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GOAL ONE MILLION DOLLARS!!

\$181,492

You're Invited to the Annual Alumni Banquet!

*Saturday, May 28 *Berlin High School
*Doors open at 4 p.m. *Dinner at 5p.m.
Featuring a message from the 25 and 50-year classes!



Deadline to purchase tickets is
May 18, 2011



\$15 tickets are available at Field's Card and Gift Shop,
First National Bank of Berlin or by mailing payment to:

BHS Alumni Association
P.O. Box 267
Berlin, WI 54923



DID YOU KNOW? Alumni share facts about BHS history

"You were not allowed to bring a car to school unless you had a work permit showing you needed transportation immediately after school. Otherwise you had to park at least one block away."

Becky Guden, 1971

"There was a rule that boys' hair could not touch the collars of their shirts, and that shirts had to be button down shirts, too."

Jean Yonke, 1973

"We used to have Sadie Hawkins Dances where the girls had to ask the boys."

John Kujawa, 1954

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THE ECHO



Spring 2011

Berlin High School Alumni Association - "The Oldest in the State"

Life-long Berlin resident, teacher gives 25-year speech

By Nora Weiske, 2011

Amy Wenig will be one of the two highlighted speakers from the class of 1986 speaking at this year's alumni banquet.

The theme of the speech is "Bridge to Success." While Brian Keliher will talk about the exciting places bridges can take a person, Wenig will talk about how bridges can lead back home.

After high school, Amy (Chier) Wenig attended UW-Stevens Point where she majored in English Education and minored in writing.

After college, Wenig returned to Berlin to student teach by coincidence.

"When they were giving out student teaching assignments, there was a student from Oshkosh who wanted to teach in the Stevens

Point area," Wenig said. "So, I offered to student teach in the Oshkosh area, and by a fluke, it happened to be at Berlin High School."

Wenig thought that student teaching at Berlin was just a stepping stone in her career path, but it transformed into a life-long career.

Throughout her life, Berlin has always been home.

"I am proud to be a life-long resident of Berlin," Wenig said. "I cannot imagine myself living anywhere else."

Wenig credits her success in life to her parents.

"My parents instilled in me the importance of education and they showed me that with education anything is possible," Wenig said.

Wenig also credits the teachers that she has had through the years.

"I had some phenomenal teachers," Wenig said. "I was hoping to make the same difference that those teachers made for me."

Besides teaching, Wenig and her husband Marty Wenig are involved with the Berlin community and are the proud parents of three: Gregor, Becca and Ryan.

"I am fortunate to have a really close-knit family," Wenig said. "We celebrate the good times together and we work through the tough times. I think it is important to have that kind of support system."



Photo Submitted

Jeopardy contestant, Berlin High School alumnus shares life experiences

By Julie Kalupa, 2011

Brian Keliher, BHS graduate of 1986, has lived an interesting life. He will share his life experiences and lessons with the Berlin community in a speech he will deliver at the Alumni Banquet in May.

Immediately after high school, Keliher earned his Bachelor's Degree in art history from Indiana University and his Master's Degree from the University of Chicago.

He stayed in Chicago for a few years and worked as a copy editor. From there, he moved to San Diego and worked as a museum educator who helped teachers incorporate art into their classrooms. Next, he moved near Boston, where he worked at the Worcester Art Mu-

seum as the Assistant Curator of Education.

"I always dreamed of living in NYC," Keliher said. "In 2002, I was offered a job at a small museum in Greenwich, Connecticut which allowed me to live in the city."

Today, he still lives in the Big Apple. He works at the Bard Graduate Center, a graduate school that specializes in the history of decorative arts and design, where he is the Assistant Director of Development.

Through all of his travel, he trails his success back to Ber-

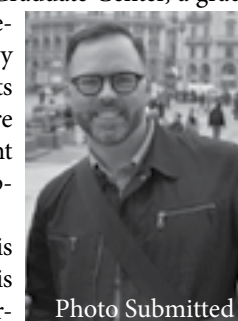


Photo Submitted

lin. "The strong academic foundation that I received at BHS certainly contributed to where I am now," Keliher said. "I had amazing teachers that encouraged learning, exploration, and the idea that you have to work hard to get what you want."

Although he competed on an episode of Jeopardy in 1994, Brian does not view that as his greatest accomplishment.

"I am most proud of developing an art appreciation class for the visually impaired in San Diego," Keliher said. "I partnered with the Braille Institute and we worked to find effective ways to bring the joy and excitement of art to people that are unable to experience it as fully as the sighted."

Endowment Fund rewards seniors

The BHS Alumni Association Endowment Fund continues to grow and to be used to give six graduating seniors a scholarship to assist with college tuition. In addition, it is used to fund The Echo newsletter. The Alumni Association would like to acknowledge that since 2009, our donations exceeded the costs for the scholarships and banquet. Thank you for helping to reward both past and present Berlin High School graduates.

The 2010 BHS Alumni Association Scholarship recipients, who received \$1,500 each, were

**Ryan Yonke,
Claire Lind,
Paul Fredrick,
Kara Hargrave,
Chelsea Hameister,
Brienne Lund**

Schrader chosen to speak at alumni banquet

By Hailey Prachel, 2013

It has been 50 years since high school graduation for Glory (Mendleski) Schrader and her classmates. Schrader is returning in May to speak at the alumni banquet about her high school memories.

Schrader was involved in Glee club, Latin and Spanish Club, prom court, Mascoutin, Future Nurses and many more.

She also wrote for the school newspaper, the Red 'n' Green.

"To me, high school is one step in the process of life lessons and life friendships," Schrader said.

During high school, Schrader learned to be goal oriented and hard working.

After attending UW-Oshkosh, Schrader worked many jobs including teaching, working in the X-ray department at

Community Health Network and as a volunteer driver for Marquette County.

She is married to Robert, the man she has been with since the seventh grade

They have two boys, Michael and John, both of whom live in Berlin, and they have two grandchildren as well.

"Berlin is where I was born, and I loved everything about the small town," Schrader said.

Alumni Spotlight: Wolff looks back at life

By Jostun Pomplun, 2012

Virginia (Root) Wolff and her husband Harry graduated from Berlin High School in 1946.

While in high school, Wolff most enjoyed going to the football games, and she also played in the pep band.

"I really enjoy sports," Wolff said.

After high school, Wolff became a teacher. She was inspired to this occupation because she enjoyed her teachers in high school.

She then taught for four years after graduating from Green Lake County Normal. She stopped teaching because her

husband went into the Navy.

Harry and Virginia exchanged vows in 1950. Harry then graduated from the Navy in 1952.

Virginia went back to teaching for 28 years in Oshkosh while Harry taught at UW-Oshkosh.

Virginia and Harry have lived in the Berlin community since 1992. They both enjoy living here.

"There are many friendly people," Wolff said.

Virginia continues to stay involved in the community by volunteering at church.

Together Virginia and Harry had two sons, one a teacher at Clay Lambertson. They also

have seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Both Harry and Virginia have been planning reunions for the class of '46 for years.

Virginia's sisters are two individuals that helped get the Alumni Association started.

Virginia's sisters were also officers of the Alumni Association, where they served for 30 years. Grace was treasurer while Haroldine was secretary.

They also started giving scholarships to students. Wolff thinks this is very helpful with the cost of tuition.

All three sisters are life members of the Alumni Association.

Highlights from the Red 'n' Green

Continous controversy leads to possible mascot suit

By Halle Daul 2011

Throughout the 2010-11 school year, there has been more controversy about the Indian mascot than ever before.

Earlier in the year, Berlin Student Council received a letter from 1962 graduate, Thomas Sobieski. The letter addresses the situation with the mascot and asks for help from the Student Council.

"I believe that it is time for Berlin to address the Indian mascot situation," Sobieski states in his letter.

In Sobieski's letter, he uses researched facts to

persuade the council to help him initiate changing Berlin's mascot.

"Native Americans have for 40 years made it clear they would prefer mascots referring to Native Americans not be used," the letter states.

With the possible mascot change in other cities such as Mukwonago, many may think that community members will support the mascot change, but school board member, Bonnie Olsen thinks otherwise.

"I feel that the majority of this community is extremely proud of our Indian mascot and the history behind it," Olsen said.

"And, they would have very strong opinions on this if there ever is a complaint filed."

Even though residents like Sobieski have come to support a mascot change, some still say that Berlin shall always remain the Indians.

"I go to a lot of activities and have heard people discuss this. They have very

strong feelings on keeping the Indian mascot," Olsen said. "They are proud of it and do not think of it as any form of disrespect at all. I am very proud to be a part of this district, and to be a Berlin Indian."

Recently, Sobieski has notified the school board that, unless they make these changes soon, he will make a complaint to

the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI).

If this is the case, Berlin would then have to go through all stages of court and possibly have to change the infamous Indian mascot.

It is difficult to tell at this point whether or not Sobieski will send a complaint to the DPI or let the rage of publicity fizzle away.

Whether or not the change will occur, Berlin has been known for their pride in being the Indians. Whether the pride will transfer over to another mascot is unknown.



Photo: H. Daul

Secretary Lynette Rossow explains to student council members the letter that Tom Sobieski sent about changing the high school's mascot.

Berlin sees first outbound foreign exchange student in decades with senior Crystal Mattice

By Amberlee Perry, 2012

"I'm not one for stereotypes, but it is an unfortunate truth that Italians are crazy drivers," foreign exchange student Crystal Mattice said. "Honking, speeding -- who needs to signal? -- they do it all."

After living in Melegnano, Italy as a foreign exchange student for almost nine months, Mattice is able to compare and contrast her host country to her home.

Mattice has had to adjust to an almost entirely different school day.

Classes are an hour long with a five minute break in between. At 11:50 a.m. students are

allowed a fifteen minute break to snack and talk with friends.

However, instead of students going from classroom to classroom, as Americans do, teachers are the ones who move every period.

"We have bells, but we don't really go by them," Mattice said. "Sometimes, teachers arrive ten minutes after the bell or sometimes stay for an extra five minutes."

Also differing from American schools, the school week lasts Monday through Saturday and the students' schedules change each day.

For example, on Monday, Mattice has biology,

French, gym, Latin/Italian and art. However, on Tuesday she attends math/physics, English, philosophy, gym, Latin/Italian and religion.

Students in Italy take school very seriously.

"Students study for about two to four hours after school," Mattice said.

When the students of Vincenzo Benini were told they would host a foreign exchange student from America, they based their expectations on America's most glamorous scene: Hollywood.

"When I heard Crystal was coming, I thought she would be a tall, blonde cheerleader like



Photo Submitted

Despite their long study hours, Mattice (far left) still makes time for fun with her Italian friends.

on the telefilm. I thought she would have pom-poms and a little dog in her purse," Mattice's friend Ele Gusma said.

However, after meeting and befriending Mattice, their views became more realistic.

"I think Americans are fantastic," classmate Frency Rossi said.

"I would like to be an American because they are more intelligent than Italians."

Even with all the exciting new traditions and lifestyles of Italy, Mattice misses home every once in a while.

"Italy is amazing," Mattice said. "But, I still miss home."

Scholarship Donors

'34 Alice K. Parsons: In memory of Irene Sedarski Bombinski & Nona Nimke
'35 John [Jack] Crawford
'40 Ruth (Lloyd) Krause
'42 Hazel (Norton) Craig
'43 Ed Borth
'43 Laura K. Frye
'43 Quentin Porter
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'45 Ardis (Swanke) Schmidt
'45 Thomas (Yankowski) Janik
'45 Elaine (Madison) Brostrom
'45 Edith [Edie] (Baehr) Sultze
'46 Helen (Krouse) Purtell
'48 Bob Hamre: In memory of Helen Hamre
'52 Yvonne (Zamzow) Firary
'54 Jack & Mary (Werch) Butler: In memory of Barbara Viertel Verheyen & Beatrice Stemler

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'55 Gilbert Keller
'55 Gary Albright
'56 Chuck Ihrke
'56 Admiral Jim Carey
'57 Donna Nickolaisen
'57 Bonnie (Keller) Sosnoski
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'59 Carla (Schalk) Wiese
'59 Joe Beck
'59 Elaine Van Rhyn
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'75 Amy (Hobbs) Bartholomew
'75 Janet (Bicking) Wilhelms
'83 Jean M. Donahue
'85 Greg Walker
'85 Kevin Lichtenberg
'85 Patti (Petit) Feavel
'85 John LaBuda
'85 Kathy (Teske) Jezwinski
'86 Amy Wenig
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'88 Becky (Polk) Pohlman: In memory of Debbie Posorske
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