

Parkway Alumni Association

Hall

of

Fame

2010



**Parkway Alumni Association
Hall of Fame Celebration
Saturday, Nov. 13, 2010**

Reception (5:30 p.m.)

Dinner (6:30 p.m.)

Welcome (7:15 p.m.)

Alumni Association Video

Wally Flick – President, Parkway Alumni Association

History of Parkway

Presentation of the Albert Awards

Dr. Al Burr, Guest Speaker

Opening Remarks

Gary Mazzola – Master of Ceremonies
and Principal of Parkway South High School

Keynote Speech

Eric Greitens – Parkway Hall of Fame 2004
Task Unit Commander for all Naval Special Warfare Boat Forces in CENTCOM
and CEO of The Mission Continues

Presentation of Inductees

Concluding Remarks



*The Alumni Association thanks those who have made
donations in honor of people who have made
significant contributions to society and in memory
of outstanding alumni.*

In honor of:

- Dr. Al Burr, by William Thompson, Hall of Fame Class of 2008
- Hayes Barnard, Hall of Fame Class of 2010, by Ron Edwards
 - The late Dr. Simon G. Wall, by Ron Edwards
 - Gloria Stephenson, by Vickie Hankammer
 - Dr. Victoria Dorr, by Marlene Matyshak,
to the Chris Reid Memorial Fund

In honor of the Hall of Fame Class of 2010:

- Laqueta Barstow
- Dr. Victoria Dorr, Hall of Fame Class of 2010
 - Stuart Fraser, Hall of Fame Class of 2004
- Cordia (Barton) Harrington, Hall of Fame 2004
- Kristina Schmidt, Hall of Fame Class of 2008
- Jan (Wall) Misuraca, Hall of Fame Class of 2008
- Dr. Brad Warner, Hall of Fame Class of 2004

*Sharing the memories....Building the future.
For donation information please, see the last page of the program.*

Gary Mazzola, Master of Ceremonies

The Master of Ceremonies for this evening is South High Principal Gary Mazzola. He is truly what some people call a “Parkway product,” beginning as an eager kindergartner at Claymont Elementary, moving on to West Junior as a tweener, and finally graduating in 1976 at West High.

After getting his degree at the University of Missouri–St. Louis, Mazzola returned to Parkway and began his teaching career at West Junior. He then taught business education at North High, where he became assistant principal before continuing his administrative career at South High.

Mazzola has been the Patriots’ principal for the past 12 years. He was honored for his contributions to the school district with the Pillar of Parkway award in 2005. He honors the district and the Parkway Alumni Association tonight by emceeding the 2010 Hall of Fame celebration.

Dr. Albert Burr, Guest Speaker

Dr. Al Burr arrived in St. Louis County in 1957 to teach mathematics and help open Parkway’s first secondary school, Parkway Jr./Sr. High School. He became Parkway’s first assistant principal, first junior high principal, first director of Parkway Adult Education and first director of the Parkway Summer School. Dr. Burr served as principal of Parkway Junior High School, Parkway High School and Parkway West High School over a 20-year span.

Dr. Burr was named one of the 60 most exemplary principals in the United States in a study by the National Association of Secondary School Principals. In 1990, he was recognized as one of the nation’s 100 most outstanding school executives.

He served as national chairman of the National Honor Society, as a member of the board of directors of the National Merit Scholarship Program, and chaired 19 North Central Association evaluation teams. He was president of both the Missouri State High School Activities Association and the National Federation of State High School Activities. Dr. Burr received the highest awards presented by the Missouri Association of Secondary School Principals and the Missouri State Department of Education, the Robert Howe Award and the Missouri Pioneer in Education Award, respectively. On July 8, 2000, Dr. Burr was inducted into the National High School Sports Hall of Fame.

Most of all, Dr. Burr is an educator who loves kids and has unlimited respect for them. He is perhaps best characterized by the fact that for 30 years he memorized homemade flash cards that matched the names and faces of his incoming freshmen and new students so he could greet everyone by name on the first day of school. As his schools often had over 2,300 students, this was quite an accomplishment.

Since retiring from the principalship in 1991, Dr. Burr has conducted educational and leadership seminars and keynoted conferences throughout the U.S., Canada, Bermuda and the Virgin Islands.

Eric Greitens, Keynote Speaker

Eric Greitens [North '92] was an Angier B. Duke Scholar at Duke University where he graduated with a degree in ethics and public policy. Selected as a Rhodes and Truman Scholar, he attended the University of Oxford from 1996 through 2000. There he earned a master's degree in development studies in 1998, and a doctorate in politics in 2000.

Greitens research was driven by his humanitarian work in war zones, and his thesis, "Children First," investigated the ways in which international humanitarian organizations can best serve war-affected children. He has worked as a humanitarian volunteer, documentary photographer, and researcher in Croatia, Rwanda, Zaire, the Gaza Strip, Albania, Cambodia, (Chiapas) Mexico, Bolivia, and India. His award-winning documentary photographs were featured in the book, "Community Strategies for Healing," and his published photographs and writings have clarified for millions of people across the globe the sad plight of children in these poverty-stricken and war-torn areas. He co-founded The Mission Continues to provide wounded veterans with opportunities for ongoing public service through placements with local community organizations, empowering veterans with the message that their abilities and experience remain valued.

Greitens has also served as a U.S. Navy SEAL officer during the war on terrorism. He has served as the Commander of a Mark V Detachment, responsible for leading two Special Operations Craft and 20 men in the conduct of operations against known terrorists. He also deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, where he conducted operations to support the capture of terrorist leadership. His next assignment will be as the Task Unit Commander for all Naval Special Warfare Boat Forces in CENTCOM.

While at Duke University, Greitens was the chairman and founder of the Mayor's University Advisory Council for the mayor of Durham, N.C. He was chairman of the Duke University Honor Council and served as the editor-in-chief for an academic journal. He graduated Summa Cum Laude and was named to the USA Today All-USA academic first team.

Greitens' athletic achievements include a gold medal at the BUSA National Boxing Championships and, as a member of the U.S. Navy's Regional Marathon Team, qualification for the Boston Marathon.

He was selected this past July to represent the St. Louis Cardinals as an "All-Star Among Us" at the 2010 MLB All-Star Game.

The Alumni Association extends special thanks to:

•The Hall of Fame Selection Committee

•The Parkway Chamber Strings Quartet

Marilyn Humiston, Nancy Chow, Charles Brookman and Ken Rapini

•Deana Parsons, Writer

•Parkway School District

•Sheraton Westport Hotels for their hospitality

The Albert Awards

The Parkway Alumni Association is pleased to announce the annual Albert Awards, named in honor of Dr. Al Burr, a retired teacher, coach, and long-distinguished principal in the district. Throughout his half century in education, Al Burr has motivated countless educators by both his professional practice and his public speaking.

The award is funded by the Al Burr Make-a-Difference Fund for the purpose of recognizing teachers who are inspiring others at the very earliest stages of their careers. By sponsoring this award, the Parkway Alumni Association is doing its best to ensure that this tradition continues and flourishes!



Anna Basler— Kindergarten Teacher, Claymont Elementary (2010)

Few beginning teachers are blessed with all of the abilities that comprise an ideal teacher, but Anna Basler is the exception. In her third year as an educator, Basler is a model educator and implements the Parkway curriculum like a pro. Her classroom is full of diverse learners, including students with autism, multilingual abilities, hearing disabilities, language delays, gifted abilities, and others with unique education needs. Most of her students rise well above the performance expectations for kindergarten in reading and writing.

Basler has been visited by dozens of professionals seeking a model for effective kindergarten curriculum implementation. Her room served as a model classroom for district literacy coaches and teachers seeking to improve their craft and to observe how she uses technology in kindergarten education.

In April 2009, Basler received the Outstanding Beginning Teacher Award from St. Louis University, as well as the St. Louis University College of Education's Outstanding Alumni Award.



Michael Ozburn—REACH (2010)

Beginning a teaching career is always an uphill climb, and even more so when the students to be taught are behaviorally and academically challenged. Michael Ozburn overcomes those obstacles teaching his students how to think, how to approach problems and how to solve them.

Three years ago, he and a colleague developed the district's REACH Program for a select group of eighth-graders who are at-risk due to poor academic performance, social skills and classroom behavior. Whether his students are learning math through a fantasy football project, making robots or learning about flight at the Boeing flight facility, they learn to succeed.

An exceptional amount of preparation and thought go into his lesson planning for math and science. He works one-on-one with students before school, at lunch and after school. He also makes himself available during evenings and weekends to answer homework questions that students pose to him online.



Dave Beck—English Teacher, North High (2010)

Though he is only in his second year of teaching, Dave Beck embodies what Parkway seeks in veteran teachers. An active reader, critical thinker and conversationalist, Beck creates a natural classroom climate that mirrors his own intellectual capabilities. He believes that books can inspire kids to come to school. He has worked with counselors and other school personnel to help kids with serious personal and family issues—suicide, autism and family tragedies—and reaches out to help them feel like

In addition to coaching varsity soccer in the spring and fall semesters, he volunteers to teach ACT prep classes after school. He also has worked with the FOCUS Youth Leadership group as a way to better serve the students of the community.



In Stacy Wright's fourth-grade classroom, she treats her class like a family. She cultivates and maintains close relationships with each of her students and their families, creating an atmosphere for learning where children of all abilities thrive.

Sometimes she takes on additional work to obtain the resources necessary to challenge each child. Although her expectations are high, her students strive to meet them because they like and respect her.



Now in her second year of teaching, Cecilia Ryon handles her students and the classroom like a veteran, using technology to improve and enhance students' learning.

She consistently offers personal learning choices, but makes a point of teaching students to fish instead of always providing the fish for them.

Charlie Cutelli is described as a high-octane individual. His enthusiasm for science spills over and encapsulates students in learning. His classroom is always full of commotion, but it's constructive interaction, whether it occurs through labs or activities. He declined an opportunity to teach honors-level classes, citing his desire to make a difference for those students who tend to score toward the lower end of the academic scale and who struggle in regular class sections. Providing help to kids who need a boost was his motivation to become a teacher, and it is obvious that he makes a difference

An alumnus of Parkway South High, Cutelli also is head water polo coach, girls cross country coach, and co-sponsor of West's Peer Teacher program. His students see him as a role model, someone vested in them as individuals. He works with several students every year in the Washington University Saturday Scholars Program, and is a consultant for the University of Missouri's Maps in Medicine program, which seeks to increase student understanding of basic biology and human health.



Norm Bafunno

**Fern Ridge Elementary • North Jr.
North High '79**

On July 1, 2010, Norm Bafunno was named the first American president of Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Indiana, Inc., overseeing the production of three vehicle lines and 4,600 team members. It is a post he has earned through much hard work and dedication to his profession, as well as his ability to see people as individuals who deserve compassion and respect.

Among his accomplishments at Toyota: leading the original Indiana Greenfield production team in 1998, supporting the Texas Tundra launch in 2006, localizing the Highlander vehicle to Indiana in 2009 and introducing the Tacoma vehicle to Texas in 2010. Bafunno's rise to his current position as president was preceded by his term as vice president of production engineering for Toyota Motor Engineering and Manufacturing, Inc., in Erlanger, Ky. His various responsibilities involved all 14 of the company's North American facilities.

Bafunno joined Toyota in March 1997 as general manager of production at the Princeton, Ind., Greenfield site. Before joining TMMI, he spent 14 years in engineering and management with General Motors Corporation.

A believer that service leads to true character development and lifelong friendships, Bafunno is deeply involved in the community. The Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra, the Southwestern Indiana American Red Cross, the United Way, the University of Evansville-Global Enterprise Project and the Indiana Manufacturers Association are among the various organizations that have benefited from his leadership. He also has coached several of his children's soccer, hockey and baseball teams.

Bafunno graduated with a B.S. degree in mechanical engineering from Purdue University ('83) and a masters of management from Northwestern University ('96).

Bafunno and his family, including wife Juli (North '80), reside in Evansville, Ind.





Hayes Barnard

Central High '91

Hayes Barnard is a wonderful example of someone who was not deterred by adversity when he was a student at Parkway Central High School, but was inspired by it.

Through diligence and hard work, careful selection of role models and a gift for developing relationships with people whose talents complemented his own, Barnard pushed beyond the socioeconomic limitations of his childhood and became a successful businessman as well as a dependable, generous donor to charities.

After several years as a hugely successful sales representative for technology companies in Silicon Valley, Barnard and two of his friends decided to unite their entrepreneurial spirit. In 2003, they launched Paramount Equity, a group of companies dedicated to saving families money, headquartered in Sacramento. Leading three separate companies in the mortgage, insurance and solar energy industries, Paramount Equity has assisted residential homeowners in six states. By the end of 2008, Paramount employed more than 300 people and completed over \$6.5 billion in loans, making it one of the largest and most successful residential mortgage banking companies on the West Coast.

Both Barnard and his company have received many business and civic awards. Under his leadership, Paramount received the Sacramento Business Journal A+ Employer Award for large companies in 2006, placing in the top three in 2007 and again in first place for large companies in 2009. In 2008, he was awarded the Oregon Broadcaster's Advertiser of the Year Award, followed by the Roseville Chamber of Commerce's Entrepreneur of the Year Award in 2009. Paramount Equity Mortgage has been recognized as a New California 100 Innovative Business by Golden Capital Network and Hamilton Lane.

Barnard also has been honored as one of the 40 Most Influential National Mortgage Professionals Under 40 by National Mortgage Professional Magazine, and recognized as one of Sacramento Business Journal's 40-Under-40 Most Influential Business Professionals in the Sacramento region.

He is an active member of the Sacramento Chapter of the Entrepreneurs Organization and the Positive Coaching Alliance, and is a board member of the Sacramento Liquidity Event for 2009 and 2010.

His company has donated hundreds of thousands of dollars to charity—Barnard pays his employees to dedicate one percent of their work year toward charitable causes. Many organizations have benefitted from this policy, including Habitat for Humanity, the Susan G. Koman Foundation, the Make-A-Wish Foundation, Shriners Hospital for Children, Red Cross and Volunteers of America. In December 2009, Barnard took a group of associates to a village in Africa and built a school—a tribute to the high value he places on education and to helping others.

Barnard earned his B.S. degree in business/marketing from the University of Missouri in 1995.

A firm believer that life is what you make it, he keeps in mind the following quote by Walt Disney: "All your dreams can come true if you have the courage to pursue them."

Barnard, his wife Jessica, and their three children—Luke, Ava and Reese—reside in Granite Bay, Calif.



Samantha Elliott Briggs, Ph.D.

South Junior • South '91

Having committed her career to being a change agent in the field of education, Samantha Elliott Briggs has served others as a classroom teacher, nonprofit program director, curriculum writer, and consultant.

Briggs began her career as a teacher in the Atlanta Public Schools, and later taught in the Tuscaloosa, Ala., city schools. These experiences made her aware of the differences in the educational opportunities afforded to students from different racial and socio-economic backgrounds, and it became her mission to change it.

However, it was in childhood that she first became exposed to social inequality. Not only was her father an attorney for the NAACP, but he also served as council on the original lawsuit to desegregate St. Louis public schools. Briggs says her father never hid the realities of an unjust world; instead, he found ways to incorporate those life lessons into her social development in order to foster critical thinking. One way was to withdraw her from the comfort of neighborhood private schools and enroll her in the voluntary interdistrict transfer program at Parkway's South Junior.

Briggs was an outstanding student who saw an immediate need for peacemaking, breaking down racial stereotypes and building rapport and understanding among her peers. She got involved in the district's Committee on Race Relations and the superintendent's Leadership Advisory Council, and co-founded South High's Black Cultural Association. These experiences and others fueled her eventual career decision to discover ways of eliminating gender, race, and economic biases in the classroom in order to bridge the social and achievement gap among mainstream and diverse populations.

To that end, Briggs founded P.E.A.C.E. Academy (Providing Equal Access to Children in Education), a nonprofit organization which focuses on academic enrichment, mentoring, leadership development and community building, as well as P.E.A.C.E. Educational Consulting. In addition, she has served as director of the Greene County Math and Science Program since 2003, providing academic enrichment to impoverished youth in the rural community of Eutaw, Ala. She is an adjunct faculty member at several local colleges and universities, including the University of Alabama and Samford University. From 2007-09, she was director of Mix It Up, an initiative of the Southern Poverty Law Center's Teaching Tolerance program in Montgomery.

Briggs has made numerous presentations at institutions such as Harvard University, the U.S. Department of State, the Girl Scouts of Southern Alabama and Auburn University in Montgomery. Additionally, she has been a valuable grant consultant for organizations seeking funding for gender- and race-related educational initiatives.

Briggs has published many articles on social equity in education. In 2009, she received the Distinguished Achievement Award from the Association of Educational Publishers. She also has been a mentee for the American Education Research Association, a George Washington Carver High School Woman of Distinction and a member of the Alpha Epsilon Lambda Honors Fraternity.

Briggs earned her Ph.D. in instructional leadership ('08) and her masters degree in women's studies ('01) at the University of Alabama. She earned her B.A. in early childhood education ('94) at Clark Atlanta University. She held several graduate assistantships and fellowships while earning her graduate degrees.

Briggs and her family reside in Birmingham, Ala.



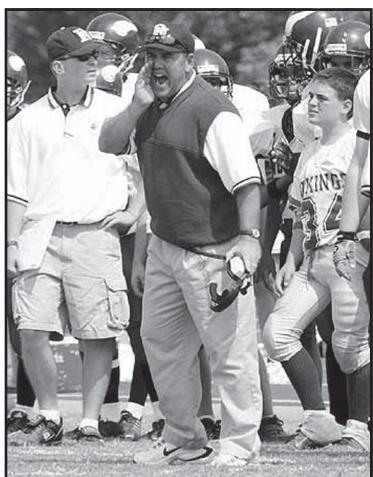
Bob Bunton

North High '78

Considered by all in the North High community to be a pillar of wisdom, experience and inner strength, Bob Bunton is the kind of educator and coach that people deeply appreciate and remember for the rest of their lives.

In his 27 years at North, Bunton has coached baseball and football while teaching history and driver education. As head football coach since 2000, he has led his teams to victories by a nearly 2-1 margin.

Bunton has instilled in his football players and students a sense of what it means to support and sustain their own community, as well as to help others outside their community. Since he became head coach at his alma mater in 2000, Bunton, his wife Stephanie and his gridiron Vikings have raised thousands of dollars for charities and causes that include pulmonary research at Cardinal Glennon Hospital and Nurses for Newborns. The athletes also have donated many volunteer hours through visits to pediatric patients at Ranken-Jordan Hospital, and collected donated clothes, toys and diapers. These efforts have branched into a network of participating schools, including Parkway Central, Eureka and Lafayette high schools, an association which forms the Bunton family's Huddle of Hope.

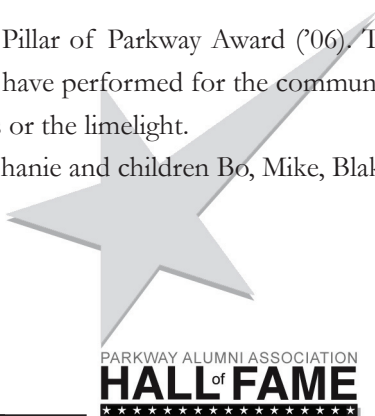


His many achievements include being selected as Suburban South Conference Coach of the Year ('02, '03, '06, '07), St. Louis Rams Coach of the Week ('06, '07, '09), and St. Louis Metro Coach of the Year ('06) by the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame. His teams have earned distinctions for success many times over the years, including the school's only undefeated football season ('06) and a Final Four berth in baseball ('03) and football ('09).

Bunton earned his B.S. in education at Southeast Missouri State University ('82) and his M.S. in education at Maryville University ('91).

Bunton is a recipient of the Pillar of Parkway Award ('06). The recognition was given for the many services that he and his students have performed for the community, and which have always been done in a way that did not seek accolades or the limelight.

He and his family—wife Stephanie and children Bo, Mike, Blake, Tiffany and Ross—reside in Chesterfield, Mo.





Brad Cohen

Central Junior • Central High '92

Choosing to completely reject the idea that someone with Tourette Syndrome could not be an educator, Brad Cohen is the epitome of what it means to persevere and overcome the obstacles that stop many people from pursuing their dreams.

Cohen, who first showed symptoms of TS in fourth grade, endured a childhood filled with unwanted attention and misunderstanding from peers as well as teachers due to his unusual neurological condition. He was often cited with a lack of self control for his inability to control the characteristic tics of TS. But his junior high school principal (who later became his high school principal) decided that Cohen deserved a break from persecution and gave him an opportunity to give the school a lesson on TS during a school assembly. The event helped turn around the school's perception of Cohen and TS, a condition which was not widely understood even by the medical community at the time. His college experience also was a challenge from a social perspective, but he eventually earned his degree in elementary education and was determined to become the kind of caring, supportive teacher he had needed as an adolescent.

Although he at first received 25 employment rejections, Cohen found an enlightened group of colleagues in Cobb County, Ga., who had faith in him. He subsequently taught second and third grades, then became a technology lab instructor who was also in charge of staff development as an area lead teacher for several schools in Gwinnett County. His monumental struggle for acceptance and recognition of his intelligence, ability and potential was confirmed when he was chosen to receive Georgia's Sallie Mae First Year Teacher of the Year Award 1997. In 2000, he was presented with the Atlanta Braves/Bell South Excellence in Education Award at Turner Field, where he also worked part-time as a mascot for the baseball team.

Today, Cohen is an assistant principal at Addison Elementary school in Cobb County. His award winning book, *Front of the Class: How Tourette Syndrome Made Me the Teacher I Never Had*, was the basis for a biographical movie produced by the Hallmark Hall of Fame network and aired on CBS in 2008. The press has recognized his extraordinary achievements, as well—he has been interviewed by Oprah, CNN, People Magazine, The New York Times and other mainstream news venues about his experiences growing up with TS and his work to foster understanding and acceptance of all people, especially those with characteristics that make them different from the mainstream.

In addition to his career as an educator, Cohen founded Camp Twitch and Shout, is President of the nonprofit Brad Cohen Tourette Foundation and is a motivational speaker.

Cohen graduated cum laude from Bradley University ('96) with a B.A. degree in elementary education/psychology. He received his M.A. in early childhood education ('98), as well as an Ed.S. degree ('00) in early childhood education and certification in leadership and administration from Georgia State University in Atlanta. He was recognized as the Bradley University Outstanding Alumnus in 2009.

Cohen and his wife, Nancy, recently welcomed the birth of their son, Dylan. They reside in Atlanta.



Rear Admiral Philip S. Davidson **– U.S. Navy** **Green Trails • Henry • Clayton Woods** **West Junior • West High '78**

Rear Admiral Phil Davidson leads 11 ships, over 60 aircraft and more than 6,000 Navy men and women as the Commander, Carrier Strike Group EIGHT/Commander, EISENHOWER Strike Group.

In July 2010, he returned from a seven-month deployment overseas where his Strike Group's operations included close air support to U.S. and NATO troops in Afghanistan, counter-piracy operations in the Indian Ocean, and maritime security operations with allies and partners in the Persian Gulf region.



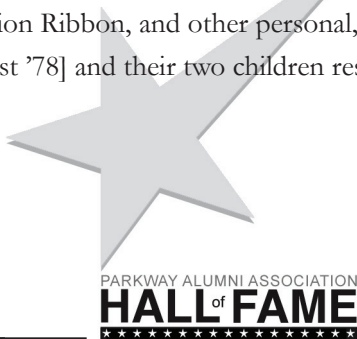
He is a career surface warfare officer whose early service was in frigates and destroyers in both the Atlantic and Pacific Fleets. Later, he commanded the guided missile frigate USS Taylor (FFG50) and the guided missile cruiser USS Gettysburg (CG64), winning Battle Efficiency awards for the most outstanding ship and crew in its squadron or group with both ships. He is a combat veteran of Operations Enduring Freedom and Desert Shield/Desert Storm. He also participated in the search and salvage of Korean Air Lines

(KAL) 007, the enforcement of U.N. sanctions against illegal Iraqi shipping and goods, and the interdiction and seizure of more than 28 metric tons of illegal narcotics during his career. Additionally, he has served ashore in important roles in the Pentagon and other Navy headquarters, and as a military aide to the vice president (1993-95) in the White House.

Davidson is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy ('82) with a B.S. degree in physics. He earned an M.A. degree in national security and strategic studies at the U.S. Naval War College ('92).

He has received numerous military awards, including multiple awards of the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit and the Meritorious Service Medal, as well as the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat V, the Combat Action Ribbon, and other personal, service, unit and campaign awards.

Davidson, his wife Tracy [West '78] and their two children reside in Norfolk, Va.





Terry Donnelly

North Junior • North '76

Today he is a successful entrepreneur who owns a nationwide supplies distribution company with his brother, Brian (North '80). But Terry Donnelly initially demonstrated his tenacity and thirst for excellence on the basketball court at North High and later at Michigan State University in the NCAA playoffs.

In 1979, in a contest that was billed “the game that forever changed college basketball,” Donnelly helped lead the Spartans (with teammate Earvin “Magic” Johnson) to a national title in a game against Indiana State (with player Larry Bird). He is the only St. Louis athlete ever to have won a Division I NCAA National Championship in basketball. He earned the Academic All Big Ten Team recognition in 1978, as well.

He won the Chester L. Brewer Award, which is presented to a graduating senior for athletic and academic achievement and for possessing a high level of character, skill and leadership qualities. North High continues to honor its top male student athletes with an award in Donnelly’s name. His #11 jersey was retired by North’s basketball program and, many years after his graduation, he is still considered to be one of the school’s top student athletes for achievement in athletics and academics.

Although he was a gifted athlete in high school, his first serious notice among college coaches did not come until his senior year, when he scored 25 points and won a slam-dunk contest at the Missouri-Illinois high school all-star game. His strong work ethic served him well as he took his basketball and academic pursuits to Michigan State University, where he was selected as assist leader and team captain, Defensive Player of the Year ('80), and achieved the fourth highest free-throw percentage in MSU history.

Affectionately known as “TD” to his lifelong friends and fans, he stands out as a person who faced long odds, yet through great resolve and character, an unyielding work ethic and pursuit of a goal, he and those he has inspired have achieved greatness in life. He returns to North High on a regular basis to speak to the students about character, leadership and academic success—the three elements of what he calls “the complete person” who can be successful both on and off the court.

He began his business career as a stockbroker at firms such as Smith Barney, Lehman Brothers and Dean Witter. Since 1990, he and his brother have been partners at Donnelly Hamco in Houston, Texas., a company started by their father.

Donnelly earned a B.A. degree in business at Michigan State University ('81).

He and his family—wife Melissa, daughter Claire, and son Nicholas—reside in Highland Village, Texas.





Victoria Dorr, M.D.

Claymont • West Junior

West High '83

Dr. Victoria Dorr had planned to study ophthalmology in college until a classmate developed brain cancer after high school graduation, inspiring her to pursue a career in oncology and hematology. Today, she is a respected member of the cancer community, with her research and publications often used by those involved in the battle to find a cure.

After graduating from medical school, she was an assistant professor and fellowship director for the University of Missouri-Columbia, where she published several papers, authored several book chapters and co-authored a book on chemotherapy.

Now back in St. Louis, she devotes herself to her practice at Christian Hospital-Northeast, where her goal is to create an atmosphere where superior medical care and human compassion are equal considerations in the treatment of her patients.

Dorr holds membership in many professional organizations, including the American Medical Association, the American College of Physicians and the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She holds board certification with the National Board of Medical Examiners, the American Board of Internal Medicine and the American Board of Internal Medicine in Oncology.

During her career, she has made numerous presentations and authored many publications regarding patient care, diagnosis and treatment for many types of cancer. She is now the co-author of two books—*The Chemotherapy Sourcebook* (1997) and *Companion Handbook to the Chemotherapy Sourcebook* (1999)—which have become standards in the medical field for administering and managing chemotherapy for cancer patients.

Dorr earned her B.A. and M.D. degrees in six years at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. She completed an internship ('90) and residency in internal medicine ('92), as well as a fellowship in hematology/oncology ('95) at the University of Kansas-Kansas City.

"The education that I received at Parkway was phenomenal," says Dorr, who graduated from the accelerated medical school program at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. "The average load per regular semester was 21-plus hours and the summer semester was 10 hours. Those of us who came from Parkway schools were able to adapt much easier to the workload."

Dorr resides in St. Louis. In her spare time, she and her two sons have started a vineyard, the Indian Bluff Winery, where they are learning about the principles of business, plant management and how to make wine.



Cindy (Owens) Erickson

West High '85

Cindy Erickson's passion for public health, humanitarianism and philanthropy has guided her career.

Since 2009, she has led the 15th-largest American Red Cross chapter in the country, dedicated to helping people prevent, prepare for and respond to disasters and emergencies. During her short tenure, Cindy has realigned five Red Cross chapters and 45 counties into a regional network serving more than 3.5 million people. She continues to set national standards in disaster readiness and provide leadership for a national initiative called Red Cross Ready Rating that is revolutionizing emergency preparedness.

Prior to the Red Cross, Erickson was vice president at Innolect, Inc. ('05-'08), an organizational development and coaching firm, where she specialized in organizational leadership and public health. She also spent 14 years in leadership capacities for the American Lung Association in New York City, Florida and Missouri. Erickson was living and working in New York City on Sept. 11, 2001 as the chief executive officer for the American Lung Association of New York City; immediately following the tragedy, she established "Operation Return Home," which educated thousands of people about lung health after exposure to hazardous debris.

Before moving to NYC in 1996, Erickson served as assistant executive director for the American Lung Association of Florida ('92-'95) and in the development department of the United Way of Greater St. Louis ('90-'92). She has served as a consultant, board member and advisor to various nonprofit organizations, including several American Lung Associations, the American Thoracic Society, the Alexander Youth Network of North Carolina, Messiah Now, the Ronald McDonald House of San Diego, World Trade Center Disaster Relief Fund and the Women's Leadership Society Cabinet of United Way of Greater St. Louis. Her passion for public health led her to become the spokesperson for the Missouri Committee for a Healthy Future in 2006, and to be a guest lecturer at Washington University and St. Louis University, as well as the 2010 Meta-Leadership Summit in St. Louis. Erickson has received many honors and is most proud of the impact of the partnerships that she has had the opportunity to be a part of during her career.

Erickson earned her B.S. degree in marketing from Missouri State University ('89) and an M.P.A. degree in public administration from the University of North Florida ('95).

Erickson was inspired and encouraged by many of her teachers and coaches from Parkway. She credits her compassion for others, sense of humor and ability to persevere to her deep faith, as well as her family and friends. She resides in St. Louis with her husband John.



Ahmed Ghouri, M.D.

South High '84

Dr. Ahmed Ghouri has gone beyond his work with individual patients and is trying to make a difference in the way medical care is provided by doctors worldwide using intelligent and real-time clinical analytics, or clinical decision support.

A board-certified anesthesiologist and biomedical engineer, Ghouri founded Anvita Health, a medical informatics company where he is Chief Medical Officer, following seed investment by leading St. Louis philanthropists and physicians. Since 2000, the company has provided doctors with an efficient method of supporting new diagnoses and finding optimal treatments using technology which interprets patient data in subseconds. An ancient

Sanskrit word, “anvita” means “bridging gaps in understanding.” He writes a blog about emerging health-care trends at AnvitaHealth.com. In 2007, Anvita was selected to be a principal collaborator and clinical analytics engine for Google Health, which developed healthcare’s first patient-controlled and interoperable electronic medical record.

In 1991, Ghouri was a co-investigator in Phase III clinical trials at Washington University Medical School, where he researched investigational new drugs flumazenil (Romazicon) and desflurane (Suprane) for use for the first time in humans. These medications were later FDA approved and became market-leading medicines in the field of anesthesiology.

Before establishing Anvita Health, Ghouri was an assistant clinical professor at the University of California’s Irvine School of Medicine and an attending anesthesiologist at Cedars Sinai Medical Center in Beverly Hills. Ghouri has authored more than 70 scientific publications, and has 11 issued and pending U.S. patents in medicine, software design, and biomedical informatics.

Ghouri earned his M.D. at Washington University School of Medicine, where he also completed a clinical research fellowship. Although Ahmed matriculated into Washington University’s Medical School before completing his bachelor’s degree, he took undergraduate courses also at the same University, with a principal interest in mathematics and physics.

Ghouri resides in San Diego, Calif.





Sarah Haskins

Wren Hollow • South Junior

South High '99

As a world-class competitor, Sarah Haskins continues to make her mark in triathlons around the world and among young people who see her as a role model.

In 2008, she finished in 11th place at the Olympic Games held in Beijing, China. She also placed second at the 2008 ITC World Championships, held in Vancouver. In 2009, she placed first in the Life Time Fitness Toyota Cup Triathlon, held in Minneapolis. She has traveled around the world during her career to compete in

locations that include New Zealand, South Korea, Germany, Australia, Hungary, Portugal, Japan, Mexico, Switzerland, Brazil and Spain.

Her career as a triathlete began in 2004, after working as a teaching assistant at Parkway's Hanna Woods Elementary and as an assistant cross country coach at South High.

As a student at South High, she was a scholar athlete and a state champion in swimming and cross country. In college, she attended the University of Tulsa on a cross



country/track scholarship, and had great success.

Haskins continues to be a mentor to student athletes while training for the next Olympic Games, encouraging students to take care of themselves, to make good choices and to do their best each day. She likes to tell students that they should "always know that you gave it your best every day."

In Fall 2008, She was honored at South High during halftime at a football game by having her jersey retired as she was added to the Parkway South Athletic Hall of Fame. In 2009, she was honored as an Elite Athlete of the Year, an honor awarded annually by the USAT Athlete Advisory Council. She was one of the two athletes named as Olympic/ITU Triathletes of the Year in 2010.

Haskins graduated with her B.A. degree in elementary education and a minor in mathematics from the University of Tulsa ('03), where she graduated with honors.

She and her husband, Nathan Kortuem, reside in Colorado Springs, Col., home of the U.S. Olympic Training Center.



Jason James

West High '96

As the second-youngest Division I college basketball coach in the nation when he was hired by the University of Tennessee-Martin in 2009, Jason James has established a reputation as an individual who can achieve his goals.

Since he was 10 years old, James' goal was to become a college basketball coach. His motto, like that of legendary basketball coach Bob Hurley, is, "It's not about winning and losing, it's about your performance."

During his days as a student athlete at Graceland University in Iowa, James was named Freshman Basketball Player of the Year and captain of the basketball team. His teammates voted him Most Valuable Team Player.

After graduation, he began his teaching career at Ritenour Middle School in St. Louis as a physical education and health instructor. During that first year of his career, he also coached a high school all-star team from Michigan that placed third out of 54 teams at the USA Junior Nationals. One year later he moved to Forest Park Community College, where he began his coaching career as an assistant men's basketball coach. While at FPCC, the team finished second in the region and many of the players went on to Division I or II college basketball.

James began his tenure at the University of Tennessee-Martin in 2002 as an assistant coach, including the role of associate head coach during the 2008-09 Ohio Valley Conference championship season. That season, he helped guide the Skyhawks to a school record for OVC wins in one season (11), as UT-Martin won the OVC regular season championship for the first time in the school's history. He also hosted and won a first-round OVC tournament game that year.

In the community, James has been involved in the Character Counts program in the Weakley County schools, where he talks to students about the "six pillars of character"—trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship. He also has been an active participant in the D.A.R.E program; the Boys and Girls Clubs of Union City, Tenn.; the Coaches vs. Cancer program and Relay for Life to benefit the American Cancer Society.

James was captain of the football and basketball teams at West High during his senior year. He credits Coach Bill Sodemann with helping him form the philosophies that he now employs in coaching. He learned a lot about life during his Longhorn years, he says, including how to be professional and to work hard. His four brothers also are West alumni and his mother has been on the West professional staff for nearly two decades.

James lives by the credo, "People may doubt what you say but they will always believe what you do." This bit of advice came to him from his father, who taught him how to love and respect the game of basketball. He credits most of his success to his father, who taught him the value of being a loyal, dependable, trustworthy person.

James earned his bachelor's degree in physical education and health, with a coaching endorsement, at Graceland University ('00). He earned his master's degree in education at UT-Martin ('09).

He and his wife Danielle were recently married. They are expecting their first child.



Mark Johnson Central High '78

Using the latest technology to combat crime, Mark Johnson is an expert at finding byte-sized evidence as a computer forensic analyst for the Department of Justice, United States Attorney's Office–Western District of Missouri in Kansas City.

Johnson was instrumental in bringing computer forensics to the Midwest, where he established the Computer Crimes Unit at the Kansas City Police Department in 2000. Several years later, he assisted in setting up the Heart of America Regional Computer Forensics Lab for the Justice Department. The RCFL is a task force of local, state and federal law enforcement agencies that provides computer forensics in support of law enforcement for Kansas and western Missouri. The laboratory

works on many types of crime, but Johnson primarily works and testifies in cases involving child pornography, murder, computer intrusions and fraud. He has been recognized for his work on high-profile cases such as the Bobbie Jo Stinnett murder, the BTK murders and the Jack Rogers child pornography case.

Johnson has taught courses for many federal and state law enforcement agencies in the specialty of computer crime and forensic data recovery. He was an instructor for Guidance Software, a company that created the forensic software EnCase. He developed the first three practical exercises for the current International Association of Computer Investigative Specialists certification program, and helped write the federal guideline, "Forensic Examination of Digital Evidence: A Guide for Law Enforcement." In addition to his casework, he currently teaches computer-related topics and forensics at the Heart of America Regional Computer Forensics Laboratory and provides informational presentations to professional organizations and civic groups.

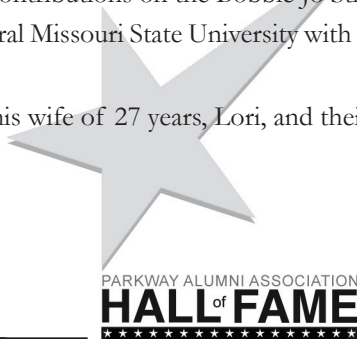
Johnson also worked for two years in the private sector ('07-'08) as a Senior Manager at Grant Thornton, an accounting and business services firm, where he was quickly promoted to National Director of Computer Forensics. He eventually missed the personal fulfillment of law enforcement, however, and returned to the U.S. attorney's office in 2008.

Before becoming involved in the high-tech branch of criminal prosecution, Johnson was a police officer for 17 years in the Kansas City, Missouri area. He held assignments on the Tactical Response Team, Street Narcotics Unit and Crime Scene Investigations.

In 2008-09, Johnson was president of the High Technology Criminal Investigator's Association. He is a member of the International Association of Computer Investigative Specialists. In 2005, he was presented with the Timothy Fidel Award for his contributions on the Bobbie Jo Stinnett murder case.

Johnson graduated from Central Missouri State University with a B.S. degree in Criminal Justice Administration ('83).

He lives in Kansas City with his wife of 27 years, Lori, and their children, Brielle and Hunter.





Denise (Appelbaum) Pupillo, Ed.D. Ross • North Junior • North High '78

Denise (Appelbaum) Pupillo has devoted her life to making a difference in the lives of all children, particularly those with unique learning needs.

As Parkway's coordinator for gifted education and coordinator for district grants and funding, she is one of Parkway's biggest advocates. She has worked diligently to restructure the gifted education program to provide a wider range of services for students of different learning abilities. Part of this restructuring included working with staff to design the MOSAICS (Maximizing Outstanding Student Achievement through Instruction, Curriculum and Support) program, including a self-contained program for exceptionally gifted students. She also has written curriculum and worked in collaboration with staff to develop Parkway's online curriculum guide for the gifted education program.

As the district's grant coordinator, Pupillo has authored and collaborated on several major grant applications in her role of coordinator of grants and funding for Parkway. She has secured millions of dollars in funding, including a recent \$1.5 million-dollar grant to provide focused professional development for Parkway's middle school mathematics teachers.

She also has led many initiatives, including the district's Diversity in Action program, long-range planning as a subcommittee leader on Project Parkway, and grant funding development opportunities for teachers.

Her support of students and teachers is both broad and deep. Pupillo has coached academic challenge competition teams, led a wide variety of workshops for teachers, coached five Odyssey-of-the-Mind teams and served as the lead for both the United Way drive and Parkway science fairs.

Pupillo has presented her work and research at the national, state, and local levels. Her work has included presentations such as Intelligence and How We Measure It, Utilizing Governmental Agencies to Advance Student Empowerment, and Gifted Education Programming and Curriculum Design.

Pupillo began her Parkway career as an assistant principal at Sorrento Springs Elementary ('00-'01). Prior to that role, she was an administrative intern in the Rockwood School District ('99-'00), a teacher at the Center for Creative Learning ('96-'99) and a teacher in the Francis Howell School District ('93-'96).

During her career, Pupillo has been presented with the John M. Kastner (Rockwood) Board of Education Award ('99), the Rockwood Superintendent's Certificate ('97, '98), runner-up recognition for the national President's Excellence in Mathematics and Science Award ('98) and nomination by the Francis Howell District for Sallie Mae First Year First Class Teacher Award ('93).

Pupillo earned her B.S. in elementary education at the University of Missouri-St. Louis ('92). She received her M.A. in educational processes with an emphasis on gifted education at Maryville University ('00), and her Ed.D. in educational administration at Saint Louis University ('03).

A dedicated mother of two children, Pupillo lives in St. Louis. She has three sisters and a brother who also are Parkway graduates.



Erin (Garrity) Rank

Central '82

Erin (Garrity) Rank is the president and CEO of Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles, an organization dedicated to eliminating poverty housing and making safe, affordable housing a matter of conscience and action in the community.

Rank began her service with Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles as a volunteer in 1995 and later became the first and only staff member in 1998. Driven by the heartbreak of seeing so many families living in substandard housing, she set out to inspire others to join the cause. With the help of a growing staff and more than 10,000 volunteers each year, she has built the organization into one of the top producing Habitat affiliates in the nation. Under her leadership, the organization has built nearly 700 homes, locally and internationally.

In addition to her work in Los Angeles, she serves on Habitat for Humanity International's U.S. Council, which oversees policy making for all of Habitat's U.S. affiliates. She has participated in home-building projects in Mexico, Thailand, Vietnam and the Philippines.

Rank helped found Hollywood for Habitat for Humanity, a program that engages celebrities and entertainment industry leaders in Habitat for Humanity's work both domestically and around the globe.

In 1995 and 2007, her affiliate hosted the Jimmy Carter Work Project, an annual event where the former President and his wife Rosalynn help blitz-build houses for a week. The 2007 event drew over 4,000 volunteers and helped to build and rehabilitate 100 homes throughout Los Angeles County.

Under Rank's leadership, the Greater Los Angeles affiliate has begun to build sustainable homes, boasting nearly 50 LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Certified homes since 2007.

Irish American Magazine selected Rank as one of their Top 100 Irish Americans. She serves on several boards and advisory councils in the community.

Rank holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Missouri-Columbia and a master's degree in counseling psychology from Pepperdine University. She completed an executive leadership program at Harvard Business School.

Rank has been interviewed about her organization's work by CBS Evening News, ABC World News Tonight, The Today Show, CNN, Los Angeles Times, The New York Times, USA Today and The Chronicle of Philanthropy. She also has made numerous appearances on local television and radio shows, including Dancing with the Stars, Extreme Makeover: Home Edition, Street Customs and Ace of Cakes, all for the purposed of highlighting the work and mission of Habitat for Humanity.

Rank lives with her husband and two sons in Seal Beach, Calif.





Joan (Snider) Strom-Millard

West High '70

Blessed with an abundance of good character, savvy business sense and a big heart, Joan (Snider) Strom-Millard always made the most of her many talents in her business career, charity work and personal life.

For many years, she worked in sales and customer service at Progressive Insurance, with the last five years of her tenure spent as national sales manager for specialty insurance products. Her deep knowledge base, ability to connect with people at all levels within the business sector and her personal integrity made her very successful at landing and preserving large premium generation accounts.

She was one of the first women to be ordained as a high priest in the Community of Christ Church and served on a number of local and world church committees. She was also volunteer pastor to the Mission Road Congregation for six years, successfully leading them through a period of significant growth and development. With an upbeat attitude that survived even the most difficult circumstances, she was known for undertaking her responsibilities without being overbearing or intolerant of others whose opinions differed from her own.

Always generous with her time serving the community, she became a board member for Camp Quality USA in 1997, an organization that provides a camping experience for children with cancer. She served as board president for six years. Her ability to provide strong leadership by aggressively recruiting talented people to serve on the board as well as her tireless personal efforts to bring the organization's 15 USA camps into sound financial territory have formed a legacy that will benefit Camp Quality children for generations.

Strom-Millard's personal journey was about honoring spirit. She continued to discover the meaning and purpose of life as she faced the challenge of cancer and her academic studies. She was fascinated with the interconnections between science and faith traditions, and the possibilities they offered to explore her spiritual formation. Though cancer eventually claimed her life in March 2008, she used her illness to inform her master's thesis, "Healing of Spirit as it Relates to Disease and Illness: A New Paradigm."

After first attending Graceland College in Lamoni, Iowa, for two years, Strom-Millard earned her B.A. ('74) at Chadron State College in Chadron, Neb. She was awarded her M.A. degree in religion posthumously ('08) by Graceland University Seminary in Lamoni, graduating summa cum laude.

Strom-Millard resided in Overland Park, Kansas, for 22 years. She is survived by her husband, Ron Millard; her parents, three sisters (Judy, Joyce and Jane), a brother (John), six children, 10 grandchildren, and many other family members and friends.



Kimberly Templeton, M.D.

Weber Elementary • East Junior
Central High '80

Dr. Kimberly Templeton has distinguished herself in the field of orthopedic surgery, a field in which women are a minority.

She is professor of orthopedic surgery and health policy and management at the University of Kansas in Kansas City, where she is the orthopaedic surgery residency program director. She has been active in research in the areas of musculoskeletal tumors, women's health issues, and medical education, and has published in these areas. She also is developing a book about women's sports injuries.

Templeton has held several positions of leadership in medicine, including two terms as the president of the Kansas Orthopaedic Society, the first woman to serve as president of one of the five regional U.S. orthopedic societies, president of the Ruth Jackson Orthopaedic Society (the North American society for female orthopaedic surgeons), president of the Medical Society of Johnson and Wyandotte Counties (Kansas), and is currently president-elect of the U.S. Bone and Joint Decade (a multi-disciplinary, nonprofit organization). In conjunction with the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, she developed the Washington Health Policy Fellowship Program to introduce orthopaedic residents-in-training to health policy and advocacy. She also serves on the boards of directors of the American Medical Women's Association and the American College of Women's Health Physicians.

Templeton is active in public education, striving to increase knowledge of health issues to ultimately impact health care in the U.S. In conjunction with the office of the U.S. Surgeon General and the U.S. Bone and Joint Decade, she developed "Fit to a T," a national bone health and osteoporosis education program, and "PB & J: Protect Your Bones and Joints," a national prevention program for high school students. She also helped to develop "Straighten Up, America," a back health program that has been presented nationally and internationally.

Among the many recognitions Templeton has received in her career are the McCann Professor of Women in Medicine and Science (she was the first person to receive this professorship in the U.S.), the American Medical Student Association's Raising Our Voices Award for leadership of women in medicine ('08), the McClean Award for Excellence in Teaching at the University of Kansas ('09), the University of Missouri's Outstanding Young Physician Award ('04), The Kemper Award for Excellence in Teaching and Advising ('04), and the University of Kansas' Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching ('02).

Templeton earned her B.A. in biology at Washington University in St. Louis ('84). She then earned her M.D. at the University of Missouri-Columbia ('88). Her residency in orthopaedic surgery was conducted at Rush-Presbyterian/St. Luke's Medical Center in Chicago ('94). An orthopaedic oncology fellowship was completed through the Harvard Combined Program ('95).

Templeton lives and practices in the Kansas City, Kan., area.



Amy Stuart Wells, Ph.D. West High '80

A world-class educator, researcher, journalist and author, Amy Stuart Wells has made her mark in the field of education by exploring issues of racial segregation and inequality.

Since 2001, she has been a professor of sociology and education at Teachers College-Columbia University, where she is also the director of the Center for Understanding Race and Education (CURE). In 2009, she accepted the responsibility of directing the Ford Foundation's Building Knowledge for Social Justice Project, which seeks to develop scholarship and communication strategies that can shift public understanding of the real causes of inequality in the U.S.

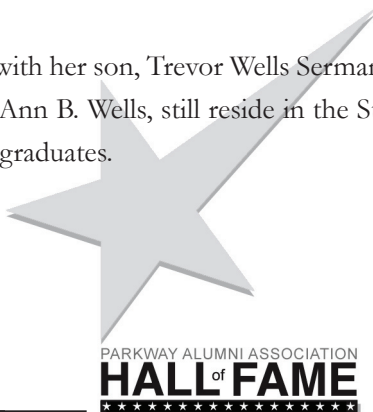
Prior to her tenure at Columbia, she was a professor at the University of California-Los Angeles ('91-'01), where she also conducted research on race and education.

Her articles on education and social policy have been published in many high-profile publications and newspapers, such as The New York Times, Education Week, The Washington Post and The Boston Globe. She is also the author of several books, including one about the St. Louis inter-district school desegregation program, *Stepping Over the Color Line: African American Students in White Suburban Schools* (1997, Yale University Press). She also was part of the author team for the publication *Boundary Crossing for Diversity, Equity and Achievement* (2009), a report on eight inter-district school desegregation plans still in operation, including the one in St. Louis.

Wells has participated in state and federal congressional briefings on education during her career and has received many awards recognizing her contributions and achievements. She was a fellow of the Center for the Advanced Study of the Behavioral Sciences ('07-'08), a scholar in the Carnegie Corporation's Scholars Program ('01-'02), a Julius and Rosa Sachs Lecturer at Columbia University ('00), a visiting scholar for the Russell Sage Foundation ('99-'00), and a visiting fellow at the University of Wisconsin-Madison ('99), to name a few.

Wells earned her B.A. in English ('84) at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. She then earned her M.S. in journalism ('86) at Boston University, and her Ph.D. in sociology and education ('91) at Columbia University in New York City.

Wells lives in New York City with her son, Trevor Wells Serman, and her nephew, Patrick Curtin Brand. Her parents, Stuart P. Wells and Ann B. Wells, still reside in the St. Louis area. She has three siblings, two of whom are also Parkway West graduates.





Joe Williams

West High '76

As a respected film critic for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch and STLtoday.com, Joe Williams is one of the best known media figures in St. Louis. More than a quarter-million people read his reviews each week before deciding what to see in the theaters.

During his tenure at the newspaper, he has reviewed more than 2,000 movies and

interviewed many of the biggest names in Hollywood, from Steven Spielberg and Woody Allen to Sandra Bullock and Will Smith.

Williams annually attends the Academy Awards presentation in Los Angeles, a city where he worked as a music critic for Cash Box magazine and as an extra in movies, including *Rocky III* and *The Doors*. He also travels to film festivals around the world, including Cannes, Toronto, Venice and Sundance.

From 2003-06, Williams was featured in the weekly movie-review segment for KMOV-TV and is still a frequent guest on local radio and television. He also serves as a juror for the annual St. Louis International Film Festival and the Cinemaspoke screenwriting competition.

Williams' articles and reviews are syndicated to newspapers nationwide. His reviews are also excerpted on the popular Web site Rotten Tomatoes and on Metacritic.com, which limits its reviewers to the top critics in the nation.

When his book, *Entertainment on the Net*, was published in 1996, it was one of the first comprehensive guides to movie, music and television resources on the internet.

In 1982, Williams earned a bachelor's degree in English at the University of Southern California, where his writing instructor and mentor was novelist T.C. Boyle. In 1987, he earned a master's degree in journalism at the University of Missouri-Columbia. In turn, he has been a frequent speaker at area schools and civic organizations and has mentored many students who have an interest in journalism and the arts.

Williams and his wife, Kathryn Welch (West '76), live in St. Louis County in an all-metal Lustron home that has been featured in the New York Times and in a PBS documentary. They spend much of their free time visiting drive-in movie theaters across the country.

Williams' favorite film is also his credo: "It's a Wonderful Life."



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