

# Louis E. Dieruff High School Alumni Association Newsletter

Volume 2 , Issue 8

DHSAlumniNews@ptd.net

April 2017

## Remembering Two Ladies Of Dieruff

The Dieruff family lost two faculty members last month who were leaders in the school. One led young minds in building careers, the other, leading DHS as an administrator, who at times had to be a heavy.

### Mrs. Nancy Schultz

*Ann Blacker '84*



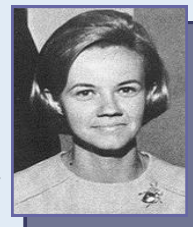
Some memories of Mrs. Nancy Schultz. I have been thinking about her so much since I heard of her passing. She is a big reason why I became a business teacher.

The first year we had manual typewriters. I knew some of the students were cheating during our timed writings. During practice time they would take their time and type as much as they wanted and put it in their folder. After we had a timed writing they would hand this in for a grade. (A grade for doing the timed writing.) I thought this was so unfair. But it never seemed to bother her.

Then timed writing test day came. We knew which timed writings we would be typing for our test grade for the marking period. Mrs. Schultz let us warmup. Then it happened. The moment she became one of my heroes. She walked over to the closet and

### Ms. Sandra Holod

*Kay Kurtz '74*



Sandra S. "Sandy" Holod dedicated her life to Dieruff High School and its students. Many considered her a "strong disciplinarian" and a "no nonsense" educator. Beneath the tough exterior was a woman who wanted her students to excel in their endeavors and reach their potential.

Sandra was a 1963 graduate of Central Catholic High School. She received a B.S. in History and Government/French from Kutztown University in 1967; her Master's in History from Lehigh University in 1974 and her M ED. In Education Administration from Lehigh University in 1976.

Ms. Holod was employed by the Allentown School District for 32 years from 1967 –1999.

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## President's Message

John G. Hughes, Jr. '61

### The Stage Is Set...

The Bard penned "all the world's a stage". I refuse to argue that point; however, there is little doubt that during the next few weeks, the only stage important to faithful Husky fans will be the stage that graces the auditorium at Dieruff High School. That stage is set to host some "out of this world" entertainment.

First, the highly acclaimed Dieruff Theatre Department will take the stage to present *"Jesus Christ Superstar"* on April 27, 28, and 29th. Then, on Tuesday, May 9th, the accomplished Dieruff Choir will share center stage with the Dieruff Alumni Choir for the 2017 Spring Concert. During that event, the exciting auditorium dedication will occur.

Boasting historic back-to-back Freddy Awards for "Best Overall Performance of a Musical" (2015

for "In The Heights" and 2016 for "The Producers"), Dieruff has established a new level of expertise...and of expectations for high school musical theatre in the region. Not surprisingly, the three scheduled performances of this year's show are completely sold out. For those who have neglected to obtain tickets in time, there is a welcomed opportunity. Tickets for the dress rehearsal slated for Tuesday, April 25 at 7:00PM will be available at the door on a first come, first served basis. The price of admission is only \$8.00.

On Tuesday, May 9th at 7:00PM, the Dieruff Alumni Choir, under the direction of Mr. Peter Carpenter, will blend their voices with the Dieruff Choir, directed by Dr. Jennifer Dodd. The musical selections for the Alumni Choir will be three favorites: "Prayer for a School" composed by Mr. Carpenter, the "Halleluiah Chorus" of Handel's Messiah, and the Dieruff Alma Mater. Peter Car-

penter, who composed the music for the Alma Mater when the school opened in 1959, will be joined on stage by the alumna who co-wrote the words, Marilyn Bankhard Mayer ('60), and Nancy Olenwine Parsells ('61).

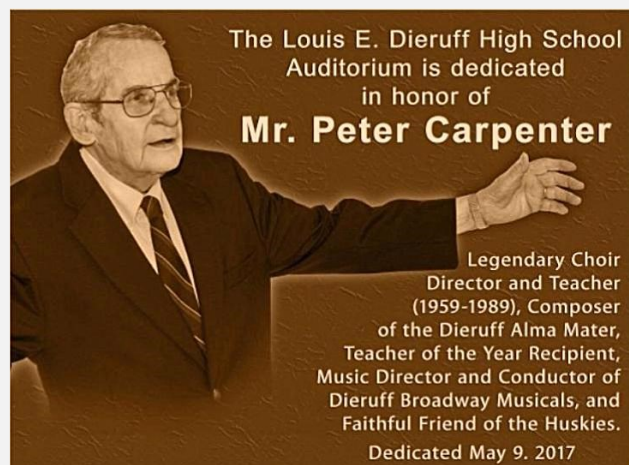
In a well-deserved tribute, the Auditorium in the Louis E. Dieruff High School will be dedicated in honor of Mr. Peter Carpenter.

A reception will follow the concert, giving everyone an opportunity to meet and greet the living legend, to get reacquainted with fellow Husky alumni, and make new friends with the current students.

And so, the stage is set. We hope you can join in on the celebration. It promises to be a "religious experience", indeed.

With warm Husky regards,

John





## Alumni Profile - Neal Schiff '64

Joanne Ogrydziak '76

To this Baby Boomer who grew up in the '60s, Motown tunes and the surfin' sound of the Beach Boys were as Americana as baseball and Mom's apple pie. The light-hearted mood of our youth can be defined by the endless parade of Top Ten hits which filled our care-free days. Everyone listened to the radio on which our favorite DJs delivered the latest songs in our parents' cars, around the kitchen table, or from huge speakers blasting at the local pool. And, when we thought we were especially "cool," we tucked our Panasonic transistors into our back pockets when we strolled down the street to meet up with friends. With so many music memories of the '60s, this Husky hit the jukebox jackpot when I stumbled upon a website dedicated to that unforgettable decade,

[www.the60sofficialsite.com](http://www.the60sofficialsite.com), which featured a link to a guy in a Dieruff football sweatshirt. The LED Alumni Association is proud to recognize that record-spinning Husky, Neal Schiff '64, this month's honored alumnus who regularly hosts the "Soundtrack of the '60s" on his own internet DJ program.

I recently had the opportunity to speak with Neal, whose warm and friendly radio voice reminded me of the fellow who does the Smuckers commercials. Our two-hour telephone interview was so pleasant, it seemed to go by in only twenty minutes. Neal, who currently resides in Virginia with his

wife Linda and his dog Dodie, shared a few memorable stories of his many years "on the air" and admitted that he still holds the secret recipe to Yocco's hot dog sauce. A loyal Allentonian who continues to read the Morning Call every day, Neal grew up on North Seventh Street in an apartment over his family's toy store (around the corner from the original "Hot Dog King" location) and considers the popular Lehigh Valley landmark his favorite vacation destination.

Because his family lived on the east side of the north-south boundary line, Neal entered his high school days as a Husky and arrived at LED in the fall of 1961. With a chuckle of satisfaction in his voice, he recalled his favorite episode at Dieruff occurred in October 1963 when he proudly walked into Homeroom and announced to Mr. (Dick) Tracy that the Yankees had been swept by the Dodgers. (Mr. Tracy, a diehard NY fan, was not amused.) Having served as the LED manager/statistician for Coach Schmidt's basketball team, Neal had the opportunity to meet Ernie Stiegler, the local sports announcer and WAEB "Toast and Coffee" radio personality, who influenced Neal's steadfast decision to pursue a career in broadcasting.

Following a four-year assignment in the United States Air Force, Neal was accepted into the Cambridge School of Broadcasting which later became Graham Junior College in Boston. Two days after graduation, Neal "Stevens" began at WEEY in Easton, and then moved on to Twin County Cable TV and to WAEB Radio. As a proficient typist exceeding one hundred words per minute, Neal



was later hired by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in April 1976 and logged in twenty-seven years of service prior to his retirement as a public affairs officer. A veteran newscaster, he had produced and narrated more than 1,000 episodes of the long-running program, "FBI, This Week," over a twenty-year span. Aired on ABC Radio, Neal's weekly shows and podcasts merged his public relations and broadcasting backgrounds to feature cases and events from the Bureau's files, as well as the security-related topics of the day.

A member of LED's fifth graduating class from its premier decade of the '60s, Neal still keeps up with all Dieruff events and occasionally finds himself humming the tune of our beloved Blue and Gray Fight Song. As a public affairs specialist, he has twice returned to the hallowed halls of Husky High with colleagues from the Bureau to offer presentations to the students about the crime-fighting role of the FBI and its endeavors. To tune in to Neal Stevens' internet radio program, look for the Dodgers jersey and then the smiling face of the '64 grad proudly wearing his Dieruff sweatshirt. Listen for the heartwarming shout-outs to his hometown and to his alma mater, along with Dodie's bark in the background.

Just don't expect him to reveal that secret sauce recipe.



## Mr. Bush Comes To Dieruff - 25 Years Later

David Ziegenfuss '86

It was Thursday, April 16, 1992. For most students around the country, it was the beginning of the Easter Spring break weekend, but for the students of Louis E. Dieruff High School, they had a chance to be in the presence of the most powerful person in the world...the President of the United States.

There had been a flu epidemic late in 1991 which caused Allentown schools to be closed. The students had to make up a day of school, so they lost their Easter Thursday holiday. Little did the students know at the time, but that break would give them a chance to see history in person.

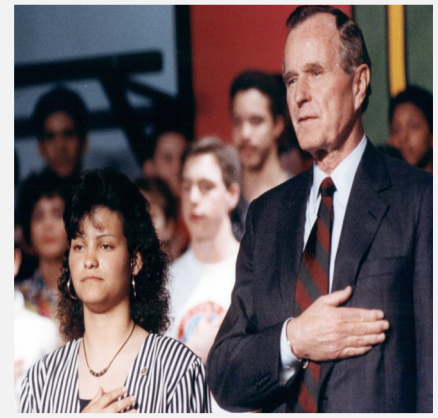
President George H.W. Bush, the 41<sup>st</sup> United States President, visited Dieruff that day in the midst of an upcoming Presidential election six months away. A few hours earlier, a young upstart Governor from Arkansas, Bill Clinton, had just been endorsed by the American Federation of Teachers. But President Bush declared immediately that this was "a nonpolitical appearance", one that would celebrate the first anniversary of the "America 2000" education plan.

The rumors that President Bush may come to Dieruff had started just days earlier. The Secret Service had been at Dieruff to check security and Principal Mike Meilinger had mentioned to students that President Bush's office and Education Secretary Lamar Alexander's office had been at the school. What finally sealed the deal for Dieruff to host the

visit? Well, as they say in real estate...location, location, location. Dieruff's proximity to Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton Airport (now known as Lehigh Valley International Airport) provided an airfield large enough for Air Force One to land. This would be the first visit to Allentown by a sitting President since Harry Truman in 1948.

On April 13, the announcement was officially made and Dieruff had to prepare for the visit. The school and grounds were spruced up from top to bottom and security measures were put into place. In the journalism office, Mrs. Rosemary Simpson (adviser for the *Leader*) was handed a list of instructions from a White House staff member, asking her to make preparations at the school for the national press corps. Mrs. Simpson felt "awestruck at all the preparation for such a brief visit".

Security was tight as the Secret Service had to inspect the entire school for days before the visit. All students' locks had to be removed from their lockers. During a tour of the school with the media, Vice-Principal Richard Parks showed that a blue lock on a locker had to be "cut off" so the Secret Service could inspect inside it. Security even called for windows to be covered where President Bush would be walking, and to comply, Dieruff students painted a large American flag to cover one oversized window. Secret Service agents were also posted at Irving Park the day before the scheduled



President George H.W. Bush recites the Pledge of Allegiance next to Dieruff's student body president Hilda Rivas

arrival and the Allentown Police Department brought in additional officers in order to increase security along the motorcade route and outside of the school.

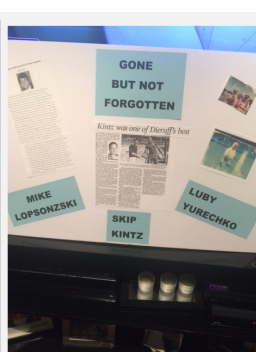
It was a proud day for Dieruff High School as pomp and circumstance was in the air. The event represented a community pride within the City of Allentown and Dieruff High School alike. The Husky cheerleaders and the school band's patriotic music created a wholesome mood. Those in attendance included Education Secretary Lamar Alexander, Allentown Mayor Joe Daddona as well as members of the Allentown school board, 1300 students and 100 faculty, each receiving a booklet about Bush's education plan and miniature American flags to wave.

Yes, there were some protesters; however, as the motorcade was approaching Dieruff, the protesters were sent to the east side of the school, completely out of the President's sight.

(Continued on Page 6 )

## Dieruff Florida Reunion

Joanne Ogrydziak '76



Due to an all-time high attendance, the Fourth Annual Florida Alumni Mini-Reunion moved to the beach this year as classmates and their guests celebrated on the white sands of the Gulf of Mexico. Graciously hosted by Bob "Bulldog" and MaryLou (Mackes) Hontz ('66 and '67) of New Port Richey, this year's event was held on Saturday, March 18, and fea-

tured an All-American menu of traditional, homemade dishes. As in previous years, LED graduates from '66 and '67 headed south from different parts of the country to visit with their fellow Huskies for a fun-in-the-sun weekend of great food and friendship.

Plans are already underway for next year's old-fashioned clam-

bake which will include Bulldog's own clam chowder (both New England and Manhattan). Alumni who are interested in joining the Husky pack from the "Tough as Nails, Strong as Bricks" Class of 1966 for its annual gathering may contact Bob Hontz directly at: [hontzm@aol.com](mailto:hontzm@aol.com).

### Kiska's Korner

By Kiska V w/Karen Coleman

A couple of FYI's

1. We send our sincere sympathy to the Dan Schmidt Family on the loss of their beloved pet. Know he has crossed The Rainbow Bridge and is playing and healthy again.

2. Misha had a wonderful birthday. Misha was honored at the March Alum Meeting. We sang for her and had cake. She had some cake, although Mom forgot to bring some home for me. I somewhat plumped up this winter. Misha got a gift card and a beautiful Pooper Scooper. On her Big Day, several students took her a bouquet of balloons and cards. My buddy had a great time.

Now all about ME. I started an early shed. Mom was telling everyone that this was a sign of an early spring. Huskies are so much more

reliable than groundhogs. We had even put away the snow shovel. Guess I blew it. That big March snowstorm ruined my forecasting credibility.

Many of you know that I do not love snow. I tolerate it. Mud, oh different story. When it snows, I do my duty and then back into the house and I usually dive under a warm comforter. All the neighbors ask about the Snow Dog and Mom just sighs. Come spring and summer, I love to bask in the warm sunshine. The sun helps to bring out my red highlights. Know it is a rare husky who does not like snow, but that is me.

But have to admit, this last snow was okay. My friend and neighbor, Dozer, came over for several play dates. We ran, did zoomies and I played

Queen of the Mountain. We even dug up some bones. I loved to see that gooey brown mud mixed with the snow. Cannot tell you how many times I tackled Dozer. I do learn a lot on the football field.

Think spring, for real. Green grass on which to do my duty. A lot of fresh smells. Does not get much better for a dog.

Love,  
Kiska V, Diva Dog





## Nancy Schultz Continued from Pg 1

pulled out a stack of green paper. We had to use green paper for our test! I burst out laughing and I could hear the groans of the students who were ready to cheat. A classic moment in business teacher history!

The next year we had electric typewriters. She would hit the power switch before and after timed writings so the students had to stop typing.

A few years later I was majoring in Business Education at Bloomsburg. I needed observation hours and to teach a lesson. I was paired with Mrs. Schultz. Before I taught the lesson, she introduced me to her class. She explained how just a few years before I was sitting where they were sitting. I was standing in front of the class ready to start and a student raised his hand. I'm thinking "how can there be a question—I didn't say anything yet?" I called on him and he asked, "Where did you sit?" We both thought it was really neat that

the students cared about where I sat when I was a student.

The very first lesson I ever taught was in my old classroom with one of my favorite teachers of all time sitting in the back of the room. She was cheering me on and mouthing, "check for understanding" when I forgot.

She always made class so much fun.

I will always be grateful that she was one of my teachers.

## Sandra Holod Continued from Pg 1

During her tenure at DHS, she

taught 9 years in the Social Studies Department, 2 years as the K-12 Social Studies Curriculum Coordinator and Assistant Principal for 21 years.

Sandy was currently back in the classroom as a substitute teacher for local school districts and a study skills tutor for high school students. She was serving with the LV PASR Committees.

## George Bush Continued from Pg 4

On the day of the visit, the assembly would be held in the gym, with everyone going through metal detectors. Once inside, no one was allowed to leave, except one very special attendee. Karen Coleman remembers, "Kiska was there and unfortunately she had to do her business. So Ron (M.Sgt. Ron Coleman) took Kiska outside. Fortunately, the Secret Service understood what was happening and how important it was to have the live mascot there, so when Kiska was finished, they were both allowed to return to the gym."

Freshman J. Alex Lang remembers a few things about the security measures, "The Secret Service built 'pulpits' overlooking the gym – way up high." Alex who played in the band that day, was also taking

photographs for the *Leader*, "It was exciting! The Secret Service inspected my camera. I don't think any of the photos were used though."

The speech President Bush made that day was one touting education in America. It would be 9 years later that his son, George W. Bush, would sign the "No Child Left Behind Act of 2001", which would bear the fruits of this speech. Ironically, a quote was used that day which may have gone under the radar at the time, but has been used as the title for a book (written in 1996 by Hillary Clinton) as well as other various situations. "I want to share with you an old African proverb that's the motto for Minnesota 2000. *It takes a village to educate one child*". This may be the first mention of this famous quote used in a presidential speech.

President Bush spent 138 minutes in Allentown. After giving the speech, he flew out of Allentown on Air Force One, to his home in Kennebunkport, Maine, where he spent the Easter holiday. Less than one year later, Bill Clinton would be President of the United States.

To some, President Bush's visit to Dieruff is a historical footnote, but to those who were there that day, it was a sense of honor and American pride.

To read President Bush's speech in its entirety please use the below link:

<https://bush41library.tamu.edu/archives/public-papers/4194/1/24/2017>

Many thanks to: George Bush Presidential Library and Museum, the Morning Call archives, J. Alex Lang '95 and Mrs. Karen Coleman

# Husky Fest

Dieruff High School  
Gym Parking Lot  
Rain Location: Gym  
May 5, 2017  
3:00pm - 7:00pm

Free music and entertainment!

Local Schools and Businesses

Get the word out!  
Invite friends, family and neighbors!

Food and Games

Sponsored by Dieruff Student Council, Clubs and Activities

## D

Sponsors will get a sign placed on the course along with publicity mentions before the event and during the cook-out. They will, in addition, appear in our football sponsorship page in the program for the Homecoming game against Pocono Mountain West High School.

Because your contributions mean so much, we hope you can help the team with your support.

If you are interested, please fill out the flyer and mail it back to the address provided.

Thank you. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Dieruff Football Team

### Sponsorship

This is our 5th Annual Husky Golf outing, and each year, as it grows we are hoping to make this a classic-a tradition-of the Dieruff Football Family. In order to make this our biggest fundraiser ever, we are looking for individual and corporate sponsors. Your help not only funds the golf event, but all proceeds go to the team for the 2017 season.

### Types of Sponsorship

- \$100.00 SPONSORSHIP

Includes: 18" x 24" tee sign displayed at golf tournament and on sponsor page for Homecoming Game :  
Pocono Mountain West  
Saturday October 14

### ADDITIONAL SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

- PRIZE DONATION
- MONETARY DONATION

### Player Registration

\$ 80 per player x \_\_\_\_\_ Golfer(s)  
☐ Place me in a foursome Mulligans- Purchased at check-in

Player(s) Name(s)

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

### Sponsor Registration

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sponsor Type: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration forms must be received by May 17th, 2017. Submit completed registration form along with check(s) made payable to:  
DIERUFF ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
c/o Athletic office  
47 W. Saucon street  
Hellertown, PA 18055

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

## Husky Pride

Please detach and mail to address on back



Kauffman's Bar B Q

Chicken

May 8, 2017

1/2 Chicken, Baked Potato

\$ 6.00 each

Pickup - 3:00-6:00 at

Dieruff High School

Benefit Lacrosse, softball or cheerleading

Contact any team member OR

Call 610-223-2226 leave message

Must have ticket to pick up

Rain or shine





## ATTENTION ALL DIERUFF ALUMNI DO YOU HAVE A GIANT BONUSCARD?



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[www.giantfoodstores.com](http://www.giantfoodstores.com)

(Use School Code: 23498)

Since October 7th, we have raised:

**We've Reached Our Goal!**  
**\$2,223.25**

Thank You to everyone who has supported this program. We'll do it all again in the Fall of '17!

# UPCOMING EVENTS

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

- April 25** DRESS REHERSAL *Jesus Christ Superstar*  
7PM GENERAL ADMISSION ONLY All Seats \$8.00  
Dieruff Auditorium
- April 27, 28, 29** Dieruff Theater Department: *Jesus Christ Superstar*  
April 27 & 28 @ 7PM, April 29 @ 2PM  
Dieruff Auditorium **ALL SHOWS SOLD OUT!**
- May 3:** Alumni Association Meeting 6:30PM  
Meilinger Center
- May 5:** Husky Fest 3PM-7PM (SEE PAGE 7 For Details)  
Gym (student) Parking Lot
- May 8:** Kauffman Chicken Fundraiser (SEE PAGE 7 For Details)
- May 9:** Spring Concert/Peter Carpenter Auditorium Dedication 7PM  
Peter Carpenter Auditorium
- May 18:** Band Concert 7PM  
Peter Carpenter Auditorium
- May 20:** Football Team Golf Outing 8AM (SEE PAGE 7 For Details)  
Allentown Municipal Golf Course
- July 29:** 5th Annual Alumni Association FANDANGLE 2PM-7PM  
East Side Youth Center

All events can be found on the DHS Alumni Website: [www.Dieruff-Alumni.org](http://www.Dieruff-Alumni.org)



After work, after the game, after EVERYTHING, where all the good times are!

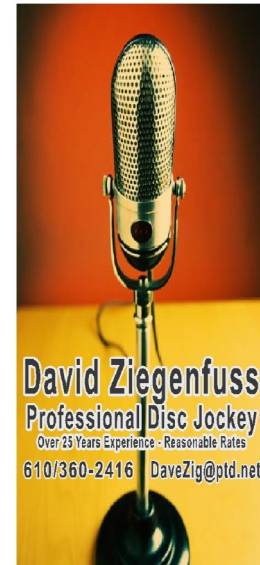


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Louis E. Dieruff High School  
Alumni Association Newsletter

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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: [DHSAlumniNews@ptd.net](mailto:DHSAlumniNews@ptd.net)

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Ads are only **\$25.00**  
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