

Louis E. Dieruff High School Alumni Association Newsletter



Volume 1 , Issue 9

DHSAlumniNews@ptd.net

May, 2016

Fandangle...What's In A Name

John G. Hughes, Jr. '61



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Shakespeare had it right. A rose by any other name would smell as sweet. And so it is with our "Fandangle". For those of you who have attended any or all of the Fandangle events during the last three years, you know what I'm talking about. The Fandangle is.. well, ah, the Fandangle. It's a most unusual name for an equally unusual event.

For those who have never experienced our annual event, the Fandangle defies accurate description. We call the event a "mega-reunion

for all classes", and that's true. It is. But this reunion is way different than the typically boring class reunion. It is informal, stress-free, and fun. In fact, it is a picnic.

Perhaps the best way to describe the Fandangle is to offer my personal list of **"Top Ten Reasons to Attend the Fandangle"** on Saturday, July 30, 2016:

(Continued on Page 2)

Dieruff High School Alumni Association

Husky Pride... Unleashed



Dieruff Fandangle

A Mega-Reunion For All Classes

Join fellow Dieruff Alumni (All Classes) and Friends
for an afternoon of great fun, music, drinks (beer,
soda, water), and all-you-can-eat catered food.

Saturday, July 30, 2016
2:00 PM to 7:00 PM
East Side Youth Center
1140 East Clair Street, Allentown, PA

\$20 Per Person

July 30th
Save The Date
Watch for details

www.dieruff-alumni.org



President's Message

John G. Hughes, Jr. '61

Press for the Common Good

Here's a riddle: What do the Dieruff Theatre Department, the Husky Volleyball Team, and the "Sew What?" Club all have in common? The answer is all three have recently received extremely positive media coverage in the Lehigh Valley.

In a news environment where the focus seems to be on the negative, it has been heart-warming to witness the local media select and report on "the common good" in three independent Dieruff human interest stories.

Our April Alumni Association Newsletter featured a fascinating interview with Sarah Hinkle Pastelyak, Dieruff Class of 2002, and producer/co-director of the Theatre Department's musical, "The Producers". The recent full-house, standing ovation performances of the show drew rave reviews, and reflected the talent, dedication, and extraordinary teamwork of directors, cast, and crew. What a team, indeed! Newspaper and TV coverage paid well-deserved tribute. The Freddy Award Nominations will be announced on May 12th, and the Freddy Award Show is scheduled for May 26th.

The Boys Volleyball Team received similar accolades in The Morning Call when it clinched its first District 11 tournament birth in seven years. Not only has this close-knit team achieved com-

mendable results on the court, it has scored a collective GPA of just shy of 4.0. The team prides itself in its positive "team mentality".

Featured in our March Newsletter, the "Sew What?" Club experienced a media blitz during one of its April after-school meetings. Reporters and photographers from WFMZ, The Morning Call, and the Lehigh Valley Health Network converged on the club to document the newsworthy story of how the Huskies are converting the surgical medical wrap material provided by the hospital into useful products (ponchos, sleeping bags, and backpacks) for the homeless community in Allentown. The resulting media coverage told a most positive and inspiring story.

And so, we rejoice! We commend the kids, coaches, directors, and mentors for their positive contribution to Husky Pride. We also salute the local media representatives for recognizing and promoting the "good".

Warm Husky regards,

John

(Fandangle Continued from Page 1)

The Price is Right – At \$20, a Fandangle ticket has got to be the best entertainment value in the Lehigh Valley. When is last time you spent \$20 for a 5-hour reunion/ picnic with food, beer, music, etc., etc.?

A Great Venue – "Weather or Not". As they say, "we've got you covered, inside and out". The East Side Youth Center is a perfect location for our event. It offers a comfortable air-conditioned banquet hall, as well as an adjacent fresh-air outdoor environment covered with huge party tents. Rain or shine, it's a great party.

All-You-Can-Eat Picnic Fare – Our proven contracted vendor is "Giovanni's On The Go" who will provide a menu of sumptuous summer delights.

Suds and Sodas and H2O – We will have cold beer on tap, and soft drinks and water on ice.

Optional BYO – If your personal preference of adult beverage is wine or

liquor, you are welcome to bring your own supply.

The Sound of Music – Our live DJ will provide a pleasant mix of background music. Our Alumni Choir, under the spirited direction of Mr. Peter Carpenter, will offer an entertaining array of traditional Husky melodies.

A Family Affair – As a "Mega-Reunion for all Classes", the Fandangle brings together Dieruff Alumni who are brothers and sisters...as well as parents and children. It also is a perfect opportunity for Dieruff Classes to celebrate their Class Reunions. Reserved tables allow for convenient groupings of classmates.

Husky Merchandise For Sale – An exciting array of Dieruff sportswear will be available for purchase.

Memorable Photos – Our photographers will be taking class photographs as well as casual shots that will capture the spirit of the event. Photographs will be posted on our Website.

Husky Pride at its Finest – The Fandangle brings out the positive Husky Spirit in everyone. Come and get your refreshing fix of Husky Pride.

Purchase your Fandangle Tickets as soon as you can. Your ticket stub will be entered into our monthly drawings for Giant Gift Cards. We'll be selecting random ticket stubs at our June and July Alumni Association Meetings. Each month, we will draw three stubs, and winners will receive \$50, \$25, or \$25 Giant Gift Cards. You know you will be buying a ticket, so make that purchase early, and give yourself the chance of winning a Gift Card.

Because we have to provide our vendors with final counts, ticket sales will be cut off on July 25th, five days before the event. There will be no tickets available after that cutoff date.

See you at the Fandangle.

Alumni Profile - Lee Laubach '84

David Ziegenfuss '86



Lee and his wife Myssi, Class of 1987

Our Alumni profile this month is a man who is the most important person when it comes to the safety of the citizens of Allentown, Fire Chief Lee Laubach.

Not only is he a firefighter; but an administrator, educator, diplomat, investigator and husband for 23 years to his best friend Myssi (Minarovic - Class of '87).

Lee, along with his sidekick Judge, a certified arson canine, travel throughout the city teaching the importance of fire safety to schools and our citizens.

"I grew up on the East Side between Keck Park and the East Side Youth Center, so I always felt that I was part of the two neighborhoods", Lee begins. "I went to Mosser School and I loved it there." Three teachers there would play an important part in his life, "Mr. Fatula in 5th grade and Mr. O'Connell and Mr. Vaughn in the 6th grade are my top three teachers; they molded me and made me who I am today."

Once at Dieruff, Lee felt that it was there where he got the structure to study and learn and utilized physics class with Mr. Landis as the field that would one day prepare him for his future. "The teachers wanted you to succeed. They always had a great support system for the kids. The teachers were mentors, before 'mentors' was a buzz word". He was also a member of the basketball team and a role player which would be important to him later in choosing a career.

So how did Lee decide on a career in fire-fighting? "It was a family thing; I've had family who were fire fighters so I knew about it. After getting out of college, I did not want to be stuck in one kind of job, doing the same thing day after day. The Fire Department lent itself to the fact that every call you go to is different, which is exciting to me. I would also play into some of my strengths of wanting to help people and using biology and chemistry (since they were getting big into Emergency Medical Services work). I also still longed for the team concept and with the fire department, you are a team".

I asked Lee about his first days with the fire department, "My first call after the training academy was a 2nd floor fire on Washington Street. Since your first two weeks are spent at Central Station and require you to ride with someone, I was riding with Herbie Ring (a long time lieutenant & chief that has since passed). I learned a ton in 6 months from him. I could not imagine the amount of experience that this gentleman had because he knew when we pulled up that it was a room and contents fire and we could put it out with one line & 500 gallon tank".

Lee tells us a story about his first solo call: "The first call on my own was on the East Side - I was driving Engine 12 out of East Side station. I remember it well because I knew the East Side since I grew up there. We were driving up to the call and Engine 13 was in front of us and Rocky Groller (Keith's dad) was driving. I was told to follow him because Rocky had been with the department forever and he knew the East Side very well. I kind of knew where the call was but I followed them. They got up to the corner of Union Blvd and Irving Street and stopped in the middle of the road. Rocky's hand went out one side and the lieutenant's went out the other side - they didn't know where they were going! It was pretty funny and every time I see Rocky, I harass him about it."

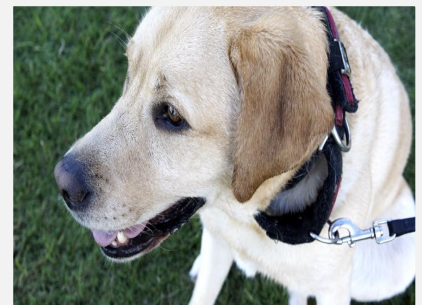
When Lee speaks to the public, he is usually not alone. His companion is Judge the fire department's arson canine, who, much like Kiska, is the face of the fire department because of his outreach for everybody. "We received him through a grant from State Farm Insurance, which gives out 10 grants a year throughout the US and Canada. He is the first arson canine in the city of Allentown and the Lehigh Valley and only 1 of 5 in the state - covering Philadelphia to Harrisburg. The arson rate has gone down 52% in the city since we got him. This is significant since there are so many row homes in Allentown. We go around to all of the schools and the kids hear the fire safety message through him. The kids pay a lot more attention with Judge there. He is up for Hero Dog of the Year which is a country wide award. He has 1,200 followers on his Facebook page, and this week the Morning

Call came in to do another story on him, due to his social media outreach. He is seven now and will work for another 2-3 years and then Judge and I will probably both retire".

In interviewing the Fire Chief, I would be remiss if I didn't ask about some important safety advice. "Whatever your emergency is, call 911 immediately. The faster you contact emergency services, the faster they can get there to correct your problem. No problem is too small. Smoke detectors are important but also carbon monoxide detectors are very important. There is currently a big push in the city to educate about this because it is colorless & odorless".

Thank you Chief, for your service and dedication to not only the people of Allentown, but to the entire Commonwealth as well.

And as a side note, beginning with the September issue of the newsletter, Chief Lee Laubach will have his own column, where he will give a monthly safety tip, so we thank him.



Judge, Allentown Fire Department's Arson Canine



Kay Kurtz-Vogel '74

In our April 2016 newsletter, we started to feature tips to help navigate your way around our alumni website. As site administrator, I've received requests from day one from alumni who request email addresses of fellow classmates to re-connect. For privacy reasons, it is your alumni association's policy NOT to share personal emails of alumni, faculty or staff.

You can reach out to fellow classmates by utilizing **Private Messaging** between registered alumni. It's a great way to send birthday wishes, condolences and to find out if they want to go to an upcoming reunion or Fandangle 2016.

Registered users can receive messages from other registered users; the general public or non-registered classmates cannot utilize this feature because it is password protected. These messages are sent via the alumni website and not via email. Messages are private and **cannot be viewed by anyone** except for the sender or the recipient (not even site administrators). Please remember that although messages are private, recipients have the right to refuse any unwanted messages and should report any malicious or inappropriate content to the site administrators.

How to send private messages:

Go to **MEMBER FUNCTIONS** section found on the left margin of homepage.

Click – **Message Center**

Click – **Compose Message**

Select Recipient (s)

Enter a First or Last Name

Enter Year

When name (s) appear, click on recipient's name

Enter – Subject Line

Click in Large Rectangular Box and compose your private message.

Click - **Blue Send Message Box**

The recipient will notice the next time they sign in that there's a message to review. This appears on the upper right hand side of the homepage. When they click on the announcement they will automatically be sent to the Message Center to review received messages. From here they can choose to either respond to the received message or not.

Next month – How to view a class roster - How to order online event tickets.

Back To The Future...

David Ziegenfuss '86

With graduation for the Class of 2016 quickly approaching in June, we wanted some of your thoughts for the June edition of the Newsletter. This is an article where everyone can participate, whether you attended Dieruff or not.

It's the day before **YOUR OWN** graduation. You head back in time and speak to yourself as a graduating High School Senior. What **ONE PIECE of LIFE ADVICE** would you give yourself that you think would make a difference later on in your life (i.e. Go to college, don't get married until you're 40, make the military a career, etc.).

Now, it must be **LIFE ADVICE** (you can't say "Buy Apple or Amazon stock", or "Here are the winning lottery numbers," or "Here's who wins the Super Bowls")

It should be honest and self-reflecting. All submissions will be included.



Please include your Name, Class Year and if you graduated from somewhere other than Dieruff, the school you attended.

Please email them before May 30th to DHSAlumniNews@ptd.net

We at the Newsletter are excited about some of the answers we have already received and can't wait to receive more!

Thank you for your participation!

Mother and Child Reunion

David Ziegenfuss '86

Since May 8th is Mother's Day, I thought I would honor all the women with the tag of "Mother" and at the same time give you a music history lesson.

Rock and Roll Hall of Famer, Paul Simon was inspired for the title of his first solo hit song "Mother and Child Reunion" in 1972 after going to a Chinese restaurant and seeing on the menu a *chicken and egg dish*. It immediately got him to think of it as a *mother and child reunion*.

Since Dieruff opened its doors in 1959, there have been many alumni who have spawned future graduates. Pam Wescoe, Paulette Diefenderfer, Ruth Scherman, Joyce Hemerly, Brenda Nieves, June Laubach, Mary Anne Truchan, Pat Felix and my Mom, Carol Roderick (to name a few) have all had children who attended and graduated from Dieruff. It's a sense of pride and connection to see generations go through the doors of DHS together. It is what makes Dieruff High School a very special school. And the mother and child reunion continues.

For those whom I have mentioned (and to all DHS alumni families), thank you for continuing the legacy we know as Louis E. Dieruff High School and continuing to foster positive and productive community members, students, friends and family. Thank you for nurturing a sense of tradition

and values to those future generations who are attending and will attend DHS. May the strength of generations strive to build and maintain an unshakable, resilient student body and alumni, who together will carry on the message of "Husky Pride".

And to all Mothers, Moms, Maters, Mums, Mommies, Ma and Matriarchs – enjoy YOUR day!

Here is a link to the song for your listening pleasure:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Pa5H_4IBXs



My Mom,
 Carol Roderick
 Class of '67

Kiska's Korner

By Kiska V w/Karen Coleman



I feel pretty, or so pretty. Should be humble but wearing a new collar. It is silver and blue and I cannot wait to see how it looks under the lights at the stadium. The real reason I have a new collar, the old one got too small. The pills I take for my eye condition...and yes it is back. Have a sore eye again,,,,, but anyway have a great appetite. Mom also changed my food, no grain kibble. So packed on a few pounds. Or maybe, I just filled out.

But going for walks with Mom and my beloved Aunt Susie. Auntie is life long Weight Watchers and takes her walks seriously. The big thing is the 10,000 steps a day. so we mush a lot. One walk was 9,200. Only I think my steps should be doubled, maybe quadrupled because I have four legs. I also, never walk in a straight path, too many good spring smells.

We even did the bike trail Had not been there for a year. Last year Mom saw a garter snake, maybe ten inches long. I am sure you heard her scream all the way to Allentown. It was bad. Then got even worse when she told everyone it was this huge Anaconda lurking in the bushes. Before we started the trail, Mom starts praying to St. Patrick to rid the trail of snakes as he rid Ireland of the reptiles. Heard a lot of prayers to St. Francis, but this was a first. Guess it worked because we saw no snakes and had a wonderful five mile walk.

Enjoy the spring weather and make time to take your best furry friend for a walk. Even around the block is good. Even ten minutes of being out in the fresh air. Saw a lot of friend last night and showed them my new collar. Does not take much to make a husky happy.

Hope to see you at some upcoming events and especially graduation.

Love,

Kiska V Diva Dog

**The Allentown School District Foundation,
Mayfair Festival of the Arts and
People First Credit Union**
are partnering to collect musical instruments for
Allentown School District students

Bring your gently used instruments to any branch of People First Credit Union between now and May 27 or bring instruments to the ASD Foundation booth at Mayfair (May 27-30). Please include name and contact information with donation and the ASDF will send a donation receipt.

**Allentown students need all kinds of instruments -
brass, woodwinds, strings and percussion**

Drop off instruments at any People First Credit Union location:

Allentown - 451 Chew Street, Suite 204
Allentown - 2141 Downyflake Lane
Bethlehem - 1530 8th Avenue
Nazareth - 4066 Jandy Boulevard
Trenton - 6900 Hamilton Boulevard
Whitehall - 3682 Crescent Court East



Contact Vicki Newhard for additional information newhardv@allentownsd.org 484-765-4121

**4th Annual
Husky Golf Outing
to benefit the
Dieruff Football Program
Saturday, May 21, 2016**

See www.dieruff-alumni.org for details



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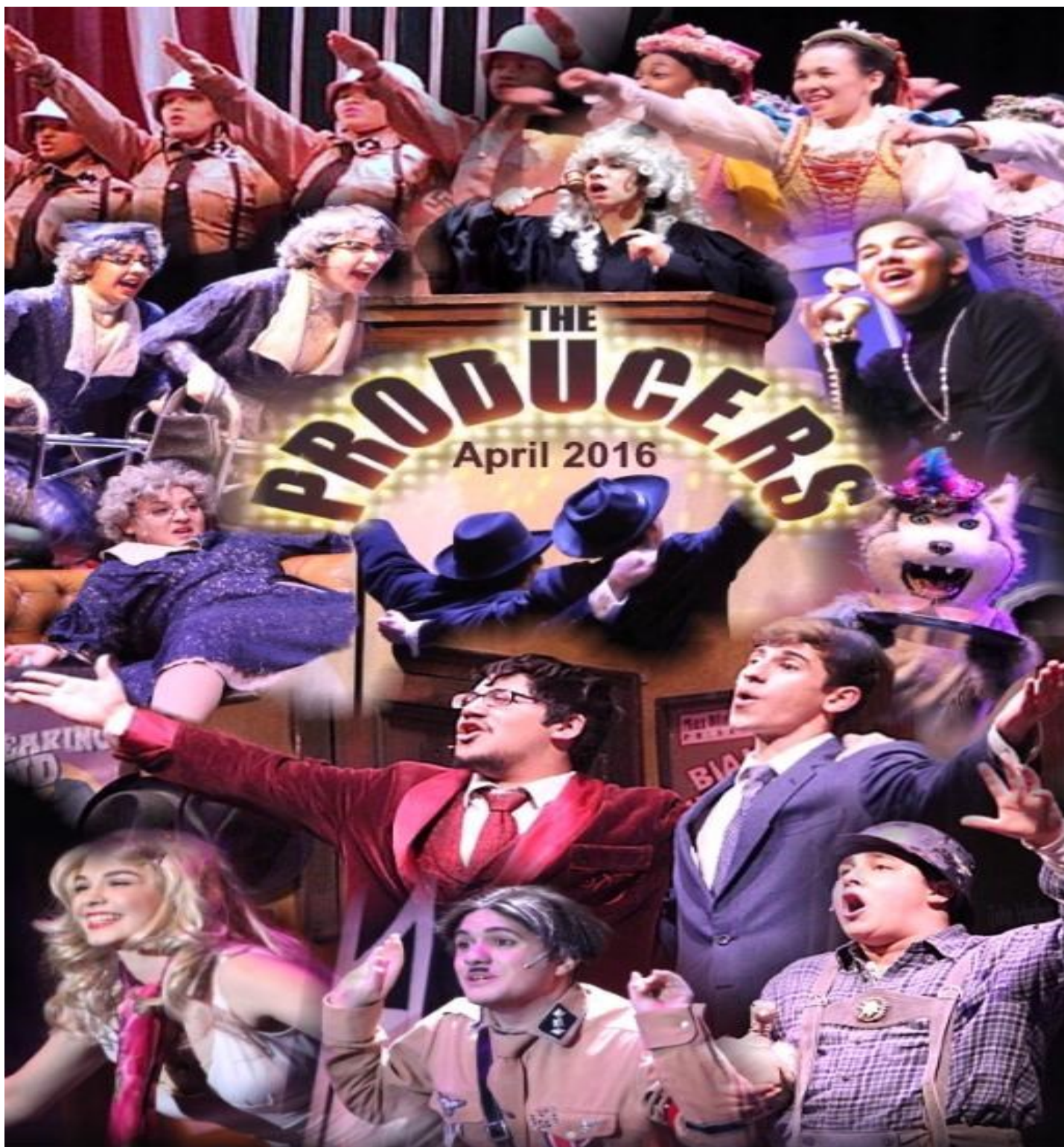


Photo Collage By: John G. Hughes, Jr.

Congratulations to the Cast and Crew

2 SOLD OUT Performances

TONS OF ACCOLADES

UPCOMING EVENTS

To get your event listed, please email event before the
24th of each month to: dhsalumninews@ptd.net

- May 10:** Dieruff Spring Concert - Auditorium, 7PM
May 14: Dieruff Jazz Band and Percussion Ensemble - Barnes & Nobel
 Lehigh Valley Mall 1:00PM-3:30PM
May 14: Meilinger Memorial Golf Tournament Southmoore Golf Course
 Visit WEBSITE www.Dieruff-Alumni.org for details
May 21: 4th Annual Husky Football Golf Outing (See Poster Pg. 4 For Details)
June 1: Alumni Association Monthly Meeting 6:30PM
 Meilinger Center
June 25: Andre Reed Foundation Celebrity Casino Night , PPL Center 7PM-11PM
July 6: Alumni Association Monthly Meeting 6:30 PM
 (Final Meeting Before Fandangle)
 Site To Be Determined
July 30: Fandangle IV 2PM - 6PM
 East Side Youth Center - (See pages 1 & 2 for details)
August 19 & 20: Class of 1966 50th Year Class Reunion Weekend
 CLICK ON LINK FOR DETAILS:
[/000/2/6/8/20862/Userfiles/file/DHS-66_50th_Reunion.pdf](http://000/2/6/8/20862/Userfiles/file/DHS-66_50th_Reunion.pdf)

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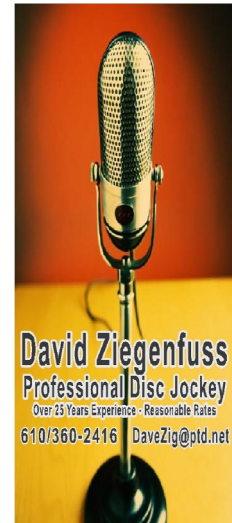
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Louis E. Dieruff High School
Alumni Association Newsletter

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We publish an online digital .pdf copy of the
newsletter 11 times annually, with two special
printed editions for the

Fandangle and Dieruff-Allen Game tailgate.

All digital copies will be emailed by or on the 5th
of each month. Deadline for inclusion for the
next month's edition is by the 24th of each
month, unless arrangements are made. Please
email articles, advertising and events to:

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