

# THE KIT

KEEP IN TOUCH ALUMNI NEWSLETTER OF  
EVANSTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

SPRING ISSUE

2026

WELCOME WILDKITS!

The New Alumni Class

SAVE THE DATE:

9.25.26

Join fellow alumni for a historic  
homecoming weekend!

WWW.ETHS202.ORG/ABOUT/ALUMNI

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KIT SPRING 2026

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## WHERE TO NEXT?

*The class of 2026 graduates—  
check out these Decision Day pics!*



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## A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

NICHOLE BOYD '96

**There is a special energy that fills the halls of ETHS this time of year.** A mix of excitement, nostalgia, and that enduring Wildkit Pride. As we welcome a new class of graduates into our alumni family, I find myself reflecting on the connection that binds generations of Wildkits together.

This year, that connection feels especially meaningful as we celebrated my son's graduation from ETHS as a fourth-generation Wildkit. As alumni, our Wildkit Pride is more than just the memories in common classes or clubs. It is a shared commitment to excellence, resilience, and community that carries into our careers, our families, and the way we engage with the world around us.

Fellow alumni Wildkits, you are part of a legacy that continues to inspire current students and future generations. Thank you for staying connected, staying involved, and bringing Wildkit Pride to everything you do. Go Kits!

# PROGRESS, PURPOSE, AND POSSIBILITY

**DR. MARCUS A. CAMPBELL, SUPERINTENDENT**



## **Proud ETHS Alumni,**

**As we reflect on another remarkable year at Evanston Township High School, I am reminded that the strength of our school community extends far beyond our campus walls. Our alumni carry the Wildkit spirit into offices, hospitals, businesses, laboratories, stages, and communities across the country and around the world. Your impact continues to inspire us.**

This year has been one of both celebration and challenge. We proudly broke ground on the largest campus expansion project in more than 60 years, an investment that will help shape the future of teaching and learning at ETHS for generations to come. We also continued expanding opportunities for students through enhanced dual credit and career pathway offerings, ensuring more students can graduate with college credits, real-world experience, and a stronger sense of direction for what comes next. And yes, after 100 years, we will finally have air conditioning in the Gym Wing.

At the same time, like many school districts and public institutions across the country, we faced rising financial pressures that required difficult decisions, including staffing reductions. These moments are never easy. They affect valued colleagues, students, and the broader school community we care so deeply about. Throughout it all, we have remained committed to navigating these challenges with transparency, compassion, and a focus on sustaining the long-term strength of ETHS, presenting a balanced budget for the 20th consecutive year.

The experiences of our alumni remind us that success takes many forms, and that growth often comes through unexpected opportunities and challenges alike. Even amid complexity, what continues to make this community extraordinary is the enduring connection our alumni maintain with this school and with one another. This year, we were honored to welcome several esteemed alumni back to ETHS, including **Lauren Lapkus '04**, **Megan Twohey '94**, and **David Epstein '98**—moments that inspired our students and reminded us of the many paths that begin here. We also celebrated alumna **Lena Waithe '02** during her recent appearance on the Tamron Hall Show honoring the final season of her groundbreaking series *The Chi*, another proud reminder of the many ways ETHS alumni continue to shape conversations, industries, and communities.

These moments matter because they reflect something deeply special about ETHS: our alumni remain part of this story. They return to mentor, encourage, challenge, and inspire the next generation. They remind our students that there is no single path to success and that the values developed here—curiosity, resilience, empathy, and courage—are carried long after graduation.

With Wildkit pride and appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marcus Campbell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Marcus A. Campbell, Superintendent

# UNCOVERING ETHS

## HIDDEN HISTORY: HIGHLIGHTING THE EVANSTONIAN'S E-TOWN EXPLORES SERIES



ROTC Riflery Range

**For generations of Wildkits, Evanston Township High School has been more than a building, it has been a world unto itself. Stretching across more than one million square feet, ETHS has always carried its share of campus lore and larger-than-life stories.**

This past year, student journalists from *The Evanstonian* launched their “E-Town Explores” series, diving into campus history and shedding light on some of the school’s darkest corners. Their reporting offered students answers to some long-asked questions and a deeper appreciation for the building they walked through every day. For alumni, the series serves as a reminder that ETHS has always been full of surprises.

### Into the Basement: The History Under our Feet

Few places at ETHS have inspired more rumors than the basement. Stories of ghosts, hidden passageways, and even a long-lost bowling alley have circulated for decades.

According to John Crawford, ETHS Director of Operations and Sustainability, there was once a bowling alley under the school that, unfortunately, no longer exists. What remains is even more surprising: an old rifle range dating back to the school’s former Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC) and ETHS Military Training Corps programs. The underground shooting lanes, complete with target pulleys and rifle cubbies, once served students participating in military training beginning in the late 1920s.

This space feels frozen in time. Bullet holes still mark the walls, and the pulley systems used to retrieve targets remain intact. Crawford explained that once inside the basement, nearly all parts of the building connect underground, a fact that only adds to the lore surrounding the space. According to Crawford, some engineers even insist they have seen unexplained figures wandering the tunnels late at night.

### The ETHS Power Plant at Lake & Dodge

The ETHS power plant, now more than a century old, remains one of the most unique features of campus. Unlike most schools, ETHS uses high-pressure steam boilers to heat and cool the entire building.

Lead engineer Patrick Ready described the facility as “the lifeblood of the building,” and for good reason. The boilers, originally installed in 1966 when ETHS transitioned to natural gas, still help distribute steam through tunnels running beneath the school. They remain operational thanks to the care of generations of engineers, extending the life of the equipment and reflecting ETHS’s commitment to sustainability.

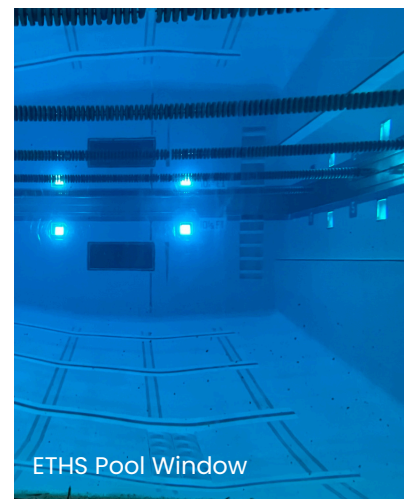


Students in front of the Power Plant

## The Pool's Secret Windows

ETHS's swimming tradition is well known, but one of its most innovative features lies beneath the pool itself. During a tour of the William Dobson Burton Aquatic Center, student reporters discovered underwater viewing windows built into the pool walls. Long before underwater cameras, coaches used them to analyze swimmers' strokes and divers' entries, giving ETHS athletes a competitive edge during the program's dominant era of the 1950s and 1960s.

When it opened in 1958, the pool was ahead of its time. Designers planned for future electronic timing systems and included innovative features like stadium-style seating to enhance the spectator experience. Nearly seven decades later, the facility continues to operate remarkably well, requiring only minimal annual maintenance. Even its now-obsolete underwater viewing windows stand as a reminder of ETHS's long tradition of innovation and forward thinking.



ETHS Pool Window



Drivers Ed Simulators

## The Fourth Floor Few Have Seen

Ask most ETHS students about the fourth floor, and chances are they had never been there. Located above the East and North wings, formerly home to driver's education and wellness classes, the fourth floor is now mostly unused because it has no elevator access, making it non-compliant with ADA accessibility requirements.

Yet the space still holds remnants of decades past. Student journalists discovered driver's education simulators from the 1950s and 1960s, hidden golf practice equipment once used by the ETHS golf program, and even storage space for the Community Service Club's thrift shop. One of the most intriguing details? The fourth floor is not actually the top of the building. Above it sit the ETHS towers, where decades ago the school superintendent once lived in a small apartment.

## Willie the Wildkit: More Than a Mascot

No look back at ETHS history would be complete without Willie the Wildkit. Since 1946, Willie has represented school spirit, community and Wildkit pride. While the mascot's appearance has evolved over the decades, the role itself has remained consistent.

Former mascots recalled the secrecy of changing behind bleachers or in closets before games, along with the unforgettable heat inside the costume. They also described the confidence and connection that came with representing ETHS.

When one Evanstonian reporter dressed as Willie and walked the halls, the reaction was instant: smiles, fist bumps and excitement from students and staff alike. After nearly 80 years, Willie remains far more than a mascot, he represents joy, school spirit, and belonging.

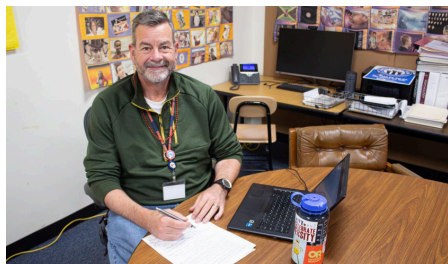
**The "E-Town Explores" series highlights that ETHS has always been a place rich with history and character. Through their reporting, Evanstonian journalists continued a longstanding tradition of curiosity and storytelling, uncovering the people, places, and things that make this school unique. Their discoveries proved that even after generations of Wildkits have walked these halls, ETHS still has stories waiting to be told.**



Willie's reimagining in 2017

*This article was adapted from reporting by Anya Gill, Tyler Press, Avery Stroth, and Jonah Wright, student journalists from The Evanstonian, as part of the 2025-26 "E-Town Explores" series.*

# RETIRING TEACHERS



## **David Allen** **U.S. History, AP Psychology | 32 Years**

David joined ETHS in 1994 as a U.S. history teacher introducing both AP Psychology and Senior Studies. In Senior Studies, around 60 students would cover thematic topics, and then complete independent study projects. During his tenure, AP Psychology has grown into the most popular senior AP course.



## **Aaron Becker** **Humanities, Psychology, Cultural Studies | 26 Years**

Aaron has taught a range of classes, including humanities, the American legal system, psychology, Middle Eastern studies, African studies and Asian studies, consistently pushing students to see the world through new perspectives. In 2007, he earned the Golden Apple, one of Illinois' most prestigious teaching awards.



## **Peter Decraene** **Mathematics | 37 Years**

Peter brought optimism, humor, and enthusiasm to the math classroom. Known for his warm approach and ability to find something to appreciate in every student, he served as department chair for three years and took pride in the impact that role had on his colleagues.



## **Karilyn Joyce '86** **Physical Education | 35 Years**

Over 35 years, Joyce, pictured with Keegan Joyce '15, built a legacy both in the classroom and on the field, dedicating 30 years to coaching golf and 34 years to badminton, earning a nomination for IHSA Badminton Coach of the Year along the way.



## **Amy Nelson** **Science | 32 Years**

Amy served as a valued and dedicated educator known for...

her commitment to students, her steady presence in the building, and the continued investment she brought to her work.



## **Marx Succes '83** **Physical Education & Wellness | 38 Years**

Marx spent 38 years as part of the ETHS community. Known for his work with girls soccer, badminton, and table tennis, he led the 2002 girls soccer team to a state championship and was recognized with the Teacher Excellence Award in 2025. Throughout his career, he devoted himself to the support and mentorship of others.



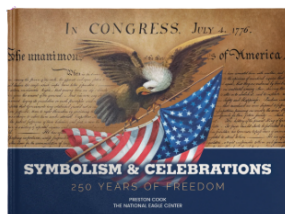
## **Steven Wool '85** **Law, Civics, AVID | 30+ Years**

Steve relationship with ETHS spans decades. A member of the Class of 1985, he returned to the school as a teacher, coach, and parent, watching all three of his children grow up as Wildkits. Over his career, he taught Law, Civics, and AVID, and created the curriculum for the American Legal Systems course from the ground up.

# AUTHORS' BOOKSHELF

## **CLIFFORD BROWER '46** *The Pleasuring of Men*

Set in 1860s New York City, this novel follows Tom Vaughan as he falls in love with Walter Whiting, a renowned scholar wrestling with shame and self-acceptance. Their story unfolds against a the subculture of the time tracing a journey of maturity, love and unexpected consequence.



## **PRESTON COOK '64**

### *Symbolism & Celebrations: 250 Years of Freedom*

A beautifully illustrated commemorative volume drawing from the Preston Cook American Eagle Collection, tracing the bald eagle's role in Fourth of July traditions across two and a half centuries. A visual journey through the enduring symbols that unite the nation.

## **DIANE VINOKUR-KAPLAN '66**

### *Shared Space and the New Nonprofit Workplace*

A practical guide for developing and managing shared office and program spaces. Detailing the benefits, challenges, and models of co-locating organizations to foster collaboration, reduce costs, and improve service delivery.

## *Cases in Innovative Nonprofits: Organizations That Make a Difference*

A collection of comparative case studies showcasing innovative nonprofit organizations using inspiring examples of social entrepreneurs who have instituted new services to meet the needs of both new and long standing social problems.

## **JASON CONVISER, '73**

### *Osteogenic Loading: A New Modality to Facilitate Bone Density Development*

An introduction and explanation of osteogenic loading, a method of building bone density using axial loading (compression along the bone) to trigger bone remodeling and increase bone mineral density.

### *Unweighted Nation, Addressing the Obesity Crisis Through Cultural Change*

Challenging conventional thinking about obesity and introducing a practical model centered on individual values, preferences, and self-care. Encouraging a focus on the process of better health rather than the pursuit of an ideal.

### *The Health/Wellness Professionals' Guide to Medical Fitness Exercise*

A resource for wellness professionals seeking to better understand the exercise-health connection and help individuals with chronic medical conditions benefit from regular physical activity.

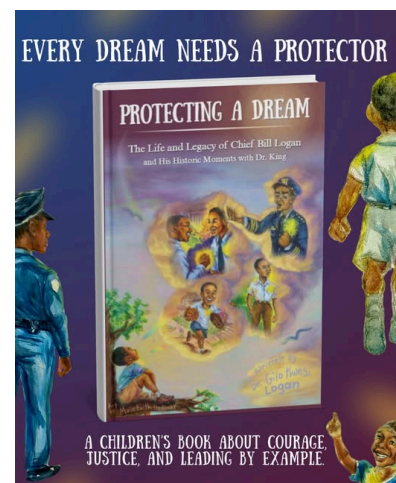
## **PAUL CREAMER, '83**

### *The Essential Introduction to Greek and Roman Mythology*

An immersive introduction to Greek and Roman mythology. Featuring 24 myths in full, landmark works by Homer, Sophocles, Virgil, and Ovid, and photographs of authentic classical art.

## **DR. GILO KWESI LOGAN '84**

### *Protecting a Dream: The Life and Legacy of Chief Bill Logan and His Historic Moments with Dr. King*



A celebration of the life and legacy of Chief William "Bill" Logan Jr.'51, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s bodyguard and Evanston's first Black police chief. Offering young readers healing through truth-telling, rooted in legacy, leadership, and love.

## CLASS NOTES

### 1940s



#### **1949 Classmates: Curt Crowell, Elaine Grimes Wall, Grace Hvalacek Welter, & Dave Rodelius**

Decades after graduating ETHS, members of the class of 1949 still enjoy grabbing monthly lunch together at Hackney's.

### 1960s



#### **Glenn Gilbert '60 & Bob Ricewasser '61**

Met for a lunch that lasted over two hours in Chino Hills, CA.

### 1970s

#### **Donald "Don" Phillips '72**

Don retired this spring after 27 years in ETHS Business Services.



#### **Shirley Martin-Wright '75**

After 40 years as office manager in the ETHS Safety Department, Shirley retired this spring.



#### **Michael DeVaul '79**

Michael was honored with the Carolina Panthers 2025 Changemaker Award for his leadership and impact through the YMCA's Young Men Thriving initiative which creates support systems and opportunities for boys and young men of color in 64 cities across the country.

### 1980s



#### **Allie Payne '87, Kimberly Holmes-Ross '81, & Ann Rainey '61**

The Evanston Chamber of Commerce honored three ETHS alums at its annual awards: Kimberly Holmes-Ross, executive director of Evanston Cradle to Career, Former Evanston City Council member Ann Rainey, and Compass Evanston real estate professional Allie Payne.

#### **Alana J. Amaker '84**

Retired this spring after 34 years in ETHS Student Services.



#### **James "Jim" McHolland '87**

Jim was honored in Evanston with an honorary street naming in front of Chute Middle School where he served as principal for for 25 years, 33 years total served in District 65.

### 1990s

#### **Wil Fuller '92**

Emmy-nominated writer, artist, producer and composer in L.A. Wil gained recognition in the early 2000s for songs including "Ride It," "More Than Friends" and "Fiber Optic Love," Wil expanded into film and television, creating the first Hip-Hop major network station west of the Mississippi for KTLA and building an extensive list of credits across major studios and networks.



#### **Joy Powell '96**

President and CEO at A Step By Step Learning Academy, Inc., in Evanston, celebrated the expansion of her daycare with a ribbon cutting ceremony. She is joined by her children Tyshon Shumate '24, Tyvon Shumate '18, and Dashae Powell-Shumate '14.

### 2000s

#### **Charlene Murray '03**

Murray was recently appointed the City of Champaign Township Supervisor after earning unanimous support from the township board. Previously she served as Community Relations Coordinator and interim Executive Director at Strides Shelter in and later as interim executive director.



#### **Matthew Hunter '05**

Matthew was named Assistant Principal at Old Orchard Junior High School in Skokie, Illinois.

## CLASS NOTES CONTINUED

### 2010s



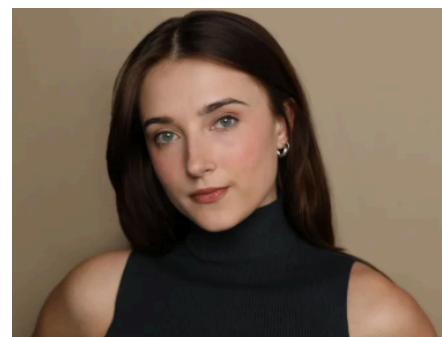
#### Avante Price '18

Avante, cofounder of the event platform Posh, was recently recognized in Forbes' 30 Under 30 Marketing & Advertising list. Since launching the company in 2020 with cofounder Eli Taylor-Lemire, he has helped grow Posh to more than 6 million users and over \$300 million in ticket sales through its event discovery and community-building platform.



#### Nolan Robinson '17

The ETHS and Northwestern graduate recently wrote, directed, produced and starred in *Deadlift*, an original short film filmed largely in Evanston with support from fellow ETHS alumni and community members. Nolan is continuing to build his career as a writer, actor and filmmaker while working full time in Northwestern University's admissions office.



#### Tess Dinerstein '19

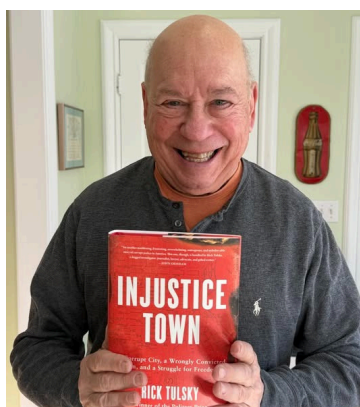
Tess is a rising star in the vertical shorts industry. Tess has appeared in productions for platforms including ReelShort and DramaBox, earned more than 80,000 followers on TikTok and Instagram, and was recently ranked among IMDb's top vertical short actresses.

### 2020s

#### Maia Faith Hadaway '00

Hadaway is a figurative artist and visual storyteller based in Los Angeles. Her work was recently featured on the cover of *Protecting A Dream* by fellow alumni Gilo Kwesi Logan '84.

## AUTHORS' BOOKSHELF CONTINUED



#### FREDERIC "RICK" TULSKY '68

#### *Injustice Town*

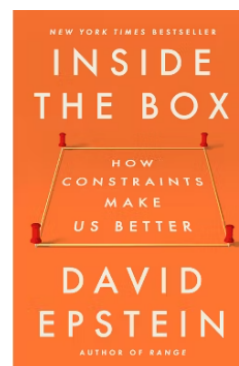
A *New Yorker* Best Book of 2026 from Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Rick Tulsy. The wrongful conviction of...

seventeen-year-old Lamonte McIntyre in 1994 unraveled into a sweeping indictment of corrupt police and prosecutors, compromised defense lawyers, and an ethically conflicted judge, ultimately triggering a legal tsunami that reached the highest levels of Kansas City's power structure.

#### EDIE FRINK WINTERS '71

#### *"Victim to Victor. An Abuse Survivor's Guide to Victorious Living in Christ"*

A guide from pain to healing for abuse survivors rooted in faith. Including the practice of prayer, journaling and support groups.



#### DAVID EPSTEIN '95

#### *Inside the Box*

Exploring the science and practice of constraints, by examining when and how boundaries can unlock focus, creativity, and innovation — whether self-imposed or circumstantial. A deeply researched case for why narrowing your options may be the key to doing your best work.

# IN MEMORIAM

## 1940s

**Herbert Harms 1946**  
January 4, 2026  
**Maxine Luttrell 1946**  
October 13, 2025  
**Kenneth G. Strom 1946**  
December 28, 2025  
**Arnold W. Johnson 1948**  
December 21, 2025  
**Margaret Chrisman 1948**  
February 26, 2026

## 1950s

**LaVerne E. Finney 1953**  
December 26, 2025  
**Nancy Bradford Clark 1953**  
May 2025  
**Lynne Owen Penczer 1953**  
October 27, 2025  
**Ann Kostakos Arries 1954**  
November 23, 2025  
**John Donohue 1954**  
May 2, 2026  
**Hyde C. Perce 1954**  
March 3, 2026  
**Sid Condit 1956**  
January 2, 2026  
**John P. Buckingham 1957**  
December 25, 2025  
**Jeannine A. Reeder Wesley 1957**  
February 7, 2026  
**Geoffrey VanDeusen, Sr. 1957**  
May 13, 2026  
**Allan Feldman 1959**  
February 13, 2026  
**Sharon D. Williams 1959**  
July 31, 2025

## 1960's

**Mary "Capper" Leach Thompson 1960**  
August 3, 2025  
**Shari T. Mayes 1960**  
2026  
**Terry Fish 1960**  
2026  
**Karen Fetman Komisnky 1962**  
**John Gibson 1963**  
December 11, 2025  
**Donna Louise Salamon Bree 1964**  
November 9, 2025  
**Mark Jay Faiwell 1964**  
March 12, 2026  
**Patricia Cameron Seneco 1964**  
September 9, 2024  
**Mary Jane (Loves) Stange 1964**  
May 2, 2026  
**Gale Marie Stieler 1964**  
August 1, 2019  
**James R. Hoel, Jr. 1966**  
August 2, 2025  
**Joe Jones 1966**  
October 2025  
**Kevin K. O'Brien 1966**  
December 18, 2025  
**Theodore (Ted) Hufstader 1967**  
November 19, 2025  
**Mark B. Alexander 1968**  
May 16, 2026  
**Thomas Barmore 1968**  
May 18, 2026  
**Thomas Harack 1968**  
December 2025  
**Michael R. Wamington 1968**  
May 1, 2025  
**Marjorie Willis 1969**  
May 20, 2026

## 1970s

**John E. Chapman 1972**  
February 22, 2026  
**Karl Johnson 1972**  
May 13, 2026  
**Scott Spiegel 1972**  
May 3, 2026  
**Scott Hansen 1973**  
February 13, 2026  
**Steven Eason 1974**  
February 22, 2026  
**David Minter 1974**  
January 20, 2026  
**Harry Delaney, III 1975**  
January 3, 2026  
**Rebecca Harvey 1975**  
February 22, 2026  
**Ruth Marjorie Lawrence**  
**Guadalupe 1979**  
December 3, 2025  
**Scott Charles Roth 1979**  
March 20, 2025

## 1980s

**Raphael Randolph 1980**  
December 2025  
**Sadie Ruff 1980**  
December 16, 2025  
**Peter A. Moore 1985**  
September 26, 2025  
**Thomas Kepler 1989**  
March 12, 2026

## 1990s

**Ludger Deller 1991**  
January 15, 2026  
**Caroline Epp 1992**  
January 6, 2025

## 2000s

**Eric Hilbring 2007**  
April 12, 2026

## 2010s

**Bria Allen 2014**  
November 10, 2025

## Unknown Grad Year

**Kimberli Preister**  
December 11, 2025

## John McKenzie Donohue '54

John devoted his life to ETHS and the Evanston community he loved deeply. Founder of the ETHS Alumni Association, (now ETHS Alumni Relations) former District 202 Board president, and chair of the ETHS Centenary Committee, John spent decades strengthening connections between alumni and the school while mentoring students and championing initiatives that enriched the ETHS experience. In 2013, he became the inaugural recipient of the ETHS Alumni Association Superintendent's Award in recognition of his extraordinary service and leadership. John passed away on May 2, 2026, at the age of 89. He will be remembered for his warmth, generosity and lifelong commitment to generations of Wildkits.





# REMEMBERING ETHS FACULTY AND EDUCATORS

We honor the ETHS faculty who devoted their time, talent, and care to generations of students. Their impact continues to shape the spirit of ETHS.

## **Joe Dunn, May 2026**

Joe taught History and Humanities at ETHS from 1966–1996. He was recognized with an ETHS Teacher Excellence Award in 1981, reflecting the lasting impact he made at ETHS.

## **Barbara (Bobbie) Langan Epler , November 19, 2025**

Bobbie served for decades as a special education teacher. Her passion for education and dedication for students influenced every aspect of her work and personal life.

## **Chuck Fargo '62, May 15, 2026**

Chuck dedicated nearly seven decades to Evanston swimming as a student-athlete, coach, mentor, and volunteer. He helped ETHS win a National Championship as a swimmer in 1962, and later guided another generation of Wildkits to a National Championship in 2001 as ETHS Aquatics Specialist and Assistant Swim Coach.

## **Owen Hein, January 30, 2026**

Owen was a dedicated History and Social Science teacher for 37 years at ETHS. Joining the faculty in 1965, he pioneered multidisciplinary courses and in 1993 his colleagues honored him with the ETHS Teacher Excellence Award.

## **Geraldine "Gerry" Macsai, 2026**

Gerry served on the ETHS District 202 Board of Education from 1978 to 1984. A mathematics teacher by training, she helped guide ETHS during a significant era in the school's history through her thoughtful leadership and commitment to public education.

## **Beverly "Bev" Owens, April 30, 2026**

Beverly taught Special Education at ETHS from 2001 to 2012. She was known for her patience, encouragement, and genuine concern for the well-being of others, leading with both heart and compassion.

## **Jane Ring, December 24, 2025**

Jane was a longtime ETHS staff member who worked primarily in the computer lab, where she was known for her patience and dedication in helping students navigate technology challenges, both big and small.

## **Michael "Mike" Wylie, February 22, 2026**

Mike taught Metal Sculpture and Auto Technology at ETHS for 15 years from 2001–2016, inspiring students through hands-on learning, creativity and his passion for cars and craftsmanship. He genuinely cared about shaping young lives both inside and outside the classroom.

## **Marilva "Maria" Zeigler, January 15, 2026**

Maria spent more than two decades supporting students and staff across several departments, most notably in the safety department, where her steady presence and kindness made her a valued part of the ETHS community.

# INTRODUCING: ALI HART '99

## DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT, ETHS FOUNDATION


This year, alum **Ali Hart '99** joined the ETHS Advancement Team, which encompasses ETHS Alumni Relations and the ETHS Foundation, as the new Director of Development for the ETHS Foundation. For Ali, ETHS has always been more than a school. It is a community that helped shape her life both personally and professionally.

Ali's connection to ETHS began early as a "Little Kit" in the ETHS preschool program while her father, **Mike Hart '69**, taught woodshop. As a student, she found community through athletic, memorable teachers, and the many experiences that make ETHS unique.

For the past 21 years, ETHS has also been Ali's professional home. Ali began her career as a special education teacher and later helped welcome new students and families through orientations, feeder school partnerships, and the Ambassador program as the New Student Transition Coordinator.

In her new role, Ali is excited to strengthen alumni connections and help expand opportunities for current and future Wildkits. Ali and her husband, Dave, are now raising two future Wildkits: Charlie, Class of 2040 and current "Little Kit," and William, Class of 2042.



 **Kit to Kit: Let's Connect!** Schedule a brief conversation with Ali to share your ETHS story, learn what's happening at ETHS today, and explore ways to stay connected : <https://bit.ly/4oIRVKH>

# WILD for ETHS

## THE PARTY THAT POWERS STUDENT POSSIBILITIES!

Thanks to the generosity of sponsors, donors, alumni, volunteers, and supporters, WILD, the ETHS Foundation's annual fundraiser, continues to create meaningful opportunities that help current and future Wildkits explore their interests and prepare for life beyond high school.

### EVENT PARTNERS

Scott Clarke '76  
Lewis-Sebring Family Foundation

### WILD SPONSORS

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Dan & Mary Cox  
Larry '61 & Mary Mages

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Suzanne & Brian Roth  
Royce Repair Co. & Mark Royce  
Kim Sagami & Chad Chad Verly  
Peter & Dawn Samaris  
Elizabeth & Sid Schenkier  
Isabel Schultz Design  
Isabel & Andy Schultz  
The Specialists  
Amy & Frank Tu  
Studio Talo Architecture  
The Thomas Team - @properties  
Michael & Lene Thomas  
Dr. Malika Viltz-Emerson & John Emerson  
Kendra & Todd Williams  
Jen & Steve Zehr

lowest team score. Sophomore Lester Low captured the individual state championship and made IHSA history by shooting a 7-under-par 65 on the tournament's opening day, the lowest single-round score ever recorded at the state finals.



## BOYS TRACK & FIELD STATE CHAMPS

Boys Track & Field captured its ninth IHSA State Championship, winning state titles in the 4x100 relay, 4x100 relay, 4x200 relay and high jump. The team featured many second-generation Wildkits, including Mynard Blake, Jordan Harvey, Anthony Honore, Jaden Jean-Paul, Justin Johnson, Deshawn Priestler, Emmanuel Roache, Lewis Scott and Chance Simmons. Leading the program was Head Coach **Don Michelin '69**, alongside fellow Wildkit alumni coaches **Vernard Harris '68**, **Sam White '70**, **George Woolridge '80**, **Amanda Caines '10** and **Matt Cless '22**.



## GIRLS TRACK & FIELD 4X400 RELAY CHAMPS

Francesca Decastro, Brie Noel, Ingrid Sylvestre and Hunter Vandergriff captured ETHS Girls Track & Field's 25th relay state championship by winning the 4x400 relay at the IHSA State Finals, finishing 13th overall as a team. Brie's mother, **Renee Murphy '91**, was a member of ETHS's first girls track and field state championship team in 1991.

## BOYS GOLF STATE RUNNER UP

Lead by **Jed Curtis '85**, Boys Golf earned its second consecutive IHSA State Runner-Up finish after tying New Trier for the...

## BOYS GYMNASTICS THIRD PLACE AT STATE

Boys Gymnastics earned the program's ninth state trophy with a third-place finish at the IHSA State Finals, just two years after capturing the state runner-up trophy in 2024. Leading the way for the Wildkits were Giovanni Borrayo, Jacob Potter and Nathan Schlack, who combined to win 12 state medals and helped power a strong all-around team performance.



Visit [sports.eths202.org](https://sports.eths202.org) for more ETHS Athletics news!

## SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR RIVALRY GAME AT THE NEW RYAN FIELD!

**RIVALRY REIMAGINED**

**EVANSTON VS. NEW TRIER**

**GO KITS GO!**

FRIDAY **OCTOBER 16<sup>TH</sup>**  
RYAN FIELD AT NORTHWESTERN

Join fellow alumni, students, faculty and community members as **ETHS** takes on **New Trier** at the **NEW** Ryan Field at Northwestern.

ANOTHER TRADITION RETURNS  
**THE BOST**  
★ **FAMILY CLASSIC** ★  
GIRLS & BOYS BASKETBALL DOUBLEHEADER  
VS **NEW TRIER**  
AT NORTHWESTERN'S WELSH-RYAN ARENA  
DATE TO BE DETERMINED

# ALUMNI SNAPSHOTS



**ethsalumni** Atlanta '68 Kits: Mary Hair Graham, Christine Cozens, Bob Tarkington, & Jim Dexter with author Rick Tulskey.



**ethsalumni** Girls Flag Football celebrating their regional championship & 14-3 record with Head Coach Carlton Rosemond '98.



**ethsalumni** Ashley Farrow & Kira Novak from the class of '06 enjoy the yearbook viewing station at the Y-140 gala.



**ethsalumni** Alum families cheer on the Kits at a track meet in the Willie May Field House.



**ethsalumni** DJ's Corey Avery '90, Dustin Harris '88, & Torben Nielsen '92 perform at the Foundation's WILD for ETHS party.



**ethsalumni** Siblings Jonathan & Jeffrey Tesfalem '26 celebrate their new alumni status at Senior Sendoff.



**ethsalumni** Megan Twouhy '94 interviews David Epstein '98 during a FAN event about his new book *Inside The Box*.



**ethsalumni** Emmy-nominated actress Lauren Lapkus '04 inspired fellow Kits as the 2026 ETHS Commencement Speaker.



**ethsalumni** Lena Waithe '02 was honored on the Tamron Hall Show to celebrate the final season of her groundbreaking show *The Chi*.

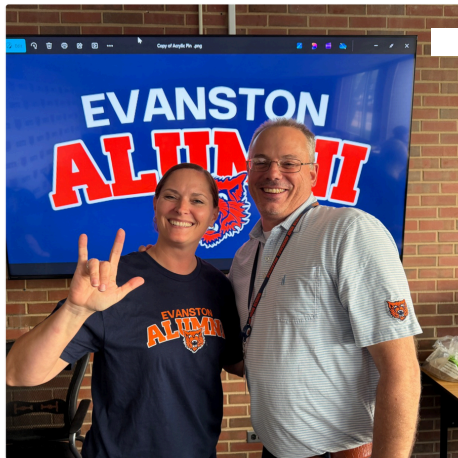
# ALUMNI SNAPSHOTS



**ethsalumni** Class of '84 friends Leslie Gunn, Phil Wingeier, Stephen Ganote & Bruce Dincin, reunite in DC.



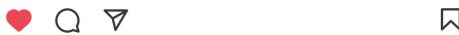
**ethsalumni** Jay Goldring '78, Lorne Lieb '94, & Pam Glaser '76 at the NYC alumni reception.



**ethsalumni** Michelle Corigan '97 & Chris Livatino '91 spreading love during the ETHS Staff Alumni luncheon.



**ethsalumni** Distinguished Alum Austin Brown '03 encouraging fall sports student-athletes in Beardsley Gym.



**ethsalumni** Betty Johnson '82, Nick Jones '06, and Chelsea "Nikki" Shephard '93 celebrating National Alumni Day.



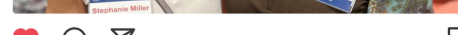
**ethsalumni** Deon Thompson '07 enjoyed the yearbook viewing station at the Y-140 gala.



**ethsalumni** Juliet Barnes' 96, Director of Medical with the Chicago Stars, discussed her career in sports with student-athletes.



**ethsalumni** Adriene Strickland '80, Marvella Bowen '83, Melody Bickhem '78, & Juanita S. Scott '75 celebrate family at the Distinguished Alumni Awards dinner.



**ethsalumni** 1980 Classmates Stephanie Miller and Amy Golden reconnect at their 45<sup>th</sup> reunion reception.



**STAY CONNECTED WITH @ETHSALUMNI!**

 FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM!

# WILDKITS IN THE WORLD CLASS OF 2026

**Rooted in Evanston. Ready for the world.**  
Where is the Class of 2026 headed next?



Alabama	Minnesota
Arizona	New York
California	North Carolina
Colorado	Ohio
Connecticut	Oklahoma
Florida	Ontario, Canada
Georgia	Oregon
Hawaii	Pennsylvania
Illinois	Quebec, Canada
Indiana	Rhode Island
Iowa	South Carolina
Kansas	Tennessee
Kentucky	Texas
Louisiana	Utah
Maine	Vermont
Maryland	Virginia
Massachusetts	Washington
Michigan	Washington DC
Minnesota	West Virginia
Missouri	Wisconsin
Montana	Wyoming



## International

- Scotland
- England
- Netherlands
- Canada

## ETHS RECOGNIZED AS NATIONAL LEADER IN DATA SCIENCE EDUCATION

**ETHS has been featured as a national model for innovation in the second annual “State of the Field” report by Data Science 4 Everyone at the University of Chicago. The report highlights ETHS for its rapid expansion and successful implementation of K–12 data science education.**

Since its launch in 2022, the ETHS data science program has doubled in size, growing from 75 students to 150 students for the 2025–2026 school year. Developed in-house by the ETHS Math Department, the project-based curriculum allows students to use tools like Python and Google Sheets to investigate real-world issues, including sustainability and the impact of AI on the workforce.

Under the leadership of Director of Early College and Career Experiences **Dale Leibforth '93** and Math Department Chair Jake Mills, the course serves as a “pathway to honors,” ensuring students of all backgrounds gain the critical data literacy skills required in today’s economy. ETHS also continues to lead at the state level, helping to establish the first Illinois course code and readiness benchmarks for data science.

ETHS is proving that Wildkits are at the forefront of academic excellence and future-ready learning.





# 2026 REUNIONS



## Class of 1966 | 60th Reunion Weekend

September 25–26, 2026

Friday, September 25

- ETHS Alumni Homecoming Tailgate

Saturday, September 26

- ETHS Tour at 10 a.m. (free)
- Lunch following the tour (\$20)
- Reunion Dinner at Maggiano's Little Italy, Skokie, 6:30–10:30 p.m.
  - \$100 through July 1
  - \$115 after July 1

For additional information, visit [ETHS1966.com](http://ETHS1966.com)

Questions?: Contact Charlotte Coleman Murphy or Kathy Greene



## Class of 1976 | 50th Reunion Weekend

August 21–23, 2026

Friday, August 21

- Welcome gathering at SPACE

Saturday, August 22

- ETHS Tour at 10 a.m. (free)
- Optional beach gathering along the Evanston lakefront
- Junior high meetups for Nichols, Haven, Chute, St. A's, and Skiles alumni
- Evening celebration at Double Clutch

For updates and event registration, visit [eths76ers.com](http://eths76ers.com)



## Class of 1981 | 45th Reunion Weekend

September 25–26, 2026

Friday, September 25

- ETHS Alumni Homecoming Tailgate
- Post-game gathering at Prairie Moon

Saturday, September 26

- ETHS Tour at 10 a.m. (free)
- Reunion celebration at Ignite Arcade, Skokie

To update your information email [ethsclassof1981@gmail.com](mailto:ethsclassof1981@gmail.com)



## Class of 1986 | 40th Reunion Weekend

September 25–27, 2026

Additional event details will be announced soon.

## Class of 1996 | 30th Reunion Weekend

Cheers to 30 Years!

Join the committee & help plan reunion events.

Interested in helping plan? Email: [1996wildkits@gmail.com](mailto:1996wildkits@gmail.com)



## Class of 2016 | 10th Reunion Weekend

September 26, 2026

Questions or interested in helping plan? Email: [alia.holland19@gmail.com](mailto:alia.holland19@gmail.com)

Join the **ETHS Class of 2016 – 10 Year Reunion** Facebook Group for updates and announcements.

 Visit [eths202.org/about/alumni](http://eths202.org/about/alumni) for Homecoming & Reunion updates!

YOU'RE INVITED!

# HOMECOMING <sup>2026</sup> ALUMNI WEEKEND

SEPT 25 - 27, 2026

**FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 25**

ALUMNI TAILGATE PARTY

4:30PM-7:30PM Church & Dodge. Food, Drinks, Entertainment. 21+

VARSITY FOOTBALL GAME

7:30 PM Memorial Stadium. Buy tickets: [fan.Hudl.com](https://fan.Hudl.com)

ETHS ALUMNI RELATIONS PRESENTS

# FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

## ALUMNI PRE-GAME & TAILGATE!

ETHS VS. GLENBROOK SOUTH

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2026**  
★ **4:30 - 7:30PM** ★  
**ETHS VS. GLENBROOK SOUTH**  
THE LOT, SE CORNER OF CHURCH & DODGE

★ ADULTS ONLY 21+ ★ FREE ENTRY ★ BYO CHAIR ★ FOOD TRUCKS ★ SPIRITS ★ DJ

# HOMECOMING <sup>2026</sup> ALUMNI WEEKEND

**SATURDAY** SEPTEMBER 26

REUNION CLASS CAMPUS TOURS

**SUNDAY** SEPTEMBER 27

HOMECOMING HUSTLE 5K

Join the first ever all-community ETHS fun run/walk featuring a participant t-shirt, medal, entertainment & refreshments!

ETHS ALUMNI RELATIONS PRESENTS

# HOMECOMING HUSTLE



**5K WALK/RUN**

★ SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2026 ★

*In Partnership With*  
**EVANSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT**



STAY TUNED  
FOR MORE INFO



1600 Dodge Ave.  
Evanston, IL 60201



**UPDATE YOUR INFO.  
HONOR A CLASSMATE.  
VIEW REUNION EVENTS.**

**ETHS ALUMNI RELATIONS**

Nichole Boyd '96, Director of Alumni Relations  
1600 Dodge Ave.  
Evanston, IL 60201  
847-424-7830

**NOMINATE A FELLOW ALUM FOR THE  
DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD!**

*Nominations Due by June 30th!*

