



GACC performs high school musical, "Oklahoma"

Guardian Angels Central Catholic produced a joint high school musical titled "Oklahoma" with West Point-Beemer earlier this spring. The musical was held at the West Point Community Theatre. Above: Singing a song is Curly, played by Noah Hass.

GACC takes the stage in musical "Oklahoma"



Gabi Goeden plays Ado Annie.



Andrew Franzluebbers plays the role of Carnes.



Will Parker (Tobias Steffensmeier) sings a solo. Also in the scene Anna Wooldrik (far left) as Aunt Eller and Brianna Peatrowsky (far right), who played the role of Ike/Fred/Austin/Mike.

Songs of spring at GACC school concert

Guardian Angels Central Catholic held its annual Spring music concert earlier this spring. The concert featured members for the school band and vocal groups. Playing flute during the concert in the GACC 5th-6th grade band was Julianne Ridder (right) and Annabella Foster.



Class of 2019

GACC bids farewell to 25 seniors

- Anastasia Acone: daughter of Emilio and Kinzia Acone, (host family: Tom and Karen Kreikemeier)
 Carter Arduser: son of Robert and Diane Arduser
 Jack Baumert: son of Tyler and Denise Baumert
 Madelyn Bracht: daughter of Kurt and Angela Bracht
 Dylan Duhsman: son of Greg and Brenda Duhsman
 Josie Dvorak: daughter of Dean and Tammy Dvorak
 Andrew Franzluebbbers: son of James and Carol Franzluebbbers
 William Gnad: son of David and Laurie Gnad
 Gabrielle Goeden: daughter of Tony and Marcie Goeden
 Bryson Grimm: son of Jason and Lea Grimm
 Hannah Hrbek: daughter of Doug and Ann Hrbek
 Angela Jansen: daughter of Matthew and Tarah Jansen
 Ross Klitz: son of Chris and Angi Klitz
 Will Kreikemeier: son of Todd and Leslie Kreikemeier
 Alison Meiergerd: daughter of Vincent and Vicki Meiergerd
 Jared Minnick: son of Jason and Becky Minnick
 Alisen Niewohner: daughter of Steve and Jen Niewohner
 Allyson Plagge: daughter of Tim and Joan Plagge
 Jadyne Smeal: son of Bryan Smeal and Andrea Ristau
 Tyson Snodgrass: son of Alan and Holly Snodgrass
 Landon Stalp: son of Ron and JoDene Stalp
 Xavier Steffensmeier: son of Ryan and Charissa Steffensmeier
 Hunter Uhing: son of Kevin and Lisa Uhing
 Joshua Wordekemper: son of Jerry and Sara Wordekemper
 Nate Yosten: son of Bob and Deb Yosten

For photos from the GACC graduation, check out the Summer Edition, which comes out in June.

BIRTHS

- Karmen (Emanuel) '08 & Andy Dickes son Dean Matthew DOB 8/3/18
 James '00 & Stacy Kreikemeier daughter Grace Lynn DOB 4/3/19
 Tim '99 & Elsa Otte son Gregory William DOB 4/23/19
 Chelsea (Franzluebbbers) '08 & Taylor Werner son Hank David DOB 4/18/19

WEDDINGS

- Emily Ridder '09 & Ryan Mascarello married on 4/27/19
 Rebecca Oligmueller '09 & Chad Miller married on 5/4/19
 Marissa Franzluebbbers '13 & Jake Werner married on 5/10/19

DEATHS

- ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM O LORD
 Richard Kreikemeier '58 DOD 3/29/19
 Mary (Reichlinger) Schmaderer '46 DOD 4/19/19
 Jolene (Nebuda) Donaldson '58 DOD 4/27/19

Lots of thanks at Blue Ribbon Dinner

By Delores Meister

The prevailing attitude of the Blue Ribbon Dinner was a joyful celebration of humble gratitude. From the opening prayer sung by Judy Perry accompanied by Mike Knobbe “thanks” resounded from all of the speakers as the diners responded.

MC Kylie Kreikemeier Kai ('00) extended the welcome to the 37th annual Blue Ribbon Dinner as she thanked 280 GACC supporters for their annual attendance. The attendees recognized Louis Luebert, (age 99), who died last week, for his lifelong support of his alma mater and specifically noted Luebert had attended all 36 previous occasions and “was certainly here tonight in spirit.”

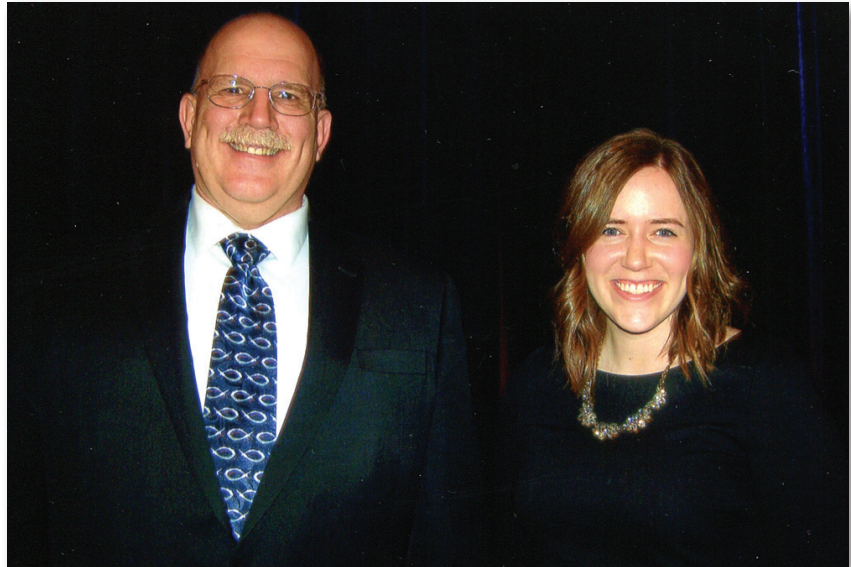
Principal Kate Hegeman reported the outlook as a growing enrollment to 419. The school has added a campus minister and the Kindle program, and is adding an assistant elementary principal.

She stressed the GACC goals which is “more than making a living but making a life.” Hagemann recognized the school was built on and flourished because of the generosity of multi-generations over 130 years.

Omaha Archdiocesan Superintendent of Catholic Schools Dr. Ashland said “West Point is a unique blend of all that is best of the rural and urban schools. He thanked the people, and the staff. Guardian Angels was the first coed Catholic School in Nebraska.

“Our first priority is getting kids into Heaven,” Dr. Ashland said.

Deacon Leon Gentrup, Norfolk, '81 alum spoke of his Catholic education being a part of his life.



Guest speaker Leon Gentrup and MC Kylie (Kreikemeier) Kai.

Pat Knobbe reported on the endowment funds and thanked those with the foresight to establish and have continued contributed to this fund.

Father Steve Emanuel said of the added security to the buildings and the playground. “This is a family of Faith, a family of multi-generations who have sustained Catholic education in their hearts.”

A standing ovation of respect and gratitude was given to the four Franciscan Sisters present, ---Sisters Joy Rose, Sister Elizabeth Ann Miller, Sister Patricia Linssen and Sister Kay Warning.

The Franciscan Sisters are celebrating their 150th year since their founding, having served Guardian Angels Schools as it opened in 1885, when the Sisters arrived from Wisconsin to teach the children of the European immigrants and

have continued for 133 years.

GENTRUP SPEAKS HIGHLY OF CC

Alumni guest speaker Deacon Leon Gentrup ('81) after high school enrolled with five Central Catholic friends into Northeast Community College.

Gentrup was in the building construction program until a scaffolding fall changed his major from building construction to data processing. But his life followed a building blueprint formed in the Catholic school.

“The things that really stood out can be summed up with the words: foundation, sacrifice, gratitude, and life. Your parents are the footings, the foundation, your first teachers,” Gentrup said as he expressed gratitude to them,

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

JayFest May 31, 2019

Alumni Banquet June 1, 2019

JayFest June 5, 2020

Alumni Banquet June 6, 2020

BLUE RIBBON:

FROM PAGE 4

recognizing his mother who was present.

“On that foundation, the Catholic school formed a steady structure of building blocks by day to day experiences. The mortar that holds it all together is the sacrifices demanded,” he added, thanking parents who sacrificed to pay for their children’s education, and thanking the teachers who could earn higher salaries elsewhere.

“Catholic education teaches not only how to make a living, but how to make a life,” he said.

At a Norfolk parish event, then pastor Father Harold Buse, (a Guardian Angels alum) told him to join the Knights of Columbus. It was something to do some day, then why not now?

Becoming an active Knight was, to his surprise, the stepping stones to Grand Knight. Along the way he and his wife supported the Catholic school, taught CCD, faith formation, confirmation, classes, worked with teen groups, in the godparenting program in the church and today do marriage preparation. Activities were how to make a life.

At one point, Gentrup said he was mildly shocked when his sister-in-law asked him if he had thought about becoming a deacon. At a later occasion his Mother asked him the same question, and his mother told him he would be a good deacon. It took a push. Four years later, in 2017, Gentrup was ordained a deacon.

Gentrup is employed as an IT by the City of Norfolk. He is married with two children. His family are members of St. Mary’s Parish, Norfolk. Today he is serving God as he serves the Norfolk parish.

“Through my Catholic education I had the self-confidence to do all of those things,” Gentrup said. “I am very proud to be an alumni of Central Catholic.”

Revelation of riches

By Fr. Steve Emanuel

“The greatest good you can do for another is not just to share your riches but to reveal to him his own.” - Benjamin Disraeli

We are truly indebted to the foresight of those who in December of 1981 established the endowments for St. Mary, Guardian Angels and Central Catholic, and we have been blessed by the generous commitment of so many patrons who willingly sacrifice to support these endowments.

Because of your selfless commitment to Catholic education, the funds from these accounts help Guardian Angels Central Catholic fulfill its mission of helping each of our students reach their fullest potential by learning and leading through Christ.

Every spring at our Blue Ribbon Dinner we share information regarding our endowments but we realize that all Bluejays

are not able to flock to the Nest so we would like to take this opportunity to share the good news of your faithful stewardship.

December 1981 to December 2018 - Balance

CC: (Then) \$30,000; (Now) \$4,025,650.69

GA: (Then) \$419,999.67; (Now) \$3,515,458

St. Mary: (Then) \$1,003; (Now) \$1,289,285

As of December 2018, because of the generosity of so many benefactors, the faithful stewards of the Endowment Board have been able to disburse over \$8.6 million in support of Catholic education.

CC = \$3,224,250.38

GA = \$3,648,787.20;

St. Mary = \$1,756,779.30

By God’s grace and your willing participation we pray that GACC will continue to be a beacon of faith in our communities for years to come.

GREAT DAY TO BE A BLUEJAY ALUMNI ANNUAL APPEAL

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the inception of the Annual Alumni Appeal, and it is difficult to express the powerful impact that this drive has had on Guardian Angels Central Catholic over the past decade.

The funds generated by the faithful and proud members of BlueJay Nation have allowed us to address the needs of our community that might not otherwise have been met due to budgetary constraints.

While the list of spiritual, academic and physical improvements that have been secured by this appeal are too numerous to document in this brief article, we do want to thank you for your faithful support and offer

a brief summary of the past ten years.

- 5/9-5/10 = \$22,280
- 5/10-4/11 = \$17,437.82
- 5/11-4/12 = \$5,823
- 5/12-4/13 = \$14,008
- 5/13-4/14 = \$21,208.66
- 5/14-4/15 = \$16,635
- 5/15-4/16 = \$22,121
- 5/16-3/17 = \$23,276
- 5/17-2/18 = \$25,598
- 2/18-2/19 = \$29,182.77

As of the first month of the 2019-2020 Appeal we have already received \$16,925!

Thank you for your continued and faithful support of Catholic education at Guardian Angels Central Catholic. You are clearly a reminder of why it’s a great day to be a Bluejay!



GACC lends helping hand for clean-up

Approximately 25,000 sand bags were filled and placed around West Point's levee system in March when flooding hit Nebraska. Recently, those sand bags were cleaned up and GACC students played a large hand in that as several students volunteered to help. Above: GACC's Blake Pojar tosses a sand bag. Also helping out is Coy Kreikemeier.

Senior places at state golf

GACC senior Andrew Franzluebbbers closed out his high school career by medaling at the 2019 Class C State Golf tourney



held at Kearney earlier this month.

Franzluebbbers tied for 15th place overall with an 84. Andrew became just the second golfer in the history of the Bluejay golf program to be a four-time state qualifier.

Cuming County beef served at GACC School

By Delores Meister

Cuming County Beef is what is for dinner at GACC hot lunches the first Wednesday of each month for 360 kids from GACC and 90 students from St. Paul's Lutheran who eat hot school-day lunches at GACC.

Once a month the special menu is Cuming Counties' best product, the product for which it is famous.

It is locally owned, fed, processed BEEF donated to all the schools in the county by Cuming County Beef Producers and other businesses.

The six workers at the Guardian Angels Cafeteria prepare beef as burgers, sloppy joes, many hamburger dishes. Kids and adults love it.

P2T classes being offered at GACC

By Delores Meister

High School class choices for August of 2019, GACC High School Counselor Leslie Kreikemeier is excited to tell about the many class offerings to juniors and seniors through the 2018 instigated Pathways to Tomorrow program.

Four 2019 graduates interested in medical careers, Maddie Bracht, Ally Plagge, Hannah Hrbek, and Andrew Franzluebbbers, received their CNA's, a pre-requisite for many nursing schools.

They Included beginning P2T classes in the Fall of 2018 in the former Beemer Public School building.

Seven students in construction for the 2018-2019 school year built sheds, kennels, and even a garage for local homeowners.

For the upcoming August of 2019, Kreikemeier reports more than 20 students have already signed up for Pathways 2 Tomorrow classes.

So what is Pathways to Tomorrow and how does this work?

Kreikemeier said vocational or trade school courses are available for students not planning for four years of college in their future.

They may graduate from high school with skills to be immediately employable, giving them a jump

start in the job market earning a respectable wage. Or they may want to earn some money before college. Or they could have a head start in their freshmen year at college.

Pathways 2 Tomorrow is a partnership between Wayne State College, Northeast Community College, Educational Service Unit #2. And eight area high schools: West Point-Beemer, Bancroft-Rosalie, Tekamah-Herman, Howells-Dodge, Wisner-Pilger, Emerson-Hubbard, Lyons-Decatur and Pender.

These offerings are vocational courses not affordable or offered in each local high school but available with funds pooled together. Students can be employable with professional skills upon high school graduation.

GACC students are included in the offerings of Pathways 2 Tomorrow vocation skills and classes through West Point-Beemer Public School.

Junior and senior high school students are offered dual-credit high school/college credit in health sciences, computer sciences, welding and manufacturing and building construction. College credit courses would require college tuition.

GACC students will be offered classes down the street five blocks away. Students from area schools will be bused to the education center sites.

West Point's Northeast Community College is the site of the health science and computer science classes. A complete replica of a hospital room and hospital machines and equipment are here.

Health science courses will give a student a CNA, or certified nursing certificate, an EMT certificate, medication aide certificate and more. Upon graduation, they could immediately be employed in a health care home.

The newly constructed Donald E. Nielsen Career and Technical Education Center offers state of the art classrooms for teaching welding, construction and manufacturing. Plans are to add CDL driving courses.

Judith Scherer Conneally ('70), Wayne State College director of continuing education and outreach, spoke at the April 11 dedication of the Donald E. Nielsen Career and Technical Education Center, praising "the collaborative efforts of working together for those whom we serve in our communities."



GACC's state track qualifiers were, from left, Sophia Hass, Angela Jansen, Noah Hass, Paige Rolf and Greta Vering.

GACC enjoy success at state track meet

GACC qualified five athletes for the 2019 State Track and Field meet held at Omaha Burke in May. All five brought home a state medal.

Noah Hass took 7th place in the 110 hurdles. He also ran the 300 hurdles.

Greta Vering, Paige Rolf, Angela Jansen and Sophia Hass all placed 5th in the 4x4 relay. Rolf and Hass also competed in long jump, while Jansen was a state triple jumper.

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