, they didn't fight and he said 'Well, girls if you are not going to fight, then let's go.'"

Lineman, a Mercer County, State and National Hall of Famer, believed his fair but tough attitude pushed all of his players no matter how talented.

"We had a state-winner who had

showed up late to school because he was hunting," Lineman said. "There was a rule students had to be there by 11:30 a.m. and he didn't show until 1 p.m. When he came to practice, his name was not on the elimination sheet. I told him he was late and he brought his parents in to discuss it. He went on to quit the team because of it, but we had rules and regulations and no one could get past them."

Lineman's teams would attract thousands to different university gymnasiums and after he retired in the late 1970s, the programs went through several changes before the highly successful Brian Hills took over.

"Brian has taken what I have done to the next level," Lineman said. "He is a great coach."

While the coaches and players from the early stages of Reynolds have long stepped away from the field, court, mats and track the memories are still there.

"It was something I thoroughly enjoyed during my time," Lineman said.

"I would not trade it for anything," Harpst said. "There were some great times there."

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ACADEMICS

Continued from page 12

All inductees will be honored by having their pictures and biographies displayed on plaques, which will be placed on an Academic Wall of Fame.

Applications for the Academic Hall of Fame will be available at the 50th anniversary kick-off celebration Aug. 30.

Nominations for membership can be submitted by any member of the public, the student body, faculty and staff, or administration. Nominees are not eligible for induction until 10 years after their graduation from Reynolds High School.

Another goal of the academics sub-committee is to recognize and honor all past and present members of the Reynolds National Honor Society. All society members will be recognized by having their names printed and displayed in framed, glass-covered exhibits which will be prominently displayed in the high

school.

An inaugural Academic Hall of Fame induction ceremony will be held at 6:30 p.m. April 13, 2010, in the Reynolds High School large group instruction room. Additionally, National Honor Society members past and present will be honored at a ceremony which will be held sometime in April or May of 2010.

A final goal of the academics sub-committee is to reorganize a Reynolds Academics Booster Club in the district. This group will be charged with promoting academic achievement and recognition—and perhaps the awarding of academic scholarships. Sign-up sheets will be available at the kick-off celebration.



For further information, contact Joseph A. Torok at 724-646-5700, or jtorok@reynolds.k12.pa.us.

ALUMNI

Continued from page 12

class reunions or other school-based social clubs.

"We're considering a yearly dinner, a post-homecoming game get-together, things like that," said Reimold of RAA's plans for its members. "But the association isn't meant to take the place of class reunions. We want to promote these things."

One way RAA will promote things like class reunions, football games, and update its members on other goings-on at Reynolds is through a Web site that Harpst and Reimold hope will be linked to social networking sites like Facebook — where two independent alumni pages have 1,200 and 800 members respectively.

"The biggest thing we can provide is a vehicle to communicate," said Harpst. "We have to remember we're concerned with the well-being

of the entire educational community."

That means, said Harpst, using alumni as a means to help them connect not only with other former Reynolds students, but with the current state of affairs in the district itself — as well as taking advantage of younger, more tech-savvy members (and even students) who can help the association grow its online apparatus.

"Hopefully as the years go it will build," said Reimold, who said involving younger, Internet- and computer-savvy people will help the association put down the deep roots necessary to keep it viable long into the future.

"This is an organization that will last beyond the (50th anniversary) celebration," said Harpst. "It will continue to prosper and aid our students years from now."

Looking back on 50 years

By PATTY POPOVICH
RHS alumnae

Looking back on 50 years,
So many things I see.

When entering these
hallowed halls,
The past it speaks to me.

Each one whose wisdom they
did share
On sometimes deafened ears,
Have left their mark on souls
and hearts,
And still brings me to tears.

The pride remains from
victories won
By classmates of the past.

The Raider Spirit still
prevails
For in our heart it lasts.

Please bless all who have yet
to come,
And those who've gone
before.

May pride and wisdom
follow you
As you pass through these
doors.

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GENESIS

Continued from page 4

were all friends," Dick said.

Eiola said it was always so surprising the children from St. Paul's Orphans School came to Reynolds, because they had to pass through Greenville to get to school. The experience was enriching for them, she said.

"St. Paul's students always liked it better at Reynolds," said Eiola.

Because the teachers were also new they didn't know anyone else, Dick said, so they made friendships and congregated outside the school.

"The men's faculty, in particular had a big party the last day of school," Dick said. Bost and Welch were always on hand, Dick said, to celebrate with their colleagues.

Harmony within a school district was not always a given, according to Dick. He grew up in an education-oriented family, and some of his father's schools didn't work that way, he said.

Reynolds High School is situated in the middle of the old base, Dick said. The football field lies where the old Army hospital's parking lot used to be. All the school buildings are now situated on the former Camp

Reynolds grounds, Dick said.

The names of the streets still hearken back to the base, said Dick. At Camp Reynolds, there were the numbered streets, and there were also streets A, B, C, D and E. After the base became the heart of the Reynolds area in Pymatuning Township, the streets were renamed Arlington, Brentwood, Crestview, Delmar and Edgewood. Maple Drive used to be the officers' quarters, Dick said, and their quarters became housing used today. Kidds Mill Road wasn't paved until Reynolds schools came along, said Dick.

Planning for the new district began in the mid-50s, and it took five to six years in order for the state to approve all the plans, Dick said. West Salem, Pymatuning and Fredonia-Delaware each had its own school board, and there was also a joint school board. The joint board's decision overruled the others, and eventually, they were dissolved, Dick said. It is for this reason the Reynolds School Board must have representatives from each of the aforementioned townships, said Dick.

"Jointures were popular in the 50s and 60s," he said.

Originally from Warren County, Dick said he planned to go back home after he graduated college to begin teaching. Because his father was superintendent, he didn't feel it was proper to work there. A position was open at Reynolds, and Dick stayed for 31 years.

Both of Dick's children are RHS grads, and some of his grandchildren are graduating from the school.

Ray said he had been a coach at Reynolds, he had the first Raiders football boosters club and has been involved in sports the whole time the school has been there. Harpst said he still attends the sporting events.

The old school buildings, stripped of their duties as secondary schools, became elementary schools in the Reynolds district, said Dick. When Reynolds Elementary was built, those schools closed, but some continue life as private institutions, he said.

The name "Reynolds" came from Gen. John F. Reynolds, a Union officer from the Civil War. As a natural progression, Dick said the school colors, blue and gray, came from the North's and the South's uniforms, and the Raiders mascot was modeled after a soldier of that era. Dick

believed Don Thomas, art teacher at Reynolds, drew the first mascot.

Former RHS teacher Thomas Jeffries attended the recent Reynolds Class of 1961 reunion, along with ex-faculty members Neal Lineman and Mary Brown. He was the first band director there, and he wrote the music for Reynolds' alma mater. Students Nancy Larson, Anne Bassick and Rodney McDowell wrote the lyrics, and Jeffries noted the song endures.

A Fredonia-Delaware transplant, Jeffries directed the band until 1990, and his musicians marched everywhere. During the first year, Jeffries said the band had 21 members and no uniforms — those came with time, he said.

"Reynolds was a friendly school that came together very well," Jeffries said.

After many years, Reynolds had evolved into what it is today — a leading learning institution with 21st-century technology.

"For years, we had to live down the reputation as farmers," Dick said, "but we lived that down."

Ray said, "Everything that has happened at Reynolds has been on the upswing."

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By LAURIE SHERBONDY
Steering Committee Member
and

By JANET SMITH
School Board Member

The Reynolds 50th Anniversary Celebration Committee on The Arts is a group of 16 people who have worked hard to develop events and projects to recognize the fine tradition Reynolds School District has related to art, music and theatre. The committee is co-chaired by Jamie Heckman, elementary teacher, and Scott Shearer, assistant high school principal. Members include Suzanne Cebula, Hazel Harpst, Elizabeth Helms, district music teacher; Sue Holiga, Jack Morris, Karen Morris, Michelle Morris, district music teacher; Chris Osborne, board member; Laurie Sherbondy, Janet Smith, board member; Brooke Stegkamper, Hope Stegkamper, Donald Lee Thomas, former art teacher; and Gino Tofani, district art teacher.

As Reynolds School District celebrates its 50th anniversary we look forward to the following events throughout the year:

■ Our homecoming football game will be 7 p.m. Oct. 9, against Maplewood. Reynolds Alumni Band will perform before and after the game with our marching band. All alumni interested in participating in this event are asked to contact Michelle Morris, district band director, at mmorris@reynolds.k12.pa.us. For those without e-mail, call Reynolds High School at 724-646-5700 for more details.

■ Reynolds Winter Choral and Band Concert will be held December 6, 2009. The music presented by the senior high band will be from around the world, with a focus on countries involved in World War II.

■ Our musical, "Bye Bye Birdie," will be held March 18, 19 and 20, 2010. It will include a picture slide show of past theatrical performances before the musical and during intermissions.

■ Our annual spring band concert will take place May 13, 2010. The junior and senior high school bands will share songs of the Civil War and World War II. There will also be a picture slide show of past bands before the concert and during intermissions.

■ Our annual spring choral concert and arts festival will be held May 20, 2010. It will feature art displays from current students and alumni. Music will be dedicated to the '60s and will include a special alumni chorus performance.

At the Kick-Off celebration Aug. 30 be sure to stop by the band room to see memorabilia and a picture slide show of past bands, band fronts, and musical choirs. Kids can try their hand at playing the school's alma mater on the chimes.

In the art room there will be a display of art donated to the school from students throughout the years, and a picture slide show of art clubs of the past 50 years. Free face painting for kids will also be offered.

District leaders to receive recognition

By BARRY NELSON
School Board VP and 50th Anniversary
Chair

The Leadership Committee of the 50th anniversary celebration is co-chaired by elementary Principal Ron Bradley and elementary teacher Debbie Wolford. The committee includes many diverse mem-

bers, including Brad Miller, school board member; Marilyn Brant, Laura Doddo, Kelly Fuchs, teacher; Julie Griswold, and district employees Patty Popovitch and Sue Mathieson.

The committee plans to honor past and present Reynolds School District leaders, including class officers and advisors, student govern-

ment members and advisors, superintendents, principals and school board members.

These district leaders will be honored at a leadership brunch, which will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 18, 2010, at Reynolds Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7599. This event will feature a digital Power Point presentation that travels through the decades of Reynolds

School District leaders.



If you ever served in any of these important leadership roles and would like to attend in this event, please contact Mr. Bradley at the elementary school, 724-646-5700, or rbradley@reynolds.k12.pa.us. We would like to add you to our database.

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MATMEN

Continued from page 9

these decades will take place before each of the particular matches. An open house-type event with refreshments will be held afterwards in the multi-purpose room.

Are you a member of any of these wrestling teams? Were any family members, neighbors or friends members of these teams? Please help us to pass the word. We want everyone to know what we're trying

to do, and to become involved. We want these special recognition efforts to be successful.

If you plan to attend any of the matches and participate in the recognition, please let us know by contacting Mr. Steve Waleff, Reynolds athletic director, at 724-646-3221 ext. 114 or swaleff@reynolds.k12.pa.us; or Sue Combine at 724-646-5521, or scombine@reynolds.k12.pa.us.

At the kick-off celebration Aug. 30 a lot of rare, interesting, and historical wrestling items will be on display. Included will be the wrestling shoes of each and every state champion. A lot of pictures will be displayed, and DVDs will be continuously played of all state wrestling championship matches. These DVDs will ultimately be available for purchase; proceeds will benefit the soon-to-be-established Reynolds Alumni Association

scholarship.

Over the last 49 years Reynolds' wrestling career team record stands at 644 victories, 71 losses and two ties. Two of the losses were forfeits due to strikes. The program winning percentage stands at 90 percent.

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Happy 50th Anniversary Reynolds School District!

Reynolds 50th anniversary events

August 2009

- ❖ 4-8: Fredonia Fair parade/display.
- ❖ 25: Tabloid published.
- ❖ 25-29: Transfer Fair parade/display.
- ❖ 30: 50th anniversary Kick-off Celebration.

September 2009

- ❖ 2: Fall sports Meet the Raiders night.
- ❖ 4: Reynolds v. Northwestern football honoring teams, players, coaches & cheerleaders of the '60s.
- ❖ 8: Reynolds v. Commodore Perry CC honoring teams, runners & coaches of the '60s & '70s.
- ❖ 11: Reynolds v. Sharon football honoring teams, players, coaches & cheerleaders of the '70s.
- ❖ 25: Reynolds v. Titusville football, honoring teams, players, coaches & cheerleaders of '80s.
- ❖ 29: Reynolds v. Hickory CC honoring teams, runners & coaches of the '80s.

October 2009

- ❖ 6: Reynolds v. Farrell volleyball, honoring all Reynolds past & present volleyball teams, players, coaches & cheerleaders.
- ❖ 9: Homecoming Reynolds v. Maplewood football, honoring teams, players, coaches & cheerleaders of

the 1990s. Alumni Band performs before & after game with RHS Marching Band.

- ❖ 13: Reynolds v. Grove City CC, honoring teams, runners & coaches of the '90s.
- ❖ 20: Reynolds v. Wilmington CC, honoring teams, runners & coaches of this decade.
- ❖ 23: Reynolds v. Hickory football, honoring teams, players, coaches & cheerleaders of this decade.

December 2009

- ❖ 6: Winter Concert.
- ❖ 9: Winter sports Meet the Raiders night
- ❖ 16: Reynolds v. Erie McDowell wrestling, honoring team, wrestlers, coaches & cheerleaders of the '60s.
- ❖ 19: Reynolds v. Lakeview girls basketball, honoring teams, players, coaches & cheerleaders of the '70s & '80s.
- ❖ 22: Reynolds v. Fort LeBoeuf wrestling, honoring teams, wrestlers, coaches & cheerleaders of the '70s.
- ❖ 23: Reynolds v. Grove City girls basketball, honoring teams, player,

coaches & cheerleaders of the '90s & this decade.

January 2010

- ❖ 5: Reynolds v. Slippery Rock wrestling, honoring teams, wrestlers, coaches & cheerleaders of '80s.
- ❖ 8: Reynolds v. Jamestown boys basketball, honoring teams, players, coaches & cheerleaders of the '60s.
- ❖ 13: Reynolds v. Grove City wrestling, honoring teams, wrestlers, coaches & cheerleaders of the '90s.
- ❖ 15: Reynolds v. West Middlesex boys basketball, honoring teams, players, coaches & cheerleaders of the '70s.
- ❖ 22: Reynolds v. Wilmington boys basketball, honoring teams, players, coaches & cheerleaders of '80s.
- ❖ 27: Reynolds v. Sharon wrestling, honoring teams, wrestlers, coaches & cheerleaders of the this decade.

February 2010

- ❖ 5: Reynolds v. Lakeview boys basketball, honoring teams, players, coaches & cheerleaders of the 1990s.
- ❖ 16: Reynolds v. Mercer boys basket-

ball.

- ❖ 19: Reynolds v. Greenville boys basketball. At one game or the other, we will honor teams, players, coaches & cheerleaders of this decade.

March 2010

- ❖ 18-20: "Bye Bye Birdie" school musical.
- ❖ 24: Spring sports Meet the Raiders night.

April 2010

- ❖ 9: Reynolds v. Hickory baseball, honoring the first Reynolds baseball team, coaches, & players.
- ❖ 13: Academic Hall of Fame induction ceremony at 6:30 p.m. in the high school large group instruction room.
- ❖ 18: Leadership Banquet, honoring all past & present superintendents, principals, class officers & advisors, school board members, & all other people who served in leadership roles throughout our history.

May 2010

- ❖ 12: Reynolds v. Wilmington baseball game, honoring all other Reynolds baseball teams, coaches, & players (except for those of the first year).
- ❖ 20: High School Arts Festival/Spring Concert.

Congratulations to the Reynolds School District Faculty for 50 years of educating our students!

**West Salem Township
Supervisors**
610 Vernon Road
Geenville, PA 16125
724-588-2082

**Pymatuning Township
Supervisors**
P. O. Box 108
Transfer, PA 16154
724-646-1134

**Delaware Township
Supervisors**
53 Ontontown Road
Geenville, PA 16125
724-588-2040

**Fredonia Borough
Council**
45 Water Street
Fredonia, PA 16124
724-475-2352

Congratulations on 50 years!

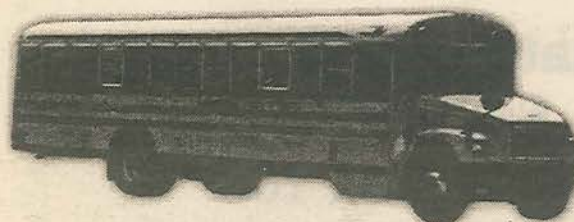
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your most precious cargo -



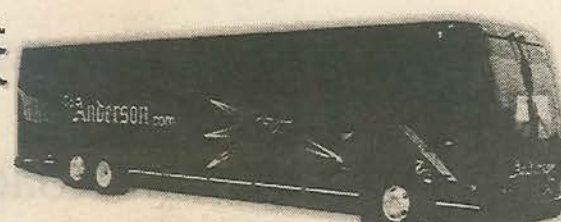
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