



The KIT

The Keep in Touch Newsletter of Evanston Township High School's Alumni Association • Spring 2024

Early College opportunities available at ETHS

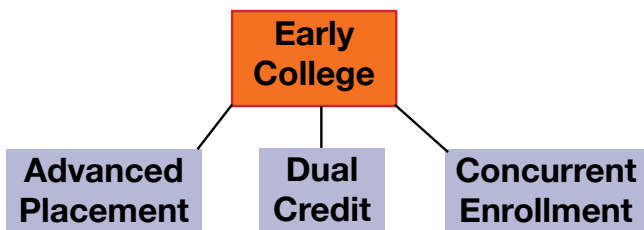
A strong body of research indicates that high school students that enroll in programs that offer both high school and college credit have better high school academic performance and a stronger likelihood of earning a bachelor's degree in college.

At ETHS, the chance to give students a head start while still in high school has grown exponentially in three different ways, now billed as Early College.

ETHS is a nationally recognized leader in Advanced Placement (AP) for colleges across the nation. In 1952, ETHS was among seven pilot schools to develop college-level courses. Seventy seniors enrolled in one or more AP courses in English, European History, French, Spanish, and math.

As of 2023-24, ETHS offered 36 AP classes in English, history/social science, world languages (Spanish, French, German, Latin), science, math, fine arts, and Career/Technical Education. In spring 2023, 29% of the student body too 2,418 AP exams.

A second pathway for advanced college credit



are “dual-credit” courses at ETHS in partnership with Oakton Community College (OCC) and North-eastern Illinois University (NEIU). Students earn dual-course credit for ETHS and for OCC or NEIU on their transcript.

Since the early 2000s, ETHS has offered a growing list of dual-credit courses in fine arts, medical terminology, engineering, manufacturing and robotics, and mathematics. Three new courses will begin in 2024-25—Intro. To Life Science, Zoology, and Certified Nursing Assistant Training. Recent dual-credit enrollments jumped to 423 students this school year, a 107% increase over last school year.

A third avenue for advanced college credit started this March in a “concurrent enrollment” course in Essential Applications of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Taught after school at ETHS by OCC professors, the four-course

sequence (three credits per course) provides students “a solid foundation of no-code approach to applied intelligence...equipping them with techniques for problem-solving, data-driven decision-making, and ethical AI applications across diverse industries.” The course, the first of its kind at ETHS, is offered free to students thanks to a grant to OCC from the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB).

According to a letter from ETHS Supt. Dr. Marcus Campbell and OCC President Dr. Joianne Smith: “Those who take dual credit in high school graduate from high school at higher rates, attend college at higher rates, and succeed in college at higher rates.”

And because of these benefits, ETHS has stepped up its recruitment and enrollment of students for AP, dual credit, and the concurrent-enrollment course

According to Dr. Peter Bavis, ETHS Asst. Supt./Curriculum & Instruction, “The general increase in AP participation and exam scores may be due in part to the freshman-year restructuring...which began in 2010, to provide ninth-graders a highly rigorous academic experience giving them the skills they need to take more honors and AP classes during their four years at ETHS. Freshman humanities and biology courses are now detracked and students have the opportunity to earn honors credit.”

Since then, student participation in AP courses has become more racially diverse and the number of high scores has continued to climb. Several AP courses are affinity-based to encourage students of color to attempt AP classes—at their request—with students like them.

ETHS has a two-year, student-led AP support program—teamASAP—to prepare younger students for AP coursework, training for success in AP courses, and AP exam preparation.

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From the Alumni Association Executive Director

CELEBRATE!!
1924. 1883.
1957-67. 1974.
1999. 3593. 663.
79.
09-14-2024

No – these numbers are not a secret code. There is no hidden formula or cypher to be discovered. They are not the combination to an ETHS locker nor are they the password to anything that I know about. However, these numbers are important as we come to the conclusion of the 2023-2024 school year at ETHS.

ETHS has many reasons to celebrate over the next few months. At the end of May, almost 1,000 students will join the ranks of Wildkit Alumni. **3593** students are currently enrolled at ETHS. **663** adults work with these students everyday – including faculty, staff, and administrators. **79** language groups are represented in our student body. 93% of our students graduate in 4 years. ETHS ranks in the upper echelons on almost every measure that could be applied.

And while we celebrate the present, we have myriad



Dave Futransky '69

opportunities to look back and celebrate the past. **1924** – 100 years ago, ETHS opened its doors at Church and Dodge. In June of that year, summer school classes were held in the new building. It was a trial run for everyone –

students, faculty, administrators, and staff.

As adjustments were made to the new spaces, preparations continued for the scheduled September opening for the entire student body. Classroom items were moved from Elmwood and Dempster to the Church St. location. This move of 1.3 miles was the beginning of a shift from the start of the 20th Century into the 21st Century.

1883 was the year of the founding of ETHS - 141 years ago. Having been located at several prior sites

in what is today's downtown Evanston, the **1924** building has proven to be a long-lasting site that is central in its importance to Evanston and parts of Skokie.

Elsewhere in this issue (see page 7) there is more information about how we are going to celebrate this Major Milestone.

Between **1955 and 1975, especially in the decade from 1957-1967**, additional construction enabled ETHS to stay on

Continued on page 7

Superintendent's Letter

WE ARE A VILLAGE!

An Igbo and Yoruba proverb states, “It takes a village to raise a child”.

As ETHS enters into a celebration of being located at Church and Dodge for 100 years, I find myself looking at our place in and support from the Evanston/Skokie community.

The process of finding a central location in Evanston a century ago was, in the end, a compromise among community members and leaders. There were voices that wanted the new high school to be erected on the lakefront, and in the shadow of Northwestern. There were others who wanted it closer to the then-developing neighborhoods that were on the southern border of our town. Eventually a compromise was reached to purchase farmland that was central and in a less populated area. *We are a village.*

It took many attempts to pass a referendum that would allow for this site to be purchased and for a building to be designed, built, and opened. This finally happened because of community volunteers who worked tirelessly

to convince their friends and neighbors that it was important to offer and provide the best education possible to the children growing up in Evanston. *We are a village.*

This process was repeated in the 1960s and 1970s. Community groups helped support ETHS. The wings that were built in the mid-1960s were strongly supported by the community. It should be noted that the last major campaign in the 1970s (for expansion of the career technology areas) did not pass in the first vote by our community. In the second try, groups of students were trained to go door to door to talk with voters about the needs and the funds were raised. *We are a village.*

Over the past half century, the roles of various parent and community groups have transformed but their purpose remains the same ... support the students of ETHS. Let me take a moment to point out who the groups are that help support today's 'KITS.

The ETHS Alumni Association helps our former students Keep In Touch with our current students. The alumni association sponsors programs at school such as mini-grants for classroom use and the Author's Bookshelf in the East library. Our graduates fund five scholarships a year to help defray costs of higher education for its newest members.

The ETHS Foundation has raised over \$14 million in the last 10 years to support capital improvement projects at ETHS. Spaces from Lazier Field to the ceramic's classroom to the newly opened Health Sciences classroom have been direct recipients of gifts from this dedicated group of community volunteers. *We are a village.*

The ETHS Boosters club has a long history of supporting extracurricular activities. Annually, this group (of parents) raises and distributes funds for athletics, clubs, and fine arts activities. This group is unique in supporting groups that are not just sports. *We are a village.*

Two parent/community groups are unique to ETHS and have been developed over the past decade. They are: Evanston Black Ad-

vocacy Network (E-BAN) and the Latino Advisory Committee.

E-BAN is a network of ETHS parents, staff, and community members who work to promote the academic achievement and well-being of black students at ETHS. E-BAN serves as a forum for sharing resources, expertise, and experiences with families related to the education and personal development of black students. The network also seeks to build connections between ETHS and the black community to better serve families as they navigate students through four years of high school.

The Latino Advisory Committee supports and advocates for the Latino community in ETHS District 202 in matters relative to the learning environment and the educational needs of students. It is a space for parents/guardians to learn how to navigate through the school system and to acquire new skills to empower Latino members and the Latino Community. *We are a village.*

Northwestern University, the Village of Skokie, and the City of Evanston all provide connections and support for our students. *We are a village.*



Supt. Dr. Marcus Campbell

ETHS is a large and diverse community. The community has changed over the last 100 years. But the village that supports our students has continued to grow and support our children. We are proud to look back on all of our accomplishments and excited to look forward to being an important place for education and community to grow. ETHS is a village, and our communities and constituencies are together a stronger and greater village.

I hope you will come to some of the events that celebrate our 100 Years at Church and Dodge and to connect to any of the groups that supports our Wildkits.

We are a village!

Early College Cont. from page 1

Thirty-six states—including Illinois—have state-wide or system wide AP credit policies, requiring public higher-education institutions, including community colleges, to award

credit for specific AP scores (usually 3 or higher out of 5).

“There’s a strong body of evidence that even attempting an AP class increases a student’s academic trajectory,” said Bavis. Last year, 74% of the students who took an AP

course earned a 3+. “The bottom line is that we have significantly more students graduating with AP scores of 3+ and 4+ than ever before,” Bavis added.

In addition, AP college acceptance offers a clear financial benefit. On average, 25% of ETHS graduates attend public universities or public community colleges in Illinois. Earning a 3+ on four AP exams can provide a semester’s worth of credit potentially saving students thousands of dollars in the total cost attending at their chosen school.

Beginning this school year, ETHS began paying the \$25 student registration fee

“Those who take dual credit in high school graduate from high school at higher rates, attend college at higher rates, and succeed in college at higher rates.”

for dual-credit classes. Letters were sent to students and their parents explaining dual credit and the benefits of taking these courses. In addition, the school streamlined registration to two days in the fall.

While the AI course is taught mostly at ETHS by OCC instructors (one course in the spring, two in the summer, both at ETHS, and the fourth course at OCC), the grade only appears on the stu-

dent’s OCC transcript, not ETHS’s. According to an OCC representative, “the course is designed to give students experience and exposure.”

According to the ICCB, “Students who participate may be eligible to participate in various paid, work-based learning/internships in the summer as well as in service-learning opportunities as assistants for a District 65 middle-school AI program.”

The KIT

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**Newsletter of the
ETHS Alumni Association**

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ETHS awarded French Heritage Language Program grant

ETHS has received a \$30,000 grant from the French Heritage Language Program.

This program, part of the French for All initiative launched by President of France Emmanuel Macron in 2022, aims to help high-school students who recently immigrated to the U.S. leverage their French language skills as an asset in their new life through programs such as AP coursework, college prep, and programs in the arts, all with a focus on West African and Caribbean cultures.

A new after-school program will help the students preserve their linguistic and cultural heritage and support their academic success.

The funding will also support ETHS's new French Heritage Language course that facilitates advanced language proficiency.

ETHS has a significant number of students with French identified as a primary or secondary language. The majority of them have immigrated to the U.S. within the past five years from the Caribbean, namely Haiti, and African countries including the Ivory Coast, Democratic Republic of Congo, Tanzania, Equatorial Guinea, among other countries where French is a national language.

Dog therapy calms students, staff

Four times this past spring ETHS students and staff members got to spend time—one-on-one—with a variety of dogs trained to be kind, non-judgmental, and patient listeners.

Trained by the Chicago-based Rainbow Animal Assisted Therapy organization, these certified dogs were brought in “to promote a general feeling of well-being, reduce isolation and anxiety, provide recreation, and offer unconditional affection.”

According to **Nichole Boyd ’96**, former ETHS Director of Student Activities, now Dean of Students, Rainbow dogs first came to ETHS in 2017 recommended by a former teacher, Alissa Sobel, who was the Junior Class Board sponsor and wanted to host “De-Stress Fest” for the then-junior class.

Denise Clarke ’05, current Student Activities Director, said these sessions, which were funded by ETHS, were curtailed during the Covid pandemic years. But, this year the animal-assisted therapy started again thanks to a one-year grant from the Illinois Dept. of Public Health entitled “Enhancing Post-Covid Recovery Efforts for School-Based Health Needs.”

And the sessions were rewarding for both the humans and the dogs. Take **Jhonathan Seltzer**, a senior, who hung out with **Finn**, a large Australian Labradoodle, who recently immigrated to the U.S. leverage their French language skills as an asset in their new life through programs such as AP coursework, college prep, and programs in the arts, all with a focus on West African and Caribbean cultures.

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Rainbow. He came to ETHS twice this spring, and has also done sessions at the three Niles high schools, Arlington Heights High School, Northwestern University, and Ridgewood High School. He’s also “worked” at libraries, where kids read stories to the dog. O’Connell, who thoroughly enjoys the interactions, would like to expand Finn’s helping presence into hospitals and nursing homes.

Then there was ETHS Special Education teacher **Kara Isaacs**, who met up with **Linzie**, a small-ish Norwegian Buhund (“farm dog”) owned by **Jasmine Tata**, who has worked with



Jhonathan Seltzer and Finn quickly became BFFs. Finn’s mom, Fran O’Connell, is at left.



Love at first site between Linzie and teacher Kara Isaacs.

Attention ETHS Alumni! Help shape ETHS students’ futures with iKIT

Are you ready to make a difference in a student’s life? Join Career Services by volunteering your time and help guide ETHS students toward their dream careers.

Do you have a business or organization that could offer career exposure, internship opportunities or do you want to share your career path and what inspired you when you sat in these very seats. If so, we welcome you to become a Tiered Member (Bronze, Silver, Gold, Platinum) and support our students’ journey to success. Shape the future of Wildkits with iKIT today! To learn more and get involved, use the QR code below or contact **Djuwanna Frazier** (frazierd@eths202.org).



Winter 2024 Sports

By Dennis Mahoney., ETHS Sports Information Director

The girls' gymnastics, boys' and girls' bowling programs built by Evanston continued to climb into the ranks of the elite teams in Illinois this winter. The Wildkits fielded state contenders in all three sports again in the 2023-24 season.

GIRLS' GYMNASTICS

Ella Eovaldi didn't know she belonged with the elite gymnasts in the state when she first qualified for the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) state finals as a freshman. *Now she knows.*

The Evanston junior accomplished the best all-around state finish in program history at Palatine High School, placing 14th with a 36.30 all-around score in the season-ending competition. She also just missed—by five hundredths of a point—advancing to the individual finals on balance beam.

What a difference a couple of years makes. As a freshman, Eovaldi was in the same state finals gym as older girls she had looked up to during her age-group competitions. She didn't reach state as a sophomore, but this time she was up against her peers and the comfort level was a lot higher.

Eovaldi's four-event effort was just shy of her best all-around score of the year, a 36.80, and included an 8.775 on vault, a 9.275 on uneven bars, a 9.10 on balance beam, and a 9.15 on floor exercise. That was more than good enough for ETHS head coach Mike Spevack, who called Eovaldi one of the best he's ever worked with.

GIRLS' BOWLING

It might have been the first "team cry" in the history of the Evanston girls' bowling program.

But those were tears of joy—and relief.

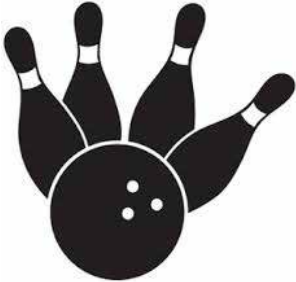
The realization of a dream come true, Evanston's first trip to the state finals for the entire Wildkit team, capped an emotion-filled day at the Fremd Sectional tournament.

According to ETHS head coach **Ray "Sugar" Austin '72**, leading the team standings midway through the competition, the Wildkits faltered badly and were just able to grab the final team-qualifying spot, finishing fourth with a pinfall of 5,023.

A 190 by sophomore Jordin Gibson helped steady the ship in Game 6 and kept the 'Kits from sinking out of contention with six strikes in that decisive game and finished 18th in the overall standings with a pinfall of 1,078.

At the state finals in Rockford, Evanston fell short in the preliminaries with a team score of 5,052, good for 22nd among the 24 teams competing. Only the top 10 scoring teams made the cut for the finals.

Evanston also captured the Central Suburban League championship outright for the first time behind top five individual finishes



BOYS' BOWLING

It didn't take Anthony Swanson long to realize he was up against the big boys at the state bowling tournament. He knew he had to up his own game, and the Evanston freshman did just that.

Swanson rose to the occasion at the two-day state final test held at St. Clair Bowl in Fairview Heights and earned a 13th place individual finish—the best in school history—with a total pinfall of 2,589 over 12 games.

After easily making the cut as part of the top 30 at-large scorers with a set of 1,295, Swanson finished with a flourish and total a 1,294, including a sizzling 680 over his last three games.

Both of those six-game blocks were better than the 1,261 he posted at the sectional tournament. Swanson was one of just five freshmen to make the qualifying cut to the final round and one of them—Tyler Paulus of Chicago Taft—beat Swanson out of the final state medal awarded by a margin of just two pins.



BOYS' SWIMMING AND DIVING

The actual severity of the concussion suffered by Evanston's Mo Frischer about a month before the sectional during diving practice probably depends on who you ask. Frischer himself would say it was minor. ETHS coaches and trainers not so much. But all would agree that Frischer's comeback, after three weeks out of the water, was nothing short of remarkable.

The Wildkit senior scored a career-high 417.80 points at the Niles North Sectional and secured an at-large berth for the state finals. Evanston advanced seven individual qualifiers and three relay teams, and placed fourth in a hotly-contested team

race at the sectional. Frischer probably wasn't the least likely qualifier in a talented group of 'Kit swimmers that also included Lucas Macy (500-yard freestyle, 100 butterfly), Jonas Nisan (500 freestyle), Max Taufen (50 freestyle), Cadel Saszik (100 backstroke) and Evan Lindner (100 freestyle).

Frischer clinched a spot at state on his second to last dive, a reverse one and one-half somersault pike that earned scores of 7s.

But, at the state finals, ETHS was unable to advance any relays or individuals out of the preliminary races.

BOYS' BASKETBALL

When Evanston Athletic Director **Chris Livatino '91** discovered he needed to hire a new head basketball coach back in the spring of 2010, his first priority was to find someone who was a proven winner.

Mike Ellis has been that while elevating the Evanston program to new heights. Ellis was named to the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame, the first Evanston coach to earn that recognition, and also registered his 300th victory at Evanston while leading the Wildkits to a 20-11 won-loss mark for the 2023-2024 campaign.

Ellis is the only Wildkit coach to lead the team to back-to-back Final Four appearances. In his career at Peoria Richwoods and ETHS, he has suffered just one losing season in 21 years and his teams have won 74% of their games overall. His resume includes seven sectional titles, 15 regional championships, and 13 conference crowns. This year marked the 16th time he has led a team to a 20-victory season, and this year's squad accomplished that feat with no

starters returning from a year ago.

The Wildkits struggled over the second half of the season before they lost in the semifinals of the regional tournament to Maine South, the first time an ETHS team has lost that early in postseason play since 2011. Highlight of the season was a February trip to arch-rival New Trier's brand-new gymnasium, where the 'Kits upended the Trevians 37-35 behind a pair of late free throws by junior guard Ian Peters. Evanston avenged an earlier loss to New Trier, which reached the Final Four for the second year in a row.



GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Even the presence of two of the top scorers in program history, Zuri Ransom and Kailey Starks, couldn't boost the Wildkits over the .500 mark. Evanston ended the year with a 14-16 won-loss record, bowing to Glenbrook North 62-52 in the Class 4A regional championship game.

Ransom suffered a concussion at the Morton Christmas Tournament and the Wildkits endured an 11-game losing skid with the senior out of the lineup. Ransom, a Ball State U recruit, returned to the lineup and finished her career with 1,161 points, second on the program's career scoring list.

Starks also eclipsed the 1,000 point plateau in January finishing third in ETHS history with 1,115 points.

Continued on page 5

BOYS' WRESTLING

The facsimiles of individual weight brackets that tournaments often award to wrestlers who finish in first place in that bracket are more like earning trophies for those who aren't familiar with the sport.

But those reproduced versions of the actual brackets—think of ceremonial checks that are presented on occasion—aren't always awarded at in-season or post-season tournaments.

That's why it was a special occasion for Rodrigo Salinas at the Class 3A Maine South Regional tournament. The Evanston freshman started what could be a collection of "brackets" in his mat career, scoring the Wildkits' only individual championship at 157 pounds and setting the team qualifying pace as the 'Kits advanced seven grapplers to the Conant Sectional.

The youngest Salinas brother became the first ETHS freshman since **Ricardo Salinas '21**, back in 2018 at 152 pounds, to claim a regional crown. The only other frosh to accomplish that feat since 2000 was **Chris Jackson '06** at 112 pounds in 2003.

Rodrigo Salinas also won the Central Suburban League tournament but fell one win short of advancing to the state finals.

ETHS girls' soccer: Salgado reaches milestone in season-opening win

By Dennis Mahoney, ETHS Sports Information Director

Since she took over the Evanston girls' soccer program back in 2017, **Stacy Salgado '03** has done much more than preserve a championship culture that she was first a part of as a player at Evanston Township High School. She's built a culture of leaders who get results, on and off the pitch.

The Evanston coach celebrated her 100th career victory March 11 as the Wildkits opened the 2024 campaign with a huge 5-0 win over Immaculate Conception Catholic Prep.

With just four starters returning from last year's 19-3-1 squad that repeated as Central Suburban League South division champions, ETHS has so many new faces this season that they're still in a getting-to-know-you mode.

But once the players learned of Salgado's milestone victory, even the ones who don't know her well raced over for a group hug in the aftermath of the win. They recognize a true leader when they see one, and Salgado and assistant coaches **Ryan Berkley '14** and **Franz Calixte '89** always make sure there's no leadership void



ETHS girls' soccer coach Stacy Salgado (above, in sweatpants and jacket) celebrated her 100th career win on March 11 as the new-look Wildkits opened the season with a 5-0 blanking of Immaculate Conception Catholic Prep at windy Lazier Field.

in the team ranks from one season to the next.

Getting the players to take ownership of a program isn't as easy as it sounds, but it's one reason the 'Kits haven't won fewer than 14 games in a single season since Salgado took the job. Her overall record now stands at 100 wins, 30 losses, and 13 ties.

"Getting that 100th win is an exciting way to start off the season," Salgado said. "We've been able to build a culture and a program partly because I have a great coaching staff at all

levels. We connect and work well together, and we know our strengths and weaknesses."

Building championship defenses from scratch has been Salgado's forte. Rarely in her coaching tenure has ETHS had more than two returning starters on defense, and last year with four new starters on the back line, Evanston yielded just 14 goals in 23 games including a string of five straight shutouts prior to a season-ending 1-0 defeat to Lane Tech in

the sectional tournament semifinals.

Salgado wouldn't mind a repeat of that effort from the current unit.

Said the coach: "We'll try to go game by game, like we always do, but we can win the conference again with this group. We have key players returning who are leaders, and I believe they'll get the others to buy in."

Ellis named to state Basketball Hall of Fame

By Dennis Mahoney, ETHS Sports Information Director

When Evanston Athletic Director **Chris Livatino '91** discovered he needed to hire a new head basketball coach in spring 2010, his first priority was to find someone who was a proven winner.

Mike Ellis has been that – and more – while elevating the Evanston program to new heights.

The ETHS coach learned in December that he was named to the Illinois



Mike Ellis

Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame, the first Evanston coach

to earn that recognition. Ellis is the only Wildkit coach to lead the team to back-to-back Final Four appearances, and, after the 59-33 win over Chicago Bulls College Prep, needs just three more victories on his resume to reach the 300 plateau at ETHS.

He is in his 21st season as a head coach overall, posting a won-loss record of 156-55 in seven seasons at Richwoods

High School in Peoria – including two state runner-up finishes – to go with his 297-107 mark with the Wildkits.

Do the math and you'll find his teams have won 74% of their games with Ellis at the helm. He suffered just one losing season in 20 years, a 10-19 mark in his third year at ETHS. Fifteen times he has guided teams to 20-win campaigns. Ellis's resume also includes seven sectional titles, 15 regional championships and 13 conference crowns.

ETHS 100th Anniversary

How ETHS wound up at Church and Dodge

In 1871, the Illinois legislature approved establishing township high schools anywhere in the state. On April 4, 1882, residents in North and South Evanston, Evanston proper, and Rogers Park approved establishing a township high school: 611 voted yes, 147 no.

But, where to build it was the question. More than three choices were suggested—by the lake, in central Evanston, and elsewhere around town, but a compromise site at the southeast corner of Dempster St. and Benson Ave. (now Elmwood) was chosen because of its access to trains.

The two-story building was erected for \$32,500, (including \$2,000 to fill in the former cow pasture), and opened August 31, 1883, with Henry L. Boltwood as its first principal, five teachers, and about 150 students.

Boltwood, who could speak 10 languages, came from Princeton, IL. He advocated the curriculum should be classical and college prep, but he also added daily calisthenics, typing, shorthand, astronomy, dramatics, manual training, and encouraged boys’ sports teams. In 1904, he reported that one-third of all students completed the 50 graduation credits and that 45% of all graduates went on to college.

By 1890, the school needed to be enlarged due to ever-increasing enrollment. A south wing was added and enlarged again in 1900.

Boltwood died in January 1906, and Wilfred F. Beardsley, who was hired in 1893 to teach Latin and Greek, and moved up to associate principal in 1900, seemed a likely choice to become principal in February 1906.

Beardsley preferred a classical curriculum, but later added commercial and business courses,

girls’ gym, and musical instruction. He also instituted homerooms, summer school, and night school.

Nonetheless, enrollment continued to outgrow the school’s capacity to house students. From 1911 on, annual enrollment grew by 10% and there was little expansion room within the building, including the basement. By 1913, 741 students attended ETHS while the school’s capacity was only for 600.

Two bond issues to expand the current building were held—one in October 1912 was narrowly defeated 112 to 89, and another on November 15, 1913, was defeated by 486 votes, 1,443 to 957.

The latter bond issue went down principally because women, who were permitted to vote in this election—for the first time ever—wanted a school “out of the noisy business district,” noted a local newspaper.

According to the *Record Herald*: “The women hired carriages and drove their automobiles about the streets of Evanston, bringing voters to the polls, while the men, having cast their ballots [in the morning], came to Chicago for their regular work.”

While Boltwood wanted to enlarge the building, Beardsley, for most of his tenure, worked to convince Evanston Township residents of the need for a new school on a new

site. He hired Dr. Fletcher Dressler of the U.S. Bureau of Education to study the issue.

Noting that Boltwood should have originally purchased enough land to accommodate growth in enrollment, Dressler recommended closing the current building and building a new high school on a newer, larger site.

Other opposing groups also felt a new school was needed to properly serve the community. The school board suggested several new sites: 11-½ acres at Greenwood and Ashland, 15 acres at Lincoln and Ridge, and four additional sites, including land near Calvary Cemetery. But, none won approval with the community.

So, Beardsley and the board divided the issue. They first held a referendum on November 6, 1915, to determine **IF** a brand new high school should be built. The issue drew 4,129 people and won by a “handy 1,000 votes” the media reported.



The first ETHS opened in 1883 at the southeast corner of Dempster and Elmwood. In 1890, a south wing was added.



Due to growing enrollment, a new building was built around the original structure and was opened in 1900.

This outcome prompted a two-year, legal tug-of-war in the appellate court, the circuit court, and the Illinois Supreme Court.

During this time, Beardsley, who wanted to erect the new high school on the 55 marshy farmland acres at Church St. and Dodge Ave., sought community support wherever he could find it, even with tours of the site. Teachers, who also wanted a new school, joined the public-relations campaign.

A second referendum was held October 11, 1919, to approve the Church-Dodge choice. Of the 9,020 people who voted, 7,950 said yes.

To nail down this decision, Beardsley, who carefully managed district funds, bought the site outright. On December 17, 1921, yet another bond issue was held to pay for building the new school—for \$1 million, payable over 20 years, at five-percent interest. With 5,150 votes cast, 4,097 people said yes, 957 said no, and 96 didn’t vote correctly.

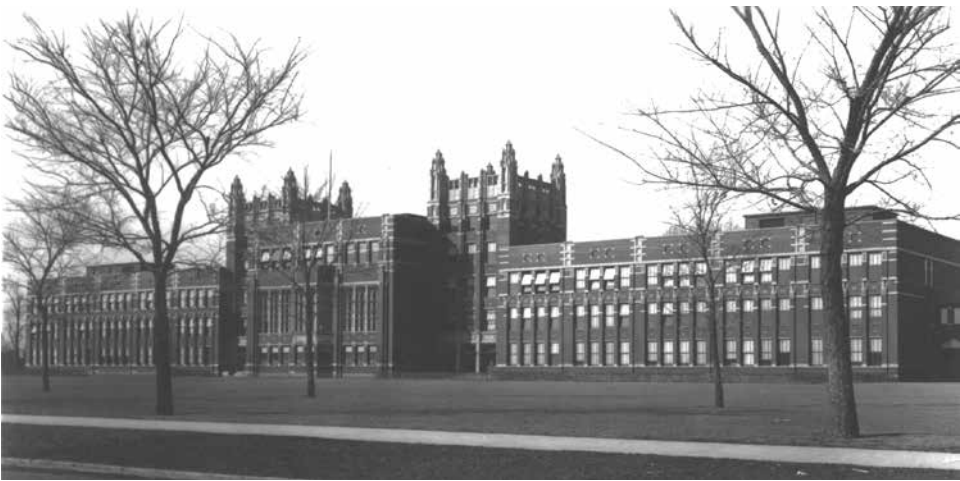
On January 2, 1923, ETHS Chancellor L. Jenks turned over the first shovelful of dirt for the new school.

ETHS opened in summer 1924 with 1,600 students and was capable of housing 4,500. (See below)

The building, designed and built by Dwight Perkins of Perkins, Fellows & Hamilton, resembled an H with the front of the school and the “north” and “east” halls completed. The back two halls, “south” and “west”, were added soon thereafter. Heritage Hall, aka “H Hall,” was in the center “H” of the building,

Although the school was far from complete, accommodations were made. Lockers were still being installed and the heating plant wasn’t yet operating, so coats were worn inside, especially in the winter, and students and staff warmed up by the two fireplaces in the main lobby. Lunch was served in a WW I Quonset hut set up in the rear playfield.

Beardsley, who retired in 1928, envisioned “an expandable plan with the all-important classrooms going in first and plenty of time to add such frills as the auditorium, natatorium, and perhaps even auto shops.”



ETHS 100th Anniversary

Before it became Evanston Township High School

Originally, the 55 acres that became home to Evanston Township High School was marshy, barren farmland.

While it isn't clear who owned the land, what is clear is that Carl Steif, a German immigrant who lived in Skokie, built a house and barn on the west side of the property in 1906, moved in with his wife Pauline and their growing family (eventually 12 children), and became a tenant farmer.

Several sites had been considered for the new school building but the current site at Church St. and Dodge Ave. won in a hotly contested referendum by a two-thirds vote.

Two years later, in 1921, a \$1 million dollar bond issue to build the new school passed overwhelmingly. Construction began January 2, 1923, and ETHS



Pauline and Carl Steif

opened 18 months later. The Steif's barn remained on the property and was used for storage.

When the land was sold to the school district, the Steifs moved the house on July 7, 1922, to Grey St., adjacent to the new school, and kept the house in the extended family for many years. Some, but not all, of the Steif children attended or graduated from ETHS.



Houses on the edge of the property were moved to new locations off the ETHS site, as was the Steif home.



The Steifs built the house and barn on the future ETHS property. The house is now located on Grey Ave. adjacent to the high school.

Futransky — Cont. from page 1

the leading edge of educational spaces, and supported student achievement at the highest levels.

Spaces included the swimming pools; the auditorium; the music wing with teaching and practice spaces; the arts wing, which has housed both fine arts and career tech was built out at this time. Further additions house auto shop, advanced manufacturing, childcare classes, culinary arts, and other Career Tech areas.

In the mid-'60s, four wings were built to accommodate the growing student population. The class of 1974 will celebrate its 50th reunion and the class of 1999 will mark 25 years since they graduated.

Come join in the 100th Anniversary celebration!

09-14-2024 is the date of the **Centennial Carnavale** to kick off the celebration of the 100th year of ETHS in its home at Church & Dodge before it became ETHS. During the afternoon—from **1:00 – 4:00 pm**—Memorial Stadium and Lazier Field will be the site of a celebration of **ALL THINGS ETHS**.

Food trucks will line the perimeter of the stadium. Tents will be set up around the field. Reunion classes will gather, and the event is open to **EVERYONE**. While we welcome back all alumni, we also encourage the entire community to come and join us in celebration. Bring the family — activities will be available for children to join in the festivities.

The ETHS Marching Band will perform and there will be several DJs playing music. We hope that current students and their families will participate, that we will see current and former faculty and staff, future Wildkits and their families, and a strong showing from the community.

Several other celebrations are in the early planning stages. There will be Centennial specific items for sale – a new logo for use in Centennial Celebrations has been produced from a student graphic design contest.

Come join us on September 14th and be a part of this great event. It's something you only get to do once in a century.

National Merit Finalists

Six ETHS seniors have been named Finalists in the 2024 National Merit Scholarship Program: Jacob DiCrescenzo, Anna Grigorescu, Sarah Schulkin, Alexander Senechal, Aidan Thomson, and Emmett Zaslow. All six were named Semifinalists in September 2023, and are now among 15,000 Finalists who will be considered for scholarships later

this spring; 7,140 will be notified that they are Merit Scholarship winners.

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation annually recognizes U.S. high school students who demonstrate definitive marks of academic excellence. Approximately 1.5 million high school students enter the program each year.

COMAP winners

Two ETHS math teams achieved Finalist and Meritorious ranking in the annual Consortium for Mathematics and its Applications (COMAP) High School Mathematical Contest in Modeling (HiMCM).

Both teams entered papers in the international competition, where students worked on complex, open-ended problems to develop a reasonable solution using a mathematical model.

Students work in teams of up to four, and use skills and knowledge from math, science, and computer science classes to develop possible solutions for problems that have no single, correct answer.

ranked in the top six-percent of all submitted papers are juniors Leonardo Lopez-Gilson, and William Zalmezak. The Meritorious team, which ranked in the top 20-percent of all submitted papers are juniors Emir Bombaci, Eli Coustan, Andrew Schober, and Patrick Tu.

Each ETHS team constructed solutions after choosing between two problems: are dandelions a friend or foe; or developing models for city governments about the transition from today’s bus fleets to e-bus fleets.

Both teams will continue in the COMAP competition later this spring.

The ETHS members of the Finalist team, which

Student films in local film festival

Last November, nine ETHS students had their short films showcased at the Shortcut 100 International Film Festival.

The film festival partnered with ETHS and Wayfarer Theaters to celebrate its 10th anniversary. As a part of this celebration, the festival launched the Youth In Film Program to showcase short films crafted by ETHS student filmmakers looking to make an impact

and share their voice in the independent filmmaker community.

ETHS seniors Madeline Andreotti, Zhanna Hymes, Georgina Kapasouris, Charlene Solis, Joseph Williams Salgado, Finn Wonderlich, along with juniors Alma Louise Baer, Jacinta Diversiev, and Max Kuhn had their films screened at the Wayfarer Theater in Highland Park.

ETHS wins national award for equity



ETHS District 202 Superintendent Marcus Campbell (center) and Board President Pat Savage-Williams (right) are congratulated by David Gonzales (left), Director of the Certification Program for Courageous Conversation.

ETHS was honored with the Grace Lee Boggs Certification Award at the National Summit for Courageous Conversation (NSCC) on November 7 in Austin, Texas. The award is in recognition of the practice and persistence ETHS has demonstrated in its work towards attaining racial equity.

The NSCC convenes leaders from around the world to examine, embrace, and celebrate racial equity and social justice to help transform schools, communities, and organizations into racially equitable, social just environments that nurture the infinite potential of all people.

ETHS Math Dept. Chairman receives Leadership Award

Last October, ETHS Math Department Chair **Dale Leibforth’93** was honored by the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics with the Lee Yunker Mathematics Leadership Award. Leibforth has worked at ETHS for 27 years and as the Math Dept. Chair for the last 10 years.

The award honors one outstanding person each year who provides leadership to the teachers of Illinois. Nominees are judged based on their leadership in math education, their support and guidance to teachers of math, and their

active involvement in promoting and improving math education.

Under his leadership, the ETHS Math Dept. has had numerous accomplishments, including: access and success in Advanced Placement, particularly for students of color; designing courses to serve Special Education students and Emergent Multilingual students; and increasing dual credit and transitional math courses



Dale Leibforth ’93

to help support students in their transition after high school.

Illinois education office honors “Those Who Excel”

Each year, the state education office honors exemplary teachers, administrators, student support personnel, educational service personnel, community volunteers, board members and teams from districts in Illinois. Three ETHS staff members and one volunteer received “Those Who Excel” awards for 2024.

ETHS teacher Amy Moore was named Cook County Co-Regional Teacher of the Year for her work as a film educator and sponsor of the Filmmakers Club at ETHS. In her 10 years at ETHS, she formed a film

production course to give all students the opportunity to use their creative voices through film.

Volunteer Robert Bady earned an Award of Merit as a Community Volunteer for his work with the ETHS Boosters Club. He volunteered with the club from 2016-2023 and served many roles, including Co-President in 2023.

Jason Jackson received an Award of Merit in the Educational Service Personnel category as a paraprofessional in the ETHS Special Education Dept. for four years. He provides support

and creates a nurturing environment for students to learn and excel.

ETHS Lead Certified School Nurse Dr. Michelle Wheeler earned an Award of Merit for her ability to connect with students, and earning their trust. She regularly organizes health education programs and conducts screenings for vision, hearing, and vaccinations. proactive approach to preventive healthcare ensures students receive the care they need.

DECA state winners

ETHS had 33 students compete in Illinois DECA's 2024 Career Development Conference, which hosted more than 1,800 high school students. The ETHS team earned nine first-place finishes, six second-places, one third-place finish, and four Top 10 finishes. In all, 21 ETHS students earned a bid to compete later this spring. in international competition.

Every year, DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) invites students to compete in business/entrepreneurship activities through business role-play situations, taking business-oriented exams, presenting written research projects and public relations campaigns, and delivering pitches for new business concepts.

WRITTEN EVENT WINNERS
(qualified for the international competition)

Franchise Business Plan
1st Place - Campbell Fleming, Monroe Stroth
2nd Place - Maisy Peter

Business Operations Research: Sports and Entertainment Marketing
2nd Place - Aidan Levine, Joshua Steinhoff

Business Operations Research: Hospitality and Tourism
1st Place - Layne Koury, Ariella Davidson

Business Operations Research: Business Services
1st Place - Anthony LaRosa, Shain Carrasco
2nd Place - Eli Kaplan, Dante Goldberg

Community Awareness Project
1st Place - Max Low, Theo Wu

Community Giving Project
1st Place - Kathleen Carrasco, Maya Thadhani

Independent Business Plan
1st Place - Caleb Gerstein
2nd Place - Kate Myers, Celeste Riemersma

Start Up Business Plan
2nd Place - James Green

International Business Plan
1st Place - Ellie Newmark

ROLE PLAY WINNERS
(qualified for the international competition)

Principles of Marketing:
1st Place - Jesse Dush-Hart

TOP 10 FINALISTS
Principles of Finance
Alexandra Price

Hospitality Service Team Decision Making
Kathleen Carrasco, Maya Thadhani

Marketing Management Team Decision Making
Max Low, Theo Wu

Travel/Tourism Team Decision Making:
Campbell Fleming, Monroe Stroth

MINI-AWARD WINNERS
Principles of Marketing
1st Place Cluster Exam - Jesse Dush-Hart
2nd Place Role Play - Ruby Wiejak

Hospitality Services Management Team Decision Making
3rd Place Role Play 1 - Kathleen Carrasco, Maya Thadhani

Bridge Building/Bridge Breaking Competition

The ETHS Math Department held its 44th annual Bridge Building and Breaking Contest in February. The winner of this year's competition is Emma Chevrollier with a bridge that held 7.0 kilograms.

Charlie Ward finished second with a bridge that held 3.6 kilograms. Third place went to Lilia Gregg with a bridge that held 3.5 kilograms.

The ETHS bridge-building contest allows students to apply the math and science lessons from their classes to a hands-on project. Students design and construct small straw bridges that are weighed, tested and scored for efficiency. All of the Bridge Building winners are students in Maryjoy Heineman's and Matthew Kaiser's class.

Chess Team at Nationals



The ETHS Chess Team at the National High School Chess Championship. Left to right, top row: Tate Darin, Somil Bose, Adam Elgat, Jonah Chen, Sam Kemeny, Daniel Dligach, Aiden Wang, Daniel Melnikov, Asa Lieberman, Alastair Keely-Walker, Micah Mostovoy and Lucia Scrimenti. Bottom row: William Zalmezak, Ethan Brush, Chris von Hoff. (Credit: Keith Holzmueeller)

The Evanston Township High School Chess Team had a strong showing at the 2024 National High School Championship in Baltimore. Hosted by the US Chess Federation from April 5-7, the tournament attracted a record 1,825 players. ETHS entered three teams in three divisions and were most successful in the Under 1900 and Under 1600 sections, the second and third strongest of the tournament's divisions.

The U1900 team of Asa Lieberman, Alastair Keely-Walker, Sam Kemeny, William Zalmezak, Daniel Dligach and Tate Darin finished in fourth place. The U1600 team of Ethan Brush (co-champion of the section), Aiden Wang, Micah Mostovoy, and Lucia Scrimenti finished 10th. And in the Championship section, the team of Jonah Chen, Adam Elgat, Chris von Hoff and Somil Bose finished 27th. Adam Sklar competed individually in the division for unrated players and finished in 7th place.

ETHS NEWS Class Notes

1960s



Dr. W. Allan Edmiston '64 was honored March 2 with the Opera League of Los Angeles's Peter Hemmings Award in recognition of his outstanding contributions to opera in Los Angeles (LA). Allan has earned plaudits for his contributions in the medical field as a cardiologist at USC as Director of the Cardiac Catheterization laboratory, performing one of the first coronary angioplasties in the LA area, and in Pasadena as Medical Director of Cardiology at Huntington Memorial Hospital and as President of the American Heart Assn. Greater LA Affiliate.

But his love of opera, instilled as a youth in Evanston, led him to become a charter subscriber of the LA Opera in 1986, where he's seen every mainstage production since then. In 1999, he joined the Opera League of LA, and, for them, organized the "Opera Docs" that provides on-site medical presence for all opera performances.

In 2004, he became director and moderator of the Opera League Seminars, many of which he has presented himself. Allan fulfills himself practicing cardiology, traveling the world to see opera, studying piano, and enjoying his four children, five grandchildren, and husband, Patrick Harrigan.

Dr. Pete Anderson '61 was on the ETHS swim team and aquatic staff 1957-61. Says Pete: "I was a runt and never got to swim in a State Meet. I enrolled in Indiana University to study how to become a swim coach, health and physical education teacher. My coach was Doc Counsilman who became our 1964 and 1976 U.S. Men's Olympic Team head

coach, and who coached Mark Spitz. My freshman year I grew 5 ½ inches, gained 32 pounds, and took 3rd in our National A.A.U. championships. I then went on to become a 5-time Division I All-American."

A year ago in October, Pete put together the U.S. Masters relay-swim team for the 2023 season by joining the same team—Tamalpais Aquatic Masters in Marin County, CA. By International FINA rule your age is at the end of the year. So, they all turned 80 this year to compete in their relay age group.

Pete reported: "We smashed all 10 of the relay world records. This has never been done before."

He went on to earn his Ph.D. from the U of Toledo in 1973 and eventually retired as an Illinois K-12 school superintendent in 2008. In April 2021, he published his Amazon bestseller, *The 3 Secret Skills of Top Performers – Powerful Lessons in Transformational Leadership*.

1980s



Dr. Kenneth Schaeffle, who received an ETHS Distinguished Alumni Award last year, has a varied background that starts out in theater, with Boom Chicago, an Amsterdam-based improv comedy club that he founded with two other ETHS alumni, **Jon Rosenfeld** and **Andrew Moskos** (all class of '86). This theater company still exists today.

Boom Chicago has launched numerous careers and projects, including big hits like Ted Lasso and the careers of Jordan Peele (*Get Out, Nope*) and Seth Meyers of *Late Night with Seth Meyers*.

Earlier this year, Rosen-

weld and Moskos appeared on Meyers show in an exclusive interview to promote their recent novel (*Boom Chicago Presents the 30 Most Important Years in Dutch History*).

Ken left Boom Chicago in 2006, after 13 years, to go back to school and become a doctor.

In 2022 and 2023, **Alicia Bjornson '84** had two amazing study trips to Iceland attending two of the U of The Westfjords Icelandic courses that teach Icelandic through community engagement, field trips, course work, and visiting speakers.

In 2022, Alicia met an ETHS Wildkit in her Icelandic class—**Laurel Wiss Latimer '81**. "Wildkits are everywhere," said Alicia. During the pandemic, they began their Icelandic studies on Zoom and finally met in person in Isafjörður in Iceland. They learned language, culture, history, and natural history in a university community that supports the students learning through a classroom extension.

1990s

After a 25-year hiatus, previous Wildkit swimmer **Eileen Keribar '96** returned to the pool in 2022. Currently based in Istanbul, Turkey, she represented Turkey in three international championships in Tampere, Finland, Fukuoka, Japan and Madeira, Portugal in 2023, breaking eight Turkish National records (six individual, two relay). She most recently ranked 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 7th in her individual events at the LEN European Short Course Championships and hopes to be able to return to the U.S. to compete in the coming year.

Jack Rakove on Constitution Council

This January, the Brennan Center for Justice announced the creation of the Historians Council on the Constitution, with 18 esteemed members including **Jack Rakove '64**, Pulitzer-Prize winning Professor of History and Political Science, Emeritus, at Stanford University.



As reported in the *Washington Post*, the council members are nationally renowned scholars in legal history and the Constitution, with expertise ranging from the Founding Era to the Civil Rights Era. The council members will work with Brennan Center attorneys to counter the U.S. Supreme Court's misuses and mischaracterizations of history to decide major constitutional issues.

According to Rakove: "At this fraught moment in our national history, Americans need informed knowledge of how and why different clauses of the Constitution made their way into the text. It is not enough to play language games with the spare wording of the Constitution. We also need to know why the framers of the original document and its crucial amendments acted as they did."

Historians now have both an opportunity and indeed a civic responsibility to elevate our public debate, to identify when the decisions of public institutions — notably including the rulings of the Supreme Court — rest on problematic or flawed interpretations of the historical past that should unite us.

That is the true mission of the new Historians' Council on the Constitution, which I am delighted to join."

Why is my KIT coming to "Wildkit Alum"?

You may have looked at the addressee on this issue of *The KIT* and wondered, why is it coming to Wildkit Alum and not to me? The Alumni Office has found we have several thousand duplicate addresses in our 50,000+ database. In an effort to reduce postage costs, and keep people from getting more than one copy of *The KIT*, we decided to be more efficient. This cuts the paper printing cost as well as postage and allows us to still send the ETHS alumni news to you.

You can help us further reduce costs by having your KIT emailed to you! We publish a full-color electronic version (fall and spring), and you can change how you receive your subscription—print or email—by completing the short form at <https://announcements.wufoo.com/forms/kit-by-email-request-form/>

ETHS NEWS Reunion Roundup

Class of 1959's 65th anniversary

The Class of '59 will celebrate their 65th Anniversary with an Open House in a private residence in Evanston from 2:00-5:00 pm on Sunday, June 9, 2024. Members of the ETHS Class of '59 should contact **Pauline (Betz) Bentley** at p-bentley@northwestern.edu for further information.

Welcome to the ETHS Class of 1984 40th Reunion!

<https://myevent.com/eths84reunion40>

Hi, Class of '84! We've created a space to share information about the event, purchase tickets, make a donation, add your profile on the Classmates page, purchase Reunion merchandise, and remember classmates who have past. More features may be added later such as photo and memories. If you have already created a profile, that's wonderful and thank you for doing so! **Please click the link above.**

Reunion Info

When: Saturday, July 6th
Where: Hilton Garden Inn, 1818 Maple Ave. in downtown Evanston
Time: 7-11:30 p.m.

Consider joining us in July. We want to see as many classmates as possible. No need to worry about high school issues like what we look like, what we are doing, or who we are dating. Just come as you are :).

Share this website with as many of our classmates as possible and ask everyone to register.

Our goal is to have at least 250 classmates attend the reunion! Don't forget to save this website to your favorites, so you can come back to see what's new! Hope to see you this summer.

Alums share their ETHS work



ETHS History teacher Aaron Becker invited three alums who currently work at school to talk to his classes about their experiences over the years at ETHS. Accepting the invitation were (L. in middle of photo to Rt.) Jed Curtis '85, Math teacher and Boys' Varsity Golf Coach; Nathan Anderson '78, Safety Staff member; and Franz Calixte '89, History teacher and Head Boys' Soccer Coach.

ETHS Class of 1974: Ready to celebrate?

Cheers for 50 Years is less than six months away! Are you ready to celebrate the Class of 1974 and the 100-year celebration of the Church & Dodge campus!

Your Reunion Planning Committee has an amazing weekend planned to celebrate the occasion. Check it out!

- Friday, September 13**
- Pub Crawl in downtown Evanston – afternoon.
 - Middle School-Jr. High dinners in around town

- Saturday, September 14**
- School Tour of ETHS – morning
 - Centennial Carnivale – (Stadium) – afternoon
 - THE MAIN EVENT at the Lakeview Room at Glenview Park Facility – evening

- Sunday, September 15**
- Small-group gatherings: Music wing, YMCA (Clubs, Brillianteen, Camp)

And so much more!! Tickets are now available! Need more information: (www.eths1974.com) or email: Reunion@eths1974.com! Get in touch!

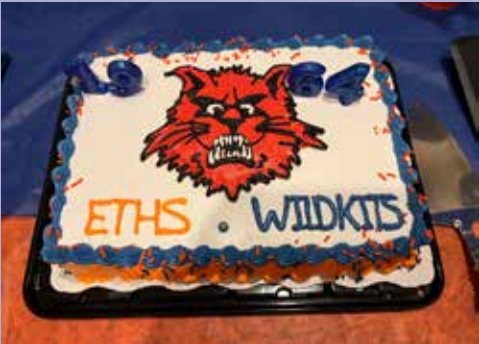
Dinner in the Desert for Class of 1964

Mark and Dale Goldman recently opened their home in Arizona to 1964 classmates for this year's Dinner in the Desert. Here are the classmates:



L. to rt.: **Fred Brostoff, Hank Gideon, Karen Kennedy Lawrence, Art Hallstrom, Arlene Avery Burke, Suzi Schor, Jay Siegall, Mark Goldman, Helene Babs Drew Spero, Phil Kaplan**

And the Guest of Honor...



Class of 1991 to plan a 35th reunion

Class of 1991: it's been too long since we've been together. Calling all '91s to connect with the ETHS Alumni Association so we can organize a reunion for everyone — not just the folks on social media.

Please update your contact information, email, address, and phone number. Email wwildkit1991@gmail.com if you are interested in learning more or joining a reunion planning committee. Considering gatherings in 2024-2026 (The Big 35). Let's do this!!!

Class of 1962's 62nd in September

ETHS Class of '62 will have a 62-year reunion!
ETHS Class of '62 turns 80!
Date: The weekend of Sept. 20-21, 2024
For details, see website—www.ETHSclassof62.com
Email address—ETHS62class@gmail.com

Reunions continued on page 12

“Drone Zone” – Forensic evidence recovery using drones

On April 12, Science teacher Adam Held’s students in Forensic Science went looking for four human bones allegedly on a mountain side...not in person but using drones as their eyes.

The “mountain side” was located in the ETHS gymnastics gym and the story behind the bone hunt was fraught with drama. The scene was set by guest speaker Shahna Richman, who was part of an FBI team that had to analyze the crime scene in the aftermath of Flight 93 that crashed to the ground in Shanksville, PA, on 9/11/2001.

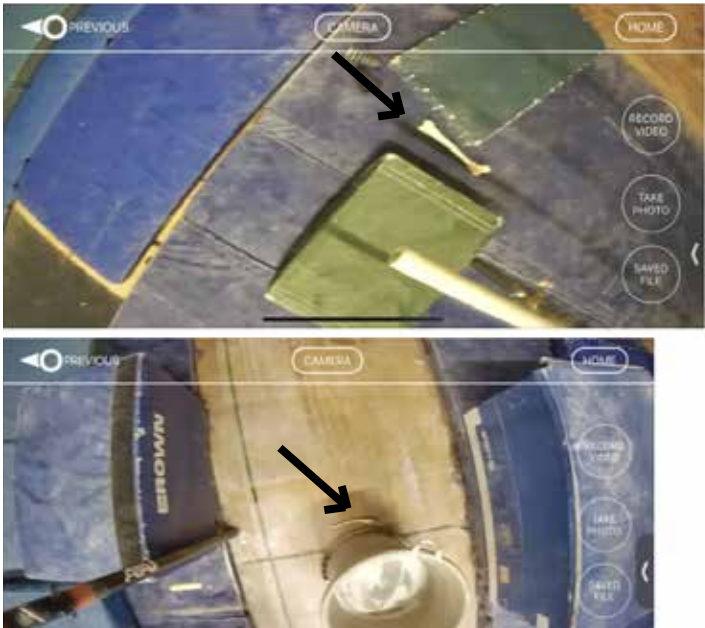
According to Held: “She told us how dangerous the work was as the agents were breathing in vaporized jet fuel, human remains, etc. She found body parts all around the crash site, including the face of one of the terrorists in a tree.” Held continued: “I tell the kids to imagine they were investigating a crash similar to Flight 93 and were to use the drones to safely investigate the ‘crash site’ and find the bones of the victims.”

The use of drones is a significant unit in Forensic Science, a one-year course for juniors and seniors who have taken biology and chemistry. Throughout the year, students focus on collection, analysis, and presentation of evidence using scientific knowledge and reasoning.



The ETHS gymnastics gym became the “mountain side” where the plane crash happened and the bones were distributed.

Two of the bones seen by the team’s drone are pictured below.



Course units include crime scene recording, pattern recognition, forensic botany, DNA analysis, blood, handwriting analysis, fingerprinting, and much more—including the use of drones. The 16

drones were paid for by a mini-grant from the ETHS Alumni Association. The wildly popular course has 10 sections taught by two teachers to around 250 students this year.



A drone and its remote control (above) and the four bones needed to be found (below).



Last year the drone unit was held outside. Due to problems with the weather, such as wind, this year the drone investigation was moved into the large, inside gym.

“Forensic science continuously evolves as technology advances,” said Held, adding, “The increased availability of and use of drones has positively impacted the field.” The class divided up into teams of three or four students, learned how to use their team’s drone, and then set off to the “mountain side” to find different pieces of evidence...the four bones.

One team of three juniors—Ben Crabbe, Sianna Waters, and Sungyun Jung—assigned team

members various tasks such as photographer, technician, manager, and drone operator. All three took turns flying the drone. Theirs was the first team to locate and photograph all four bones. “The bones were in between the gym mats, not on top where they could be easily seen,” said Jung. “With drones you can go further, be safer, and cover more distance,” she added.

The drone unit is multi-purposed. The first goal is to show students how drones are used at outdoor crime scenes. A second goal of the program is to teach them how drones have become more commonplace in our lives.

Said Held: “Knowing how to operate and pilot a drone will give our students the real-world experience with drone techniques needed in the job marketplace as drones become more ubiquitous in our lives. Having drone skills set our students up to be competitive in a changing job market and are great tools for our students to have in their tool box.”

Reunions – Continued from page 11

Three other classes are planning reunions that connect with the Sept. 14 Centennial event—Class of 1964 (60th), 1969 (55th), and 1971 (53rd). You can find links on the alumni webpage at <https://www.eths.k12.il.us/Page/522>.

ETHS Virtual Tour

Evanston Township High School launched a virtual tour at the beginning of the 2017-18 school year, giving prospective families and other visitors the opportunity to explore the high school’s campus at any time, from anywhere. Using 3D panoramic photography and narration, the ETHS Virtual Tour features 360-degree panoramic images connect to each stop.

First, go to the ETHS website (<https://www.eths.k12.il.us>). Under the top About Us menu, click on Visiting ETHS, then Virtual Tour in the left-hand column.

New Center a hands-on home for Health Science career courses at ETHS

On April 16, the ETHS Foundation held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to unveil the school’s new Health Science Center. Built thanks to generous donor support, particularly from the Cless Family Foundation, this groundbreaking space will support the exploration of healthcare careers and nursing-skills training through hands-on learning right at ETHS.

According to Joanne Bertsche, ETHS Foundation Executive Director: “This state-of-the-art center features a simulated hospital setting with six patient bed set-ups and industry standard medical equipment to facilitate teaching nursing skills and patient care.” She added, “Courses will be a springboard for a wide range of careers in healthcare.”

Now in its first year, Health Science Careers, open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors, gives them an overview of various health careers and the overriding principles central to all health professions and will provide the foundation for further study in the field of healthcare. It is an initial course for a growing career-pathway program in health science at ETHS.

According to Joyce Sia, who teaches this course as well as Medical Terminology and Orientation to Health Careers, “Ideally, this Health Science course will be an intro to a wide variety of healthcare careers, where students will complete labs from various fields—for example, cast a

tooth mold to learn more about dentistry, learn how to insert IVs to learn about phlebotomy, simulate x-ray techniques to learn about veterinary science, etc.”

The follow-up Health Science course will “dive deeper into healthcare systems and participate in rotations with places like Westminster Place,” said Sia. “My hope is that the [follow-up] course will explore issues that don’t get much air time in courses of study like nursing or medicine. In my experience as a registered nurse, I’ve often heard from other health professionals, ‘I wish we had learned more about _____,’ and these are the topics [that will be] covered in the next Health Science course.”

Currently, Sia has partnered with Westminster to expose her students to the culture of the work site beyond just various activities. Visits there included listening as staff members updated each other during shift changes about the health of every patient they worked with, talking to specialists about patients prone to falling and infections, learning the legal rules behind DNR (Do Not Resuscitate), and learning the color codes identifying various medical conditions. Sia’s classes also visited Northwestern University’s three student clinic locations.



Dr. Michelle Wheeler, ETHS’s Lead Certified School Nurse, shows a visitor a procedure on a medical mannequin in the new Health Science Center.



A rendering of the Health Science Center from architect Perkins & Will. The Center has student seating, white space drawing boards, separate sinks for washing, and video screens. It also has six fully operational hospital beds and medical mannequins for student training.



Given Health Science’s new course, only certification in Stop the Bleed and potentially CPR are available this year. However, dual credit is offered with Oakton College through the Medical Terminology course, and Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)

Training certification will begin as a dual-credit/college-credit course with Oakton beginning next school year. The CNA program will include practice in the new Health Science Center, nursing lab, and clinical healthcare provider settings.

ETHS NEWS In Memory

1940s

Janice Seng Shaker, 1941, 8/25/2023
Virginia Ambuehl Bailie, 1942, 12/19/2023
Robert P. “Bob” Cooper, 1943, 2/19/2024
Nancy Puller Barclay, 1943, 9/25/2023
Hugh C. Fowler, 1943, 10/25/2023
Mildred Black Marion, 1944, 12/21/2021
Charles “Chuck” Marck, 1947, 10/10/2023
Richard M. Doub, 1948, 1/22/2024
Earl J. Rusnak Jr., 1948, 2/14/2024
Koan DeMint Korman, 1948, 6/9/2023
Irene Tolbert, 1948, 8/25/2023
Patricia Upsal Karge, 1949, 2/4/2024

1950s

Lynn Gaumnitz Short, 1950, 2/12/2021
Lillie Hawk Welch, 1951, 12/13/2021
Kenneth Karge, 1951, 2/5/2024
Richard “Dick” Arndt, 1952, 12/1/2023
Robert Endicott, 1953, 11/30/2023
Patricia Arrington Smythe, 1953, 11/8/2023
David Scott, 1954, 3/16/2024
Robert “Bob” Lorenzini, 1954, 11/2023
Kenneth J. McBride, 1954, 12/2/2023
Richard Stormont, 1954, 9/4/2023
William B. Smith, 1955, 12/20/2023
Richard S. Oldberg, 1956, 12/27/2021
Darlene Mote Frahm, 1955, 11/16/2023
K. Michael Small, 1955, 1/5/2024
Mary Patricia Dailey, 1955, 8/25/2023
Gene G. Weeks, 1956, 5/7/2022
Howard Larsen, 1956, 6/12/2023
Ray L. Short, 1956, 11/12/2023
James B. Zagel, 1958, 7/15/2023
Mary Elizabeth “Liz” O’Cain Greene, 1958, 8/21/2023
Phillip Pflueger, 1959, 9/10/2023
Robert L. Nelson, 1959, 6/13/2023
Frederic Dattel, 1959, 10/29/2023

1960s

Leon Rakowsky, 1960, 12/19/2023
Lawrence Goodman, 1960, 1/12/2024
Merry Brown, 1961, 11/21/2023
William “Bill” R. Evans, 1961, 10/5/2023
Ronald F. McBride, 1963, 7/19/2022

Jack McCabe, 1964, 3/18/2024
Robert “Bob” Reeder, 1964, 3/6/2024
Steve Johnson, 1964, 12/5/2023
Gorden Timothy Hallstrom, 1964, 3/28/23
Frances Miller Sewall, 1964, 1/2023
Dr. Roger Thomas Ward, 1964, 12/15/2023
Carl Volante, 1964, 11/9/2023
Jack Penrod, 1964, 5/13/2023
Peter Otto Skoglund, 1964, 2/29/2024
Jeffrey P. Stevenson, 1964, 4/19/2023
Carlyn Knaple, 1964, 2/6/2022
Greg Hansen, 1965, 2/19/2024
Ernest Perry Jr., 1965, 11/23/2023
Geri Rudnick Hirschtritt, 1965, 10/22/2023
Susan Sherwood, 1967, 12/24/2023
Peggy Wehrenberg Horne, 1968, 10/3/2023

1970s

Randall “Randy” Sieber, 1970, 10/28/2023
Katrina M. Davis, 1970, 11/20/2023
John R. Posey Jr., 1971, 2/9/2024
Zachary S. Weiss, 1972, 8/2/2021
Bruce W. Barfield, 1972, 9/16/2023
David Rosewall, 1972, 1/14/2024
Robert C. Karras, 1972, 12/25/2023
Jody Louise Williams, 1974, 10/17/2023
Henry Revis Jr., 1976, 10/30/2023
June Huff McClain, 1979, 10/7/2023

1980s

Greg DeStefano, 1981, 1/30/2024
Andrew E. Krafft, 1982, 3/6/2024
Joseph S. “Joe” Moag Jr., 1982, 12/2/2023
Biry D. Brown, 1982, 1/1/2024
Curtis L. Sloan Jr., 1984, 3/2/2024
Seth Knobel, 1986, 12/11/2023
Michael McGruder, 1989, 12/13/2023

1990s

Anthony J. “Aronica, 1994, 1/19/2024

2000s

Dr. Cameron Grace Estrich, 2001, 2/12/2024

STAFF

Elaine Carlino, an ETHS psychologist for 27 years, from 1980 to 2007, passed away 11/15/2023. Long-time, experienced mentor to young staff members, Elaine was highly valued by families and staff.

William “Bill” P. Siavelis, ETHS history teacher for 32 years, died at age 85 on 11/7/2023 in Evanston. He retired from ETHS in 1995. During his teaching years, Bill was honored in 1993 with the Teacher Excellence Award by the ETHS teaching faculty. Along with teaching, Bill enjoyed reading, traveling, and was a fan of both the Cubs and the Bears.

Dr. Marta Fernández, who taught Spanish at ETHS for 19 years and retired in 2000, died on 2/1/2024. Famous in the 1940s and ’50s in Cuba as a radio, television, and stage actress, Marta left Cuba and emigrated to the U.S. in 1963 and became a university professor. During her tenure at ETHS she was awarded the Teacher Excellence Award in 1989 by the ETHS teaching staff.

Linda Jackson, retired Special Education Lead Teacher, died on 2/18/2024 in Skokie, IL Linda worked at ETHS for 34 years, from 1980 until her retirement in 2014, and returned on a part-time basis in 2017 to help the department. During her years at ETHS, she also served as a mentor to her colleagues, a Homebase Facilitator, Special Education Staff Developer, and a World of Difference facilitator.

Hiroshi Okano, Hiroshi Okano, who taught Japanese at ETHS for five years and retired about 20 years ago, passed away 1/20/2024. He was 85 years old.

Julian Allen Gestrin, Math teacher for his entire career at ETHS, died recently at age 80. He taught at ETHS from 1967 to 2001.

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In February, Supt. Dr. Marcus Campbell (at L); Foundation Executive Director Joanne Bertsche; and former ETHS Supt. Dr. Eric Witherspoon (at rt.) visited ETHS alum Leonard Schaeffer '63 (2nd from L) to present him with the Crystal Spoon Award. Schaeffer is the second recipient of this award created to honor an individual who champions a stronger and more impactful ETHS Foundation, inspiring alumni and the wider community to transform the ETHS campus.

A WILD celebration of support for students

WILD for ETHS, the Foundation’s annual fundraising party, brought together donors, parents and guardians, alumni, faculty and community members to celebrate and champion student futures. Held at Sketchbook Brewing Company in Skokie, over 300 guests enjoyed, live music courtesy of Arlen Music Productions, local eats from Candlelite and LaPrincipal and Sketchbook sips. The celebration raised over \$190,000 to support foundation projects that will impact students in the coming years.

HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER




On April 16th, the Foundation held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to unveil the ETHS Health Science Center, a new learning space designed for medical career exploration and nursing skills training. (See article on page 13.) Thanks to generous donor support and a lead gift from the Cless Family Foundation, we appreciate the remarkable generosity that brought this vision to life for students. Photo: Reine Hanna, ETHS Communications.

On the horizon...

ALUMNI HALL



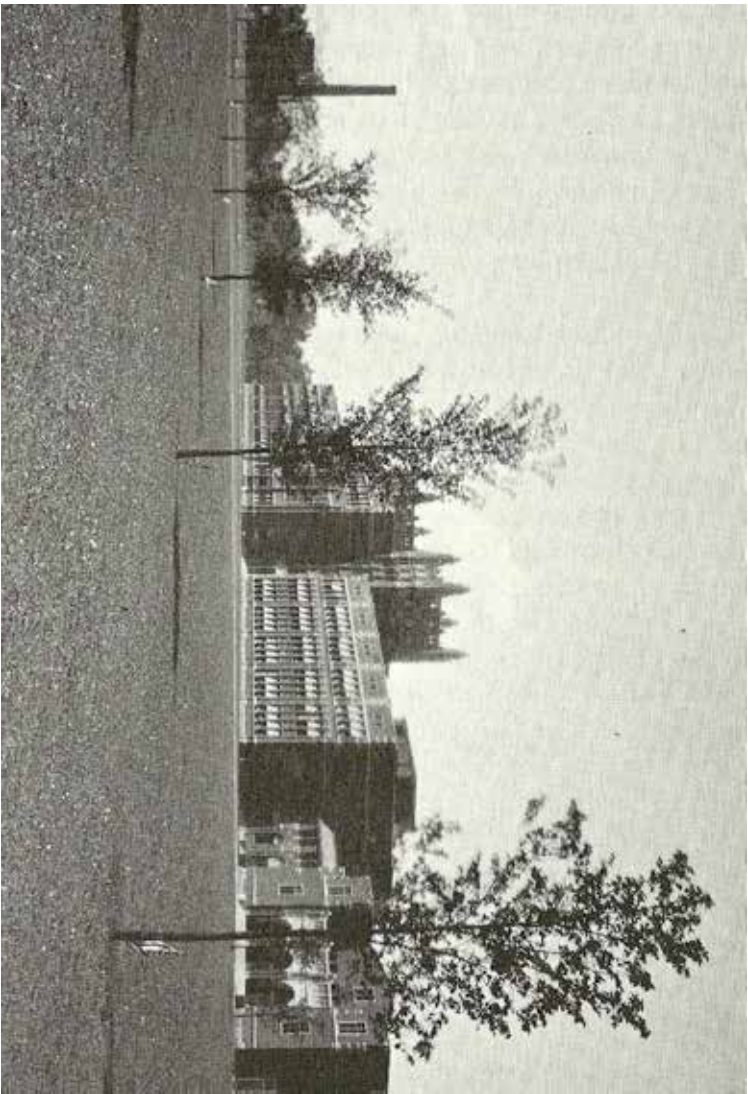
Alumni Hall will offer a dynamic presentation and learning space that will honor the rich alumni legacy of ETHS. Rendering: Perkins & Will



ETHS
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Once ETHS opened at Church St. and Dodge Ave., the Garden Club of Evanston donated 90 elm trees to celebrate its new home. Many of the new trees were planted in front of the school on Dodge.