

THE SMOKE SIGNAL

AUGUST 2020 ISSUE

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE SUSQUEHANNA TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Serving the community since 1922

An IRS 501(c)(3) public charity

EIN: 46-2979340



Please join us for the first Susquehanna Township Alumni Association and HANNA Foundation Food Truck Festival in recognition of the 1st Anniversary of HANNA's Pantry! The day will offer something delicious for everyone!

The event is Saturday, **October 3, 2020**, at Susquehanna Township High School, 3500 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, Pa. 17109 and runs from **12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m.**

Note: General vehicle parking will be located at Capital Blue Cross.

If you have any questions, please contact Andrea Weikert at (717) 877-8321 or via email at alweikert@gmail.com



In conjunction with the October 3rd Food Truck Festival, look for the Alumni Association's booth where you may purchase pumpkins and hardy mums just in time for the fall season. Proceeds will benefit PINK OUT.

As you are aware, October is Breast Cancer Awareness and Support Month. We would normally hold several fundraisers in support of Vickie's Angel Foundation and Pink Hands of Hope.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic we will be unable to have our traditional fundraisers but look for ways to contribute on our website as October approaches.



Due to COVID-19, we have made the decision to cancel our normal golf tournament which had been scheduled for June 19, 2020. In collaboration with Sunset Golf Course, we have a modified event where you and your team purchase a \$75.00 per person voucher for greens fees and two domestic beers. Use at the Sunset Golf Course, 2601 Sunset Drive, Middletown, Pa, Monday-Friday until August 31, 2020. Send us your scorecards and any photos from your day. We will keep a leaderboard and present awards to the top three teams. We hope you'll continue to support us. See more details on pages 9-11 or on our website at <https://www.sthsalumniassociation.com/susquehanna-invitational/>

A Message from Your Alumni President

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Dear Alumni and Friends,

I hope that you, your family and friends are doing well as we manage our lives through the Covid19 pandemic. The challenges have been great but be assured that we will come out on the other side stronger together.

The mission of the Susquehanna Township Alumni Association is to promote the long-term welfare of the Susquehanna Township School District, its students, alumnus and extended community. The Alumni Association fosters loyalty and support for the school district; promotes fellowship among alumni and serves as the vehicle through which all alumni, friends and community members can support.



Over the years, alumni have brought a host of questions and concerns to the Association that is then shared with School District stakeholders for their awareness. It is one of our roles; and one that we welcome. The topic of our mascot has been one that has been brought to our attention numerous times in the recent past and true to our mission we informally communicated this to the school district with the last time in early 2019.

Several media outlets reached out to the Alumni Association for our Indian mascot stance as a national discussion centered around Washington's NFL team and others. A lengthy conversation due to time constraints was reduced to two 15 second segments that may given the appearance that the Alumni Association declared a position on this matter. This is not the case. The message was and is, that we should have a conversation similar to many others occurring across the country.

The Board of the Alumni Association advocates that this is an opportunity to initiate a dialogue regarding the School District's mascot. We encourage that this exchange be inclusive, respectful, and welcoming of the Susquehanna Township greater community perspectives.

With this in mind, we have created a survey found on our website homepage www.sthsalumniassociation.com/ where your input may be provided. A link will be posted on Facebook. We will provide the collective comments to the school district so alumni voices are in the discussion. We hope you will participate.

Be Well. Stay Well.

Dwayne T. DeFoor

Dwayne DeFoor, '78, President
STHS Alumni Association
PO Box 61472, Harrisburg, PA 17106

sthsalumniassociation@gmail.com | 717.572.0901

- Madeline Cohen '20
- Treasure Johnson '20
- Nadia King '20
- Justin Pitassi '20
- Jaylinne Rijo '20
- Justice Roney '20
- Jordan Spencer '19
- Aidan Stare '20
- Annika Stare '19
- Angel Thompson '20



LEST WE FORGET

- Robert E. "Bob" Baker, Jr. '47
- Evelyn R. Ben-Ami - Faculty
- Gary Lee Dobrinoff '64
- Kathy Reeder Dunn - Faculty
- Herbert "Herbie" Vaughn Hatcher '72
- Vincent C. Klawansky '75
- Terrance K. "Terry" Miller, Sr. '79
- Ruth Jackson Mosser '39
- Bonnie Allen "MeMaw" Page '76
- William Pagats - Faculty
- H. Mona Sherman Schwartz '57
- Kenneth R. Shirk '56
- Jean Brightbill Strohm '41



LinkedIn

Join our LinkedIn group to Network or Mentor!

Search on "Susquehanna Township Alumni Group" or

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/susquehanna-township-alumni-group-829436123>

We're Searching for **VOLUNTEERS**

Activities
Fall Breakfast, Pancake Breakfast, Mural Preservation, Spring Breakfast, Annual Banquet, Event Planning, Bowling Event, non-profit

Scholarship Fund

Class Reps
Fundraising

Outreach
public charity

Events
Sponsors

Awareness
Vietnam Memorial, Glass Donations

thank you

THANK YOU Justice Roney '20 and Justin Pitassi '20 for your Alumni Board Student Representative service. Well done!!!



Class News

The **Class of 2000** will celebrate their **20th Reunion** during the October 9, 2020 weekend, which will include a tour of the high school. For additional information please contact Reunion Chairwoman Ms. Alana Avent at her email address laniern04@gmail.com. The class has created a Facebook group at the following address: <https://facebook.com/events/1011229325881646/?ti=cl>

Having a Reunion?

Please let us know about your reunion plans. If you are planning an event during these ever changing times we will help get the word out. Email information to: sthsalumniassociation@gmail.com

**Send Membership Name Changes,
New Addresses, and Obits to:**

STHS Alumni Association
PO Box 61474
Harrisburg, PA 17106 or
Telephone: 717-572-0901 or
sthsalumniassociation@gmail.com

OFFICERS, BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMITTEES

President– Dwayne DeFoor '78
Vice President– Susan Gordon '78
Secretary-Tammi Bonneville Hammaker '83
Treasurer– Charles B. Friedlander '78

Ardee Burno, Jr. '82
Kim Fitting '84
Irene Major Knapik '56
Charlene Morris '70
Barb Smith Pearce '65
Andrea Mercurio Weikert '85

Student Representatives

Justice Roney '20
Justin Pitassi '20
Lulia Haile '21

Committees

Activities- Kim Fitting '84, Barb Smith Pearce '65, Sandy Daily '65, Helen Forbes McCollum '56, Shirley Kauffman Kannegieser '50

Auditing–Open

Fundraising-Tammi Hammaker '83 Chairman, Susan Gordon '78, Andrea Weikert '85

Susquehanna Invitational Golf Committee-Susan Gordon '78, Tammi Hammaker '83, Andrea Weikert '85, Kim Fitting '84, Tim DeFoor '79 (ex-officio)

Hanna Education Foundation–Dwayne DeFoor '78

Historical-Charlene Morris '70

Marketing-Susan Gordon '78

Membership–Dwayne DeFoor '78, Elliot Solomon '16

Memorial Gardens-Shirley Kauffman Kannegieser '50, Chair Emeritus

Newsletter–Dwayne DeFoor '78, Barb Smith Pearce '65

Nominating-Barb Smith Pearce '65

Outreach-Irene Knapik '56

Pink Out-Justin Pitassi (Student Co-Chair), Justice Roney (Student Co-Chair), Tammi Bonneville Hammaker '83, Andrea Mercurio Weikert '85, Susan Gordon '78, Dwayne DeFoor '78, Dr. Stephen Sexsmith. School District Liaison)

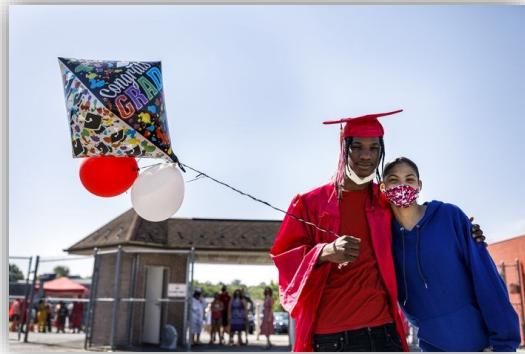
Scholarship–Dwayne DeFoor '78, Tammi Hammaker '83, Susan Gordon '78, Irene Knapik '56, Charlene Morris '70

School Liaison–Jennifer Jenkins '90

Social Media–Chuck Friedlander '78, Susan Gordon '78, Dwayne DeFoor '78



Congratulations Class of 2020!



It wasn't easy but you made it!

2020 Alumni Association Scholarship Recipients

CONGRATULATIONS to our 2020 Alumni Association Scholarship recipients of **Jaylinne Rijo** and **Madeline Cohen**. Each awardee received \$750.00 towards their post-secondary education.

Jaylinne, daughter of Vladimir and Erica Rijo, will attend Messiah College where she plans on studying Biomedical Engineering. Jaylinne is proud to be a first-generation college student. She hopes to continue playing tennis while at Messiah College and become a member of the Society of Women Engineers and Latinx Club.

Jaylinne, a National Honor Society member, was active throughout her high school years in the Orchestra and Chorus program. She also participated in numerous extra-curricular activities including Girls Who Code Club, Mini-Thon Entertainment Committee (Leadership Role), Mini-Thon Publicity Committee, Tennis, and Cross-Country, and volunteering at Hershey Medical Center and Harrisburg Marathon.

Jaylinne held a leadership role with Peer Mentor for Students with Special Disabilities (Adaptive PE Class) where she assisted students who participated in weekly units of exercise and friendly gym activities.



Madeline, daughter of Bruce and Michelle Cohen, will attend Bryn Mawr College where she plans on studying Architecture. Since pre-school, Madeline had a passion for both sports and art beginning with art lessons from the age of 4. At the same time she began playing both soccer and basketball at the same age.



Madeline, Vice President of the National Honor Society, played soccer and basketball through high school where she served as Captain for both teams. Madeline also participated in Mini-Thon where she eventually served as chair for both the Family Relations Committee and Fundraising Committee in her junior and senior years, Pink Out Committee, and Prom Committee.

While volunteering on the Family Relations Committee she worked directly with families impacted by pediatric cancer by assisting them to share their stories with the school and spend time with the families during Mini-Thon.

Madeline was active in the community volunteering to coach a youth basketball program and participating in Youth Group at the Jewish Community Center.

Jaylinne and Madeline - we wish you both continued success!

Ann Staley '64, Poet

Ann published her fifth book of poetry, *Fire In The Desert* in March. Watch Ann read a few of her poems (May 2020): www.youtube.com/watch?v=kzg17jDn924

Fire In The Desert

— for Nick

Getting away from city lights,
“The Strip” in the distance
they went out into the desert,
built a fire for night-time warmth,
welcomed starlight, the waxing moon.
Above them the sky sparkled.
Their words were quietly awe-struck,
astonished by the heavens.
God made all this, he said.
She wondered about that
hoping it might be true, but doubtful.
In hindsight, the theory as possible
as “the exploding sun” and “black holes”
posited by scientists.
In silence they considered
their life-long partners, children, friends—
all those they loved as dearly
as they loved each-other.

Ann Staley

response to a photo by Nick Cloyd

December 22, 2019



In her own words...

“I live in Oregon (and have for the last 40 years). I attend my 1964 class reunions whenever it is possible for me, which means when I am free from my own working calendar.

I became a teacher because of three special teachers during my years at Progress Elementary, STHS Junior and Senior High schools. Got my undergraduate degree in English and a teaching credential at Penn State University, 1968. Then attended Southern Oregon University for my Master of Arts in Humanities, my MAT, followed by a Masters in Leadership and Policy Analysis.

I thought I wanted to become a Principal, but when I “shadowed” the first woman principal in the Palo Alto SD, with a stop watch, the most time she spent on one interrupted task in a day and a half was 2 minutes and 46 seconds. I HATE interruptions, so I finished the degree and returned to teaching. I have taught in five school districts, at two community colleges, and at four colleges and universities and Supervised teachers-in-training at three universities.”

Editor’s Note: Nick is Ann’s brother-in-law. Courtney Cloyd is Ann’s husband.

Vietnam Memorial Update

We need your support to finish our memorial project!



What's missing in the picture above? If you said the concrete sidewalk, you'd be correct! We need approximately \$750.00 to make it happen. Would you consider a contribution today?

If you are able to contribute to our sidewalk completion goal please:

Make a check payable to the STHS Alumni Association ("Vietnam Memorial" in the memo line) and mail to:

**STHS Alumni Association
P.O. Box 61474
Harrisburg, PA 17106--1474**

The Alumni Association is an IRS 501(c)(3) charitable organization, and contributions toward this goal are tax-deductible.

Thank you for your continued support!

Vietnam War Memorial Committee

Richard Veet, Shirley Kannegieser, Carol Carter, Larry Carter, Bill Dale, Richard Fleegal, Dave Funk,
Barry Garber, Ben Lerew, Charles Lloyd, Gary Lyter, Bill Smith, Harry Stoner

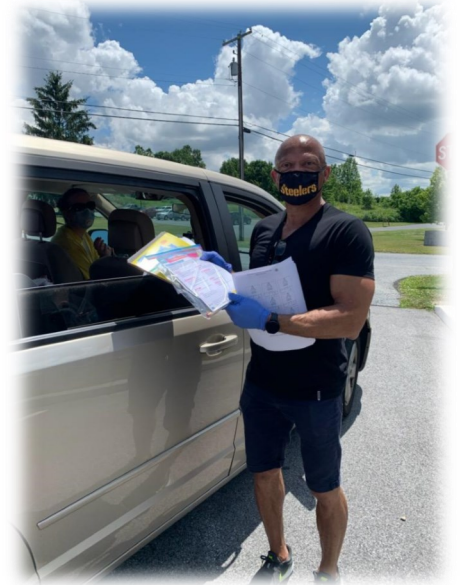


out-n-about

Share your Out-N-About photos with us at sthsalumniassociation@gmail.com



Eleanore McElheny Bjoring '47 celebrating her 90th Birthday with a Skydive! Her son who made this happen also made a skydive with his mother.



Brian Morgan '78 and **Dwayne DeFoor '78** volunteering with Susquehanna Township Parks and Recreation handing out lunches at Veterans Park. Also volunteering were **Susan Gordon '78**, **Tammi Hammaker '83**, **Andrea Weikert '85**, and **Lexi Weikert '18**.



Clifford DeFoor '85, pictured here with his wife Allison, was sworn into his Owen J. Roberts Board of School Directors post by Judge John Hipple on July 14, 2020.



The Alumni Association was happy to donate \$900 to HANNA's Pantry on June 13, 2020 from our pop-up BBQ on May 9.

Pictured from left to right are Lori Shienvold, **Andrea Weikert '85**, **Dwayne De Foor '78**, Lori Beamer, and **Susan Anthony'70**.

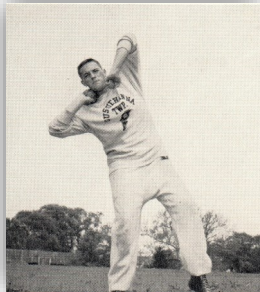


Harlem Globetrotter **Chris Franklin '91**, pictured here **Tim DeFoor '79**, **Susan Gordon '78**, and **Dwayne DeFoor '78**, provided meals to essential workers at Manor Care nursing home in Camp Hill on May 13, 2020. Restaurants Nick's 114 Café in New Cumberland and **JeCon Alphonso's '92** Alphonso's Smokehouse Brown in Harrisburg prepared the meals.

A Moment in Time

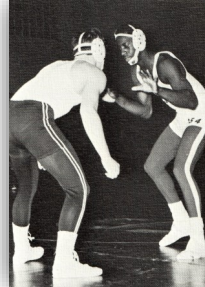
Recognizing Athletic Achievement Milestone Anniversaries in 2020

view on our website: www.sthsalumniassociation.com/athletic-milestones/



65th
John Irving
District
Track & Field

50th
Bob Sneed
District
Wrestling



50th
Glenn Peyton
District
Track & Field



40th
District
Girls
Basketball

40th
State
District
Boys
Basketball

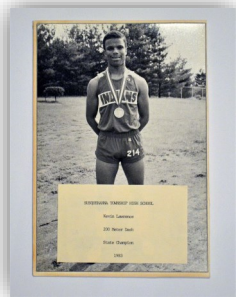


40th
Girls 4x400
(Kia Johnson,
Beth Thompson,
Stacey Dean,
Shellouise Grant)
District
Track & Field



35th
Greg Keller
State
District
Track & Field

35th
Tracy Green
State
District
Track & Field



35th
Kevin
Lawrence
District
Track & Field



30th
Jesse
Rawls, Jr.
District
Wrestling

20th
Ben Amis
District
Track & Field



10th
Averee
Robinson
District
Wrestling

Do you have **Memorabilia?**

Please contact either:

Charlene Morris at (717) 238-3751 or clcbasp@live.com

Dwayne De Foor at (717) 572-0901 or sthsalumniassociation@gmail.com



We are excited to launch our new alumni-owned business directory. This list has been created for alumni who own their businesses and for alumni who are looking to support alumni-owned businesses. Whether it's a privately-owned company, a partnership, sole proprietorship, or home-based business, we encourage you to show your support for small businesses everywhere and especially those created, owned, and operated by fellow Susquehanna Township "Hanna" graduates.

Submit your business information by providing the following information. This directory is provided as a service to encourage networking and the support of alumni-owned and affiliated businesses.

Questions? Please contact **Andrea Weikert** at (717) 877-8321 or via email at alweikert@gmail.com

PROVIDE YOUR INFORMATION

First Name:

Last Name:

E-Mail:

Mailing Address:

Phone:

Graduation Date:

Are you a member of the Alumni Association?

YOUR BUSINESS INFORMATION

Business Name:

Business Address:

Business Phone Number:

Field of Business:

Business Email:

About your Business:

Business Website:

Business Logo:

Business Facebook:

Business Twitter:

Business Instagram:

Do you want to offer a discount for Alumni?

MENTORSHIP

Are you interested in mentoring a Susquehanna Township student? Or hold a Shadow Day?

Are you interested in offering an internship to a Susquehanna Township graduate?

Can we contact you for sponsorship opportunities?

Additional Comments:



Dear Alumni and Friends,

Thank you for being a supporter of the Susquehanna Township community.

Out of abundance of caution for your safety and well-being, our team decided to cancel the **2020 SUSQUEHANNA INVITATIONAL** which was scheduled for June 19, 2020. As you may know, the Susquehanna Invitational funds the **STHS Alumni Scholarship Fund**, which awards scholarships annually to a senior accepted at an undergraduate, accredited post-secondary institution; the **STHS Alumni Student Opportunity Fund** that extends monetary awards in support of student extracurricular activities and educational experiences; and the **HANNA Foundation's Mini-Grant Program**. The Mini-Grant program awards technology and innovation grants to educators for use in their classrooms throughout the District.

Although we will not be gathering in person, we are offering a great way that you can still support our goal of raising funds for both organizations and join in on some competitive fun. We know you are feeling "cooped up" and are looking forward to getting out on the course to play some golf. We have designed a promotion with the Sunset Golf Course to enjoy a round of golf while supporting us. We are asking you and your golf friends to please consider a donation of \$75 per person. Business sponsorship of a team is also appreciated. We will then send you a voucher to play a round of golf and two domestic beers. The vouchers can be used at Sunset Golf Course, 2601 Sunset Drive, Middletown, Pa, Monday-Friday between June 29, 2020 and August 31, 2020. We would love to then receive your scorecards and some pictures of you out of the course. We will keep a leaderboard during the month and present awards to the top three teams.

To register or contribute, please use the attached form or go to Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2020-susquehanna-invitational-modified-tickets-109740526870>.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Andrea Weikert at (717) 877-8321 or via email at alweikert@yahoo.com or Susan Gordon at (703) 625-8286 or sbg06@aol.com. Additional information may be found on each organization's websites.

Thank you for your continued support during this challenging time for our organizations and community.

Also, please save the date of Friday, June 18 for next year's 2021 SUSQUEHANNA INVITATIONAL at Sunset Golf Course.

Sincerely,

Dwayne DeFoor
President, STHS Alumni Association

John Fabian
President, HANNA Education Foundation



I've always been interested in art – studying fashion and drawing in high school. I enjoy it all, but it was when I was given a camera that my interest really changed. I applied and was accepted in Maine College of Art's Summer Pre-College program, which is a three-week intensive studio experience that allowed me to explore photography in a way I never could do in Harrisburg. As a shy person, it is hard for me to share my feelings, but I knew in my heart that this experience would change my life. I come alive behind a camera. The \$1,500 the alumni association awarded me to attend MECCA was life-changing. - *Jahbree Kershaw*



I am sincerely honored to have been selected as the recipient of one of the STHS Alumni Scholarships and grateful for the opportunities it will provide me. Without a doubt, this scholarship will play a key role in achieving my educational dreams. The financial burden placed on me to pursue my education will be reduced. Thank you for your continued support! - *Lexi Weikert*



Mini Grants fund and supplement innovation and technology in our schools. More than \$15,000 in the past two years have been awarded for drone technology for GIS mapping in forensic science classes, murals at the middle school, incentives to bolster positive behavior at every grade level, innovative classroom learning tools, flexible seating for special education classrooms, and iPads in classroom centers.





SUSQUEHANNA INVITATIONAL

GOLFER

REGISTRATION FORM

MAIL THIS REGISTRATION FORM WITH CHECK

OR CLICK

[Register On Eventbrite](#)

OR SEARCH EVENTBRITE FOR

2020 SUSQUEHANNA INVITATIONAL

Please make checks payable to:

Susquehanna Invitational

and send to P.O. BOX 61474, HARRISBURG, PA 17106-1474

\$75.00 *per* PLAYER

\$300 *per* TEAM

Monday-Friday between June 29, 2020 and August 31, 2020.

Price includes: greens fee, cart and a voucher for two beers. Prizes for top three teams!

Unable to play this year? Please consider making a contribution so our work to support the students of Susquehanna Township School District can continue

TEAMNAME: _____

TEAM CAPTAIN: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____ PHONE: _____

PLAYER 2: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____ PHONE: _____

PLAYER 3: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____ PHONE: _____

PLAYER 4: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____ PHONE: _____

CONTRIBUTION ENCLOSED: \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Susquehanna Township Alumni & HANNA Foundation
presents

FOOD TRUCK

Festival



3

OCT

**Celebrate the First Anniversary
of HANNA's Pantry**

LOCAL FOOD TRUCKS

TACOS • BURGERS • DESSERTS • BBQ
FRIED CHICKEN & MANY MORE!

12PM-5PM

Susquehanna Twp High School

3500 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17109

FREE ENTRY & FREE PARKING

info: sthsalumniassociation@gmail.com

join today!
join today!

**MEMBERSHIP
ALUMNI & FRIENDS**



LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP IS ONLY
\$15.00 for Alumni / \$20.00 for Associate (non-Alumni)

Check payable to: STHS Alumni Association

Mail your check and Membership Info to:

**STHS Alumni Association
PO Box 61474
Harrisburg, PA 17106-1474**

Name _____

Address _____

Graduation Year _____ (if appropriate)

Phone _____

Email _____

Prefer to receive your newsletter via email? Circle: Yes or No

Include a **Tax Deductible Donation** \$ _____

In support of Scholarship, Memorial Gardens, Newsletter,
Student Opportunity, or General Fund

An IRS 501(c)(3) public charity

SUSQUEHANNA TWP ALUMNI WEBSTORE

THESE ITEMS
PLUS SO MUCH
MORE!



— VISIT —

COLLEGELANESPORTSWEAR.COM
(CLICK ON CUSTOM SPIRITWEAR PROGRAMS)

Look for STHS Alumni



**S.T.H.S. Alumni Association
PO Box 61474
Harrisburg, Pa. 17106-1474**

An IRS 501(c)(3) charitable organization
EIN: 46-2979340



Website

www.sthsalumniassociation.com

Facebook

www.facebook.com/STHSAA

LinkedIn

www.linkedin.com/in/susquehanna-township-alumni-group-829436123

Email

sthsalumniassciation@gmail.com