



Surrattsville High School Foundation

THIS IS SURRETTS FOUNDATION E-NOTICE OF NOVEMBER 1, 2019

Hello Hornets!

Here are some items that might be of interest:

1. SURRETTSVILLE COMMUNITY LOSES VERY SPECIAL HORNET. We were saddened to learn that Dave Seyler (73) died on October 30 after a long and valiant battle with cancer. Dave, a master trumpet player, was involved in many activities while at Surrattsville, and was awarded the highest award for instrumental musicians at SHS, the John Philip Sousa Award. Dave was a great supporter of the Foundation, having volunteered his considerable talents as a performer to the Foundation's "Surrattstock" fund raising events. After Surrattsville, Dave played in the outstanding jazz fusion group, Blue Horizon, with John Previti (72) and other Hornets. After graduating from the University of MD with a degree in music education, Dave made his way to a highly successful career in trade journalism, including a stint as editor in chief of the Radio and TV Business Report and having held other prestigious positions. Dave also was a freelance writer, authoring creative and witty columns about current events. He was widely admired among his peers in the journalism community (for both his journalism skills and his skills on the baseball and softball diamonds!). In his final years, Dave performed music with his Dixieland band around his home in North Carolina. Dave is survived by his wife Amy, his children Sarah and Paul, three brothers, and two sisters.

2. FOUNDATION ATTENDS INAUGURAL GALA On October 18 Treasurer, Tayana Harrison ('07) and Secretary, Rontanetta Gibson ('11) attended PGCPS Hall of Fame Gala Like None Other hosted by The Excellence in Education Foundation. The event was held at the MGM Ballroom and honored 7 individuals who have supported PGCPS schools and students. The inductees included Surrattsville's own Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr., Celeste A. Williams, Sugar Ray Leonard, Pastor John K. Jenkins Sr., Delegate Jazz Lewis, and Kenny Lattimore. Dr. Tuajuanda Jordan received the 2019 Chief Executive Officer's Award of Excellence which was accepted on her behalf by her husband and mother. All night the amazing accomplishments of the county was highlighted with performances by the Henry A Wise Jazz Band and the Dance Department from Suitland High School. By the end of the night over \$150,000 had been raised to benefit students of Prince George's County. The Gala lived up to it's name-it truly was like none other.

3. 2019 ANNUAL CAMPAIGN BEGINS. The Foundation is proud to announce the opening of its 2019 Annual Campaign. If you support the Foundation's mission and enjoy any of its efforts (such as these e-Notices), please consider using the "Donate" button on www.surrattsville.org, or the Donor Form below, to participate in the 2019 Annual Campaign. Remember: because the Foundation has no overhead, no donation is too small (or too large!) to benefit the Foundation. And please check to see if your employer has a matching donation program.

Thanks in advance for considering joining this very special initiative!

4. FOUNDATION SEEKS BOARD MEMBER VOLUNTEER. The Foundation is seeking a volunteer of the greater SHS community to serve on the Foundation's Board. This person will be responsible for the social media presence the Foundation hopes to establish as well as the development and maintenance of the website. Board meetings are typically telephonic with the next one scheduled for October 17 at 8 p.m. Local Board members, and Board members of a younger demographic, are particularly important to the Foundation. Please email Jontice Small if you would consider serving at jontice.small@gmail.com

5. CHRISTMAS EVE 1966, ON THE AIRWAVES! Thanks to Wayne Tatum (74) for sending along this link that likely will bring back extraordinary aural memories to our readers who regularly tuned-in to WPGC in the mid-60s. It's a half-hour excerpt from

Cousin Duffy's iconic radio show of Christmas Eve 1966: <https://youtu.be/5qqaScZ5lAg>
Many thanks to Wayne for sending this along!

6. FOUNDATION ARCHIVES ACQUIRES SPECIAL TREASURE. Thanks to the generosity of Ann Johnson Collins (57) and Sandra Johnson Highsmith (59), the Foundation Archives has acquired a truly unique treasure. Ann kindly donated to the Foundation the 1961-1962 State Basketball Champions letterman's jacket of her late brother, Robert Miles Johnson (62). Bob attended Surrattsville from first grade through his graduation in 1962, excelled in all sports, and was named the Hornet Athlete of the Year. In the 1962 State Championship game, Bob, who wore number 33, scored 32 free throws in a row without a miss! Bob's athletic performance at Surrattsville resulted in him being awarded a full athletic scholarship to attend Washington College in Chestertown. We are so grateful to Ann and her family for adding this treasure to the Archives. (Photos of the jacket and from the game, and Bob's graduation photo, are posted on www.surrattsville.org.)

7. REQUESTS FROM THE FOUNDATION'S NEW VOLUNTEER LEADERS. A few requests from the Foundation's new volunteer leaders (listed below): First, please contact me, Jontice Small (07) (jontice.small@gmail.com), if you have any Surrattsville-related items for inclusion in one of these e-Notices. It is your submissions over the past 19 years that have helped to make these e-Notices always interesting. Second, please encourage your friends in the Surrattsville community to send me their email addresses for inclusion on our e-Notice emailing list. Third, if you are a donor to the Foundation, please consider checking with your employer to see if it maintains a matching program for donations to 501(c)(3) organizations like the Foundation.

Thanks in advance for all of your support since the new volunteer leaders took office on January 1, and for considering these requests!

Here's the list of the Foundation's new volunteer leaders:

Ta'Mya Harrison (07), President (tamaya.harrison@outlook.com)

Tayana Harrison (07), Treasurer

Rontanetta Gibson (11), Secretary

Jontice Small (07), Communications Liaison/e-Notice Editor (jontice.small@gmail.com)

Kevin Stith (15), Social Media Director

Myles Bradshaw (11), Foundation Photographer

Elsa Tlapecchco (15), New Board Member

Susan Roley Malone (65), New Board Member

8. PAINLESS (I.E., FREE) WAYS TO HELP RAISE FUNDS FOR THE FOUNDATION. Thanks to the many of you who make your Amazon purchases not through "regular" Amazon, but through <https://smile.amazon.com/>, with the Surrattsville High School Foundation designated as their charitable beneficiary. The smile.amazon.com prices, products and Amazon website are identical to "regular" Amazon, but Amazon makes a charitable contribution to the designated charity for every purchase made on smile.amazon.com.

And thanks to those of you making your internet searches using the goodsearch search engine. It uses the yahoo search engine (which we're told rivals google and apparently has never failed any Foundation user) and, like smile.amazon.com, makes a contribution to your designated charity for every internet search. Here's the link: <https://www.goodsearch.com/causes/surrattsville-high-school-foundation>.

9. DON'T FORGET THE FACEBOOK GROUPS OF THE FOUNDATION AND OF EACH CLASS YEAR. More and more of the communications about the Foundation, Surrattsville generally, and about individual Class year activities, have moved to the applicable Groups on Facebook. The Foundation's general Surrattsville Group, called "Surrattsville Alumni," is now approaching 2100 members, and the various Class Groups – such as "Surrattsville 1969," "Surrattsville 1973," etc. – are growing vigorously. To stay in touch, and to see a regular parade of interesting photos and info about dear ol' Surratts, please consider joining the Surrattsville Alumni Group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/49215776591/>) and your own Class Group.

Best,

Jontice Small (07), jontice.small@gmail.com

AND MANY THANKS TO DONORS OF THE 2019 CAMPAIGN!

Sandra Smith Simmons, In Memory of Gary L. Smith (68)

State Farm Insurance Company, Matching the Regular Donations of Craig Bergeman (76)

Rich Grace, (81)

Steve Profilet, (71)

Henry Smith (71) and Donna Rae Sturtevant Smith (70), on behalf of the Roland Coluzzi Memorial Fund

Laura Burleson, (72)

Bob Marr (71)

Patricia B. Oles (71)

Vicky Jo-Anna Young (57)

Joseph Capone (79)

David L. Brown (69)

State Farm Companies Foundation

Ross Stores Foundation

Lawence "Larry" G. Romjue (57), In Memory of lois Marie Osgood (57), "THE TIDE IS RISEN" –

Blondi

Lee R. ('68) and Lois B. ('70) Hessberg

Paul E Managhan (59), "In memory of Robert M. Edwards class of 1959" great friend and class act