

Decatur Education Foundation and Starbucks Promote A Love of Reading

When we approached the Decatur Starbucks manager, Daniel Phelps, with a creative idea to promote literacy in our community, he responded with tremendous enthusiasm and went the extra mile to promote our idea to the Starbucks Foundation.

Over coffee and hot chocolate, a team of five elementary and high school teachers worked together with the foundation's executive director and Daniel to brain storm what came to be called "Read to Me, Decatur," a project name

inspired by a proposal originally received from Winnona Park teacher Robin Sanders.

Three main goals guided the activities of the "Read to Me, Decatur" project:

1. To create positive reading experiences for children and their parents in hopes of generating enthusiasm for home reading and lifelong learning;
2. To encourage high school writers by helping them publish their work and share it with others;
3. To create a multi-generational learning community that is connected through literature.

For the youngest children, Family Reading Nights were conducted at all of Decatur's K-3 schools.

Parents, children and their teachers all wore their pajamas to the event where they had the opportunity to read books together in the library, hear a storyteller, and make a book-related craft. At the end of the evening, each child went home with a copy of *The Patchwork Quilt* for their home library.

At the high school, members of Cara Cassell's creative writing class were invited to participate in the

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Clairemont student Ashley Walker enjoys a book with teacher Stephanie Trauner.

“Many, many thanks for making Family Reading Night happen last fall . . . it helped Winnona Park's school community begin to come together as a family.”

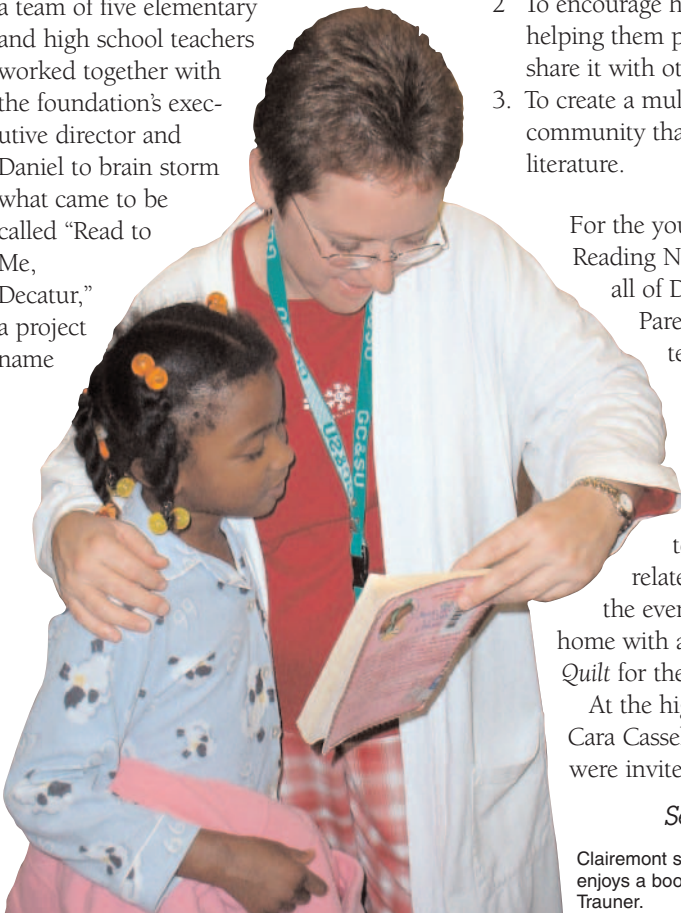
— Ann Whitley,
Media/Instructional
Technology specialist



The Strowd family enjoys a book-related craft at Oakhurst.



Will Capriola, Peter Aaro-Hansen, and Oliver Aaro-Hansen read together in the Winnona Park library.



Reading

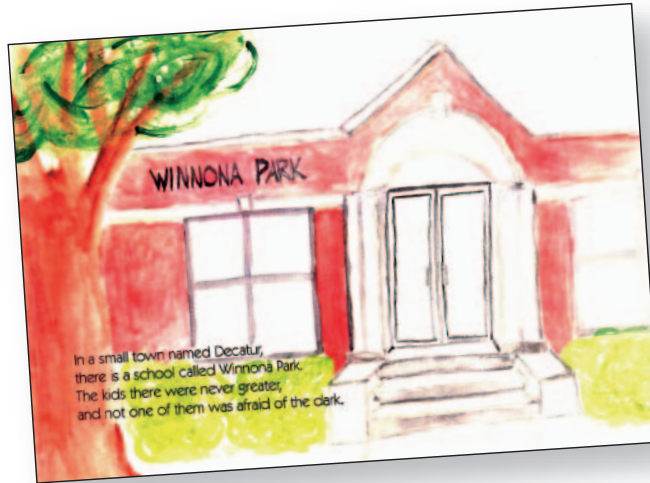
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project and were given two specific opportunities: to write a children's book (which the foundation would publish) and to read to children during our "Stories at Starbucks" events. In the end, it's hard to say which one they enjoyed the most.

High school students were paired up with either a first grade or kindergarten class in one of Decatur's elementary schools. They asked the teachers to get the children to answer questions for them about their favorite foods, favorite colors, pet names and the like.

Each writer then wrote and illustrated a children's book for her/his assigned class. Every child's name was included in the story, as well as specific details about that child. The writers' books were color-copied and bound into hard-back books. Each writer received a copy and each class received a copy.

When the books returned from the bindery, the high school writers went to the elementary school classrooms



DHS Senior Angela Cavalli wrote a book for students in Robin Sanders' first grade class at Winnona Park.

to read their books to the children and present them to the class as a gift. They were received with great enthusiasm.

"At the end of the semester, every student in the creative writing class decided that this project provided one of the top

"Each activity we experience in our lives leaves an imprint, just like the fabrics in a quilt. From the comments and feedback we received, this special event at Oakhurst did just that."

– Vicki Brasfield, Oakhurst Elementary

two experiences in their class and several claimed it had been one of the very best experiences of their education," said Cara Cassell. Since that time, some of the high school students have pursued other opportunities to work with young children and writing.



Members of the Decatur High School Creative Writing Class read to young Decatur students.

FOUNDATION FRIENDS

Fran Frantz is well known in City Schools of Decatur as an active parent, a substitute teacher, and one of the best storytellers around. As a trained professional storyteller, Fran can command a handsome fee for her work. Last year, she generously offered her story-telling services for a minimal fee to the foundation for our Family Reading Night program. She was the star of the evening at each of the Family Reading Night events in Decatur's primary schools.



Mini-Grant and Construction for Instruction Recipients

In 2004, the Decatur Education Foundation gave approximately \$30,000 in grants to Decatur teachers and administrators to support innovative instruction through two signature programs – Mini-Grants and Construction for Instruction.

Mini-Grant Recipients Fall 2004 (for 2004-2005 school year)

Project: Birthday Books

Amount awarded: \$1,200

Teacher: Heather Borowski

To ensure that each child has an opportunity to participate in the birthday book program at Clairemont Elementary School.

Project: Read with Ease

Amount awarded: \$1,500

Teachers: Marcia Tigner, Annette Brown and Theresa Cross

To create a listening and reading station for struggling readers at Decatur High School.

Project: Failure Free Reading

Amount awarded: \$1,500

Teachers: Starr Zalanka and Nancy Luckey

To purchase class packs of the Joseph's Readers computer software for use at Clairemont Elementary, Oakhurst Elementary, and Winnona Park Elementary.



Rob Hodges teaches Glennwood students to compose using Garage Band software.

Project: Digitizing Yearbook

Amount awarded: \$700

Teachers: Amanda Lockhart and Courtney Perrin

To purchase a digital camera for use by the Decatur High School yearbook staff.

Project: Math Excitement in the Home

Amount awarded: \$1,300

Teachers: Sara Joiner and Mandy Peters
To purchase Everyday Math kits and CDs for use by 1st grade families at Clairemont Elementary.

Project: Spanish Book Club

Amount awarded: \$545

Teachers: Sra. Monica Wolff-Waldman and Sra. Bellosso-Pinto

To purchase books and audio tapes for use by students at Glennwood Academy.



Ira Eidle and Lamaria Walker prepare for the morning broadcast of O-5 News (top) while Garland Andrews directs (below).



“ We broadcast two shows per week. The students were always excited and willing to do whatever it took . . . we look forward to starting our broadcast up again this year.”

– Willie Washington,
Glennwood Academy

Project: Winter Literacy

Amount awarded: \$1,500

Teachers: Lynn Holden, Angela Jones, and Sonia Campbell

To purchase copies of Gail Karwoski's book Surviving Jamestown for a school-wide literacy project at Glennwood Academy.

Project: Enhancing Phonological Awareness

Amount awarded: \$1,500

Teachers: Bethany Newcomb, Wanda Nesbitt, and Monica Fowler

To purchase Earobics software for use by students at Oakhurst Elementary.



Emily Berman and Don Bayliss work together to construct the DHS broadcasting set.

**Mini-Grant Recipients
Spring 2005
(for 2005-2006 school year)**

Project: Birthday Book Club

Amount awarded: \$500

Teacher: Ann Whitley

To ensure that each child has an opportunity to participate in the birthday book program at Winnona Park Elementary School.

Project: Knitting Club

Amount awarded: \$300

Teachers: Angela Jones, Sonia Campbell, and Laura Deming

To purchase supplies for an extra-curricular knitting club at Glennwood Academy.

Project: Culture Club

Amount awarded: \$300

Teacher: Amy Lighthill

To help Renfroe Middle School students take advantage of cultural event opportunities they otherwise could not afford during the 2005-2006 school year.

Project: Fill the V.O.I.D.

Amount awarded: \$1,100

Teacher: Stan Flemons

To purchase a video projector for use in the math classes at Decatur High School.



DHS English teachers share ideas at a recent retreat.

“Culture Club events brought excitement and an enthusiastic buzz to our classrooms this year. I would hear children talking about going to see “The Wiz” and encouraging their friends from other classes to come, too.”

*– Amy Lighthill,
Renfroe Middle School*

Project: Upgrading Photojournalism

Amount awarded: \$750

Teacher: Jon Reese

To purchase a digital camera for use by the journalism staff at Decatur High School.

Project: A Picture is Worth 1,000 Words

Amount awarded: \$650

Teachers: Hamilton Edwards and Suzanne Jerol

To purchase digital cameras for use in supporting Expeditionary Learning Outward Bound at Oakhurst Elementary.



Renfroe Middle School students enjoy a Culture Club trip to see “Flop” at Seven Stages Theater.

Project: Science Resequencing

Amount awarded: \$250

Teacher: Lauri McKain-Fernandez for the DHS Science Department

To be used for a one-day planning retreat for the Decatur High School Science Department.

Project: Culture of Collaboration

Amount awarded: \$800

Teacher: Cara Cassell for the DHS English Department

To be used for a two-day planning retreat for the Decatur High School English Department.

Project: Math Games at School and at Home

Amount awarded: \$1,300

Teachers: Debbie Hedges, Anna Sitz, and Alvone Scott

To be used to purchase Everyday Math CD class packs and home CDs for use by students at Oakhurst Elementary School.

Project: Reaching All Readers

Amount awarded: \$1,500

Teachers: Sara Joiner and Susan Bundschu

To purchase books to reach the lowest-level readers in the classroom through guided reading at Clairemont Elementary.

Project: Back and Forth Books I Can Really Read
Amount awarded: \$1,500
Teachers: Vicki Brasfield and Nikki Lee Weldon
To purchase books to use for strategy lessons with low-level readers at Oakhurst Elementary.

Project: Recorded Books for Struggling Readers
Amount awarded: \$500
Teachers: Karen Ehmer, Ernestine Reasor, and Frank Defilippo
To purchase recorded books to assist struggling readers at Glennwood Academy.

Project: MetLife Dance for Life Professional Development Workshop
Amount awarded: \$700
Teachers: Penny Ratliff and Dr. Gloria Lee
To help cover the cost of a professional development workshop for teachers participating in the Dance for Life program at Glennwood Academy and Renfroe Middle School.

Project: Low Tech Assistive Technology Toolkit
Amount awarded: \$600
Teacher: Mary McMahon
To purchase a variety of items that will constitute an assistive technology toolkit, which will be available for checkout from the Exceptional Student Services office.

“The students have been very impressed every time I turn on my ActivBoard. On the occasions when I saved the work to a downloadable folder, many students were delighted to go back and look at the notes on their own.”

—Joe Winterscheidt,
Decatur High School

Project: Shakespeare Without Tears
Amount awarded: \$1,500
Teacher: Marcia Pauly
To help cover the cost of an artist-in-residence program with Georgia Shakespeare during the 2005-2006 school year at Glennwood Academy.

Project: E-mail for Students
Amount awarded: \$300
Teacher: Kim Boswell
To purchase e-mail subscriptions for students at Renfroe Middle School and Decatur High School.

Project: Dynamic Presentations
Amount awarded: \$1,100
Teacher: John Sommer
To purchase a video projector for use in social studies classes at Decatur High School.

Project: Butterfly Garden
Amount awarded: \$250
Teachers: Debby Miller, Robin Sanders, Lynn Simpson, and Kristen Tavel
To start a butterfly garden at Winnona Park Elementary.

Project: Hand Chime Choir
Amount awarded: \$1,000
Teacher: Rhonda Bowden
To purchase hand chimes for use at Glennwood Academy.

Construction for Instruction Grants (for 2005-2006 school year)

Project: Reading Lofts at Winnona Park Elementary
Amount awarded: \$3,000 in-kind
Teachers: Jody Davidson and Michele Stiger

Project: Nature Pond and Bird Boxes for Renfroe Middle School
Amount awarded: \$1,750
Teachers: Susan Dundee and Angela Wade



Members of the DHS Science Department discuss resequencing the science curriculum.



A new reading loft in Jody Davidson's room at Winnona Park.

DEF Strategic Plan 2004

In the fall of 2004, the Decatur Education Foundation contracted with independent consultant Barbara Miller Murphy to lead the organization through its first official strategic planning exercise. Focus groups and interviews were held with numerous stakeholders over a period of several months, along with numerous strategic planning committee meetings. Research findings led the board of directors to adopt six vision statements and establish priorities to guide their work over the next five years.

Our Vision

The Decatur Education Foundation . . .

- 1 has a **multi-faceted communication plan** that clearly and strongly promotes an understanding of who we are, what we've accomplished, and how community involvement and support will help us achieve our goals.
- 2 has a **comprehensive development plan** that attracts a broad base of committed long-term donors from within Decatur and beyond, at a level that ensures the foundation's continued successful growth.
- 3 attracts and maintains a **dynamic, effective foundation board** and staff with a passion to fulfill our mission.
- 4 is known for seeking out and purposefully **engaging people and organizations** as partners and capitalizing on resources to maximize the impact on educational opportunities for students, families, and staff.
- 5 provides **innovative, enriching programs** and professional development opportunities that produce motivated, high-achieving students, and exceptionally qualified staff.
- 6 is an advocate and is actively involved with the **College Heights Early Childhood Learning Center** in providing highly enriching educational opportunities for all pre-school children and their families to ensure success in their educational experiences.

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

DEAR NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS,

The foundation begins its fifth year as an organization committed to enhancing the educational opportunities for all of Decatur's children and youth. This annual report highlights our past year's accomplishments and gives you an idea of the breadth and depth of our programs, all of which are possible only through the financial generosity of Decatur's residents, businesses, and many friends.



This plan will allow us to focus our energies and dollars on areas important to Decatur and complementary to our mission.

In order to guarantee to our supporters that our work on behalf of Decatur's youth and children is strategic and significant, the foundation board recently adopted a multi-year strategic plan. We believe this plan will allow us to focus our energies and dollars on areas that stakeholders helped us to define as important to Decatur and as complementary to our mission. Over the next year we will work diligently to put the plan into action.

On behalf of the board of directors, I want to sincerely thank all of you who have supported us and encourage you to continue. For all who have not yet joined us, I hope this report will inspire you to do so. Decatur Education Foundation needs your support in order to continue to address the needs and the many opportunities for enrichment that present themselves on behalf of the children, youth, and professional educators of Decatur.

Gratefully,

D. Gayle Gellerstedt

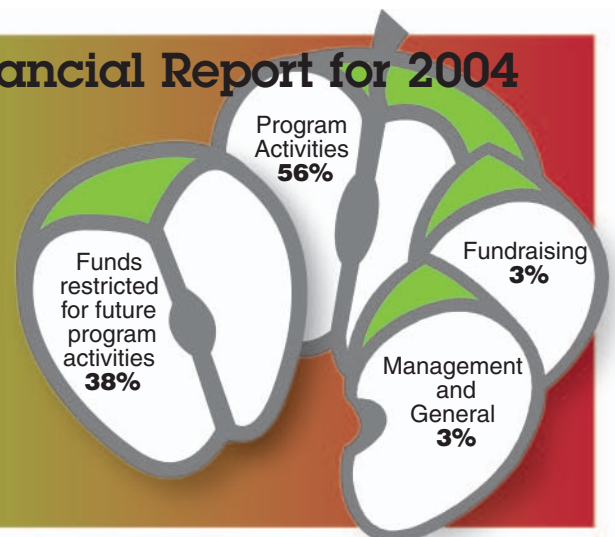
Decatur Education Foundation Financial Report for 2004

Revenue and Support:

Unrestricted Contributions	\$ 57,453
Restricted Contributions	\$ 88,194
Investment Income	\$ 1,824
Total Revenue and Support	\$147,471

Expenses:

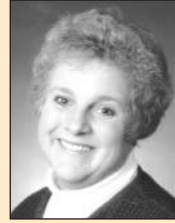
Management and General	\$ 4,322
Fundraising	\$ 3,948
Program activities (funded)	\$ 83,097
Funds restricted for future program activities	\$ 56,104
Contributions for Programs and Grants	\$ 70,116



Decatur Education Foundation

Board of Directors

OFFICERS



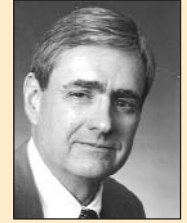
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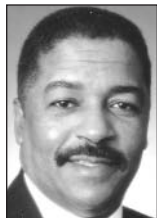
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André Pattillo



Jimmy Smith



Judy Turner



Sara Turnipseed



Bob Wilson



Valarie Wilson



Sherri Breunig
Executive Director

DEF Welcomes Three New Board Members

Paula Collins is the co-founder and chief operations officer for Pearl Protected, Inc. A graduate of Emory University, she has lived in Decatur for five years and serves as a faithful volunteer at many local events, including the Decatur Beach Party and the Decatur Arts Festival. A long-time supporter of the I. Love to Read book club, she has served as the host of the foundation's annual Low Country Boil fundraiser for the last two years.

Leslie Munson is the coordinator of the Learning Evaluation Clinic and Psychological Services of the Atlanta Speech School. She is a member of the National Association of School Psychologists, Delta Sigma Theta sorority, and Oakhurst Presbyterian Church. She attended College Heights Elementary



Paula Collins



Leslie Munson



Marty Sadler

School and graduated from Decatur High School in 1980. She holds an M.Ed. in school psychometry, and a Ph.D. in Educational Psychology, both from the University of Georgia. She is the daughter of Decatur Mayor Emerita Elizabeth Wilson. She and her husband, Andrew Munson, have one daughter, Kristin, who is a student at Glennwood Academy.

Marty Sadler has served as vice president for business and finance at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur for five-and-a-half years. He is a member of the CFO Council of the Association of Theological Schools and serves as a member of the Winnona Park Elementary School Council. He and his wife, Linda Rutherford-Sadler, have two daughters: Caralee is a student at Renfroe Middle School and Brittany attends Glennwood Academy.

Thomas Hauk Memorial Scholarship: Honoring the Gift

By Peter Erickson
Auburn University
August 2005

I've just started my freshman year at Auburn University. I knew that going to school out of state would not be easy because my mother has been a single mom to my brother and me for 13 years. My dream of attending Auburn became a reality when I was awarded a four-year Army ROTC scholarship the afternoon before graduation. When I got that news, I felt very blessed, but knew I still had to work hard as a life-guard and at an ice cream shop this summer to be able to cover other school expenses.



Peter Erickson receives the first Thomas Hauk Memorial Scholarship from Dr. Gary Hauk and Rev. Kate Hauk.

I am very proud to represent my teammates on the wrestling team and my classmates in the Class of 2005. We were Thomas' teammates and classmates, too, and many of us have good memories of his years with us.

Graduation day was already exciting – my grandfather, uncle, and brother were all able to join us for the celebration – but it was really a special moment when I heard my name announced as the first recipient of the Thomas Hauk Memorial Scholarship – the very first award of the evening.

It is indeed an honor to be chosen as the first recipient of the Thomas Hauk Memorial Scholarship. I am very proud to represent my teammates on the wrestling team and my classmates in the Class of 2005. We were Thomas' teammates and classmates, too, and many of us have good memories of his years with us.

The weekend before I left for Auburn University I had dinner with Thomas' family. I came away with an even greater appreciation for Thomas' generous spirit and loving family. Like Thomas' family, I know how very hard it is to lose a family member. You

see, since February I've been to two more memorial services – one for my grandmother and one for my father.

In the weeks following my father's death in June, I am aware of how wrestling coach and physics/chemistry teacher Coach Joe Winterscheidt has been an important role model for me. In gratitude for his role in my education and character development, I made a contribution to the Thomas Hauk Scholarship in honor of Coach W. This is a way of recognizing his contributions to our school system, and to me in particular. In a small way it will help fund this scholarship for future recipients. And I hope it honors Thomas' spirit, as well.

FOUNDATION FRIENDS

Carla Lincous, in addition to being a mother of three children, is a grant writer who has had a great deal of experience writing grants for nonprofit organizations. When she realized that the Decatur Education Foundation had a goal to raise significant funds for a special project at the College Heights Early Childhood Learning Center, she stepped forward to offer her assistance. Carla has voluntarily written and submitted numerous grants for the foundation to help us create a resource center for parents of pre-school children.



Recipients Reminisce — and Look Ahead

Sarah Lynn Woolf Memorial Scholarship: Living Each Day Like Sarah

Since graduating from high school in May, I have thought a lot about Sarah Woolf and the scholarship award I received, mainly because I have been trying to determine what I want out of the next four years of my life.

Since arriving from Africa seven years ago, I have been surrounded by people who have impressed on my mind the dream to make a significant impact on this world. Ever since I started school there has always been a teacher, a friend, an adult who helped me with whatever was necessary to complete an assignment or just attend school the next day, week, month, or year. I have been helped with material needs such as school and other supplies as well as immaterial things like mentoring, quality time, or homework help.

While I always had everything I needed, I could never forget how different my life in the villages of Nigeria had been or that there were people, some of them family, who continue to live that life of scarcity and deprivation. I believed God was helping me through all my friends so that I could someday help another person, teach another child to understand that they have much to offer the world.

Receiving the Sarah Lynn Woolf Memorial Scholarship has only strengthened my resolve and belief in a life of service. I do not think I received this scholarship because I was the highest-achieving female, or because I was the most positive female at Decatur High School. Rather I think of it as one more family and group of people believing in me and encouraging me to strive to become such a person, to become hard working, brave, and hopeful, all the things that Sarah had been.

Most importantly, receiving this award has taught me that the way one lives his or her life each and every day, the road to accomplishing a dream, and the people touched along the way are just as important as the final destination. Even if you never accomplish the goals you thought you would, you can accomplish great successes each new day. There is no better way to live the next four years of my life, than to spend them striving to be positive, hard working, and determined – just like Sarah was.

*By Bemene Baadom-Piario
Berea College
August 2005*

I think of it as one more family and group of people believing in me and encouraging me to strive to become hard working, brave, and hopeful, all the things that Sarah had been.



Bemene Baadom-Piario with Donna and Bill Woolf, parents of Sarah Lynn Woolf.

DEF COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS 2005

Bill Mealor Scholarship Fund

William Lee Higgins (left)

Carl and Mae Renfroe Memorial Scholarship

Janet Crenshaw (center) and Carlos Cardoza (right)

Sarah Woolf Memorial Scholarship

Bemene Baadom-Piario

Thomas Hauk Memorial Scholarship

Peter Erickson



DEF Announces Two New College Scholarships

Harry Edwards Memorial Scholarship

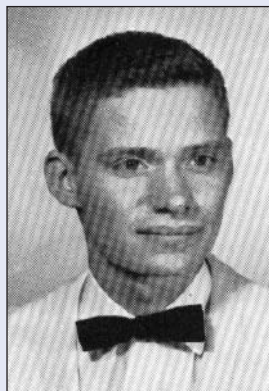
Harry Edwards was among the top three academically in the Decatur High School Class of 1960 and was very involved in extracurricular activities. "In all he did, Harry Edwards exemplified school and class spirit, scholarship, and citizenship," said classmate Jimmy Moore. "He wasn't the only member of our class to put on a uniform and serve the United States but he was the only one to die in Vietnam, and he was everybody's friend."

After graduation from Decatur High School in 1960, Harry Edwards went on to graduate from Georgia Institute of Technology in 1964. He was immediately commissioned in the United States Navy and became a naval aviator.

On Oct. 20, 1966, flying a combat mission off the USS Constellation (CVA-64), Harry's A4C Skyhawk was shot down near the village of Tuong Kiet, 100 kilometers south of Hanoi. His remains were returned to the United States in 1988. In 1996, Harry was buried, with all the honors due a naval aviator who died in combat serving the United States of America, in Arlington National Cemetery.

As a testament to lasting friendship, members of the Decatur High School Class of 1960 have established a scholarship in Harry Edward's memory in hopes of preserving his legacy at Decatur High School. The class is attempting to raise the funds necessary to endow the Harry Edwards Memorial Scholarship Fund.

If you are interested in contributing to this effort, please contact Jim Moore, 336-998-5514, or the foundation office, 404-370-4400 ext. 28. Make checks payable to the Decatur Education Foundation for the Harry Edwards Scholarship Fund.



Westchester Lifeskills Scholarship

The Westchester Elementary School PTO generously donated their remaining funds to the Decatur Education Foundation to create the Westchester Lifeskills Scholarship. Beginning in 2006, a \$1,000 scholarship will be available to a graduating Decatur High School senior who most exemplifies the life skills learned by Westchester Elementary students: integrity, initiative, flexibility, perseverance, organization, sense of humor, effort, common sense, problem solving, responsibility, patience, friendship, gratitude, curiosity, caring, and cooperation.

Students will be nominated by the faculty at Decatur High School. A committee will review the nominations and select a worthy recipient.

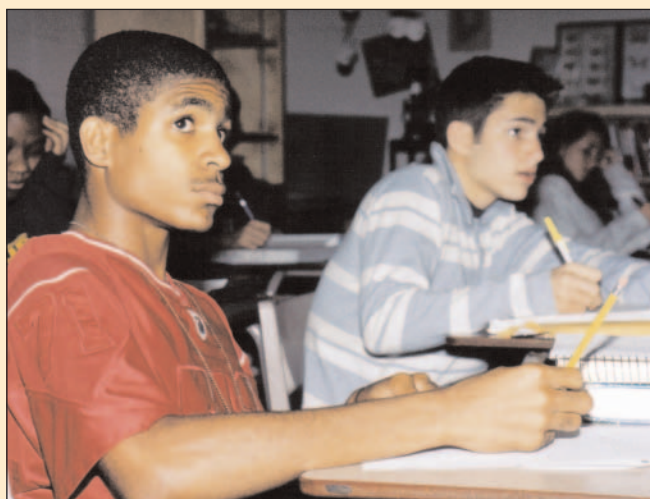


DEF Helps High School Students Prepare for the SAT

In the spring of 2003, the Decatur High School (DHS) PTSA submitted a proposal to DEF for support of a scholarship program to give a targeted group of high school students access to the SAT Prep course provided by Princeton Review at DHS.

Foundation members agreed to partner with the Athletic Booster Club in the project by investing \$12,000 to support the program, which seeks to ensure that all DHS students, regardless of socio-economic status, have the opportunity to participate in the SAT Prep course if they choose to do so.

A review of performance data reveals that the program is making a difference. Test scores of participants increased by an average of 75 points last year.



DEF Helps Develop Oakhurst Schoolyard Habitat



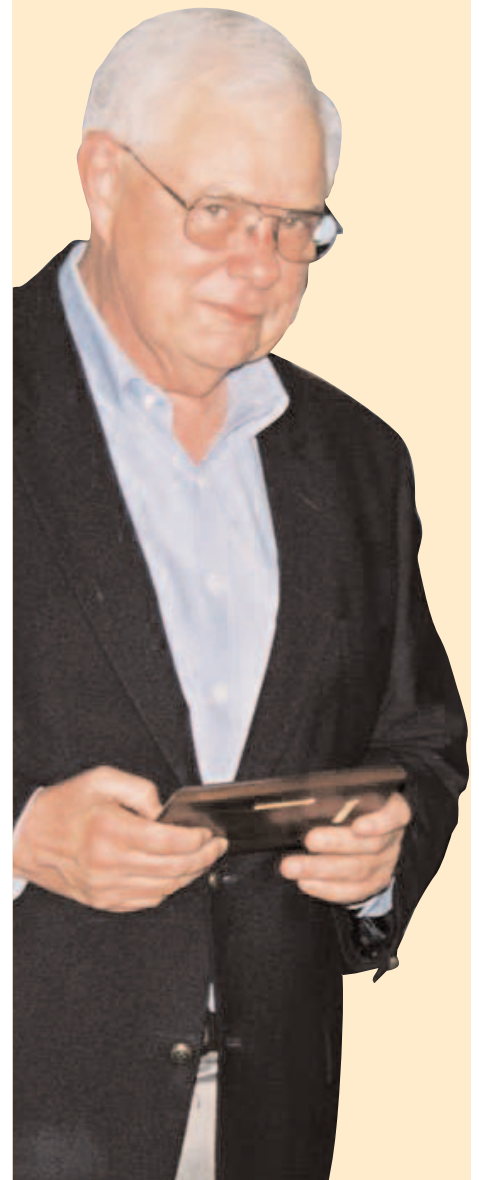
The Decatur Education Foundation has teamed up with SAFECO Insurance and the Oakhurst Community Garden Project (OCGP) to create a National Wildlife Federation Certified Schoolyard Habitat on the campus of Oakhurst Elementary School. Oakhurst teacher

Margaret Hatch and Claire Miller from OCGP are leading the two-year project. Teachers, students, parents, and Oakhurst community members will all play a role in designing, planting, and maintaining the habitat, which will serve as an outdoor science classroom for students in grades K-3 at Oakhurst. If you are interested in volunteering your time and/or talents to the project, please contact the school at 404-370-4470.



FOUNDATION FRIENDS

John Joyner is a respected Decatur attorney who has had a great deal of experience working with non-profit organizations. When he was approached about helping the board of directors in their effort to develop formal spending and investment policies for the foundation, he did not hesitate. He enthusiastically gave of his time and talent to assist the foundation in establishing sound policies and practices that will serve us well for many years to come.



Pounding the Pavement for Kids

The foundation's annual 5K road race and fun run was reinvented and reinvigorated in 2005 thanks to the work of a great steering committee. The annual springtime race has become a signature event for the Decatur

Education Foundation, and the committee felt the race needed a new name that would capture the spirit of the race and entice people to participate. They decided to call it the TOUR deCATUR, a title fitting for a foot race that takes participants on a beautiful (sometimes challenging) route through Decatur's neighborhoods and past five of seven Decatur schools, where spectators gathered to cheer them on.

Participation in the race doubled as many of Decatur's schools mobilized teams of students, teachers, and parents to run or walk the race together in support of the foundation. Thanks to their participation, along with the many other runners from around the metro area, the race raised more than \$8,000 for the Decatur Education Foundation.

We'd like to thank the following for working to ensure the success of TOUR deCATUR 2005:

SPONSORS

Gold Sponsors

The Bird Team – Coldwell Banker
Emilie Market – ReMax
Ra-Lin and Associates

Silver Sponsors

Dorough and Dorough, LLC

Bronze Sponsors

Agnes Scott College
Bill Adams, Adams Realty
Bill Market, CLU Insurance
Decatur Hospital
Frank Anderson, Edward Jones Investments
New Beginning Full Gospel Baptist Church
Sharian
Twain's Billiards and Tap
Universal Joint

Many thanks to One Step at a Time and Phidippides for supplying \$100 gift certificates for overall winners; to the Junior League of DeKalb County, the Decatur-DeKalb YMCA, and City Schools of Decatur PTAs for providing wonderful volunteers; and to the Decatur Police Department for their assistance in designing and securing the race route.

SAVE THE DATE

TOUR deCATUR 2006

Fourth annual 5K road race and one mile fun run to benefit the Decatur Education Foundation
March 18, 2006 • 8 a.m. start in front of Decatur High School

Registration fees received by March 10:
\$18 adults / \$15 CSD employees / \$12 children under 18

Online registration available in 2006 at
www.rungeorgia.com and www.active.com

Race Steering Committee

Sherri Breunig
Sara Joiner
Kristen Karably
Emilie Markert
Anne Moore
Mandy Peters
Pat Solomon
Kira Wilsterman

TOUR deCATUR

5K Road Race/Walk and One Mile Fun Run/Walk



Low Country Boil Raises \$10,000

DEF's second annual Low Country Boil fundraiser held in November was a smashing success! Hosted by Decatur residents Paula Collins and Julie Scher at their Great Lakes home, the event included celebrity chefs Fred Boykin and Bill Floyd along with live music by the Atlanta Swamp Opera. Thanks to the generosity of sponsors and participants, the event raised \$10,000 for the I. Love to Read Book Club fund, which is used to help put books into the hands and homes of disadvantaged children.

We'd like to thank the following event sponsors: Emilie Markert, Maven Resources, Pearl Protected, Sheila Hunt Architects, Jaunt, Decatur First Bank, Dr. Barbara Rubin, Karafotias Realty Co., and Pat Gibson.



FOUNDATION FRIENDS

Katie Pederson and **Alvin McNeeley** both turned 40 years old this year – Katie in January and Alvin in August. Instead of giving each other a special gift, they decided to use the money to throw themselves a big party. They chose to hold the party in March, halfway between their two special days and hosted more than 150 people for a special evening of food, spirits, and blue grass music at the Solarium.

While making their plans, it occurred to them that their “gift” to each other would be even more meaningful if it could become a gift to the community. In lieu of gifts, they asked their friends and family members to make a donation to the Decatur Education Foundation in their honor. As of August 2005, the event has raised more than \$3,000 that will be used to provide educational enrichment opportunities for children and youth in Decatur.



Honor Roll of Supporters

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