



# The Foundation Focus

The Newsletter of the Catalina High School Foundation

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## Graduate Expresses Great Gratitude

Introduction by CHS Counselor Wanda Buchanan

Jeremiah Ngandu graduated on May 22 in the top 10 of his class. Among his several scholarships, he earned the Obama Scholarship from ASU and the Legacy of Excellence Scholarship awarded to outstanding TUSD seniors. He served as an AmeriCorps College Knowing and Going Ambassador. He assisted his peers in completing their FAFSA Application. He is kind, considerate and respectful, and a very goal-oriented leader. His mother and siblings provide a strong, caring support system. The family journeyed to the U.S. for a life filled with possibilities and opportunities. Jeremiah

just started at the U of A, majoring in Aerospace Engineering.

Jeremiah's story: Growing up, I always wanted to become a pilot. I wanted to travel the world and see diverse cultures. But I've developed an interest in working with my hands. I like getting my hands dirty either making things or fixing things. I also really enjoy doing math and solving math problems. So now that I'm older, becoming a pilot sounds boring and bland—it doesn't seem as fun as younger me made it out to be.

Considering all my interests, I've decided to pursue a career as an aerospace engineer. I know that this path will not be easy, but by the grace of God and the help I have received from all the supporting communities, which includes the Catalina Foundation, I plan to push through all the challenges and obstacles set before me.

Thanks to the money I received from my communities, I no longer have the worry of whether I can afford to pursue further education. Growing up with a single mom and four siblings has made me realize the importance of a good and supportive community. So I want to give back by helping kids around the world. I want to encourage and inspire our future generation to shoot for the stars.



05/24 Jeremiah & Foundation Trustees enjoy A Legacy of Excellence.

## CTE Programs Help Catalina Shine

by Karl Oxnam, '86

"I doubt you can find a more impressive Career Technical Education (CTE) three-year turnaround in the state of Arizona," quipped an informed educator.

Last spring, Catalina's three Career Technical Education (CTE) programs excelled in the statewide technical assessments. Mishari Otaibi, Department Chair and Construction Teacher, in his seventh year, has focused his students on the latest standards set by Arizona Industry, ensuring students build employability and technical skills. "Three years ago, only five students across all three CTE programs passed this test. This year, we combined for 57. I am proud to share that 18 of 21 construction students have earned a passing score

and state certificate," Otaibi pointed out. Additionally, 45 OSHA and 32 NCCER Industry credentials were earned.

Most impressive is the transformation of the culinary program under the leadership of first-year teachers

*CTE Programs continued on page 3*



08/24 FBLA Trojans greeted the Board before its monthly meeting.

# Vertlieb Selected as 2024 Alum of the Year

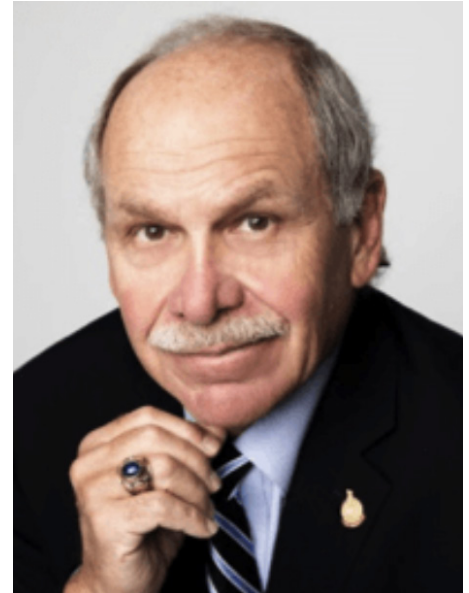
by Liz Whitaker '60

Each year, the CHS Foundation selects one of the persons nominated for the Trojan Hall of Fame to be the Alum of the Year. This award recognizes not only time at Catalina, but outstanding career accomplishments and exemplary service to the community. The Foundation is thrilled to select Arthur Vertlieb as the 2024 Alum of the Year.

Art was born in Ontario, Canada, but moved to Tucson as a child. Art graduated from Catalina in 1965 and went on to the University of Arizona, earning a bachelor's of science in Business/Commerce in 1969. He then moved to Toronto, Canada, to attend York University's Law School, earning his LLB in 1972 and was called to the British Columbia Bar in 1973. Art also always loved hockey and was a fan of the Toronto Maple Leafs and became a starting goalie for his college team. After school, Art had an amazing

career as a lawyer in Vancouver, British Columbia. He has appeared as a trial lawyer at all levels of Court in Canada, including the Supreme Court. He was the founder of Vertlieb and Company, a well-recognized legal firm in Vancouver. He thrived in the law field, holding many positions of leadership in various legal societies and was a founding member of the Trial Lawyers Association of British Columbia. He has earned many awards for his legal accomplishments, including the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012 for making significant contributions to his community and to his country.

In addition to all his legal accomplishments, he continues to contribute a great deal to his local community. He has served on the boards of the Art Club Foundation, Canadian Memorial Community Centre, the Vancouver Academy of Music and served as Commission Counsel to the Missing Women



Commission and to the Braidwood Inquiry, which examined the safety of tasers. He was also president and coach of Shaughnessy Little League Baseball. He is one of the biggest supporters of the University of British Columbia Men's Hockey Team. In 2021, Art even created an endowment to support the team, to recruit and develop elite student athlete goaltenders.

Arthur Vertlieb is truly an honor to Catalina High School for all his legal and community accomplishments.

# Hall Of Fame 2024

by Liz Whitaker '60



**Stanley Wade Allen**

S. Wade Allen, CHS Class of '83, became a distinguished leader in public service and business. Growing up, Wade was active in the

community, he served in the military & earned his degree in Business Management. He worked closely with the Clinton & Bush administrations in the White House Communications Agency. He served in sensitive missions including the handling of cruise missiles. For the

past 26 years he's worked as a government contractor, spearheading diverse teams in design & implementation of technology solutions for the DoD.

## Carol Castro

Carol was employed at CHS from 1972–1983 as a hall monitor. During her years she contributed in many capacities including demonstrations making tortillas to cooking classes to attending school sporting events. Carol was supportive of student endeavors becoming a pseudo-surrogate parent and mentor to



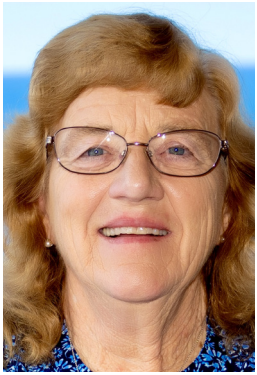
Trojans who needed it. Carol's guidance was often impactful & positive. Carol has attended the Class of '83 reunions and other gatherings with former students recounting their encounters and expressing their gratitude for her caring work at CHS.

## Marjorie Duffield

Marjorie Duffield, Class of 1981, is a playwright and screenwriter. She penned lyrics for "Over the Moon," an Oscar & Golden Globe nominated animated feature length musical. She wrote the play, "Ice Island: The Wait for Shackleton."



She wrote the book & lyrics for "Sit-In at the Five & Dime" with composer Janice Lowe. Marjorie also directs plays and has worked extensively as a theater educator with numerous arts-in-education programs. She has received the Uhry/Thompson Award for Excellence in Teaching.



### **Juanita H. Kingston**

Juanita H. Kingston is a 1973 CHS graduate. Playing under Coach Mary Hines, she led the 1972 team to the state volleyball

championship. Juanita has 34 years experience coaching volleyball, softball, basketball and track & field at the high school and junior high school levels. She was the volleyball coach at Rincon High School since 1988, receiving Coach of the Year in 1988, 1991, 1992, 1993 & 2005. She was boys volleyball Coach of the Year in 1998. In 1993 her team won the state championship with a 26-0 record and ranked #23 in the nation. She was named to the TUSD Superintendent's Honor Roll for outstanding service above & beyond the call of duty in 1992.

### **Mary Kay Klein**

Mary Kay Klein is a 1974 CHS graduate. She played volleyball under Coach Mary Hines all four years and earned a volleyball



scholarship to the University of Arizona, where she continued to excel in her sport. After graduating with honors from veterinary school at Colorado State, Mary Kay eventually became a Professor of Practice at the College of Veterinary Medicine at the U of A. Her focus is

on the diagnosis and treatment of animal cancer. Mary Kay is currently serving as President-Elect of the American College of Veterinary Radiology. In 2018 she was honored with the highly esteemed Theilen Tribute Award, an honor reserved for distinguished veterinary professionals who have advanced the practice of veterinary oncology. Only five individuals have been awarded this national award.



### **Amanda McCoy Place**

For decades Amanda McCoy Place has served as one of Arizona's accomplished public figures. Her fundraisers

have brought in \$17 million for causes including education enrichment of fine arts programs. She founded the Great Masterpiece Program bringing in replicas of classics to elementary students in Scottsdale & Chandler districts, reaching 15,000 students each year. Recognized as one of Arizona's few nationally credentialed Executive Fundraisers. Most recently she was a leader in efforts to help African asylum seekers and refugees in Tucson, finding funding for housing, food & essential needs. She supported a refugee from Burundi East Africa & enabled him to attend Pima College where he was valedictorian in 2018.

### **Feather O'Connor Houstoun**

Feather O'Connor Houstoun was known at CHS as Bonise Feather, Class of 1964. Feather is a senior adviser to the Wyncote on public media & journalism and is serving a four-year term on the Philadelphia School Reform Commission. Feather is best known



for her distinguished career in the public sector where she has worked as Pennsylvania's secretary of Public Welfare under Gov. Tom Ridge; treasurer of the State of New Jersey under Gov. Tom Kean and has held numerous positions with the US Dept. of Housing & Urban Development. Houstoun is a regular columnist for Management Insights, a joint publication of Governing Magazine.

### *CTE Programs continued*

Jennifer Basandrai and John Vance. They implemented a more academic focus to complement cooking performance skills. "These students love to be in the kitchen, but we shifted the focus to include terminology and food safety standards necessary for an upwardly mobile career in the industry," said Basandrai.

The results were clear, as 22 of 40 students passed the statewide examination. "I have seen student teams blossom with intentional conversations about the why and how to run a kitchen. It is easy to identify several students who are ready for employment," stated Vance. Moreover, 12 Serve Safe Manager Industry Credentials were earned.

The Business Program also experienced incredible success, with 17 of 18 students hitting the mark. Combined, the scores exceeded the state average by 15 points. "I love to watch this transformation in students as they prepare to become leaders in the community," stated Business Teacher Karl Oxnam. Furthermore, 39 Microsoft Office Specialists certifications were earned.

As each of these outstanding students graduate, they will positively impact the overall school letter grade. The future is bright for Catalina and Catalina CTE!

IMO-in  
memory of  
IHO-in  
honor of



## Donations

### \$1000 – 2499

Hal Ashton '58

Tony Borboa, Football

John Hartshorn, Football

Doug Hayes, Football

Trevor McDowell

McCraren Compliance

Winston A. Parker, Football

Dan Russell, Football

### \$500 – 999

Richard Borane, Football

Shane Breeding, Football

Empower, Scholarships

Lawrence McBride '66,  
IHO and IMO Class of 1966

Jo Hauschildt Riester '66, Scholarships

Tim Tolson, Football

### \$250 – 499

Patty Carlson

Lynda Cohen '65, Band

George Cunningham '63,  
IMO George Corneveaux '63

Sandy Elers '58, School Supplies

Eric Evett '66

Gail '61 and Bruce Grossetta '61,  
School Supplies

Mark Hanna, Counselor

Joel Levin '66

Living Grace Ekklesia

Petite Catlin Morrison '58

Melody Richey '76

Jo Hauschildt Riester '66,  
Scholarships

Patricia Stell

### \$100 – 249

Gael Abraham '57, IMO Chuck Giles '57,  
School Supplies

Mary Black '70

Linda Cohen

Sue Cooper '60

Catherine Dunlap

Sandy Elers '58, Legacy Dinner

Mary Keane

Jay Kittle '59, School Supplies

Pamela Wheeler Maxwell,  
IMO Judy Wheeler Friedrichs

Petite Catlin Morrison '58

James Mouer '57

Ken Newman '66, School Supplies

Ted Roberts. Football

Leilani Rothrock

Marjorie Ann Scott '66

Marylyn Schumann Tobey '57

Sue Pooler Wagner '58

Womble/Williams Double Reeds

Stephen Young '60, School Supplies

Dean Zimmerman '60, School Supplies

### \$1 – 99

Stephen Bentley '58

Doug Boling '66

Ford Burkhardt '59, School Supplies

Patricia Heisdorffer

Kathy Krucker '67, School Supplies

Bev Moxley, School Supplies

Amanda Place '60, Athletics

Linda Raymond '73, School Supplies

Pam Samuels '60, School Supplies

Brenda Weinstock

Liz Whitaker '60, School Supplies

### In Kind

Jennifer Bond '66

Leslie Lieber King '60, School Supplies

Emily Kittle Morrison '60,  
School Supplies

Bev Moxley, School Supplies

Lucy Richardson Masterman '61,  
School Supplies

Kay Wertman '61, School Supplies

Steve Young '60, School Supplies

Emily '60 and Ted Morrison '60,  
School Supplies

Steve '59 and Linda Morrison,  
School Supplies

Liz Whitaker '60, Picture Frames

Founders' Club

Leilani Rothrock

### Life Members

Catherine Dunlap

Mary Keane

Marjorie Ann Scott '66

## CHS Reunions

### Class of '69 – 55th Reunion

Oct. 12, 2024 at a personal  
midtown residence

Please RSVP by Sept. 15.

Cindy Rhinehart: [clrmusicat@cox.net](mailto:clrmusicat@cox.net)

### Class of '74 – 50th Reunion

Oct. 19, 2024

[chs74.org](http://chs74.org)

email: [info@chs74.org](mailto:info@chs74.org)

### Class of '79 – 45th Reunion

Nov. 1–2, 2024

Details TBD

Adele Lindquist

### Class of '84 (& All '80s Classes) – 40th Reunion

Oct. 4–6, 2024

Saturday–Frog & Firkin;

Sunday Hike

Discounted Rate at the Marriott  
University Park

<https://forms.gle/aay7AZenp7Qw9K3u5>

Annie Neis Rump: [amrump@gmail.com](mailto:amrump@gmail.com)

## TAX CREDITS

If you make a \$200 donation for those filing singly (\$400 for those filing jointly) to Catalina High School, the amount of your donation can be deducted from your Arizona State Tax Return Taxes Payable. This basically is a big help to Catalina High School which costs you nothing. (Otherwise, you would pay it in taxes.)

Information on this great deal can be found at: [catalinahs.tusd1.org](http://catalinahs.tusd1.org) and then choosing "Make a Tax Credit Donation" from the list on the left. These donations can be made any time before April 15, 2025, to receive the credit on your 2024 Arizona State taxes.

See <https://azdor.gov/tax-credits>.

# \$9,363 in Mini-grants Awarded Since March 1

by Jennifer Bond, '66

CHS Foundation Mini-grants, which are awarded through a vote by the Board of Trustees, fund a variety of needs from books to team uniforms. Mini-grants are fundamental to carrying out the Foundation's mission to foster and enhance the educational and high school experience of Catalina students by providing opportunities for their success in life.

**Megan McConaughey, \$300** to purchase snacks for students to be able to eat before their 4-hour AP (Advance Placement) tests.

**Wendy McFeely, \$420** to rent the Loft Cinema for a celebration for the 55 students who tested up a level of English or tested proficient in English on the AZELLA (Arizona English Language Learners Assessment) test. The outcome of this state test of English learned is 10% of Catalina's annual grade. Trojans enjoyed watching "Guardians of the Galaxy."

**Karin Bernal, \$200** to provide prizes for the winners of a bookmark contest co-sponsored with the art department.

**Ruth Mann, \$516** to purchase 35 magnetic dry erase white boards (7 for each of the 5 math teachers) to use in their classes to encourage group work while standing at the white boards.

**Angela Labistre Champion, \$600** to purchase matching shoes for the spirit line.

**Robin Farias \$110** for a subscription to Scholastic Magazine's Action Magazine to supplement the reading program for the ELD 2 class.

**Karin Bernal, \$335** to purchase books to participate in national March Book Madness.

**William Rush, \$500** to purchase supplies for the Positive Behavior Initiative Store.

**Lori Encinas and Athletic Director Tim Bridges, \$394** for Trojan Trophies to be awarded at the Senior Athletic Award dinner. Awards are given to those students who have participated in three sports or more and have at least a 2.5 grade point average. An additional \$500 mini-grant funded the food for the banquet for 100 student athletes, coaches and UofA track athletes who were special guest speakers.

**Karin Bernal, \$462** to purchase 43 books by the author E. Lockhart to be read by students in both the English and English Learners classes prior to the author conducting several workshops with students and a raffle of some of the books to interested students during the presentation.

**Lori Encinas, \$500** for the Honor Roll Dinner Celebration.

**Student Azavius Terry, \$750** to help support his attendance at Microsoft National Competition in Florida.

**Former Counselor Mark Hanna, \$500** to purchase a computer for 2014 alum Huda Salim necessary for her Physicians' Assistant Masters program.

**Jennifer O'Dell and Kelly Bristow, \$201** to buy solar eclipse glasses for students and staff to use a school-wide Solar Eclipse Party in the patio.

**Becky Graseck, \$175** for two high desks for the Algebra classes.

**Melissa Kornmuller, \$500** for gift card prizes for those teachers who have been nominated by their peers each quarter for having done an exemplary job.

**Tim Bridges, \$100** for a student end-of-year golf outing for the golf team.

**Ellen Fox, \$500** to purchase class books for her English Learners class including English-foreign language dictionaries and books with stories from various countries.

**Karl Oxnam, \$1,800** for registration (\$200 per person) for 8 students and one teacher to attend Future Business Leaders' Camp in Williams, AZ Aug 25-27. This grant was subsequently split for up to 14 registrations.



04/24

The Foundation provided the eclipse glasses; Trojans provided the Oohs and Aahs!

# Foundation Scholarships Awarded

## 15 Laptop Computers and \$10,000

by Jo Hauschildt Riestler '66

May was an exciting month for CHS students and Foundation members. Laptops and scholarships to local colleges were awarded to 11 students.

McCraren Compliance for Mining and Construction Safety awarded a \$1,000 grant for PCC studies, to Minhaj Jamshidi—Electrician.

University of Arizona financial aid of \$1,000 was offered to each of the following, should they decide to become Wildcats. Their majors are included to illustrate that our future is in good hands!

- Ruth Abarca—Psychology/Business
- Abriana Chanez Campas—Biology/Medical
- Monica Garcia Gastelum—Sociology
- Meryemmahmoud Jabo—Business
- Marwa Jamshidi—Medicine
- Fatima Massomi—Info Technology
- Trinity Williams—Law/Public Defender
- Belinda Soto Santizo—Veterinarian
- Jesus Cordova Estrada—Engineering received a \$1,000 grant to PCC.

We especially appreciate College & Career Counselor and coach extraordinaire Maria Cuadra for encouraging so many to continue their education and to complete FAFSA, which almost completely covered Pima Community College costs.

Another four laptop computers were awarded to:

- Ghufuran Al Ismail—Medicine
- Satar Habibi—Cybersecurity
- Deborah Niyonzima—Judge
- David Niyonzima—Business

This truly international group represents Afghanistan, Burundi, the Cherokee Nation, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Syria, Turkey, and the United States. We were blessed to hear their stories, and are truly inspired by their work ethic, compassion, and dreams of making a difference.

Thank you to Marylyn Schumann Tobey, Living Grace, Thrivent, Soli Deo Gloria, and Foundation members for their generosity in making investments in these young men and women, and our community, possible.



## Graduation Class of 2024



# Foundation Welcomes Trojan Teachers

by Stephen Gin '83

A few days before students returned to campus, several Board Members rolled carts and coolers up the ramp and into the nicely updated CHS library.

Each year, the Foundation works with school administration to host the Teachers Welcome. On July 29, the Board put on a breakfast buffet, and its members visited with the educators.

For a second straight year, Catalina enjoyed a very high number of returning teachers (around 88 percent), which is such an asset to continuity and maintaining school pride and school spirit.

It may reflect the dedication these educators hold for CHS and one of the signs that the school is heading in the right direction. Co-president Jenni Bond encouraged teachers to apply for Mini-grants.



Co-president Jenni Bond greets teachers

07/24



The Foundation puts on a breakfast buffet as the teachers return.

07/24



CHS retained 88% of its teachers!

07/24

## Catalina High School Foundation Membership Form

Annual and Founder's Club dues run from November 1 to October 31

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Dues \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Founders' Club Dues \$57.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Life Membership \$250.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Donation \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

I would like my donation to go to (check one)

General Fund \_\_\_\_\_

Mini-Grants \_\_\_\_\_

Social Services \_\_\_\_\_

Band Fund \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarships \_\_\_\_\_

Eva Royce Fund \_\_\_\_\_

Construction Trades \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form and your donation/dues to:

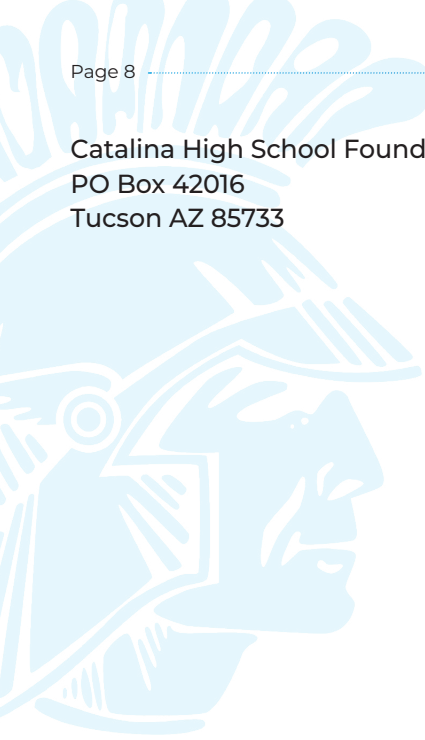
**Catalina High School Foundation**  
PO Box 42016  
Tucson AZ 85733

I can help by: \_\_\_\_\_

Please do not publish my name. Initial here: \_\_\_\_\_

Life Member Payment Plan: Pay \$100 per year for two years and a final payment of \$50 in the third year, and become a Life Member. Put "Payment for Life Membership" on the "For" line. Questions? Ask Jenni at [jbond8@cox.net](mailto:jbond8@cox.net) or 202-997-4674.

Catalina High School Foundation  
PO Box 42016  
Tucson AZ 85733



## CATALINA HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2024

### President & Grants

Jennifer Sue Bond '66

### Co-president

Stephen B Gin '83

### Vice President

### Outreach & Development

Ken Newman '66

### Vice President Membership

Liz Wheeler Whitaker '60

### Treasurer & Scholarships

Terryl Anderson '57

### Secretary

Karl Oxnam '86

### Special Projects

Maryllyn Schumann Tobey '57

### Hall of Fame

Linda Raymond '73

### Directors at Large

Sandy Tanner Elers '58

Matt Kopec '07

Kathy Krucker '07

Emily Kittle Morrison '60

Barbara Callaway

Pollock '58

Lisa Watson '83

### Advisory Board

Kathleen Dannreuther '66

Wallis Jacobus Downer-

Joyner '60

Bruce Grossetta '61

Mark Hanna

Sarah LaVetter

McCraren '91

Dana Robbins Murray '80

Bill Neubauer '61

Kathy Peters '70

Jo Hauschildt Riester '66

Bud Seaman '57

Jaciveth Montano '21

### Scholarships

Jo Hauschildt Riester '66

### Webmaster &

### Newsletter Designer

Roland Wong '86



### Catalina High School Foundation's Fall Social

Thursday, Oct. 17, 2024, 5-7 pm

\$20 donation suggested

RSVP: [ekmorrison2@msn.com](mailto:ekmorrison2@msn.com)

4 pm FREE Campus Tour

Meet on Front Steps!



Friend us on  
Facebook



Website:

[www.catalinahighschoolfoundation.org](http://www.catalinahighschoolfoundation.org)

Contact us at [ekmorrison2@msn.com](mailto:ekmorrison2@msn.com)

CHS Foundation FOCUS newsletters:

[www.catalinahighschoolfoundation.org/foundation-efforts/foundation-newsletters/](http://www.catalinahighschoolfoundation.org/foundation-efforts/foundation-newsletters/)