

Cru CONNECTIONS



Winter 2021

ST. HENRY DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL



Crusaders
Rise to the Challenge



4 | **Arise!**



8 | **12 Angry Men**

6 **Scholarship**

18 **Alumni**

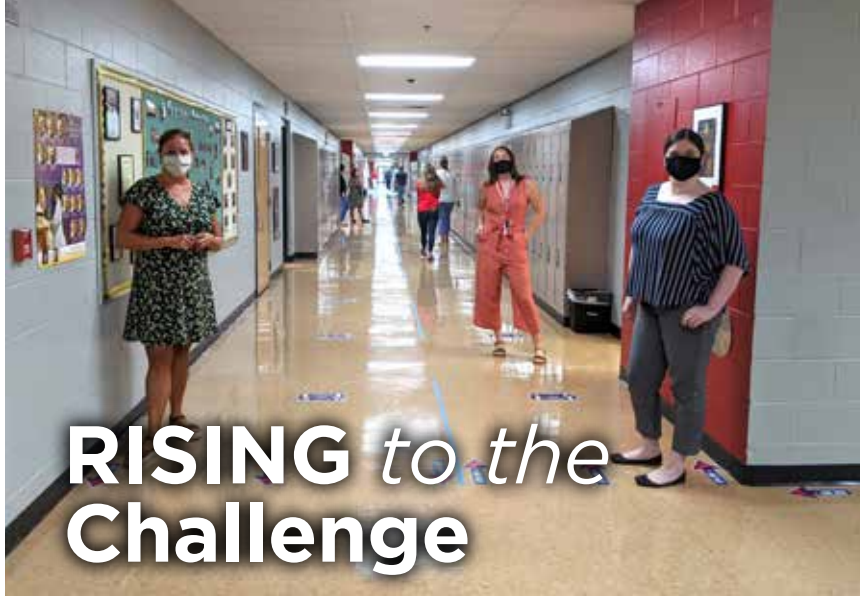
10 **Athletics**

24 **Support the Cru**

16 **Leadership**

27 **In Appreciation**

ON THE COVER: For the first time in 20 years, the SHDHS Boys Golf Team won the 7th Region Championship Tournament.



During one of the most challenging times in school history, I think it is very fitting that our school theme for this year is “Arise.”

“Arise! Shine, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.” Isaiah 60:1

The words in Isaiah follow a long period of darkness and are a reminder of the coming glory of the Lord. It is a call for us to rise up, and our SHDHS community has been answering that call every day.

With the help of faculty, staff, parents, and legal and medical professionals, we were able to develop a comprehensive “Reopening Plan” that allowed us to safely welcome students back to school in August. I’d like to thank all of the stakeholders who represented our SHDHS community by serving on the Back-to-School Task Force and the Non-Traditional Instruction (NTI) Task Force. Many hours were involved in brainstorming through COVID-19 concerns in order to prepare for a safe return while maintaining high academic standards.

It has been an unprecedented year so far, but I am thankful to work with an incredibly talented faculty and staff. They have worked tirelessly to keep students on track academically and to protect their health and wellbeing. I am also grateful for our parents and alumni - we wouldn’t have been able to return to in-person learning without their unwavering support.



Mr. Gish was appointed as principal in July. Over the last 32 years, he has served SHDHS as a teacher, athletic director, and assistant principal.

Together, we will continue to encourage our students to shine brightly, to be excellent, to grow in their faith, to support one another, and to rise to the occasion. We are Crusaders!

Sincerely,

David G. Gish, Principal



Arise!

**"Arise! Shine, for your light has come,
the glory of the Lord has dawned upon
you." -- Isaiah 60:1**



The "Arise" theme for our 2020-21 school year comes from Pope Francis' 2020 World Youth Day message in which he invites young people to be missionary disciples, to take a risk and change the world. Prophetically, Pope Francis chose this theme prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, virtual learning, facial coverings, social distancing, and a heightened awareness of racial inequality. While there isn't an antidote for the virus or quick fixes to systematic racism, hope, truth, and the voice of the Spirit cannot be stifled. Ultimately, new life in Christ is given by following His command to "Arise!"

"For me, Isaiah 60:1 implies a new beginning or a second chance. After COVID-19, I feel that all of us could use a new beginning to 'Arise!' not just spiritually, but also physically. Arise and be examples of God's light in the world through our actions. As a student body and faculty, God has shown us His light to be shared with one another. Together, through our actions and words, we can share this throughout our school community and the local community. Whatever may happen this year in our lives, a simple truth remains: all things work for the glory of His plan." - SHDHS Junior

Pope Francis said, "Those who are restored to (physical and spiritual) life by Jesus immediately speak up and express without hesitation or fear what has happened deep within them, their personality, desires, needs, and dreams. Perhaps they were never able to do this before, for they thought no one would be able to understand. Arise and Speak!"

"ARISE"

Heavenly Father,

We thank you for shining the light of your glory upon us.

Help us to rise up in your splendor,

To be bearers of hope and light,

To reach out to those in pain,

To speak the truth in love, and

To accept Your help when we fall.

Awaken our inner beauty and passions

To dream, to risk, and to transform the culture

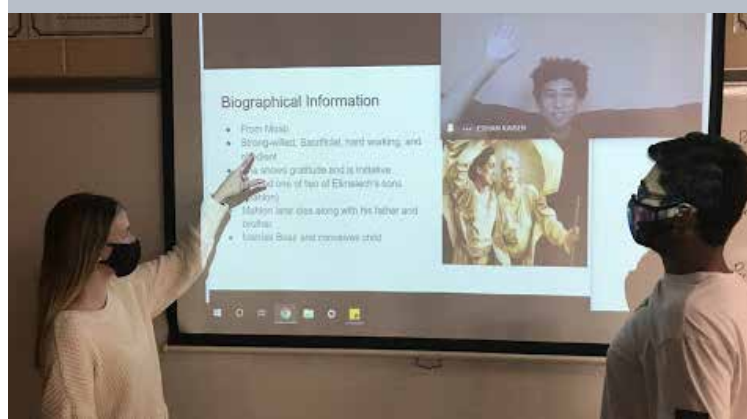
By being who you created us to be,

United as one in Your Holy Spirit. Amen.

STRENGTHENED BY OUR FAITH

Every year when Thanksgiving rolls around, sophomores in Religion II are preparing and presenting their Old Testament Projects. In these projects, students research an assigned Biblical Figure from the Old Testament. Group members become “experts” on their particular Biblical Figure - reading Scripture passages related to their person and looking up articles regarding the time period. After submitting their Exegesis Paper, students then take a class period to act as “Teacher for the Day,” telling their peers about the story and the significance that their Biblical Figure plays in Salvation History.

This year’s presentations had a unique twist - some of the presenters were on NTI. This served as no detriment, for students presented in tag-team fashion: some standing in the classroom and some virtually showing on the screen. The Old Testament Project is a unique chance for students to delve deep into Scripture and demonstrate their newfound knowledge.



STUDENT REFLECTIONS

“I drew hope from the story of Esther because it showed me that even though things may seem to be against me, God is always with me.”

“When we are weak like Samson was, God is there to guide us. He does this by reaching out his hand, and speaking to us through our gift. He pulls us through low and difficult times.”

“Because of their faith in God, He protected Daniel’s companions from suffering and death. We can learn from them to keep the faith in the one, true God, no matter what. If we do this, we can face the evils of the world.”

REFLECTIONS FROM ZACK ZVOSECZ, RELIGION II TEACHER

This pandemic is challenging. No bones about it. Even as Christians who rely on faith to strengthen us, we may find that faith faltering when confronted with adversity. But Scripture tells us to expect adversity (1 Peter 4:12) and that God Himself will strengthen and restore us (1 Peter 5:10).

Strengthened by the words of Scripture, resilient in our faith, we are still left with our questions: “God, why is this happening in my time? God, why me?” We again look to one of the stories from the projects.

“Perhaps this is the moment for which you were created.”
Esther 4:14

Why are we on this earth during this time of pandemic? Perhaps it is because we were made for this moment. Perhaps, indeed.



SHDHS STUDENTS EARN NATIONAL SPANISH EXAM HONORS

Congratulations to all of the SHDHS Spanish students who attained national recognition for excellent performance on the 2020 National Spanish Examinations.

SHDHS students earned a total of one gold, six silver, and seven bronze medals, along with 31 honorable mentions.

“Attaining a medal or honorable mention for any student on the National Spanish Examinations is very prestigious,” said Kevin Cessna-Buscemi, National Director of the Exams, “because the exams are the largest of their kind in

the United States with over 140,000 students registered in 2020.”

SHDHS students have a long history of high achievement on these exams and were taught by Spanish teachers Elizabeth Hasken, Ruth Coronado, and Alex Breeze.

The National Spanish Examinations are administered each year in grades 6 through 12 and are sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese.



Annabelle Schmid



Camille Williams



Kennedy Challis



Congrats!

Congratulations to Mrs. Ruth Coronado, SHDHS Spanish teacher, on passing the U.S. Citizenship test. Faculty, staff, and students were honored to celebrate with her!

JV CHALLENGE TOURNAMENT

Congratulations to the students who placed in the JV Challenge Tournament in November! This academic competition was presented by KAAC, designed specifically for freshmen and sophomores.



Henry Barsan



Samantha Lewis

Henry Barsan - 2nd Place in Language Arts and 4th Place in Math

Samantha Lewis - 2nd Place in Composition

Sean Ihrig - 3rd Place in Composition

Sydney Hennessey - 4th Place in Composition

Molly Krallman - 5th Place in Arts & Humanities

Andrew Goodwin - 6th Place in Arts & Humanities

2020 HOMECOMING

SHDHS was not able to have a dance this year, but the senior class celebrated in style with lunch on the “lawn” and an end-of-the-day Homecoming Court “parade” in the front circle.

The 2020 Homecoming Court nominees were: Vincent Croyle, Griffin Gould, JP Popham, Gabe Ryan, Cory Shea, Wyatt Vieth, Ella Kluemper, Morgan Flanagan, Anna Eilerman, Miray Talhami, Lillie Gosney, and Molly Martini. Congratulations to JP Popham and Morgan Flanagan, the 2020 Homecoming King and Queen and Wyatt Vieth and Ella Kluemper, Prince and Princess!



Fine Arts

THE SHOW MUST GO ON!

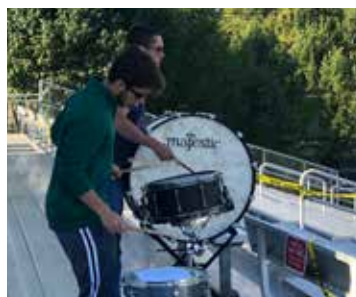
This spring, SHDHS will present the play *12 Angry Jurors*. This iconic story features members of a jury who must decide if a young man is innocent or guilty of murder. As the story progresses, the jurors become personally invested in the case and must use logic and past experience to make their decision. Cast members include Meredith Kappes, Matthew Oehler, Caleb Lanyi, Cora Meiman, Molly Martini, Mitchell Wolking, Killian Hicks, Gavin Borchers, Grant Bautista, Alli Geiger, Isabella Keyes, Wynn timer, Joe Wilson, and Thomas Haas. The SHDHS Tech Crew has assisted with directing, lighting, costumes, set, and more. The crew includes Jay Giffin, Tori Mapes, Andrew Heinsman, Sasha Menzer, Kaitlyn Apgar, Jacob Ritchie, and Noah Bilz.

This fall, the cast and crew performed a rehearsal for faculty and staff in the Drees Homes Auditorium, showcasing the progress they had made on the show. Even though the show was postponed until the spring, the students were extremely grateful for this opportunity.



KEEPING THE BAND TOGETHER

Members of the SHDHS Cadet and Crusader Band courses, under the guidance of their director, Mr. Joseph Payne, have been working hard to navigate numerous health and safety protocols in order to keep the music playing. To help improve ventilation and provide more space between members, they've held classes in the Drees Homes Auditorium and, when the weather was nice, they practiced outside at Griffin Stadium. They've also added bell coverings to their instruments to help decrease airborne particles. Unfortunately, the band has not been able to host a public performance, but are hopeful they will be able to perform in the near future.

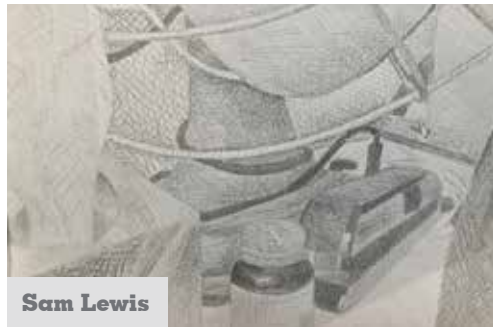


ARTISTS OF THE WEEK

Creativity abounds at SHDHS! Visual arts students are recognized on a regular basis for their work. Below is a sampling of the pieces completed by “Artists of the Week” during the first semester.



Ellie Schlinkert



Sam Lewis



Avery Vieth



Justin Middendorf



Emma Fischer



Belle Schlinkert



Natalie Stich



Emma Linkugel

2021 CREATIVE CRUSADER VISUAL ART COMPETITION

The SHDHS Fine Arts Department invites 5th-8th graders to participate in the 2021 Creative Crusader Visual Art Competition. This year, all submissions will be virtual via a form found on shdhs.org.

There is not a specific theme for the competition. Artwork subject matter may include ideas such as portraiture, still life, landscape, architecture, figure drawings, etc. The more creative, the better! Students may use any media, such as graphite, acrylic paint, watercolor, colored pencil, digital, or mixed media. There are no limitations on media and three-dimensional work will be accepted this year.

Winners of the competition will be awarded the following:

- 1st place winners from grades 5, 6, and 7 will be awarded a certificate of achievement and an SHDHS spiritwear gift certificate for \$30.
- Top three 8th grade winners will be awarded a certificate of achievement, an SHDHS t-shirt, and a scholarship. All scholarships must be used at SHDHS and are a one-time award to be used during freshman year. First Place: \$500, Second Place: \$250, Third Place: \$100.
- The 8th grade first place winner will also have their work framed and displayed at SHDHS for the 2020-2021 school year.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS JANUARY 15, 2021. Winners will be notified by January 22. Please contact Mrs. Katie VonHandorf at kbaker@shdhs.org with any questions.

Athletic Accomplishments



BOYS GOLF ALL "A" AND 7TH REGION CHAMPIONS

The SHDHS Boys Golf Team earned the 2020 All "A" State Championship title at Gibson Bay with a score of 300 and won the 7th Region Championship at Summit Hills with a score of 305. It's been 20 years since Boys Golf won a regional championship! They finished in 9th place at the 2020 KHSAA State Tournament. Way to go, CRU!!



BOYS CROSS COUNTRY REGIONAL CHAMPS AND STATE RUNNER UP

The SHDHS Boys Cross Country Team finished in first place at regionals with Dixon Ryan, Lake Durrett, and Mark Ryan placing 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. They finished in 2nd place at the 2020 KHSAA State Tournament!



GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM QUALIFIES FOR STATE

The SHDHS Girls Cross Country Team finished in 3rd place at the regional meet with Kasey Hill finishing 7th, Reganne McMain 10th, and Mary Ryan 12th. They finished in 5th place at the 2020 KHSAA State Tournament.



SENIOR GOLFER SARAH STEIMER QUALIFIES FOR STATE

Sarah was one of seven individuals who qualified for the 2020 KHSAA State Tournament held at Bowling Green Country Club.

2020 Golfathon

The Athletic Department would like to extend its gratitude to the SHDHS community for supporting the 2020 Golfathon and to St. Elizabeth Podiatry and Premier Gaming Group for sponsoring this year's event.

Even in the midst of a pandemic, the fundraiser was successful, raising \$38,000, which will be used for: Senior banners and senior gifts, team budgets, expenses not being covered due to COVID-19, and the track resurfacing fund.



eSports CRU Ranked Among Best in State

The SHDHS eSports Team has had a strong start to their season! The featured game this season is Rocket League. Each week, four St. Henry squads compete remotely in best-of-five series against schools from across the country.

The In-State Squad - composed of Alec Parnitzke (senior), Carson McKinley (senior), and Kyle Moellering (freshman) - have beaten top teams in the state, including Leslie County, St. Xavier (Louisville), and Trinity (Louisville). The only team that has taken a match off of SHDHS is Shelby County, reigning State



Champions. The eSports Team is proud to be ranked among the best teams in the state. Congratulations Cru!

SHDHS Broadcasting Club

Fall sports felt a bit different this year with limited attendance at games, but the SHDHS Broadcasting Club stepped up to help make a number of events accessible to the community! In honor of their commitment and dedication to SHDHS Athletics, and for stepping up during a challenging time, club members received the "I'm Right Here" Award from St. Elizabeth Healthcare.

This student-run group produces both prerecorded and live broadcasts, which are streamed on the school's YouTube channel. By covering live sporting events, students are able to develop skills such as live commentary, camerawork, digital content creation, video editing, and interviewing. Stay tuned for more live broadcasts this winter!





ST. HENRY DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS SOCCER

The Lady Cru Soccer Team experienced many emotions throughout the season as it dealt with an unimaginable event, many starts and stops to the season, delays, injuries, and other illnesses. In the end, the goal was to play a season while keeping every player safe from COVID-19. The team is proud to have accomplished that difficult feat. The ladies played an exceptionally tough schedule playing four of the top five teams in the state, including the 2020 State Champions. Every match was very competitive and the team grew in its skill and experience as it took on the state's best. The team was recognized as the All "A" Regional Runner-up and the District Runner-up.

Though the team did not meet some of its original goals, the experience that many of the younger players received sets the stage for future championships. The team was led by senior captain **Mackenzie Kent** who scored a team high 24 goals. She was awarded 1st Team All-Region, 2nd Team All-State, All-District Team, All-Regional Team, and Most Valuable Player on the team. The team will also say goodbye to many talented seniors including: **Jenna Berling** (2nd Team All-Region and All-District Team), **Emma Esselman** (Honorable Mention All-Region Team), **Emily Brennen**, **Ella Wulfeck**, **Kathryn Bartlett**, **Teresa Pope**, **Erin McMain**, **Grace Holmes**, **Grace Bockweg**, and **Mattison Schlueter**.



SHDHS TEAM AWARDS

VARSITY

MVP Mackenzie Kent
MIP for Offense Isabella Nocero
MIP for Defense Alicia Trapp
Most Versatile Mary Felix
Crusader of the Year nominee Emily Brennan

JV

MVP Josie Knollman
MIP Emma Stocker
Offensive player Karolyn Lighthall
Defensive player Kendall Jara

FRESHMEN

MVP Avery Collins
MIP Mia Rapp



ST. HENRY DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL BOYS SOCCER

The St. Henry Men's Soccer Team excelled in many ways this season, on and off the field. They became the "Brotherhood" that the program is built around. Every player had to become a leader to support, mentor, guide, and motivate teammates and classmates. The coaching staff could not be more proud of this group of young men, their families, and the school for their unwavering commitment to the team. They will never forget this year, but the strength that came from it will always be with them.



SHDHS TEAM AWARDS

VARSITY

MVP Ben Durrough
MIP Ty Neltner
Offensive MVP Jayson Litzler
Defensive MVP Mikey Reding
Crusader of the Year nominee JP Popham

JV

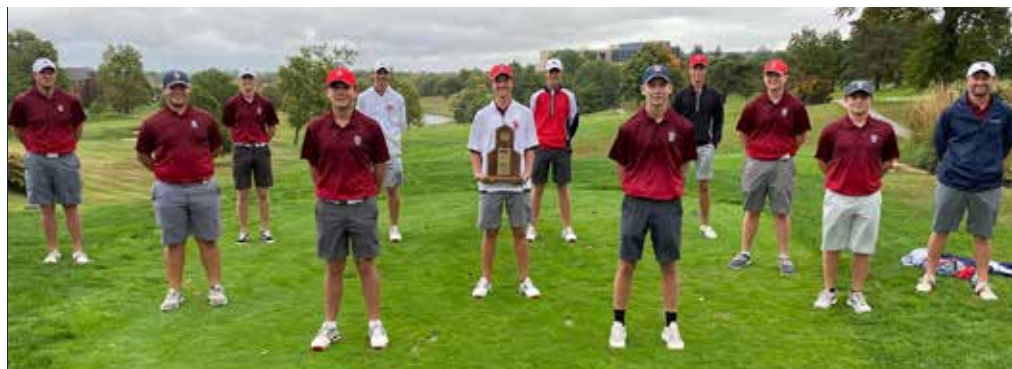
MVP Cody Crowder
MIP Rick Erwin



ST. HENRY DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL BOYS GOLF

The 2020 Boys Golf Team had one of the most successful seasons in recent history. The team had an overall record of 212-36-1, and won eight of the 14 tournaments they played in. These tournaments included the All "A" State Championship and the Region 7 Tournament. This is the second All "A" Championship in the past five years and the first regional title since the year 2000. The top five players consisted of seniors

Ryan Butler, Mason Butler, Gabe Ryan, sophomore **Kevin Tobergte**, and junior **Matt Schaefer** — all of whom started each tournament this season. Congratulations to **Ryan Butler** who was awarded the team's MVP and has committed to NKU to continue his academics and athletic endeavors in golf as a Norse. The team's MIP was junior **Matt Schaefer** and the Boys Golf Crusader of the Year nominee is **Gabe Ryan**.



SHDHS TEAM AWARDS

MVP Ryan Butler
MIP Matt Schaefer
Crusader of the Year nominee
Gabe Ryan



ST. HENRY DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS GOLF

The 2020 Girls Golf Team had a fantastic season and the players had a blast along the way. With a young team hitting the links this season, Coach Mary Beth Beimesch was excited to watch as the Lady Cru Golfers improved with each and every tournament. This year the team was blessed to have two amazing seniors who mentored the younger players and guided them through this uncharted COVID season. With their leadership, the team advanced through the season both healthy and happy.

The team had a ton of young and developing talent with 8th grader **Carly Apagar** and freshmen **Molly Brue, Lexi McMillan,** and **Camryn Reymond** all joining the team this year. As a freshman, Lexi managed to secure a spot in the All "A" State Tournament after a fantastic All "A" Regional finish. Returning to the team was sophomore **Allison Egan**, junior **Sydney Reymond**, and our awesome seniors **Sarah Steimer** and **Sydney Turner**. Sarah was the team's MVP, **Sydney Reymond** the

team MIP, and for the second straight year, Sydney Turner was the team's Crusader of the Year nominee. The coaches loved every minute of the season and especially loved the seniors. Thanks to all of the players and parents (a special shout out to Lisa Steimer for all of her help over the years) who supported every minute of the season. Go Lady Cru Golfers!



SHDHS TEAM AWARDS

MVP Sarah Steimer
MIP Sydney Reymond
Crusader of the Year nominee
Sydney Turner





ST. HENRY DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

The 2020 Girls Cross Country season was unlike any other season, yet still held the core of its tradition with the girls finding a place to strive for greatness while laughing with friends. The runners worked hard through the heat of summer to the chill of the fall while supporting one another throughout. Some highlights from the JV team include placing 1st at the season opener Conner Quad and both Villa Quad meets, 2nd at Bourbon County, and 5th at the

St. Henry Invitational. The varsity team placed 2nd at the season opener Conner Quad and both Villa Quad meets, 4th at NKAC, 3rd at Region, and 5th at State.

There were challenges and joys, from COVID uncertainty to tie dye and marker runs. This team had to rally and dig down deep to be overcomers and hone in on the perseverance which paid off in exceptional individual and team performances.



ST. HENRY DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

The 2020 Boys Cross Country season was like no other. To the team's credit, they took all the changes and guidelines in stride. When the team started in June, they were unsure if they would be able to finish, but everyone was willing to start, put in the work, and be grateful for every practice they could get. This team was hungry and had a fantastic summer. They worked extremely hard and once they could race, were ready to prove themselves. This young team was ranked 3rd in the State in the preseason and faced a highly competitive schedule. Each week was a battle, but prepared them for their end of season goals. The team had a lot of success in the regular season, finishing in the top of each race. Heading into the postseason, the Cru placed 2nd at the NKAC and 2nd at the Diocese Championship. At the Regional race, this team was determined to show what they could do. The Cru dominated the Regional and were led by sophomore **Dixon Ryan**, who

was the Regional Champion. He was followed closely by freshman **Lake Durrett**, 2nd place and junior **Mark Ryan**, 3rd place. The Cru finished 1-2-3! Following the Regional win, this team was confident and ready for state. They had done all the work and proved they were ready. They were up against the heavy favorite Louisville Holy Cross, who would be looking to 4-peat. Holy Cross was not the only team in the hunt, as this year had several strong teams. The Cru ran a great race, but Holy Cross ran a bit better. The Cru finished in 2nd, with a solid performance, just 20 points out of first and made Holy Cross earn the title. The team had 3 top 20 performances, with Dixon Ryan 6th, Lake Durrett 8th and Mark Ryan 20th. This team had a lot to be proud of! They worked for 22 weeks, not knowing if they would be able to finish the season or not. All of the runners on the team improved their times from 2019 by a lot. This was truly a special team who came together for each other.



SHDHS TEAM AWARDS

VARSITY

MVP Kasey Hill

MIP Shelby Wagstaff

100% Award Sydney Bollman

Crusader of the Year nominee
Ella Kluemper

JV

MVP Sydney Longshore

MIP Ellie Quinn

100% Award Kimber Amend

MIDDLE SCHOOL

MVP Chloe Hurm

MIP Stella Bitikofer



SHDHS TEAM AWARDS

NKAC All-Conference Mark Ryan, Lake Durrett

1st Team All-Region Dixon Ryan

2nd Team All-Region Lake Durrett, Mark Ryan

Honorable Mention Camden Fedders,
George Barsan, Mitch Reh

All-State Dixon Ryan, Lake Durrett, Mark Ryan

VARSITY & JV

MVP Dixon Ryan

MIP Varsity Camden Fedders

MIP JV Andrew Heinsman

100% Award Charlie Barsan

Coaches Award Mark Ryan

Crusader of the Year nominee
Michael Brockman

MIDDLE SCHOOL

MVP Ben Dunham

MIP Luke Tobler





ST. HENRY DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL

To say this season was one for the books is an understatement. From the start of workouts in the summer all the way to the unconventional District and Regional Tournaments, the team completed the 2020 season. The girls pulled together as a program and proved why SHDHS is a top team in the state of KY. The varsity team finished 7th in the state according to the Kentucky Volleyball Coaches Association. Every single player demonstrated determination, flexibility and commitment. The freshman squad finished with a winning record and the JV was 10-4 which included a district win over Villa and a tough five game loss against Dixie. The varsity team recorded 14 wins and eight losses. Playing the game of volleyball seemed to be more important this year than winning or losing. Every day the girls were able to touch a volleyball was considered a gift.

Congratulations to **Taylor Preston** who was selected to the 9th Region All-Tournament Team and was also chosen as Max Preps/AVCA Ky Player of the Week. Taylor was also selected as KVCA First Team All-State and **Abby Schaefer** was named as a member

of the KVCA Second Team All-State. Taylor Preston was also awarded the NKGVC All-Opponent Most Valuable Player, Abby Schaefer and **Cora Taylor** were selected on the 1st team and **Ellie Orchelle** earned Honorable Mention of the NKGVC All-Opponent team.

Congratulations to **Bella Newman**, who was awarded the "I Have Wings Scholarship" from Janet Chambers as well as the Dena Gosney Scholarship from the Northern Ky Coaches Association. Bella had a career ending knee injury but did not let it define her. She dug deep inside and found a sense of pride and did not let her injury take her passion away from volleyball. Bella demonstrated remarkable drive and dedication to the SHDHS volleyball program.

Special thanks to seniors **Kylie Deatherage, Rachel Gillman, Katelyn Larkins, Ellie Orchelle, and Bella Newman**. They may have not had the ideal senior volleyball season, but they gained character, grit, and perseverance. Best wishes for continued growth and success.

SHDHS TEAM AWARDS

VARSITY

CO MVP

Taylor Preston & Abby Schaefer

MIP Alivia Skidmore & Sidney Arstingstall

Crusader of the Year nominee

Ellie Orchelle

JV

CO MVP Reese Carter & Anna Guard

MIP Mackenzie Smith

FRESHMAN

MVP Gracie Greber

MIP Mariella Dragone



Thank you to athletic trainer, **Mike Bowling**, for his unwavering commitment to the SHDHS Athletic Department and its student athletes. St. Henry is truly blessed!

Dave Otte

ONCE A CRUSADER, ALWAYS A CRUSADER 30 YEARS OF SERVICE

During his 30 years as principal, Dave Otte watched St. Henry District High School grow from a small campus on Dixie Highway in Elsmere, which was shared with the elementary and middle schools, to the current 118,000 square foot campus off Donaldson Road in Erlanger. Most recently, he championed and oversaw the completion of the “Building on Excellence, Guided by Faith” expansion project which added 43,000 square feet of fine arts, science, technology, and guidance counseling space for current students, future students, and the greater community.

Mr. Otte took great pride in the fact that St. Henry excelled in each of its five pillars of success: faith, scholarship, athletics, arts, and leadership and he wholeheartedly believed that his dedicated faculty and staff were second to none.

“When I came to SHDHS 19 years ago, I had no intention of staying this long, but I always felt called to stay at St. Henry. That was in no small part due to the wonderful atmosphere Mr. Otte nurtured in our school. There is something different about this place. I have seen students who would have been marginalized at other schools celebrated for their unique personalities. I have seen shy individuals blossom, struggling learners develop confidence in their own abilities, and many, many young people benefit from seeing a school leader who was not afraid to acknowledge and share his strong Catholic faith.”

Mrs. Ann Maloney, Science Department Chair

“Mr. Otte taught me that being a great teacher is more than just teaching content - it requires getting to know your students. He was also a great model of servant leadership - always willing to help support families who never thought they could afford a Catholic education. Many people didn't see that side of Mr. Otte, but I witnessed it many times, and it was truly inspiring.”

Mrs. Shawn Schwarz, PE/Health Department Chair, Class of 1990



“SHDHS has been a rock of our community and the environment that Mr. Otte created allowed for a wonderful learning experience for our children. They have come out of SHDHS ready for college and well-rounded both educationally and spiritually. We know that the addition of the new auditorium and having the St. Henry Athletic Complex are physical things people see as his recent accomplishments, but what we really appreciate is the talented faculty and staff he brought on board.”

Jeff & Donna Grayson, SHDHS Parents

“Mr. Otte has given his life to Catholic education. His three decades at St. Henry District High School provide us with proof of that. He has been committed to the Catholic identity of our schools as well as to providing each student with an excellent overall education. From the move from the old St. Henry High School site and the building of a new St. Henry District High School to the very recent addition to SHDHS he has been on the front lines. His guidance, his wisdom, his knowledge and especially his faith have served not only him well but also every student who walked through the doors of SHDHS.”

The Most Rev. Roger J. Foys, Foys, D.D., Bishop of Covington



WELCOME TO SHDHS!



GRANT BRANNEN, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Mr. Brannen has taught in public and parochial education for the last 17 years. During this time,

he has also worked as assistant athletic director, intermittently served as acting principal at Walton-Verona High School, and participated in a variety of committees including Title IX, Professional Development, and Safety Procedure.

"I am excited to be a part of the Crusader family, a great Catholic school which is rich in history, tradition, and academic excellence," said Brannen.

MOLLY ROEBKER, SENIOR GUIDANCE COUNSELOR



Mrs. Roebker has been working in college admissions and high school counseling for 25 years. Early in her career, she worked in college admissions and financial aid at Thomas More University and Saint Louis University. For the past 15 years, she has devoted her time and talent to counseling high school students and their families at Saint Ursula Academy, St. Xavier High School, and Archbishop Moeller High School in Cincinnati, OH.

"Counseling senior students and their families is my vocation, so that's what I look forward to the most," said Roebker. *"I'm also excited to learn more about the history and culture of SHDHS by listening to, and working with, students, parents, alumni, faculty, and staff."*

MAKING COMPOSTING MAINSTREAM



Two friends from the Class of 2010 have turned a backyard hobby into a budding business. Local Compost not only helps the environment, but also fills a market niche.

The company is the brainchild of Ben Bessler. He started to compost when he lived with his parents in Burlington, but when he and his wife tried to compost in Park Hills, he said it wasn't as easy. Ben thought maybe there was a convenient way to get people to start composting while making it easy and affordable. So, he and his wife teamed up with Danny Seifried '10 and Ben's brother and started Local Compost.

The company is now up to 50 weekly customers and continues to grow. The team collects clients' food waste, composts it, and either returns the nutrient-rich soil back to the customer or sells it to local farms and community gardens.

A representative with Boone County Solid Waste and Recycling said if composting becomes more mainstream the positive impact on the environment could be substantial. She said food waste in landfills not only doesn't decompose properly, but it can release methane and carbon dioxide, which are both greenhouse gases.

As his business grows, Bessler said, he hopes to get food manufacturers and government agencies on board to

save larger-scale stocks of food waste from the landfill. Bessler said when people compost, food comes from the farms, it goes to the people, the waste goes back to the farms and then, in turn, replenishes the food. It's a big circle.

HAHN RETIRES FROM CITY OF ERLANGER

After nearly four decades of public service, a Crusader alum is enjoying retired life.

David Hahn, Class of 1975, served as the Economic Development Director for the City of Erlanger for 38 years.

Hahn began his career in the finance department of his dad's company. When an opening at the Erlanger City Building was announced, he applied and was hired as the Assistant to the Finance Director in September 1982. He later became Director of Public Works and Code Enforcement, spending much of his career in that role. In 2006, when he was planning to retire, then-Mayor Marc Otto and former City Administrator Bill Scheyer approached Hahn about becoming the new Economic Development Director.

“Dave was an outstanding codes administrator because he knew the code book inside and out and always tried to help applicants while making sure the city’s best interests were protected,” Bill Scheyer told the River City News. “When the position of director of economic development was created, Dave was the perfect choice because he had been involved in every city development project for years and knew everyone involved.”



Hahn said the redevelopment of the Showcase Cinemas site is a proud achievement. He also noted his role in creating the Economic Development Department and creating incentives for businesses. He said it has been satisfying to watch the department and the city grow, and know he had a small part in it.

As for retirement, Hahn said he looks forward to doing whatever he wants whenever he wants.

STEWART NAMED FIRST TEAM ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICAN



Gabby Stewart, Class of 2016, has set records on the softball field during her years at Ohio Northern University. Stewart was named First Team Academic All-America in softball last year by the College Sports Information Directors of America.

Stewart, a catcher, was hitting .393 with three home runs and nine RBIs through 10 games last season before

the season was stopped in March due to the pandemic. Despite the cancellation of spring competition, CoSIDA

continued its sponsorship of the Academic All-America awards program and student-athletes were selected based on career statistics.

Gabby was named First Team Academic All-District 7, Second Team All-Central Region, and First Team All-Ohio Athletic Conference as a junior. As a sophomore,



Stewart was named Second Team All-Conference, Academic All-Conference and was named to the All-OAC Tournament Team. Stewart is also a three-time OAC Hitter of the Week honoree.

Gabby currently ranks among the all-time statistical leaders in Ohio Northern University history with 112 career RBIs (seventh), 14 home runs (seventh), 35 doubles (eighth), 156 base hits (10th) and a .373 batting average (15th).

Stewart is the 10th Polar Bear softball student athlete, and first since 1996, to earn Academic All-America honors, and the fifth player to earn First Team honors. Gabby is a nursing major.



ALUM SHARES KNOWLEDGE WITH FELLOW CRUSADERS

Sam Fugate, Class of 2015, returned to campus to share his knowledge with fellow Crusaders. This past February, he spoke to students

from the Healthcare Careers Club who were interested in learning more about studying to become a doctor or physician assistant. Fugate talked about the undergrad pre-medical requirements, the medical school admissions process, and how to maintain work/life balance in college and medical school. Sam is currently in his second year of medical school at the University of Kentucky.

The Healthcare Careers Club sponsors speakers who highlight various healthcare specialties. Other alumni that have spoken to students in this popular club include Maria Linkugel and Mikayla Dvornek, both from the Class of 2014, who shared information about their careers in Occupational Therapy. If you work in the medical field and would like to come back to SHDHS to share your knowledge with your fellow Cru, please reach out to Ann Maloney at amaloney@shdhs.org.



CLASSMATES STILL MEET DESPITE PANDEMIC

The Class of 1964 isn't letting a pandemic stop them from seeing one another. The classmates wanted to get together, but the pandemic and distance prevented it, so they got creative and now they hold monthly Zoom meetings!

The idea was the brainchild of Cynthia Aylor Houck, who lives in Texas. Their first meeting was in August. Cynthia said there were 13 class members present that night and they were even able to arrange it so a classmate who lives in an assisted living community could attend. She said they had so much fun they agreed to meet every month and, while attendance varies at each meeting, they always have a good time.

Alumni Updates

Judy Foltz Eichorn '63 and her husband, Thomas, celebrated 54 years of marriage this year! They have three children and seven grandchildren.

Mike Keipert '65 and Patti Oberschlake Keipert '68 celebrated 50 years of marriage. They have three children, 11 grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

Pat Hackett '70 was elected to his second term on Crescent Springs City Council in November.

Bethany Cahill Ingraham '78 is working as a clinical research associate and enjoying spending time with her family.



The Grau Sisters, Jeni '82, Tina '83, Michele '84, and Sandy '87, along with other family members, accompanied their dad, 81-year-old Ferdinand, and completed the Virtual Marine Corp Marathon 10K in October. Several neighbors cheered them on along the course and everyone got to enjoy brunch together after the run.

Edward Sparks, II '89 is wrapping up his term as President of the American Railway Engineering and



Maintenance-of-Way Association (AREMA), the premier railway engineering association for North America. Edward is also the Asst. Chief Engineer of Structures at CSX Transportation.

Jackson Rouse '93 competed on the hit television show, Guy's Grocery Games, on the Food Network in September. The competition, hosted by Guy Fieri, invites four chefs to the "Flavortown Market," where they compete in three challenges using ingredients from the store to show off their culinary craft. The winner takes home \$20,000. Chef Jackson and his team won!

Ryan Maschmeyer '01 received the Richard Tobin Benevolence Award for the tenth consecutive year. The award is given to the Catholic Order of Foresters' Top 20 agents. Each agent who earns a Richard Tobin Benevolence Award gets to choose a Catholic organization to receive a \$500 donation. This year Ryan chose to support Go Pantry, an organization that provides food to local children who don't have enough to eat at home. Ryan said having a stocked pantry at home can be taken for granted. "There are kids in my community who don't have that luxury. With schools being closed due to COVID-19, Go Pantry has been an extra valuable resource to many families during these times." Ryan's donation will fill GO BOXES which supply multiple meals and provide nutritional food to children who would not otherwise have access to such food.



Rachel Ruholt '11 earned her doctorate (Psy. D.) in Clinical Psychology from Eastern Kentucky University and completed her residency at the Youth Opportunity Center in Indiana. Her specialty areas are trauma and childhood abuse treatment, forensic assessments for criminal court proceedings, and the treatment of mental illnesses. She also works with individuals with attachment difficulties. Rachel

Alumni

moved back to the NKY area in August and began working as a Clinical Psychologist at a group practice in Crestview Hills full-time, a private forensic practice in Cincinnati part-time, and as an adjunct psychology professor at ECU. Rachel will also marry her high school sweetheart, **Michael Nienaber '11**, in June 2021!

She says she is very excited to continue to help others overcome challenges and bring more awareness to mental health in the place she grew up.



Sam Krugel '13 was officially sworn in as one of Erlanger's newest Firefighter/EMTs on November 4.

Rachel Samotis '16 continues a family tradition of military service. She graduated from the Coast Guard Academy earlier this year. Samotis became interested in the Coast Guard her sophomore year at SHDHS because of its humanitarian missions. She graduated with a major in operations research and computer analysis.



Paul Wallenhorst '16 graduated with his Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice. In addition to being a Summa Cum Laude graduate, he was awarded the John C. Klotter Award for having the highest GPA in his degree program. Paul is also the recipient of the Gen. Douglas MacArthur Award, given to the top cadet in



each graduating ROTC class. He currently serves as a Cadet Company Commander and assessed into Active Duty as an Aviation Officer. While in ROTC, Paul was the team Captain of the 2019 Ranger Challenge Team that qualified for the 2020 Sandhurst Competition. He also earned the German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge in gold, the Norwegian Foot March Badge, and the Air Assault Badge. He attended CULP in Tanzania and CTLT at Schofield Barracks.

Jacey Blust '19 was named the WHAC Defender of the Week in October. She plays volleyball for Indiana Tech, which is part of the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference. Jacey earned the award after she had 56 digs in a week, an average of seven digs per set.



Sean Ryan '20 helped lead his college cross country team to its first Great Lakes Valley Conference title since 2004. Sean is a freshman at Lewis University in Illinois. On the same day Sean's brother, Mark, and the SHDHS Boys Cross Country Team won the Class A Regional title!

Alumni

In Memoriam

Charlotte Ruehl Flynn '40 passed away in June surrounded by her family. Charlotte was a beautician, a florist, worked at the IRS, and held many volunteer positions. She was a member of St. Henry Parish and was proud of the years she dedicated to the Altar and Rosary Societies.

Margaret Mary Arens Wood '41 passed away in September. She worked alongside her husband at Frank Wood Plumbing for many years, while raising seven children and volunteering for numerous organizations. Margaret was a member of the St. Henry High School Hall of Fame for Volunteerism, an honor she received for volunteering in the church office for 23 years, working St. Henry Bingo for 15 years, volunteering with DPPA, being a St. Elizabeth Eucharistic Minister for 13 years, and a member of St. Henry's grade school and high school PTA.

William Miller '48 passed away in January. Bill was raised at St. John's Orphanage (now DCCH Center for Children and Families). After high school, he joined the Air Force and served in the Korean War. Bill worked for many years in the retail music industry before returning to his roots and finishing his career at DCCH, retiring in 1992. He continued his service to DCCH as a volunteer for the remainder of his life. Bill also volunteered at several other local organizations including Catholic Charities Diocese of Covington.

Rae Jo Ralenkotter Otto '50 passed away in September.

Patricia Dailey Rucker '51 passed away in October.

Ray Hanser '54 passed away in October.

Margaret Schneeman '54 passed in March. Margie was a nurse at Booth Memorial and St. Elizabeth Hospitals, as well as serving as a nursing administrator for eight years in Saudi Arabia. Upon

her return to the United States, Margie volunteered at a local thrift shop and served as a volunteer "patient" at the Cleveland Clinic.

Frances Scott Staten '54 passed away in May.

Barbara McKinley Tally '57 passed away in September. Barb was a lifelong member of St. Henry Parish and volunteered at the church up until the time of her death. She was a founding and dedicated member of the "Club" with her high school classmates, who met monthly for over 60 years. Upon her retirement Barb worked at St. Charles Senior Living Community and volunteered at the Mary Rose Mission in Florence and Villaspring Healthcare of Erlanger.

Ronald Becker '58 passed in October. He was a volunteer fireman, and a former chief, at the Ft. Mitchell Fire Department for over 65 years and helped establish the Ft. Mitchell Life Squad. He was also a professional fireman at the Greater Cincinnati International Airport for 20 years, IAFF local 2438 charter member, taught many classes for firefighting and EMS, and volunteered at the USO for over five years. Ron was chosen for the city of Ft. Mitchell's Wall of Honor and was bestowed the honor of Kentucky Colonel.

Barbara Saat Niehoff '58 passed in December. She was a real estate agent.

Dennis O'Connor '60 passed away in August. He was an active member of Local 181 of the International Operating Engineers and was a large crane operator on projects including the Markland Dam, the Newburgh Dam, and the Alcoa Plant. Dennis was also an incredible dancer, which made him a popular resident at Colonial Heights and Gardens.

Sr. Joan Gripshover '60 passed in March. Patricia entered St. Walburg Monastery in 1961. She became a novice in 1962 and received the name Joan. Her first profession followed in 1963 and perpetual profession

in 1968. Sr. Joan celebrated her golden jubilee in 2013. Sr. Joan earned her nursing education degree and served as a nurse at Estill County Hospital, Madonna Manor, and St. Walburg Infirmary. She also served on boards of directors, as a parish planner, and on several citizen groups.

Lannie Ralenkotter '61 passed away in November. He was a longtime employee of Carr Tool & Dye and General Electric. Lannie was a winning coach for the Boone County Knothole League and served as Boone County High School Band Booster President.

Richard Schwartz '62 passed away in August after a long battle with cancer. Richard graduated from Villa Madonna College (Thomas More University) in 1966 with a BS in Chemistry and Georgia Tech in 1972 with a PhD in Chemistry. He began teaching Chemistry at Santa Fe Community College in Gainesville, Florida in 1974 and remained there for over 40 years until retirement.

Jerome C. Beagle '64 passed away in April due to complications from COVID-19. Jerry worked for many years as a funeral director at Linnemann Funeral Home in Erlanger and then at Middendorf-Bullock Funeral Home in Covington. Following a career change, Jerry worked for Cincinnati Bell, and for his last 18 years he worked at Delta Airlines in customer service. He was also active in several community and parish service groups.

Teresa Grone Jeanmougin '77 passed away in November after a battle with Multiple Myeloma, a cancer of the blood system. Teresa volunteered at her church and supported the Knights of Columbus.

David Strickley Jr. '83 passed away in April. David retired from the City of Florence Public Works Department and for the past several years gave tirelessly of himself as a past Vice President of the Florence Chapter of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Support the Cru

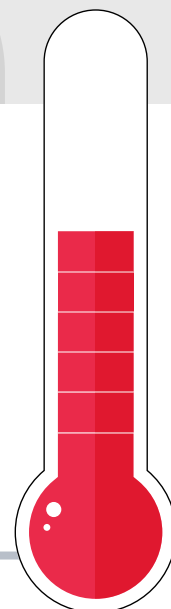
\$100,000

2020/2021 CRUSADER ANNUAL APPEAL

Wow! The response received so far for the 2020/2021 Annual Appeal has been overwhelming. In spite of the pandemic, SHDHS continues to be blessed by the Crusader community. To date, the appeal is sitting at just over 60% of the \$100,000 goal.

If you have already donated to the Annual Appeal, thank you! If you have not yet had a chance to support the appeal, it's not too late. You can make a secure, online donation by visiting shdhs.org/donate, or checks can be mailed to Attn: SHDHS Advancement Office, 3755 Scheben Drive, Erlanger, KY 41018.

Thank you for your continued support!



SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

This has certainly been a challenging year. The generous support of many local businesses was a key factor in our ability to bring back students, faculty, and staff to in-person learning this past August.

SHDHS's year-long sponsorship program features numerous brand exposure opportunities, including recognition at a variety of in-person and virtual events. You are invited to make a difference by being a 2021 SHDHS Sponsor! The sponsorship program runs

January to December each year and your support will have an immediate and lasting impact on each and every student, both present and future.

SHDHS begins promoting its sponsors in January. With that in mind, please go to advancement.shdhs.org/support-the-cru/crusader-sponsors. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact the Advancement Office at 859.525.0255 (Option 5) or advancement@shdhs.org.

PLANNED GIVING

A planned gift, or any major gift made as part of your overall financial and/or estate planning, is focused on St. Henry's future financial security. Specifically, planned giving focuses on preserving Catholic education for future generations. And while these gifts may not build buildings or increase the annual fund, they can substantially increase the endowment and are, therefore, an excellent method of providing future income to St. Henry District High School. To discuss your support for St. Henry via a planned gift, please contact the SHDHS Advancement Office at 859.525.0255 (Option 5) or advancement@shdhs.org.



Catholic Order of Foresters Agent Ryan Maschmeyer, Class of 2001, has helped several SHDHS alums give back to their alma mater while providing their families

with peace of mind via the Catholic Order of Foresters Fraternal Legacy Rider.¹ This rider is available with the purchase of certain Catholic Order of Foresters life insurance policies. With the Fraternal Legacy Rider, an additional 5% of your life insurance death benefit can be used to support the Catholic community. You can make a lasting impact on St. Henry District High School with a gift between \$2,500 and \$250,000 at no additional cost to you.

For more information, please contact Ryan at rmaschmeyer@catholicforester.org. You can also learn more at www.catholicforester.org/life-insurance/fraternal-legacy-rider.

¹A rider added to your life insurance policy allowing Catholic Order of Foresters to pay one or more Catholic charities a death benefit on your behalf, in addition to your named beneficiary(ies) receiving their designated death benefit. Eligible death benefit face amount starts at \$50,000. Not available in all states. Subject to terms and conditions. Fraternal Legacy Rider forms: ICC17-FLR-UL, FLR-UL17, ICC19-FLR-TRAD, FLR-TRAD-19, FLR-TRAD19-FL. Policy and Fraternal Legacy Rider must be in force at time of insured's death for qualified charity to receive benefit.

Support the Cru



ST. HENRY DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL Sponsorship Opportunities

Each level has numerous year-long brand exposure opportunities, including recognition at a variety of in-person and virtual events.



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\$3,000
Diamond
Partner



\$1,500
Gold
Partner



\$750
Silver
Partner



\$500
Bronze
Partner

SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS

Presenting Sponsor of 2021 Cru Bid & Bash Virtual Event

Presenting Sponsor of 2021 SHDHS Back to School 5K Walk/Run

Company Logo Recognition in Weekly Parent Newsletter (Full Year)

Company Logo and Weblink on Front Page of School Website (Full Year)

Published Recognition to over 5,000 Households in Cru Connections Newsletter (2x Per Year)

Recognition Before, During, and After Cru Bid & Bash Virtual Event

Recognition on SHDHS Back to School 5K Walk/Run T-Shirts

Recognition and Weblink on Sponsorship Page of School Website (Full Year)

Social Media Promotion on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram (Full Year)



Support the Cru

GOING VIRTUAL!

The Cru Bid & Bash is the largest annual fundraiser at SHDHS. This coming year, due to ongoing restrictions, the event will be held virtually on February 13, 2021.

The planning committee is working hard to put together a fun-filled evening full of amazing auction items and prize opportunities, so please plan to join us! More information on this amazing event will be coming your way after the first of the year. In the meantime, SHDHS is in the process of gathering donations for the event. If you are willing to donate event tickets, gift cards, outdoor furnishings, high-end bourbon, a trip, or other items, please contact the Advancement Office. Monetary donations are also welcome.

If you have any questions or would like more information on sending in a donation, please contact the Advancement Office at 859.525.0255 (Option 5) or advancement@shdhs.org.

\$10K RAFFLE

What would you do with an extra \$10,000?

Take a chance on winning \$10,000 while raising money for SHDHS. Our grand prize drawing will be held on Saturday, February 13, 2021 during the Cru Bid & Bash virtual event. Be sure to purchase your ticket early to be entered into the Early Bird drawing where five \$100 prizes will be awarded in late January.

Please visit shdhs.org/raffle to purchase your tickets today!



CRU \$10K 2021
RAFFLE

In Appreciation

Paul Kramer

A DEAR FRIEND WHO WILL BE GREATLY MISSED

The Crusader Community lost a dear friend and supporter with the recent passing of Mr. Paul Kramer. Paul was one of the school's most active supporters, raising thousands of dollars for SHDHS each year by way of generous donations to the annual auction. Mr. Kramer also stepped in to serve as the school's Development Director for a period of time.

In addition to his support of St. Henry, Paul also gave of his time and talent to help thousands of young baseball and softball players through the Kid Glove program with the Cincinnati Reds. Paul served as the leader of this

iconic program for 35 years, helping to provide much needed equipment to local teams.

"All who knew him loved him for his kind and gentle spirit," said Beckie Middendorf, SHDHS Advancement Director. "We are devastated by his loss, but know that his spirit remains among us and we will continue to honor that spirit each and every time our Crusaders take to 'Paul Kramer Field' for a home baseball game. Our love and prayers go out to his beloved wife Wink, his daughters, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. May God bless them with His peace and comfort."

THANK YOU TO OUR BENEFACTORS

This year has brought many disappointments, including the cancellation of the annual Benefactor's Breakfast. This event, which typically occurs in September of each year, is one of the most treasured events.

Since its inception in 2013, the annual appreciation breakfast has brought together individuals, families, and local organizations who have generously supported the education of more than 250 SHDHS students. In just the past seven years alone, this support amounted to more than a quarter of a million dollars. On behalf of every student who benefited from this incredible kindness, thank you.



BACK TO SCHOOL 5K

Thank you to all of the alumni, parents, students, faculty, staff, and Crusader friends who took part in the Back to School Virtual 5K Walk/Run in August. The support for the event was amazing and seeing the pictures of all the Crusaders coming "together" to celebrate SHDHS was incredible. Alumni from out of state even joined in the fun!

The virtual race was so successful that it will be brought back next year in conjunction with the in-person race on campus. Be sure to join the fun in August 2021 when alumni, families, and friends can hopefully, Come as Many...Run (or Walk) as One.





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