

# Louisiana Alumni & Friends Association

August 2021 - Volume 13, Issue 1

[WWW.LOUISIANAALUMNIASSOCIATION.ORG](http://WWW.LOUISIANAALUMNIASSOCIATION.ORG)

## All-School Alumni Reunion Events for 2021!

The Louisiana Alumni and Friends Association planning committee set the schedule for this year's events at its March meeting after confirming the Chamber of Commerce is planning to have Colorfest. On Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, during Colorfest weekend, an all-school / all-class reunion social / mixer will kick-off the evening's events at the American Legion Hall located at 420 Kelly Lane. This will run from 5 p.m. till 6:30 p.m. and is open to anyone who attended school in Louisiana, their spouse/significant other and/or friends, and any friends of the local schools. This social / mixer is free with a cash bar available from the American Legion. This provides a great opportunity for alumni from one class to mingle and reminisce with those from other classes.

After the social / mixer, a dinner for only those with reservations will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion. The bountiful meal will be catered by Vicky Mitts Keely ('78) and tickets are \$20 per person. This dinner ticket will include admission to the dance which starts at 9 p.m. (see below).

Since the events were canceled last year due to COVID-19, the dinner will include recognition of this year's and last year's special reunion classes (those with their graduation year ending in 0, 1 or 5, 6) in attendance. As a result, we anticipate a larger than normal attendance. Since seating is limited, make your reservations today (see the Reservation Form inside the back cover, page 11). Also, a very brief annual business meeting required by our by-laws will be held before dinner.

Those in charge of the LHS Athletic Hall of Fame selections have decided not to unveil this year's class at the alumni reunion dinner. The HOF inductees will be announced at a football game this fall with the induction ceremony to be held at LHS during basketball season.

A bit later that evening at the American Legion Hall, there will be a dance with live music featuring the band *Country Soul*. This will run from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. with doors opening at 8:30 p.m. A \$5/person cover charge will be required to enter for the dance (unless you attended the dinner earlier). During all events at the American Legion a cash bar will be available benefitting the Legion.

In case you are wondering, the Bulldogs football team will be playing host to MMA (Missouri Military Academy of Mexico, MO) for Homecoming on Friday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at 7 p.m. The annual Homecoming parade will be held on Georgia Street (generally from about 12<sup>th</sup> Street to Main Street) that afternoon. The time has yet to be announced. By the way, the LHS FFA (Future Farmers of America) chapter usually conducts a big BBQ fundraiser from 4 to 7 p.m. on Homecoming Day. Eat at LHS and then enjoy the game or get carryout.

If you are interested in playing golf from Friday-Sunday of Colorfest weekend, the Pike County Country Club has agreed to allow returning alumni and friends to play 18 holes or more for \$25 per person, which includes a cart. Inquire at the course about 9-hole rates if that is your preference.

If a group of returning alumni has particular interest in touring LHS/LMS on Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, they should contact Walter Logan at [waltercl2@att.net](mailto:waltercl2@att.net) by September 22<sup>nd</sup> so arrangements can be made.

**NOTE:** These plans could change given the latest guidelines on the COVID-19 pandemic. All updates on any changes in plans will be posted on [www.LouisianaAlumniAssociation.org](http://www.LouisianaAlumniAssociation.org) and the Louisiana High School Alumni and Friends Association page on Facebook.

## A Message from our President...

Greetings,

I am happy to report the annual, all-school reunion dinner and dance are scheduled for the first weekend in October in conjunction with Louisiana's Colorfest.

Make sure to read our featured articles that include the awarding of four \$1,000 scholarships to outstanding graduating seniors. It is through the generous donations of our alumni that we are able to continue this tradition.

The Alumni Association stays busy throughout the year, and we are always looking for support from the alumni. If you have any questions about the Association, contact me through email or phone listed below.

I look forward to seeing everyone in October.

Mark Haddock, Class of 1970

314-221-5458 [mhaddock52@gmail.com](mailto:mhaddock52@gmail.com)



Alumni Association President  
Mark Haddock, Class of 1970

Visit our website at [www.LouisianaAlumniAssociation.org](http://www.LouisianaAlumniAssociation.org)



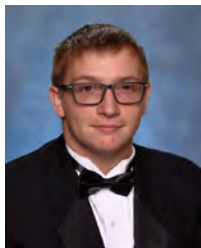
## Alumni Association Scholarships Awarded

During our Association's first two years, two \$500 scholarships were awarded to graduating seniors each year. The next two years, based on the scholarship fund balances, our Association voted to award four \$500 scholarships to eligible graduating seniors who applied. In 2013-2015 we awarded four \$750 scholarships. Since 2016 our Association has awarded four \$1,000 scholarships annually. This year's recipients were announced during an in-person Awards Night in May. They are listed below along with their plans after graduation:

**Jordan Luck**, attend Northwest Missouri State University and study agriculture;  
**Jerry Perez**, attend Missouri Science & Technology (formerly University of Missouri-Rolla) in Rolla and major in electrical engineering; **Jamie Sencenbaugh**, attend Missouri State University in Springfield to study nursing to become an RN; **Jaidyn Wommack**, attend St. Charles Community College to study nursing or emergency medical science to become a firefighter.

This brings the total amount of scholarships awarded by our Association to LHS graduates since 2009 to \$39,000! This has been made possible only with the support from many of you. THANK YOU! It is our hope the Association will be able to continue to make these and even greater awards in the years to come.

The Association wishes these students and the entire Class of 2021, which was 51 strong, the absolute best in the years ahead!



Jordan Luck



Jerry Perez

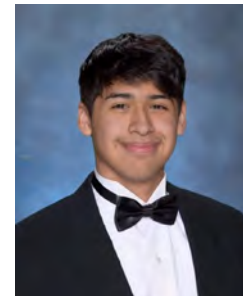


Jamie Sencenbaugh



Jaidyn Wommack

(Photos courtesy of LHS)



Morrow Scholarship recipient Rachel Beard and  
Gierke Scholarship recipient Christian Medina  
(Photos courtesy of LHS)

## Morrow and Gierke Scholarships Awarded

The recipient of the 2021 Ellen Morrow Memorial Math Scholarship, administered and selected by the Alumni Association, was **Rachel Beard**. Rachel will be attending Harvard in Cambridge, MA to study pre-law, go to law school and become a criminal defense attorney. This scholarship, named after a long-time LHS math teacher, goes to the top math student and is for \$1,000.

The Association's scholarship committee selected **Christian Medina** for the 2021 Gierke Family Memorial Scholarship. Christian plans to attend Pike-Lincoln Tech Center in the Auto Collision program and to study business at St. Charles Community College. His goal is to become an auto body technician and ultimately own his own auto body shop. This scholarship memorializes brothers Jacob and Christian Gierke and their father, Jim, who was the former owner of the Louisiana Press-Journal. This \$2,000 scholarship is administered by the Missouri Press Association.

## Proposition Bulldog Project Update

As shared in previous newsletters, the R-II District patrons overwhelmingly approved a 4 million dollar, "no tax increase" bond issue in April 2017. During the 2019-2020 school year the new bus barn was completed and put into use.

When Dr. Smith was asked the status of the district's application for a competitive FEMA Safe Room grant (to be used as a storm shelter and performing arts center), he replied "we are no longer in the running for the storm shelter." He added the board chose to prioritize demolition of Meriwether School last year when they were involved in all the unknowns related to COVID-19. (See related article on Meriwether School on page 4 of this newsletter.)

After the Meriwether project is complete, the board will consider using any remaining monies from the bond issue to address areas they may have cut (fully or partially) initially. Such things as a boiler at the elementary school, secure doors all around the district (the middle and high school main entrances already have them), upgrade of security cameras, upgrade of the network to accommodate the acquisition of Chromebooks purchased for all students, etc. will be considered.



Meriwether School demolition (Photos courtesy of Walter Logan)

## LHS ALAMO Yearbooks are Online

Don't forget you can view any of the LHS ALAMO yearbooks through 2019 online. (The 2020 edition will be added later this year.) These were scanned a few years ago and it has turned out to be by far the most viewed page of the Alumni Association's website. The website page where the yearbooks can be viewed is [www.LouisianaAlumniAssociation.org/alamos\\_yearbooks](http://www.LouisianaAlumniAssociation.org/alamos_yearbooks).

Should you have photographs or clippings which you believe would be of interest in helping to preserve the history of LHS, contact Mike Pratt at 314-609-9821 or via email at [LHSAlumniLouisianaMO@gmail.com](mailto:LHSAlumniLouisianaMO@gmail.com).

## Helping Our School District



If you have a good memory, you will remember our Alumni Association partnered with the Louisiana Elementary School staff to raise about \$4,000 in November 2018. This was to be combined with \$10,000 from the Bullpup Boosters and put toward the cost of completing Phase 3 of the playground equipment at the elementary school. Superintendent Todd Smith agreed the district would pay the balance. Due to a variety of issues, completion of the project was delayed.

I am glad to report that last summer the work on installation of Phase 3 equipment was completed and since has been thoroughly enjoyed by the students. (see photo)

During the winter it was noticed the Louisiana R-II Schools flag in front of the high / middle school complex was faded and dingy vs. our true school color. At an Association planning committee meeting it was agreed to purchase a new flag for the district. Superintendent Smith was contacted and shared the source and cost of the flags. He said they usually purchase three flags at a time and replace it two or three times each year. It has been agreed to purchase flags for the district during the summer for use during the 2021-2022 school year.

The Association donated to the After-Prom Party Committee as had been done annually until COVID-19 canceled last year's Prom. Our Alumni Association also took out a half-page ad in the ALAMO yearbook.

The last full day of the school year in May, the Alumni Association recognized the entire district staff, 128 strong, with a small gesture of our appreciation. It was a big chocolate chip cookie in a zip lock bag with a card inserted which read on the front "Chip, Chip, Hooray!! We appreciate your dedication to Louisiana Students! Thank you for all that you do." On the back was printed "Thank you for all that you do. Louisiana Alumni & Friends Association." Teachers, paraprofessionals, bus drivers, kitchen and maintenance workers, custodians, secretaries, and administrators received this sweet treat for their efforts during this especially trying school year. Kudos go to Vicky Mitts Keely (LHS '78) and Linda Robinson Shade (LHS '78) for baking the cookies and bagging / delivering them respectively.



A committee has been appointed to investigate the possibility of our Association providing all teachers in the district a small sum of money to help defray expenses for their classroom they often pay out of their own pocket. We hope to implement this for the coming school year so stay tuned...



### L.H.S. Year in Review

Greetings!!

Thank you for the opportunity to update our LHS alumni on all the great things that are taking place at Louisiana High School. The 2020-21 school year saw many wonderful accomplishments in areas of academics, extracurricular activities, and service to our community.

The Staff has worked so hard the last two years even with everything going on we have really celebrated a lot of success academically. We have been rated in the top 10 percent (number 60) in the ranking of all of Missouri High Schools. <https://www.usnews.com/education/best-high-schools/missouri/rankings>. We have also for the first time had an average ACT score of higher than the national average.

We continue to offer students a wide variety of course selections, including offerings in dual credit coursework. The 2021 graduates had the potential to leave LHS with 24 hours of college credit. We continue to participate in the Missouri A+ Program and this year 13 students will be taking advantage of the free and/or discounted tuition offered to A+ graduates by Missouri community colleges and universities.

Whenever possible, we give the students at LHS opportunities to give back to the community that makes everything possible. This year our National Honor Society and Interact students provided services to the Pike County Memorial Hospital, the Twin Pike Family YMCA, the Louisiana Chamber of Commerce, as well as several other local organizations. Our A+ students are enrolled in a Student Outreach and Community Service class allowing them to serve as classroom aides and peer tutors in the Louisiana Middle and Elementary Schools. We have 22 seniors that qualified for A+ scholarship. The opportunity is rewarding for students on both sides of the equation. Our Interact chapter packed Lane's backpack buddies lunches for elementary students for the weekends along with helping unload many other items for the food pantry.

Our doors are always open to Alumni and Friends. If you are in town, please stop by and see us. Depending on how long it has been, you may notice significant changes. All of our facilities are top notch in the area and in the Conference. I would enjoy giving anyone interested a tour of the grounds. It is all of your hard work, contributions, and accomplishments that make LHS what it is today.

I hope to see you soon.

Nick Heggemann  
Principal - Louisiana High School



Visit us at [www.LouisianaAlumniAssociation.org](http://www.LouisianaAlumniAssociation.org)



## Meriwether School Is Just A Memory



*Did you sit at one of those desks or have class in one of those rooms?!?*

Last year in this newsletter it was stated any funds remaining from the Proposition Bulldog bond issue could possibly go toward the abatement of asbestos and demolition of Meriwether School. The school was originally built in 1954 using funds from a bond issue for \$260,000 to replace Field School. It was named after Mrs. Charles (Marie) Meriwether, founder of Louisiana's Parent Teachers Association (PTA), and used for grades 1 – 4. When the new elementary school was built in 1968, Meriwether sat vacant until the district established an alternative school it housed (approximately 2001-2009). That was ultimately moved to the middle/high school campus. The district's Parents as Teachers staff was housed there for a period and the YMCA used it as a summer day camp site for many years. Most recently the old cafeteria portion of it was used as a bus service bay and the old playground area the bus parking lot for the district. Last year when the new bus barn retrofitting was completed, Meriwether had no functional purpose for the district.

The school board received bids on abatement of all asbestos in the building and estimated the cost of demolishing the building. When it came time to reapply for the competitive FEMA grant for a storm shelter to protect residents in a portion of the town (it was to double as a performing arts center for the district and community), it was decided using bond funds earmarked for the shelter would better be used to raze Meriwether. Part of the thinking was the old Central School building on Jackson St. (some remember it as the high school they attended while others recall attending it for grades 5 through 8) sits vacant and crumbling after the district sold it to an individual who abandoned it and left town many years ago. The board did not want to see the same happen to Meriwether if it was sold.

Asbestos abatement of Meriwether was completed during the winter months. Bids for demolition and clearing of the grounds were opened on April 1<sup>st</sup>. A local business, Love & Sons, was the low bidder and began demolition work in late April. The target date for completion of the project is in early July. The district will likely list the lot for sale at some point to see if there is a market for it.

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## Buy a Piece of Meriwether School!

There were an astonishing number of comments on a Facebook post which announced Meriwether School was going to be demolished. Memories flowed on the social media platform from those who attended Meriwether. This prompted the Association's planning committee to believe there may be interest in persons buying a brick from the Meriwether building as a lasting memento. Therefore, the Association will be making available a limited number of bricks from Meriwether at our All-School Reunion events on Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> as a fundraiser. The price for each brick will be \$10. Due to their weight, the bricks will not be available for shipping to out-of-towners.

### Amazon Shoppers Take Note! Help our Association.

#### What is Amazon Smile:

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice.

#### How do I shop at AmazonSmile?

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) from the web browser on your computer or mobile device.

#### How do I select a charitable organization to support when shopping on AmazonSmile?

On your first visit to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Please select "Louisiana High School Alumni and Friends Association" as your charitable organization.



## LHS Scholar (Quiz) Bowl Team Wins Conference!

Under new coach, Shaylen Bailey, the LHS Scholar Bowl team had an amazing year winning 20 out of 22 matches! The team took first at the conference meet in March defeating Montgomery County in the finals. They finished third in district competition losing by only a few questions to Christian High School of O'Fallon. Two team members placed at Conference or Districts as top scorers. Bryan Renner placed 4<sup>th</sup> at the Conference tournament while placing 6<sup>th</sup> overall at Districts. Rachel Beard placed 5<sup>th</sup> at Districts.

The following students received awards at the winter sports banquet: MVP – Bryan Renner and Rachel Beard; Bulldog Award – Evan Jones; and Most Improved – Jerry Perez. Per Coach Bailey, "The students had a successful season and I know that they all have bright futures ahead of them."

## Scam Warning

CAUTION!!! Beware of scams which portray themselves as our Association. These come via email and are shown to be received From: Louisiana Alumni or Louisiana Alumni Site (or similar). They offer memberships, sell merchandise, etc. Please **DO NOT** pay membership dues to them thinking it is the Louisiana Alumni & Friends Association.

## Georgia Street Project is FINISHED!!!

About four years ago voters in Louisiana approved a bond issue to improve the Georgia St. corridor. This project entailed relocating various utilities from under Georgia St. to the area immediately south of it AND ultimately repaving all of it from Fourth St. to the area of the bowling alley.

As of the fall of 2019, the portion of Georgia St. from the hospital to the bowling alley had been repaved as the infrastructure under it was newer and not in need of relocating and/or replacing. Last fall, the portion from Seventh St. to the hospital was repaved much of it with new sidewalks on the south side and handicap-accessible curbing.

That still left Georgia St. from Fourth to Seventh Streets looking like a war zone a year ago. The city and even more so the residents hoped it could be completed in time to be repaved before cold weather set in. Unfortunately, that did not happen. Holes and trenches which had been dug were filled and it was made "drivable" for the winter months. With the rest of Georgia St. so smooth it made this three-block stretch area seem that much worse.

When the weather warmed in April, the paving crews and equipment returned to finish the remaining three blocks. A couple weeks later striping for parking spaces and crosswalks was completed. In June the lighting in that section was put back in place to match with the section of Georgia St. from the Main to Seventh St. and much of Third St.

Walkers in parades and band members will no longer need to worry about tripping over rough spots on Georgia Street (at least for a few years). Alumni riding floats in the Colorfest parade will not need to wear mouth pieces to protect their teeth.

The old saying "No pain, no gain" comes to mind. Residents and visitors alike experienced many detours and rough, cramped side streets during this long project. There were many front ends needing re-alignment and tires needing premature replacement because of this project. But the finished product is something of which all residents should be proud. It makes a positive statement to visitors that our town cares about our streets.

In late May, Kelly Lane from Georgia Street to Highway 54 was also resurfaced. Word from city hall is South Carolina Street will be resurfaced next.



*The newly completed section of downtown Georgia St. taken from 7th St. looking toward the river. Smooth ride the entire length of Georgia St. now!(Photo courtesy of Walter Logan)*

## Update on K Ship's musical endeavors

You'll remember our fellow alum Kathryn Washington Shipley (LHS '83) who had success with the song "This Will Always Be My Town" about our own Louisiana and the music video filmed in town. The song she sang was written by Ronnie Stoops (LHS '81) making it from the heart of both graduates of LHS.

Despite the pandemic, a great deal has happened in the last year in K Ship's life. In 2020 Shipley released "Your Love Is Enough" and a music video which debuted on CMT (Country Music Television). Soon after, she released a Christmas song, "Oh What A King", with a music video shown on the TCN Network. Kathryn signed with Cavalla Records in Tennessee in August and released another new song "You Above All" featuring Ava Paige, a 16-year-old Nashville singer / songwriter. That song earned a spot on the CMT and ACM Spotify Playlist.

K Ship has been recognized as one of the "Ones to Watch" in 2021 and is part of the Class of 2021 for Women of Color with Country Artist Rissi Palmer, who is also the host of Apple Music Country Show "Color Me Country Radio" with Rissi Palmer. The music video for "You Above All" was released in April and has played on numerous networks.

Next up for Shipley is recording a summer song written with multi-award-winning Nashville songwriter Corey Lee Barker.

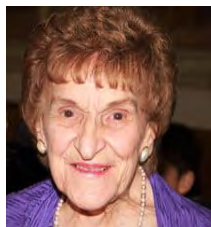
She plans to add keyboardist Lee Turner (who plays for Darius Rucker) to add some coolness to the track. The name of the song is "Life is Good" and a music video will be shot in July in parts of Missouri and Arizona. Another Christmas song is scheduled to be recorded in late fall and she is working on developing a documentary in 2022 with her videographer, Dylan Hetelle, CEO of Peak Media.

You can follow Kathryn a couple different ways: at [www.KSHIPMUSIC.com](http://www.KSHIPMUSIC.com) or on her label's website [www.cavallarecords.com](http://www.cavallarecords.com).



*Kathryn Shipley in Nashville, Tennessee*

## In Memory of Mrs. Dorothy Webb...



It was agreed to include a "Where in the World" feature in this newsletter of a long-tenured teacher from our school district. Dorothy Webb was selected but everyone was deeply saddened when she passed away in April at 94.

She grew up in and graduated from Hannibal High School in 1944. Dorothy married, had a daughter, and later attended Hannibal-LaGrange College obtaining her Associates Degree in education. She taught two years at Mills Creek School in rural Ralls County, MO. During that time, she continued her education and received her B.S. in education from Culver-Stockton College in 1959. That same year she and her daughter moved to Louisiana where she accepted a teaching position. She continued teaching in Louisiana for 30 years, most of those dedicated to teaching junior high Language

Arts. Per her obituary "Dorothy was passionate about her teaching, treasured all her students, touched countless lives, and in some cases, generations."

When Mrs. Webb retired, she remained active in our community. She was active in her church, volunteered at the Pike County Memorial Hospital's gift shop, the Louisiana Area Historical Museum, as well as several nursing homes where she was often seen painting fingernails and reading to residents. Residents often asked how much they owed her, and she replied, "all I want in return is a big smile."

Gardening and flowers were her passion. She was happiest while working in her yard on Fourth Street, which was well known for having constant blooms from spring through fall. Dorothy spread love and cheer by sharing her flowers with family, friends, and neighbors. Much like she spread love and cheer among her students in Louisiana Junior High throughout her tenure.

## LHS Is Highly Ranked in Missouri

When visiting with Superintendent Todd Smith about the Proposition Bulldog Project update, he shared good news he had recently received about Louisiana High School. In the U.S. News and World Report's 2021 Best High Schools rankings in Missouri, LHS ranked #60 based on 2018-19 school year data. With a total of 603 high schools ranked in the state, Louisiana made the top 10%!!!!

Their site states that "a great high school educates all students from different social and economic backgrounds, exposing them to challenging coursework on the path to graduation."

You may be asking yourself on what specific criteria the high schools were ranked. We've got the answer. Six different criteria were gathered from third party sources, evaluated, and weighted as follows:

1. **college readiness, 30%** -- the proportions of 12<sup>th</sup> graders who took and earned a qualifying score on at least one AP (Advanced Placement) or IB (International Baccalaureate) exam. Earning a qualifying score is worth 3 times more than just taking;
2. **math and reading proficiency, 20%** -- aggregated scores on state assessments that students may be required to pass for graduation;
3. **math and reading performance, 20%** -- how aggregated scores on state assessments compare with US News' expectations given the proportions of students who are Black, Hispanic and from low-income households;
4. **underserved student performance, 10%** -- scores on state assessments aggregated just among the students who are Black, Hispanic, and from low-income households. These scores are compared with what is typical in the state for non-underserved students, with parity or higher being the goal;
5. **college curriculum breadth, 10%** -- the proportions of 12<sup>th</sup> graders who took and earned a qualifying score on AP and IB exams in multiple areas. More exams are valued greater than fewer exams up to a maximum of four. Earning a qualifying score on an exam is worth 3 times more than taking; and
6. **graduation rate, 10%** -- the proportion of entering ninth graders who graduated four academic years later.

LHS Principal Nick Heggemann commented "I attribute the impressive ranking to the hard work of our staff. They are always willing to go above and beyond for our students' success." He went on to say, "Due to COVID, we have had to scale back on some of the interventions we were using to help student success, but we will likely start them back up in the 2021-22 school year."

To learn even more about the rankings, see how other Missouri high school ranked and to view Louisiana High School's score in this report go to:

<https://www.usnews.com/education/best-high-schools/missouri/rankings> or

<https://www.usnews.com/education/best-high-schools/missouri/districts/louisiana-r-ii/louisiana-high-11744>



## Louisiana Bulldog Athletic Hall of Fame

Due to the global pandemic during the 2020-2021 school year, the LHS Hall of Fame committee did not select a Class of 2020. Late this summer they will meet and select members of the Class of 2021. The plan is to announce the names of the inductees at a football game this fall and have the formal induction ceremony during the basketball season.

LHS Athletic Director Ryan Griffin indicated the school is always looking for nominations for the

Hall of Fame. "We know there are tons of people that deserve to be honored but we need people to nominate them," Griffin said. The criteria for eligibility and the nomination form can be found on the high school's website under Athletics [http://lhs.louisiana.k12.mo.us/athletics/bulldog\\_hall\\_of\\_fame](http://lhs.louisiana.k12.mo.us/athletics/bulldog_hall_of_fame), by contacting Griffin by phone at 573-721-7964 or by email at [griffinr@louisiana.k12.mo.us](mailto:griffinr@louisiana.k12.mo.us).





## Where Are They Now???

Known as Mrs. Goodin by many fifth and sixth graders in Louisiana, she is now known affectionately to all as Bea, short for Beatrice. She was born in New Hartford, MO on March 10, 1927, and moved to Louisiana in fourth grade where she attended Eugene Field School. Bea graduated from LHS in the Class of 1946 with 38 others from the school on Jackson Street.

She began working for the school district in 1957 as the secretary to the Superintendent. She spent 14 years in that position working first with Supt. Joy Whitener, then Jim Woolcott and finally Henry Bailey. While working for the district, Bea continued her education receiving her Bachelor of Science degree in Education from Culver-Stockton in 1971. That same year she began teaching fifth grade. Bea continued taking classes and received her master's degree in 1979. During her 21 years of teaching, she taught either 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> grades till she retired from the district in 1992. All 35 years of her service to the district took place in the same building on Jackson from which she graduated!

Bea kept busy away from school and after retirement by serving the community in a variety of ways. She belonged to and was an officer in the Business & Professional Women club; served on the Louisiana Public Library Board for 11 years; was a volunteer for the Louisiana Area Historical Museum for 8 years and on their board for three; was a member of the Louisiana Housing Association for 25 years serving as secretary virtually the entire time; and was elected to the city council serving 10 years. Goodin served as councilperson under Mayor Don Giltner with whom she worked closely at school. She laughed as she shared that on her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, Mayor Giltner had the council sing Happy Birthday to Bea under "Old Business."

After sharing how she never worked so hard as she did the first year she was a classroom teacher, Bea said "I learned more than the kids did!" She told of how she would try different things her first year, some worked well as planned and others not so much. "That first year I had the students do sand painting of the United States. The janitor came in afterwards just shaking his head as there was sand everywhere!!! The kids learned about the U.S., but we never did sand painting again," Bea laughed.

After having lived at 919 South Carolina Street for 67 years, in January 2020 Bea moved into Lynn's Heritage House, a nice, assisted living facility on the edge of Louisiana. Two months later the world shut down due to the global pandemic and the Heritage House has just recently begun allowing visitors. She volunteered had she known COVID-19 was coming she may have stayed in her home a bit longer.

While having lunch with her granddaughter at a restaurant in town recently, a former student (Mike Geery, LHS '84) came up to Mrs. Goodin and said, "My hand is still cramped from you having me write 'I will not say ain't' 500 times." Bea thought he may have embellished things a bit but shared she did not like students saying or writing ain't. "I told them there was no such word. Well, some time later kids brought me a dictionary with ain't listed. I had to quit saying that!"

When asked about the most rewarding part of teaching, Bea said "It warms your heart when a former student comes up and says, 'you were my favorite teacher' or introduces their children to you proudly 'this was my fifth grade teacher'" Asked her fondest memory of her years with the school district, she thought a moment and said, "I was blessed to have worked with so many wonderful students, teachers and administration." And those students and others were blessed to have had Mrs. Bea Goodin in their lives.

Bea loves to receive emails and USPS mail too. Her email address is [goodinb@gmail.com](mailto:goodinb@gmail.com) and her mailing address is c/o Lynn's Heritage House, 800 Kelly Lane, Louisiana, MO 63353.



*Bea Goodin celebrating her 94th birthday! (Photo courtesy of Lynn's Heritage House)*

## Financial Support System



Everyone who has attended Louisiana schools or served the district as an administrator, teacher, or support staff is automatically a member of the Alumni Association. This is true even if it was for a short time. We no longer ask for annual dues to be a member of the Louisiana Alumni & Friends Association.

In lieu of annual dues, each member of the Association is asked to make a regular, tax-deductible donation as their situation permits. These donations will help provide on-going operating funds to cover the cost of regular expenses such as printing and mailing our alumni newsletter, website maintenance, and special purchases of materials, services, and/or equipment made to enhance the Louisiana R-II School District and to, in turn, benefit its students.

The suggested donation categories are as follows:

If you move or change your email address, please let us know. We want to maintain an accurate roster of all who have attended Louisiana schools. If you are receiving this newsletter via mail and have an email account which you check regularly, please send your email address with your full name (please include maiden name), and graduation year (or the year you would have graduated had you stayed) to [LHSAumniLouisianaMO@gmail.com](mailto:LHSAumniLouisianaMO@gmail.com). This will save the Association the cost of printing and mailing future newsletters.

**White.....\$5.00 - \$24.99**  
**Red.....\$25.00 - \$49.99**  
**Bulldog.....\$50.00 - \$99.99**  
**Super Dawg.....\$100.00 and up**

We ask you to consider making a donation. Does your employer make matching donations to tax-exempt organizations? If so, please have them match your donation.

How about making a tax-deductible donation now! See the Reservation Form with this newsletter which has a space for donations or you may do so on our website using PayPal at

[http://www.louisianaalumniassociation.org/use\\_paypal](http://www.louisianaalumniassociation.org/use_paypal).

## Alumni Leading Re(STORE)ing Louisiana Project

Two LHS '88 alumni, Carmen (Dunard) York and Viki (Jakulski) Cadwallader, are having some fun dreaming of a restored and revitalized Louisiana. Their love of community has energized them to put some action to their vision. Thus began many conversations about what they could do to help revitalize downtown, beautify the community and encourage people to move to Louisiana.

Out of those conversations has come the Re(STORE)ing Louisiana project. The goal is to blend the perspectives/passions/efforts of established residents with those of new residents who have chosen Louisiana as their new home.

As a real estate broker, Viki talks with residents and newcomers daily. Her heart is in networking... building partnerships between individuals and organizations. She is working on a comprehensive assessment of past development efforts, current resources (which will include individuals/organizations/businesses), current projects & needs, inventory of properties in disrepair/neglect, etc.

Viki said, "One of the most important things I want to do is just talk to people. Build relationships... connections. Find out what is truly on their hearts. This is a great little town and if we can help residents feel a sense of ownership, friendship, pride, and connectedness.... Wow... what a win for everyone."

These efforts will run simultaneously with Carmen's idea to market Louisiana nationally. A key tool in getting this done is a soon-to-be-launched website along with other social media avenues.

Carmen has visited other small towns that are thriving, using their available resources, and have brought in new people to live, visit, and work.

"I just kept thinking to myself, 'Louisiana can do this,'" she said. "We have so many positives that we can draw from, and yet it seemed like the town kept not doing well and things kept being closed down."

Carmen drafts house plans for clients so they can see their vision come to life. She is using that skillset and the creative outlet of the website to help others see the wonderful possibilities of being a part of the "Re(STORE)ing" and renewing of Louisiana.

The website will have different areas geared toward tourists, entrepreneurs, family, and community. It will show people what homes could look like after restoration work, along with multiple business opportunities for existing historic buildings in the community. Move-in ready homes will also be featured for those who don't want a "fixer-upper."

In regards to "Re(STORE)ing downtown and marketing out-

side of our area, Carmen gives an example that, "A shop owner who is struggling with heavy retail competition in Branson could find a better business opportunity in Louisiana." His/her store wouldn't be lost in the sea of merchants vying for tourists' money.

"The goal, at first, is to bring in businesses which already have an online presence, so they don't have to rely on walk-in traffic to sustain themselves," said Viki. "Physical restoration of buildings where need be, would be a part of this, of course. Eventually the goal is to increase foot traffic and continue to add different stores which will create a downtown destination and then, visitors can extend their stay to enjoy other amenities the Louisiana area has to offer."

There have been two meetings with community members. Projects are being planned so success is seen in the short term and the website is being updated and should be ready to launch very soon.

It is their hope that many people, including LHS alumni, will become invested in the effort both near and far. If you aren't local but feel led to contribute, you can be a financial supporter and/or help with much needed networking efforts. Local involvement can take many forms as well. Long-term support and/or short-term projects... Please reach out to Viki or Carmen through FB messenger or email [vikicadwallader@gmail.com](mailto:vikicadwallader@gmail.com) or [carmenyork515@yahoo.com](mailto:carmenyork515@yahoo.com).



Carmen York and Viki Cadwallader  
(Photo courtesy of Viki Cadwallader)

## Transporting Our Precious Cargo



Al Murry in front of bus #13 which he said required a lot of TLC

We have decided to select a person to feature who has invested many years of their life to working with the students of Louisiana R-II. This year we shine the light on an LHS alumni and long-time Louisiana R-II employee, Richard (Al) Murray (LHS Class of '72). Prior to his retirement last August, he served the district as Transportation Director for 25 years. Below are excerpts from a recent interview conducted with Al.

When asked about the biggest changes he had seen in the bus transportation field in the last 25 years, Murray said it was probably in the engineering and design of the buses. Advanced technology has made working on buses go from needing a mechanic to needing a computer technician. Currently, all buses in the Louisiana fleet have air conditioning as well as heat. (How many of us wish they had air conditioning when we rode them?!?)

Al indicated the district has 12 buses in its fleet with the average age of about 6 years of service. The district tries to purchase a new bus each year which runs about \$100,000. The oldest bus has about 100-110,000 miles on it. Between 60-65% of the students regularly ride a bus to / from school. Of the miles logged on the buses, 65-70% are transporting students to / from school while the balance comes from trips for extra-curricular events and field trips.

Murray indicated he was most proud of the reliability and safety record of the bus fleet he maintained. During his 25 years he said we never "lost" a child, maybe misplaced for a few minutes, and had no major accidents or

injuries. When asked what made him happiest in his transportation director role, he said he believed people cared and being able to work a day shift (he had previously worked night shift). As for the most frustrating aspect of his role he replied, "dealing with parents." He added, "children follow their parents' lead."

Asked what the one thing people just do not understand when it comes to bus transportation, Al replied "the amount of safety features built into buses today. The National Transportation Safety Board has run extensive testing and all show students are safer in buses without seat belts than with them. The current buses are designed to "compartmentalize" the students in their seats."

As we concluded, Al indicated he wanted to thank the bus drivers, which he said are nearly impossible to find. He added he thoroughly enjoyed his years with the district and he worked well with all administrators.



# DONATIONS MADE TO THE LHS ALUMNI & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

The Louisiana Alumni & Friends Association accepts all donations, memorials and honorariums from anyone who wishes to contribute to the Scholarship Fund. The donations are tax-deductible and allow the Alumni Association to continue presenting scholarships to those seniors who apply and are then selected by our scholarship committee. Anyone wishing to contribute may send a donation to Louisiana Alumni & Friends Association, P. O. Box 404, Louisiana, MO 63353 or through PayPal on the web site [www.louisianaalumniassociation.org](http://www.louisianaalumniassociation.org). It is extremely helpful to also include the address of a person to whom the donor wishes a contribution notification to be sent. Other monies are always welcomed to be used for general purposes (mailings, postage, fundraising projects, financial assistance to school programs, building projects, etc.) and should also be so designated. The Alumni Association's primary concern and purpose is helping the students and the district in whatever way possible

All donations to the Alumni Association are greatly appreciated.

**The following donations have been made to the LHS Alumni & Friends Association from July 2020 through June 2, 2021:**

In memory of Betty Allen From Anonymous	In memory of Jack Heller From Robert E. Richardson	In memory of Sue Reynolds From Lona D. Wallace	In memory of Lois Bland Turnbaugh From Sharon Love
In memory of Bobby Anderson From Robert E. Richardson	In memory of Glen Henderson From John Sittton, Cindy & Gregg Blaylock	In memory of Richard Riley From Cindy & Gregg Blaylock	In memory of Thomas W. Wallace From John Sittton, Cindy & Gregg Blaylock, Junior & Carol Clark, Janice & Jay Tims, Brad & Lori Clark
In memory of Imogene Behringer From Robert G. Shields, Jon J. Culhane	In memory of Karen Tarrants Henderson From D. Kay Conners, John & Linda Harmon, Joyce A. Robey	In memory of Virginia Ringhausen From Robert G. Shields	In memory of Cheryl Combs Walton From Class of 1974
In memory of William & Imogene Behringer From Elizabeth Behringer Smith	In memory of Raymond Hunter From Cindy & Gregg Blaylock	In memory of Vicki Robbins From Gregg & Cindy Blaylock	In memory of Dorothy Webb From Class of 1965, Kevin & Vicky Keely, Gregg & Cindy Blaylock, Pam Todd-Watts, Janice Krehbiel
In memory of Leroy Berry From Robert E. Richardson	In memory of Marilyn Johnson From Gregg & Cindy Blaylock	In memory of Charles (Charlie) Rule ('58) From Gregg & Cindy Blaylock, Tim & Monica Niemeyer, Pam Todd-Watts, Mike & Nancy Geery, Steve & Cathy Taylor, Dempsey Construction, Marsha & Jay Garrison, Jim & Gail (Gast) Sidwell	In memory of R.T. White From Cindy & Gregg Blaylock
In memory of Floyd Wayne "Brandy" Branstetter From William & Jill Perkins, Jim & Gail (Gast) Sidwell	In memory of Jean Lesley From Anonymous	In memory of James A. (Jim) Scott From Lona D. Wallace	In memory of Marion Lenore Woodward From Cindy & Gregg Blaylock
In memory of James Brossia From Cindy & Gregg Blaylock	In memory of Mary Alice Logan From Anonymous	In memory of Ed Shields From Robert G. Shields	In memory of Jim Worsham ('62) From Joyce Love Robey
In memory of Allona Chatman From Cindy & Gregg Blaylock	In memory of James E Lonergan From Ruby M. Guthrie	In memory of Joe Shields From Robert G. Shields	In memory of the participants of the LHS Track & Field Team of 1959 and their Cheering squad From Robert E. Richardson
In memory of Robert (Bob) Conrad From Anonymous	In memory of Jim McCarty From Gregg & Cindy Blaylock	In memory of Sue Smith Sittton From William & Jill Perkins, Jim & Gail (Gast) Sidwell, Gregg & Cindy Blaylock, Lona D. Wallace	In memory of Deceased Classmates of 1960 From LHS Class of 1960
In memory of Glen Cottrell From Pam Todd-Watts	In memory of (Charles) Ewell McChristian From Gregg & Cindy Blaylock	In memory of Jean Smith From Cindy & Gregg Blaylock	In memory of Deceased Classmates of 1965 From Larry Lamberson
In memory of John Crisan From James & Doris Brown	In memory of Jon Millner From Joyce A. Robey	In memory of Catherine (Kitty) Sparks From Harry & Carolyn Elliott	In memory of Deceased Classmates of the Class of 1967 From the LHS Class of 1967
In memory of Catherine "Kay" Crowder From John Sittton, Cindy & Gregg Blaylock	In memory of Ellen Morrow From Robert G. Shields	In memory of Anthony Stark From James & Doris Brown	<b>The following Honorariums have been received:</b>
In memory of James A. Dillender From Cindy & Gregg Blaylock, William & Jill Perkins, LHS Class of 1966	In memory of Jerry Narramore From Lona D. Wallace	In memory of Robert (Bob) Stephens From J.E. Woods, LHS Class of 1967, LHS Class of 1968	In honor of Bea Goodin From Steve & Cheryl LaRue
In memory of Wesley (Buck) Elliott From Cindy & Gregg Blaylock	In memory of Sharon O'Shea Neisen ('62) From Joyce Love Robey	In memory of Charles Strode From LHS Class of 1966	<b>The following donation to the Ellen Morrow Math Scholarship Fund:</b>
In memory of Millard Freeman From Anonymous	In memory of Anna Onik From Gregg & Cindy Blaylock	In memory of Daniel Strode From Rebecca Wood	(administered by the LHS Alumni & Friends Association) has been received From James & Doris Brown, Shell Oil Company matching donation given by Henry F. Pierce
In memory of Camillia Gamble From Thomas R. Gamble	In memory of Ollie Parker (Class of 1956) From Jim & Gail (Gast) Sidwell	In memory of Lonnie Sutton From Joyce A. Robey	<b>The following have made general donations to the Louisiana Alumni &amp; Friends Association:</b>
In memory of Waneta Gamble From Gregg & Cindy Blaylock	In memory of Delbert Parsons From Gregg & Cindy Blaylock	In memory of Jay Thomas III From Lona D. Wallace, Anonymous	Mark Kucera, Charles (Butch) Elgin
In memory of William (Bill) Goddard From Sharon Love	In memory of Clay Pickens From LHS Class of 1967	In memory of Mary Lee Lawrence Thomas From LHS Class of 1966	
In memory of William "Ben" Griffith From Cindy & Gregg Blaylock	In memory of Mark Powell From Gregg & Cindy Blaylock	In memory of Dayle Tredway From Cindy & Gregg Blaylock	
In memory of Glen Hagebauer From LHS Class of 1965	In memory of Charles E. Price From Cindy & Gregg Blaylock, Junior & Carol Clark, Janice & Jay Tims, Brad & Lori Clark		
In memory of Mary Harrison From LHS Class of 1967			



## Special Class Reunion Plans

**Class of 1965** – This class will have their reunion the weekend of Sept. 25 & 26. On the 25<sup>th</sup> they will meet at the former LHS Ag Building on Noyes St. (behind Central School) at 5:30 p.m. to visit and a catered dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. A catered brunch will be served at 10 a.m. at the same location on Sunday. Contact Linda Ince Beer at 573-754-6495 or [montana2432@att.net](mailto:montana2432@att.net), Shirley Gillett Penrod at 573-754-6323 or Linda Narramore at 573-754-4698 for more info.

**Class of 1970** – The 50 year + 1 reunion class will gather the weekend of October 1-3. Plans are to have a bonfire at Randy Griffith's farm on Friday evening, ride on a float in the Colorfest parade Saturday morning and attend the Alumni Association's all-school events that evening at the American Legion. A Sunday brunch has been considered as well. Follow updated information on the "Louisiana Missouri Class of 1970" Facebook group page. Mark Haddock is coordinating plans and can be reached at [mhaddock52@gmail.com](mailto:mhaddock52@gmail.com) or 314-221-5458.

**Class of 1971** – The 50-year reunion class will have an informal meet and greet at 1800 S. Carolina Street (Middleton's home) on Friday evening, Oct. 1. On Saturday they will gather to ride on a float (flat-bed trailer) in the Colorfest parade and join other classes at the Alumni Assoc.'s events at the Legion Hall that evening. Contact Sally Campbell Dinwiddie at [sally71la@yahoo.com](mailto:sally71la@yahoo.com) with any questions.

**Class of 1975** – Classmates will attend the Alumni Association's events at the American Legion on Oct. 1 to celebrate their 45<sup>th</sup> + 1 reunion. A Facebook group, Louisiana High School Class of 1975, has been created and classmates are urged to join. Contact Melody Capps DeWeese at [meldew57@gmail.com](mailto:meldew57@gmail.com) with any questions.

**Class of 1976** – On Friday, Oct. 1 this class will gather for cocktails at Fat Boy's located at Two Rivers Marina with a possible bonfire to follow. Then on Saturday they will join others at the Alumni Association's events at the American Legion Hall starting at 5 p.m. Trina Ford Ferling is the contact person who may be contacted at 573-999-1867 or [tferling@mchsi.com](mailto:tferling@mchsi.com).

**Class of 1980** – This class will be gathering at Fat Boys at 6 p.m. on Friday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and attend Alumni Association's events at the American Legion on Saturday for their 40<sup>th</sup> + 1 reunion. Karen Mitts Barbano is the contact for more info. She can be reached at [dnkbarbano@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dnkbarbano@sbcglobal.net) or 573-754-2331.

**Class of 1985** – They plan to attend the Alumni Association's events at the Legion Hall. Contact Becky Pitzer Chitwood for the latest plans at [rechitwo13@gmail.com](mailto:rechitwo13@gmail.com).

**Class of 1986** – The 35<sup>th</sup> reunion class will gather for cocktails at Fat Boys (across bridge at Two Rivers Marina) on Friday, Oct. 1 at 6:30 p.m. and attend the Association's all-school reunion events on Oct. 2. For more info, contact Mindy York Webert at [mywebert@yahoo.com](mailto:mywebert@yahoo.com) or 314-580-5903 (text is preferable).

**Class of 1990** – The 30<sup>th</sup> + 1 reunion class will be having their reunion at the Alumni Association's events on October 2nd. The contacts are Kim Dewey Ressler, who can be reached at [kimkressler@hotmail.com](mailto:kimkressler@hotmail.com) or 949-929-5647, and Jenny Alexander Briner at [jennifer.a.briner@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.a.briner@gmail.com).

**Class of 1996** – The 25-year reunion class is planning to attend the all-school reunion events at the American Legion Hall on Sat., Oct. 2. Contact Michael Lesley at [michaeljlesley@yahoo.com](mailto:michaeljlesley@yahoo.com) or 573-253-6221. Text before calling otherwise he likely won't hear his phone.

**Class of 2005** – As of early June, this class was considering having a float in the Colorfest parade but no other specific reunion plans were in the works. Donnie Jenkins, who shared this info, can be reached at [djenkins@mecoengineering.com](mailto:djenkins@mecoengineering.com).

**Class of 2010** - This class will attend the all-school reunion events and may schedule another event. Brett Bolton is the contact person at 636-248-0492 or [brett@lavendry.io](mailto:brett@lavendry.io).

**Class of 2011** – The 10-year reunion class gathered at Next Door for a get-together on Saturday, June 26. Liz Radcliff is the class contact at [earv22@mail.missouri.edu](mailto:earv22@mail.missouri.edu).

**Class of 2016** – This class plans to gather for a dinner at Dos Primos on Saturday, Oct. 2 for their 5-year reunion. Tentative time is 6:30-7 p.m. Zach Richardson is the contact person at [zrichardson042@gmail.com](mailto:zrichardson042@gmail.com).

To the best of our knowledge as of mid-June, the other special reunion classes (those with graduation years ending in 0, 1, 5 or 6) listed below have no plans for a reunion. It is hoped many from those classes will return to town and attend the Alumni Association's all-school reunion events on Saturday, October 2 (see page 1 for details).

Classes of 1956, 1961, 1966, 1990, 2005, 2006

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Louisiana Alumni & Friends Association

P. O. Box 404

Louisiana, MO 63353

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

*Alumni Social, Dinner and Dance Date—Saturday, October 2, 2021*

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Maiden

Last

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City / State / Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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Alumni Dinner Reservation(s) \$20 per person (Due by September 17)

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**Make checks payable to: La. Alumni & Friends Assn., P. O. Box 404, Louisiana, MO 63353**

**(Please return this form along with your payment by September 17 !!)**

**NOTE: No confirmations or tickets will be sent. Nametag at check-in will serve as your dinner ticket.**

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SAVE THE DATE! ➡ OCTOBER 2, 2021 ⬅ ALL-SCHOOL REUNION



## Contact Information

Below is the contact information of LHS alumni serving our Association in key roles.  
Feel free to contact them directly as the need arises.

**Mark Haddock, President**  
[mhaddock52@gmail.com](mailto:mhaddock52@gmail.com)  
314-221-5458

**Walter Logan, Vice President**  
[waltercl2@att.net](mailto:waltercl2@att.net)  
573-795-1647

**Danette Robinson DeBourge, Treasurer**  
[Debourge@nemonet.com](mailto:Debourge@nemonet.com)  
573-356-6385

**Diane Travis Patty, Secretary**  
[dkpatty@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dkpatty@sbcglobal.net)  
636-541-1812

**Linda Robinson Shade, Scholarship Chairman**  
[Shadymom\\_99@yahoo.com](mailto:Shadymom_99@yahoo.com)  
573-754-2676

**Mike Pratt, Membership/Alumni Roster**  
[LHSAumniLouisianaMO@gmail.com](mailto:LHSAumniLouisianaMO@gmail.com)  
314-609-9821

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