



Celebrating over 29 years of supporting excellence!

Foundations

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE EGR SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

VOL. XXVII, AUGUST 2012



2012-2013

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President's Message

Welcome back to the 2012-2013 school year! I'm hopeful that you had a fantastic "hot" summer, filled with many wonderful moments spent with friends and family. As August arrives we all begin to look toward the school year with goals and a large "to-do list." Those of us at the Foundation are in planning mode as we look toward the new year and beyond.

On behalf of the EGR Schools Foundation, I want to thank you for your commitment to our schools. Through the EGRNOW! fundraising campaign, our community raised over \$520,000 and proved that achieving and maintaining a certain level of excellence is important to us and gives us great pride; it strengthens our schools even in difficult financial times.

In addition to our EGRNOW! campaign the Foundation funded over \$96,000 in grants, awards, scholarships and support for our students and teachers. Enhancing the curriculum in our children's classrooms and providing our teachers with the resources needed to continue to provide innovative learning environments for our students clearly defines our mission and our passion at the East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation.

The support the Foundation provides the District would not be possible without strong community members like you. As we all know your support of the Foundation can come in many forms: attending one of our fun community-wide events like HURRAH! or the Gerken Open golf outing, giving your time as a volunteer, or simply writing a check in support of the Foundation. Any way that you choose to support the Foundation supports the children in our community and their learning.

My sincere thank you for all that you do to continue our tradition of excellence.

Sincerely,

Lindel Hoff, President

DATES TO REMEMBER:

September 4, 2012 – School begins for all students

November 1, 2012 – Fall grant deadline

November 12, 2012 – Community Service and Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner

March 1, 2013 – Spring grant deadline

March 9, 2013 – HURRAH! 2013

May 1, 2013 – Nominations due for teacher awards and student scholarships





2011-2012 Grants, Awards, Scholarships and Support Awarded

<u>Grants</u>	<u>Requestor/School</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Pioneer Auditorium Choir Microphone System For Melodies in March and elementary plays	Linda Sawade/Wealthy	\$687
Live Presentation by Kevin Kammeraad Local author to enhance Michigan social studies curriculum	Marti Chardon, Scott Mitton/Breton, Lakeside	\$775
Vernier Probes for Science Labs Monitors for water quality	Kevin Vance/Middle School	\$2,980
CAD Plotter Enhances Drafting, Design & Technology (DDT) courses	Patrick Reed, Will Yardley/High School	\$1,500
10 iPads for Second Grade Classrooms Purchased in collaboration with Breton PTA	Lori Dood, Lisa Eldersveld, Cinny Gould/Breton	\$4,280
12 iPads for Kindergarten Classrooms Purchased in collaboration with Elementary PTAs	All Kindergarten Teachers/Breton, Lakeside, Wealthy	\$4,675
30 iPads with Mobile Lab Purchased in collaboration with Wealthy Elementary and PTA	Anthony Morey/Wealthy	\$7,000
3 SMART Board Interactive Whiteboards for Math Teachers	Elisha Murphy, Peter Faber, Erik Lundeen/ High School	\$7,795
4 SMART Board Interactive Whiteboards	Caroline Breault-Cannon/Breton	\$10,000
2 SMART Board Interactive Whiteboards for 4th/5th Grade Classrooms Purchased in collaboration with Wealthy Elementary and PTA	Kelly Froehlich, Mary Follett/Wealthy	\$3,500
Technology and Resources for "Flipping the Classroom" Innovative instructional approach to teaching	Jenny Fee/High School	\$911
The Miracle Worker Speaker from Spectrum Theater to enhance study of classic play	Beth Hill, Maureen Hart/Middle School	\$312
Signing Time Component of Champions of Diversity Program	Vikki Boersma, Melissa Sayre, Jodi Westgate/Breton	\$245
Dremel Tool Kits and Accessories For use in art studio	Terry Szpieg/High School	\$300
Marimba Instrument used in percussion section	Mark Wells, Bill Bier/Middle School	\$2,000
Ricky Ian Gordon Interactive Presentation Composer and speaker versed in literature and music	Jane Hazle, Sara Edleman, Pam Steers/High School	\$1,350
1 SMART Board Interactive Whiteboard for Special Education Classroom Purchased in collaboration with Wealthy PTA	Carlye Allen/Wealthy	\$1,750
10 iPads with Mobile Cart Purchased in collaboration with Breton Elementary and PTA	Caroline Breault-Cannon/Breton	\$5,669
1 SMART Board Interactive Whiteboard	Cheryl Radecki/Breton	\$2,000
6 iPads for 1st grade Classrooms Purchased in collaboration with Breton Elementary and PTA	Jodi Westgate, Vikki Boersma, Melissa Sayre/Breton	\$994
1 SMART Board Interactive Whiteboard	Sue McLain/Breton	\$2,000
iPad Initiative - 45 iPads Purchased in collaboration with Middle School & PTSA	Peter Stuursma/Middle School	\$10,425

continued on page 3



2011-2012 Grants, Awards, Scholarships and Support Awarded, continued from page 2

Grants

Zuma Rocker Chairs

Alternative seating for students

1 SMART Board Interactive Whiteboard

Martin Luther King Day Activities

Students made over 300 blankets for families in need

“Why Try” Program

Program to support positive behavior

Mark Crilly Visit to Art Classes

Well-known author and illustrator

TOTAL GRANTS

Awards and Scholarships

Teacher Awards

Student Scholarships

Teacher Scholarships

TOTAL AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Other Support

Jimmy Gerken Fund Support:

Kabookie Week Activities

Performance Music Stands

We The People Program Support

Yearbook Support

Day of Caring Support

Healthy High Support

Drama and Music Program Support

TOTAL OTHER SUPPORT

TOTAL GRANTS, AWARDS,

SCHOLARSHIPS AND SUPPORT

Requestor/School

Sarah Ryder/Wealthy

Kaitlin Ronda/Lakeside

Bill Behrendt, Steve Brinks/Middle School

Bill Behrendt/Middle School

Holly Lampen/Middle School

School

High School

High School

High School

High School

Middle School

High School

All Buildings K-12

Amount

\$800

\$2,000

\$500

\$500

\$300

\$75,248

Amount

\$3,500

\$2,750

\$6,100

\$12,350

Amount

\$2,560

\$1,549

\$2,188

\$450

\$500

\$500

\$1,300

\$9,047

\$96,645



The new marimba at the middle school enhances the percussion section.



The Foundation was the lead sponsor of Into the Woods, the spring musical at the high school.



Treasurer's Report

Once again, the East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation was able to make a meaningful difference in the lives of our students. During the 2011-12 school year, the Foundation provided over \$96,000 to further its mission of maintaining and enhancing the quality of education within the district. Over the past three fiscal years, the Foundation has provided over \$267,000 to fund additional needs within the five schools that make up our district. None of this would be possible without the continued support of the East Grand Rapids residents, alumni and businesses who continue to build upon the tradition of excellence and strong sense of community that East Grand Rapids is known for.

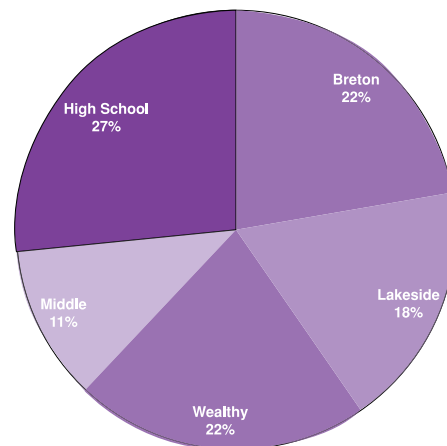
The endowment has grown to over \$2.6 million as of June 30, 2012, allowing us to have an even greater impact on our students and schools in the coming years. With further reductions in public school funding from the State of Michigan, the list of financial needs within East Grand Rapids is growing. As a Foundation, we strive to provide assistance in areas that have the biggest impact to our students. In addition, it is crucial to balance the needs of today's students with building the endowment to support the needs of the students of tomorrow. This equilibrium is a core part of our mission and is fundamental in the Foundation's management.

Thank you for your continued support of the East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation.

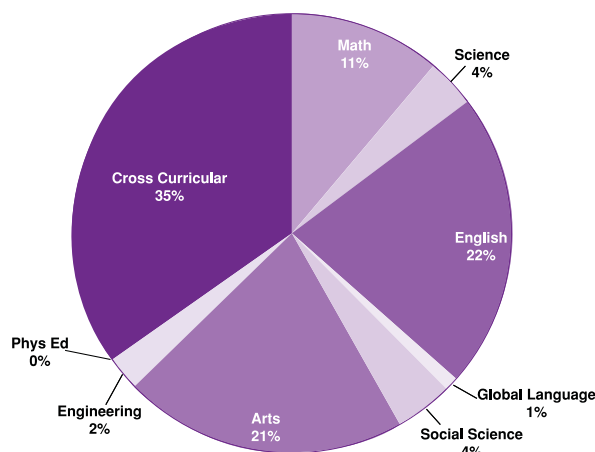
Brad Freiburger - Treasurer

Thanks to your generosity and the Foundation's stewardship, the endowment continues to grow, while providing record support to educational excellence.

Grants Awarded by Building Three-Year History



Grants Awarded by Subject Area Three-Year History



East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation

MISSION STATEMENT & HISTORY

The East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation enriches the educational experience of our students by funding excellence in teaching and learning that requires financial support beyond the district.

The East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation was established in 1983 as a private, non-profit organization to maintain and enhance the quality of education within the East Grand Rapids Public Schools and is solely dependent on tax-deductible donations from the community. As an endowed foundation, contributions are added to the principal and spending each year is limited to the amount earned on that principal. As of June 30, 2012, the Foundation has a current endowment of \$2,694,639 and has awarded over \$1,070,000 in grants, awards and scholarships since 1983.

The Foundation is governed by a 20-member volunteer Board of Directors. Membership is drawn from the community-at-large and two East Grand Rapids High School students. The East Grand Rapids Public Schools Superintendent and a representative from the East Grand Rapids School Board serve as ex-officio members. The Foundation is staffed by a part-time Executive Director, Accountant and Office Assistant with offices located at the East Grand Rapids Public Schools James E. Morse Building of Administration.





EGRNOW! - Community Rallies to Save Critical School Programs

The EGRNOW! 2012 campaign was a tremendous success! Through the gifts of 712 donors, we raised more than \$520,000 and were able to save:

- Elementary Spanish, K-5
- Young Fives, Kindergarten and First Grade Classroom Para-Educators
- K-12 Intervention Specialists

We can all be proud of the role EGRNOW! played in preserving these critical programs. These programs will continue to enrich and enhance the education of our children while maintaining the level of excellence in education that our community desires.

We know how important our school system is to the East Grand Rapids community, our students and our alumni. Especially in these times of uncertain education funding, community support is crucial in maintaining the quality of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools. Fully educating and developing our students is critical to the high quality of our schools, as well as maintaining EGR property values. A huge thank you goes out to our community for everyone's efforts!



Many students got involved with the EGRNOW! campaign.



2012 Community Service and Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner – November 12, 2012

The East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation is pleased to announce its 2012 Community Service and Distinguished Alumni Award recipients. The recipients of this year's Community Service Award are the Founding Board of Directors of the EGR Schools Foundation: Judith Frey, Robert Eleveld, John Sebastian, Linda Patterson, Brent Slay, the late James Maher and the late Marjorie Chamberlain. These community members had the foresight nearly 30 years ago to establish the endowed foundation to maintain and enhance the quality of the schools in East Grand Rapids.

The 2012 Distinguished Alumni Award will be presented to Dr. David M. Barrett, MD, EGR Class of 1960. He is the Emeritus President and Chief Executive Officer of the Lahey

Clinic, a non-profit multispecialty healthcare organization based in Burlington, Massachusetts.

The Foundation will host its eighth Community Service and Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner on Monday, November 12, 2012, at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in downtown Grand Rapids, Michigan. We invite you to be part of this special evening. Proceeds from this event will benefit the East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation. Information about the event will be available on the Foundation website at www.egrsf.org or from the Foundation Office at 616-235-3535.



David M. Barrett, '60

Community Service Award Recipients

- 1998 Jimmy Gerken
- 2000 The William Edison Family
- 2002 Bill and Sue Fowler
- 2004 David Mehney, '57
- 2006 Judy Frey
- 2008 Butch Briggs
- 2010 Mary Dersch

*Nominations for honorees
for the Fall 2014 dinner
will be accepted through
December 1, 2013.*

Distinguished Alumni Award Recipients

- 1998 John Hockenberry, '74
- 2000 L. William Seidman, '39
- 2002 David Tarantino, Jr., MD, '83
- 2004 Chris VanAllsburg, '67
- 2006 William George, '60
- 2008 Martha Teichner, '65
- 2010 Gillian Sorensen, '59
- 2010 David McLaughlin, '50 (posthumous)



Excellence in Teaching and Vi-Chem Awards

Every August at the annual back to school all-staff meeting of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools, the winners of the Excellence in Teaching and the Vi-Chem awards are announced. The Foundation has awarded the Excellence in Teaching Award since 1987 and it was established to recognize and encourage superior professional effort to improve instruction and to cultivate the continuation of educational excellence in our schools. The Vi-Chem award was established in 1991 by the Nicholas/Slott family to recognize superior teaching in the areas of science, mathematics and technology.



Tim Farmer



Michelle Kirk



Matt Fouch

The 2011 Excellence in Teaching Award recipient for the secondary level was Tim Farmer. Tim is a math teacher at the High School. Michelle Kirk received the 2011 Elementary Excellence in Teaching Award. Michelle is a first grade teacher at Lakeside Elementary. Matt Fouch, a math teacher at the Middle School, was selected as the recipient of the 20th Vi-Chem Award for excellence in teaching of science, mathematics and technology. Congratulations to all three of you for the much deserved recognition!

We look forward to announcing our 2012 award winners at the opening staff meeting on August 29, 2012.

Scholarships Awarded

The East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation funds scholarships for students and teachers each year to support endeavors in continued education.

This year the East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation awarded three student scholarships and six teacher scholarships through the VandenBerg Fund.



Meredith Clark, Claire Angell, Amber Middleton

The East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation Scholarship is a \$1,000 scholarship awarded to a high school senior who shows commitment to education and community and has strong aspirations and goals for the future. This year's recipient, Claire Angell, will be attending Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama in the fall of 2012 to study nursing.

The Ridenour Scholarship is a student scholarship that funds \$750 for post-secondary educational costs. This scholarship is awarded to a student who exemplifies the character traits for which Chip B. Ridenour Jr. is most remembered: caring, nurturing, and regard for the dignity of an individual. The recipient of this year's Ridenour Scholarship was Meredith Clark. Meredith will be attending Colgate University in Hamilton, New York in the fall of 2012.

The third student scholarship awarded this spring was the Reid VanGelderens Scholarship. This scholarship is a \$1,000 scholarship for post-secondary education given to a high school student who has displayed moral character, integrity, and academic excellence all while facing personal or family adversity. Our winner this year, Amber Middleton, will attend Columbia College in Chicago in the fall of 2012.

The last group of scholarships awarded are teacher scholarships that are funded by the William O. VandenBerg Scholarship Fund. These scholarships are given annually to one or more EGR staff to be used for a class, seminar or workshop that will directly enhance the quality of teaching in that person's current academic area. Thanks to the generosity of the VandenBerg family, we were able to fund scholarships totaling \$4,100 to six teachers. This year's recipients were: Elizabeth Anderson for the Iditarod Trail Finalist interview trip, Socorro Mercado-Blackport for course work in Spain, Kim Doele for attendance at the Teacher's College Advanced Writing Institute, Winona Tinholt and Tim Saunders for participation in the Technology in Education Global Program in Geneva, Switzerland, and Sara Edleman for attendance at the Blended Instruction and Assessment seminar.

Congratulations to all of our student and staff scholarship recipients!



Teachers can be nominated for the Excellence in Teaching and Vi-Chem awards by current or former students, parents or community members. Nomination forms can be found on the

Foundation website at www.egrsf.org. Nominations are due May 1.



Hurrah! 2012— A St. Patrick's Day to Remember EGR Schools Foundation Annual Fundraiser



On March 17, 2012, the community showed their support of our schools by attending **HURRAH! a St. Patrick's Day Celebration**, the East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation community winter party. The event was held at the Widdicomb Building in downtown Grand Rapids.

HURRAH!, the annual fundraiser for the East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation, was an exceptional evening of shamrocks, food, and camaraderie, with live music from River City Stew, Twin Thistle and Celtic Kilroy. This year's event featured tastings from local establishments and specialty food shops including: *Acorn Grille at Thousand Oaks Golf Club, Amore Trattoria Italiana, Bar Divani, Big Bob's, El Barrio Mexican Grill, Founders Brewing Co., The Green Well, Mary Ann's Chocolates, Olive's, Ramona's Table, Rose's on Reed's Lake, TCBY, Arby's, and Jet's Pizza.*

HURRAH! 2012 was a huge success with over 675 people attending the event. The event was the kick off for the EGRNOW! campaign and raised over \$119,000 in support of the Foundation, our schools and our students.

Thanks to your support of HURRAH! and the Schools Foundation, EGRSF funded over \$96,000 in grants, awards, scholarships and support during the 2011-2012 school year!

Please plan to join us next year on March 9 for HURRAH! 2013.





Foundations

August 2012
Volume XXVII

East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation "STARS"

Gifts to the Foundation were made to honor stars in our school community. Below is the list of gifts made during the Spring of 2012 recognizing a favorite teacher, staff member or school employee. Thank you to the many contributors and to the many outstanding staff members who make East Grand Rapids Public Schools a great place to learn!

- | | |
|---|---|
| Karen Accola
<i>1st Grade Class</i> | Erin Grin
<i>The Connor Family</i> |
| Betsy Anderson
<i>Sawyer Allchin</i> | Michelle Kirk
<i>Gabe Frazier</i> |
| Kaelynn Benham
<i>Rachelle Winterberger</i> | Chris LaMange
<i>Will, James &
Tammy De Haan</i> |
| Vikki Boersma
<i>1st Grade Class</i> | Holly Lampen
<i>Will, James &
Tammy De Haan</i> |
| Steve Brinks
<i>The Mack Family</i> | Kathy Larson
<i>Rachelle Winterberger</i> |
| Molly Buxton
<i>The Connor Family</i> | Kristen Lecours
<i>Rachelle Winterberger</i> |
| "Mr. Howard" Cassell
<i>Rachelle Winterberger</i> | Tanya Paas
<i>The Lippert Family</i> |
| Barb Davis
<i>Will, James &
Tammy De Haan</i> | Cheryl Radecki
<i>4th Grade Class</i> |
| EGR High School Staff
<i>Jacob Frazier</i> | Kaitlin Ronda
<i>Luke Frazier</i> |
| EGR Middle School Staff
<i>Tabitha Frazier</i> | Brett Scheidel
<i>Rachelle Winterberger</i> |
| Lisa Eldersveld
<i>2nd Grade Class</i> | Mike Stille
<i>Will, James &
Tammy De Haan</i> |
| Tim Farmer
<i>The Mack Family</i> | Peter Stuursma
<i>Will, James &
Tammy De Haan</i> |
| Julie Feyen
<i>Rachelle Winterberger</i> | Linda Trout
<i>The Edleman Family</i> |
| Jill Fouch
<i>Will, James &
Tammy De Haan</i> | Mary K. Weadock
<i>The Lippert Family</i> |
| Kelly Froehlich
<i>Quinn Allchin</i> | Tracy Wolford
<i>Kindergarten Class</i> |
| Nicole Gessner
<i>The Lippert Family</i> | Lavina Wynalda
<i>The Lippert Family</i> |
| Linda Graham
<i>Will, James &
Tammy De Haan</i> | |

Recognize a Star in Your Child's Life

Recognize a favorite teacher, staff member or school employee by making a tax-deductible donation of \$20 or more to the East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation STAR program. We will acknowledge your "star" in a special section of the next *Foundations* newsletter. In addition, we will provide you with a certificate to present to your honoree. What a wonderful way to thank those special stars in our lives!

*Staff, *Teacher *Appreciation & *Recognition *STAR

Your Name _____

Address _____

City, State & Zip _____

Please print the name of the individual to be acknowledged as you wish it to appear.

Please print your name exactly as you wish it to appear.

Amount enclosed _____

Please mail to: East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation
2915 Hall Street SE
East Grand Rapids, MI 49506



On behalf of the East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation, a special thank you goes out to the East Grand Rapids faculty and staff who continue to enhance the education of our students.



East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation and the EGR Team Boosters join together in support of the Jimmy Gerken Fund for the Gerken Open 2012

EGR Team Boosters and the East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation joined together again this year in support of the Jimmy Gerken Fund, which was established to remember Jimmy and ensure that East Grand Rapids athletics and co-curriculars—the activities Jimmy loved most—remain an integral part of our students' education by providing enhancements that are not possible in the general school district budget. Support for this fund will allow our students to continue to experience personal excellence in athletics and co-curricular activities, just as Jimmy would have wanted.



The Gerken Open golf outing was held at Thousand Oaks Golf Club on June 11, 2012. The event was a beautiful day of golf followed by a casual dinner of Jimmy's favorites, silent and live auctions, and speaker Pat Cwayna, former principal of East Grand Rapids High School and dear friend of Jimmy Gerken. Proceeds of over \$18,500 from the event supported the Jimmy Gerken Fund (75%) and the EGR Team Boosters current athletic department needs (25%). A special thank you goes out to all of our sponsors, especially the GOLD sponsors - Exclusive Garbage and Recycling, Kassouni Group LLC, Brad Ditmar-Keller Williams Realty, Lacks Enterprises, Inc., Beacon Hill at Eastgate, Law Weathers, HNI Risk Services, Fox Acura and Thousand Oaks Golf Club.

Thank you to all of you who supported the event and the Jimmy Gerken Fund. Please plan to join us again next year for the Gerken Open 2013 in June.

Donations can be made to the Jimmy Gerken Fund at www.egrfsf.org or by awarding a coach a Jimmy Gerken Award of Appreciation and Thanks. Questions: please call EGRSF Executive Director, Amy Stuursma, at 616-235-3535.



Recognize a coach who has made an impact in your child's life by making a tax-deductible donation of \$20 or more to the Jimmy Gerken Fund. We will recognize your honorary gift in the next *Foundations* newsletter as well as provide you with a certificate, and/or lapel pin to present to your honoree.

Jimmy Gerken Award of Appreciation and Thanks

Your Name _____

Address _____

City, State & Zip _____

Please print the name of the individual to be acknowledged as you wish it to appear:

Please print your name exactly as you wish it to appear:

Amount enclosed: \$20+ Printed award certificate for recipient

\$100+ Printed award certificate and gold Jimmy Gerken lapel pin for recipient

\$250+ Printed award certificate and gold Jimmy Gerken lapel pin for recipient and donor

Please mail to: The Jimmy Gerken Fund, 2915 Hall St. SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506.

Jimmy Gerken Award of Appreciation and Thanks

Scott Bernecker

Awarded by 2012 Southern Little League Team

Tim Sheridan

Awarded by 4th Grade Boys Basketball Team

Peter Stuursma

Awarded by 2012 Southern Little League Team

Toby Tucker

Awarded by 4th Grade Boys Basketball Team



Alumni Notes

IN REMEMBRANCE...

Captain Virgil R. Glocheski, '32 passed away just shy of his 97th birthday on February 11, 2012. He was a decorated World War II veteran and served on the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He is survived by his three daughters and six grandchildren.

Dorothy Petersen Routzahn, '39 passed away at the age of almost 91 on February 15, 2012. Dorothy worked as a travel agent and was a very active community member. She is survived by her son and daughter and several grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Katherine "Katie" Belknap Kimball, '40 passed away at the age of 90 on May 12, 2012. Katie was a graduate of Northwestern University and a founding member of Mayflower Church. Katie was a passionate supporter of EGR athletics and a very active community member. She is survived by her husband Robert, sons Thomas (Vicki), John (Dyan), and Dan (Kit), as well as many grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Nancy Matheson VerMeulen, '49 passed away peacefully on February 20, 2012, with her family by her side. Nancy loved spending time with her family and she will be deeply missed by her five children, 13 grandchildren, two nieces and one nephew.

Russel "Rusty" Swaney, '51 passed away on June 3, 2012, after a long courageous battle with cancer. He is survived by his wife Jean and their children Steve (Sarah) Swaney, Tom (Sue) Swaney and Sherry (Keith) Stewart, and 11 grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his son Billy. He will be remembered as an active supporter of EGR athletics and his presence will be missed.

Janice "Jan" Elias Dennis, '65 lost her battle with ovarian cancer on October 11, 2011, peacefully at her home in Cumming, Georgia. She is survived by her husband Tom, '65 and their three children and two grandchildren.

Thomas Edward Conrady, Jr., '67 of Salisbury, NC passed away on June 12, 2012, at age 63. He is survived by his son Thomas "Tad", daughters Kim and Katie, nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Steven Gunning, '73 of Lake Bluff, IL passed away suddenly at his home on February 27, 2012. He was active in his church and a volunteer at the elementary school near his home. He was an avid sailor and enjoyed trips on his motorcycle.

Stephen Applegate, '73 passed away on January 31, 2012. He was an avid skier and outstanding cook, and had a passion for sailing. He is survived by his wife Julie and many other family and friends.

Ellen Jo Walters Wilder, '75 lost her four and a half year battle with cancer on February 28, 2012, at her home in Caledonia. She is survived by her husband John and their sons Brian and Kevin, as well as many other family members. After graduating from Ferris State, she worked for nearly 20 years at Steelcase and then devoted her time to volunteering in the community.

Stephen Wolf, '76 passed away at the age of 54 after a heroic battle with cancer. He is survived by his wife Karen and mother Mary Louise of East Grand Rapids, brothers Chris, Marty, Greg and Andy, sister Mary, and many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews and friends. He was a passionate teacher and advisor at Grand Valley State University, Rutgers Business School and Aquinas College.

Christopher Chervenka, '84 of Spring Lake passed away unexpectedly on July 13, 2012, at the age of 46. He is survived by his wife Laura, children Cassie and Collin, parents and sister Lynn.

Patrick Middleton, '04 passed away on June 13, 2012, after complications from being paralyzed in 2005. His loves in life included soccer, Anime cartoons, video and computer games and drawing. He is survived by his parents, grandparents, siblings and many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Logan Knibbe, '09 passed away at the young age of 21 on April 6, 2012. He is dearly missed by his parents Peter and Gayle, his brothers and sisters Gary and Aimee Larson, Sawyer, Grant, Daniella and Grace Knibbe, his grandparents, and many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Leighton Parnham, '11 was critically injured by a taxi in New York City. He fought his injuries for several days but passed away on August 7, 2012, at the age of 19. He will be greatly missed by his mom Cindy Wiegerink, dad Lee Parnham, sister Francesca and many grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

C.E. Clevon, former principal of EGR High School, passed away at the age of 87 on February 18, 2012.

Janet Dodge Upton, aged 87, passed away on February 7, 2012. She was a longtime home economics teacher at EGR High School.



In Remembrance, continued from page 10

Richard Thorne “R.T.” Brown, an avid booster for all East Grand Rapids sports, passed away on May 21, 2012, in Stuart, Florida. In 2007 he was awarded the first East Grand Rapids Community Service Award for his many years of active support of EGR Athletics. He will be missed by his wife Mary, his children Laura, Lisa and Rick, nine grandchildren, one sister, two brothers and several nieces and nephews.

ALUMNI NEWS...

Steve Mackay, '67 plays the tenor saxophone and is best known for his participation on The Stooges' second album Fun House.

Steve Warmington, '68 recently retired as the Mayor of Muskegon.

Pete Boyles, '84 is playing semi-pro football for the Traverse City Wolves. Even though he did not play in high school or college, he decided to try out for the team in 2008 at the age of 42 and made the final cut. He is married with three children.

Luke Glendening, '07 recently signed a contract with the Grand Rapids Griffins. Luke was an outstanding hockey player and team captain at the University of Michigan.

REUNION NEWS...

Class of 1952 will gather on Thursday, September 20 and Friday, September 21 to celebrate their 60th class reunion. For more information, contact Betty Jo Crosby at 616-949-0417.

Class of 1956 celebrated their 55th reunion in August 2011. Classmates enjoyed an evening with old friends and had a tour of Grand Rapids led by John Logie.

Class of 1962 celebrated their 50th class reunion on August 10-11, 2012. Activities included a Friday night cocktail reception at Thousand Oaks, a tour of the former high school (now Wealthy Elementary) and dinner at Cascade Hills Country Club.

50th Reunion – Class of 1962

Class of 1964 has plans underway for their 50th class reunion the weekend of August 15-17, 2014. Contact Lou Murray at louismurray@chartermi.net for more information or to update your contact information.

Class of 1967 will celebrate their 45th class reunion on September 28-29, 2012. For more information, contact Margaret Idema Cheff marg609@gmail.com or Sue Noreen Murphy leesuemurphy@aol.com.

Class of 1972 has planned their 40th class reunion for the weekend of September 28-29, 2012. The weekend's plans include a pre-football game party at the Grand Rapids Yacht Club, a tour of the high school, and dinner at Kent Country Club on Saturday night. Contact Dan Gauthier at egrclassof1972@gmail.com for further details.

Class of 1982 is ready to celebrate their 30th class reunion on September 21-22, 2012. For details, contact Mark Davis at mmdavis1@comcast.net.

Class of 1992 celebrated their 20th class reunion on July 27-28, 2012. Activities included a Friday happy hour at Derby Station, a family picnic, a tour of the high school and dinner at Kent Country Club. The highlight of the evening was opening the time capsule from high school graduation night.

If you have an upcoming reunion, or want to make sure you are connected for a future reunion, please contact Amy Stuursma at the Foundation office at astuursm@egrps.org or 616-235-3535.



Some members of the football team – Class of 1962





Foundations

East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation

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Foundations

August 2012
Volume XXVII

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