

# Eagle News

December 2017



CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL  
FOUNDATION

*Tradition of Excellence*



FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## Dear Supporter,

Happy Holidays! We, at the Central High School Foundation, want to thank you for making 2017 a very special year for Central High School. It is you and your support that allows Omaha's Downtown High School, Central High School, to continue to be a lighthouse for public education all around the country. We are truly blessed and thankful for all of our Foundation supporters who enable us to do great things, every day, for Central High School students, staff, families, friends and alumni!



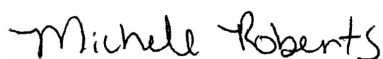
Even though classes are out at Central for Winter Break, it doesn't mean that Central High activities aren't going on! Come out and support the Eagles at the Metro Athletic Conference Holiday Basketball Tournament. The fifth-ranked CHS Boy's Basketball team will take on Omaha South on December 30, at 1:45 p.m., at the Ralston Arena. The CHS Girl's Basketball team will take on Omaha Bryan on December 28, at 1:00 p.m., at the Creighton Prep gym. [Click here](#) to view the brackets for the Holiday tournament. GO EAGLES!

With construction moving along on the Central High School Arts and Library Addition, we are excited to share with you a [time-lapse video](#) of the Addition's progress since the groundbreaking in June. We are also happy to announce that the project team has selected the perfect limestone match to our existing limestone building. Reed Quarries from Bloomington, Indiana will provide the new limestone cladding and its color selection, Rustic Buff, for the new Addition. Reed Quarries, for our CHS history buffs, were the miners of the original Central High School building limestone. Along with the Reed Quarries selection, the project team has chosen JKI Engineering from Bedford Indiana as our natural stone cladding design specialist. JKI is currently consulting with the Addition's lead building architect, DLR Group, on the limestone panel layouts and on the installation requirements for each individual panel. The new Arts and Library Addition completion and student move-in date is tentatively scheduled for December of 2018---it is going to be an exciting new year!

As always, thank you for helping perpetuate 158 years - and counting - of tradition and excellence!

Go Eagles!

Sincerely,



Michele Roberts  
Executive Director

## 'Tis the Season For Giving



Honor someone you love this Holiday season by donating a tribute gift to the Central High School Foundation.

An honor or memorial gift is a thoughtful way to celebrate a special occasion or to honor family or friends. The Central High School Foundation's Honor and Memorial Gift Program allows you to recognize individuals, couples, groups, special occasions such as birthdays or anniversaries, or the holidays!

When you make a memorial gift, a personalized card and acknowledgment is sent to the

individual or family being honored. You will also receive a letter acknowledging your gift and the gift amount for your records. All donations will be recognized in the CHSF annual report.

For information on how you can give a tribute gift, please [visit our website by clicking here.](#)

## Nominations Open for 2018 Hall of Fame



If you would like to recognize one of your classmates for their outstanding achievements, nominate them for the 2018 CHS Hall of Fame!

The Central High School Alumni Association's Hall of Fame Selection Committee is now accepting nominations for the 2018 Hall of Fame Class! If you have a distinguished alumni, educator or CHS benefactor that is worthy of this honor, please submit your nomination by December 31, 2017. You can [submit your nomination online](#) or [download a nomination form](#) by visiting our website.

If you have any questions please contact the Central High School Foundation at 402-556-1996. Anyone can submit a nomination, and nominations are good for three years.

## First Class Challenge Ends December 31

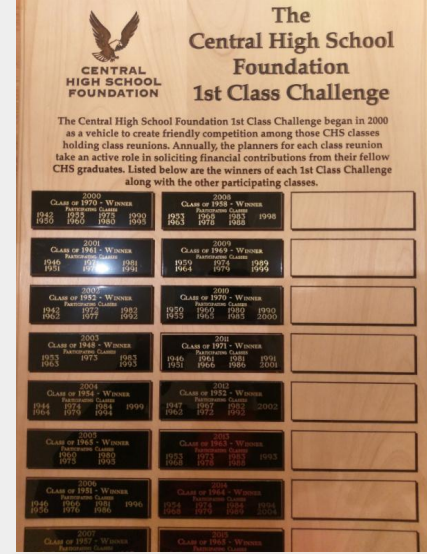
The First Class Challenge is an exciting rivalry for classes holding reunions each year. The class that donates the most money by December 31, 2017, will win the 2017 First Class Challenge Award! This friendly class competition began in 2000. As the tradition continues each year reunion planners send classmates letters, asking for their financial participation to ensure their class wins "The First Class Challenge Award," given to just one of the many reunions happening throughout the year. The class contributing the most money by the end of the year wins! All contributions are tax

deductible and are critical to the survival of The Foundation, and help it remain a solid support system for all Central High School students, graduates, and faculty. A plaque is proudly displayed in the CHS Courtyard and the CHS Foundation office recognizing the winners and the participants from each year.

[Donate online](#) or mail your contribution to:

Central High School Foundation  
 Historic Library Building  
 1823 Harney Street, Suite 203 Omaha, NE 68102-1913

Good luck and may the best class win!



## Pete Wilger Named NMEA Music Educator of the Year



During All State Music weekend in Lincoln in November, the Nebraska Music Education Association awarded its 2017 Music Educator of the Year award to Central band teacher Pete Wilger! Recipients of the award display "excellence in every facet of music teaching in Nebraska."

Mr. Wilger is the Performing Arts Department Chair at Central. Congratulations, Mr. Wilger!

## Alumni in the News



Mali Nichols, CHS 2017 (right), ran into 2017 Central Hall of Fame inductee Natalie Brown, CHS 1985 (center), in October. Brown attended Georgetown University, while Nichols is currently a student at GU.



Central grad **Neil Tabor**, CHS 1992, is embarking on a trip to Antarctica. Neil, who is currently a professor at Southern Methodist University, will be in Antarctica for almost three months while conducting research using a grant from the National Science Foundation. Congratulations, Neil! [Click here](#) to learn more about Neil's project.



In November, the Omaha Jaycees announced their Ten Outstanding Young Omahans for 2017. Among those recognized was **Matt Darling**, who graduated from Central in 1999 and serves on the Central High School Foundation Board of Directors. Congratulations, Matt! [Click here](#) to read about Matt and his work in the Omaha community.



Southwest Airlines pilot **James Mahoney**, CHS 1971, recently made his final flight. Growing up dreaming of becoming a pilot, James joined the Air Force and served 15 years on active duty before flying commercially for 26 years.

Congratulations on a fantastic career, James! [Click here](#) to read more about James in a column by Omaha World-Herald writer Michael Kelly.

We love hearing what our alumni are up to! If you have story ideas or want to recognize someone, please [email](#) our Communications Manager Josh Bucy.

Rock the Nest Trivia Night Set for April 2018



We are excited to announce that Rock the Nest Trivia Night will be held on Sunday, April 8, 2018, at the Omaha Design Center! Check our website and future newsletters for more details as we get closer to the event. It will be a great opportunity to reconnect with your high school classmates, have fun, and raise money for your alma mater.

## Date Set for 2018 Craft and Conversation Day

SAVE THE DATE

# CRAFT & CONVERSATION

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 2018 | 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA

You and all of your friends are invited to attend a fun filled day to complete your hobby projects!

- Open to all crafters whether novice or seasoned
- Scrapbooking, quilting, beading, stamping, knitting, crocheting, needlepoint, etc. welcome
- Raffle drawings for theme baskets!

**EACH PARTICIPANT RECEIVES:**

- A large table
- Car-side carrying service
- Continental breakfast, lunch, snacks & beverages

For more information or to register contact:  
Ana Wedergren  
chsvoicevol@gmail.com

**\$35**  
(\$20 tax deductible donation!)

Proceeds benefit  
CHS choir student  
scholarships.

All proceeds from Craft & Conversation go to support V.O.I.C.E., a volunteer group supporting the vocal music program at Central High School.

Help raise money for scholarships for music students! The annual Craft & Conversation Day will

be held on Saturday, January 27, 2018, from 9 AM - 6 PM in the Central High School cafeteria. The event cost is \$35 and will be hosted by the Central V.O.I.C.E. organization. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. This event is open to all crafters and their friends! To register, email [chsvoicevol@gmail.com](mailto:chsvoicevol@gmail.com) and get signed up today!

## Class Reunion Schedule

### Class of 1992

December 29, 2017

Contact Bryan Campbell - 904-626-2915

### *2018 Reunion Schedule*

#### Class of 1958

October 12-14, 2018

Contact: Jackie Jepsen McLellan

402-491-3692

[Jmclellan8@cox.net](mailto:Jmclellan8@cox.net)

#### Class of 1963

September 21-22, 2018

Contact: Lyle Karre

[l.karre@cox.net](mailto:l.karre@cox.net)

#### Class of 1968

August 24-25, 2018

Contact: Joanne Wagner Givens

Cell: 402-515-0987 // Home: 402-571-5593

[jgivens1950@gmail.com](mailto:jgivens1950@gmail.com)

[www.facebook.com/groups/omahacentralhigh1968](http://www.facebook.com/groups/omahacentralhigh1968)

Other Contacts:

Pam Weiss Friedlander - [pfriedla@cox.net](mailto:pfriedla@cox.net) or 402-334-8773

Jim Costello - [costellosteel@gmail.com](mailto:costellosteel@gmail.com) or 402-670-9612

#### Class of 1978

October 5-6, 2018

[omahacentral1978@cox.net](mailto:omahacentral1978@cox.net)

Contact: Sally Vrbanac Rehmeier - 402-496-3407

If you have not set up your class reunion for 2018, contact [Sydney Davidson](#) (402-556-1996) at the Central High School Foundation to get started. The Foundation has many resources to help make your class reunion the very best possible.

## 2017-18 Generation C Chairs - The Farrell Family



[Photo by Laurie and Charles Photographs](#)

This year's Generation "C" Chairs are truly a family of Eagles. William Farrell Sr. '57, Cathy Farrell Proctor '88, William Farrell Jr. '91, and John Farrell '93 embody the spirit of commitment, caring, and generosity in their continuing dedication to helping improve the greater Omaha community and the lives of those who call it home. Even with their busy lives, they all boast impressive lists of community service and remain passionate about giving back to their alma mater: Central High School.

Four generations of the Farrell Family have graduated from Central High School, beginning with Lavina Shorter Cathers, CHS 1906, who was William Sr.'s grandmother. As one of four children of Margaret, CHS 1927, and her husband Chester, William F. 'Bill' Farrell graduated from Central High School and Parsons College. He has been married to Kay Farrell for 53 years. He retired in the early 90s as president and owner of Farrell Construction Company. Highlights for Bill and his company included taking telephone cable off Ak-Sar-Ben Bridge in the 60s (it had been deemed too dangerous), first to lay long distance cable in this 5 state area, first to install drip irrigation in area, first to hang water systems in packing plants to reduce shrinkage, and oversight of the irrigation system installation on Tainan Golf Course/Taiwan.

The oldest child of William Sr. and Kay, Cathy graduated from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln in 1992 with a Bachelor of Science in Speech Communications. She currently works as an Account Executive/Data Center Specialist for Dell EMC. Cathy is very involved in the Omaha community, including working with the Junior League of Omaha, ALS Keith Worthington Chapter, Central High School Foundation Golf Committee, Rose Children's Theater Guild, All Saints Ministry Guild, Omaha Chamber of Commerce Membership Campaign, and is a Omaha Symphony Guild member. She has 2 daughters - Lauren Kay, age 14 and Meredith Ann, age 11. In her free time Cathy enjoys golfing, traveling and cheering her daughters on in their sporting activities and theater productions.

William Jr. (Wiff) graduated from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies. Wiff is a Safe Patient Handling Specialist in the medical field and has worked for EZ Way Medical Equipment, Inc. for the past 13 years. Wiff is a resident of Dundee and serves on the Dundee Memorial Park Association Board. Wiff is an avid golfer and has worked with his sister Cathy on the Central High School Foundation Golf Committee for the past several years. Wiff has been married to Jane Farrell for over twenty years and enjoys hunting, fishing, golfing and travelling in his spare time.

John (Johnny) graduated from New Mexico State University in Las Cruces in 1998 with a



Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing, International Business, and option in Professional Golf Management. Johnny golfed professionally until 2002, then became Golf Professional at The Old Course at Broken Sound (2002-2004), Head Golf Professional at the Ocean Reef Club (2004-2009), and Director of Golf at Riviera Country Club (2008-2010). Johnny recently stepped down from his position as Sales Manager at EZ Way Medical Equipment to pursue a career in law. He is currently attending Creighton University School of Law.

The Farrell Family remains active in the community, helping to keep Omaha the best city to live, to raise children, and to enjoy. Their Eagle Spirit is not just a result of their time at Central - it is a family tradition.

To learn more about Generation "C" and to join today, [click here!](#)

## Support CHS While You Shop

Are you shopping on Amazon? Be sure to shop using the link below to support the Central High School Foundation while you shop! 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases will be donated to the Central High School Foundation. Happy shopping!



**Start with a Smile at**  
**[smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) this Holiday Season**

Support us and find all of your holiday essentials including gifts, decorations, and more.

You shop. Amazon gives.

**amazon**smile

## TAGGing Just Got Easier!



You can now TAGG your purchase by taking a picture of the receipt rather than taking a picture of a QR code! That way if you forget to TAGG your purchase before leaving the restaurant, you can take a picture of your receipt after getting home!

Omaha Central High School Foundation has partnered with TAGG (Together A Greater Good), an Omaha start-up, to provide an easy and free way to support the Foundation. TAGG offers a smartphone app that, when used at 120 participating local businesses, the business will donate 5% of your purchase, any day any time! The app, available on iPhone and Android devices, is free to download and easy to set up. Here's how to

get started:

- 1) Go to the App Store or Google Play and download the free app 'Together a Greater Good' to your iPhone or Android device.
- 2) When it's time to pay at a participating business, click the orange 'TAGG My Purchase' button on the app and tell the cashier that you want to 'TAGG' your purchase.
- 3) On your phone, enter in the total pre-tax amount of your purchase and click 'Next.'
- 4) When you go to TAGG a purchase, you will now have the option to take a picture of your receipt (instead of asking a cashier for a QR code to scan). We ask that you do this within 7 days of purchase.
- 5) On your phone, select Central High School Foundation from the list of organizations.

To learn more about TAGG, check out their [website](#). Happy shopping!

## Like Us on Facebook!

Are you on Facebook? [Like our Facebook page](#) to be connected to other Central alumni, staff, parents and supporters, all while receiving the latest news.



We are continuing to grow our social network! When we reach our 2,300 fan milestone, we will award a great prize from the Central High School Alumni Store. Winners will be pulled from our Facebook Fans!

## Connect With Us on Twitter!



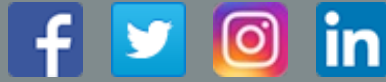
Are you on Twitter? Follow the Central High School Foundation [@CHSF0maha](#) for the latest news and pictures of CHS events. Twitter is a micro-blogging social media platform that is available for free for any smartphone. We want to be an active part of your network, so connect with us today to get started.

## Stay in the Loop and Update Your Record

Haven't received information from us in a while? It might be because we don't have your new mailing address or email! Look for your name on our ['Lost Alumni'](#) list, then [fill out the form](#) to update us on how to get in touch with you!

All alumni who have graduated in the past 10 years are strongly encouraged to visit our website to [update their record](#), especially if they have not received updates and mailing from the Central High School Foundation at their own address. For many of our younger alumni, we send mail to the home they lived in upon graduating from Central.

## Corporate Sponsors



Central High School Foundation // Historic Library Building // 1823 Harney Street Suite 203  
Omaha, NE 68102-1913 // 402-556-1996