#### LEWISTON-PORTER ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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2011 Scholarships

1983 Football **Captains** 

**Nomination Form Dis**tinguished Alumni

Hall of Fame **Inductees** 

**Memory Bricks** 

**Dennis Brochey** 

Middle School by **Alex Gentile** 

Raby Race

# Alumni News

**VOLUME IV** 

ISSUE 3

JULY 2011

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

#### **Greetings Lewiston-Porter**

#### **Alumni and Friends**

How is our Alma Mater doing? Are we answering the bell in graduation rates and other indices that characterize a top notch school system? Specifically, are we graduating students prepared to follow you into higher education, the armed forces, parenthood or employment?

Against a backdrop of NYS overall having graduation rates of about 70% and major cities graduating about 50%, in 2011 Lew-Port graduated 100%. On a broader level Lew-Port School District rankings by Business First continue to climb having progressed from #27 in 2005 to #10 out of 97 in Western New York in 2011. The High School now ranks #14 out of 131 schools. Impressive!

Why? Certainly dedicated teachers, coaches, and staff (at all four schools): a dedicated superintendent and school board, active Lew-Port clubs and groups, and a community providing the financial and leadership resources to embrace excellence in education.

From my personal, almost daily contact at Lew-Port, I would also highlight the leadership of our H.S. Principal, Mr. Paul Casseri who has been at Lew-Port since 2005.

Your Lew-Port Alumni Association is proud to be another factor that since 2007 has been supporting students, teachers, families, and otherwise encouraging alumni and the community to "aim higher" in pursuit of excellence.

Uniquely, your Lew-Port Alumni Association supports Lew-Port Schools at multiple levels, and with a full menu of varied programs. For example, at the Primary School (and Intermediate, Middle and High

School) we are making a direct impact in classrooms through sponsorship of teacher mini-grants for innovative teaching aids and devices. At the high school for four years we have sponsored and participated in Freshman Orientation each August. Later at the H.S. we bring back scores of alumni under our Distinguished Alumni program as role models speaking directly with students and motivating them for academic excellence and career opportunities.

We also work with the outstanding Air Force JROTC program, the new Academy of International Business and Finance, and other school activities. We are there at commencement providing an "Alumni Charge" to graduates...and significantly helping many graduates leave ArtPark with funds for college by awarding scholarships directly or in partnership with class year groups, families, school groups, and local businesses....12 scholarships in 2011 alone, totaling \$9,500.

Collectively these alumni programs are playing a role in Lew-Port becoming a premier school.

Many of you are members of the Alumni Association and supporters of our various programs...so you can take pride in helping Lew school.

Thank you and please do remember..."Once a Lancer, always a Lancer."

Jack James '58 President

Go Lancers! As you are reading our newsletter, I can only hope you are in a hammock under a sprawling shade tree. cold drink in hand, trying to beat the heat. Well, it is summer after all, so we better not complain those 20 ° below wind chills of February are not that far

DEAR ALUMNI,

A beautiful night at Artpark on June 24, 2011 brought an end to the 2010-11 school year. At our 60th Commencement exercise all 191 seniors were able to call themselves graduates of Lewiston-Porter High School. Having 100% of our students graduate is a high accomplishment. With so many districts around the state and country struggling with graduation rates, it is a tribute to our faculty, staff and most importantly to our parents and school community that we are able to see such commitment by our students for their education. We have often heard the saying, "it takes a village" to raise a child. This is very true! The communities of Lewiston, Youngstown and Ransomville are very special indeed. A caring, positive community is reflected in a successful and focused K-12 school system; Lewiston-Porter is such a place.

Business First of WNY was out in early June with its annual ranking of schools. Again this year as a school -Port become such an excellent and as a district, we were able to see gains in our ranking. As a school we are now ranked 14 out of 135 schools (up from 20<sup>th</sup> in 2010), both public and private throughout Western New York. As a district we are now ranked 10<sup>th</sup> (up from 11<sup>th</sup> in 2010). These numbers are again indicative of a focused school community where all stakeholders

(Continued on page 3)



The Pieroni's



Kevin Toohey



Gary Baker and Tom "Bogey" Bradshaw

### Reunion Time at Lew-Port



The weekend of July 14-15th saw a lot of Lew-Port alumni come out to connect with fellow classmates. Friday kicked off with the seventh annual "Summer of '69" concert at the Gazebo at 4th and Center Streets.

The concert kicked off at 6 p.m. when the air filled with music from the '60's, 70's, and 80's. Lew-Port alumnus from the class of 1971, song writer and Gammy winner, Gary Baker came to play. Gary performed some of his No. I hit songs: "I swear," "I'm Already There," and "Once Upon a Lifetime."

Gary teamed up with his two sons and former local bandmates to make this a truly unforgettable show. Lewiston's own: County Orphanage, the Invader and the Lewsiton All-Stars began the night of music.

a tour of the old and new high

school by Principal, Paul Casseri and

There was a repeat performance at "The Jug," in Youngstown on Saturday night with another packed parking lot.

Saturday afternoon, Don Hoolihan and committee hosted a multiy year reunion at Water Street Park in Lewiston.

Other events that weekend were



Gary Baker jamming with his sons.



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#### Casseri Continued

(Continued from page 1)

make meaningful contributions to the success of the students. The Lewiston-Porter community has much to be proud of.

International Exchange remains alive and well again in 2011-2012. As I write to you in just a week, I will have the opportunity to travel with 14 students and 2 staff members to our sister school, Liceo Scientifico Statale Enrico Fermi, Padua, Italy. The relationship with E. Fermi High School marks the development of our fifth international partnership. With these relationships in China, Europe and South America we hope to enhance the 21st Century learning opportunities for students at Lewiston-Porter. We feel the development of these exchange partnerships gives our students a leg up as they pursue postsecondary learning experiences and career. There is a direct correlation between the rise of school in the Business First school

nerships. Hats off to Mrs. Amy Townsend, director and to Mr. Marc Cousins, Mr. John Mango and Mrs. Angelika Terzakis for their efforts with our International Exchange

As always we are in busy preparation for the 2011-2012 school year. Once again the Alumni Association will support our Freshmen Orientation Program on August 17th and 18<sup>th</sup>. This partnership between the Alumni Association and our Freshmen Program is now four years in the making. The financial support and presence of LPAA members makes a huge difference in the success of this program.

Well, enjoy the rest of the summer. I hope to see many of you at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual

Jason Raby 5k Run on August 12<sup>th</sup> or at the

Devin Stabley-Conde received the Margaret Tower Distinguished Alumni Ceremony on October 6<sup>th</sup> during Homecoming week. Take care and Go Lancers!

Paul Casseri, Principal

#### 1958 Memorial Scholarship Awards. Representing the rankings and the development of these part- Class of 1958, Edward W. Engel presented each winner with a \$1,000 scholarship. Class of 1958 has



Courtney Corbetta, Tegan Foley, Derek Tucker and Shannon Jeffs

awarded 35 scholarships to Lew-Port graduates beginning in 1994 and plans to continue the tradition in 2012.

#### MARGARET TOWER JAMES FAMILY

James Family Scholarship. Ann Tower Johnston and Janet James Hallahan made the presentation of a \$1,000 scholarship. Devin plans to major in Education at SUNY Geneseo.

This is the third year that the Tower and James families have recognized a Lew -Port gradate planning to pursue a degree in education. The family looks forward to continuing the scholarship in 2012.



#### LPAA SCHOLARSHIP **AWARDS**

At the Senior Recognition Night June 2, 2011 Michael Cuddahee and Hannah Matthews were presented \$1,000 scholarships awarded by Lewiston-Porter Alumni Association. Purposes of the scholarships are to honor deserving Lew-Port Class of 2011 graduates and help defray their continuing education expenses. Additionally, Mackenzie Adamson was presented a \$500 scholarship honoring deceased alumnus Jason Raby. LPAA Vice President Douglas Diez and Board Member Gary J. Raby Sr. presented the scholarship awards recognizing each winner's outstanding academic achievements, extracurricular activities, and community service. Twenty-five students applied making selection very challenging, given the noteworthy accomplishments documented in applicants' transcripts and letters of recommendation from both faculty and community leaders. This is the fourth year Lew-Port Alumni Association has made unrestricted LPAA scholarship awards and the first year for the Jason Raby Memorial Scholarship. LPAA plans to continue offering all three scholarships to Lew-Port Class of 2012.



Doug Diez, Hannah Matthews and Mike Cuddahee, Jr.



Gary Raby, Sr. and Mackenzie Adamson

#### **CLASS OF 1958 MEMORIAL SCHOLAR-**SHIP AWARDS

Courtney Corbetta, Derek Tucker, Shannon Jeffs and Tegan Foley were recipients of the Class of

#### WASTE MANAGEMENT SCHOLARSHIP

Brandon Davis received the \$1,000 Waste Management Scholarship. Representing Waste Management Ms. Lori Casa presented the award to Brandon who plans to major in Environmental Management. Significantly, Waste Management has endowed this scholarship at Lewiston-Porter for presentation annually in perpetuity.

#### PARTNERS in EDUCATION

Kim Kirsch and Anne LeGasse presented the inaugural PIE scholarship awards to Janelle Jakobi and Marc Morreale. Each award is for \$250 and is designated for students enrolling in a two year community college, vocational or trade school. Both recipients were recognized for their excellent academic achievement, extra-curricular activities, and community service spanning several years. PIE plans to continue offering the scholarship in future years.

#### CHRISTOPHER D'ANGELIS MEMORIAL **SCHOLARSHIP**

Brandon Davis was awarded this inaugural \$500 scholarship in memory of deceased alumnus Christopher D'Angelis. . High School Principal Mr. Paul Casseri presented the scholarship which is planned to be continued in 2012.

Commander of the Marine
Corps Gen. James F. Amos
hands of the Marine Corps
Micheal Barrett during a relief
and appointment ceremony at
Marine Barracks Washington
June 9, 2011. Barrett took
charge as the 17th Sergeant
Major of the Marine Corps as
Sgt. Major of the Marine
Corps,

### The Marines' new Sgt. Major

"The Marines in uniform today, every single one of them, had a choice and they all chose to serve. I get to serve them, and I am privileged to get to serve in this capacity," said newly appointed Sgt. Major of the Marine Corps Micheal P. Barrett after he took the reins as the senior enlisted advisor to the Commander of the Marine Corps.

Barrett became the 17th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps during a relief and appointment ceremony June 9 at the Marine Barracks Washington as Sgt. Maj. Carlton W. Kent retired from the Corps. The position of Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps was established in 1957 and was the first such post in any of the branches of the United States Armed Forces.

Barrett praised Kent for his successful tour and said he plans to carry on from where Kent left off—to "work in line with the commandant's priorities and modernize the force. I am going to be focused on all the issues. I'm going to give it all of my effort. I'm going to give it all of my energies, and I'm going to enthusiastically continue to coalesce the team," said Barrett.

Sgt. Maj. Anthony Spadaro said to consider the appointment of Barrett a warning order-"everyone better bring their 'A-game' when he's around." Spadaro was the sergeant major of 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward), a unit recently deployed to Afghanistan that supported Barrett and his Marines when conducting combat operation in Helmand province. "Duty is not just a sublime word to Sgt. Maj. Barrett. It's everything to him," said Spadaro. "We're talking about a transcendental Marine who's ideal for the part." "The man is a war fighter," said Kent, describing Barrett. "And, he's a leader. The Marine Corps is in great shape because of leaders that we have."

In addition to a leader of Marines in a combat zone, Barrett was a sniper early

in his career, made Marines as a drill instructor, and led Marines on the forward edge of the warzone—to include two tours to Iraq as battalion sergeant major of the battle hardened 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment.

Barrett grew up in Youngstown, New York, a village of fewer than 2,000 people near the Canadian border. He is a 1981 graduate of Lewiston-Porter

If you have a similar story of alumni success, please share it with the LPAA.





Capitol of Indiana, Lt. Governor Becky Skillman recognized the 11 winners of her fourth annual Celebration of Hoosier Women Artists competition to coincide with National Women's History Month. There were 140 submissions, with Lt. Gov. Skillman making the selection of the ultimate 11 winners.

1964 from Indianapolis, watercolor, Southside Art League. "Evergreen Weeping" was selected.

While Shirley grew up in a family of all "left brained" math-related careers, she would often be found using the creative side of her brain clothes for her sister's Barbie doll." Although she wanted to become a fashion illustrator, she pursued an advertising art and design degree from SUNY at Farmingdale.

gamily grew, but did not commit Jeanne McLeish, and Frank Webb. herself to any medium in particular

On March 25, 2011 at the state until after her children had graduated from college.

At that point, Shirley made a commitment to pursue painting in watercolor. Fully aware of the difficulty of the medium, she was motivated by the challenge of mastering it. Her first class was with JoAnn Cardwell at the Indianapolis Art Center. After learning the basics, she painted with some fellow artists and then started at-Shirley (Diez) Wollard, class of tending classes with Bev Mathis at the

For those who are just beginning with art, Shirley recommends starting with a class. "You must get the basics and drawing is especially important," she says. Shirley also advises that artists buy "the best drawing pictures or designing quality of art materials that you can afford."

For just over ten years now, Shirley has worked in watercolor while maintaining her full time job as a graphics coordinator for Kingsway Church in Avon. Taking at When her children wee infants, an least one professional watercolor workoil painting class served as a creative shop a year, the artist has gleaned a outlet for the aspiring artist. She wealth of techniques from renowned dabbled in other art mediums as her watercolor artists such as Jean Grastorf,

Shirley first exhibited her work at the

Hendricks County Fair and Central Indiana Artist show. These local shows are wonderful ways for beginning artists to "get up the courage to show their work and compare it to other artists." The artist cautions fledgling artist not to be discouraged, especially when juried art show rejects come." Your time will come, she reassures. Recently her paintings were accepted at the Midwest National Abstract Art Show, The Richmond Annual Art Show and The Farm: Art of the Heartland show in Chicago.

Shirley has always been inspired by God's ever changing nature. have been drawn to water and especially like to paint water scenes. I hope that those viewing my paintings will catch a mood of peace, serenity and happiness."



#### Jonathan "JMill" Miller

Jonathan was known by his family and friends for his strong faith and the happiness and peace that he acheived by living for the moment. He had the heart of a giant and the smile of an angel, touching those he knew and loved, as well as strangers. He had the aift of making everyone feel like they were his best friend. Jonathan consistantly displayed kindness, courage, and a zest for life itself. He knew how to face struggles with a light heart and turn challenges into successes.

Jonathan was particularly fond of the volunteer opportunities that he participated in to help those less fortunate. Therefore, we would like to keep his love for others, especially those in need growing. The funds from this outing will go directly to local charities that support his legacy of kindness. The Jonathan

"J Mill" Giving Fund was established for this purpose.





#### LPAA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name	Graduation/Attendance Year		
Address			
City	State_	Zip Code	
Phone	Email		
Spouse's Name	Lew-Port Alumni?		
Children's Names	Lew-Port Alumni?		
_		Lew-Port Alur	nni?
	Dues Contribution: 1	year \$10.00 3 years	\$25.00
	Lifetime \$150.00 Husband & Wife Lifetime \$250.00		e \$250.00
Tax Exempt Contribution to support LPAA programs at Lew-Port\$100\$500 Other Unrestricted Contribution to be applied to LPAA where needed most			
Restricted Contribution to be applied to: Scholarships Mini-grants			
Sports Hall of Fame Mini-grants Distinguished Alumni Other (specify)  Mail to: Lew-Port Alumni Association, Senior High School, 4061 Creek Road, Youngstown, NY 14174			

**Michael Townsend** — Mike began his teaching career at Lewiston-Porter in 1976. His impact and contribution to the Lewiston-Porter Fine Arts program has been tremendous. Mike taught many aspects of the Fine Arts program, however, his focus for many years has been with Photography. Mike has influenced many young men and women who eventually went on to pursue careers in photography and other related fields. Mr. Townsend has had many students develop award winning pieces of photography in art and photography shows throughout W.N.Y. Most importantly, Mr. Townsend was always able to develop tremendous professional relationships with students who thought outside the box. He made a difference for many students and kept them going in school. Beyond his work in the classroom, Mike was proud of his time as Boys and Girls Varsity Tennis coach. He was the driving force behind the "teacher band" at Vaudeville, which always made the annual event at the High School fun and special.

Mike is looking forward to spending time with his family, grandchildren, his music and his love of art.

**Janette Mathews** — Jan has been a fixture in the Lewiston-Porter mathematics department since 1971. During her time here, her infectious smile and caring demeanor have impacted the lives of countless students. Mrs. Mathews always made the classroom experience fun and enjoyable. Mathematics at the upper levels can be intimidating and daunting and through her kind approach she made students feel they could master the difficult and rigorous subject manner. Who could forget her fabulous cookies and brownies that made every student feel special in her classroom.

Jan also had tremendous impact on student life outside the classroom. Her work/partnership with the Lewiston Kiwanis in Key Club made this extracurricular club a special experience. Jan will always be remembered serving up those French fries at the Peach Festival. More importantly, through this service organization, Jan's work allowed students to feel the importance of community and helping others.

Jan is looking forward to retirement and the opportunity to spend more time with family and pursue personal interests. She will be missed by all at Lewiston-Porter High School.

**Frank Scelsa** – Frank began his teaching career at Lewiston-Porter in 1968. At that time, the High School was housed in what is now the Intermediate Education Center. In the Fall of 1971, the new High School opened at the south end of the Creek Road campus and Frank was a fixture there for 40 years. His impact on the school and community is immeasurable. His teaching focused on rigor and thought provoking units and lessons inspiring two generations of students. He was the driving force behind the dramatic arts at Lewiston-Porter directing and producing many of the Fall dramas and Spring musicals. Too many to list, he ended his work with Godspell in December 2010. It was a beautiful and innovative production that left the audience in amazement.

Frank has worked diligently to foster and promote teaching and learning at Lewiston-Porter. He is a member of the NYS Department of Education Professional Standards Board. This important committee shapes and influences teaching and learning throughout New York State at the secondary and post-secondary levels.

Frank is looking forward to retirement and spending time with his English garden, his beautiful new grandson and his family.



### Lancer Memory Lane

and

### Courtyard

The Lewiston-Porter Alumni Association is proud to announce the creation and development of Lancer Memory Lane and Courtyard. The Lane and Courtyard have been constructed of beautifully engraved bricks designed to enhance Harry Blakeslee Stadium. This is your opportunity to honor Alumni, Faculty, Family, Friends and Community Partners by purchasing the tribute bricks, making them part of Lewiston-Porter History. We have several pricing options. All proceeds support the many initiatives underway with your Alumni Association. These include scholarships, teacher mini-grants and freshman orientation. All programming is in support of the success and achievement of students in the Lewiston-Porter Central Schools.

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#### Order Form

 Street Address
 3 Line Inscriptions \$100

 City, State, Zip
 Large Brick (8" x 8")

 E-Mail
 6 Line Inscription \$250



Large Stone on Wall 6 Line Inscription \$500



Name of Purchaser

Veteran Honors Large Stone at Flagpole \$500

Small Brick (4" x 8")



(NOTE: There are only 13 letters available per line including punctuation.

*Include your desired inscriptions for the bricks on the reverse of form)* 

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Lewiston-Porter Alumni Assoc Brick Project

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: High School Office 286-7262

#### FORWARD ORDER FORM AND CHECK TO:

Lewiston-Porter Alumni Assoc Memory Brick Project c/o Lewiston-Porter High School 4061 Creek Road Youngstown, New York 14174 **VOLUME IV** ISSUE 3 PAGE 8

### Over 100 years + of Teaching



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The Lewiston-Porter 8th graders were finally School as they now go into High School!!! As we leave the Middle School, we take with us



our fond memories of 8th grade. This is me, Alex Gentile, telling you about the many experiences, laughter, fun and of course, drama, of the 8th grade!!

On the first day of school, September 2010, it didn't take long to realize that this was going to be a year of exciting ups and downs. My teachers, all of which were extraordinary, treated us more as a family than students. We got loved, yelled at and one even sang to us. Eighth grade was also where I met some of my truest friends. Sometimes they would make me laugh so hard that I'd smile for the rest of the day. Some of us were lucky enough to go to Washington D.C. which, thanks to the staff, my teachers and friends made it the most memorable trip so far!! But in all stories, the book closes.

The end of year caught up to us like a fox catching a rabbit, hiding until the big pounce. The end of the year ceremonies consisted of three things...1) a boat ride on the Miss Buffalo 11, which was a blast; 2) a dance; I'll always have interesting memories of that...3) and Moving Up Day (MUD) ceremony. It was so much fun. I had the honor of winning the Student Council Officers Award. It was an award that was not for grades...but more for being kind to others. I just want to say "thank you" to all the teachers and staff of the Lewiston-Porter Middle School. No matter what happens, I will always remember you guys!! Thanks for reading and I hope you have a wonderful rest of the summer.

Written by: Alex Gentile

### Lew-Port Distinguished Alumni Award Nomination Form

Nominee Class of

Address

City\_\_\_\_\_State\_\_\_ZIP Code\_\_\_\_

Do you have a classmate or fellow alumni that you would like to see as a Lew-Port Distinguished Alumni?

Please use this

form to nomi-

nate your can-

induction will

be held home-

coming week-

end of October

2012

didate, the

Briefly describe the accomplishments of this graduate in the field of endeavor (attachments welcome)

Name and address of person submitting nomination:

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_ Lew-Port Class of \_\_\_\_\_

Address

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ ZIP Code \_\_\_\_
Phone \_\_\_\_ E-mail

Nomination Deadline April 30, 2012 Return this form by April 30th to: Ray Tracy

Please feel free to duplicate this form and send in as many nominations as you like. We want to recognize as many deserving alumni

19 Apple Drive

Lewiston, NY 14092

Phone: 716 989-3646

Ray.Tracy@try-distributing.com

as possible.



Raby Family at the 2010 Jason Raby Memorial 5K Run and Walk. Jennifer, Gary, Tatyana, Gary Jr., and Darlene all participated in the event.



Paul Casseri, Jennifer and Gary start the run at 8 a.m. on Monday, May 23rd.

Can you imagine running three marathons in three days? Gary Raby, class of 1971 and alumni board member presented that idea to the board as a way to raise money only he was going to run 100 miles in a week. He just wanted to do something for the school and the kids. Gary is the cross country and track coach at Lew-Port and is a very respected and compassionate man. He said "Running has been good to me. That's one of my ways to give something back...it's a goal...I wanted to have a challenge...A coach should be held to higher standards...You have to challenge yourself." He sure did! Gary ran 34 miles on Monday, 32 miles on Tuesday, and 27 miles on Wednesday.

Gary ran for the 3-J's. His son, Jason, Jonathon Miller, and Jeremy Campbell who all passed away at a very early age. "I want to remember their passing and honor those boys. I hope we can look to the future and help younger students."



Winner's of the Coaches' Memorial Scholarship and the Lou Corriere Memorial Scholarship: Hannah Matthews, Mike Cuddahee, Jr. and Aaron Gilbert.



Katie Beatty came to school early on Monday to wish her coach good luck!



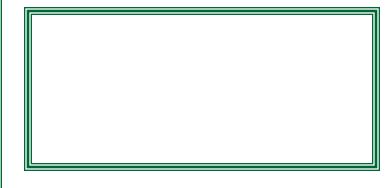
Amy Roemer high 5's her coach as he completes another lap.



Kristine Ripson, Eric Stipkovits,, Corey O'Keefe, Amy Ventry were just some of the students that came out to the track to run with Coach Raby.



Gary runs his last lap preceding the start of the NFL Track Meet with his son, Gary and daughter, Jennifer along with a contingents of Lew-Port runners on Thursday. Yes, he accomplished his 100 miles in just four days.



### Save August 12th for the Raby Race



#### **Lewiston-Porter Alumni Association**

Lewiston-Porter Central School 4061 Creek Road Youngstown, NY 14174 Pre-Sorted Postage
U.S. Postage
Paid
Non-Profit Organization
Permit No. 25



## SAVE THE DATE

Lewiston Porter Alumni Association is in the early stages of planning a huge celebration. On **October 6<sup>th</sup> 2012** we will commemorate two communities coming together to create what we all know as Lewiston-Porter Central School. 60 years ago the seniors from Lewiston & Youngstown came together & participated in a graduation ceremony while the school was still under construction.

Currently the event will be "Black Tie Optional" and funds raised by this event will provide scholarships & mini grants for students and teachers. We will keep you updated as we continue to plan.

Dorothy Wedge Gala Chair If you would like to help support alumni projects, please join LPAA. Application on page 7

#### Class of 1961 Reunion

October 7 and 8, 2011
Contact: Joanne Hargrave
gert289@msn.com