

West High Alumni Occident

www.westhighalumni.com

A quarterly publication
of the *West High School*
Alumni Association



A Tradition
For Tomorrow

Summer 2021

Number 113

Dreams Do Come True

By Amina Mohamed, '15



Amina Mohamed first generation
to graduate college.

"Writing this feels quite surreal. Although I always wanted to go to college, I am still in awe that I graduated recently.

I was born in Kenya as were many of my brothers and sisters. We were refugees and moved to America when I was about 8 months old. My siblings and parents moved to the west side of Columbus where we lived in South Park for the next 21 years.

Even though I am the third youngest of 9 siblings, I was the first in my family to go to college. It was not something that was encouraged in our home. I was expected to just

keep my head down and find a job that would pay the bills. Dreaming big and working for that dream was left to me.

I graduated from West High School in 2015. I played volleyball, was involved in student council, made the National Honor Society, and took engineering courses while maintaining a high GPA. I loved what West offered to us. My AP Government course with Mr. Murray gave me the desire to pursue

politics out of high school. My relationships with my peers and our side of town made me want to become a person who could influence things to be better for us. It was here that I met Joy Hostetler, our school social worker, who provided support beyond the walls of West High. West made me who I am, and I felt confident taking that into college.

With a generous scholarship from the West High School Alumni Association, I set off to Wittenberg University. In my first year, I ran for student body president and worked at the Diversity Center part-time to help pay for school. However, after two years, I felt more lost than when I started. I was unsure of my path and felt disconnected from Wittenberg because many of my peers could not relate to me. I did not feel at home.

I decided to take a gap year and worked back in Columbus as a nanny for two of my previous West High School teachers, Lisa and James Murray. The gap year was reaffirming and encouraging. Remembering the influence that Joy Hostetler had on me all those years at West, I applied to Columbus State to pursue Social Work.



Amina Mohamed and Joy
Hostetler at graduation



Amina and her 2015 classmates

After two semesters at Columbus State, I applied to Ohio State's Social Work program in 2019. I am now a graduate of that program. During my time at Ohio State, my peers came from all over Columbus, all with different stories. This diversity reminded me of West in a way. It was wonderful being back home.

Continued on page 3

President's Message



West High School Alumni Association
P.O. Box 28056, Columbus, OH 43228
www.westhighalumni.com

President

Dave Dobos '73 (614) 580-7380 Davedobos@alum.mit.edu

Vice-President

Stacy Neff Campbell '78, 614-580-3584, stacyberndsen12@gmail.com

Secretary

Georgia Ward '70 (614) 203-4068 Georgiamward@gmail.com

Treasurer

Nikol Madison '97 moniquenmadison@gmail.com

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2006 Ed Sensenbrenner '50 Jan	1992 Dean Potts Jan '59
2005 Paul Pennell '57	

Newsletter Editor

Nancy Lloyd Laver '79 nybryant@aol.com
6238 Borrer Rd. (614) 570-0018
Grove City, OH 43213



Deadline for Submitting Articles to the Occident

To be printed in the West High Alumni Occident, all articles and suggestions for articles must be submitted to the editor by the following dates:

Winter Issue	Information Deadline - November 20
Spring Issue	Information Deadline - February 20
Summer Issue	Information Deadline - May 20
Fall Issue	Information Deadline - August 20

NEWSLETTER MAILINGS

Your Alumni Occident is mailed bulk mail, which is not forwarded. If you move or have your mail forwarded, your newsletter will not be forwarded. It is not returned to the Alumni Association, so we don't know you haven't received it. Contact the Association Treasurer with the dates you will be in another location, and we will mail your newsletter to that address.



President's Message

Dave Dobos '73



What a difference a few months can make... As of our last newsletter, we were looking to resume some of our regular alumni events, perhaps as early as August. Now, with over half of Ohio adults vaccinated for COVID and vaccines approved for use by young people, we are approaching herd immunity as a total community. Indeed, as I write this article, Ohio reported its lowest number of new daily cases in a year. Finally, it appears that we've got COVID on the run.

As a result, our board has decided to hold the summer picnic! The details appear elsewhere in our newsletter. In summary, we will eat and fellowship together on Sunday, July 25, at 3:00 pm, at Crossroads United Methodist Church, 1100 S. Hague Ave., Columbus, 43204. As usual, we ask folks to bring a side dish or dessert. We'll provide plates, utensils, drinks, and **Eli Bowen's '74** world-famous Sloppy Joes. Although we understand some folks still may be reluctant to venture out into a large gathering, there are many who now feel comfortable doing so. We welcome one and all—and look forward to renewing friendships at that time.

We will conduct the annual Golf Outing, Hall of Fame Induction, concessions at home football games, fall regular membership dinner meetings, and Christmas Luncheon. Details about the golf outing and Hall of Fame selections and inductions also appear in the newsletter. It does feel good to resume the activities to which so many of us have come to look forward.

An update on the Leadership Campaign... Although we have completed our solicitations for it, we will continue to accept gifts designated as such. We just received a \$1000 gift from **Bob McLinn '53** in honor of his wife **Gale Elaine Marzluf McLinn '55**, who, unfortunately, passed away in February. They were married for 63 years. Thank you, Bob. This is a wonderful tribute.

One other item of note... I had the good fortune of serving on the Hall of Fame Selection Committee this year. I was struck at the number of accomplished individuals about which we have collected information and nominations. So many of our fellow graduates have, not only achieved prominence in their respective fields, but also given back mightily to their respective communities. We can be proud of the collective impact our classmates and fellow alumni have made in so many areas.

I look forward to communicating about our progress with you again in the next newsletter and seeing many of you at one of our upcoming events. Happy Summer!

14th Annual West High Alumni Golf Scramble



Proceeds to benefit the Alumni Scholarship Foundation

**THE PLAYERS
CLUB** at FOXFIRE 

New Location

Friday, August 13, 2021 – The Players Club at Foxfire
10799 State Route 104 Lockbourne, Oh 43137 (614) 224-3694

Entry fee: \$65 per person – includes golf, cart, meal, awards

Optional fun extras: 50/50 drawing \$1-5-10, and more

Enter as a foursome, single, double (we can pair you up)

Each group must have at least one player

associated with West High School

(Alum, relative, student, faculty/current or retired)

Registration begins at 7:00 a.m.. Shotgun start 8:30 a.m.

On the dot!

4 Player Scramble *****Low Gross + Skill Prizes*****

Complimentary team photos taken prior to tee off

***Entry form and payment must be received (please)
by Saturday, July 31st***

***We are in need of door prize donations
and/or hole sponsors (\$50)!***

***Please direct those items and questions
to any of those listed below***

Georgia Martin Ward '70

614.203.4068,

georgiamward@gmail.com

Stacy Neff Campbell '78

stacybernsden12@gmail.com

Leslye Creek '70

leslye.golfcats@gmail.com

Jim McKean '68

jmcckean@columbus.rr.com

Dorance Nichols Hornsby '63

dorancehornsby@cs.com

Rosalie Martin Williams '72

farmwilliams@yahoo.com

Please make check or money order payable to: West High Alumni Association

Mail with the form below to: 5010 Vinington Place, Dublin, OH 43016

If not an Alum, circle one: r-relative, f-faculty, s-staff, or guest

Player 1 _____ Alum. Year _____ WHS (r / f / s) _____ guest
Address or e-mail _____ Phone # _____

Player 2 _____ Alum. Year _____ WHS (r / f / s) _____ guest
Address or e-mail _____ Phone # _____

Player 3 _____ Alum. Year _____ WHS (r / f / s) _____ guest
Address or e-mail _____ Phone # _____

Player 4 _____ Alum. Year _____ WHS (r / f / s) _____ guest
Address or e-mail _____ Phone # _____

Of reservations enclosed _____ x \$65.00 = \$ _____

Dreams Do Come True, continued from page 1

Being at Ohio State, the confidence I once felt leaving high school was flourishing again. I recalled my desire to help my community through politics and that thinking led me to pursue higher education in law. After rigorous studying for the LSATs, and superb recommendations from Joy Hostetler and Sean Delaney (who was at West as an Ohio State Master of Social Work student intern!) I got admitted to the Ohio State Moritz College of Law where I start in August.

It has been quite the journey. I learned so much along the way. What has been consistent though was my connection to West High, and the west side of Columbus in general. I needed to focus on that part of me, and it was clear that the decisions that strayed me away from that did not bode well for my academic pursuits. Returning to that desire I had at West, and the desire to chase the dreams I had as a young immigrant girl, has played a significant role in my academic successes."



2021 Scholarship Winners

By Karen Nixon Stattmiller, '79

The West High School Alumni Association is pleased to announce the 2021 scholarship recipients. The following students were awarded \$2000 at the virtual awards assembly on May 24th. Scholarships are made possible through the generosity of the West High School alumni and friends of alumni. To date \$190,000 has been awarded to 207 graduates.



Fatuma Mohamed

Photo by Maria McClain, West Guidance Counselor

Fatuma Mohamed will attend Ohio Dominican University in the fall and plans to study Exercise Science. She would like to become an athletic trainer and became interested after an injury. Fatuma came to the United States from Kenya. She is one of nine children and enjoys assisting her mother in caring for her younger siblings. Fatuma takes pride in her community by volunteering with beautification projects. Being involved in athletics and completing courses through Columbus State Community College keeps her very busy. Fatuma has participated in softball, volleyball and basketball and was voted this year's MVP in basketball. Fatuma is ranked 4th in the senior class and is described by Ms. Elizabeth Williams, Math Teacher as "a delightful representation of the student body of West High School".



Alexia Wilburn

Photo by Maria McClain, West Guidance Counselor

Alexia Wilburn is this year's recipient of the Beverly Kimball Daugherty Memorial Scholarship. Mrs. Daugherty was a 1963 graduate, and this scholarship is made possible by her husband Mr. Bill Daugherty. Alexia will attend Capital University in the fall and will study Business. Her ultimate goal is to someday open an animal shelter and a business degree would help her understand funding and operation. Alexia is this year's senior class president. She is currently working on putting together a fashion show and other activities for prom. One of the most inspiring activities Alexia is involved in is being an ITIK (I think I can) Peer Guide Intern. Her job is to encourage her peers to think about attending college and to meet with the ITIK advisor for assistance. She is ranked 3rd in the class. Ms. Carrie Ebright, Math Teacher says, "Alexia shows great school spirit and pride in all that she does." Alexia says her positive experiences at West will be remembered long after graduation.

Scholarship Committee members for this year were

Dave Dobos '73, Patty Drumheiser '65, Dave Ewing '67, Greg Large '70, Sandra Quick '68, Ginger Thrush '79 and co-chairs **Steve Scarpitti '74 and Karen Stattmiller '79**. Thanks for your commitment to this worthy cause!

Call for Articles

This Editor is always looking for a good story to publish. And, especially during this pandemic when most of our Association events have been cancelled. Do you have a special memory of your years at West? Do you have a funny story from one of your classes? Do you have lunch once a month with your friends from your ole' alma mater? Do you have a storied keepsake from your high school days that you cannot part with? Send your tales and even a photo if you have one in c/o Nancy Lloyd Laver, at nybryant@aol.com or you can mail it into the association. Do not worry about punctuation or spelling. I can tweak it for you.



2020 and 2021 Hall of Fame Honorees

By Sara McPeck Sampson, '69

Due to the Covid Pandemic, the 2020 Hall of Fame Ceremony was cancelled last year. With that being the case, the Alumni Association is very pleased to announce our 2020 and 2021 Hall of Fame Honorees: **Richard "Dick" Curtiss, Class of 1957; Roger Street, Class of 1960; Mike Neer, Class of 1963; and Stephen Garland, Class of 1970.** We will print the biographies about the honorees in a later newsletter. Congratulations to each of these individuals on their outstanding accomplishments.

This year the Hall of Fame Committee, chaired by **Sara McPeck Sampson '69**, had 7 newly nominated alumni to consider in addition to the 37 who had been previously nominated. Sara asked each committee member to review all the nomination materials and then select his/her top five. Several of the committee members reviewed this information on their own before the group meeting. Regardless of who serves on the committee, it is always a struggle to select the honorees for the upcoming year. Committee members this year include: **Dorance Nichols Hornsby, '63; Patty Krizinski Drumheiser, '65; Greg Large, '70; Rosalie Martin Williams, '72; Dave Dobos, '73; and Nancy Lloyd Laver, '79.**

Please join us in recognizing our 2020 and 2021 Alumni Hall of Fame Honorees. Whether you know (or knew) any of the new honorees, this is always a great time to socialize. We always have several former honorees attend, along with friends and family of the new honorees. The reception will be Sunday, September 19, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. in the West High School Library. This will be dependent on whether or not the building will be available for the public to use due to Covid restrictions by the Columbus City Schools. Information on this will be released via email, Facebook, and word-of-mouth.

Parking is available in the parking lots to the north and west of the building. Handicap parking is available in the parking lot on the west side of the building. For those who are in wheelchairs, the doors on the southwest side of the building have a ramp to facilitate entering. Upon entering, go straight and turn at the second hallway towards the middle of the building. Proceed to the library.

Reservations are due by September 13th and the form is located below. You may also email me, **Sara McPeck Sampson** at: **sampson@columbus.rr.com** with your reservations. There is no charge for this event, but a donation to the West High Alumni Association would be appreciated. We hope that we will be able use the library and we hope that you will be able attend!

Clip along dotted line and return form along with your check

2020 & 2021 Hall of Fame Ceremony

**Registration Deadline
September 13th, 2021**

No Cost this year. Donations would be appreciated.

List names for each reservation: _____

Mail this reservation form to:
West Alumni Association
P.O. Box 28056
Columbus, OH 43228

PRINT LEGIBLY Year Graduated _____ January or June _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____ Maiden Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____





Dear Nancy,

I really enjoyed the letter that **Dave McManus** wrote to you and that you shared in the Spring newsletter.

Sincerely,
Peggy Craig Schwartz, 1954

Dear Peggy,

I am glad to hear that you enjoy his stories as here is another one for you to enjoy. Dave is a regular contributor to this newsletter.

Take care,
Nancy Lloyd Laver, 1979

Dear Nancy,

Thank you for serving as the editor of the West High Alumni newsletter. We appreciate the time you spend on our behalf. It is a wonderful way to keep up to date with the school and with the students we knew during our time at West.

Sincerely,
Jane Rousculp, 1951

Dear Jane,

Thank you! I loved working on the school newspaper under the direction of Miss Jan Rolfe. I feel that I learned a lot from her class.

Nancy Lloyd Laver, 1979

Dear Nancy,

I am going to call this Do You Remember.

Do you remember when wearing a mask meant that a bank or a business was probably going to be robbed? Or even a stagecoach, unless of course you were the Lone Ranger, Batman, or Robin.

Do you remember the Hague Ave. crosstown bus? This was one way to get to the pool. Do you remember the electric trolley bus that went down Broad St.?

Do you remember movie theatres? Indoor – Ritz, Westmont, and Rivoli. Outdoor – Miles West Broad, National, 3-C, and even the Christian Free Drive-In.

Do you remember home deliveries? Donaldson, Omar (What wonderful baked goods! They had the best chocolate marshmallow cookies!), Charles Chips, Diamond milk, coal, and the ice man.

Do you remember swimming pools? Wee Bonnie, Maple Shades, Westview, and our beloved Hilltop. And, then there was the infamous rumored pool beneath the gym floor at West!

Do you remember drug stores? Goodwin's, Spangs, Grays and Haney's.

Do you remember the forerunner of fast food? BBF, Burger Chef, Sandy's and of course White Castle.

Do you remember grocery stores? Albers, Royal Blue, A&P, Super Duper, Ontario, IGA, Big Bear and Kroger. In 1968, there were 38 IGA's in Columbus and now only three remain.

Do you remember gas stations? Sohio at Hague and Sullivant, Phillips 66 at Holly Hill and Sullivant, Texaco at Mound and Central, Pure Oil, and Red Head.

Do you remember department stores? Gold Circle, Lazarus, Harts, Rinks, Topps, Zayers, and Schottenstein.

Do you remember newspapers? Citizen Journal in the morning, Dispatch in the evening, and the Hilltop Record.

Do you remember the aroma of the Wonder bread plant?

Do you remember the soap operas on our black and white tv?

Can anyone add more?

Sincerely,
Dave McManus, 1964



West High Alumni 2021 All-Class Summer Potluck is ON!

Sunday, July 25, 2021

3:00 – 5:00 PM

Crossroads United Methodist Church

1100 S. Hague Avenue

(Corner of Hague Ave. and Briggs Rd.)

Due to the changes with the CDC guidelines, we are now going to have our alumni picnic!
We will comply with any CDC guidelines which are in place at the time.

Join us as we get together to catch up and eat great food provided by us all.

It's a potluck!

Bring your favorite dish or snack to share.

Your Alumni Association will provide place settings, soft drinks, water, and Sloppy Joes.

All WHS alumni, family, and friends are invited. If you have never attended before, make this your first year to attend. For those that have attended in the past, we look forward to seeing you again.

Spread the word. We would love to see representation from all of the West High School alumni classes. There may or may not be door prizes due to this last-minute change of plans. Door prize donations are welcome!





Class of 1970 – Reunion UPDATE

The Reunion Committee mailed out a survey asking Classmates when they would like to have our “postponed” 50th Class Reunion.

The results: 50% want to gather in 2021 / 50% want to gather in 2022.

We want to please as many Alumni as possible, so we are planning a Reunion for **BOTH** years!
Mark your calendars now and plan to attend!

2021

Saturday, August 14, 2021 7 pm – midnight

The Bogey Inn
6013 Glick Road
Powell, OH 43065

\$10 cover Cash Bar
Lite Hors d’oeuvres Live Entertainment
No Reservations Needed ALL Classes Are Welcome

2022

We are still planning a celebration in 2022
at The Courtyard by Marriott in Columbus
(I-270 and Roberts Rd).

Please make sure the Committee has all your contact
information so we can send you all the details.
We are looking forward to seeing you soon!

Any questions? Please contact a Reunion Committee member or email Sue or Georgia.
smaneff@gmail.com – Sue Griffith Lockard
georgiamward@gmail.com – Georgia Martin Ward

Class of 1975 – 45th Reunion - Rescheduled

2020 date was cancelled due to COVID.
Plans are still being finalized.

Shamrock Club
Saturday, October 16, 2021

Check our Facebook page for more information:
Columbus Ohio West High School – Class of 1975

Contact: Mike Redmond jredmond@columbus.rr.com

Class of 1976 – 45th Reunion - Rescheduled

*It's Time to Bring Our Spirit to Our
45th Reunion*

Mask Free!

DATE: Saturday August 28, 2021

TIME: 6pm-10pm

PLACE:

The Reception House @ Raymond Memorial
Golf Course.

COST \$45.00 Per Person

SEND: Check or Money Order

PAYABLE TO:

West High School 1976 Class Reunion

TO: Diane Doughty Stephens

4985 Lindel Dr.

Col. OH 43207

3 Entrees, Cash Bar, and DJ
Individual and Class Pictures
will be available to purchase.

Hope to See You There.

*Fun Times and Memories
Will Be Shared and Made*

Dear Class of 1961,

As you have probably figured out, our graduation class should be celebrating our 60th reunion this coming summer in 2021. But it has been decided to not have the 60th reunion this summer due to Covid-19, but to work toward our celebration the following summer in 2022 –just one year later. We think this would be the safest way to enjoy our 60th.

We are interested in establishing a committee that would like to plan together starting in the summer/fall of 2021. In addition, reunion ideas/activities would be very welcome even if you are unable to serve and if you are possibly interested in attending summer of 2022. Please text/email/call:

Judy Pagura 1-330-421-6245
jpaguramedina@aol.com

or

Judy Warner 1-513-324-0443
JWarner43@aol.com

Let's Write

By Janet L. (Rowe) Walker '63, PhD, LCSW, LADC



Janet Rowe Walker

I'm pleased to have the opportunity to write an article for the West High Alumni Newsletter. Only positive memories do I have of my high school days because of good friends. I enjoyed Choir (Mrs. White), Dramatics (Mrs. Hall) and English classes too. However, at that time I never planned to, nor was interested in, becoming a writer.

So, what happened, that in my later years I picked up the pen? I believe Writers write, because of emotional motivation or what I just call "Heart issues." For those

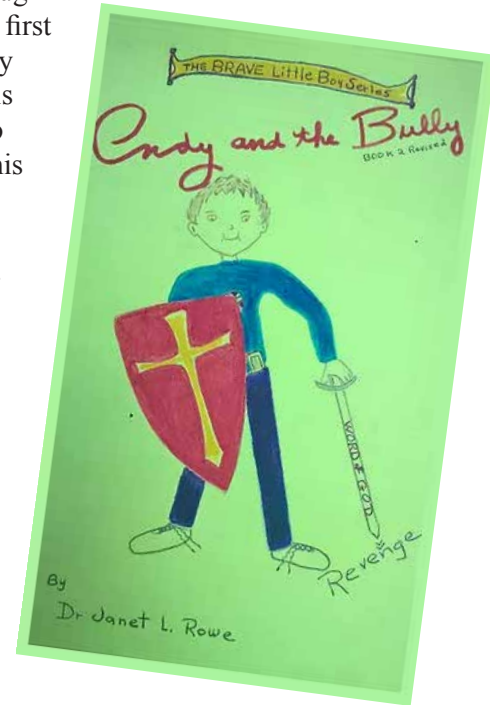
required to express through the written word, the Heart issue is survival. And then again, there are some folks who just love putting their thoughts and feelings on paper. But for me, it was due to a deeply felt experience when once again my counseling clientele was primarily, children. Of course, some sessions included the parents. But my Kindergarten, First and Second graders were impressive—possessing strong spirits with protective emotional layers over hurting hearts. Anger immerses from emotional pain.

The question I asked myself was—how do I open the kids' horizons exposing them to different reaction behaviors in a fashion where they would not feel challenged?

The answer became - "little" fourth grader, Andy, a fictional book character. He lives a regular life with many of Today's challenges. When he visits his Christian granny, they peruse solutions to perplexing issues.

At that time, I wrote rough drafts of ten books; the first two were published. My publishing experience is a "book" on its own, so I'll not go into that at this time. Finally, I rewrote and published Book 2 - Andy and the Bully, Revised Book 2.

Interestingly, when a friend found out I had written a youngster's book, he became motivated to write about fun times with his grandkids, adding a few photos. They loved it and so did he!



So, I encourage everyone to jot down some enjoyable life happenings— including your unforgettable times at West— and go to kdp.amazon.com and start writing. You can self publish, buying the number of books you want to give away.

You will find me at www.drjanauthor.com. I try to post at least once a month. My email is: janet.walker69@yahoo.com
HAPPY MEMORIES!

Janet L. Rowe Walker, Ph.D. is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and a retired Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor. She has forty years of counseling experience in various settings, with all age groups, along with a private practice. Dr. Rowe Walker served periodically as an Agency Director while working directly with clients. Her private practice included contracting with agencies as supervisor for licensing candidates.

Dr. Jan was born and raised in Columbus, Ohio, spent the majority of her adult life in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, then easing towards early retirement years moved to Guthrie, Oklahoma. Currently, she is splitting her time between Oklahoma and Hot Springs Village, Arkansas.

Janet Rowe and her two dogs



West High Luncheon – Open to all!



On Friday, May 14, 2021 a group of twenty or so West graduates met at the Spaghetti Warehouse at 397 W. Broad St. for lunch. Come and join this friendly group of alumni. They plan to meet the second Friday of each month. Everyone is invited! Even spouses! Name tags will be provided. Put it on your calendar to join the fun. This luncheon group was originally started by **Diane Ruffner '68** and now is being continued by **Jill Eichenberger Idzkowski '69**. Please contact Jill at 614-570-4084 for text or voice message or through Facebook Messenger to let her know if you are going to attend.

To view the Spaghetti Warehouse menu, go to: meatballs.com



In Memoriam - Alumni No Longer With Us



(If you know the graduation class of anyone listed without a year, please contact the Association editor so we may update our records. Also, if you know of any alumni deaths that we have not reported, please also let us know of those.)

Class

1940s

Henriette Kinder Oakes, July 2, 2020	1946
Harold L. Buchanan	1945
M. Marcia Shields Hoover, March 5, 2021	1940
Gertrude "Gitty" Umansky Kaplan, March 16, 2021	1946
Ralph Paul DeMatteo, March 7, 2021	age 95
Mary Evelyn Braithwaite Rowe, March 20, 2021	1948
Agnes Mims, February 22, 2021	1940
Ruth Ansley Brown, April 15, 2021	1949
Jacqueline O'Brien Cotterman, April 18, 2021	age 93
Mary A. Shaw Mezey, May 1, 2021	age 95
Lou Ellen Hoffman Parkinson, May 6, 2021	age 93

1950s

George Clifford Shoemaker, February 8, 2007	1958
Lee Shults	1958
Warren Northrup, June 18, 2020	1951
Juanita Neff McCullough, September 6, 2020	1951
Bill Fisher, January 29, 2021	1951
Lois Ann Neff Gossett, March 12, 2021	1950
Phyllis Phillips Aldrich, March 19, 2021	1953
Larry Rowe, April 2, 2021	1959
Mary Holmes Cowgill, December 28, 2020	1954
Don Davis, July 13, 2019	1953
Nancy Lee Graham Boehm, April 5, 2021	1959
Earl "Wimpy" Potts, April 7, 2021	1951, Jan.
2012 Hall of Fame Honoree	

1960s

Wayne Messick, November 21, 2020	1963
Cathy Edwards Dailey, January 27, 1991	1962
Steven R. Tabbutt, January 6, 2021	1968
James H. Dailey, February 23, 2021	1963
Susan Kay Arnold, April 9, 2016	1960, Jan.
Brenda Upperman Combs, April 26, 2021	1962
Arleen Roederer Ziglar, April 24, 2021	1961
Roger L. Friend, May 23, 2021	1962, Jan.
Neal G. Blake, May 24, 2021	1967

Class

1970s

Tom Wycuff, March 1, 2021	1970
Lynn Beverly Daniels Whitmer, March 14, 2021	1970
Melissa Maye Holycross, March 14, 2021	1971
David A. Kramer, March 22, 2021	1974
Beverly L. Hypes-Nicholson, May 25, 2021	1971
Dan E. Fox, April 9, 2021	1974
Dawanna Louch Holobaugh, April 15, 2021	1978

1980s

James Robert Marcum, April 30, 2021	age 56
Deana Cullison Bell, April 19, 2021	1984
Michael J. Pancake, May 17, 2021	age 52

2000s

Jeremiah A. Schrack, March 30, 2021	age 39
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Staff Members

Norma Jean Fleming, May 22, 2021	age 91
Secretary	

Blanche M. Kern

By Nancy Lloyd Laver, '79

Some of you may recall that last year we asked for any stories or information that you had about former Vice-Principal Blanche M. Kern. She was at West from 1929-1952. She is interred at Green Lawn Abbey as one of their famous residents. This facility is one of the finest community mausoleums in Ohio. I went and visited on Memorial Day, and I found Miss Kern's final resting place. After 50 years of disrepair the mausoleum is open for business once again. For more information, go to: <https://www.greenlawnabbey.org/>



Thank you to our Alumni and friends who informed the Association of the passing of these cherished alumni, teachers and staff of West High School. Without your help we would not have this section.

Missing Members

We have quite a few Life Member alumni whose newsletters have been returned to us because of incorrect addresses or possibly death. If you know the current address or any other information for any of the alumni listed below, please contact Nancy Laver at 614-570-0018 or nybryant@aol.com.

Lavern Collins Nix, 1936 Jan.	Betty Knight Recob, 1945 Jan.	Walter Binkley, 1950 Jan.
Louis A. Erf, 1943 June	Harold F. Hill, 1946 June	Herbert Brown, 1953 June
Barbara McNutt Harkness, 1944	Charlene Rolsten Cassell, 1947 June	Marlin Endsley, 1954 Jan.
Mary Diltz Kimmey, 1944	Jean Meservey Hansen, 1947 June	Don Riser, 1954 June
Norma Benoy Erf, 1945	Evelyn Rock Johnson, 1947 June	Robert J. Thomas, 1954 June
James K. Fero, 1945	Patricia Clum Mitchell, 1948 Jan.	Linda Matheny Dougherty, 1957 June
Helen Dennis Rock, 1945	Robert Janes, 1948 June	Carol Smith, FOA
Paul R. Anderson, Jr., 1945	Carl McKenna, M.D., 1948 June	

THANK YOU for Your Donation



*The Alumni Association is designated as a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization.
All Scholarship donations qualify as a tax deduction on your federal taxes.
Checks should be made payable to the WHSAA and
mailed to Treasurer, P.O. Box 28056, Columbus, OH 43228.*

THANK YOU for Your General Fund Donation

JoAnn Wilson-Carter, 1953
Joan Gleibs, FOA

THANK YOU for Your Scholarship Donation

James Hughes, 1964

THANK YOU for donating in memory of, or in honor of, an individual

Jill Maxwell Bradway, 1975 in memory of Julie Schaub, 1975.
Louise and David Pence, 1957 in memory of Gary Link, 1957.
Charlene Florio Barclay, 1955 in memory of Gale Elaine Marzluf McLinn, 1955.
Jim Graham, Jan. 1957 in memory of Gary Link, 1957.
Fred Braithwaite in memory of his sister Mary Evelyn Braithwaite Rowe, 1948.
JoAnn Wilson-Carter, 1953 in memory of those who have passed before.
Joan Gleibs, FOA in memory of Eddie Gleibs, 1952.
Joan Gleibs, FOA in memory of Dick Lehmkuhl, 1950.
Bob McLinn, 1953 in honor of his wife Gale Elaine Marzluf McLinn, 1955.

WELCOME New Life Members

*699 Life Members will never have to remember
to send in their dues again!*

John Ingram, June 1957
Gregg Black, 1967
Sally Egelhoff Harris, 1967
John Wilson, 1963
Ruth Headington Masi, 1961
Gary L. Smith, 1965

WELCOME New Members

Susan Pitt Hauser, 1966

amazon Amazon Smile to Benefit the Alumni Association

If you shop at AMAZON.COM, please consider signing in at
SMILE.AMAZON.COM.

Once in the Amazon website, choose West High School Alumni
Association, Columbus Ohio as your donation recipient.

Every order you place through <http://www.smile.amazon.com> will
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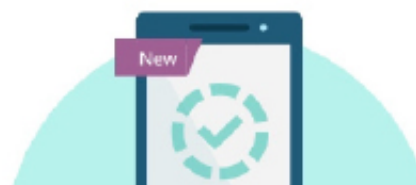
There is no additional charge for you to do this. It is an Amazon
program to give back to charitable organizations in the community.

Our Alumni Association received \$21.44 in May.
Every little bit helps!

AmazonSmile is now available in the Amazon
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Turn on to start generating donations in the
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West High School Alumni Association



Update Your Alumni 2021 Calendar!



**SAVE
THE
DATE**

June 26, 2021 Saturday	10:00AM to 5:00 PM Hilltop Bean Dinner – CANCELLED
July 25, 2021 Sunday	Summer Potluck – Summer Potluck is On! 3:00 – 5:00 PM Crossroads United Methodist Church 1100 S. Hague Avenue
August 13, 2021 Friday	8:30 AM Annual Alumni Golf Outing – The Players Club at Foxfire
August 29, 2021 Sunday	6:00 PM Board Meeting - WHS Alumni Board Meeting at Next Level Prep, 1805 O'Brien Rd, Columbus, 43228
September 19, 2021 Sunday	3:00 PM Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony West High School Library
October 10, 2021 Sunday	6:00 PM Board Meeting - WHS Alumni Board Meeting at Next Level Prep, 1805 O'Brien Rd, Columbus, 43228
October 13, 2021 Wednesday	6:00 PM General Membership Meeting - Officer and Board Member Nominations Due O'Charley's Restaurant, 1650 Georgesville Square, Columbus, 43228
November 14, 2021 Sunday	6:00 PM Board Meeting - WHS Alumni Board Meeting at Next Level Prep, 1805 O'Brien Rd, Columbus, 43228
November 17, 2021 Wednesday	6:00 PM General Membership Meeting - Officer and Board Member Election O'Charley's Restaurant, 1650 Georgesville Square, Columbus, 43228
December 4, 2021 Saturday	11:00 AM All Class Christmas Luncheon Raymond Memorial Golf Club



Kroger Plus Card Benefits West Alumni Association

Thirty-one alumni households contributed \$130.83 to the Association without having to do anything but register their Kroger Plus Card on a computer. Our Alumni Association received \$9.94 in February. Every little bit helps! Thank you for the donation! This is one of the easiest ways for non-profit organizations to earn funds for their programs. Your Alumni Association has participated in this program for several years now. We receive a quarterly

check from Kroger with proceeds from all who have made this designation for West High School Alumni Association. The Kroger funds are used to help pay for the general expenses of the Association, which include the preparation and printing of this newsletter.

Cards can only be registered via the Internet. If you do not have a computer, please ask a friend or relative to register your card for you. After you register your Kroger card, each time you make a purchase at a Kroger store use your Kroger Plus Card, Kroger Credit Card, or Alternate ID and a portion of your purchases will automatically be applied toward the Kroger Community Rewards donation. All participants must re-enroll each year to continue earning rewards for our organization.

Kroger Community Rewards Program

- Log onto the Kroger Rewards website: <https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow/>
- Click on the left where it says "I'm a Customer"
- Login into your Kroger account (if you don't have a Kroger account, please create one it only requires an email address and a password)
- Under "Find an Organization" type West High School Alumni Association
- Click search
- West High School Alumni Association will show up with our number HA170
- Click Enroll

West High School Senior Graduates Early Despite Global Pandemic

February 17, 2021 – 17-year-old senior Laileona Sydnor has already graduated from West High School and picked up her diploma. “She was so motivated to finish high school,” said Maria McClain, Laileona Sydnor’s school counselor at West. “She completed all her state and Columbus City School graduation requirements so she could graduate early.”

A high school diploma is one more accomplishment Laileona has achieved in her young life, which has been far from easy. “10 years ago, my little brother died from heart complications when he was two years old,” said Sydnor. “At the age of 12, I was sexually assaulted. I’ve tried to commit suicide. My mom has issues with drugs and is still in recovery.”

Laileona Sydnor talks candidly about her upbringing. She’s not shy; quite the contrary. Laileona feels talking openly about it might help others recover.

“I refuse to let the abuse define me,” said Laileona Sydnor. “It’s hard, but I’m not going to be the victim. I have a wonderful therapist at Nationwide Children’s Hospital. I currently live with my grandparents and younger brothers.”

In her college essays, Laileona Sydnor writes about her childhood, which also includes a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. When Laileona was 16 years old, she was invited by the YMCA Hilltop branch to go to London, England, to celebrate the Y’s 175th Anniversary. “I was the youngest person in the group,” said Sydnor. “The trip was unbelievable. The YMCA paid for everything; hotel, airfare, food, even spending money while I was there.”

Currently, Laileona works several jobs, but her favorite is her part-time position at the National Alliance on Mental Health Ohio (NAMI), a non-profit, grassroots organization that advocates for mental health issues. Laileona Sydnor plans to go to college. “I want to be a professional mental health counselor,” said Sydnor. “I think I have so much to offer and can help teenagers like me.”

Laileona Sydnor’s first choice is The Ohio State University (OSU). “I have dreamed of going to OSU since I was a little girl,” said Sydnor’s whose bedroom is painted scarlet and gray and decorated with everything Buckeye from floor to ceiling.

Laileona is also considering enlisting in the Army National Guard. “I was in Junior Army ROTC for two years at West,” said Sydnor. “Military service could help me pay for my college education.”

During high school, when things got tough, Laileona Sydnor would focus on her schoolwork as a way to cope. She also uses music. “I am a free-style rapper, and several of my songs are posted on YouTube,” said Sydnor.

“Her ability to think on her feet and just belt out a tune is pretty remarkable,” said West High School Counselor Maria McClain. “You can give her words or phrases, and within seconds, Laileona is rapping about it.”

With a diploma in hand, Laileona Sydnor is excited and looking forward to the next step in her journey of serving others.

Go to this YouTube link to view an interview with Laileona: https://youtu.be/msRh2_vSH5k



Membership Application

2021 Annual Membership Dues are Due Now!



Mail Form & Payment to:
West High School Alumni Association
P.O. Box 28056
Columbus, Ohio 43228

113 #
2021

PLEASE CHECK:

☐ Renewal ☐ New Membership ☐ Address Change ☐ E-Mail Change

Member
Information

PRINT LEGIBLY

Year Graduated _____ January or June _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____ Maiden Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail Address _____ Phone (_____) _____

**Choose
One**

Annual		OR	Lifetime Membership		
Annual E-Mailed Newsletter	Annual Paper Mailed Newsletter	Lifetime (Under age 65) E-Mailed Newsletter	Lifetime (Under age 65) Paper Mailed Newsletter	Lifetime (Age 65+) E-Mailed Newsletter	Lifetime (Age 65) Paper Mailed Newsletter
\$25	\$30	\$250	\$275	\$140	\$150

Donations

- Donations to General Fund \$ _____
- Donations to Scholarship Fund \$ _____
- In Memory of _____
- In Honor of _____

Special Gift Newsletter

During 2021, with your membership renewal you can give an emailed newsletter to a friend with an interest in West High School. Lifetime members may also participate! We think that most people who receive a gift newsletter will join the association. We can double our membership if every current member participates in this special offer! Do your part - it is FREE!

Name _____

E-Mail Address _____

Roster of Members

- Roster of Members \$20.00 \$ _____
(Mailed in May)

Roster Format ☐ Printed Version (US Mail)
Choose 1 ☐ E-Mailed PDF format

- Roster of Current Members \$10.00 \$ _____
for one graduation class
- Sorted alpha by Last Name
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July 25, 2021 - Summer Picnic is On!

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