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TRF Education Foundation
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Thief River Falls, MN 56701
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Focus

Vol. XIV, Issue 02 - Fall 2011

A Newsletter for Alumni, Staff and Friends



Jodi Larson ~ Our New Thief River Falls Education Foundation Executive Director

Jodi grew up in the Newfolden area. She is a Northland Community and Technical College graduate. Jodi is married to Brian Larson. Her hobbies include hunting, fishing, gardening, and working on the farm. Jodi has an interest in education and is excited to work with the teachers and staff of School District #564.

*Final Reminder For
All School Reunion
Early Registration*

Annual Meeting Notice

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE
THIEF RIVER FALLS EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The annual meeting of the Thief River Falls Education Foundation will be held on Tuesday, November 15, 2011 at 7:00 a.m. at the Foundation office, School District Service Center, 230 LaBree Avenue South, Thief River Falls, MN to consider and take action on the following:

1. The election of directors for three year terms;
2. To receive and consider the reports of the affairs of the Foundation for the past year; and
3. To transact such other business, as may properly come before the meeting.

Our Mission: The Thief River Falls Education Foundation exists to promote innovative educational opportunities in School District #564 through partnerships involving alumni, parents, educators, businesses, and the greater community.

News About You – Alumni and Friends

1930s

Thelma (Sandland) Carpenter (37) Turlock, CA, and her husband, Bud, celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary. They have 2 children, 5 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

1940s

Word has been received that **Harry C. Comstock** (40) Elk River, MN, passed away. He is survived by his wife, **Lavonne (Dicken) Comstock** (45).

Betty (Caldis) Westergren (43) and her husband, Dave, have been married 63 years. They have 2 children, 5 grandchildren and 1 great grandson. For the first 7 years of their marriage, Dave was a pilot in the Navy, and then they lived and raised their kids in Bloomington, MN. They are now retired and live on Lake Milona just outside of Alexandria, MN.

John G. "Jack" Wagner (45) Ft. Myers, FL, and his wife, Dorothy, have celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary. They have 6 children, 9 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. In his retirement, he enjoys big bands, knitting, aviation museums, travel, and collecting historical aircraft pictures/histories.

Lee Roy Halbash (47) Aloha, OR, will be celebrating his 82nd birthday and 53rd wedding anniversary this year. He has 3 children and 4 grandchildren.

James A. Arras (49) Post Falls, ID, took a trip to St. Cloud recently for the wedding of **David Sysoski's** (76) daughter, Joelle, his great niece. He visited **Bruce Hall** (49) who is doing well. He hopes to make it to Thief River Falls next time.

1950s

Norman Voldness (50) Minneapolis, MN, enjoys gardening and traveling the USA and beyond. He spent 3 years in the army, 2 years sailing the Great Lakes, and 40 years in the USPS. His wife of 45 years, **Marlys (Melhouse) Voldness** (53) died in 2004.

Magdalene "Maggie" (Hesse)

Rubino (51) still lives in Santa Fe, NM. Her husband passed away suddenly 5 years ago. She feels very lucky that her two children live in Albuquerque, NM. She has two wonderful grandchildren. "All is well."

Beverley (Hornseth) Rongen (54) continues to live at the beach in Westport, WA. She enjoys visiting her 3 children and 2 grandchildren (ages 6 & 9) who all live within a 100-mile radius. She spends time playing bridge, dice and domino games, quilting, beading, reading and she still loves to travel.

Burnell (Kast) Egger (54) Rochester, MN, is enjoying retirement by traveling and doing volunteer work.

Word has been received that **Harry A. Armstrong Jr.** (55) passed away Aug. 16, 2010 in Fort Worth, TX. He is survived by his wife, Mary, of 50 years, one surviving daughter, Angelique, and five grandchildren. He enjoyed golf, wood-working and being with family and friends.

Janet (DeLap) Griffith (59) is still loving retirement in Thief River Falls!

1960s

Ralph M. Shumway (61) Arcadia, WI, has been married 38 years to his wife, Theresa. They have 2 daughters and 5 grandchildren. He operated an Auto Body Repair and Wrecker Service then worked at Ashley Furniture Company.

David & Judy (Oske) Dupree (67) are both enjoying retirement in TRF. Dave is still trap shooting and Judy loves to travel. They have one granddaughter, Bren, who is 8.

Polly Irvin-Pizzi (64) and her husband Rick are in the process of heading back to the USA after 13 years in Canada. Moving next to USA Today's "most beautiful small town" of Sandpoint, Idaho. They hear there are lots of Minnesotans living in the area, but they don't know a soul. If you are one of them or come through the area to visit them, send her a quick email,

and you can get together for a cup of coffee or wine. She is thinking of starting an annual Minnesota day like they do in Arizona, but she's got to paint and move some furniture in first!

1970s

Joy (Hansen) Pederson (73) Edinburg, TX, was widowed in 1997 [**Royce Pederson** (72)]. She has 1 daughter, 1 son, 2 granddaughters and a granddaughter and grandson on the way. She has worked for her son at Praestat Therapy as office manager for 3 years.

1980s

Kathryn (Carlson) Noel (82) has retired from teaching math in Harlem, MT Junior/Senior High School after serving 25 years in the same district. Now she is on to "life #2" – whatever that will be! She enjoys watching her 9th grade son, Trent, in football, wrestling and track in high school.

Mailing Notice and Address Correction

The high cost of printing and mailing the newsletter makes your support increasingly important. Please support the foundation at the level that fits your situation. Please notify us when you move or receive a new address. Once your newsletter is returned to us, another one is not sent until we receive an address update. Thank you.

Contact Information

Thief River Falls Education Foundation
230 LaBree Avenue South
Thief River Falls, MN 56701
218-681-8711, ext. 228
email: foundation@trfeducationfoundation.com
www.trfeducationfoundation.com



News About You

NAME _____

GRADUATING YEAR _____

CURRENT LOCATION _____

PERSONAL NOTES _____

Student Ambassador For The Thief River Falls Education Foundation



Rebecca Houske is the 17-year-old daughter of Robert and Cynthia Houske. Her family includes a sister, Robin, 19, and a brother, Ryan, 15. She is active in hockey, choir, track, managing football, yearbook, National Honor Society and this is her first year elected onto Student Council serving as Senior Class President. Rebecca is also a member of the National Society of High School Scholars, and was chosen to attend the 2011 session of Minnesota Girls State this past June. In March, Rebecca attended Close-up: Washington D.C., a week-long trip to our nations' capital, which she says was an irreplaceable experience.

Rebecca enjoys volunteering at church and in the community, especially during summer camps. She also directs a youth choir, "God's Chosen" at Zion Lutheran Church from September through May.

Rebecca insists she inherited her grandpa's drive to work hard and always has her family behind her to keep pushing her farther. Because of this she is top in her class and is attending PSEO classes at NCTC this school year. She is currently employed at Farmer's Union of Thief River Falls.

Outside of school, work and activities, Becca enjoys working out, watching movies, being outdoors, and spending time with family and friends.



Thief River Falls All School Reunion

June 21, 22, 23, 24, 2012



THURSDAY JUNE 21 - FAMILY NIGHT

6:30pm: Parade - contact@trfchamber.net (Ben Anderson to enter your class float)
After Parade - "Movie in the Park" with music and food at Hartz Park/Lovers Lane (Bring your own chairs/blankets)

FRIDAY JUNE 22

8:00am - 11:30pm: Registration at the Ralph Engelstad Arena lobby
8:00am - Midnight: FOOD AND BEVERAGES
10:00am - 6pm: Hockey in the Huck Olson Arena
10:00am - 3:00pm: School tours, Pioneer Village tours, Ralph Engelstad Arena tours (Digi-Key and Arctic Cat tours will be on Friday only)
11:00am: Tennis tournament at the Engelstad courts
11:00am: Basketball tournament in the Lincoln High School Gym
Noon - 6pm: "Funland" for kids - Behind the Ralph (\$5 for a wristband)
Noon - Midnight: Meet and greet by decades on the floor of the Ralph
5:00pm - Midnight: Area bands in the Ralph
8:30pm - 9:00pm: "Blast From The Past" style show on stage at the Ralph
9:00pm - Midnight: Bonfire (West parking lot behind the Ralph)

SATURDAY JUNE 23

8:00am - 11:30pm: Registration at the Ralph Engelstad Arena Lobby
8:00am - Midnight: FOOD AND BEVERAGES
8:00am - 2:00pm: Craft Fair/Flea Market (Fairgrounds)
10:00am - 3:00pm: School tours, Pioneer Village tour, Ralph Engelstad Arena tour
10:00am: 10k Relay (Starting line in front of the Ralph)
10:30am: Golf at the Thief River Golf Club
11:00am: Sand volleyball (Behind the Best Western/Yose's)
11:00am: 1 mile Fun Run for kids (10 and under) in front of the Ralph
Noon - 6pm: "Funland" for kids - Behind the Ralph (\$5 for a wristband)
3:00pm: Musical in the LHS auditorium (only if enough participants sign up)
4:00pm - 6:00pm: Old Time Band (Imperial Room in the Ralph)
8:00pm - Midnight: Mud Dogs at the Ralph (for all decades)

SUNDAY JUNE 24

9:15am: Choir Practice at Lincoln High School
10:00am: Ecumenical Church Service (Lincoln High School Auditorium)
Breakfast will be served before and after the church service in the cafeteria (free will donation).

Still looking for cast members to participate in the musical.
Contact Helen Anderson at goldenretriever@mncable.net by December 1st or musical will be cancelled.

Hotels: Best Western, C'mon Inn, Seven Clans Casino, and the AmericInn are full.

America's Best Value Inn has rooms available. Cedar Lodge and T-59 will have rooms available after January 1. Hotel rooms are available in the surrounding towns: Red Lake Falls, Warren, Crookston, and Grand Forks.

Camping is available at Petro Pumper (reservations available now 218-681-3546), Fairground Campground (First come first serve), and TRF City Campground (First come first serve)

2012 All School Reunion Sweatshirts

FUND RAISER



To view online: www.trfeducationfoundation.com



Crew Neck Sweatshirt

- ASH
- EMBROIDERED \$35
- BLACK
- SCREEN PRINTED \$25

SIZES:

- S
- M
- L
- XL
- XXL
- XXXL (ADD \$3.00 FOR XXL & UP)



All Embroidered

- ASH
- HOODED \$40
- BLACK
- CREW \$35

SIZES:

- S
- M
- L
- XL
- XXL
- XXXL (ADD \$3.00 FOR XXL & UP)

Memorabilia Calendar of pictures from the decades with \$10,000 worth of cash prizes.



Calendars: \$25.00 ea. (limited quantity)
SHIPPING:
\$1.25 per calendar or \$2.00 for 2 calendars

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

FUNDRAISER: 2012 ALL SCHOOL REUNION
(Check must accompany your order. For delivery to your home, add \$11.00 for each sweatshirt and \$14.00 for two, or you can pick up your sweatshirt at the District Service Center - address below)

MAIL TO:

All School Reunion
Thief River Falls Education Foundation
230 LaBree Ave. S
Thief River Falls, MN 56701

SWEATSHIRTS CAN BE VIEWED ONLINE IN COLOR
THERE WILL BE A LIMITED QUANTITY OF SWEATSHIRTS AND T-SHIRTS
SOLD AT THE ALL SCHOOL REUNION

PAYMENT METHOD:

- CHECK
- MONEY ORDER

You can register and order items online at
www.trfeducationfoundation.com
CLICK ON ALL SCHOOL REUNION

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____
STATE _____ ZIP _____
EMAIL _____
PHONE _____

Awards

Peter Hess Memorial Teacher Recognition Award

My name is Kelly Weets, and I am a 1990 graduate of Lincoln High School and a native of Thief River Falls. After graduating from Bemidji State University and obtaining my first teaching job at Win-E-Mac, I returned to Thief River Falls in 2001 and accepted a position as a Communications teacher. I am very pleased that I was able to return to the community and the schools that influenced me so much as I was growing up. I'm happy to be able to "give back" in any way I can, and am proud to be part of the talented staff and strong academic tradition in the



Thief River Falls public schools.

I have worn many hats in the TRF district over the years. I've taught Communications at Franklin Middle School, Lincoln High School, and the Northwest Area Learning Center. I've also served on the District Staff Development Committee, the District Technology Committee, the LHS Leadership Team, the Freshmen Advisor/Advisee team, and a few other committees that no longer exist! I've also coached boys and girls swimming and served as Junior Class/Prom advisor. Five years ago I took over the role of Lincoln High School's Media Specialist and returned to school, this time to St. Cloud State, to obtain my School Library Media Specialist licensure and begin a Master's degree program in Information Media.

I really enjoy working in the Media Center; it gives me the opportunity to work with nearly all students and staff at some point during the year. Whether it's helping someone find a good book, assisting students with research, or teaching other teachers how to use available technology, every day offers something different.

When I'm not at school, I can usually be found spending time with my family. My husband, Jason, and I have two daughters; Jenna is 8, and Jillian is 6. We're happy to call Thief River Falls home and look forward to following our kids' Prowler progress through the years.

I'd like to thank the Hess family and the Thief River Falls Education Foundation for fostering the growth of our dedicated staff. I am honored to be named a recipient of the Peter Hess Memorial Teacher Recognition Award.

When anyone thinks of Kenny Beauchane they think of kids. He has an enormous heart for children. He always puts kids first. He is willing to do anything for kids. As you probably noticed, everything that I mentioned about him had kids in it. I want to share an acronym for KIDS about Kenny.



K is for kind. In the 11 years that I have known him he is so kind. He has never raised his voice, became upset, or was mad. He always has a smile on his face. No matter what the challenge is, Kenny is there with a smile.

I is for incredible. I can go on forever on this word. Incredible that he is at Challenger at 6:15 every morning. Incredible that he has been in education over 40 years. Incredible that he uses any scrap or leftover to make into something useful. Incredible that he likes turtle soup. You will have to ask him about a potluck a few years ago. And incredible that he rarely misses a day.

D is for doing. He can do anything. He can make anything - shelves, cubbyhole holders, birdhouses, benches and many different crafts. He will do everything and anything. He goes to Deep Portage, Rydell National Wildlife Refuge and farm trips. He helps everyone, he is a doer!

S is for sharing. He helps so many children and it is mostly unnoticed. He brings children to his cabin, Twin's games and helps them out financially. He shares his talents with all of us. He shares his time. He spends extra hours making our district, staff and students better. He would take his shirt off his back and give it to us because that is the way he is. He is giving! Finally, he shares his sense of humor. He loves to play practical jokes on his friends. Every year he puts a log in Tom Schafer's pillow at Deep Portage. He enjoys making people smile.

Kenny is our friend and I am honored to work with him.

The great news is that he told me last spring when we were waking up at 5:00 a.m. at Deep Portage that he has 25 more years left at CES. Thank goodness he won't be retiring soon.

Patrick Marolt, Principal
Challenger Elementary School

Smart Board ~ A Great Asset To The Classroom

As a 2nd grade teacher, getting a SMART board installed in my classroom meant that I could teach engaging, interactive lessons each day, all day. Even though we are only one week into this school year, our SMART board has had an immediate impact on my students and their learning. Our SMART Board has increased the enthusiasm and attention of my students, therefore increasing the engagement of all my 2nd graders throughout the day, while decreasing negative student behaviors.

The SMART board has been extremely motivational in our classroom, as all students desire the chance to interact with it throughout the day. Everything from selecting a lunch choice, to reading and writing mini-lessons, to answering our everyday math questions is performed on the SMART board in our classroom each day. It is very rare to walk in my classroom when the SMART board is not in use.

Words cannot describe my deep appreciation for our SMART board. It is a center of student motivation, enthusiasm, and engagement day in and day out. I am more than excited to

see the progress my students will make this year due to the SMART board and all that it provides in our classroom. "Thank you" does not express my gratitude and that of my students. We will forever be grateful to the Thief River Falls Education Foundation for this incredible gift that keeps giving. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

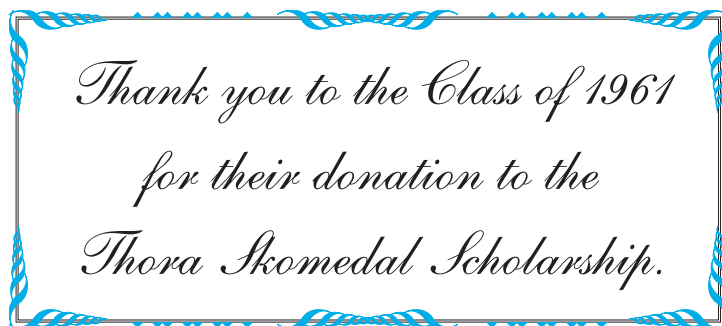


Kayla Delzer, 2nd Grade Teacher
Challenger Elementary School
Thief River Falls, MN

Class Reunions

2012 THIEF RIVER FALLS AREA GET TOGETHER IN ARIZONA
 SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 2012 • 11:00 - 3:00 PM
 MONTESA AT GOLD CANYON, AZ
 (GPS setting should be Apache Junction)
 7373 E US HIGHWAY 60, GOLD CANYON, AZ 85118
 We hope you will put this date on your calendar and join us.
 Contact person: Jeanne Cloutier jeanordavid@aol.com

50th ~ 1962 ~ June 22, 2012
 Contact: Wayne Bjerken, 218-681-4721 • wbjerken@mncable.net



Memberships

Invest Today . . . Empower Tomorrow

Your membership is important. Help the Foundation promote innovative educational opportunities and become a member today!

Planned Giving

- Wills and Bequests
These gifts are the simplest and most common planned gifts and can be set up easily.
- Life Income Gifts
- Matching Employer's Gifts

For your convenience you can read about planned giving options and make gifts online at: www.trfeducationfoundation.com

Thief River Falls Education Foundation Support Form

Name: _____ (Maiden) _____ LHS Class Of _____
 Friend of Education _____

Spouse's Name: _____ (Maiden) _____ LHS Class Of _____
 Friend of Education _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Phone _____ E-mail: _____

SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES

\$30 + ~ Sustaining Supporter \$10,000 + ~ President's Club
 \$500 + ~ Founder \$25,000+ ~ Named Endowments
 \$5,000 + ~ Builder

Gifts to the Thief River Falls Education Foundation are tax deductible, within IRS regulations.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO
 Thief River Falls Education Foundation
 and mail with this form to: 230 LaBree Ave. South, Thief River Falls, MN 56701

Memorials

Donations Have Been Given in Memory or Honor of

In honor of
 Brian Mostue, Tom Lindberg and Bob Ihle,
 Seniors on the 1963 TRF Tennis Team

In honor of John & Darlene Eisbrener
 In honor of
 David Jones' 67th birthday

Minnie Thomas
 Stella Omdahl • Nobelle Garr
 John Lindahl • Clayton Mack
 Al Bacon • Hazel Cloutier
 Roy G. Lee • Ralph & Senora Skay
 Joe (Jonas) W. Nelson
 Jerry Jenson • David Forkenbrock
 Sharron (Benke) Anderson
 Wally & Carole Grovum
 Ralph Foster • Thora Skomedal
 Bruce Russell • Curtis Lyle Charlson
 Julie Mattson • Madonna Molstad
 Helen Olson
 Zella Peterson • Marilyn Olson Ohnstad
 Ardith Langlie • Rufus Olson
 Cliff Larson • Harold Storhaug
 Eunice Stavenes • Linda Hofstad
 Eleanor Christofferson • Allan J. Williamson
 Fred Jensen • Deborah Guthrie-Jones
 Phyllis Jablinske
 Barb Olson • Donna Sweet
 Betty (Ballingrud) Davenport
 Alden Carlson • Gloria Danielson
 Ellen Newton • Phyllis (Caldis) Gustafson
 Bill Swick • Bob Carpenter
 Gail Rux
 Tyler Vagle • Alden Carlson
 Elsie Lefrooth • Marv Olson
 Gary C. Lofgren

Enclosed is my tribute/gift of \$ _____ to the Thief River Falls Education Foundation in loving remembrance of _____ or in celebration of _____

An attractive card will be sent in your name to the family of the deceased or honoree. An acknowledgement of your gift will also be sent to you.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Please send card to:

Name _____
 Street _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____

From:
 Name _____
 Street _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please make checks payable to the Thief River Falls Education Foundation, a nonprofit organization.
 All gifts are tax deductible.

Thief River Falls All School Reunion

June 21, 22, 23, 24, 2012

Read from
 Top To Bottom
 Please.

~ REVISED REGISTRATION FORM ~

(One Per Thief River Falls Student/Alumni)
 Make extra copies as needed for all graduates in your family.

Name _____ Maiden _____ Class _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ E-Mail _____
 Guest _____ Guest _____

Registration Per Alumni: Pre Registration \$20.00 Enclosed _____

(Registration After April 1, 2012 \$30.00)

Registered with Lanyard Required for Entry into the Ralph, No Exceptions!

Registration Does Not Include Food & Beverages

Food For All Decades \$12 Each. # Attending _____
 (This is not a sit down meal) Enclosed _____

**Please Check (X) The Appropriate Box
 If You Wish To Participate In The Following Activities:
 (Must Be Registered To Participate In Activities)**

Tennis _____
 (FREE)
 Doubles tournament
 (East Side Courts)

Golf _____
 9-hole/4 per team
 \$16.00 green fee • \$64 per team
 1st 36 teams accepted
 Lunch provided, not
 included in green fees

Basketball _____
 (FREE)
 Lincoln High School
 Minimum of 5 per team

10K Relay _____
 (FREE)
 4 to a team.
 Front of Ralph Engelstad

Choir _____
 Rehearsal on Sat. at 2pm LHS
 Rehearsal on Sun. at 9:15am LHS

Hockey _____
 (FREE)
 But after April 1, \$10.00 each
 Put your own team together

Volleyball _____
 (FREE)
 Minimum of 6 per team
 Behind Best Western

WE SUGGEST CO-ED TEAMS BUT NOT MANDATORY

SUBMIT REGISTRATION BY MAIL TO:

**All School Reunion
 Thief River Falls Education Foundation
 230 LaBree Ave. S
 Thief River Falls, MN 56701**

Or Register On-line Before April 1, 2012
www.trfeducationfoundation.com

PAYMENT METHOD:

CHECK MONEY ORDER

You can register and order items online at
www.trfeducationfoundation.com
 CLICK ALL SCHOOL REUNION

TOTAL _____ PRICE:\$ _____
 TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

***Any class interested in a Class Memorial/Display at the Ralph Engelstad, you will be responsible for your own set-up & take down in designated area.**

***For the LHS Style Show - If you have Prowler Apparel from the past, label it and bring to the Ralph by noon on Friday. We will provide models for the Friday Evening Style show.**

Contact Person: Nancy Sandahl. email: nursy@mncable.net Phone: 218-686-6543