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ECHS Archiving Project Newsletter

Newsletter Issue XXXI

June 2012

July 4th Celebration

Wednesday, July 4, 2012
Cerrito Vista Park,
Mooser Lane,
El Cerrito.

Visit the Archiving Project Booth, win a prize. Visit the hundreds of booths for arts and crafts, information from local organizations and plenty of food!

The El Cerrito Archiving Project will sell DVD's of *Green and White: The Gaucho Story*, as well as ECHS memorabilia.

What's Below

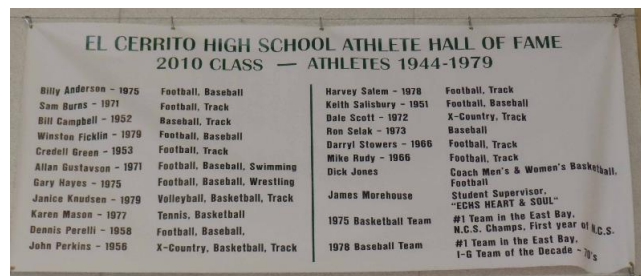
[Archiving Scholarships](#)

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Scholarships Awarded 2012 Recipients

The ECHS Archiving Project is pleased to announce El Cerrito High School's 2012 graduating seniors who will be receiving \$1,000 scholarships:

Thamar Collier
Jacqueline Reyes
Christine Rickansrud

EL CERRITO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC HALL-OF-FAME

ATHLETES 1944 - 1989 2012 CLASS

Nat Bates, 1950, Baseball, Basketball
Bill Jones, 1968, Baseball, Basketball, Football
Bill Hardin, 1974, Baseball, Basketball
Daryle Morgan, 1976, Basketball, Track
Ron Harper, 1978, Basketball, Baseball
Ken Harris, 1978, Baseball, Football
Lisa Leal, 1980, Basketball, Volleyball,
Softball, Track, X-Country
Todd Spencer, 1980, Football, Baseball
Mary Gaffield, 1981, X-Country, Track
Dawn Furseth, 1982, Tennis, Softball
Rod Jones, 1982, Football, Wrestling
Nathan Redditt, 1983, Football
Anthony Robinson, 1983, Basketball
James "Pops" Mitchell, 1984, Football, Baseball
Brian Nichols, 1984, Baseball, Basketball

Steve Pearse, 1984, Baseball
 Antoine Pickett, 1984, Football, Baseball
 Steve Walker, 1984, Football, Soccer, Baseball
 Cynthia Jackson, 1985, Basketball, Volleyball, Softball
 Lisa Nakamura, 1987, Basketball, Volleyball
 Linda Schultz, 1987, Basketball, Softball, Tennis
 Lauren Strickland, 1987, Basketball, Track
 Erika Hardwick, 1989, Basketball, Volleyball

In the Teams, Coaches and Special Category:

Dennis Abel Coach Baseball
 Scotty Stirling Sponsor & Supporter of ECHS Athletics
 1983 Baseball Team State Champion & 8th District Region of the U.S.
 (Please contact Coach Quirico, 510-222-1835, bquirico@comcast.net)
 1983 Football Team #2 in East Bay & N.C.S. Division 1
 (Please contact Coach Milo, 510-222-1835)
 1971 440 Relay Team State Champion, 41.1
 Also, the past El Cerrito Relay Queens will be honored.

Demolition

The demolition of El Cerrito's Portola Middle School is looming closer, with workers now plainly visible at the site preparing for the wrecking balls that will demolish the 62-year-old structure designed by noted architect John Carl Warnecke.

The halls where many El Cerritans spent their middle-school years will soon come crashing down, school district officials say.

Workers can be seen preparing for the long-planned demolition of the old Portola Junior High School, located at Moeser Lane and Navellier Street.

The contractor is currently removing or containing hazardous materials in the buildings, and "the actual physical demolition of the buildings themselves will not start until probably sometime in late June or in July," said E. Keith Holtslander, director of facilities and construction for the West Contra Costa Unified School District.

The hillside school, completed in 1951, was condemned after the school district found that its sloping, unstable terrain posed an irreparable seismic hazard. Classes are being held in temporary buildings on level ground at the western end of the site until a new Portola Middle School is built at the site of the former Castro Elementary School in El Cerrito.

The new Portola "is just about to start construction in the next couple of months," district Superintendent Bruce

Dear Gaucho Alumni -

We represent the El Cerrito High School Archiving Project, serving as the Gaucho Alumni Coordinators. This project began in January 2005, when we learned that the school district was going to demolish our original school, which opened in 1944.



It has been our mission to save artifacts for our Rotunda and Sports Hall of Fame Museums, as well as various display cases throughout the school. We also sponsor fundraisers for Senior Scholarships, publish an e-mail newsletter to share current alumni news, give tours of the school and announce upcoming class reunions. Here in our newsletter we list all of the class contact persons. You will also find updates on the new sports complex - baseball, football and track fields.

Please help us update your class alumni representative information below. Visit our Reunion Leader Site to see if your leader is listed.

Return any updated information to Mrs. Kathie (Nemy) Weinstein.

We thank you for your help in this endeavor. For the Gaucho

Harter told the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce last Wednesday.

The current site will be graded and left empty by the school district for the time being, with permission for the City of El Cerrito to provide recreation on the parcel if it chooses. The city and school district have discussed placing soccer fields on the flat western portion.

Charles Burgess, Patch

Alumni, we are:

David Bilyeu, 1965, (925) 935-3515

davidechs65@att.net

Jackie Fleming Fonken, 1956 (510) 232-9149

j_fonken @ hotmail.com

Katherine Nemy Weinstein, 1958 (510)215-5570

bjhardy4@att.net

Information Needed:

Class of _____

Reunion Representative(s) _____

[Current El Cerrito Reunion Leaders](#)

WCCRESF Scholarships

El Cerrito High Seniors Win 10 of 23 Scholarships in District

When the 23 winners of the \$1,500 scholarships given by the Retired Educators Scholarship Fund to seniors in West Contra Costa schools were announced this year, 10 of them were from El Cerrito High.

At the annual Scholarship Awards Luncheon on May 31, the West Contra Costa Retired Educators Scholarship Fund (WCCRESF) awarded \$1,500 scholarships to 23 WCCUSD (West Contra Costa Unified School District) seniors. Many students had the opportunity to become reacquainted with their elementary, middle school and high school teachers. It was a festive day where students, their parents, friends and former teachers celebrated their accomplishments. Dr. Bruce Harter, school district superintendent, made an appearance and mingled with the winners and their families.

The students will be attending UC Berkeley, UC Davis, Cal State East Bay, Cal State Sacramento and Contra Costa College, as well as the University of Wisconsin, Mills College, Willamette University, Duke University, Harvard, MIT, Syracuse, University of Rochester, and Brigham Young University.

This year, 10 El Cerrito High School seniors were awarded scholarships. These students include Imani Sanders and Jennifer Welden, each of whom had a parent graduate from El Cerrito High. The other winners are Thamar Collier, Taylor Doty, Cindy Su, Nathaniel Segal (aka Magical Nathaniel), Sheila Bauzon, Lydia Breksa, Brian Seegers, and Shea Harrison, whose mother, Michele, teaches Special Education at ECHS. On June 6, the students were honored again at the ECHS Senior Awards Night.

In order to qualify for the scholarship, these seniors are in the upper half of their graduating class and have participated in organizations, work experience, and

Quick Links

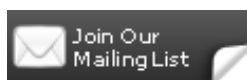
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community service. In written essays the students provided a look into their busy lives and showed their accomplishments, as well as their struggles.

Janet Duer Smith ' 67

Welcome Newest Archiving Project Board Members

Sandi Genser-Maack
Lynn Maack
Lee Matteucci
Diane Sericate

Executive Board

President - Patricia Durham, '68
Vice President/Secretary - Jackie Fonken, '56
Treasurer - Dianne Chambers, '69
Co-Founders - Joann Steck-Bayat, Lu Tipping
Alumni Coordinators - David Bilyeu, '65, Kathie Weinstein, '58
Communications - Roddy Lee, '67
Community Liaison/Oral History - Janet Abelson
Product Marketing/Publicity - Donna Houser
Copy Editor - Sandi Genser-Maack, '63
Copy Editor/Database Manager - Lynn Maack, '63
Gregg Mayer, '76, Lee Matteucci, Diane Sericate, Howard Mackey, '44

Standing Committees:

Athletic Hall of Fame
Larry Quirico, '58, George Austin, Roddy Lee, '67
Museum
Sandi Genser-Maack, '63, Lynn Maack, '63, Joann Steck-Bayat, Lu Tipping
Scholarship
Bobbi Griggs, Roddy Lee, '67, Howard Mackey, '44, Gregg Mayer, '76, Donna Houser, Joann Steck-Bayat, Lu Tipping, Kathie Weinstein, '58

El Cerrito High Archiving Project Mission Statement:

Support the development of a strong El Cerrito High School alumni body - Collect, preserve and celebrate the history of El Cerrito High School - Develop connections to current students and the El Cerrito community.

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