

# POTTSTOWN PRIDE

ACADEMICS AND ACTIVITIES  
PARTNERS FOR EDUCATIONAL  
EXCELLENCE



**FALL 2014**

*Pottstown Schools – Building a Better Tomorrow*

**POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
POINTS OF PRIDE  
FALL 2014**

Student activities are an integral part of our educational program. Co-curricular programs are not only a way for students to have fun, but also a valuable educational tool. Activities provide an opportunity for all students to participate and help build community recognition and identity. Co-curricular activities are designed to instill school pride and teach life-long lessons. They support the academic mission of the school district and promote citizenship and sportsmanship. The activities program is a testing ground for the physical and emotional development of our young people. **IT IS BETTER TO BUILD STRONG CHILDREN THAN TRY TO REPAIR ADULTS.**

**For more information about Pottstown School District, visit our website at  
[www.PottstownSchools.com](http://www.PottstownSchools.com) or call 610-323-6274.**

## **FOOTBALL**

### **“Adam Sabuacak Player of the Game Award”**

Adam Sabuacak was a 2001 graduate of Pottstown High School. He earned four varsity letters as a player for the Trojans and after graduation was one of our most loyal fans. Adam passed away in the spring of May 2009 and in his memory each week the high school football team will be naming the "Adam Sabuacak Player of the Game."

#### **Winners for the 2014 Season:**

- August 30<sup>th</sup> – game with Sun Valley – Bryant Wise
- September 6<sup>th</sup> – game with ChiChester – Gary Wise
- September 20<sup>th</sup> – game with Phoenixville – Ernest McCalvin
- October 4<sup>th</sup> – game with Boyertown – Ernest McCalvin
- October 18<sup>th</sup> – game with Upper Perkiomen – Aaron Diamond
- November 1<sup>st</sup> – game with Spring-Ford – Clayton Mitchell and Vaughn Bertoti

Congratulations to Gary Wise for being named as a recipient of the Maxwell Football Club “Mini Max Award.” The recognition is based on nomination from coaches and an evaluation of the player’s football performance, academics, and community service. Gary is a 6’1”, 195 lbs. left-handed quarterback who with one game remaining in the season has rushed for a team high 706 yards and nine touchdowns. See link below:

<http://www.philly.com/philly/blogs/rick-obrien/283507512.html>

Vaughn Bertoti was recognized by the Tall Cedars Lodge at their annual football banquet. Vaughn was recognized for his leadership and contribution to the team in spite of having broken his leg during the opening scrimmage of the year. He provided solid leadership throughout the year.

#### **Named to the Pioneer Athletic Conference Honorable Mention Team - Offense**

- Gary Wise – Athlete
- Alex Humma – Lineman

#### **Named to the Pioneer Athletic Conference Honorable Mention Team - Defense**

- Ernest McCalvin – Lineman

#### **Named to The Mercury All Area Second Team - Offense**

- Gary Wise

Name to The Mercury All Area Honorable Mention Team - Offense

- Bryant Wise and Alex Humma

Name to The Mercury All Area Honorable Mention Team - Defense

- Ernest McCalvin and Clayton Mitchell and Brandon Tinson

**Pottstown High School Football team members shop and wrap presents for needy family at Christmas – December 2014**



## GIRLS' FIELD HOCKEY

The Pottstown Trojans and the Perkiomen Valley Vikings field hockey teams “Play for the Cure”



Ebony Reddick was named by the PhilaFieldHockey.com Association as the “Defender of the Week” for September 15<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>. As a freshmen goalkeeper, that week in three games Ebony faced 94 shots on goal and recorded 81 saves for an 86% save percentage.



The field hockey team participated in the “For the Cure” game against cross-town rival Pottsgrove. Through donations and sale of bracelets, the team was able to make a donation to the Cancer Society. Over the past four years, the team has donated a total of \$3,000.00 to this worthy cause.

### Named to the Pioneer Athletic Conference First Team

- Amiyah Hudson - Defense
- Ebony Reddick - Goalie

### Named to the Pioneer Athletic Conference Honorable Mention Team

- Breana Bodnar - Offense

### Named to The Mercury All Area First Team

- Ebony Reddick

### Named to The Mercury All Area Honorable Mention Team

- Breana Bodnar
- Amiyah Hudson

## BOYS' SOCCER

### **Logan Pennypacker Named Mercury Athlete of the Week 9-17-14**



The Trojan three-sport junior athlete Logan Pennypacker was named Athlete of the Week after he contributed to the Pottstown Boys Soccer team efforts in three games during the week. This season he has scored ten goals and one assist, with a hat trick in two games. Logan is also a baseball and wrestling standout, while at the same time earning academic distinguished honors.

### Named to The Mercury All Area Honorable Mention Team

- Tyler Keefer
- Tamer Mohamed

## GIRLS' SOCCER

### Named to the Pioneer Athletic Conference Honorable Mention Team

- Jenna Endy

### Named to The Mercury All Area Honorable Mention Team

- Jenna Endy

## CROSS COUNTRY

### Phoenixville Meet

- First place finisher – girls' team - Torry Dugan, Pottstown Senior
- First place finisher – boys' team - Justin Beasley-Turner, Pottstown Junior



### Named to The Mercury All Area Girls' Cross Country Honorable Mention Team

- Torry Dugan

### Named to The Mercury All Area Boys' Cross Country Honorable Mention Team

- Justin Beasley-Turner

## **BAND**

The Pottstown High School Marching Band competing in the Yankee Division participated in the 55<sup>th</sup> annual Boyertown Marching Band Cavalcade. With a score of 76.65, they placed 2<sup>nd</sup> behind Governor Mifflin with a score of 78.25.

Click on the link below to view the Pottstown High School Marching Band in Disney 2014:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sl163jzg84o&feature=youtu.be>

## **PIONEER ATHLETIC CONFERENCE ALL ACADEMIC TEAM**

- |                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| ➤ Cheerleading         | - Alexis Lafferty  |
| ➤ Boys' Cross Country  | - Brandon Wilson   |
| ➤ Girls' Cross Country | - Torry Dugan      |
| ➤ Field Hockey         | - MarDaije Pearson |
| ➤ Football             | - Gary Wise        |
| ➤ Boys' Soccer         | - Sherif Mohamed   |
| ➤ Girls' Soccer        | - Jenna Endy       |
| ➤ Girls' Tennis        | - Jennifer Remick  |



(Pictured left to right are: Torry Dugan, Brandon Wilson, Gary Wise, MarDaije Person, and Jenna Endy)

## **PIONEER ATHLETIC CONFERENCE FALL CITIZEN ATHLETE AWARD**

- Jenna Endy



## **STAFF and DISTRICT AWARDS**

Pat Connors, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director; Danielle McCoy, Director of Career Technical Education; and John Armato, Director of Community Relations, took the ALS Ice Challenge.



Pat Connors



Danielle McCoy



John Armato

For those who want to support with donations, information can be found here:

<http://greaterphiladelphiawalk.kintera.org/faf/search/searchTeamPart.asp?ievent=1097500&lis=1&kntae1097500=F484A8862DD74125898AF53421DE6EFD&team=6029383>

## **Pottstown CARES Day**



Amy Gazzillo and Ginger Angelo were recipients of the Science Award presented by Arkema Science Research Center. The award enabled them to participate in a week long program at the Arkema facility where they had opportunity to interact with professional scientists and to have hands-on training in the use of educational tool kits which they were able to utilize in their classrooms.

## ELEMENTARY

3rd grade students in Ms. Kayla Sabata's class show how much fun they had during the Fall Fest class activities.



On November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014 the students and staff of Rupert Elementary School moved back to their newly renovated South Street location. Throughout the week, district personnel were busy preparing for the return of students. An open house hosted by Principal Mr. Matt Moyer saw over 500 visitors including students, staff, family, alumni, and retired Rupert teachers. Click on the links below for stories and pictures about the return to Rupert:

### **Click Below:**

- <http://media.pottsmmerc.com/2014/11/05/photos-open-house-at-rupert-elementary-school-11-5-14/#1>
- <http://www.pottsmmerc.com/general-news/20141107/pottstown-schools-the-long-goodbye>
- [https://storify.com/PottstownNews/the-big-move?utm\\_medium=sfy.co-twitter&utm\\_campaign=&utm\\_content=storify-pingback&awesm=sfy.co\\_tnCj&utm\\_source=t.co](https://storify.com/PottstownNews/the-big-move?utm_medium=sfy.co-twitter&utm_campaign=&utm_content=storify-pingback&awesm=sfy.co_tnCj&utm_source=t.co)
- <http://readingeagle.com/news/article/rupert-elementary-school-in-pottstown-gets-rave-reviews-during-open-house>





First Marking Period Lincoln I'MPACT Award Winners recognized by their teachers for hard work, citizenship, and always following the Lincoln Merit Rules were:

- ❖ Kindergarten:
  - Imanol Gonzalez-Mrs. Kindig
  - McKenna Brennan-Mrs. Anderson
  - Aubrey Thiele-Mrs. Mann
- ❖ First Grade:
  - Spencer Steed-Mrs. VanDruff
  - Jayanna Hill-Mrs. Mooney
  - Anaya Doane-Mrs. Lafferty
- ❖ Second Grade:
  - Malachi McClune-Mrs. Kurtz
  - Alexander Jimenz-Rosales-Mrs. Swartz
  - JaVonna Mack-Mrs. Bolonski
- ❖ Third Grade
  - Chloe Weiss-Mrs. Groff
  - Devon Smith-Ms. Hahn
  - Makayla Smith-Mr. Koman
- ❖ Fourth Grade
  - Johnasia Salata-Mr. Wagner/Mr. Cohen
  - Maggie DiPietro-Mrs. Schleicher/Ms. DeWald
  - William Levey-Mrs. Wampole



Over 80 parents and students took part in the annual Rupert Family Activity Night where they had the opportunity to participate in both athletic games and academic challenges. Sixteen members of the Rupert staff also attended and worked with parents and students.

Over 500 students and staff took preventative measures to avoid being sick over the winter by receiving free flu shots from the Montgomery County Health Department.



Rupert Elementary's First Marking Period I'MPACT Award Winners were:

- Pre-K – Isabella Matthews
- Kindergarten – Jacob Heller
- First Grade – Na'sir Parker
- Second Grade – Philip Scambora
- Third Grade – Nek Castillo
- Fourth Grade – Abigail Eagle



Barth Principal Mr. Ryan Oxenford and teacher Sarah Paul conducted a fundraiser for the "Girls on the Run" program and challenged students to help raise money to support the program. The successful campaign raised \$450.00 and as a reward Mr. Oxenford and Ms. Paul received pink Mohawks.



Lincoln Principal Mrs. Calista Boyer challenged her students to read 1,000 books during the first marking period. Students exceeded the goal by reading 2,375 books and as a reward they attended an assembly where ten students were able to pour buckets of ice cold water over Mrs. Boyer's head.

Students and staff at Rupert Elementary School conducted a number of fund raising activities to support a former student who is undergoing treatment for cancer at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Events included a "silly sweater" contest, a "fancy dress day," and Miss Jamie Fazekas' third grade class "lemonade stand."

## MIDDLE SCHOOL

Back to school night a big success with hundreds in attendance.



Jaelyn Kennedy was recognized for her contribution to the Halloween Window Decorating Contest which helped to raise funds for the Halloween Parade. She was recognized with an Honorable Mention People's Choice Award.

Fifth and sixth grade students took a reading challenge during the months of September, October, and November. Students were asked to do 800 hours of reading at home. Fifth grade students exceeded that challenge by reading 1,247 hours. Combined with sixth grade results, over 2,000 hours of reading at home was done. Their reward was a movie and popcorn event held at the middle school.



## HIGH SCHOOL

Pottstown High School junior Shane Dugan was recently featured in a story detailing his journey to become an airplane pilot. In order to meet the weight requirements, Shane has lost over 40 pounds and has a goal to meet the physical requirements to enter the Air Force Academy.

High School Cheerleading squad, along with Advisor Christina Weiss, showed their pride in Pottstown by helping to decorate windows in downtown Pottstown in preparation for the annual Halloween Parade.



Over 50 PHS students joined students from The Hill School and Montgomery County Community College, along with members of the Borough of Pottstown workers, to participate in the second annual Pottstown CARES Day. Students and adults joined hands in helping to clean the streets of Pottstown and to provide services for senior citizens. Pottstown High School also hosted a blood donation drive which saw over 60 PHS students participate and collected 47 units of blood and Pottstown High School ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> in the total donations in a nine county area. All of the day's efforts made a difference and gave us another reason to say "Proud to be from Pottstown."



### 2014 Homecoming Court:

Members of the court were from left to right: **Jenn Remick**, Yearbook; **Randy Mercado**, Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA); **Eliana Arroyo-Dech**, National Honor Society; **Maverick Somich**, National Honor Society; **Jenna Endy**, KEY Club; **Gary Wise**, KEY Club (stand-in Justin Beasley); **Brigid Benfield**, Student Government; **James Wood Jr.**, Student Government; **Tori Gery**, Trojans 4 a Cure; and **Danny Tucker**, Trojans 4 a Cure.



2014 Queen Eliana Arroyo-Dech  
and 2013 Queen Megan Remick



2014 Queen and King  
Eliana Arroyo-Dech and Gary Wise



Emanuel Wilkerson and Denkera Chestnut take the oath of office as student representatives to the Pottstown School Board.

Thank you to the Pottstown High School cheerleading squad for providing assistance at the elementary school fall festival days. In addition to helping run all the activities at the various schools, the girls also got into the mood of the season by dressing up.



Thank you to the 40 ROTC cadets, under the leadership of Col. Jake Porter and Master Sgt. Alex Bolar, for providing support to the annual Pottstown Pet Fair. Cadets performed essential support activities of setup for the event which saw several thousand people participate in the annual Pottstown event.



Master Sgt. Alex Bolar accompanied the Jr. Air Force ROTC Color Guard to present the colors at the Elks Club as part of their Veteran's Day ceremonies.

Jr. Air Force ROTC Cadets give a helping hand to set up the Book Fair at Barth Elementary School.



The Jr. Air Force ROTC unit PA951 was evaluated by Retired Chief Mst. Sgt. Richardson, Regional Director of 150 ROTC units throughout the eastern United States. The unit as a whole received Distinguished Honors. Recognized as Top Performers were Cadet Mst. Sgt. Zikia Paschall and Cadet Chief Mst. Sgt. Josh Stasik.



Members of the Engineering Related Technology class, along with their teacher Mr. Andrew Bachman, toured the National Aerospace Teaching and Research Center in Southampton, PA. Students toured the high altitude chamber and witnessed a flight simulation of an F-15 fighter jet plane.



Pottstown High School Engineering Class  
Inspiration for the Future  
November 19, 2014



## THANK YOU TO OUR FRIENDS

- Thank you to the Pottstown Rotary for providing each fourth grade student their own personal copy of Webster's Dictionary. Members of the Rotary distributed over 300 dictionaries to our students and provided them with a useful learning tool.



- Thank you to the Exelon Limerick Generating Plant for their donation of 190 winter coats to students in grades kindergarten through eighth grade. This kind donation will help keep our students warm during the cold winter months.



- Thank you to First Presbyterian Church for their donation to the Foundation for Pottstown Education to support musical instruments for needy students and the Early College Program.
- Thank you to Pottstown Memorial Medical Center for their donation of back to school supplies to Franklin Elementary School.

- Thank you to Dr. Barb Minzenberg, Deputy Director of OCDEL, of the Early Childhood Education Community Innovation Zone for presenting a grant to the Pottstown team



- Thank you to our friends at Pottstown Memorial Medical Center for their donation of school supplies to the Franklin Elementary School second grade students in Mrs. Hallman's and Mrs. Cohen's classes. A special thank you to Marian Lippert and Elizabeth Soupik for organizing the program.



- Thank you to Santander Bank Foundation for their financial support of our PEAK Program.

## **POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT ALUMNI HONOR ROLL**

The Pottstown School District inducted its 29<sup>th</sup> addition of outstanding alumni into the Alumni Honor Roll. This year's recipients included:



- **Phyllis Sell Salem** – Class of 1948 – Phyllis is the only graduate of the American University of Beirut to serve abroad in a time of war and to serve the U.S. Government and Lebanese Government during its moment of crisis with great distinction. She held high diplomatic, national, and service roles and was honored formally by the government of the United States and the government of Lebanon where she taught, raised a family, and made a huge difference in Arab/American relations. Few Americans have had this opportunity and this privilege. She believed in the diversity of cultures and in the progress of humanity through the interaction of cultures. To her, every culture has its intrinsic values and its specific contributions. She admired the distinctiveness in each culture for the beauty and joy it added to our lives. She believed that in searching for the understanding of others guaranteed personal freedom and human dignity.
- **James E. Rodgers** – Class of 1953 – Chief Rodgers received an associate degree in administration of justice and community service from Penn State University in 1975 and a Bachelor of Science degree in administration of justice in 1981. He had 27 years of experience in the field of law enforcement. He served on the Pottstown Police Department as sergeant, captain of police, and ultimately chief of police. As chief, he instituted a Crisis Intervention Service, a Crime Prevention Unit, and a Police Award Program. He was instrumental in the development of a cooperative instructional program between the police department and local school districts. Chief Rodgers also created an honor guard within the Pottstown Police Department to represent the Borough of Pottstown. He is credited with updating and utilizing the latest computer technology and police communications system of its time. Chief Rodgers has been the recipient of numerous community and law enforcement awards.
- **David G. Garner** – Class of 1976 – In high school, Dave was a member of the cross country team helping to lead the team to three straight league championships and was on the wrestling team, editor of the yearbook, and participated in the school musicals. He graduated from Ursinus College in 1981 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science and European history. He also helped lead his college cross country team to a championship and twice qualified to participate in the National Championships. In 1984, he graduated from Dickinson School of Law with a Juris Doctor degree. Dave served in the United States Marine Corps from 1984 to 1991 achieving the rank of captain. When he returned to Pottstown, he worked for various law firms before opening his own practice. Mr. Garner is involved in a number of community organizations including the Tri County Chamber of Commerce, Co-Chairman of the Regional Planning Committee, Board of Directors of Creative Health Services, President of the Church Council of St. James Lutheran Church, Board of Directors and President of the Pottstown Cluster of Religious Communities, the American Business Club, the Advisory Committee of Manatawny Manor, Secretary of Mosaic Community Landtrust, and Past President of Pottstown Borough Council.

- **Mark Pennypacker, Sr.** – Class of 1978 – While attending Pottstown High School, Mark was a member of the football and tennis teams, served on Student Government, and the yearbook staff. He also sang in the chorus and held the lead role in both the junior and senior class plays. He graduated from West Chester State College with a B.A. in philosophy and sociology. In 1982, he moved to Virginia and attended Virginia Theological Seminary. He served as a chaplain at Spring Grove Psychiatric Hospital, Johns Hopkins University Hospital, and Baltimore City Hospital. He graduated with a Master of Divinity in 1986 and began serving as chaplain at St. Elizabeth Psychiatric Hospital in Washington, D.C. In 1987, he began his teaching and coaching career. He has coached football, soccer, tennis, and swimming. He currently teaches biology and earth science. In 2004, he earned a Master of Education Administration degree from Shenandoah University and in 2010 a master's degree in Geosciences from Mississippi State. For over ten years, he has participated in the People To People Student Ambassadors Program which has given him the opportunity to coach soccer in Brazil and Europe. He has taken students around the world and traveled to China, Australia, and New Zealand. Mark has also had the opportunity to contribute to his community by serving in the Boy Scouts organization, the United Way of Northern Shenandoah Valley, and the American Red Cross. He has worked with the Lions Club International and served as President and Vice District Governor.

### **The 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Tri County Area Chapter of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame recently honored:**



- ❖ **Crystal Gibbs** – A 2 sport star at Pottstown High School, Gibbs earned many awards. She was All-ChesMont in both basketball and field hockey. She led her team to a ChesMont championship in basketball, and also a District I championship. She scored over 1,000 points during her career. She went to Temple on a scholarship to play field hockey. As a freshman, her team went to the NCAA National semi-finals. She is 7<sup>th</sup> on the all-time list for goals scored at Temple. She once scored 4 goals in 1 game. She is currently a very well respected basketball referee and field hockey umpire, officiating many district and league championship games.
- ❖ **Regina “Gina” Oliver** – Oliver was a star at PHS in lacrosse. She scored over 100 goals while playing for the Trojans. She earned a scholarship to Ohio State to play lacrosse. She won 4 letters at OSU and earned All-American honors 3 times. She is the career leader in ground balls (236), and caused turnovers (201). She is 2<sup>nd</sup> in draws (121) and 3<sup>rd</sup> all-time in career points with 166 (125 goals/41 assists). She played on many National Teams, and has competed all over the world, being named to the Top 12 players in the world in 2009. After graduation she turned to her passion – coaching. She has coached at Duquesne University, Ohio State, and the University of Cincinnati.
- ❖ **Rian “Goo” Wallace** – Pottstown High School football star, Wallace is the all-time leading tackler with 370. Scored 34 career TDs. Played in the Montgomery County All-Star Game, and the Big 33 Game. 2001 Mercury Player of the Year, PAC-10 Player of the Year, PCTV Player of the Year. Three year starter and captain his senior year for the Trojans. Played at Temple for 4 years. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All Big East, 6<sup>th</sup> leading tackler in Big East, and named to several All American Teams. Inducted into Temple’s “Ring of Honor” and the Ricketts Community Center Hall of Fame. Played professionally for the Pittsburgh Steelers and Washington Redskins. Won a Super Bowl Ring with the Steelers.

## FALLEN TROJANS



The Pottstown School District is proud of the members of its Trojan family and will honor its deceased alumni by recognizing them and their accomplishments in our "Fallen Trojans" section. Anyone wishing to have alumni recognized should provide appropriate information to:



John J. Armato, Director of Community Relations,  
230 Beech Street, Pottstown PA 19464 or email [jarmato@pottstownsdsd.org](mailto:jarmato@pottstownsdsd.org).

- **Olga (Chomnuk) High** - Class of 1944 - wife of the late Samuel A. High. Born in Pottstown, she was a daughter of the late Warfolom and Anna (Motyl) Chomnuk. She was an active member of Coventry Church of the Brethren, where she was a member of the Senior Choir. Mrs. High worked for the First Federal Savings and Loan for 10 years, then retired after 27 years with Sears Roebuck. She was a Cub Scouts Den Mother for Pack 27, and was one of the founders of the South End Reunion in Pottstown. She was a Chester County Republican Committeewoman, a member of the Coventry Garden Club, and also an avid baker, cook, and artist.
- **Glenda J. Whitehurst Satterwhite** - Class of 1977 – Glenda was the wife of Jeffrey S. Satterwhite. Born November 20, 1959 in Pottstown, PA she was the daughter of Marvin A. Whitehurst Sr. and Berwindale J. Glenn Whitehurst. While in school she ran track and was the featured twirler. Glenda was employed by Ford Electronics in Lansdale, PA and John Middleton Co. in Limerick, PA. She had a bubbly personality that radiated throughout her life and her serious illness and was so uplifting to all that witnessed the fight for her life.
- **Delores B. (Burdan) Price** - Class of 1950 - She was born on July 9, 1931 in Atlantic City, NJ to the late Oliver R. Burdan and Ida May Lester. At the age of 12, Delores moved to Pottstown. After high school, she enrolled in nursing school at Pottstown Hospital School of Nursing and became one of the first African American nursing students to enroll and graduate with her registered nursing degree in March 1956. After being employed as a RN with the Pottstown Hospital for several years, she left Pottstown Hospital to become an RN at Pennhurst State Hospital. She became an employee of the State of Pennsylvania as a Supervisor with the Medical Review Team until her retirement. Delores married Donald J. Price Sr. they were happily married for 56 years. She was a member of Bethel A.M.E. Church, Pottstown, Pa. She was a member of the mass choir and the women's missionary society.
- **Bruce Fegley Sr.** - Class of 1938 – Bruce was the widower of Phyllis K. Fegley. Born in Birdsboro on May 21, 1920 and raised in Pottstown, he was the son of the late Mahlon and Sarah (Feiring) Fegley. He was the operator of Bruce Fegley's Esso Service Center (formerly Buckwalter & Shaw), High and Adams Street, in Pottstown. During the 1973-74 oil crisis, he rationed gas to his customers but always made sure the local doctors and the Goodwill Ambulance had all the gas they needed. After selling his service station he worked at Hatfield & Shaner, Pottstown for several years before retiring. He was a member of St John's UCC, Price St., in Pottstown for many years. Bruce was a proud veteran and served on the destroyer escort USS Jordan (DE-204) from its commissioning until the end of World War II. He was a Yeoman first class.
- **Elmer P. Panoc** - Class of 1947 - He was the husband of Lois (Golie) Panoc. Born in Pottstown he was the son of John and Barbara (Pollick) Panoc. Elmer was employed as a mechanical draftsman for A.P. DeSanno Co. and Coleman Industries. He was a US Army veteran and was a 50-year member and Past Exalted Ruler of the Pottstown Elks Lodge.

- **John Abraham Wanger, Jr.** - Class of 1938 - He was the husband of the late June (Trayer) Wanger. Born in East Stroudsburg, PA, he was a son of the late John A. Wanger, Sr. and Mary E. (Saylor) Wanger. He worked as a supervisor for the Spring City Knitting Company for 36 years, retiring in 1985. He was a member of St. James Lutheran Church, Pottstown, the Stichter Lodge 254 F. & A.M.; Reading Consistory and Rajah Temple Shrine.
- **David Anthony Tyler II** - Class of 2010 - Born May 6, 1991 in Bryn Mawr, PA, he was the son of Kisha and David Tyler Sr. After graduation he attended Shippensburg University. From pee wee to high school and as a freshman in college, he was an outstanding running back. He had a passion for landscaping and as a landscaper for Cornerstone Landscaping of Phoenixville, until his death, he was able to bring his passion to life.
- **Thelma Doris (Weikel) Smith** - Class of 1938 – Thelma was the widow of John Walter Smith, of Lewes, Delaware. Born in Pottstown, she was the daughter of the late Howard Jewel Weikel and Doris Elizabeth (Ziegler) Weikel. She attended Kutztown State College for Art. Thelma, along with her husband, was the founder of the Rt. 73 Drive In, in Gilbertsville for over 20 years. She loved arts and crafts, Bingo and collecting sea shells. Thelma was at one time very active in the Boyertown American Legion, Earl Township Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary and the Gilbertsville Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary.
- **David D. Fritz** - Class of 1969 - Born in Pottstown, PA, he was a son of the late Forrest and Nora (Dotterer) Fritz. He was employed by Verizon Communications for 34 years, working in logistics and customer service. After retiring from Verizon, he worked for Kutz Builders for the past 10 years. Dave was an active member of the Rotary Club of Pottstown. He also had several hobbies. He enjoyed attending the annual Experimental Aviation Association Fly-In in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, while visiting family. He loved boating and helped countless friends and family members learn to water-ski. He was also previously involved with the National Ski Patrol.
- **Peter Kuspis** - Class of 1944 - Peter was a beloved father and cherished grandfather. His childhood and early adulthood were spent in Pottstown, where he met and courted the love of his life Dorothy (Groff) Kuspis. He served with distinction in WWII. His professional life was dedicated to flying, working as a Captain for both Capitol Airlines and United Airlines.
- **Barry L. Rowe** - Class of 1958 - He was the son of the late Gerald Stahl and Irene (Hoagie) Stahl. He served in the U.S. Air Force National Guard from 1963-1969. Mr. Rowe was a printer and worked for the Pottstown Mercury and the Times Herald in Norristown, PA, from where he retired after over 40 years. He was a member of the Stichter Lodge #254 F. & A.M., Pottstown, PA and was active with the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. Barry enjoyed boating on the Chesapeake Bay and in Pennsylvania, fishing, archery hunting and working on, restoring and collecting old cars, especially his Willys Jeep.

- **Mildred "Mickie" Kylan Stamp** - Class of 1940 - Born in Pottstown, she was the daughter of the late William Schroeder and Mable (Johnson) Bachman. In August of 1949 she married the late Walter J. Kylan. Following his death she married Robert J. Stamp of Florence, SC in 1996. She went to Pottstown Hospital School of Nursing where she earned her degree as a registered nurse. Upon graduating from nursing school, she worked as a registered nurse at Emily Bissell Hospital, Wilmington, DE. Over the years, Mickie took many classes in art and was an avid painter. She was also a very talented organist. Mickie was very active in the Ocean View Presbyterian Church, Ocean View, DE where she served as an elder, and served on the Executive Committee of the Presbyterian Women of New Castle Presbytery. She also was a member of the choir and was a soloist at the church. She was also quite active in several clubs. She served as President of the Lord Baltimore Women's Club and served on the Executive Committee of Delaware State Federation of Women's Club. Mickie was a member of the Swedish American Society and served as one of the "Colonial Ladies" for the Delaware Tall Ship Days and other historical functions. She also volunteered many hours at the Chambersburg Hospital, Shippensburg Clothing Bank, and Meals on Wheels.
- **Shannon Rae Essick** - Class of 1998 - Born in Pottstown, she is survived by her parents, Edward J. and Deborah Essick; four sisters, Nikki Harrington, Tanna Essick, Victoria Miller and Kristina Schlupp; two brothers, Derrick Miller and Jason Schlupp; grandmother, Bernadine Essick, and her beautiful daughter, River Song Essick-Rhoads.
- **Richard U. Borneman** - Class of 1943 - Born in Sanatoga, PA, he was a son of the late Elmer S. and Irene (Urffer) Borneman, and his step mother Myra Borneman. He was employed as a truck driver with the former Bethlehem Steel Co. for 31 years and the Allentown Refrigeration Corp., Boyertown, retiring in 1991. He was a veteran of the Army Air Force during WWII. Mr. Borneman was a member of Saint Gabriel's Episcopal Church, Douglassville. He was a member of the Union Masonic Lodge #479, Birdsboro, the Amity Lions Club and the B & M Sportsman Club.
- **Mary Ann (Will) Rupert** - Class of 1953 – Mary Ann was the widow of R. Bruce Rupert. Born in Pottstown, PA, she was a daughter of the late Russell Will and the late Marian (Engle) Will. Mary was an executive secretary at the former Cates Ford, assistant manager at Famous Footwear, and worked for Dr. Freidberg, in Pottstown. She was a member of Zion's United Church of Christ, Pottstown. Mary was a member of the Pottstown Doe Club, was a good homemaker, wife and mother, and loved spending time in her flower gardens. She also volunteered at many local schools while her children were growing up.
- **Mae Wilhelm Souleyret** - Class of 1945 - Born in Railroad, Pa, York County, Mae was the daughter of the late John and Anna (Askainen) Wilhelm. She grew up in Pottstown and attended the Pottstown Hospital School of Nursing. After nursing school, Mae served in the United States Air Force as a general duty nurse. She would then become a Federal Civil Servant in nursing, working in various VA Hospitals, including Coatesville and the former Valley Forge location.
- **Jay H. Neiffer** - Class of 1964 - Born in Pottstown, he was the son of the late Harrison and Ruth (Whalen) Neiffer. He received a B.S. in Shop/Textile from California College in PA. He received a Masters Degree in Computer Education in 1992 from Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science. He was a member and advisor of TSA an Industrial Art Organization. Jay was proud to be an Eagle Scout. He enjoyed traveling both domestic and abroad. He worked for the Boyertown Area School District as a teacher in Home Maintenance/Shop.

- **Jean M. Diffendal** - Class of 1970 - Born in Philadelphia, Pa, Jean was the daughter of the late James J. and Marie E. (nee Ginnis) Diffendal. She worked in customer service support for HIBU/Yellowbook for over 15 years, along with a secondary job as a cashier with Superfresh. Jean loved spending time with her family and is survived by six brothers, James (Judy), Wyomissing; Dennis, (Debbie), Ivyland; Richard (Sandy), Pottstown; Mark (Trish), Jenkintown; John, Honeybrook and David (Diana), Lititz; and one sister Marie, wife of the late Dallas Breidenbach, Pottstown.
  
- **Keith R. Miller** - Class of 1977 - Born in Reading, he was the son of Patricia L. (Anderson) Miller and the late Raymond J. Miller. Keith attended Grace Assembly of God in Spring City. He worked as a mortgage broker at Susquehanna Bank. Prior to that, he was a car salesman at the former Williams Pontiac in Boyertown. Keith was a sports enthusiast who enjoyed high school football, baseball and wrestling, as well as semi-pro football, and AAA softball. He was also an avid bowler.
  
- **Parke Frederic "Fred" Myers** – Class of 1962 – Fred was 72, of Pottstown, husband of Phyllis A. Myers. Born in Pottstown, PA, he was a son of the late Parker Myers and the late Jane (Hahn) Myers. Fred worked for the Pottstown Mercury and also for the former Firestone Tire & Rubber Co. He was a lifetime member and volunteer fire fighter of North End Fire Company, loved spending summers in Pot Nets in Delaware. He also loved spending time with his grandchildren and grand puppies. Surviving besides his wife are two daughters Nancy J. wife of Randy Sellers, Pottstown; Jill I. Myers, Pottstown; two grandchildren Erin L. & Cole J. Sellers; and a niece Susan wife of Richard Tokonitz, Pottstown. He was predeceased by a brother Herbert Myers.





## FALLEN TROJAN STAFF



- **Martha Jane Williams**, 93, was the wife of the late Robert E. Williams who died in 2009. Born in Reading, PA, she was the daughter of the late Norman and Elizabeth (Rudy) Hardinger. Martha was a member of St. James Lutheran Church, Pottstown. She had worked as a Secretary for the Pottstown School District for over 40 years until she retired. Prior, Mrs. Williams had worked for Glidden of Reading. Martha enjoyed playing cards, crosswords and holidays with her family and loved to travel.

- **Randy Heffentrager**, 50, was the husband of Gaylene Marie (Crabtree) and the father to son Ryan and daughter Cassy. Born in Ephrata, PA, he was the son of Richard V. and Bonnie R. (McGowan) Heffentrager. Randy was a computer technician for 12 years in the IT Department of the Pottstown School District. He was a member of Exeter Bible Church.



- **Melissa (Thompson) Scaltrito** – Class of 1977 – Born Melissa (Missy) Mae Thompson May 5, 1959 in Pottstown to Carroll E Thompson and Marilyn J (Focht) Thompson both deceased. Melissa graduated from The Allentown School of Nursing in 1984. Melissa was as a nurse at Allentown Hospital starting in 1984, Paoli Hospital in 1990, and ManorCare Health Services. She worked as a nurse in the Pottsgrove, Boyertown, and Pottstown school districts including the past five years as part time School Nurse at Rupert Elementary School. Having a passion for helping young children, Melissa began working part time this past year at the Warwick Child Care Centers.
- **Rev. Daniel H. Gerber, Sr.** - Class of 1954 – He taught vo-tech in the Pottstown School District, 1966-1971, where he also coached football, basketball, and track. He was the husband of Joyce A. (Rhoads) Gerber, with whom he shared 59 years of marriage. Pastor Dan was born in Tamanend, PA, to the late Edgar G. Gerber and Margaret M. (Hess) Gerber. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree from United Wesleyan College in Allentown, PA. Pastor Dan was formerly a foreman at the Stanley G. Flagg Co in Pottstown, the Jerry Fegley Machine Shop in Pottstown and Gallo Machine in Gilbertsville, PA. While at Fegley's, he entered the pastorate of the Wesleyan Christian Church, Pottstown. He also served as Chaplain of the Ringing Hills Fire Company and as executive secretary of Seyfert Camp Grounds, Gibraltar, PA. From 1989 to 2002 he was a joint owner of The Gerber's Cup Family Restaurant, "The Cup" in Pottstown. Rev. Gerber enjoyed giving of his time, talent and treasure to help others. He also enjoyed golfing, hunting, and in earlier years bowling.

- **Joseph J. Jones** - husband of the late Sophie (Racis) Jones and Ann "Nancy" (Chomnuk) Jones, passed away on Thursday, Jan. 1 at Pottstown Memorial Medical Center. Born in Nanticoke, he was the son of the late Joseph M. and Esther A. (Maza) Jones. Joseph graduated from Nanticoke High School, followed by an enlistment in the Navy, serving during European Occupation and the [Korean War](#) on the USS Tarawa. He attended Bloomsburg State University where he was a member of Gamma Theta Upsilon fraternity and graduated in 1957 with a bachelor's degree in teaching. He also attended Kutztown University earning a master's degree in 1960. He was employed as a history and geography teacher, coach and assistant athletic director in the Pottstown School district for 30 plus years. He enjoyed Pottstown sports, attending many events before and after retirement. He was also a football scout for Penn State for 15 plus years, concentrating on the Northeast. Joe was a member of the Pottstown Polkateer dance club, enjoyed traveling to the beach with family and, later in life, traveling the world. He was highly involved in Pottstown politics and attended many events in support of the Mayor, late Ann "Nancy" Jones. He portrayed John Potts at many of the Pottstown events. He also enjoyed golfing with faculty friends before and after retirement.

## **ALUMNI**

- **Forrest Ginder** – Class of 1932 – Was recently honored by the Pottsgrove School District for being one of the founding fathers of their school system. At 99 years old, Forrest still shows his commitment to community service by being actively involved with class reunions and civic responsibilities. He is one of the reasons we say, “Proud to be from Pottstown.”
- **Dartel McRae** – Class of 2003 – Dartel is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh with degrees in political science and philosophy. Currently he is an actor/writer in New York City having performed in a number of small theater productions. He was one of the stars in a short film which premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival. His television experience includes appearances on the Discovery channel, Boardwalk Empire, and “The Black Box,” which premiered on NBC.
- **Seth Pihanich** – Class of 2008 - Seth is a 2012 graduate of Edinboro University with a dual degree in sports administration and recreation administration. He also obtained a minor in speech and communication. His first venture into the work world was as box office manager with the Erie SeaWolves minor league baseball team. He then relocated to North Carolina and became a qualified park ranger and serves in the U.S. Parks Service.
- **Candace Benson** - Class of 2010 – Candace was one of two finalists in the nationally televised BET Sunday Best Gospel Singing Contest. She survived nine rounds of weekly competition on national television and helped to put Pottstown on the map. Candace is presently a music major at Montgomery County Community College and the Director of Music at Bethel AME Church in West Chester. She, along with our other alumni, gives us reason to say “Proud to be from Pottstown.” Congratulations to Candace Benson, - watch her sing by clicking here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xCyrp\\_mmQiU#t=12](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xCyrp_mmQiU#t=12)
- **Jacob Slick** – Class of 2010 – Jacob is attending Hartwick College and is a member of the football team. As an offensive lineman, he helped pave the way for Hartwick’s running back to gain over 331 yards on 51 carries in a game against Morrisville State.

- **Courtney McKain** – Class of 2010 – She is a recent graduate of Hofstra University. She spent her summer working for the minor league baseball team The Reading Fightin Phils in marketing and sales. She is currently employed by QVC managing audio and graphics for their live television shows. Courtney is also assisting in the production of a short film exploring the challenges of a teenage girl who has recently had her parents pass away. For more information about the film click below:  
<https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/finding-home-hofstra-thesis-film>
- **Kasey Mock** – Class of 2010 – A recent graduate of Syracuse University was an All-American lacrosse player and recently was named Assistant Women's Lacrosse Coach at George Washington University.
- **Jeffrey Endy** – Class of 2011 – Jeffrey is attending Ursinus College and as a member of the football team he helped lead them to a victory over The College of New Jersey.
- **Rashaad Lighty** – Class of 2012 – Rashaad is a junior member of the Delaware Valley College football team and helped lead his team to an opening season victory over Mont Clair State.
- **Sage Reinhart** – Class of 2013 – Sage is a member of the Moravian football team and helped lead his team to an opening season victory over Kings College.
- **Jake Wunderlich** – Class of 2014 – Jake is a freshmen member of the marching band at Kutztown University
- **Chad Repko – Class of 1995 and Stephen Kent – Class of 1997** – Poet Chad Repko and Artist Stephen Kent recently had their work published in the Thought Notebook Literary and Visual Arts Journal.

Learn more about Pottstown schools – visit [www.pottstownschoools.com](http://www.pottstownschoools.com) and register for our FREE email information service.