



Members of the ORHS Class of 1967 unveil their landscaping fundraising project at the April 23rd meeting of the Oak Ridge School Board. *Front row* (L to R): Rose (Gallman) Remine, School Board Member Dan DeGregorio, Barbara (Lynch) Martin, Karen Edwards, School Board Member Angi Agle, and Pete Scott. *Second Row* (L to R): School Board Member Keys Fillauer, School Board Member Jennifer Richter, Becky (Crouch) Norwood, David Hackett, and School Board Chairman John Smith, Jr.

Oak Ridge High School Graduating Class of 1967

Press Release

April 24, 2007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Class of 1967 (and Friends) Unveil a Major Fundraiser to Benefit the Oak Ridge High School

OAK RIDGE, TN -- At last evening's Oak Ridge School Board meeting, members of the Oak Ridge High School Graduating Class of 1967 formally announced the kickoff of a major fundraising project to benefit the Oak Ridge High School. The fund raiser will help pay for much-needed landscaping around the community's remodeled high school.

Oak Ridge High School is currently undergoing an extensive, 50-million-dollar renovation. The

renovated high school complex will feature a number of significant upgrades, including: a brand [new](#) learning center; a new gymnasium; a state-of-the-art auditorium; and a new administrative wing.

Until recently, about \$250,000 had been set aside to help pay for landscaping for the new complex. However, the landscaping funds were eliminated as part of a cost-savings initiative by the school system.

""We learned of the budget cuts and decided to try and help,"" said Ms. Karen Edwards, member of the Class of '67 and Chair of the fundraiser. ""I think I speak for many graduates when I say we are deeply grateful for the outstanding education we received from the Oak Ridge school system.""

""Now we have an opportunity to give something back. This project will allow us to help create a green environment for students at the renovated high school. We hope that this will enrich the school's educational atmosphere.""

While the project is being sponsored by the Class of '67, the organizers say they are seeking contributions from a wide range of those interested in the success of the Oak Ridge schools.

""This is much more than an activity by the Class of '67,"" said Ms. Edwards. ""We want to reach out to as many folks as possible. We are calling this the project of the Class of '67 ""[and friends.](#)""

People can designate their contributions towards 11 separate landscaping sub projects, such as:

- The 15 oak trees needed to line the high school's new front ellipse,
- The 6 flowering trees in the new cafeteria garden, or
- The landscaping needed outside the new science wing.

Or, they can make donations towards the landscaping fund in general.

""We were very disappointed when the landscaping budget was cut,"" said Oak Ridge School Board Chairman, Mr. John Smith, Jr. ""Landscaping beautifies the high school's campus environment---an important feature for current (as well as future) students. I cannot tell you how much we appreciate the Class of '67 stepping forward to help close the funding gap. We are very grateful.""

Interested individuals and businesses can send a tax-deductible contribution to:

ORHS Class of '67

40th Reunion Project

c/o Karen Edwards

254 Babbs Road

Lenoir City, TN 37771

Please make checks payable to ""ORHS '67 Class Project.""

Or, if people wish they can contact Ms. Edwards directly at (865) 376-3453 or at edwardskc@att.net

Ms. Karen Edwards graduated from Oak Ridge High School in 1967 and attended the University of Tennessee, where she earned a degree in Russian. She subsequently studied Russian at George Washington University and was employed by the National Security Agency as a translator. She returned to Oak Ridge where she was employed by the Department of Energy for many years. She is currently the co-owner of a small technology firm and lives with her family on a farm just outside Oak Ridge. In addition to her many family and business interests, Ms. Edwards (somehow) finds time to raise horses, cows, chickens, and golden retrievers!

The ORHS Class of '67 is celebrating its 40th reunion this June, during the city's annual Secret City Festival. The overall reunion chairman is Ms. Barbara (Lynch) Martin. She can be contacted at (865) 482-4327 or at bobbies_arts@hotmail.com.