



WESTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

**2012-2013**  
Alumni Board  
of Directors

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[www.westsidealumni.org](http://www.westsidealumni.org)

# Multiple Views – One Singular Perspective

This summer when Jacquie Estee walks out of her Westside office for the last time, she will be leaving a place that has played a pivotal role in most of her life. Few could have predicted when five-year-old Jacquie Adler entered the newly built Hillside Elementary School as a Kindergarten student in 1955 that she would exit from the ABC office as Superintendent Jacquie Estee 57 years later. Jacquie recently shared her very unique perspective of Westside Community Schools that comes from having been a student, a teacher, a principal, a central office administrator, and the Superintendent.

“For me, school was always about the students,” Estee said. She went on to explain. “When I was a student, I knew that what happened in our schools was about the students. Then, as a teacher, a principal, a central office administrator and the Superintendent, it was still always about the students.” Estee acknowledges that this razor sharp focus on serving the unique needs of every student has always driven—and continues to drive—the “What If” thinking that leads to outstanding programming and earns Westside its reputation for innovation and excellence.

Estee spoke enthusiastically about her career passion for building organizational capacity. She said, “My commitment to the District has always had its roots in the people who live and work here. In Westside, everyone can contribute to the success of students; everyone can make a difference. High achieving, caring, involved students become high achieving, caring, involved parents, teachers, and administrators who are open to innovation and excellence and want to be part of building a strong future from the many unique programs and characteristics that make us who we are.” She believes that over the



years Westside’s capacity to change and evolve has been instrumental to its success.

Estee experienced the power of the WE in Westside as a student, but she lived it as an adult. She acknowledges that the many exceptional achievements that have occurred during her time at Westside were the direct result of forty years of collaboration and teamwork. She said, “The many groups I was fortunate to be a part of and the many district leaders who mentored me on the path to leadership had a profound impact on me personally and an even more profound impact on the District programs we created to meet the needs of the students we served.” She went on to say, “My professional career has always been about the people with whom I worked.” It’s little wonder that when Estee became Superintendent, she branded the community as “the WE in Westside” and built a culture of strength, purpose, and vision around that idea.

It is “the WE in Westside” that makes the changes that will come with retirement easier to consider. Estee says that she leaves knowing now more than ever that the “community” in Westside Community Schools is the strength of the District. She is thankful to have been part of so many people coming together to meet the needs of the thousands of students who have passed through the doors of the Westside schools during her educational career. At the same time, she is excited to see how that community will rise to the challenges she knows will present themselves in the future. As Estee says, “Opportunity is constantly knocking; and Westside always answers.”

# President's Corner

Dear Fellow Alumni,

I have the distinct privilege of serving as your Westside Alumni Association Board President, a Board I have served on since 2007. First, I would like to thank Kristin Lynch ('89) for her past service as President of the Alumni Association. I would also like to thank Tom Rice ('77) for his past Board service, as Tom has decided to "retire" in order to focus on his family and his business. Tom made many contributions to the Board over the years including his final act of recommending his niece, Jennifer Williams ('02), to the Board. We always have room for new board members, so please call the Alumni office or me if you're interested. I want to welcome both Jane Huston Smith ('72) and Cyndi Ulrich Smith ('87) as our newest board members. Debbie Moss-McGrew ('88) has graciously agreed to serve as Vice-President, Martha Williams Nielsen ('82) is our Secretary, and March Lowe ('76) continues as our Treasurer.

I'm a ('82) grad and the proud father of two future graduates, Katelyn ('13) and Erik ('15). In my wildest dreams I never thought my kids would attend Westside Community Schools, but after attending another local school district, our move back to the community was the best decision we ever made. Westside Schools are "best in class" in providing so many opportunities for our kids.

In September, we held our annual alumni tailgate prior to the Omaha North football game. It was great seeing so many familiar faces as well as meeting many new ones. If you've never attended this event, please join us this fall. Rick Berkshire ('72) organized the annual alumni basketball tournament that attracted the largest number of teams ever! It was fun watching our most recent grads running up and down the court, and even more fun watching the old guys laboring.

Many class reunions are being organized, so make sure you check our website to obtain the latest on your reunion and make sure we have your current address, telephone number as well as your email address.

As a result of your generous donations, the Alumni Board donated \$5,350 to the high school to satisfy a teacher's wish list. Maryanne Ricketts and her team purchased a projector for the Physics room, a sewing machine for the Family and Consumer department, a white board for the World Language department and a saxophone for the Band.

I will end by saying thank you and good luck to our superintendent, Jacquie Estee ('68) who has decided to retire after 40 years of service. We appreciate Jacquie's dedication to Westside and for the positive affect she's had on the many lives she has touched.

Oh, and don't forget this year's alumni golf outing that will be held July 16th at The Players Club. Jason Hellman ('90) and his team have done such a great job planning this awesome event. Hope to see you there!

Go Warriors! Remember, we are all the "WE" in Westside!

David Williams ('82)



## Mark Your Calendars

### **Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet Friday, May 4**

The Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet/Coaches Night of Distinction will be at Legacy Hall, Friday May 4. The 2012 inductees had not yet been selected at the time this newsletter went to press. If you would like more information about the Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet, you may contact Cathy MacInnes, Athletic Administrative Assistant at 402-343-2602 or Athletic Director, Tom Kerkman at 402-342-2605.

### **Alumni Baseball Game Saturday, May 26**

All WHS Baseball Alumni are invited to the Fifth Annual Alumni Baseball Game the Saturday of Memorial Day Weekend. Players will join in the warm-up at 10 a.m., with the first pitch of the game thrown out at noon. The game is made up of all alumni players, with the even graduation years facing off against the odd years' team. Any baseball player who wants to play should RSVP to Coach Greco at [bgreco@westside66.org](mailto:bgreco@westside66.org), so he can order T-shirts. There is no cost for WHS alumni to play or for fans to cheer on the team.

### **19th Annual Hall of Fame Golf Outing Monday, July 16**

The Westside Alumni Association and Westside Foundation will hold the 19th Annual Westside Open Hall of Fame Golf Outing on July 16, 2012 at the Players Club. Invitations will be mailed in April 2012 for this popular four person Texas Scramble. There are many sponsor opportunities for alumni, including hole sponsorships. Prizes are also needed. Anyone interested in receiving an invitation, donating a prize or finding out about being a sponsor should contact Phyllis Choat at [pchoat@westside66.org](mailto:pchoat@westside66.org). For further information and to register please visit [www.westsidegolf.com](http://www.westsidegolf.com)

### **10th Annual Warrior Football Players Golf Classic ATTENTION FORMER WARRIOR FOOTBALL PLAYERS**

The Warrior Football Club is now planning for the 10th Annual Warrior Golf Classic Tournament on July 28th, 2012, 1:15 p.m., at Eagle Hills Golf Course in Papillion, NE. We hope you'll consider supporting the Westside Football Program by joining other former players, fans, current and former coaches for a fun day of affordable golf followed by raffles and giveaways.

For only \$70, you can be a part of our annual get together reuniting old friendships and renewing memories of the glory days. If you can't participate but would like to show your support, we would welcome premium hole sponsorships (\$150), sponsoring a foursome, or providing auction items to help make our event a success. Budgets continue to be tight for high school athletics so our ability to purchase items for our program relies more on outside sources. Therefore, we would greatly appreciate your support. For more information, to provide support, or to register your foursome, please contact the following by July 20th: Craig Secora, [csecora@westside66.org](mailto:csecora@westside66.org), 402-343-2777 or Shawn Blevins, [sblevins@westside66.org](mailto:sblevins@westside66.org), 402-343-2672

# Westside Annual Tennis Mixer Raises \$2500

Westside students, alumni, coaches, parents and administrators participated in the second-annual tennis fundraiser on Saturday, July 30, 2011 at Westside High. The tennis mixer, run by Coach Kim Gradoville and Coach Shaun McMahon, provided the opportunity for many of the district's families and friends to compete in a fun and unique event benefiting the boys and girls tennis teams. Over 50 participants played in the tournament and attended the pre-event games & drills which included a radar gun contest to clock the fastest serve! All proceeds helped fund new warm-ups; a ball machine, nets and other tennis equipment. Students of all ages participated including two former Westside state tennis champions, Nick Amin ('11) & Andrew Mellen ('08). Ed and Debbie Hubbs (parents of '07 Westside graduate, Cami Hubbs: 4x State singles champion) stopped by to cheer on the players.

The highlight of the morning was the doubles tournament, where 25 teams competed in two divisions. Both divisions were won by a parent/child team. Sheryl Vaughn and Chase Peterson were victorious in the red division while Len & John Romano won the black division. The event concluded with a cookout. Omaha Steaks burgers and hot dogs were grilled by our tennis parents and the Westside Athletic Club.



Andrew Mellen '08; (3x State doubles champion), Maryanne Ricketts, WHS Principal and John Lehr '79.

Everyone walked away with fantastic prizes. Raffle items included (2) Wilson BLX Pro Team rackets, a HEAD

Airflow 3 racket, a free tennis family membership to the NTC; private tennis lessons with area pros, spa packages, and gifts from Red Mango, Juice Stop, Centre Court and Happy Hollow Club.

**The 3rd annual tennis fundraiser will be held on Sunday, August 5, 2012 from 1:30PM – 5PM at Westside. To register for the 2012 tennis fundraiser, please contact Coach Kim Gradoville at [kgradoville@westside66.org](mailto:kgradoville@westside66.org)**

**Westside Tennis Fundraising committee: Marie Harlow & Lisa Mellen, co-chairs; Kent Zanders, Sharon Amin, Sandy Lehr, Andrea Siegel, Jennifer Glazer, Gregg Hirz, Coach Gradoville & Coach McMahon.**

## Call for Nominations 2012 Westside Alumni Association Hall of Fame

Every two years, Westside Community Schools and the Alumni Association honor outstanding graduates and boosters by inducting them into the Westside Alumni Association Hall of Fame. The next Hall of Fame event will be held in the fall of 2012, and we want to honor graduates who have made significant professional accomplishments and boosters who have made noteworthy contributions or service to Westside. The Alumni Office is accepting nominations up until September 1st, 2012 to allow ample time for information to be collected. Details about the nomination process are available on our website. Just go to [www.westside66alumni.org](http://www.westside66alumni.org), and you will find Alumni Association links under the 'Friends of Westside' in the left navigation bar. The 'Alumni Hall of Fame' page shares information about the 2012 banquet and its honorees. You will also find a hot link to the Hall of Fame Nomination Form. A maximum of four inductees can be chosen, and alumni can be nominated posthumously. If you have any questions about the process, feel free to contact the alumni office at [alumni@westside66.org](mailto:alumni@westside66.org). We look forward to partnering with you to honor our Alumni and loyal supporters!

SAVE THE DATE

## 19th Annual Westside Hall of Fame Golf Outing

### July 16, 2012

*Hosted by the Westside Alumni Association and the Westside Foundation*

### Exciting New Venue! The Players Club *Room for additional golfers*

Invitations will be mailed in April 2012. There are many sponsor opportunities for alumni, including hole sponsorships. Prizes are also needed.

Anyone interested in receiving an invitation, donating a prize or finding out about being a sponsor should contact Phyllis Choat at [pchoat@westside66.org](mailto:pchoat@westside66.org) or Jason Hellman at [jason.b.hellman@gmail.com](mailto:jason.b.hellman@gmail.com).

For further information and details about this popular, four person Texas Scramble please visit [www.westsidegolf.com](http://www.westsidegolf.com).





## Step Team

In the fall of 2008, Justise Dickerson, then a freshman at Westside, wanted to become involved in an extracurricular activity. She didn't feel that cheerleading, dance, or a sports team suited her, but she wanted to be part of a group to increase school spirit. She and four friends, Kiona Smith, Simone Smith, Taylor McCoy, and Ndu Kowa decided to start a step team.

Traditionally, step teams come up with original beats using clapping and stomping with dance rhythms. Step teams started in college fraternities in the South, but recently teams have been cropping up in high schools around the Midwest.

Westside's step team, now in its 4th year, practices weekly and participates in a weekly study hall. Any student can join, but participants are required to maintain a minimum GPA and attend practices. Kim De La Cruz, an English teacher, is the group's sponsor. She knows that it's the team's hard work and dedication that has led them to be one of the best teams in the area. They placed first at Sigma Gamma Rho Youth STEP Explosion last fall, and have been asked to perform at various activities around the city. The group is thriving thanks to the senior leadership and De La Cruz. The step team has become a tight-knit family for the five girls. They have grown from 5 to 15 members and De La Cruz believes they will continue to thrive after the seniors graduate.

The Westside Alumni Board made a donation so the team could have matching shoes. The team, also sold T-shirts to staff and student body raising an extra \$300 to purchase matching pants.

The founding members are preparing the future generations by teaching the required steps and chants, but also teaching the underclassmen about the time and dedication it takes to be successful.

# Roger Groth is Retiring After 37 Years of Service

After 37 years of inspiring Westside Community School students (and their parents), Roger Groth will be retiring. At the beginning of this year, Roger announced it would be his last. Roger has been associated with the Westside Community Schools since 1958, when he moved into the District with his parents and started attending Oakdale School. The only period since then that has not involved Westside was his four years in undergraduate school and the following two years of teaching vocal music elsewhere. He landed a job at Westside in 1966 and has been here ever since.

I had the opportunity to talk with Roger about his time at Westside. Roger had this to share:

“ I thank all the parents for allowing me the honor to teach their students, to entrust them to me and I'm grateful to the District for allowing me to pursue my passion. I feel I have been paid back by having the honor to teach all of the fine students, who include some of the best people I have ever met. It is finally time for me to graduate from Westside high School, to find new adventures and to spend more time with my wife and family. I have felt it has never been a job, its always been a passion, something that I deeply believed in. I began teaching music due to my love of music and what it gave to me, how it helped me grow, and have continued teaching for so long because of the students and what they meant to me. ”

Mr. Groth has had a profound effect on Westside students for almost four decades. Over the

years, his Concert Jazz Band (CJB) has become one of the most prestigious in the United States, with “1” ratings at every festival it has appeared. Roger has served as Director of Bands at the high school since 1981. His many personal achievements and awards are too numerous to list, but the following “short” list gives alumni an idea of his universal success:

- **Outstanding Jazz Educator** (National Band Association)
- **Outstanding Jazz Educator** (International Association of Jazz Education)
- **Music Teacher of the Year** (Omaha Arts Society & the Omaha Chamber of Commerce).
- **Nebraska Teacher of the Year** Finalist Twice
- **Nebraska Excellence in Teaching** (Awarded by the Governor of Nebraska)
- **Nebraska's Milken Educator Award** (Milken Foundation)
- **District 66 Excellence in Teaching Award** (Phillip & Terri Schrager)
- **The Donald Lentz Outstanding Bandmaster Award for Lifelong Career Achievement** (Nebraska State Bandmasters Association).

As a student, Roger was a John Phillip Sousa recipient, and he has been rewarded year after year to see so many of his students have now received this prestigious, nationally recognized award as well. Roger, thank you for touching so many students' lives, for devoting your time and talents to Westside and for all the wonderful memories!

— Rob Laughlin, '75

## Golf Correction

Bob Saffer class of 1961 was the first Westside Warrior to garner the individual State Golf Championship. Bob won the title as a sophomore during the spring of 1959. The starters in the tournament that year were: Ron Saffer, '59, Steve Spaulding, '59 and Robert “Howie” Clark '60.

Bob shot a 71 to win the individual title. The Warriors won the team championship by 11 strokes. The tournament was held in Beatrice amid snow flurries. Jim Tangdall was their coach.

This honor was incorrectly attributed to another Warrior in the Fall 2011 W. We want to take this opportunity to set the record straight and recognize Bob as well as the 1959 golf team for being the first to deliver these victories to Westside High School.



Darin Ruff '05(right) and Dave Holmes'05 (left)

## ALUMNI Basketball Tournament Sets Five All Time Records

The Record setting 18th annual Alumni Basketball Tournament was held on Saturday Nov. 26, 2011, at Westside High School. A record 62 players made up the record 9 teams that participated in the round robin tournament, and they came from the classes of 2011 all the way back to 1972.

The tournament featured a relatively young lineup, with players from the last 10 years making up the majority of the teams. Once again, the most recent graduating year, 2011, fielded a team, marking the 3rd year in a row that this occurred, again a record.

The teams from Class of '98 - led by Adam Korkow, Sean McGill, Rob Holmes, and the Swanson brothers (Dan & Jeff) & the team from Class of '03 (Aaron Brandon, Alec Young (the initial Hall Scholarship winner) Ross Sinclair, Frank Smagacz, and the Smith brothers (Al & Chase) played very consistently (for old guys), losing only two games apiece. However, '03 lost to '98 in a close battle, so '98 won the tie break for Second place and the right to play defending champ Class of '04 in the Finals, led by Joe Roth, Connor O'Neill, Justin Loehr, Denny Johnston (the second Hall Scholarship winner), Ty Jansen, Andy West, Nick Suarez, Joe Finnochioro. '04 qualified for the Finals by losing only one game, the game against Class

of '10, led by Hall Scholarship winner Jimmy Kerrigan, Chris Johnson, Garret Gustafson, Alex Meissner, and Mitch Cap.

Although it is always a great time for former Warrior basketball players to socialize, the event is also a fundraiser, with the proceeds helping to fund the annual Tom Hall Scholarship, which provides \$1000 in a college scholarship to the Westside Senior basketball player who best exemplifies the academic and athletic work ethic of former Coach Tom Hall. In 2011, the recipients were Nate Skold and Ben Wilkinson. Ben participated in the tournament this year, and was one of 6 former Hall scholarship winners participating, another Tournament Record. In addition to the above 3 winners, Jason Hartman '05, Sam Moser (current assistant Basketball Coach at Westside) '07, and Grant Fletcher '09 also played.

Among the many record broken was the money raised toward the Hall Scholarship. This year \$710 was raised, making the tournament a huge success, as well as a lot of fun. One record that was not shattered was the number of Halls who played, of the 6 children of Tom Hall, only Steve '95 was available.

Ultimately '98 and '04 met in the championship game. The Class of 04, held a distinct advantage over the older Class of '98 players who were exhausted from the previous 8 games, and quickly pulled ahead and put the '98 team down by a score of 15 to [not very much].

Following the tournament, all participants enjoyed Little Ceasars' Pizza, donated again by Curt Huston, '81 who is a former participant in the tournament and a long time supporter of the tournament with his generous contributions.

Please mark your calendars for the next tournament, which will be held Saturday Nov 24, 2012, beginning at 2:00 pm, at the WHS gym. Players, gym rats who did not play ball in high school, and female players are all welcome. Spectators are welcome, and we are seeing more and more cheerleaders attend. The entry fee is \$10, and any additional donations toward the scholarship are welcome.

Contact Rick Berkshire at [rberkshire@berkshire-law.com](mailto:rberkshire@berkshire-law.com) for further information.

## TEAMMATES™ MENTORING PROGRAM

Our young people have a lot on their minds these days-their hopes, their dreams, and how they want to make the world a better place. The TeamMates Mentoring Program pairs adult volunteer with students to help them achieve.

The TeamMates Mentoring program was started by Tom and Nancy Osborne in 1991 to provide an additional support to students. TeamMates is a one-to-one school based mentoring program. Teammates Mentors meet with their mentees one hour weekly during school hours and commit to a minimum of a year. TeamMates is actively recruiting mentors for schools in the Westside School District and we need your help to inspire students to dream and to create a vision for their life. By becoming a TeamMate mentor, Westside Alumni can be an example of why it is important to give back to our schools and charities.

It is a great time to sign up to mentor a young person in our community. For more information and an application, visit the TeamMates Mentoring Program website at [teammates.org](http://teammates.org).

Make a difference. Become a mentor.

## Fall Tailgate 2011

Westside Alumni Association held its annual Homecoming Tailgate on Friday, September 16, 2011. Alumni and their families enjoyed perfect football weather as well as free food and beverages. The Warriors dominated the game with a 41-0 win over Omaha South. The evening concluded with a fireworks display. Don't miss it next season!



Westside Alumni Board members, Jason Hellman '90 holding Kristin Lynch's '89 son, David Williams, '82, Mark Sempak '80 and Debbie (Moss) McGrew '88.

**WESTSIDE'S  
BIG BAND  
EXTRAVAGANZA**

A Tribute to Retiring Director Roger Groth  
and a Benefit for the Westside Band Program

**Saturday, April 28, 2012**  
7 to 9 pm Concert  
9 to 10 pm Dessert Reception

Doors open at 6 pm  
Westside High School Auditorium

**FEATURING WESTSIDE ALUMNI AND INSTRUCTORS**

Chad Sexton | '88 drummer for 311 and Nick Hexum | '88 singer/guitarist for 311  
Zach Hexum | '96 singer/songwriter on Alto Sax  
David Turman | '90 high brass marching band instructor on trumpet  
Bryan Morhardt | past drum line director & auxiliary percussion specialist on congas  
Steve Raybine | vibes; son David Raybine | '09 saxophone; Karl Lyden | '08 composer  
Calvin Hansen | '08 drums; Caroline Juster | '10 trombone; Jon Burlingham | '11 trombone

And the award-winning sounds of Westside's High School,  
Middle School and Elementary School jazz bands.

Tickets are \$10 Order up to 8 tickets in advance by sending a check made out  
to WBPA to: Cindy Rector, 447 S. 86th Street • Omaha, NE 68114

**This event will SELL OUT. Order your tickets today!**

# REUNIONS

## 1957: 55-Year Reunion

Contact Gregg Millett [gmillett@gmail.com](mailto:gmillett@gmail.com). Just to let you know that we are hearing from more classmates each month and that plans are going forward for our "low-key" 55th reunion in Omaha September 7 - 9, 2012. We have a hospitality room and twenty rooms (\$94) reserved at the Omaha Marriott. Call 402-399-9000 to reserve a room. So far we have scheduled a Friday Happy Hour at Cohen & Kellys (hosted by Phil Hansen); Nancy Hanks suggests that we take a trip to the Henry Doorly Zoo; and Bud Walling suggests we all jump on our Harleys and take a spin around town.

## 1962: 50-Year Reunion

June 7, 8, and 9, 2012. Committee Co-Chairs: Linda(Gates)Shepherd [lgentle@hotmail.com](mailto:lgentle@hotmail.com) and Linda (Randall) Arena [arenaassociates@gmail.com](mailto:arenaassociates@gmail.com) and Bill King [wkingx@bellsouth.net](mailto:wkingx@bellsouth.net).

## 1967: 45-Year Reunion

June 29-30, 2012. [www.facebook.com/pages/Westside-Omaha-Class-of-1967/273071882757477](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Westside-Omaha-Class-of-1967/273071882757477). The Regency Lodge will be our home base hotel. Anyone wanting to make a reservation can call (402)-397-9922 or 1-(800)-617-8310. The rooms there are about \$119. You can also reserve a room at the Super 8 Motel (402-492-8845) on 11610 W. Dodge Rd. The rooms there are about \$56. It is essential that you reserve your rooms now because the National Swim Trials as well as the Triple Crown Ball Tournament will be held that weekend and rooms are already going fast. Friday night, June 29 at 6 p.m. at Regency Lodge for cocktails/hor dourves. On Saturday night, June 30 an Italian dinner/dance will be held at Shadow Ridge Country Club. (188th & Pacific). Cost for both nights is \$60 per person/\$120 per couple.

A cash bar available both nights. Casual attire. Our reunion planning committee is: Thom Neese [thomneese@gmail.com](mailto:thomneese@gmail.com), Maddy Neese [maddy@cox.net](mailto:maddy@cox.net), Bruce and Bobbie Moore [bmoore67@msn.com](mailto:bmoore67@msn.com), Debby Durham [debbyd49@aol.com](mailto:debbyd49@aol.com), Cherrie (Moore) Anderson (402)-880-3086, Bill Kroupa [kroupa@cox.net](mailto:kroupa@cox.net), Paul Epstein [Paul.Epstein@gmail.com](mailto:Paul.Epstein@gmail.com), Terry Niver [gr8magin@aol.com](mailto:gr8magin@aol.com), Steph (Dross) Varuska FAX (402)-390-3315

## 1972: 40-Year Reunion

August 17-18, 2012. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/117301468363659/>  
Contact: Rory Berigan, [rberigan@yahoo.com](mailto:rberigan@yahoo.com) with questions or to volunteer.

## 1977: 35-Year Reunion

Class of 1977 ('76 and '75 welcome at pre-party) The pre-party starts Fri. night 8/3 at Clancy's (114th in Miracle Hills) with Classes of '76 and '75 also welcome for a Cash bar and mingling. Sat. Aug. 4th 7PM to midnight at Bel Air Banquet Room (1block north of 122nd & West Center Rd.). The package includes Hot Buffet of roast beef and turkey, mashed potatoes/gravy, green beans, tossed salad, dinner rolls & coffee. Also in the \$35 per person cost we'll get iced tea, pop, kegs of beer, house wine and cookies or sheet cake, if we can eat that much! Mixed drinks and premium upgrades available for \$5-\$6 per glass. Oh, and it's nice linen set tables with a DJ playing our requested music with enough room for a little dance floor. Great parking and all level access. All Reservations/or Donations are needed to help defray costs of the upcoming invite mailing. Please send RSVP per person contributions payable to: WHS Class of '77, Therese Jansen 10827 Poppleton Ave. Omaha, NE 68144

## 1982: 30-Year Reunion

Janice Koukol Hanson ([jehanson@cox.net](mailto:jehanson@cox.net)) and Heather Stanway Russell ([johndandheather@cox.net](mailto:johndandheather@cox.net)) are starting to coordinate your 30th reunion. Please contact them with any questions or if you would like to volunteer.

## 1987: 25-Year Reunion

If you would like to plan this reunion, please contact the Westside Alumni Association.

## 1992: 20-Year Reunion

Save the dates of July 27, 28 and 29, 2012. Molly Mahoney Wernli [mollywernli@gmail.com](mailto:mollywernli@gmail.com) 402-659-8415, Karen Eager Haney and Shon McCart are organizing the 20th reunion.

## 1997: 15-Year Reunion

If you would like to plan this reunion, please contact the Westside Alumni Association.

## 2002: 10-Year Reunion

Please contact: Megan McFarlin [megan.mcfarlin@gmail.com](mailto:megan.mcfarlin@gmail.com) to help form a committee.

## 2007: 5-Year Reunion

If you would like to plan this reunion, please contact the Westside Alumni Association.

Now is the time to be updating your information in the Alumni Database. Please go to the 'Alumni Information Database' link on this site and update your profile! [db.westsidealumni.org/search.lasso](http://db.westsidealumni.org/search.lasso). Contact the Alumni Association at [alumni@westside66.org](mailto:alumni@westside66.org) or 402-390-2183 and leave a message with your most recent information.

**Be sure to "Like" us on Facebook:**

[www.facebook.com/pages/Westside-Alumni-Association/145332072165604](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Westside-Alumni-Association/145332072165604)

# WHATCHA DOIN'?

## Remembering

Donald Cavaleri .....	1959
William "Guy" Tarr .....	1961
Ronald Henningsen .....	1962
Dean Slack.....	1965
David D. Bushnell .....	1966
Elizabeth (Loers) Nicholson "Betty" ..	1967
Robert Selleck "Bob" Bemis .....	1967
Rildah Benham Royal.....	1967
Mark S. Swanson, Ph.D .....	1968
Joseph "Marty" Anzalone .....	1970
Paul C. Jessen .....	1970
Howard Gaebel .....	1971
Robert L. Sistik .....	1971
Stephen M. Brinjak .....	1972
Richard E. Petersen, M.D. ....	1974
Gary Vecchio .....	1975
Thomas D. Shearer .....	1977
Scott Cohan .....	1981
Edward Peartree .....	1981
Brittany Riggs.....	2009
Tiffany "Cookie" Earl .....	2010
Rosetta L. "Laverne" (Simpson) Mitchell, Retired Teacher	

David D. Bushnell , Teacher For 32 Years,  
Retired

Ernest Eugene Horacek, Former District 66  
Adminisrator

### REMEMBERING AND MEMORIAL GUIDELINES

While the Alumni Association tries its best to keep our records current, unfortunately sometimes our listing of classmates who have passed away is incomplete or not current. We feel that being able to post this news on our website and within our newsletters allows our alumni to reach out to each other, so information you have regarding deceased Warriors is greatly appreciated. It is the policy of District 66 and the Alumni Association, not to publish any name without verification from reputable sources, such as family members or obituaries from newspapers/publications. Charitable gifts can be made to the Alumni Association in memory of a deceased classmate or teacher who was cherished. For information about this, you may leave a voicemail message at 402.390.2183 or email at alumni@westside66.org.



### 1950's

WHS Classmates attending 2012 Coach Morrison's annual March Lunch in Phoenix, AZ were:

Back Row: Sid Carstenson '58, Chuck Noble '58, Bob Jacobson '59, Gary Hruby '59, Dennis McArdle '59, Bob Matthews '55, John Hicks'54, Ron Saffer '59, and Bob Pilling '59

Front Row: Chantel, Coach Morrison, Carol McArdle, Bob Noble '58, Susan Chiles Christian '55, and Debbie Pilling Hicks '55

**Douglas L. Van Horn**'55 is married to Evelyn (she attended Thomas Jefferson in Council Bluffs). He was a Purchasing Agent, Banker and Wholesale Company Manager. He is happily retired.

**Brooke Brewer**, '59 lives in Dallas, TX with his wife Diane. Brooke retired as Vice President, Texas Industries and Diane is a retired teacher and administrator from District 66. They have two sons, Dr. Brent Brewer and Blake Brewer.

### 1960's

**Steve Baade** '61 owns and operates Value Tires in Camdenton, MO. His wife, Sylvia works part time for the Post Office. Steve and Sylvia have a son, Ben, who is 21. Ben is a Junior at Missouri Science & Technology in Rolla, Mo. Their daughter Molly has returned from Nicaragua where she served in the Peace Corps for two and one half years. Molly and husband, Lenin have a baby daughter Isabel.

**Steve Durham** '61 and his wife, Barbara announced as the recipients of the 2012 Robert H. Dedman Lifetime Achievement Award for Philanthropy.

**Wendy Burden Ishii** '67 is married to Conrad Ishii and lives in Highlands Ranch, CO. They have a daughter, Jamie who lives in Seattle. Wendy is a retired 2nd grade teacher and substitute teacher.

### 1970's

**Rory Berigan** '72 has been inducted into the Midwestern Swimming Hall of Fame. Rory currently resides in Lindstrom MN. She retired as a National Account Coordinator for Sprint and prior to that she was National Account Sales Manager for Reebok, and Vice President of Sales for Stetson, the Cowboy Hat people. She is currently organizing next summer's 40 year reunion for the Class of '72

**Douglas K. Nelson** '76 is living in Clarksville, TN. He is retired but misses paid holidays, vacation days, and weekends off. Doug still has yearbooks from his days at Westbrook (K-6 grades) as well as from Westbrook Junior High (7-9th grades) and Westside High School (10-12th grades). He joked that he would be accepting bribes to keep children and grandkids from seeing photos "Grandpa and Grandma" from way back when.

**Harold "Tad" Laurence** '78 took a Naval ROTC Scholarship to Rice University where he completed his BS degree in Electrical Engineering. He spent 20 years completing his first career as a Navy Nuclear Submarine Officer. During his Naval career he earned a Masters degree in Political Science at Auburn University and a Masters in Business Administration at Ohio State University. He is currently completing a PhD program at Kansas State University while teaching in a second career at the US Army Command and General Staff College. Tad and his wife Karen have four children. Hal who is 22 years old, Heather is 19, David is 18 and Emily is 15 years old. Karen home schooled all four through the sixth grade. The oldest two graduated as Valedictorian of their class and the third will graduate this year. (papersfortad@yahoo.com)

**Elaine Nelson** '79 lives in Clarksville, TN

### 1980's

**Margaret Spiers** '81 "The cancer diagnosis has been very life changing. You learn to put priorities in order. You think about what is important, like family and friends. A lot of times people think something is important and it's really not." Margaret is a 14 year breast cancer survivor. She is the founder and CEO of Hope Ministry and Gardens and the Garden of Hope project in Nebraska City. Margaret is also an independent distributor for Reliv, a food science company. Her hobbies include gardening, sewing, scarp booking and education. She earned a B.S. from Peru State College in speech and drama and Masters In Journalism for Cambridge State University.



## Westside Community Schools

909 South 76th Street  
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District 66 Home Page  
[www.westside66.org](http://www.westside66.org)

### Address Updates, Events and Reunions

402.390.2183 (Voicemail)  
402.390.2177 (Fax)  
[alumni@westside66.org](mailto:alumni@westside66.org)

W is published 2 times a year.

## WHS graduates want to know “Whatcha doin?”

Complete and provide this information by mail or email to [alumni@westside66.org](mailto:alumni@westside66.org)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name Birth Name Last Name

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

Class of: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's name and occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Children's name and ages/birth dates: \_\_\_\_\_

What have you been doing since you graduated? (Use additional sheet of paper if necessary)

### Support Your Alumni Association

If you would like to make a donation \$10, \$20, or \$50 to help defray the Alumni Association cost, please include your check with *Whatcha Doin* (or separately) payable to “Westside Alumni Association”, 1101 South 90th Street, Omaha, NE 68124. Your tax deductible donation will be very much appreciated.

### LIKE US AND FOLLOW US

The Westside Alumni Association now has a Facebook page. While our “W” newsletter is great for communication twice a year, Facebook will allow us to share more photos, reunion news, and current information on relevant WHS events. Search for “Westside Alumni Association.”