

VIKING ALERT

The Newsletter Published by the North Canton Alumni Association – Spring 2026

Logan Muffet Throws Park Dedicated

North Canton City Schools welcomed friends and family of Hoover alumni Jud Logan (Class of 1977) and Ashley Muffet-Kovacs (Class of 2005) for the dedication of the newly completed Logan Muffet Throws Park at the south end of the Hoover Athletic Complex. As student-athletes from around the county gathered for the North Canton Dave Clegg Invitational at Memorial Stadium, we celebrated two of the greatest throwers in Vikings history. (Ashley even agreed to give a first throw! And her husband, Olympian Joe Kovacs gave our second!)

Jud still holds the Hoover discus record at 171'11", went on to become a four-time U.S. Olympian, and built a remarkable coaching career at Ashland University with three consecutive National Titles and multiple National Coach of the Year honors.

Ashley, a three time Ohio State Champion in Shot Put at Hoover, earned four All-American honors at the University of Kentucky and has spent her career in collegiate and Olympic coaching.





School District Construction Update



MIDDLE SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION



2025 - 2026	June 2025 - October 2025		Early Site Work
	October 2025 - January 2026		Foundations
	November 2025 - April 2026		Structural Steel Construction
	October 2025 - February 2026		Masonry Bearing / Fire Walls
	March 2026 - June 2026		Building Slabs
2027	March 2026 - July 2026		Exterior Walls
	May 2026 - November 2026		Brick Veneer
	April 2026 - December 2026		Windows and Roofing
	May 2026 - September 2026		Interior Stud Walls and Rough-Ins
	June 2026 - January 2027		Drywall
	August 2026 - February 2027		Interior Trim, Painting and Ceilings
	September 2026 - May 2027		Interior Finishes
	March 2027 - August 2027		Site Development (grading, sidewalks, paving)
	May 2027 - June 2027		Punch List and Cleaning
	August 2027		Grand Opening
	October 2027 - May 2028		Demolition of Vacated Middle School



Work continues on the new middle school with the opening slated for August 2027.

The final beams for the new middle school are officially covered in the names of the Vikings who will fill the halls.





2026 Scholarships

Lincoln Laliberte



This year's recipient of the G. Kenneth Oberlin Eagle Scout Scholarship is Lincoln Laliberte.

Lincoln is planning on attending Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, and majoring in Architecture.

Lincoln's career goals are to become a licensed architect and design spaces that serve communities.

For his Eagle Scout project, Lincoln and volunteers worked with Zion Lutheran Church to improve accessibility for members of the congregation and community. The project included painting 8 new handicap parking spaces, installing 8 new handicap parking signs, and installing more than seventy braille interior signs throughout the building.

Kory Bell



This year's recipient for the James Phillip Holl Scholarship is Kory Bell.

Kory will be attending Stark State College in North Canton, Ohio, and studying Welding. His career goal is to earn the certifications needed to work in fabrication or structural welding.

Kory is also an Eagle Scout. For his Eagle Project, he led a group of volunteers to upgrade the Youth Room at Zion United Church of Christ by painting the walls with several bold colors and geometric designs.

Sophia Jackson



The first of the two Frank Berrodin Citizenship Scholarship recipients is Sophia Jackson.

Sophia is planning on attending Agnes Scott College in Decatur, Georgia, and majoring in Sociology & Anthropology.

Sophia's career goals are to go into social work or social services.

Sophia's activities include: coaching novice students on the speech and debate team; tutoring students who struggle with math; volunteering her time at the Care Closet; and in the Teaching Professions program, she spends her Thursday and Friday afternoons working in classrooms in our district, assisting teachers at the Primary, Intermediate, and Middle School. She is also tutoring an intermediate student in ASL so that the student can better communicate with family members who are deaf.





Samantha Rankin



The second of the Frank Berrodin Citizenship Scholarship recipients is Samantha Rankin.

Samantha is planning on attending the University of Mount Union in Alliance, Ohio and with a goal of entering the graduate-level Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies (MSPAS) program.

Samantha's activities include: section leader and SPIRIT team leader in the band, lab assistant for a 9th grade physical science class, volunteer work at Akron Children's Hospital, National Honor Society, and a member of the Selection Committee for the North Canton Hall of Distinction.



Gabriella Ascani



The first of the two Werstler Family Scholar Athlete Scholarship recipients is Gabriella Ascani.

Gabriella is undecided on her choice of college, but has narrowed her choice to The University of Michigan, Indiana University, or the University of Maryland. She plans on majoring in neuroscience with a goal of becoming a neurologist.

In academics, Gabriella's awards include Academic Letter (4 years), Summa Scholar, Governor's Scholar, National Honor Society, AP Academic Scholar with Distinction, Community Seal, and Honors Diploma.

In athletics, her awards include Varsity Swimming (4 years), Honorable Mention All-Federal (9), Second Team All-Federal (10, 11), First Team All-Federal (12), OHSA State Qualifier (12), Most Improved Swimmer (9), Brian Simpson Desire Award (11), Sam Diblasi Commissioners Award Nominee, Honorable Mention All-County (4 years), All Ohio Academic Award (12), and 1st

Team All-Academic Federal League.

Gabriella's other activities include: Link Crew Leader (11), Link Crew Commissioner (12), AGAPE Girls Leader, National Honor Society, NHS Treasurer and Historian, Leadership Club, Teen Institute, Pep Club Media Correspondent, Student Council, Church Confirmation Sponsor, YMCA July 4th Race Volunteer, and YMCA/Dogwood Lifeguard.

Shane Gillogly



This year's recipient of the Superintendent's Choice Scholarship is Shane Gillogly.

Shane is undecided on his choice of college, and plans to major in Engineering.

Shane's activities include National Honor Society, Football (2 years), Marching Band (4 years), and is the 1st Chair Trombone in Concert Band.



Carter Lukens



The second of the two Werstler Family Scholar Athlete Scholarship recipients is Carter Lukens.

Carter is undecided on his choice of college, but has been accepted by six universities. He is undecided on his major, but his career goal is to be a physical therapist.

In athletics, Carter's football awards include: 2nd Team All-Federal (11), Repository All-Stark County Honorable Mention (11), and All Northeast Inland District Honorable Mention (11), Team Captain (12), 1st Team All-Federal (12), All-Stark County (12), 1st Team Repository All-Stark County (12), 1st Team NE Inland District (12), 3rd Team All-Ohio (12), Spartans Sports Defensive Player of the Year (12), Stark Sports Defensive Player of the Year (12), and All-Time Leading Tackler at Hoover (12). His baseball awards include: Honorable Mention All-Federal (10), Team Captain (11, 12), 2nd Team All-Federal (11), 1st Team All-

District (11), and Vital Viking Award (11).

Carter's other activities include: Student Council, Class Vice President, Class Representative, Link Crew, Spanish Club (4 years), sports camp volunteer, and Fly Fishing Club President (12).

Scholarships Top \$90,000!

The North Canton Alumni Association has awarded over \$90,000 in scholarships since we began this program in 1995. We can do this through donations from alumni, like you.

So the pitch is simple: we ask our alumni to include us in their yearly giving; we acknowledge all donations earmarked for the scholarship fund; and we are happy to receive any amount, large or small, that you are able to donate.

Use the link or QR code on this page to make your donation TODAY!

Donate Today!



The Alumni Association is collecting dues and donations from our members. As a reminder, Yearly dues are \$15 and Lifetime dues are \$100. And we always welcome donations to our scholarship account.

Donate now: https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=F52CYN223T8MQ

(Or use the above QR Code!)

(PayPal charges us, a non-profit, a service fee. If you choose to cover that fee, we will be most appreciative!)



Donations

We would like to thank the following for their recent donations.

The Owens Family in memory of Bill and Jean Owens

Benny Griffiths

The Class of 1960

The Class of 1983 from Karen Geiser

Barbara Witsaman Daianu

Nancy Evans

The Werstler Family Scholar Athlete Scholarship from the Werstler Family

Hall of Distinction Inductees Selected

The North Canton Alumni Association announces its inductees into the Hall of Distinction for 2026. This year's inductees include:

- **Christopher Boshkos** – 1973 graduate who specializes in kidney health and kidney transplants
- **Michael Foltz** – 1978 graduate with many years as a North Canton police officer with service to schools and the community
- **Amanda (Grandjean) Gould** – 2008 graduate and attorney who serves as chief counsel to a U.S. Senator
- **Paul Kieffer** – long-time social studies teacher, NHS chairman, North Canton Historical Society board member and president, and author
- **Ellsworth P. Smith** – long-time Hoover Company art director and artist and recipient of national awards

The Alumni Association will have an induction ceremony at 7:00pm, **Wednesday, September 23** at Hoover High School in the Hoover Hall of Performing Arts. We will serve light refreshments after the ceremony, and it will be open to all. There will be no charge for attending, although we will be accepting donations.

Jersey Mike's Surprises Hoover Senior with Community Impact Award

Jersey Mike's Subs dropped by Hoover High School to surprise Sophia Jackson (an Alumni Association scholarship recipient) with a \$750 Community Impact Award. It's pretty awesome when local businesses notice how hard our Vikings work and want to honor the students making our community better.





Reunions!!



Class of 1975

The class of 1966 is planning for a reunion on June 20 at Arrowhead. There will be a tour of our old high school that morning. For more information, please contact Class President Phil Sanese. More information may be found in the class' private Facebook page "N.C. Hoover High Class of 1966".

The Class of 1976 is planning for a reunion on August 1, 6pm at Walther's Twin Tavern. Cash bar; hor d'oeuvres; \$35 per person. RSVP by July 20, 2026 to NCHooverClassof76@gmail.com.

The Class of 1986 is planning for a reunion in September; dates and activities to be determined. For more information, please contact Julie Rohrer Fairless at jafairless1@gmail.

The Class of 2001 is planning for a 25 year reunion for June 27, 2006 at The Barrel Room in North Canton. For more information, please contact Kristin Larrick at 703-888-6149 or kristinkane117@gmail.com.

The Class of 2015 will be celebrating a belated 10 year reunion on Saturday May 2nd from 6-9 pm at the Barrel Room. All information, including how to RSVP, are on their Facebook page "Hoover High School - Class of 2015".



Class of 1960



Recent Deaths

Class of 1947 – Paul “Pete” Roush

***Class of 1949 – Eugenia “Genie” Gill Frank
Roland “Shorty” Swanson***

Class of 1953 – Sam Martin

Class of 1954 – Nancy Fetzer Schrader

Class of 1955 – Barbara Clouser Humbert

***Class of 1965 – Carol Ann Bear
John Lowe III***

***Class of 1969 – Ron Bell
John Phillips
Paul Shawk***

Class of 1970 – Kathy Wise Dennison

***Class of 1971 – Mary Camille Kintz
Tristan Lozaw***

Class of 1972 – Thomas Feller

Class of 1973 – Ted Lockmyer

Class of 1975 – Rodney Baston

***Class of 1976 – Don McMillan
Jill Mohler Black
Tom Caniford
Rebecca Ann Goodin Swope***

Class of 1978 – Susan Seanor Roberts

Class of 1983 – Julie (Rider) Taylor

Class of 1985 – Timothy Allen Goodin

Class of 1986 – Michael Lee Chiples

Class of 1993 – Michael Leonhardt

Do **YOU** have a newsworthy article or piece of interest that you would like to share with your fellow alumni in our newsletter? If so, please drop us a line at: North Canton Alumni Association, P.O. Box 2534, North Canton, OH 44720 **OR** contact us at www.northcantonalumni.org **OR** contact us by email: NorthCantonAlumni@gmail.com.

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