

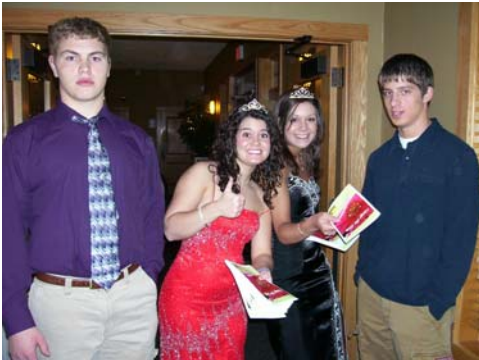
What's the Buzz?

April Newsletter

549 Family Foundation
200 5th St. SE
Perham, MN 56573

2006 Honey Bee Gala Action

Classy event, classy guests, classy hosts and hostesses: Homecoming King and Queen Rob Phillips and Dani Stoll and Snow Week King and Queen Kenny Moenkedick and Amber Altstadt welcome guests in style.



PHS's Jazz Band "The Stingers" entertained the crowd with several toe-tapping tunes to get the party started. Several members had just returned from Speech Sub-Sections where Perham claimed 1st place honors.

Jim Szarke humbly accepted our thanks as PWMS's Community Investment Award winner. Several speakers mentioned Mr. Szarke in their list of stand out memories from their school days in Perham.

HOTL Elementary honored Becky Stolee with their Community Investment Award in recognition for all her efforts with the Reading Corp and all the other work she has done for the district over the years.

Other awards went to:

*PHS Community Investment Award
Dent Community Investment Award
Civic Investment Award – FOCUS
Civic Investment Award – MDHA
Civic Investment Award – Perham Lions
Activities Department Worker Bee Award
K-4 Teacher Investment Award
PW Teacher Investment Award
PHS Teacher Investment Award*

*Terry Karkela
Don Seifert
Kris Schuett
Bob Perszyk
Tom Wiczorek
Joe & Lori Doll
Lance Rach
Robin Kuhlemeyer
Tom Spencer*

Student Investment Awards went to:

*7th: Jessica Dreier
9th: Maddie Covington
11th: Meghan Cox*

*8th: Nancy Stenger
10th: Jacob Hunter
12: Will Ryan and Angie Strege*

AR Achievement Awards went to:

*3rd: Aimee Christopherson
5th: Brandon Johnson*

*4th: Jonathon Siira
6th: Ashly Dow*

Talitha Sannes-Venhuizen shared her best learned lessons resulting not from her successes, but from her failures. But those lessons have reaped Tali many successes over the years, as she now saves lives in the emergency room of St. Joseph's Hospital in Park Rapids. Linda Larson, wife of former Perham teacher, Mark Larson, introduced Doctor Sannes with a thank you for saving her life in January by quickly recognizing the signs of meningitis and getting her to early treatment.



Meet 549 Family Board Member, Tom Tomporowski

After graduating from Foley High School in 1967, St. John's University in 1971, and St. Cloud State in 1977, Tom moved to Perham to begin his career as a Library Media Specialist at Perham Dent Public Schools.

Married to Alyce Tomita in 1980, favorite child David was born in 1989.

Among other volunteer activities, Tom has served over the years on the St. Stanislaus Parish Council, the local chapter of the American Cancer Society, and the Perham Area Community Center's Board of Directors.

Current school-related activities for Tom outside of the school day include serving on the District Curriculum Council, the District-wide Staff Development Committee, the PHS Building Leadership Team, and the Perham Education Association Executive Committee.

"The 549 Family Foundation is one of those vital organizations that enhance the quality of small-town life, in this case by assisting the school district in providing educational opportunities to youth, opportunities which would otherwise be unavailable."



549 Family's 5th Annual Golf Tournament has been moved to July 14, 2006. Look for updates on this event as plans come together. It's not JUST a golf tournament anymore! Chairman, Brian Mort, has got big plans for an awesome event for everyone! The website or next month's What's the Buzz newsletter will have more details. You DON'T want to miss this so mark your calendar for JULY 14, 2006 whether you golf OR NOT!

School year 2006-2007 will come before we know it. Are you considering a grant from 549 Family for a class project, a class experience, an organization or for equipment that would enhance the level of education our kids receive? Anyone can request a grant. From the school district website, you will see the link to our website on the right side. On the bottom of our home page, click on "Grant Application". By this summer, the application will be able to be filled out ONLINE and e-mailed through the approval process and forwarded to the foundation. For highest consideration, it is recommended that grant applications be submitted by Sept. 30, 2006 for the '06-'07 school year. This is only a recommendation and not a requirement. We cannot consider a request without a completed application. THANK YOU!

Gala (continued) Kris Rone of Manhattan Beach, CA, PHS Class of 1984 was a hoot. It was easy to see her personality and sense of humor have been assets for her along with her education. Ms. Rone spoke of her days in Perham with pride and said she often uses PHS as a template of "what works" while working to develop new schools in California. Both speakers commended the area communities for pulling together to support the school district through the 549 Family Foundation. We are very honored they were both able to join us!

Josh Johnson, PHS Class of 2003, also took a turn at the podium to let us know how he's doing at Stanford University and the opportunities his background from this district have given him.

Displays from Laurentian, Science Research, Concert Choir, 8th Grade Computer Applications, 8th grade Water Testing lined the hallways along with National History Day Exhibits and Quilts made by Mary Karkela's 8th graders. Artwork and carvings from PHS and PWMS and district trophies were admired as centerpieces at the dining tables.

Thank you to all who were able to join us in celebrating some of many ISD#549 successes. We're proud of its students, its staff and all the people who volunteer their time to bring our community closer together.

www.549family.com

218-347-0549

Board Members:

Brian Mort, President

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Jo Strege, Coordinator

David Arvig

Bob Wilkowski

Tom Spencer

Tom Tomporowski

Superintendent to Advise:

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