

The Alumni Link

A publication of the Sebring McKinley High School Alumni Association
P.O. Box 141, Sebring, Ohio 44672-0141

Spring/Summer, 2017

Siblings to be honored at annual banquet June 24

Siblings Mary Kay Utley Andrews '79 and David Utley '80 will be honored as Distinguished Alumni when the Sebring McKinley High School Alumni Association holds its annual banquet June 24 at Heritage Oaks Banquet Center in Sebring.

Mary Kay is currently superintendent of the Lakewood Local School District in Hebron, Ohio. A former English teacher, principal, and assistant superintendent, she received her superintendent license from the Ohio Department of Education.

David is currently a partner at Collins, Roche, Utley, and Garner (CRUG) LLC, which he and his partners established in 2015. From 1996 to 2015 he was an attorney and partner at Davis and Young LLC. Prior to that he was a litigation attorney at American International Group and an associate attorney at Dyson, Schmidlin and Foulds LPA.

Please see the related article for complete biographies of Mary Kay and David.

The banquet will open at 5 p.m. for socializing, and dinner will be served at 6:30. The cost per person is \$20. Alumni and friends can make reservations by simply sending a check along with name and year of graduation to the Sebring McKinley High School Alumni Association, P.O. Box 141, Sebring OH 44672.

Alumni can also send in the registration form in the newsletter that will be available by May 26. Deadline for reservations is June 15.

Lori Kuhns Spall '82, a local comedienne, will provide entertainment for the evening. The association will also elect officers, recognize scholarship winners, and have a 50/50 drawing for the scholarship fund.

For more information, alumni should contact association president JoAnn Jones. The group's next meeting is 6 p.m. June 14 at the high school to finalize plans for the banquet.

*Remember that the newsletter will be mailed first-class only to those alumni who request it. If you know someone who wants it mailed, please have him or her write to the association at P.O. Box 141, Sebring 44672 to request a mailed copy. The newsletter is also available at the high school and in these local businesses: **Ashton's, Leonard Hardware, and Gromoll Drug**. It will be available no later than May 26.*

Alumni also have other options to view the newsletter:

**Sebring McKinley Alumni Association Facebook page administered by Trista Evanitcka Bates '04 and Samantha Kerns Phillips '04.*

**SHS alumni page on the school web site www.sebring.k12.oh.us*

**Alumni may also have the newsletter emailed by sending a request to sebringalum@gmail.com Please contact us by mail, email, or text/cell phone (JoAnn Jones 330-428-1734) so that you can get your alumni newsletter.*

Association awards two scholarships

The association awarded two \$1000 scholarships May 17 at the Senior Assembly. Madeline Kreitzer, who will attend Wittenberg University, received the Founders' Scholarship named in memory of association founders Andy Safkow and Ruthie Gottschall, who got the association off the ground in 1990. Madeline is the daughter of Jeannie Kreitzer whose mother Pam Yeagley Fagan is a 1970 graduate of SHS. Adam Aberegg received the second scholarship and will use it to attend the University of Akron. Adam is the son of Marvin and Marcy Aberegg. Marvin is a 1985 SHS graduate. The scholarship recipients and their families will be guests of the association at the annual banquet June 24.

Awards presented in memory of Patricia Weaver Ernst '37

In January the association received a \$1000 donation from Tricia Ernst of Miami, Florida in memory of her mother Patricia Ernst '37. Tricia said her mother had moved to Miami years ago but always kept in touch with her 1937 classmates and returned home for her reunions. Her mother passed away on Sept. 3, 2015 at the age of 97 so Tricia wanted to do something that involved SHS.

When she said the association could use the money for whatever was needed, the officers proposed at a meeting to provide an award to drama students because that had been an important part of Patricia Ernst's high school experience. The association awarded \$500 checks to cousins Brandon Dare (mother is Candee Youmans Dare '87) and Kyle Youmans (father is the late Billy Youmans '82) at the Senior Assembly May 17. Both young men had participated in drama productions throughout their entire high school careers.

Utley siblings have impact on fields of education, law

School superintendent Mary Kay Utley Andrews '79 and her brother, attorney David Utley '80 have been selected as the 2017 Distinguished Alumni.

Mary Kay received her Bachelor of Arts degree in education from Bowling Green State University in 1983. Later she earned a Master of Arts in educational administration from Ashland University and then was awarded her superintendent's license from the Ohio State Department of Education. Since January 2015 she has been serving as superintendent of the Lakewood Local School District in Hebron.

Mary Kay began her career in education as an English teacher in 1983 at the Career and Technology Education Center of Licking County, formerly known as the Licking County Joint Vocational School. She held that position for 16 years and later took positions as assistant principal, principal, and assistant superintendent in the district until December 2014.

She is a member of the Buckeye Association of School Administrators and the Ohio Association of Secondary School Administrators, as well as the Ohio Association of Local Superintendents and the Association of Career and Technical Education. An active member of many organizations in central Ohio, Mary Kay is also a member of the Newark Kiwanis, the Licking County Chamber of Commerce, the Buckeye Lake Chamber of Commerce, and the Buckeye Lake Area Civic Association. In addition, she serves the Licking County Reading Foundation and is on the Board of Directors for the Licking County Mental Health America.

Through Mary Kay's leadership at the Licking County JVS and CTEC of Licking County, career-technical education in Licking County evolved. Programming was changed to reflect the ever-changing job market; advanced academics were added; and industry credentials were added. Furthermore, a new addition and renovated

building expansion project were completed to meet the needs of the students and community.

Since she has become superintendent at Lakewood, the district has implemented IT and pre-engineering courses, added college credit plus courses, and implemented project-based learning. The district is also embarking on building and renovation facilities projects.

Mary Kay, nominated by her former teacher, JoAnn Warren Jones, has received the Pacesetter Award from the Ohio Career-Technical Association and the Dow Chemical Excellence in Education Award. In addition, she was named Teacher of the Year and has received awards from the Ohio Career-Technical Administrators Leadership Institute and the Ohio School Leadership Institute.

The daughter of the late Jerry and Janet Utley, Mary Kay is married to Todd Brune. She is the mother of Bryan Andrews, a Senior Airman in the United State Air Force; Stephen Andrews, a systems analyst for Discover Card; and Brent Andrews, a field investigator for Discover Card. She and her husband are residents of Thornville.

David Utley '80, Mary Kay's brother, is the second recipient of this year's Distinguished Alumni award. In 2015 David became a founding partner of Collins, Roche, Utley, and Garner (CRUG) LLC. The firm has offices in Akron, Cleveland, and Columbus and primarily serves the insurance industry. David has represented clients in nearly every court in every county in the state of Ohio and in the Ohio Supreme Court, where he has been in good standing since 1987.

David recently participated in litigation that secured a \$671,000,000 settlement against a company that poisoned water in communities in southern Ohio and northwest West Virginia. The communities are very similar to Sebring, he said.

Prior to founding his law firm with his three partners, he was an attorney and partner at

Davis and Young LLC from 1996 to 2015. He was formerly a litigation attorney at American International Group from 1990 to 1996 and an associate attorney at Dyson, Schmidlin and Foulds LPA from 1987 to 1990.

After graduating from Sebring, David received his bachelor degree from Kent State University in 1984 and his juris doctor from Case Western Reserve University in 1987.

David has been a member of the Ohio State Bar Association since 1987, the Cleveland Bar Association since 1996, and the Akron Bar Association since 1996. He was a member of the American Bar Association from 1996 to 2015. He also has been a member of the Knights of Columbus since 1991.

Honored as an Ohio Super Lawyer since 2009, David has also been named to America's Best Lawyers every year since 2013. He is also a three-time Golden Gavel Award winner, an award that is presented by Westfield Insurance. In addition, David has received the Preeminent Rating from Martindale Hubbell Attorney Reviews and Ratings in both legal ability and ethical standards, the highest rating that Martindale Hubbell confers. According to the Martindale Hubbell web site, ratings by his peers include the following statements: "David Utley is an experienced trial attorney with the highest of ethical standards" and "David has the highest ethics, beyond reproach; his ideals are matched by his legal acumen and ability."

An avid Northeast Ohio sports fan whose heart has been broken numerous times, David said his final honor is achieving par in golf...once!

David, who was nominated by his classmate Jill Ferguson Puhl, lives with his wife Pam in Medina. They are the parents of Andrea K. Utley and Alexandra C. Utley Schrock (and son-in-law Samuel M. Schrock).

Mary Kay and David are siblings to brothers Gary and Tom as well as sister Karen Babik.

Reunion News

Representatives from the **classes of 1972, 1973, 1974 and 1975** met recently at the high school to plan a mixer for Labor Day weekend. These four classes have planned a get-together for 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 1 at the Brick House Bar and Grill, which will open this summer in the former VFW building. They are inviting classmates from **1970, 1971, and 1976** to join them. Classmates should contact these representatives from their respective classes:

1972: Mike Baddeley, Evelyn Ferguson, JoAnn (Warren) Jones, Debbi (Lalu) Sorge, or Larry Pinkerton

1973: Susan (Brubaker) Gough, Pat (Brunt) Poyser

1974: Nancy (Allcorn) Whinnery

1975: Drew Brunie, Sally (Youmans) Gednetz

The class of '72 will meet Sept. 2 to go out to dinner. Those plans are in the works.

The class of '92 is planning its 25th reunion for Saturday, Nov. 11. The group has a Facebook page, and Amy Courtney O'Grady is the contact person.

The class of '47 will celebrate 70 years with a get-together at Perkins Restaurant on Rt. 62 at 4 p.m. June 3. For more information, contact Lee Van Camp of Beloit.

The class of '07 is planning a get-together for Saturday, Sept. 9 in Sebring. The venue will be announced as soon as everything is in place. Classmates should contact Briana Jones at 330-428-0340.

The class of '67 is having its 50-year reunion Sept. 16 at the Sebring Mansion Inn and Spa.

The class of '95 is planning its first-ever reunion. Contact Judy Ward Warrick or Chad Baddeley.

Thank you so much for your generous donations from December of 2016 to May of 2017. We appreciate your support.

Lee Van Camp '47

Cindy Dalton '71

Ron Neafie

Tricia Ernst IMO Patricia Weaver Ernst '37

Jennifer Muerth Ripley '70

Class of '44 IMO Bertie Tetlow Reichart

John '50 and Jean '51 Chambers

Alumni meetings will be held at 6 p.m. June 14, August 16, September 13, October 11, and November 8. Please join us in the teachers' workroom at the high school!

Donation Form

Name _____ Year of graduation _____

Address _____

Amount _____

Comments/Update:

BANQUET RESERVATION FORM

SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 2017
HERITAGE OAKS BANQUET CENTER
DOORS OPEN 5 P.M. DINNER 6:30

NAME(S) AND YEAR(S) OF GRADUATION _____

PLEASE ENCLOSE \$20 PER PERSON AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

RESERVATION DEADLINE: THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2017

CHECKS PAYABLE TO SHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION; MAIL TO P.O. BOX 141, SEBRING OH 44672

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