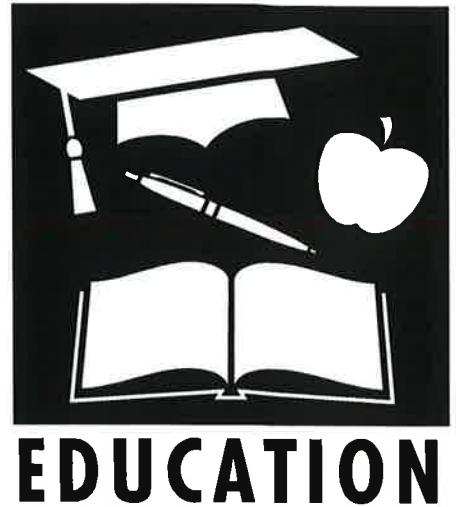


# DISTRICT 840 FOUNDATION

## NEWSLETTER



Year 16, Number 2

December 2018

### **ALL SCHOOL REUNION - JUNE 22, 2019**

The invitations have been mailed from the updated addresses I have. If someone wants a registration form to attend the noon dinner that day, go to the [www.stjames.k12.mn.us](http://www.stjames.k12.mn.us) website, click on the District 840 Foundation tab, then go to the All School Reunion tab to retrieve the registration. Money must be sent in with the registration form to attend the dinner.

Our reunion is taking place on the same weekend as the St. James Railroad Days celebration, which is great, because there is so much to see and do here that weekend for all ages! You will have to keep checking the Chamber of Commerce website for all the updates as they happen!

I always look forward to the All School Reunion, because you can catch up with so many people that did not graduate with you and see what they are doing!

If you have not been back to St. James for awhile this is a great time to come and see the changes to our school!

We will be giving school tours Saturday afternoon for all three buildings and I will set up a memorabilia room in the Armstrong School that will be open Saturday. The Historical Building will have additional items for people to view from their school days. If anyone wishes to borrow some past items to the Foundation that weekend, we would love it! The new picture wall at the new St. James High School Event Center is a great item to view, many years span the wall. Please let others know about this event who you think may be interested in coming! Remember to check the Chamber website for activities happening that weekend - [www.ci.stjames.mn.us](http://www.ci.stjames.mn.us).

**Hope to see you in June!**

## **MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT**

As the school year commenced a year ago, students and staff moved into new and renovated spaces. As the 18-19 school year started, the district was completing the last piece of the \$24 million project from the 2015 referendum vote. The last piece is an outdoor middle/high school recreation area. This area features an expanded outdoor cafeteria space. It also has a play area with six basketball hoops and an artificial grass area to run, play or kick a soccer ball. This area has been used by our students a lot already this fall and is a much safer play area than what previously existed.

In addition to this final piece, the Board of Education used deferred maintenance revenue to replace the windows on the south side of the High School and also improve parking lots and sidewalks. There is always work that can be done, but we have made a lot of progress in two quick years.

There is now "talk" of an outdoor classroom at the Northside Elementary School. We are working with a contractor to develop a plan and get costs for this project. The Board of Education has not approved any funds at this point, but we hope that donations will help offset this project to make it a reality sometime in the near future.

With the help of the District 840 Foundation, we are focusing on equipping the buildings with technology and equipment that keeps our schools progressive. One of the most recent approvals from the foundation is the addition of a projector to the Little Theater at the High School. This will be accessible to larger groups of classes.

Tis the season to be thankful and merry from the staff and students at the St. James Public Schools. I thank you for your continued support and interest in the education of our children.

Sincerely,

**Becky Cselovszki, Superintendent of Schools**



**STJAMES SCHOOL – NEWS**

We have 1040 students total between our PreK students through our 12<sup>th</sup> grade. There are 462 students in our Northside Elementary, with the smallest class being the 4<sup>th</sup> grade with 66 and the largest class being our 3rd grade with 85.

In the high school we have a total of 503 and the smallest class size goes to the sixth grade with 61 students and the largest class is seventh grade with 84 students.

Our school is about 50/50 with Ethnicity/Race. We had eight new teachers start in the fall of the year.

## 2018 HOMECOMING



**Landon Hoppe and Renata Hernandez** were crowned the King and Queen in the St. James High School Pioneer Bank Event Center on Thursday night, September 20<sup>th</sup>. The students in both schools had a fun Spirit Week planned, filled with events and a different dress code each day. The Homecoming game was played against Redwood Valley on Friday night. The St. James Athletics Hall of Fame inducted their 2018 Class on Saturday of the week of Homecoming.



Our St. James Area Girls Tennis had an excellent team season finishing with 23 wins and 3 losses. Renata Hernandez won the Section 3A Singles Championship and the doubles team of Zoie Becker/Ellie Becker won the Section 3A Doubles Championship. The team was recognized as a Gold Academic Team and also has four All State Academic Senior Players – Hannah Loewen, Zoie Becker, Renata Hernandez, and Miranda Tetzloff. Renata established a new school record for career wins of 146! (The previous record was 136 wins) Zoie joined an elite group of players with more than 100 wins. The 7-12 teams had 47 players comprising of the Varsity, JV and C level teams. There were six seniors on the team this past season. Les Zellmann is the coach.



The St. James Area Girls volleyball team is coached by Steve Chapin. The team was awarded the Gold Award for having a team average of 3.80 or higher. There were four seniors that received the All-State Academic Award; Eve Anderson, Hailey Harbitz, Danielle Chapin, and Mariah Leimer. Danielle Chapin was named to the Big South Conference Team and Olivia Fredin was named to the Big South Conference Honorable Mention Team. There were seven seniors on the team this past season. The team ended their season with nine wins.



The Boys and Girls Cross-Country Teams are coached by Brad Stark. They had a wonderful year. The boys' record was 131-18 and the girls went 34-86. Paola Acevedo recorded a 5K time of 19:19 in the section 2A meet. This is a new girl's 5K record! The boy's team won the Big South Conference Small School Conference title. All-Conference awards went to Seth Pierson, Troy Parulski, and Alex Knickrehm. All-Conference Honorable Mention went to Jackson Miest, Mauricio Vite, and Paola Acevedo. All-State Academic Honors went to Seth Pierson. The boys received honors as a Gold Standard Academic Team and the girls reached the Silver Standard Honor.

The Boys' team won the Section 2A Title to go compete in the State Meet. All Section Honors went to Seth Pierson, Troy Parulski, Paola Acevedo, and Alex Knickrehm. At the State Meet they finished 11<sup>th</sup> in the State!

There were 43 students in 7-12 grades out for Cross-Country, 32 boys and 11 girls. The team had 11 seniors this past season.



The St. James High School Musical performance was "All Shook Up" this past November. This play was a fun, Elvis Presley type musical play with 23 talented students singing, dancing, and doing some wonderful acting! The fall play was directed by Linda Becken.



The St. James Area Football Team was able to play on their own hometown field this past season, since it was down all last year for updating repairs. The season record was 3-6. All Conference team honors went to Parker Jones, Jacob Brey, and Cole Durheim. Making the All Conference Honorable Mention team was Kobe Mohwinkel and Tallin Johnson.

Parker Jones was the only member of the Big South Conference to be named to the Class AA All-State Academic Team. Our Saints team is coached by Jon Wilson.



The District 840 Foundation has been helping our St. James Public Schools since 2001; to date we have granted the schools \$645,217!! The money has been used in multiple ways to help educate our students. Our latest grants have gone towards two 8<sup>th</sup> grade field trips, one to the Bell Museum and the other to see the play, "The Diary of Anne Frank". What a great learning opportunity for the kids! We donated Math calculators to sixth grade, to be used for the Minnesota State Tests. The Middle School Art Class started a photography unit on using cameras. We helped purchase cameras for this. The English Dept. purchased hard copies of novels they will be reading, so everything isn't read on a screen. Our largest recent donation was for a projector for the Little Theater. This will be used to help hold classes with more students.

You can go on [www.stjames.k12.mn.us](http://www.stjames.k12.mn.us), click on the District 840 Foundation to view what we have granted the school to date, some pretty amazing educational items!

## **Fund raising is a large part of where we get our money to donate to the school!**

Our most common year round donations come from memorial gifts and regular donations honoring someone. The donations are listed in the newsletter and includes who you would like to donate in memory or honor of.



Our "Cash For Kids" auction is our favorite and most profitable fund raiser to date! We hope to make \$20,000-\$25,000 every year. That can be a little tricky since we have done the same auction for 16 years! We have a wonderful giving community! Anyone can donate to this, if you have an item for the auction, just send it to me at the school. Mark your calendars for the next auction, **March 31, 2019**, there is something for all ages!

**FORD DRIVE 4UR SCHOOL** This past fall we had a Drive 4UR School put on by Spaeth Ford. This was our third one; we actually raised the top dollar amount we could, \$6,000!! This program gives us \$20 for each person that test drives a Ford vehicle, up to 300 people. We hope we are able to have another drive in the future.



Golfing can be fun when you are attending a fund raiser! We have our annual golf tournament with the St. James Chamber and St. James Rotary Club during our Railroad Days celebration. This event usually nets our foundation around \$5,500, which is a great fund raiser for us and a fun time for those who participate! Come join us June 21, 2019, the day before our All School Reunion.



We also raise money by selling gift cards throughout the school year. It is a nice program for people to purchase a card at face value and the foundation gets a percentage of the value from the retailer – (win-win) for all!



We held our second annual fashion show, "Women, Wine, and Wonderful Finds" this past November. It was a lot of fun and we have a date set for next year - November 9, 2019!



Do you order on line from Amazon? If you do, please consider going to the smile. Amazon site and designate the District 840 Foundation as your charity of choice, if you do not have one already. It is a great way to donate to us and no extra cost to you. The small amounts add up fast!

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS:



## Sponsor (\$5.00-\$99.00)

Howard & Audrey Schmidtke – Memory of John Ness  
Marsha & Larry Schultz – Memory of John Ness  
Dale & Pam Runge – Memory of Ken Bishop  
Helen Gratz & Family – Memory of Fred Gratz  
Darrell & Margaret Davis – Memory of Lyle Schroeder & Butch Coleman  
Neil & Betty Anderson – Memory of Ruth (Johnson) Zender '51"  
Dale & Pam Runge – Memory of Linda Dempsey & Fred Gratz  
Kay Groth – Memory of Bernita Kuehl  
Brian & Marilynn Hesse – Memory of Doranne Larson & Linda Dempsey  
Bob & Judy Harder – Memory of Linda Dempsey  
Kay (Bolte) Groth – Memory of Arlo Hurley '56"  
Darlene Magnus – Memory of Elsie (Bierman) Haler  
Trent & Melissa Hudson – Memory of Linda Dempsey  
Dale & Pam Runge – Memory of Ardis Schulte  
Wallace & Phyllis Jurgens – Memory of Linda Dempsey  
Rosella Johnson – Memory of Muriel Henderson & Phyllis Conway  
Carol Heckman – Memory of Carol Jacoby '55"  
Wallace & Phyllis Jurgens – Memory of Carol Jacoby  
Bob & Judy Harder – Memory of Carol Jacoby  
Fraternal Order of Eagles – Memory of Linda Dempsey  
Dale & Pam Runge – Memory of Lorrie Odegard  
Norman & Barbara Moody – Memory of Ken Bishop & Ron Bocock  
Dale & Pam Runge – Memory of Howard Schmidtke & Rhonda Heller  
Marilyn Veglahn – Memory of Howard Schmidtke  
Richard & Sheila Spitzner – Memory of Phyllis Conway, John Ness, Mike Peterson, Howard Schmidtke  
Craig & Beth Christiansen – Memory of Howard Schmidtke  
Brenda Olson – Memory of Mike Peterson  
Marjorie Jenkins – Memory of Howard Schmidtke  
Evie Bishman – Memory of Howard Schmidtke  
Bill Brown – Memory of Howard Schmidtke  
Bud & Lois Thompson – Memory of Rhonda Heller  
Mary Lou Oldenburg – Memory of Clarence Niemeier  
Norman & Barbara Moody – Memory of Howard Schmidtke  
Dale & Marlene Eckstrom – Memory of Clarence Niemeier  
Leslie & Gladys Lewis – Memory of Sarah Becker, Clarence Niemeier, Eldon Kinzi  
Rosie Johnson – Memory of Fred Gratz  
Dale & Pam Runge – Memory of Sarah Becker & Eldon Kintzi  
Bob & Judy Harder – Memory of Clarence Niemeier  
Wally & Phyllis Jurgens – Memory of Eldon Kintzi  
Dale & Pam Runge – Memory of Gladys Carlson & Jan Zender  
Class of 1998 – Memory of Marlene Fastenau  
Wallace & Phyllis Jurgens – Memory of Gladys Carlson  
Bud & Lois Thompson – Memory of Beverly Thompson  
Bill & Betty Berg – Memory of Beverly Thompson  
Ralph Otte – In Honor of my 1967 Classmates  
Marjorie Jenkins – Memory of Jan Zender  
Dale & Marlene Eckstrom – Memory of Dick Romsdahl  
Vernell Frederickson – Memory of Gladys Carlson  
Bill & Jo Yock – Memory of John Ness, Phyllis Conway, Carol Jacoby, Arlo Hurley, & Dick Jensen  
Leon & Ardis Leimer – Memory of Jan Zender  
Dale & Pam Runge – Memory of Nancy Kruse  
Paul Ekstedt – Memory of Michael T. Peterson '74"  
Wallace & Phyllis Jurgens – Memory of Beverly Thompson & Troy Westman  
Bob & Judy Harder – Memory of Jan Zender  
Marilyn Warling – Memory of George Munson  
Rosella Johnson – Memory of Jan Zender  
Richard Bolin Family – Memory of George Munson  
Dale & Pam Runge – Memory of Hubert Branstad  
Dale & Marlene Eckstrom – Memory of George Munson  
Karen Davis – Memory of Howard Munson  
Mary Lou Oldenburg – Memory of Viola Noren  
Janet Peterson – Memory of George Munson  
Audrey Welchlin – Memory of George Munson  
Marilyn Hudson – Memory of George Munson  
Rich & Sue Enger – Memory of George Munson  
Wallace & Phyllis Jurgens – Memory of George Munson & Dale Anderson  
Bud & Lois Thompson – Memory of Julie Niemeier  
Dale & Pam Runge – Memory of Leslie Lewis  
STJ Eagles Club – Memory of John Ness  
Darrell & Leora Ask – Memory of Sara Becker, Jan Zender, & Eldon Kintzi  
Karl & Maryn Wassman – Memory of George Munson  
Kevin & Betty Jones – Memory of George Munson  
Mike & Janice Ryan – Memory of George Munson  
Shannon Brekke – George Munson  
Jim & Lois Roberts – Memory of Hubert Branstad  
Judith Munson – Memory of Bill Monroe  
Shirley Hegdahl – Memory of Dale L. Anderson  
Wallace & Phyllis Jurgens – Memory of Gloria Granheim  
Stefano & Lisa Lozito – Memory of Bonnie Bolin  
Scott & Kari Werdahl – Memory of Bonnie Bolin  
Richard & Patricia Valen – Memory of Don Fastenau  
Eugene & Carol Zarn – Memory of Jackie Carter

**Audrey Peterson** – Memory of George Munson  
**Wallace & Phyllis Jurgens** – Memory of Bill Monroe & Don Fastenau  
**Bob & Jeanie Munsterman** – Memory of George Munson  
**Eunice Wiederhoeft** – Memory of George Munson  
**Bob & Judy Harder** – Memory of Jackie Carter  
**Dale & Pam Runge** – Memory of Bob Friesen & Al Haler  
**Marilyn Veglahn** – Memory of Bud Plumhoff  
**Marjorie Jenkins** – Memory of Bud Plumhoff  
**Bill & Jo Yock** – Memory of George Munson & Don Fastenau  
**Richard Bolin Family** – Memory of Bob Friesen  
**Eugene & Carol Zarn** – Memory of Bob Friesen

### **Fan (\$100.00-\$499.00)**

**John & Dorothy Jackson**  
**Audrae Goodballet** – Memory of A. Steinberg  
**Lois Miller**  
**Steve Warren**  
**James & Donna Brittsan**  
**Class of 1981** – Memory of Classmate Karla Wolle  
**Dora Aponte Meyer** – Memory of John Henry Meyer  
**Robert & Nancy Perrier** – Memory of Audrey (Perrier) Brey  
**Robert & Nancy Perrier** – Memory of Theodore Perrier  
**Modern Woodmen of America** – Honor of Hometown Hero  
**Class of 1945** – Memory of Arden Curry, Lucille Malmgren, George Morgan, Don Ward Buchanan, & Betty Eisenhuth  
**Duane & Carolyn Olsen** – Memory of George Munson  
**Class of 1968** – Honor & Memory of the 1968 Classmates  
**Anderson, Oanes, & Schreiner Families** – Memory of Dale L. Anderson  
**Richard & Beverly Moody**

### **Cheerleader (\$500.00-\$999.00)**

**Barb Ness and Family** – Memory of John Ness  
**Tom Augustine** – To be used in High School Math & Science

### **Booster (\$1,000.00-\$4,999.00)**

**St. James Community Fund**  
**Class of 1963** – Honor and Memory of Classmates of 1963

### **Champion (Over \$5,000.00)**

## **Thank you for your support!!!**

**The District 840 Foundation is a tax deduction under section 501(c)(3).**

### **Ways to Give:**

- \*Outright gifts of cash, securities, and real estate are common ways to give
- \*Estate gifts
- \*Gifts in Honor or Memory of someone special
- \*We accept Thrivent Choice Dollars

**HALL OF FAME**

The Hall of Fame for sports will be next year (2019) at Homecoming time. If you would like to nominate someone, contact Jon Wilson ([jwilson@isd840.org](mailto:jwilson@isd840.org)) for a form to fill out. The

Nomination Committee looks for an athlete, coach (head or assistant), and a contributor.



School Board news – alumni Dustin Anderson has gone off the board and the new board member is alumni, Kent Olson. Once again, out of six members, four are alumni; Kent, Michelle (Mayberry) Mohlenbrock, Richard Spitzner, and Scott Runge.

### **St. James:**

**Railroad Days**  
June 20-23, 2019

**All School Reunion**  
June 22, 2019

**Watonwan County Fair**  
July 18-21, 2019

**Relay for Life**  
July 26, 2019

**Multicultural Event**  
September 14, 2019



You should not see signs like this next summer! Hopefully when you come and visit St. James, there will be no construction, the roads are done! Deer Park will have a different, better look to it. The roundabouts are working well!

# District 840 FOUNDATION

It takes a whole community to educate a child!

When people move to a new community, one of the first things they check out is the school system. Your gift will not only help to make our schools shine, but it will enhance the economic development of our community by attracting new families with children.

A hundred years from now it will not matter what your bank account was, the sort of house you lived in, or the kind of car you drove...But the world may be different because you invested in the children.

## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the District 840 Foundation is to enhance and support the efforts of the St. James School District to provide the best possible education for the children of our community. They are our future.

## Your Gift DOES make A Difference

DISTRICT 840 FOUNDATION

P.O. Box 509

500 3rd Avenue South

St. James, Minnesota 56081

Phone: 507-375-5974 ext. #4

Join Us On The Internet.....

[www.stjames.k12.mn.us](http://www.stjames.k12.mn.us)

Click On.....

District 840 Foundation

## OFFICIAL STATUS OF THE DISTRICT 840 FOUNDATION

The District 840 Foundation is officially established in accordance with the current and applicable laws and pursuant to the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, as amended, and the regulations issued thereunder. The District 840 Foundation, a non-profit charitable organization as defined under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, offers educational financial assistance, programs and services to all people without regard to race, religion, sex, or national origin and is an equal opportunity, affirmative action, Title IX organization.

## GOAL

The goal of the District 840 Foundation is to raise funds to invest back into the school district. This will be done in three ways:

## DESIGNATED FUNDS

You may wish to donate funds in support of a particular project or need of the St. James School District. The Foundation will make every effort to ensure that the funds you donate are used in the manner you have designated.

## UNDESIGNATED FUNDS

You may wish to let the Foundation determine the best way to use your gift. This will be done through an in-house granting process. Any District employee can request funds from the Foundation for a specific need through this process. The Foundation Board will determine the outcome of these requests.

## ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Donations to the endowment fund will be invested, and the interest accrued on these investments will be used by the Foundation to fund projects and needs.

<b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>\$5-\$99</b>
<b>FAN</b>	<b>\$100-\$499</b>
<b>CHEERLEADER</b>	<b>\$500-\$999</b>
<b>BOOSTER</b>	<b>\$1,000-\$4,999</b>
<b>CHAMPION</b>	<b>OVER \$5,000</b>

## UNDESIGNATED

## ENDOWMENT

## DESIGNATED

**Please contact us for Estate Planning Or Gifting.**

*In support of the District 840 Foundation I/We would like to make a donation for:*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

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

I/We pledge a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

The balance will be paid (please select)

\_\_\_\_\_ Annually      \_\_\_\_\_ Semi-Annually

\_\_\_\_\_ Quarterly      \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly

\_\_\_\_\_ One time gift

I/We would like to make this commemorative gift:

In Honor Of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory Of \_\_\_\_\_

**District 840 Foundation**  
**P.O. Box 509**  
**500 3rd Avenue South**  
**St. James, MN 56081**

NON PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
US POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 217  
ST. JAMES, MN  
56081

**Board Members**

Pam (Ness) Runge, Director  
Nicole Meyer, Treasurer  
Becky Cselovszki, Supt.  
Doug Storbeck, NS Principal  
Karla Beck, HS Principal  
Jay (Sturm) Stremann  
Ryan Schmidt  
Derrick Miest - Vice-chair  
Stephanie (Sandmeyer) Leimer  
Jane Kuhlman  
Les Zellmann  
Mark Collier  
Travis Elg  
Marilyn (Hanson) Nelson  
Arica Connell  
Beth (Windschitl) Johnson  
Dustin Anderson - Chair  
Carlos Solorzano - Student Rep.  
Grace Piercy - Student Rep.



*In Remembrance*

*Remembering..... Classmates, faculty, and friends*

Marilyn (Janovsky) Knowles "52"	October 2017	Richard Jensen "56"	September 2018
Anne (Hudson) Kennedy "54"	January 2018	Gladys (Askeland) Carlson "47"	September 2018
James Jamieson "55"	January 2018	Marilyn (Sandquist) Holt "62"	September 2018
Loyd Hanson "46"	February 2018	Nancy (Hagen) Kruse "65"	October 2018
Carol (Kintzi) Schroeder	February 2018	Melvin Engelbrecht (past school employee)	October 2018
Betty Eisenhuth	April 2018	Irene (Olson) Goskeson "52"	October 2018
Sylvia (Curtis) Smith "50"	June 2018	Viola (Lange) Noren "49"	October 2018
Leonard Sorbel	July 2018	Dale Anderson "67"	October 2018
Linda (Sanders) Dempsey "73"	July 2018	Julie Niemeier "78"	October 2018
Michael T. Peterson "74"	July 2018	Lowell Bloomquist "65"	October 2018
Jerry Peters	July 2018	Richard Paul "51"	October 2018
Marlene (Rathman) Fastenau "73"	July 2018	Troy Westman "84"	October 2018
Ron Bocock "68"	July 2018	Carol (Ayres) Bratland "61"	October 2018
Carol (Forseth) Jacoby	July 2018	George Munson "52"	November 2018
Juanita (Kreisch) Boldt	July 2018	Barbara (Benson) Hoye "45"	November 2018
Kristin (Peterson) Oehlke	July 2018	Don Fastenau "56"	November 2018
Carol Knaak (past school employee)	August 2018	Patricia Wick "48"	November 2018
Howard Schmidtke (past school teacher)	August 2018	Florranie (Hoffman) Williams "44"	November 2018
Rhonda (Stade) Heller "71"	August 2018	William Monroe "51"	November 2018
Clarence Niemeier "49"	August 2018	Gloria (Durow) Granheim "43"	November 2018
Trudell (Oren) Peterson "47"	August 2018	Jackie Carter	November 2018
Cecilia (Coree) Aronson "66"	August 2018	Robert Friesen "60"	December 2018
Eldon Kintzi "44"	September 2018	Bud Plumhoff (past school teacher)	December 2018
Keith Frederickson "80"	September 2018	Edward (Al) Haler "44"	December 2018
		David A. Johnson "55"	December 2018
		Leila (Hudson) Anderson	December 2018