Southport High School Alumni Association

Summer, 2025

A Message from Our President, Brent Bockelman

southportalumni.com

Fellow Cardinals,

It has been a busy few months here at the association. In May, we held our annual scholarship awards banquet. The event was held in the historic Southport Fieldhouse, and nearly five hundred people were in attendance. I want to thank our many donors. Without them, there would be no scholarship program. I would also like to thank our volunteers. They put in hundreds of hours over several months to help make this event possible. Our donors and volunteers truly embody the Cardinal Spirit.

As our scholarship work concludes for the year, we shift our attention to reunion season.
I would also like to mention some upcoming social events. Our annual golf outing is coming up on July 24th. This is our largest fundraising event of the year, and we appreciate our 2025 title sponsor, Wilson Kehoe Winingham. We would love to see you on the links. If you can't attend but would like to contribute, please consider becoming a sponsor. Registration details are in this letter as well. We also have our annual alumni and friends Homecoming Tailgate party set for Friday, September 19th.

If you have any interest in working with us at the association, please feel free to contact me at bbockelman@perryschools.org. We have a variety of positions available that you may find interesting and hope to get more folks involved in various capacities. Go Cards!

-Brent Bockelman ('01)

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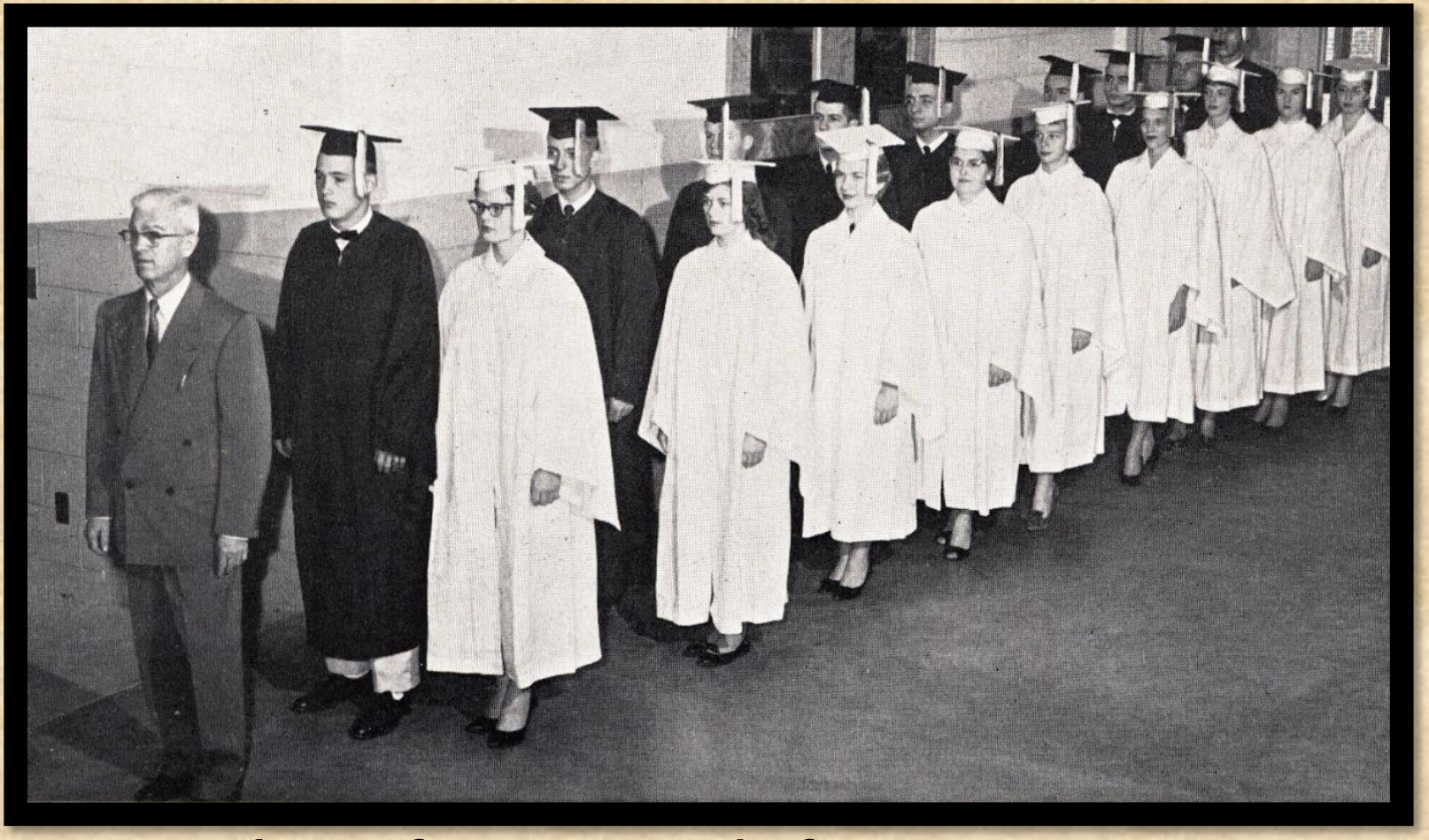
Our resident historian, David Ladd, has been searching the catacombs of SHS and found some interesting bits of history to share.



SHS Class of 1958- Ready for Commencement

The Last Graduation from the "Old" SHS - 1958

Busses Lined Up On Loretta Drive – 1930s

1919-'20 GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

RUTH DERBYSHIRE, OLIVE DERBYSHIRE,
BLANCH SMITH, CHARLOTTE McLAUGHLIN,
WILNETTA BREWER, ELEANOR ROSS,

Early 1960s

Drum Major First Class Marcia Brittan shares her title with only twenty other people in the United States.

The May Queens were senior, Lou Manning; junior, Dolores Hogue; sophomore, Donna Emmons; and their court Carolyn Goodnight, Nancy Jo Dawson, Pat Tapscott, Wilma Bockes, Cindy Orme, Edith Schnier, and Madelyn Enders.

The SHS May Prom Queens – mid 1950s

Alumni Golf Outing

CLICK HERE

to register for this year's alumni and friends golf outing

SOUTHPORT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIPS

We, the Southport High School Alumni Association, congratulate and extend our best wishes to our 2025 scholarship recipients as they begin the next phase of their lives.

Since 1990, the Alumni Association has given over $1.4 million to deserving Southport seniors. To learn more, visit southportalumni.com

Seen here - some of the committee members (Kay Watson, Ruth Mercer and Katy Allman) help to notify seniors of the scholarships they received.

Featured Cardinal

Charles Ott
Class of 1963

Educator

This issue's *Featured Cardinal* is **Charles "Chuck" Ott.** Chuck graduated from SHS in 1963. For four years, SHS was the center of his life. Later in life, he completed the Casco Bay Marathon in 2 hours and 46 minutes and hopes that will be engraved on his tombstone.

Following his time at Southport, Chuck attended Indiana University as a work/study student, washed a lot of dishes, earned an Arthur R. Metz scholarship, ran for student body president, and graduated in 1967. That same year Chuck and his wife, Ann Byrd, were accepted into the U.S. Peace Corps and served two years in Sierra Leone.

In 1969, Chuck suffered an emotional/mental breakdown and was placed in a psychiatric hospital. He describes it as a harrowing and deeply humiliating period in his life. Chuck attributes his slow rehabilitation to the spirit of Christ, as he understands Christ. He also thanks his kind doctors, his patient wife, and his faithful friends.

Chuck and Ann moved to New England in the fall of 1969. He earned a Master's degree at the University of New Hampshire. In 1970 he embarked on 38 years in public education, serving as teacher, school counselor, school psychologist, assistant superintendent and superintendent. He earned a doctoral degree in educational psychology at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Chuck's doctoral dissertation explored the relationship between school and family, an interest that guided his work as a psychologist and superintendent. His interest in this relationship led him and his colleagues to champion an alternative to traditional special education. In 1991, he was a National Finalist for School Psychologist of the Year, and in 2005 he was a National Finalist for Superintendent of the Year.

After retirement, he taught educational leadership at the University of New Hampshire, helped develop a program to recover students who had dropped out of school, worked with others to conserve the York River, and currently teaches Art and the Spirituality of Imperfection at the Strafford County House of Correction in Dover, New Hampshire.

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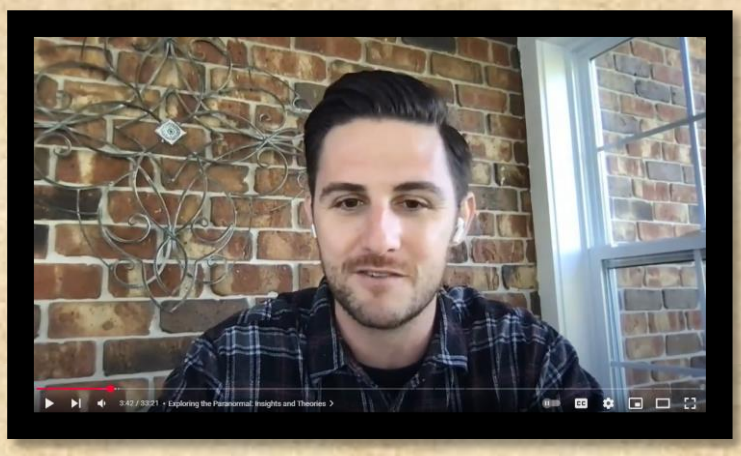
Cardinals in the Wild



CLICK HERE to watch Matt share his story.

2012 graduate, **Matt Lytle**, can be found on the show *Ghost Loop.*

(now streaming on HULU and MAX)

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SHSAA Welcomes New Board Members

Greg Cullison

Darrell Skirvin

At the annual meeting in April, SHSAA voted unanimously to renew the board position for Dick Chew. We appreciate his continued dedication to the board and the association.

We also approved the new board positions for Greg Cullison and Darrell Skirvin. Their terms begin July 1st. Both individuals have served the Southport community and are welcomed additions to our quarterly board meetings. Welcome!

SHS HOMECOMING FESTIVITIES

Friday, 9/19

*times are tentative

Southport High School Alumni & Friends
Homecoming Weekend

* **Tailgate: 4:30 in the PTEC parking lot (free refreshments while they last)**
* **Homecoming Parade: 5:30**
* **Football Game: 7:30**

Right Here!

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The Purpose of the SHS Golden Club is to bring together and foster camaraderie among SHS Alums who have graduated 50 years or more ago; to complement and support the SHS Alumni Association; to celebrate the proud heritage of Southport High School; and help further Southport's service to students and the community.

Golden Club Leadership Team

President – Jay Danner Treasurer –John Mobley
Officers - Carol DeCoursey, Mary Lou Renshaw and Dick Poppa

The initial purpose of the Golden Club is to host a reunion for individuals having graduated from SHS at least 50 years ago (Class of 1975 and earlier), with a number of additional events and fundraising that may develop over time. Our first Reunion is **Saturday 10/18** at Dye's Walk Country Club, Greenwood. We will be honoring the incoming Class of 1975!

CLICK HERE

(to join the 50 Year Golden Club email list)

For more info, contact Jay Danner at: 317-432-6255 or jaysdanner@aol.com or write to 8022 Apalachee Dr, Indpls., IN 46217

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-- Around the Building --

SHS Names Posadas Teacher of the Year

Spanish teacher Christine Posadas has been named the SHS teacher of the year.

CLICK HERE for the full story.

Looking for some SHS Alumni gear? Look no further. All proceeds from sales go to benefit SHSAA and current SHS students.

Southport High School Alumni Association **$24.99**

Southport High School Alumni Association **$14.99**

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Southport High School Alumni Association **$25.99**

Southport High School Alumni Association **$15.99**

Southport High School Alumni Association **$31.99**

Southport High School Alumni Association **$35.99**

Southport High School Alumni Association **$23.99**

CLICK HERE to view our store