Southport High School Alumni Association

Winter, 2026

A Message from Our President, Brent Bockelman

southportalumni.com

Fellow Cardinals,

I hope this holiday season finds you well. We've been busy these last couple months. Here at the Alumni Association, we hosted our annual Homecoming Festivities and our Legends Luncheon where we honored this year's Alumnus of the Year, Charles Ott.

If you would like to nominate a fellow graduate for the school's Alumnus of the Year award, there is a link in this newsletter you can follow. The purpose of this award is to recognize SHS graduates who have demonstrated a high level of achievement in their fields of endeavor and/or who have made significant contributions through achievement, service, or leadership to the community.

We are also excited to turn our attention to some upcoming social events. SHSAA is partnering with the SHS Athletic Department to host an Alumni Night at a boys basketball game on Saturday, 1/30. At this event, we'll be honoring the 1970 basketball team and the 50 Year Golden Club

As we approach the spring season, we are gearing up for another successful year of awarding scholarships through our association. Be sure to check out our next newsletter with more updates regarding our impressive scholarship program and the many gracious donors and volunteers who make it all possible.

-Brent Bockelman ('01)

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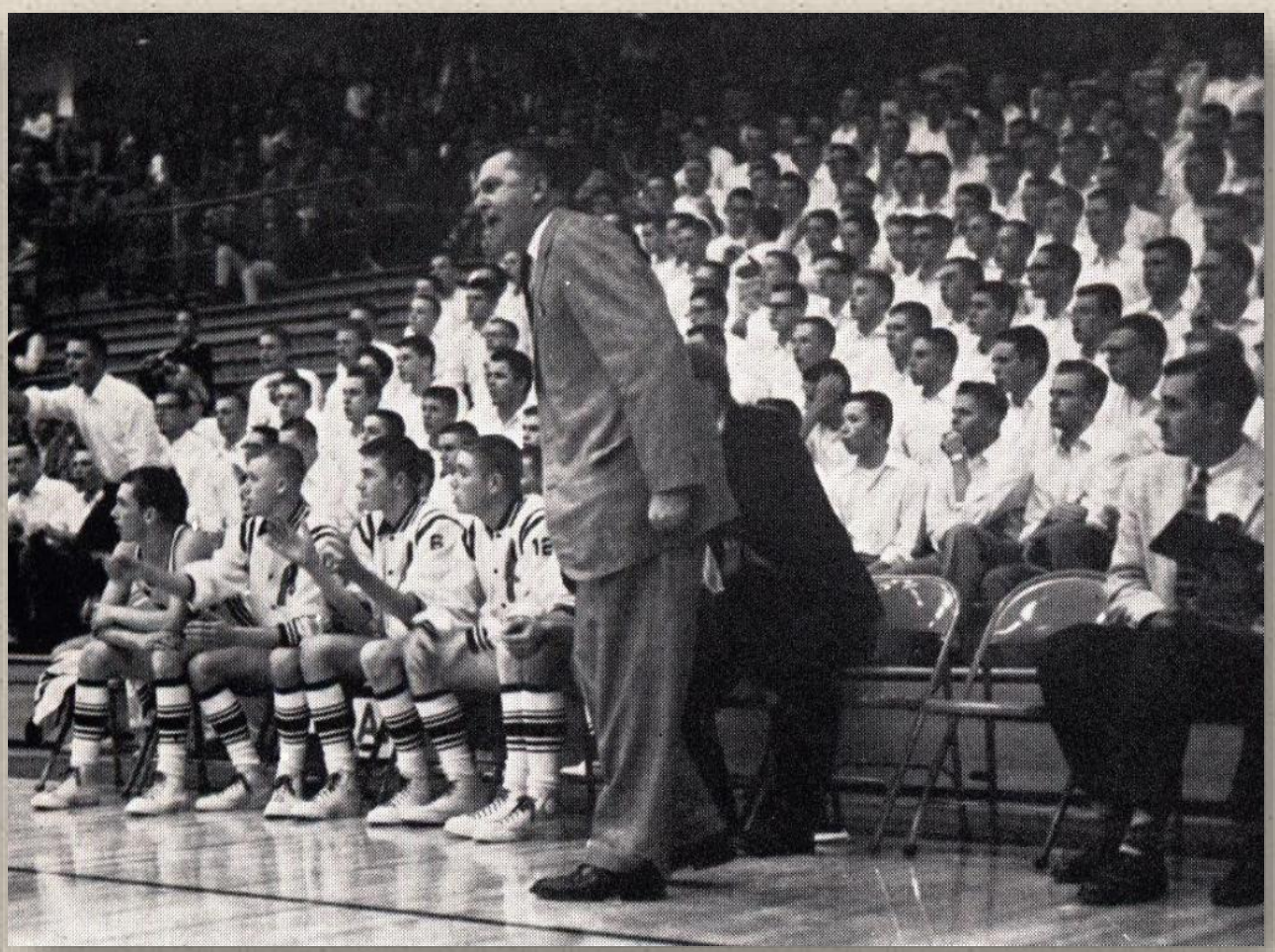
Our resident historian, David Ladd, has been searching the catacombs of SHS and found some interesting bits of history to share.

"Hark, the herald angels sing, glory to the newborn king."

This message was conveyed to Southport pupils by Christmas decorations prepared by the art department. The angels above, painted by Lonnie Beck, Ray Turner, and Charles Wilson, graced the west hall. Senior-ority was responsible for the beautiful Christmas tree.

1959

First season in the new Fieldhouse (‘58-’59)



Carl “Blackie” Braden
with “Braiden’s Raiders”
(the Boys Pep Club) behind him.
1959

Girls Basketball
1924-1925

Front Row—Houze, McQuinn, Brewer, (Capt.); Hildebra
ard.
Second Row—Dietz, Hollister, Brewer.
Third Row—Miss Wallace, (Coach); MacLaughlin.

Featured Cardinal

Kurt Hurley
Class of 1976

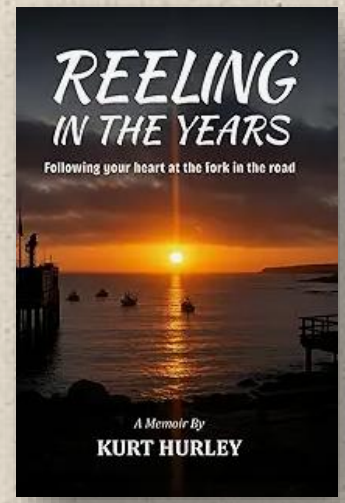
Author

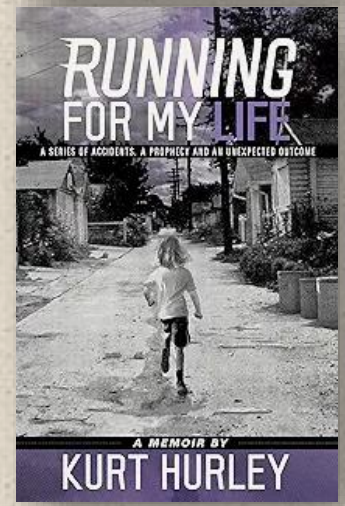
This issue's *Featured Cardinal* is **Kurt Hurley, class of 1976.**

Kurt has authored two books. His first is a memoir titled, *Running for My Life*. Parts of the text were inspired by his time running cross country at Southport High School. This memoir by Kurt is listed as, "representing his days as a child growing up in the turbulent 60's. How his love for his father grew despite the many setbacks a family encounters, and how those setbacks ironically led to an athletic achievement very few could ever imagine."

He also has a brand new release, *Reeling in the Years*, which serves as a, "powerful reminder of how the past shapes who we become. This memoir captures the essence of youth, freedom, and finding purpose through passion."

CLICK HERE for more information.





Check out some pictures from our Homecoming Social Events:

*** Cardfest Community Event** *** Homecoming**

CLICK HERE for a look at our past events gallery.

The Homecoming festivities looked a little different this year, but it was still a great success. The festivities started with our annual “Legends Luncheon” where the Alumni of the year are honored. This year’s featured alumnus of the year was Charles Ott (class of 1963). In lieu of the traditional parade, SHS hosted a community event, Cardfest. Many students, alumni, and community members gathered to enjoy the festival.

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2026 Southport High School Wall of Fame Alumnus of the Year Nomination Form

* NOMINATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY FRIDAY, MARCH6th, 2026.

CLICK HERE to submit a nomination for SHS Alumnus of the Year

We'll also be honoring the 1970 basketball team

SHSAA ALUMNI NIGHT

FRI 1/30

6:30-9:00

SHSAA

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SHS ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

THE 50 YEAR "GOLDEN CLUB" WILL BE HONORED AT HALFTIME OF THE VARISTY GAME

*REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE WHILE THEY LAST

**Any members of the 50 Year Golden Club hoping to attend the event: please RSVP at jaysdanner@aol.com or 317-432-6255

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4th Annual Shelby Cooper Scholarship Ride

Shelby Cooper Sunflower Scholarship Fund

The Shelby Cooper Memorial Scholarship team is hosting their fourth annual Charity Ride.

SAVE THE DATE!!

Saturday, APRIL 25th

(more details to come)

To donate, CLICK HERE and denote Shelby Cooper Memorial in the scholarship name form.

Each year, the SHS Golden Club honors the **Golden Class**—alumni who graduated 50 or more years ago. This year, the **Class of 1976** will be recognized as the honorees. All attendees from the honored class will receive a **free 50+ Golden Club pin**.

Date: Thursday 4/30/2026
Location: Primo Banquet Center

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THE JOURNAL

Lucy Len Dim

Editor-In-Chief

-- Check out these links to the current issue of the SHS Journal --

Heat of the Moment – CLICK HERE for the full story
Junior follows in his fathers footsteps as he pursues a career in firefighting

The Road to Recovery – CLICK HERE for the full story
After suffering a career-ending injury, senior shines through the process of recovery

Global Cardinals– CLICK HERE for the full story
Three international students reflect on the differences, challenges and memorable moments of adapting to life and learning at SHS

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-- Around the Building --

BOONE NAMED PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

Amy Boone, current SHS principal, was named the Indiana state principal of the year.

CLICK HERE for the full story.

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-- Around the Building --

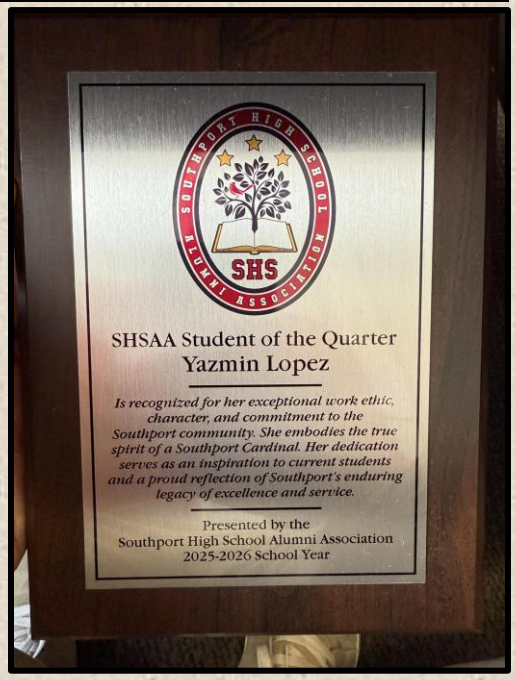
SHSAA NAMES ITS FIRST **STUDENT OF THE QUARTER**

For the 2025-2026 school year, the board members of the SHS Alumni Association decided to reward students who exemplify the “Cardinal Spirit.”

SHSAA worked closely with the Southport High School Guidance Department to find students who embody character both inside and outside the classroom. The inaugural winner was senior, Yazmin Lopez (class of ‘26).

Yazmin was nominated by her guidance counselor for her performance both inside the halls of SHS and in her community.

Congrats, Yazmin!



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-- Around the Building --

SHS BUSINESS STUDENTS PARTNER WITH KROGER

Students in the SHS Business Department have partnered with Kroger to bring a Southport-inspired popcorn to grocery shelves. Students worked with Kroger representatives to develop “Cardinal Crunch” – a caramel and churros flavored popcorn blend.

This popcorn will be made fresh in the store and will be sold at Kroger at 8745 S. Emerson Ave, (near the intersection of Emerson and County Line Road).

Be sure to check the shelves the next time you stop by.

CARDINAL CRUNCH
~Fly Into Flavor~

COMING SOON!!

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**

Southport High School Alumni Association **$14.99**

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