

Senator Square: The story of Carson High School



A Story Collaboration by retired CHS Language Arts and Journalism teacher Patt Quinn-Davis and CHS Librarian and Media Specialist Ananda Campbell



Meander through a Carson High School yearbook from the 1930s or '50s or '70s, and read the graduates--Paul Laxalt, a Nevada governor and senator; Bob Crowell, a popular Carson City mayor; Lisa Schuette, Carson City supervisor; Grace Bordewich,

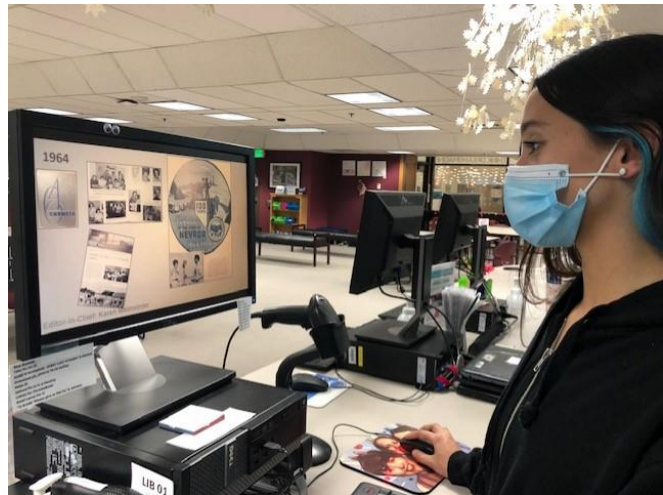
well-loved and admired teacher; Ken Furlong, Carson City sheriff.

There are the CHS students from familiar ranching families, the Lompas, the Longs, the Bordas, the Andersons, the Schultzes. Or the moms and dads of children who grew up and settled in the capital city, raising their children who also became CHS alumni. CHS students are part of the tapestry that is Carson City, and they and their stories are now part of The Story of Carson High School, a far-reaching display of the school's 100 years of high school yearbooks, 70 years of newspapers, oral histories that include first-person memories, memorabilia and scrapbooks, now being developed through the CHS Library. It is the ambitious project of two high school educators who have dived into the intricacies of bringing the dream into reality. For the many years Patt Quinn-Davis taught English and journalism at CHS, archived yearbooks and newspapers were housed in her classroom, one of the school's book rooms, the school library and various offices and classrooms. "I often thought how wonderful it would be for others to see what my students and I could see every day," she said. Ananda Campbell, library media specialist, shared that vision. "A core value of @SenatorsLibrary is equity in design, practice and resources," said Campbell. "As a repository for the historical archives for Carson High School, this core value was remiss. We have documents and materials stored away, accessible only to those who venture in to request." When Quinn-Davis knew she was retiring in 2020, she assured Campbell she still wanted to unify the school's artifacts. "I could see display cases of all those yearbooks, newspapers and memorabilia that could be rolled out to public gatherings so the community could read those stories, those high school memories. Ananda built on that, seeing



how the materials could be used in the classroom," she said. "Because Patt has long been a proponent of bringing these archived items out of storage and into a public display, our partnership was born," Campbell said. Campbell and Quinn-Davis wrote the grant to receive the yearly \$5,000 education award from the Rotary Club to fund the initial digitizing of the school's yearbooks and linking the database to the school library's website as a research resource, and for display cases. Another \$11,000 grant was received this year from

the Institute of Museum and Library Services to scan the 70 years of newspapers and the remaining CHS yearbooks. The digitization, said Campbell, “will allow remote access to peruse the yearbook collection page by page. This led to the creation of a timeline of Carson High School history, titled, The Story of Carson High: A Review. This interactive tour of Carson High history will eventually incorporate personal narratives submitted by Carson High alumni. The Story of Carson High weaves a connection between CHS students past, present, and future. It is an honor for myself and the students to present this to the community.”



The project has grown into a collaborative venture between Carson High's @SenatorsLibrary, Quinn-Davis, the yearbook staff, and Rotary Club of Carson City whose education grant funded the initial digitization and the Nevada State Library and Archives, where the digitizing has taken place. Carson High students are editing the digital historical review and will help create the physical display. The next phase of the project is a public display to highlight yearbooks, newspapers and memorabilia. The project leaders are now seeking funding and donations for a display case that would be housed in the school's entryway. Aside from the digitization, the newspapers have been catalogued and stored for preservation. This portion of the project work was shared by Quinn-Davis and the library students. Quinn-Davis and Campbell see the project as one that will

continue to unfold with student projects of related interest that can become part of the collection. The project will also be open to community memorabilia donations. The public is invited to visit The Story of Carson High School as the project continues. To view the work in progress, please go to: <https://bit.ly/CHStory>



Captions for Main Story, The Story of Carson High School 1. Junior Alfonso Herrera Navarrete files collections of The Senator News, Carson High School's newspaper. Navarrete's work is part of a

project that includes the digitization and public display of the school's yearbooks and newspapers through the years. 2. Junior Branna Tedford edits digitized pages from Carson High School's yearbooks. The earliest CHS yearbook available is 1920. The Nevada Library and Archives has been digitizing all the books and the high school newspapers with the help of grants. 3. Senior Kiersten Terry and junior Princess Sharif, look through the pages of Carson High School yearbooks. The Story of Carson High is a far-ranging project capturing the stories of the school and Carson City. The yearbooks and high school newspapers, both digitized and as

physical copies, will be available on the CHS library website and in presentation cases for public viewing.

By retired CHS Language Arts and Journalism teacher Patt Quinn-Davis

Carson City Supervisor Lisa Schuette may have thought she knew her mom. But it wasn't until after her mom's death in 2009 that Schuette learned in reading Nancy Gaskill's Raytown High School yearbook that she had been center on the basketball team and that her nickname was Torchy. Torchy for her red hair. Center on the basketball team despite being 4 feet 11 inches. Fremont Elementary Principal Jennifer Ward, Ph.D., sees how school yearbooks capture the history of a community, placing students in a continuum of time and memory. Ward thinks of the stories her dad tells walking the halls of a high school in the 1960s that became the junior high in Ward's time. CHS Principal Bob Chambers considers such examples as more reasons for The Story of Carson High School archival project. Besides the personal and family memories, Chambers sees the project as a chance to tell the story of this place. "Carson High School is a really old school with a really long story to tell," he said. The Story of Carson High School will display digitally and physically the school's 100 years of yearbooks, newspapers, memorabilia and scrapbooks with the help of the Rotary Foundation and the Institute of Museum and Library Services grants. The digitizing is being done by the Nevada State Library and Archives. For Schuette, Class of '81, the project captures Carson City's legacy in the people and places included in the pages of the publications. "Every student in Carson High School is ultimately part of the tapestry of that year's story," Schuette said in reflection. She thinks of neighbors like the Ingersolls, whose son, a 1962 CHS graduate and University of Nevada, Reno student body president, died tragically in a 1965 parachute accident. Lifelong friend nurse practitioner Kelly (Dory) Fluitt is another who lives within the pages of CHS yearbooks, along with her sister Nanette. Their mother Pat Dory was a school district employee. There are the teachers and administrators, names still familiar through the generations, whose faces grace the yearbooks. She remembers hearing about Carson City School District Superintendent Herb Chiara, whose children she grew up with, and the positive influence and generational connections with staff including CHS teacher Duane Glanzmann. "I had Mr. Glanzmann's grandchildren in my health class," Schuette, a former district teacher, said. For Ward, Class of '91, the project provides a connection through the generations. She recalled meeting a group of alumni from the 1960s to give them a tour of Carson Middle School on King Street. The middle school has morphed to its present population from a junior high school and





before that Carson High School. During the tour, Ward heard the alumni's stories of attending high school in that building and thinking about later studying there when the King Street property was a junior high. That story, through photos and words, remains in the CHS Carneta yearbook and newspaper collection, what Ward calls "a visual document of part of my history." Chambers, having spent his first year as CHS principal during a historic pandemic, after years as a teacher and administrator in the district, immediately went to the history of what the project provides. "CHS existed during the Spanish Flu and other interesting events through the lens of a teenager's mind. What the world was like. To go back to history through that lens is really cool." For Ward, The Story of Carson High School with its collection is "that chance to remember the who, what and when of events. It's a visual that jogs the memory of those special human beings that we were blessed to be

with." Donations are accepted, particularly for the display cases to house the books, newspapers, scrapbooks and memorabilia. In the future, meaningful memorabilia will also be accepted. The public is invited to visit The Story of Carson High School as the project continues. To view, please go to:

<https://bit.ly/CHStory> Patt Quinn-Davis was an English and Journalism teacher at Carson High School. She retired in 2020. Previously, she was a journalist and editor at The Nevada Appeal in Carson City and The Daily Democrat in Woodland, Calif

Namelines for Sidebar 1. Lisa Schuette, city supervisor, Class of 1981. 2. Bob Chambers, principal of Carson High School. 3. Jennifer Ward DeJoseph, principal of Fremont Elementary School, Class of 1991.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS TO CONSIDER

The annual Sophie and Hans Scholl Memorial Scholarship is now open for application. This is the eleventh year of this scholarship, and Nevada high school seniors and recent high school graduates, those who have not yet started college or university and who either plan to study Political Science or German at a university or college in the United States, or wish to enroll in a university in Germany, are invited to apply. Upon completion of a successful application before Jan. 31, one scholarship will be offered in the amount of \$1,200. Go to thepef.academicworks.com/opportunities/10453 to apply. Also available for application by Feb. 1 is the Jackie Robinson Scholarship. This scholarship up to \$30,000 for four years is awarded to minority high school students showing leadership potential



and demonstrating financial need to allow them to attend an accredited four-year college or university of their choice. Go to jackierobinson.org/apply/ to apply.

PLEASE HELP BANDS PREPARE FOR SPRING TRIP TO DISNEYLAND

CHS Bands Spring Trip is scheduled for April 27 to May 1, 2022. All Wind Ensemble members are automatically invited to attend, but this does not guarantee they will be traveling with the band as all students must work hard to keep their performance skills up, show motivation to succeed, pass all classes, and fully participate in fundraisers if financial assistance is needed. As students will be missing school for this trip, they must be in good standing academically and be free of any attendance or discipline issues. All other band members not in Wind Ensemble will be invited to audition for the remaining spots on the trip. The trip includes round-trip transportation on a charter bus, three night stay at The Anaheim Hotel, 2-day park hopper tickets for Disneyland and California Adventure, a clinic at Cerritos College with Dr. Betancourt, soundtrack recording session backstage at Disney, all meals not in the parks, and Beach Party. There will be multiple fundraising opportunities to help offset the overall cost. These include fundraising surpluses from Chili Bingo Night, which will be credited to each participating students' account to go towards the trip, Jazz Extravaganza ticket sales, the Adopt-A-Band-Member campaign, and Let's Wine Together. For more information, please contact Band Director Nick Jacques at njacques@carson.k12.nv.us.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT CHS

There is a varsity and junior varsity wrestling tournament at McQueen High School, Jan. 29 with times yet to be announced. Also Jan. 29 at 11 at Damonte Ranch High School is a junior varsity girls and boys basketball game at DRHS as well as a freshman girls basketball at 12:15 and a freshman boys game at 1:30 and a boys varsity game at 2. On Jan. 31, junior varsity girls basketball will compete at 3:30 p.m. against Reed High School at CHS, and freshman girls will compete at 5, and CHS freshman boys will play at 6:15. Jan. 29, CHS varsity ski team meet at Heavenly Ski Resort, and Jan. 31 CHS varsity ski team will meet at Alpine Meadows. On Feb. 1, junior varsity boys basketball will play Reed High School at 3:30 at RHS, girls varsity at 5:15, and boys varsity at 7 at RHS.



JOIN OTHER STUDENTS IN TRAVELING TO FRANCE

French teacher Madame Sharon Miller will be escorting a group of students to France and Switzerland in June 2023. It will be an 11-day trip, and it includes airfare, hotels, two meals per day, and a full-time tour guide to Paris, the Loire valley castles, Mont-St-Michel, and the Normandy D-day beaches, and Switzerland. For information and details, go to explorica.com/Miller-4574, or contact Madame Miller at smiller@carson.k12.nv.us.

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

CHS Athletic Department's Athlete of the Week is Lauren Finnerty for Varsity Girls Basketball and Parker Story for Varsity Boys Basketball. These athletes and all students

who participate in school functions through leadership, clubs, and sports deserve a high level of recognition and congratulations.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Maria Del Carmen Ramirez Reyes is a junior at CHS who impresses staff with her quiet and gentle demeanor and her strong drive to succeed. This year, Maria serves as an office aide for the CHS Counseling team and has quickly become an important asset to the office. She is consistent in her attendance, welcoming to all who enter, and capable of multitasking in the very busy Counseling office. Beyond her work as an office aide, Maria loves art and spending time with friends and family. Many of her peers note how she is someone who is easy to come to with problems, and she is an incredible listener. As with many students, COVID Hybrid learning was difficult on her, but she refused to give up. This year, she bounced back by taking challenging courses. Her favorite classes at CHS have been Honors Forensics and Honors Rhetoric because these two teachers have pushed her to excel academically as well as personally. Maria is the youngest of three siblings, and as a first-generation American and potential college student, it is important to her to reward her parents' hard work by attending college to pursue a career in forensic science. Maria is everything a Senator should be: hardworking, kind, and determined. Please join the CHS Counseling department in congratulating this fine young lady as the CHS Student of the Week.



SENIOR IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Carson High School is proud to recognize a talented student-athlete as this week's Senior in the Spotlight. Kai Miller is an exceptional student with a 5.15 GPA who will have successfully completed nine AP classes and numerous Honors classes when he graduates. He is on track to receive the Advanced Placement Capstone Diploma and the College and Career Ready Diploma as well as the Presidential award for his outstanding academic and testing performance. In addition, Kai has completed all the requirements to receive the state Certificate of Skill Attainment in Mechanical Engineering. Although Kai is dedicated to his academics, he has also made a name for himself due to his success as CHS' pole-vaulter. Kai has been a member of the Track and Field team for four years and trains with Raise the Bar Pole Vault in Reno twice a week. His hard work has paid off as Kai is currently the top high school vaulter in Nevada with a record vault of 15'8". He was the spring 2021 State Champion with a 15' vault. Kai's leadership on the track translates to leadership in the classroom too as he is a natural role model for other students. Kai has also been a member of the CHS National Honor Society and a three-time Academic Letter recipient. His cheerful nature and genuine personality are assets to serve him well in the future. Kai has signed a letter of intent to attend Colorado School of Mines in the fall. He has been awarded both academic and athletic scholarships. Kai is currently planning to



pursue a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering. CHS is very proud of the contributions Kai has made to the school and community and knows he will be successful in all he pursues. Best of luck, Kai.

Phil Brady is an English teacher at CHS.

