

INFORMER

DUNCANVILLE Independent School District

May | 31 | 2016

DHS Val & Sal Pursue Medicine, Public Service



Kennedy Stidham
Valedictorian

Samuel Baucom
Salutatorian

Duncanville High School Valedictorian Kennedy Stidham had her educational career mapped out at an early age.

Hardin Students Compete in Mathematics Pentathlon



Nine students from Hardin Intermediate School participated in the 2016 Mathematics Pentathlon National Academic Tournament. The fifth and sixth-graders were split into two divisions and had to complete five math games that exercise the logical and numerical portion of the brain. All nine students received the

"I wanted to be valedictorian since I learned what that word meant when I was about seven," Kennedy said. Stidham will attend the University of Texas next year where she plans to study biology with plans to be a pediatrician. Salutatorian Samuel Baucom was homeschooled until he entered Duncanville High School ninth grade. One of the teachers who made the biggest impact on him came to DHS halfway through his junior year. Kristin Glaeske, who teaches English, wrote the recommendation that helped Samuel get accepted at Stanford and worked with him on the written materials he submitted to the university. Read [more](#).

Pentathlete Award for their successful participation. See list of students [here](#).

Students Honor Fallen Military Members



DHS to Live Stream Graduation

Duncanville High School's graduation will be streamed live online free of charge for anyone who would like to watch the ceremony but is unable to attend. The link will not be active until shortly before the ceremony begins.

<http://player.nfhsnetwork.com/#/events/duncanville-high-school-duncanville-tx/addc3bcf25>

DHS Assistant Principal Going Strong at 76



Members of Duncanville High School's Student Council visited DFW National Cemetery Sunday morning to place thank you notes on approximately 800 graves. Pictured: Lena Vongdachanh, Chloe Robles, Jessica Yanes, Damian McElwee, Esteban Andrade

Pace High School Graduates Final Class of 2015 - 2016

Students young and old can tell you they always know when Flo Judd is coming down the hall.

DHS Assistant Principal, Flo Judd

They hear her heels clicking on the floor and her keys jangling at her side. Her presence is enough to prompt wayward teenagers to put cellphones in their pockets, abandon passing period chatter and hurry to class. The 76-year-old Duncanville High School Assistant Principal has accomplished what many parents and teachers have failed to do: she has earned their respect

Judd began her career in education as an English teacher in Waco. The landscape was familiar because it is where she grew up on a farm, the youngest of five girls. Judd excelled as a student at Waco Midway High School graduating at the top of her class in 1958. She followed the same path as her sisters. Every one of them became teachers.

Judd taught at several schools early in her career, but she has spent 39 years at Duncanville High School. As an assistant principal, she handles discipline and attendance for a portion of the 10th grade.

"I love this district. I love this high school," Judd said. "Being here is joyful. I can tell you, I never dread coming to work."

During teacher appreciation week in early May, Judd received a beautiful bouquet of tulips. It was a gift from Carolyn James, a student she taught 50 years ago when she was an English teacher at Dallas Kimball High school.

Carolyn James remembers the first day she and her fellow students met Judd in 1966.

"As we heard the quick-paced clickety-clack of high heels coming down the hallway just before the bell rang on that first day, our class had no idea that things were about to change," James said. "A beautifully groomed woman with a perfectly coiffed frosted bubble flip hairdo entered the room with a smile and a purpose."

"She was hard. It wasn't an easy class," James said. "She was very, very firm, but it was just what we were all wanting and needing because for the first time we were being challenged to think and to write and to express our feelings and our emotions and our thoughts."

Read [more](#).

Made with Pride in Duncanville May Honorees Announced

Tamara Gurnell is an Industrial Education teacher at Duncanville High School. Her passion for teaching our kids is immediately evident. She loves the campus and what it exists to do: inspire our kids to be better in academics and extra-curricular activities. She embodies the spirit of educators and works to keep the culture and climate as positive as possible for students, faculty and staff. She goes above and beyond by helping at the district level also. She and her students built the giant Duncanville letters used at Convocation and the Employee Appreciation. They also built an amazing float for



Pace High School graduated 16 students last Thursday.

Pictured: Joe Soto, Monique Garza, Shirley Hardy, Shae Pettit, Wilford Bogan, Gerardo Castro, Jose Henriquez Rodriguez, Christian Jones, David Brown, Brandon Robinson, Mikayla Morgan, and Raylon Wilson.

Not pictured: Steven Dominguez, Breon Booher-Ayers, and Da'Kyric Forge.

DHS Closed for Summer, Meals & Summer School Programs Moved

Duncanville High School will be closed throughout the summer for security and technology upgrades.

Duncanville ISD will serve meals at Reed Middle School June 6 through July 20. Breakfast will be served 7:30 - 9:30 a.m. and lunch will be served 11:30 - 1:30. Meals are free for anyone under the age of 18. More information on summer meals [here](#).

Information on summer school dates and locations [here](#).

the Christmas parade. For her innovation and inspiration, Ms. Gurnell is the "Made With Pride in Duncanville Teacher of the Month."

Lorrie Goodnight is a help desk technician at the Idea Hub. She is a very patient and conscientious member of the Technology team. She goes out of her way to make sure that assigned issues are resolved in a prompt, professional manner, and always maintains a cheerful and positive outlook with the many staff members she assists. She makes technology problems "go away," and is a great asset to the Duncanville ISD team. For her positive attitude and excellent customer service, Lorrie Goodnight is the "Made With Pride in Duncanville Staff member of the Month."

Caleb Griffith is a senior at Duncanville High School. He is an amazing young man. His work ethic and attention to duty is impeccable. He has been an officer in Skills USA Engineering for the past two years and has led the chapter to several district and state wins. He is smart, witty and talented. For his outstanding work as a scholar and leader, Caleb Griffith is the "Made With Pride in Duncanville Student of the Month."

Upcoming Events:
Duncanville High School
Class of 2016 Graduation,
May 31, 7:30 p.m., Kay
Bailey Hutchison Convention
Center, Dallas.
Last Day of School, June 2.

Congrats to the May "Made With Pride" Honorees!



Tami Gurnell
Teacher

Lorrie Goodnight
Staff

Caleb Griffin
Student

'Senior Walk' Brings Tears, Fond Memories



Last week, more than 450 Duncanville High School seniors visited all nine elementary schools in the district to touch the hands of the future. The graduating seniors, many of whom were able to return to the elementary

schools they attended, shared high fives and encouraging words with the younger students.

The interaction with the soon-to-be high school graduates had a meaningful impact on fourth grader Rumalda Dominguez.



“Seeing them do it makes me think I can do it,”

Rumalda said. “If you think about it over time, it seems very far, but if I believe in myself, I see myself accomplishing my goals right now.”

Many of the seniors took the opportunity to see their elementary school teachers. Bilhartz fourth grade teacher Hans Kocher reconnected with a former student.

“As the seniors were walking by, one of them recognized me as their fourth grade teacher here at Bilhartz almost a decade ago,” said Hans Kocher. “Made me feel old, but what he said made my year.”

Click [here](#) for more pictures and to read more.



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