



# Southport High School

Alumni  
Association

Summer, 2019

## A Message from Our President



Greetings, Southport Alumni!

Our **28<sup>th</sup> Annual Southport Alumni Scholarship Banquet** was a major success! We handed out 69 Scholarships with a total amount of \$74,200 to graduating Southport seniors! The event was, again, held at the historic Southport Fieldhouse with approximately 475 folks in attendance. And, our Southport Alumnus of the Year, **Neal Puckett** (SHS'73), gave an unforgettable speech about perseverance and his career as a Judge Advocate for the US Marine Corp, as well as serving as the Officer in Charge of Legal Services Support Section in Okinawa, Japan before he retired from the Marine Corp in 1997! Neal is married to (ret) Air Force Colonel Marcelyn Atwood. We are very proud of Neal and all of his accomplishments! Also, Southport's Teacher of the Year, **Leah Enterline**, gave an inspiring speech. Though Leah is not a Southport grad, she has taught at Southport for the past 11 years, and Leah has that great Cardinal spirit!

Congratulations Leah! With all that said, the entire event would not have taken place without the hard, unending work of **Ruth Mercer** ('61) and her entire team, including **Cheryl Mead** ('80) who does most of the "behind the scenes" work! Great work Ruth! You never cease to amaze me!

NOTE: If you are interested in starting a scholarship to honor a loved one, or to honor a special person - a teacher, coach, an advisor, or anyone who has impacted your life in some way, please contact Ruth Mercer at [ruthanne5320@gmail.com](mailto:ruthanne5320@gmail.com) or Cheryl Cummings Mead ('80) at [cheryl.shsaa@yahoo.com](mailto:cheryl.shsaa@yahoo.com), or by visiting our website at [southportalumni.com](http://southportalumni.com).

Get ready Alumni... We have a number of exciting upcoming event:

Homecoming '19 – The Southport Homecoming Parade will take place on the evening of Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, where your Alumni Association will have a tent set up for tailgating in front of the PTEC Building. NOTE: The Southport football game will take place on Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup> in the early evening.

Alumni of the Year Luncheon – The annual Alumni of the Year Luncheon will happen at noon on Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup>. This year we will be honoring Neal Puckett at the Blue Room at Southport High School. Your SHS Alumni Association has a great amount of synergy right now, and we would love for you join us at some of these upcoming events! Go Southport!

Warmest Regards,  
Rich Elkins (SHS'80)  
SHSAA President



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-- Around the Building --



## Students Visit State Museum



Some of Southport's students visited the statehouse to share their experiences with visitors. Students shared their stories about the process of immigrating to the U.S. They relayed the stories of their journeys and the shared experience of leaving their home countries to come to the U.S. Passersby inside the State Museum were afforded the opportunity to speak with students about their journeys.





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## 2011 Graduate Takes Home Top Honors



2011 Graduate and Valedictorian, Daniel Smedema, co-founder of the company Encamp, won this year's New Tech Startup of the Year Award. With two friends, Smedema founded the company Encamp, which they affectionately refer to as, "TurboTax for environmental compliance."

*(Daniel Smedema ('11) pictured on the right)*

\* For a closer look at Daniel's company, Encamp, [click here](#).

\*For more information about the award and video of the ceremony, [click here](#).

\*To see the press in the Indianapolis Business Journal, [click here](#).

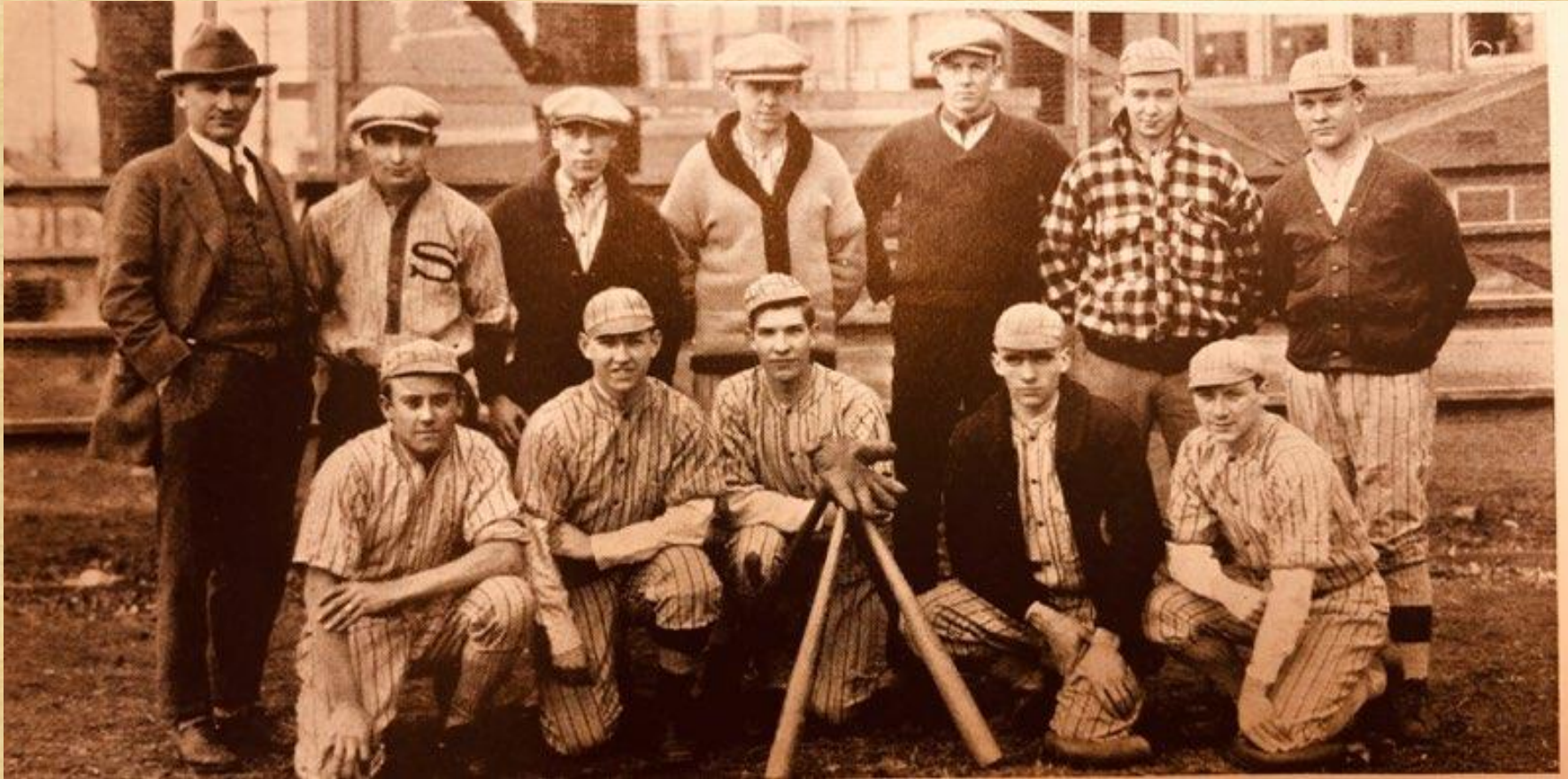


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Our resident historian, David Ladd, has been searching the catacombs of SHS and found some interesting bits of history to share.



1926





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Left to Right—Shelly, Cline, Williamson, Green, Davis, Engle, Richards, Fox, Stenger, Fishback, Spees, Hildebrand.

1925





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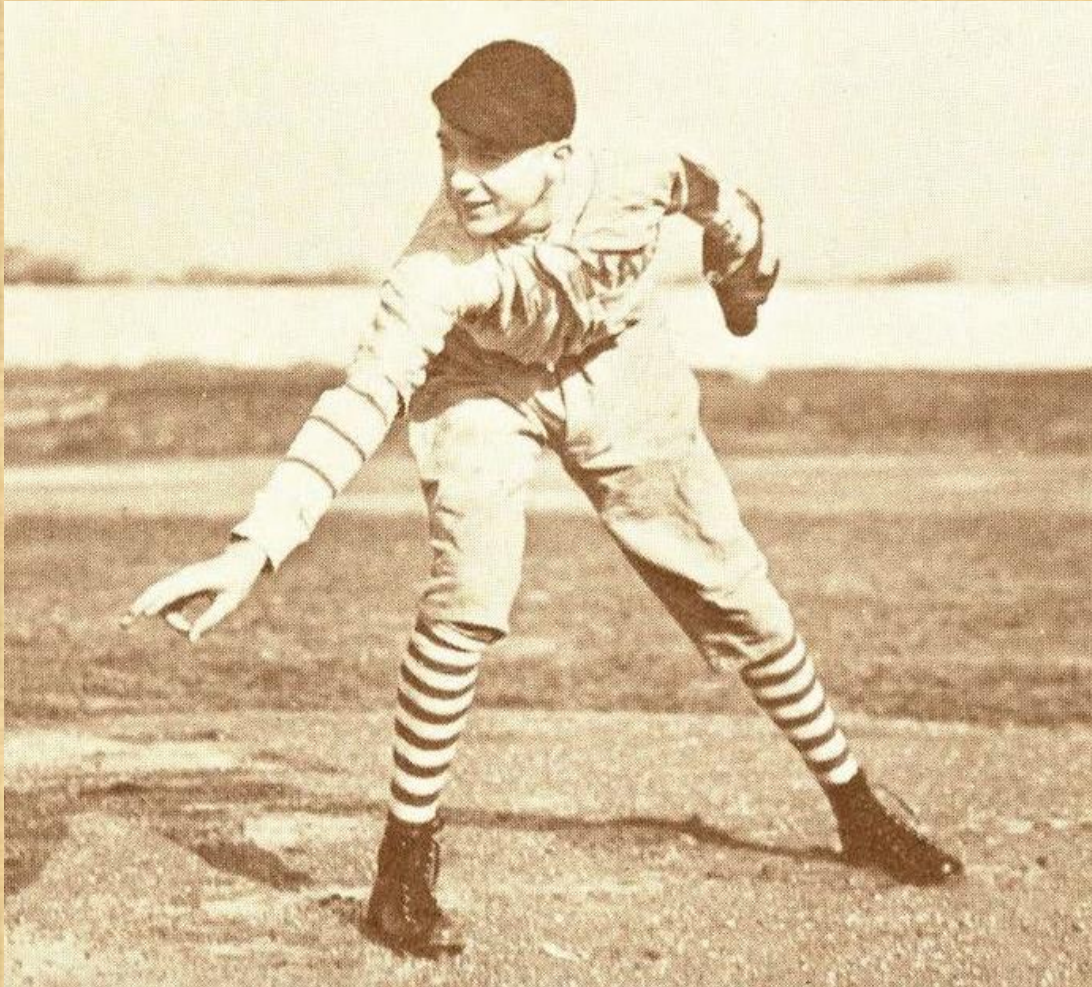
*1910 BASEBALL TEAM—Top Row: Chas. Askin, Chas. Harness, Bill Hancock, Leland Hendricks; Middle Row: McKinley Askin, Jim Porter, John Orme, Ronald Gross, Leroy Gray; Bottom: Clarence Hendricks, Paul Smith, Bert Wolcott, Carl Ryker*

1910



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1937





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1965





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## Short Goes Pro

Avery Short ('19) was drafted by the Arizona Diamondbacks in this year's MLB draft. Short, a left-handed pitcher, was slated to play at the University of Louisville next season but opted to forgo the college experience and sign with the Diamondbacks. Congratulations to Avery, and good luck in the bigs.





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## Southport Grad Goes Pro

David Simmons ('14) was signed to play professional football by the New Orleans Saints in May of this year.

For an in-depth look at the story, [click here](#).





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**This year, SHSAA handed out over \$74,000 in scholarships. Thanks to our generous donors, we have managed to hand out over \$985,000 in scholarships since our beginning in 1991.**

**By the end of the of the 2019/2020 school year, we will eclipse the million dollar mark!**

## HELP WANTED

If you are interested in working with the scholarship committee, we are looking for dedicated volunteers. Please contact Cheryl Mead at [Cheryl.shsaa@yahoo.com](mailto:Cheryl.shsaa@yahoo.com) or Ruth Mercer at [ruthanne5320@gmail.com](mailto:ruthanne5320@gmail.com).

We look forward to working with you!





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## The Ray and Cindy Bertram Golf Outing

It's not too late to join us for the 25<sup>th</sup> SHSAA Golf Outing. If you missed the online registration, you can still sign up the day of the event. Details below:

**When:** Tuesday, July 9<sup>th</sup>

\*Registration-10:30 am / Shotgun Start-12:00 pm

**Where:** The Legends Golf Club in Franklin, Indiana

**Cost:** \$380 for a foursome (dinner included)

If you cannot put together a foursome, no worries. We can get you teamed up with some other individuals!







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## Welcome New Board Members

On June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019, SHSAA elected 5 new members to the board of directors. Please welcome Bria Wright ('13), Chelsea Hoffman ('11), Dick Chew ('71), Dick Poppa ('70) and Sara Harrell ('70).

