

Homecoming

Sept. 22 & 23

Honoring

Class of '73

Spring 2023

**T**  
**TUSCOLA COMMUNITY**  
**HIGH SCHOOL**

## HALL OF FAME LUNCHEON

The four Hall of Fame inductees—Dr. Richard Burns (Class of 1969), Dr. Brian Harris (Class of 1983), Steve Hilgendorf (Class of 1973) and Greg Hastings (Class of 1972)—will be honored at the Alumni Association's luncheon at 11:30 a.m. at the Ironhorse Golf Club, Tuscola. The event will take place during Homecoming weekend on Saturday, Sept. 23, 2023. There will be a catered dinner served at \$20/person. You won't want to miss this memorable event. See the next page to make your reservation by the 15th of Sept. All are welcome to attend our event but there are a limited number of seats available. The Alumni Association hopes that past Hall of Famers will be able to attend also. For the Alumni Association, this is one of our fundraisers. The other being the All-School Reunion at the Comm. Bldg. We have a hard-working crew who meet once-a-month to make decisions about our Homecoming events and scholarships. We decided to refrain from a member-only association who would pay a yearly fee and go with a donation-based organization. We are a 501c3 not-for-profit that appreciates your tax-deductible donations so that we can contribute to a fantastic Homecoming at TCHS, help award those awesome Hall of Fame and also give scholarships to deserving seniors.

*Here is our committee: Bruce Wood (Class of '75), Alan & Marci Shoemaker (Class of '74), Ryan Hornaday (Class of '97), Cheryl Bozarth (Class of '74), Kathy Frye (Class of '77), Sherri Stewart (Class of '85), Lyn Kohlbecker (Class of '74), Becky Carroll (Class of '66), Jerie Wills (Class of '73) and Julie Little (Class of '88).*

**Greg Hastings**  
Class of 1972



**Steve Hilgendorf**  
Class of 1973

**Dr. Richard Burns**  
Class of 1969



**Dr. Brian Harris**  
Class of 1983



**“Join us on Facebook”**

**Tuscola High School**

**Alumni Association**

has over 2,500 members!

Renew ol’ friendships!

Also check out

**Remembering Tuscola**

for some great reminiscing. . .



**Homecoming 2024**

**October 4 & 5**

***TCHS Alumni Association (501c3 organization) does not solicit membership dues. We are wholly funded by your donations and contributions to our fundraising events.***

***THANK YOU!!***

## **For Luncheon Reservations**

Please, contact Marci Shoemaker for your Hall of Fame luncheon reservations at 217-621-2458. \$20/person for a catered meal. Hall of Fame inductees receive 2 free tickets. We are limited on seats, so order soon. Checks may be sent to 907 Lakeshore Dr., Tuscola, IL 61953 (by Sept. 15th, 2023) OR if you use Venmo, send to me at: @Marci-Shoemaker-1 (2458, if asks for last four digits of cell phone).

# HOMEcoming 2023

## Schedule of Events

-Friday, Sept. 22, 2023-

- 1:00-1:50      Pep Rally in TCHS gym: Hall of Fame Inductees, Homecoming Court, Football, Chorus, Band, Cheer, Poms *Public welcome!*
- 1:50 pm        School dismissal & Parade line-up at Ervin Park
- 2:30            Parade down Main to Daggy to TCHS
- 5:45-6:45      Tailgate with pork chops, ribeyes, burgers, hot dogs, chips & drinks (fee benefits Pow-Wows)
- 6:30-6:37      Recognition of the Class of '73 – 50<sup>th</sup> reunion – please report to the football field by 6:25
- 7:00            Kick-off of Tuscola/Central A&M football game at Memorial Field
- 9:00            All-School Reunion—at Community Building—21 and over welcome—featuring Corey Evitts music—drinks served—snacks

-Saturday, Sept. 23, 2023-

- 7:00-10:00 am    Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast—Community Building
- 11:30 am        Hall of Fame Induction Luncheon-Ironhorse Golf Club, Tuscola. Make reservations by Sept. 15, \$20/person (limited seats). Phone Marci at 217-621-2458/Venmo @Marci-Shoemaker-1 (2458, if asks for cell #)
- 7:00 pm        TCHS Coronation
- 8:00-11 pm      Homecoming Dance for the high school

~Subject to change~

# Scholarships awarded to six deserving 2023 seniors

The TCHS Alumni Association had the pleasure of awarding six seniors each a \$500 scholarship and an alumni shirt in May during the Honors Day event. Ben Hornaday, Mia Hausmann, Molly Macaulay, Reggan Smith, Grant Kauffman and Mackenzie Herschberger were chosen for scholarships. There is a scholarship committee and each student must fill out an application. They must be descendants of TCHS grads or have immediate family members who are.

Since 2012 the Alumni Assn. has given out **\$19,400** in scholarships to deserving seniors: Robert Lopez '12—\$250; Ashley Hunt '13—\$250; Macie Edwards, Jacob Stuart, Hannah Scribner '14—\$500 each; Maria Meyer, Eric Ponder, Zach Bates '15—\$500 each; Nick Bates, Halle McCrory, Alexis Sluder '16—\$500 each; Calleigh Miller and Will Bosch '17—\$700 each; Darynn Burton, Samantha Kidwell, Olivia Chester '18—\$500 each; McKinlee Miller, Natalie Bates, Faith Hardwick '19—\$500 each; Kelsey Slaughter, Carli Stone, Lucas Kresin, Mason Day '20—\$500 each; Justine Kauffman, Donovan Chester, Dillan Alcorn, Riya Patel, Hannah Hornaday '21—\$500 each; Sophie Kremitzki, Amelia Bosch, Kathryn Dean, Haven Hatfield, Patrick Pierce '22....not bad for our 15-yr-old Alumni Assn. The alum's donations to this worthwhile group will take us far in rewarding the appreciative seniors as they move on to their college days—and realize that we assisted them in a small way to achieve their goals. The Alumni Assn. is able to do this with our donations from our alum. If you'd like to make a tax deductible donation, please use the form below and mail in or drop off when you are back for Homecoming!

## THANK YOU, ALUMNI!!!!

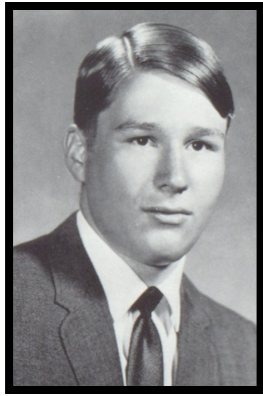
*Donation*

Scholarships for TCHS Seniors

Donations may be sent to TCHS Alumni Association, 907 Lake Shore Dr., Tuscola, IL 61953. These are a tax write-off. Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_



## **Dr. Richard Burns** **TCHS Class of 1969**

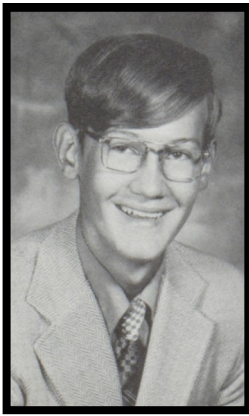
I was raised by two loving parents, Dale and Martha Burns, who are both graduates of Tuscola High School. I am also blessed to have a loving sister (I didn't know it at the time) Barb (Burns) Kroenig (TCHS '72). I am thankful to be raised in a small community. I mowed yards, worked on farms, detasseled, rogued and bagged corn at DeKalb and worked at Monical's Pizza.

My favorite high school faculty member was Coach Bob Trimble. He taught me weight lifting and I still work out six days a week. I left for Palmer College of Chiropractic to follow the footsteps of my Grandfather Robert Burns (Palmer 1924) and Uncle Tom Burns (Palmer 1961).

I graduated with my Doctor of Chiropractic degree from Palmer College Chiropractic in 1973 and joined the faculty that same year. I married my wife Vickie in 1974. We had three children, Angela, Kelly (Palmer 2009) and Keith. I taught at Palmer for 40 years being a Professor, Chairman of the Technique Department for 22 years and Special Assistant to the President. I have been a private practice since my graduation and continue to see patients five days a week. I have interns in my practice every day so still get to scratch my teaching itch.

I have been blessed to be able to travel all around the United States and world teaching. I've had the pleasure of teaching in Japan, Portugal, Italy, Spain, Canada and Mexico. I have served on the Board of Directors of the Illinois Prairie State Chiropractic Association since 1987 and served 16 years on the Board of Directors of the International Chiropractors Association. I have been blessed with many awards over the years but the most important being Faculty of the Year at Palmer College of Chiropractic numerous times, Chiropractor of the Year two different times for the Illinois Prairie State Chiropractic Association and Chiropractor of the Year for the International Chiropractors Association.





## **Steve Hilgendorf**

### **TCHS Class of 1973**

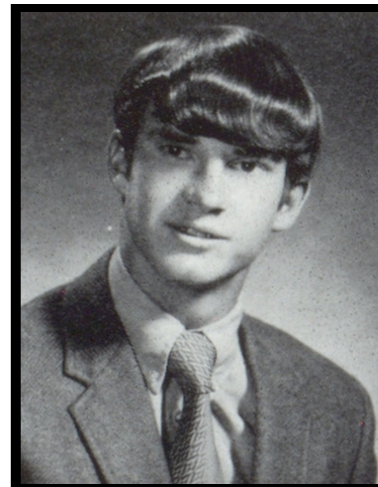
My volunteering for the Tuscola community all started in the fall of 1977, when Bob Hastings asked me if I would help keep the football stats. I agreed, and from there I moved on to also keeping the basketball stats as well. I keep Tuscola's football stats, the away team's stats, and the score book for away basketball games. I need to thank Greg for putting up with me during all our travels for all these years, Ryan Hornady and the committee for nominating me, and my wife for allowing me to attend all these sporting activities.

In 1979, I became a part owner of the F. H. Jones Lumber Co. and felt I needed to be more involved in the community. I served as a volunteer for the Tuscola Fire Department for 20 years. I was an engineer, bookkeeper and an officer. I have served as the chairman of the City Planning Commission for over 30 years. I served as a starting member and officer of the TCDC and TEDI. I was also a member of the Chamber Board as well as a past president and office holder of the Tuscola Ambucs. I was a member of the PrairieLand Pride playground committee and was very involved in the planning and construction of the playground. I was on the First-Mid Bank Advisory Board. I have served as the Tuscola Township Supervisor since 1989. I helped remodel the press box and put up the football lights which are now coming down in the present remodel. I was also a member of the IHSA Sportsmanship Advisory Board and the IHSA Track Advisory Board.

It was only natural that my volunteering would include my church and family. As a member of the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Tuscola, I have served as the chairman, a board member, and on various committees, such as the Men's Club, connected with church activities. As my boys got involved in sports, my participation grew as well. I volunteered to coach Little League, Biddy Ball, JFL, and Travel Basketball. I kept the score book for all their Junior High School basketball games. I volunteered at local track meets for several years which eventually led to me becoming an IHSA Certified Track Official for the past 30 years.

As the boys went through High School, I watched them play football, basketball, track and baseball while keeping their stats or the books for their sports. I had a front row seat to watch Joel play in the 1A football state championship game. Though they didn't win, I still feel they were arguably Tuscola's best football team. Jacob played football, basketball and baseball. It fills me with pride to know I was there helping the coaches, again with a front row seat, when Jacob scored his 1,000<sup>th</sup> point, was first team in all three sports and now keeping stats for him as the JV coach and part of the coaching staff for the team that earned third place at the State Farm Center this year in basketball. I have seen a lot of great football and basketball games over the years and watched several individuals who made a real impact on Tuscola sports. I was there when Steve Bates turned the corner and outran the defenders to score a touchdown on his way to his 2,000 yard rushing season and still there when Jalen Quinn became the all-time leading scorer in basketball with over 2,300 points. Being a volunteer has allowed me to be a part of so much of Tuscola's growth and development over these past years. I have enjoyed so many highlights of our town and they have all provided me with many lasting lifetime memories and I hope there will be many more in the years to come.

## **Greg Hastings** **TCHS Class of 1972**



Greg Hastings, TCHS Class of 1972, has been a Tuscola resident since he was three months old. For the majority of his childhood, his family lived in Hillcrest Subdivision where his love for sports developed. At that time, Hillcrest Subdivision was mainly open fields perfect for the neighborhood wiffle ball, basketball, football and whatever games they created. The new driveways and cul-de-sacs were perfect for playing basketball. Greg played high school basketball and ran track. He also played Little League summer baseball.

A few years after high school graduation and studying printing at Southern Illinois University, Greg took a position at the Tuscola Review newspaper as job work printer. He also assisted his father in taking statistics for basketball and football stories. Eventually the high school coaches started using their statistics as the official statistics for the high school.

Greg and his family, Jan Schweighart (class of 1972), Mindee (class of 1991) and Aaron (class of 1995) moved into a house in Parkview subdivision in 1979 which became their home for 30 years. Greg volunteered to serve on the Tuscom Little League Foundation. He spent countless hours preparing for games and grooming the Little League diamonds, which was only a few minutes from his home. He attended many games and would keep the statistics for the game if needed. Tuscola Little League sponsored two state Little League tournaments. For their work on the tournament, Greg, Duff Hoel and Dave Lohr were awarded Chamber of Commerce Volunteers of the Year.

Greg also coached a Tuscola girls' summer softball traveling team, which included his daughter, Mindee. The brown minivan racked up countless miles going to games, hauling equipment, snacks, water and players all over the area.

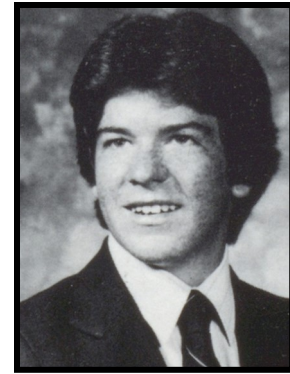
During the winter time, Greg volunteered to coach biddy basketball. He coached for approximately 10 years. He was very excited to coach his son, Aaron, during biddy basketball. When Aaron started school sponsored sports, Greg was at every game, though it was sometimes hard to keep the statistics and watch his son play.

For his work for the American Business Club, he was awarded the Ambuc of the Year in 1995 - 1996.

Since the mid-70's, Greg has donated his time and talent to keep statistics for the high school football and basketball teams. When Greg's father retired, he and Steve Hilgendorf (Class of 1973) continued to keep stats for the newspaper and school. They have attended games in freezing cold weather, snow and rain. According to Ryan Hornaday, Greg and Steve have volunteered for over 12,000 hours and counting (they are not planning to retire). Greg is currently retired and spends his time landscaping and gardening.

## **Dr. Brian Harris**

### **TCHS Class of 1983**



I was born and raised in Tuscola and greatly benefited from growing up in a small town. My parents and grandparents ran a small business - Lloyd Oil and Auto Parts for which I contributed to the family business. I also worked other part time jobs mowing yards and was a lifeguard at the Tuscola Pool in high school. Each of these experiences contributed to the hard work it took to launch me into my career as a lifelong educator. I really enjoyed working with people...especially kids. I believe that public education is the cornerstone of our democracy and as a small-town kid, education was my ticket to being able to lead and be influential in the big picture to benefit all students. I am a proud alumni of the TCHS Class of 83! After graduation I attended The University of Illinois where I earned a bachelor's degree in Secondary Education in 1987.

I began my career as a high school social studies teacher in Waterman, Illinois. While enjoying teaching in the classroom I was also interested in educational leadership and obtained my Education Administration Masters degree from Northern Illinois University in 1991. My first leadership role was as a middle school Assistant Principal in Yorkville, Illinois where I was also the Varsity Girls Basketball coach at Yorkville High School. As my career progressed, I worked as Assistant Principal and Principal for middle schools in Barrington and Mt. Prospect, respectively, while obtaining my Ed.D. (Doctor of Education) from Northern Illinois University in 2001. My dissertation was titled, "A Comparative Analysis to Determine the Congruency among the Statutory Requirements for Teacher Professional Development in Illinois and the other North Central Association States with the Optimal Process for the Professional Development of Teachers." This research contributed to professional development of teachers for many years in professional journals and workshops.

My wife - Carol and I live in St. Charles, Illinois since 1995 and raised our two children - Matthew and Brooke. During this time, I worked as the Principal at Haines Middle School in St. Charles and was eventually promoted to various Assistant Superintendent roles in St. Charles for a total of 12 years. I guided the K-12 curriculum, successfully negotiated several labor contracts, oversaw day-to-day operations for K-12 education for over 14,000 students.

In 2010, I was named Superintendent of Schools for Wheaton Warrenville CUSD #200 where I spearheaded a technology initiative and capital development plan to improve classrooms for 21<sup>st</sup> century learning, among several other initiatives while managing a budget of over \$170 million. In 2014, I became Superintendent of Schools in Barrington CUSD # 220 where we implemented several innovative learning programs focused on student college and/or career readiness. During my time as Superintendent in Barrington we were recognized with multiple awards as one of the highest performing school districts in Illinois and across the country.

While Superintendent of Schools in both Wheaton and Barrington, I was active at the local, state, and national level in several professional organizations which expanded my educational leadership impact and reach to countless students in Illinois and across the country. At the state level, I was President of the Large Unit District Association (LUDA) for two years (2017-2019) and a member of the organization for 15 years. LUDA represents the 50 largest school districts in Illinois and effectively leads and influences educational policy in Springfield. One of the most significant accomplishments during my leadership of LUDA was the passage of the state funding formula for public schools in Illinois. I brokered meetings with key statewide organizations to garner statewide support for the new formula. Public Act 100-0465 (i.e. Evidence-Based Funding for Student Success Act) was passed into law and signed by Governor Rauner on August 31, 2017. This law enacted evidence-based funding (EBF) and comprehensively changed the way that school districts receive the bulk of state funds. EBF sends more resources to Illinois' most under-resourced students. EBF takes the necessary first steps toward ensuring all schools have the resources they need to provide a safe, rigorous, and well-rounded learning environment for all students. At the national level, I served on the Governing Board and Executive Committee for the American Association of School Administrators (AASA), a federal advocate organization for public schools. I lobbied Congress in Washington, DC in these leadership roles to pass and fully fund The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). ESSA was signed into law by President Barack Obama on December 10, 2015. (Continued)



(Continued from last page) I retired in June 2021 and am currently a senior consultant at Hazard, Young, and Attea (HYA) leading projects for K-12 school districts both regionally and nationally. This consulting work focuses on supporting school districts on Executive Searches, Executive Coaching, Strategic Planning, Board Functions, Community Relations, and Human Resources. My wife and I spend a majority of our time with our son - Matthew and his wife Grace, our daughter - Brooke and her husband Chad and our granddaughters - Aubree and Rylee. We are also expecting a grandson in September. We enjoy visiting Tuscola regularly as my Dad - John still lives in town. I am honored to be nominated and inducted into the TCHS Hall of Fame. A special thanks to the Tuscola community for the excellent education that I received at South Ward and North Ward Elementary schools, East Prairie Middle School, and Tuscola High School which provided the foundation I needed to be very successful in my life and career.

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# Tchsalumni.weebly.com

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## MEMORIALS/DONATIONS

*Steve Sanderson '74 memorial by Sue Snyder*

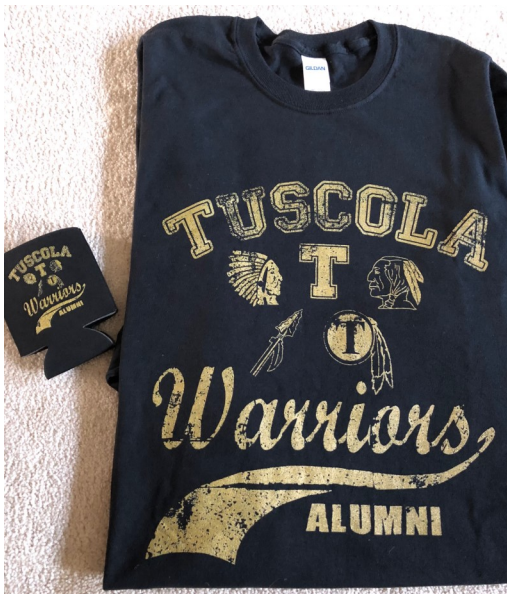
*Jerry Cohen '67 memorial by his classmates*

*Class of '66 donation*

*Jaci Manzella '86 donation*

*Craig Owen '74 memorial by his classmates*

*Craig Owen '74 & Mark Owen '71 memorial by Jami Huber Owen*



These shirts and huggies are for sale to benefit the Alumni Assn.—scholarships and Homecoming events. Sizes run from S—3XL; long sleeve t's—\$20; short sleeve t's—\$15; huggies—\$2. Have some gold shirts, too.

Contact Marci at 217-621-2458

## **“Homecoming Super Squares” —Second Year of Fun—**

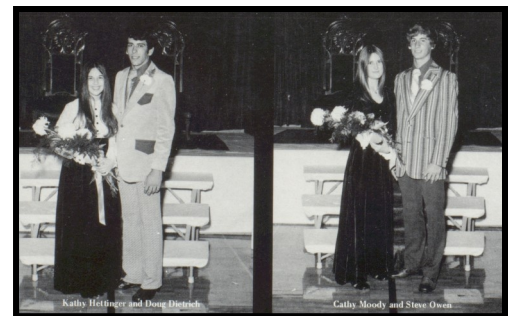
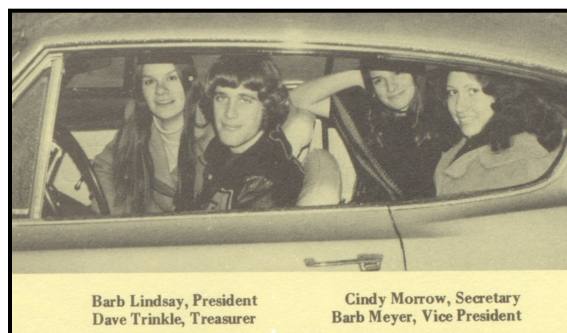
We know you can't wait to play again!! Last year was a huge success and we sold out before Homecoming. Winners were: Elizabeth Reed, \$100; David Frye, \$200; Peg Helm, \$100; Bill Riley, \$700; Dan Hance, \$50; Kathy Frye, \$150; Kathy Frye, \$50 and Deanna Woodard, \$300. The TCHS Alumni Assn. will have some boards for you to play for the Homecoming game Sept. 22nd. We will be on our Facebook page—TCHS Alumni Association—selling these squares for \$10 and \$20 each. We will launch this fundraiser July 8 at the Tuscola 4th of July celebration. Watch for more info on Facebook. The cash prizes will be given after the Homecoming game Sept. 22nd at the TCHS All-School Reunion at the Community Building. (Or we can mail to you if you are a winner and are out of town).

**GO WARRIORS!!!!**



# 1973 Class

## Celebrates 50th Reunion



This class will be celebrating their **50th** reunion on Saturday, Sept. 23 at the Tuscola Moose at 6:00 p.m. Class members will be participating in the Homecoming parade on Friday, Sept. 22. These alum will be introduced before the football game around 6:30 p.m. Steve Hilgendorf will be inducted at the Hall of Fame Luncheon at 11:30 on that Sat. at the Ironhorse Golf Club. Any questions, reach out to Marlynna Munsey Schaefer at 217-840-8846.