

Mary Shutt Retires From The Foundation

She Is Celebrated For 15 Years Of Dedicated Service



Mary Shutt, the Assistant Director of the Danville Public School Foundation, retired December 31, after nearly 15 years with the Foundation.

Mary joined the Foundation in 2009 after a successful

35 year career as an educator with Danville School District 118. After retiring she assisted the Foundation and Superintendent Mark Denman with the Danville High School Alumni Newsletter. When the Foundation Board decided to hire a part-time staff, Mary was offered the position of coordinator and later was promoted to assistant director. "The Foundation provided a wonderful opportunity for me to stay involved with the schools. Little did I know how much I would enjoy helping to support teachers in the classroom, and in turn, see the joy on students' faces as they tried something new. I was also fortunate to see three of my four grandchildren at Northeast Elementary using the climbing wall, the violins in music, and the greenhouse, all provided through the generosity of the Foundation's donors."

Mary's experience as a teacher was invaluable in helping further the Foundation's



Mary, pictured with her husband Bob and her family, looks forward to spending more time with her grandchildren.

mission of providing enhanced educational opportunities for the children attending Danville public schools.

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1000th Brick Placed In Walk Of Honor

Volunteer Bob Shutt places the 1000th brick in the Walk of Honor in November 2023. The Foundation thanks Bob for volunteering his time (and knees!) for the meticulous placement of each engraved paver.



BECAUSE OF YOU

We Exceeded Our Goal!

365 Club Gifts Top \$100,000

THANK YOU!

The generosity of our donors secures the success of the **365 Club** for another year and we could not be more excited!

The **365 Club** campaign kicked off in November with a fundraising goal of \$85,000. As of January, over \$100,000 has been pledged to help continue the mission of providing enhanced educational opportunities to benefit the children attending Danville public schools.

Whether it's a \$1 per day pledge of \$365 or a larger gift - every dollar inches us closer to our goal. Reaching \$100,000 in January was not expected and we cannot think of a better start to the new year. Thank you to our generous donors!

Because of you, we will continue to engage the teachers, staff and administrators to help bring their ideas of providing creative, inspiring, and fun learning experiences to their students.

"Wow is definitely the word!

*So many community members, alumni, businesses and contractors all stepping up to invest in students is amazing. Many of our donors have stories to tell of why they provide their support. Those conversations leave you smiling all day. Until the **365 Club**, I've never seen such a display of generosity firsthand. It's been rewarding in ways I never imagined. We have incredible donors."*



Stephanie Yates,
Development Director

The Foundation invites all of our donors to celebrate with us at our

365 Club Breakfast

April 18, 2024

8:00 am

Turtle Run Banquet Center

332 East Liberty Lane, Danville IL

Please RSVP - 217-444-1038

yatess@danville118.org



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2024 365 Club Members

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Yes! I want to make a difference every day by joining **The 365 Club!**

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Gift Level (check one)

☐	\$365 \$1 a day
☐	\$730 \$2 a day
☐	\$1,095 \$3 a day
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☐	My Check is Enclosed
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516 N. Jackson Street
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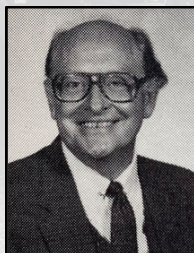
DONOR SPOTLIGHT

THE TOWNES - DEPKE WELDSTAR

95 YEARS. That's how long Depke Weldstar has been fueling Vermilion County as a provider of industrial, medical and specialty gases and welding supplies.

Originally founded by the Depke family in 1928, the business was later owned and operated by Mel Myers. In 2001 Curt Towne, lifelong Danville resident and Danville High School graduate, purchased Depke with a vision to expand and increase their product offering. Several acquisitions and a joint partnership later, there are now ten Depke-Weldstar locations throughout Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin. They serve customers worldwide. Curt is one of four owners, but in Danville, he is the face of Depke.

Curt was a graduate of Danville High School's Class of 1986. When asked if there was anyone influential from his time at DHS, he immediately thought of English and Humanities teacher, John C. Sanders.



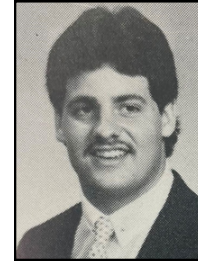
John C. Sanders
"Honorary"
DHS Class of 1986

Curt shared that Mr Sanders encouraged him to apply to attend DePauw University and even play Division III football. "Our paths crossed at a pivotal time. I needed someone to steer me in the right direction when it came to furthering my education. He was that person."

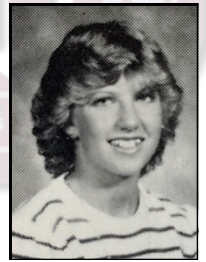
Mr. Sanders retired in 1986 and became an "honorary" member of Curt's graduating class. Twenty-four years after joining, Curt still chairs a nine member committee awarding the **John Sanders Memorial Scholarship** to a graduating senior at DHS.

The lineage of the Towne family at Danville Public Schools is three generations deep. It includes Curt's father Clint Towne, father-in-law Cliff Kimberlin, Curt and his wife Toni, their three beautiful daughters Ava, Maya, Emma and son-in-law Dominick LaFoe.

From football to wrestling, basketball to softball – both Curt and Toni were active and involved as students, just as they are today as parents. They like to golf, travel and are now enjoying



Curt Towne



Toni Kimberlin Towne
DHS Class of 1986/85

the adventure of being grandparents with the addition of granddaughter, Vivi.

The Towne's continue to give back to the community through support of many local non-profits including the Danville Public School Foundation's **365 Club**. In 2023, their level of support reached ten thousand dollars. The services that Depke provides are often very behind-the-scenes yet so critical in keeping business running smoothly. Their support of the Foundation is no different, and students will benefit from their generosity for years to come.



Ava, Maya, Toni, Emma and Vivi in the front.
In Curt's words, "All of my girls".



217-446-8814
info@depke.com
628 E Williams St Danville
weldstar.com

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Trinidad Hernandez

WELCOME to the Team

In January, the Danville Public School Foundation welcomed Trinidad Hernandez Jr. to the Foundation's Board of Directors.

Trinidad and his wife Brenda have three daughters attending Danville public schools, two at Danville High School and one at North Ridge Middle School. They are members of Danville's Second Church of Christ.

He is employed at Auto Zone Distribution Center and is a veteran of the Army National Guard. Trinidad served in Iraq as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2005-2006. He is a member of the American Legion Post 210.

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Mary was instrumental in event planning for the many events conducted throughout her Foundation career, especially the annual **365 Club** Breakfast. In addition she oversaw the Foundation's Walk of Honor and enlisted her husband Bob as a volunteer. If a paver was ordered, Mary handled all aspects of the process from receiving orders to installation (with Bob's assistance) and all correspondence with the donors.

Last fall engraved pavers were placed to honor both Bob and Mary for their service.

In December, the Foundation's Board of Directors honored her with a retirement luncheon to wish her well.



Scholarships, Memorial, General & Restricted Gifts

Rand & Glenda Campbell Canady Construction Mark Denman Spear Corporation

Brick by Brick - Walk of Honor

John L. Pendleton by Lon and Nancy Henderson

