



MAROA-FORSYTH DISTRICT FOUNDATION

presents a

COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

Master of Ceremonies Matt Hall

Welcome..... Dr. Kris Kahler

Showing the Present..... Brice Stewart

On My Own (Les Miserables) sung by Katie Beller

Honoring the Past Matt Hall

Induction of the Class of 2022 Hall of Fame

Florence Berry

Walter Boyd and Family

Ken Chalcraft

Doug Faulkner

Dick Irvin

Kevin Koslofski

Robert "Robo" Kreps

Lonny McClung

Amber Patton

Fred Thompson

1956-57 Boys Basketball Sweet 16 Team

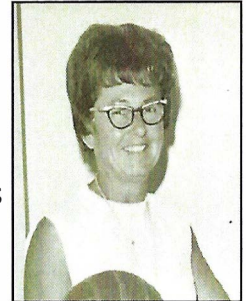
2006 Football 2A State Championship Team

2006-07 Boys Basketball Class A State Championship Team

Looking to the Future Mike Mandrell

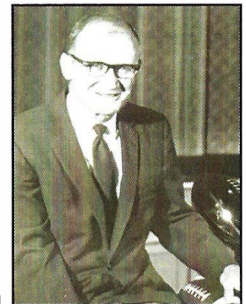
FLORENCE BERRY

Florence Lucille Longsdorf Berry is being recognized for her many attributes as well as her positive impacts on Maroa-Forsyth High School students and the surrounding communities. A graduate of Maroa High School in 1938, Florence enjoyed school and all that athletics could provide young men and women. In June of 1944, she married William F. Berry. Florence became the Lovington High School girls P.E. coach for two years, and then in 1947, she became the Maroa-Forsyth HS girls P.E. teacher for some 25 years. During her time at MFHS, Florence formed the Maroa-Forsyth Girls Athletic Association in order to provide extra-curricular athletic opportunities for young women. In the early 50's, these activities included swimming lessons at the Decatur YWCA, intramural basketball, and archery. The athletic opportunities, skills, and confidence that Florence provided for young women was invaluable. In December of 2000, Florence passed away in her home in Maroa at the age of 79.



WALTER BOYD AND FAMILY

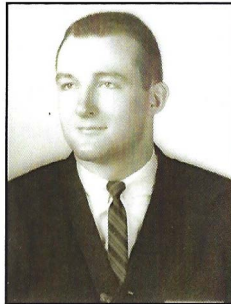
Walter Boyd came to Maroa in 1948 and became a devoted teacher and coach who absolutely loved each and every day of his teaching career. He taught for the district from 1948 until he passed away in December of 1971. His daughters, Tina and Suzy, attended Maroa-Forsyth schools from first grade through high school graduation, and his daughter Becky attended through her sophomore year. Tina and Becky followed in their father's footsteps and became successful school teachers in Illinois and Missouri. Suzy served as a hospital administrator in Chicago, as well as an assistant professor in the School of Public Health at USC. Because the Maroa-Forsyth School District has such a special place in the hearts of the entire Boyd family, they decided to create a scholarship foundation to provide assistance to MFHS graduates. To date, the Walter Boyd Scholarship has awarded nearly \$225,000 to forty-five different Maroa-Forsyth students since its inception in 2007.





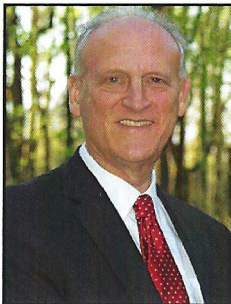
KEN CHALCRAFT

Ken Chalcraft attended Maroa High School from 1954 to 1957 where he was a member of the Maroa Basketball Team and Band. Following his education at the University of Illinois and the University of Tennessee, Ken committed to the US Army through the ROTC program, serving in the US and Korea. His service and achievements earned him the rank of captain. After the service, Ken worked for Caterpillar and several other corporations in Denver, Colorado, eventually entering the private sector with his own consulting firm and is recognized as a North American industry expert in the heavy equipment industry. Ken continued his love of sports from high school by playing and coaching on several amateur basketball and softball teams throughout his life. Ken passed away on March 9, 2019, in South Carolina at the age of eighty.



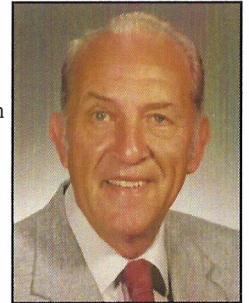
DOUG FAULKNER

Doug Faulkner graduated from Maroa-Forsyth High School in 1972 and was a member of the basketball team, track team, band, and the school play. After graduation, Doug went on to Danville Junior College, the University of Illinois, Johns Hopkins University, and the University of Singapore, an opportunity awarded through a Rotary International Scholarship. After thirty years of advancing in the CIA and serving as a senior advisor to Secretaries of Energy, Doug went on to work under President George W. Bush in positions regarding energy and agriculture. An advocate for clean technologies, Doug has started a global consulting business, focusing on clean energy for Scandinavia. He was brought back into the government sector when the Governor of Virginia appointed him as the Commonwealth's Offshore Wind Development Authority and the U.S. Secretaries of Energy and Agriculture appointed him as the co-chair of the Biomass Research and Development Technical Advisory Committee. Doug and his wife Polly reside in Arlington, Virginia, where his Midwest values of dedication, diligence, principles, and faith continue to serve and impact his life.



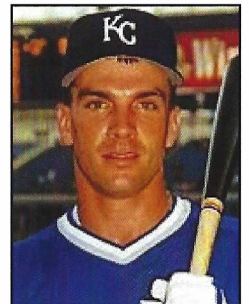
DICK IRVIN

Richard "Dick" Irvin was a Maroa High School graduate from the Class of 1942. After proudly serving his country in the US Navy, Dick returned with his bride Marian to Maroa to continue his education at Millikin University and Eastern Illinois University. Dick became a teacher and basketball coach in 1950 at Kenney High School before completely returning to the Maroa-Forsyth School District as the Maroa Elementary School principal. In 1964, Dick was appointed superintendent of the Maroa-Forsyth School District, a position he proudly served in until 1986. Dick's retirement allowed him to spend more time with family and friends as he was a devoted father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. Dick's legacy as an educator and administrator made a profound impact on everyone whose lives connected with his. Dick passed away in 2009.



KEVIN KOSLOFSKI

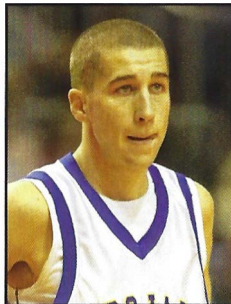
Kevin Koslofski is a 1984 graduate of Maroa-Forsyth High School. Some of his fondest memories were made playing high school athletics. After high school, he attended Richland Community College for two years, but continued to pursue his dream of playing professional baseball. In 1992, his dream became reality when he was signed by the Kansas City Royals. After the Royals, Kevin played one season for the Milwaukee Brewers. Currently, Kevin is a successful financial advisor, and he resides in Decatur with his wife, Michelle, and their three children, Gabbie, Kemper, and Kolby. He is a proud father and husband, but one who feels blessed to have had the support and encouragement from people such as his parents, his high school coaches, and Bubba Nix, who inspire him even today to be the best person he can be.





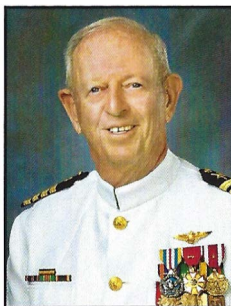
ROBERT "ROBO" KREPS

Robert "Robo" Kreps attended Maroa-Forsyth High School from 2003-2007. During his time at MFHS, Robo had the unique privilege of experiencing two high school State Championships in the same school year. In the fall of 2006, he was a receiver for the MFHS State Champions, and in the spring of 2007, he helped bring home the State Championship trophy in basketball. Robo was an integral part of each team's success. After graduation, he played Division I basketball for the UIC Flames while earning his degree. At the end of his college career, his desire to play basketball continued, so he utilized his skills abroad in Georgia and Slovakia. Currently, Robo lives with his wife, Ashton Kreps, in Nashville, Tennessee. He is a high school PE teacher and basketball coach for a small school just outside of Nashville.



LONNY MCCLUNG

Retired U.S. Navy Captain Lonny K. McClung was a 1957 graduate of Maroa High School. During his time at Maroa, Lonny participated in football, track, and basketball. Following graduation, Lonny went to the University of Illinois and commissioned with the NROTC allowing him to pursue a Masters in Administrative Science. Lonny was deployed to Vietnam three times and participated in 250 missions and over 1000 carrier landings. Lonny became the Chief of Staff Atlantic Fleet Commander and was a commanding officer for four different aviation units including TOPGUN. After retirement, Lonny served in various positions such as the President Emeritus of the USN Tailhook Association, helping restore recognition to that organization, and the Director of Strike and Amphibious War Fighting Requirements as part of the Staff of the Chief of Naval Operations for the Pentagon. Lonny and his wife Audrey reside in Phoenix where he enjoys spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren Spencer, Shane, Sarah, Max, and Karoline.



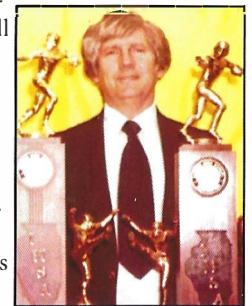
AMBER PATTON

After graduating Maroa-Forsyth in 2005, Amber continued her softball career at DePaul University where she was a two time NCAA All-American and had the second highest batting average in 2009. Amber played in the Women's College World Series and also was a member of the 2009 Gold Medal Team USA at the Japan Cup. Amber's softball prowess earned her a spot on the Chicago Bandits in 2009 where she earned Team Honors, Co-Defensive Player of the Year, Most Stolen Bases, and the NPF Cowles Cup Champion. Amber's jersey was retired with the Chicago Bandits in 2019. Amber and her spouse live in Chicago.



FRED THOMPSON

Fred Thompson was a football and baseball coach for the Maroa-Forsyth Trojans. Although he had a number of successful seasons in the 70's, he is better known for taking his football team to the State Championship Title Game twice during the 80's, where they finished runner-up on both occasions. What players seem to remember the most about Thompson is his attention to detail and his strong belief in discipline. Although he often used a stern voice to get his message through to his players, he spoke with the intent of making his players better... better competitors and even better individuals. Thompson would eventually be inducted into the Illinois Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame, in recognition of his coaching achievements. Later, he moved to Dothan, Alabama, where his battle with cancer would end his life here on Earth at the age of eighty.





1956-57 SWEET 16 BOY'S BASKETBALL- 29-3

The 1956-57 Maroa-Forsyth boys basketball team was the Cinderella story of the state that year. The Trojans advanced in the one class system to the IHSA Sweet 16. The Trojans won a then school record 29 games with only 3 defeats. Having a blanching scoring attack, the Trojans of Maroa won their first regional championship. LeRoy was swamped in the first round game, 84-80; Bloomington, who was co-champs of the Big 12 Conference, fell 86-62, and then the Trojans thumped Argenta 82-57. During the regionals the Trojans were led by Gary McClung who scored 55 points, Ken Chalcraft had 54, and Jim "Butch" Brown 52. Gary and Ken also led the team in rebounds with 44 and 39, respectively. In the Decatur Sectional, The Trojans used a big second half rally to defeat Taylorville 57-54. This rally was led by Fred Staudt. Ken Chalcraft, Jim "Butch" Brown and the McClung brothers, Gary and Lonnie, all helped in the comeback effort. In the Sectional Championship, the Trojans faced highly regarded and rival Warrensburg-Latham. Trailing entering the second half, the Trojans fought valiantly to take a one point lead on a pair of free throws from Dick Thomas with four minutes to go in the game. The Trojans pulled away from there to win 59-50 and advance to the Sweet 16. The Trojans fell to Champaign High by one point in the Supersectional. Ken Chalcraft, Jim "Butch" Brown, and the McClung brothers all scored in double digits for the Trojans. The Trojans were down six entering the 4th quarter, and as they had all season, fought to the bitter end to come up just short.



2006-07 STATE CHAMPION BOY'S BASKETBALL- 33-1

Maroa-Forsyth's "Band of Brothers" was hungry for a return to the IHSA State Tournament, as the Cinderella story 3rd place finish the season prior left them wanting to achieve the top trophy. Battling in the tough Okaw Valley Conference, Coach Cluver's crew took first place in the Okaw Conference Tournament. They shared in a three way tie for the conference season title with Warrensburg-Latham and Monticello. Accompanied by conference mates, Central A&M and Monticello, the Trojans worked their way to the Sweet 16. Winning the historic Macon County Tournament and nearby St. Teresa Holiday Tournament, Maroa hit a late season bump in the road and a well-timed lesson in their only loss of the year to Monticello. Fortified in their dedication to hard work, and most importantly, to each other, the "brothers" stepped it up in a huge way when All-State player Robert "Robo" Kresp was sidelined with an emergency appendectomy. The guys were "all in" and delivered an incredible win at the ISU Redbird Arena, launching themselves back to Peoria. A recovering Robo rejoined the team just one week after surgery. The teams' trust in each other brought a double overtime victory in the semi-finals against a superbly coached Teutopolis club. In the waning minutes of their nailbiter against Chicago North Lawndale, the Trojans clinched the win their trademark defense, taking home the #1 hardware from the last Class A contest in Illinois.



2006 STATE CHAMPION FOOTBALL- 14-0

Rallying around the motto of “Unfinished Business”, the Josh Jostes led 2006 Maroa-Forsyth Trojan Football team looked to avenge a second round upset loss in 2005. The Trojans opened the season at Shelbyville and crushed the Rams 66-14, which predicted what would happen throughout the year. The closest game of the year was a 34-14 thumping of St. Teresa in week 3 which announced the Trojans intentions for the rest of the season. The team rolled to a 9-0 regular season record while scoring 453 points for an average of 50.3 points per game. Meanwhile the defense only allowed 65 total points for an average of 7.2 points per game. The dominance continued into the playoffs as the Trojans defeated Central A&M, Williamsville, Rushville, and Casey Westfield by an average score of 47 to 8. In the state championship game, the Trojans defeated the Westville Tigers, 43-22. Normally highlighted by the offense, the special teams recovered the opening onside kick of the second half to swing the momentum in favor of the Trojans and the team was unstoppable from that point on, and winning the first state championship of any kind for Maroa-Forsyth. Luke Hockaday led the team in passing with 2,844 yards and 39 passing touchdowns. Shane Conaway led the team with 38 rushing touchdowns, and Robert Kreps led all receivers with 1,575 yards and 26 touchdowns. The line, led by Andrew Mills and Dustin Moore, dominated each team they faced, and the defense was nearly impenetrable.

THE COMMUNITY CELEBRATION COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE FOR ALL OF THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS. WITHOUT THEIR HELP, THIS EVENING WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE.

Phil Applebee for having the vision to start this tradition and giving their time and talents to making it a success.

Matt Hall for agreeing to be our Master of Ceremonies.

Riya Parekh, Class of 2020, who designed the logo for the Foundation.

Christopher Weisenborn and Katie Beller, Class of 2022, for the preview to the Spring Musical.

Jason Doty and Josie Luedke for capturing the essence of our inductees in their bios.

Cassie Crouch and her students for the beautiful table decorations.

Chase Mitchell, Class of 2021, and Jack Applebee, Class of 2021, for designing and making the Hall of Fame Plaques.

Tammy Morrison for the delicious cupcakes.

Jason Queen and Wallender-Dedman Printing for the programs.

The Decatur Park District

Kelly Ritter for her willingness to make this event a reality.

MFSD ARCHIVES

Forsyth resident, Tina Horve, began working on an ambitious project to preserve the history of Maroa-Forsyth Schools. She has spent countless hours collecting artifacts, cataloging them, and then digitizing them to share with all of us. If you have artifacts that you would like to donate to the collection, visit them on Facebook at MF School Archives or visit the website <http://MFSchoolArchives.com/>

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