



March 1, 2021
 See us on the Web @
Tumwaterhighalumni.com
 or on Facebook
 "Tumwater High School
 Alumni" group

THUNDER-CLAP

Official Newsletter of The
 Tumwater High School Alumni Association

**COVID-19
 EDITION**



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Thunderbird, in North American Indian mythology, a powerful spirit in the form of a bird. By its work, the earth was watered and vegetation grew. Lightning was believed to flash from its beak, and the beating of its wings was thought to represent the rolling of thunder. It was often portrayed with an extra head on its abdomen. The thunderbird was frequently accompanied by lesser spirits, often in the form of eagles. An associate of Tumwater High School, current student, administration, or alumni.



Tumwater High School Alumni Association

Message from the President

Tumwater High School Alumni Association

Message from the President

January 2021



Greetings THS Alumni!

As we launch into the New Year, we are in the midst of a global pandemic which began shortly after the last New Year. This has significantly affected all scheduled activities for 2020 and may impact our plans for 2021. Monthly in person board meetings became Zoom meetings from home; our annual fund-raiser, Artesian Golf Classic was cancelled; and our planned "All Class Reunion" at Sherman Valley Ranch was also cancelled.

In spite of the pandemic, THSAA decided to increase our scholarship awards for the class of 2020. Based on prior years revenue from the Artesian Golf Classic as well as donations from very generous alumni, we were able to award six scholarships at \$1,500 per scholarship for a total of \$9,000. It would be hard to imagine having a senior year socially suspended due to a pandemic. The class of 2020 had to suspend winter and springs sports, dances, and also had a significantly reduced graduation ceremony. The kids deserve a lot of credit for persevering the year and THSAA was happy to boost scholarships compared to prior years.

Scholarship recipients were: **Jaidyn Carpenter** (Edna Belle Granacki Community Service Scholar), **Lillian Gow**, **Sunshine Roach**, **Elijah Stonerock**, **Trevor Verellen**, and **Chloe White**.

Currently, we have scheduled the 2021 Artesian Golf Classic at 1PM (Modified Shotgun start) on June 5, 2021 at Capitol City Golf Club and the THSAA "All Class Reunion" on August 28, 2021 at Sherman Valley Ranch. These dates are subject to change depending upon progress to contain the pandemic. Stay tuned at our website: tumwaterhighalumni.com or on Face Book: "Tumwater High School Alumni" group.

Again, I'd like to thank the THSAA Board members for their efforts during this challenging year.

Looking forward to a prosperous 2021 as we reminisce our high school past!

Leaning Forward,

Jim Ishihara, Class of '64

Membership In THSAA

THSAA MEMBERSHIP

THSAA membership: One time donation fee of \$25.00

Fees and Donations are tax deductible and help provide Scholarships to deserving graduating THS Seniors.

Join us and attend our fun and enjoyable activities by accessing the THSAA website at TumwaterHighAlumni.com. There you will find everything you need to become a THSAA member.

Message from Principal Broome



THS Alumni Association 20-21 letter:
Greetings THS Alumni,

Even during a global pandemic and school closures, it continues to be a great day to be a T-Bird. This year has been a challenging year and through it all the Tumwater community has continued to demonstrate Pride, Tradition and Courage.

Our current situation (January 2021)

We are currently in a remote learning mode. We have some teachers working on campus and most are working from home. Students are receiving lessons delivered via video and teachers are engaging students through live video sessions and through recorded video. Over the last 6 months, our teachers have done incredible work to learn new technology systems and increase their skill in on-line learning. Our students and families have stepped up to this new challenge and most of our students are doing well in this new way of learning. It is not the same as before, and we continue to work with families that are struggling to engage in on-line learning. It has been frustrating and challenging and I consistently see the THS community step up to every challenge.

Looking Ahead

At the time of writing this, we are planning on returning to in-person learning at some point in February. Our school board has adopted a re-entry plan that includes cooperation and support from Thurston County Department of health. When we are back in school in the building, we will be in hybrid mode, we will have half of our students on campus at one time. This will feel very different and we will continue to require students and staff to wear masks and remain socially distant. Some of the great things about THS, sports, clubs and assemblies will all need to look very different.

Sports and Activities

WIAA, the governing body for athletics and activities continues to work closely with schools to reschedule athletics. Right now, we are targeting Mid-February for a restart of sports that were originally slated for the Fall. Other sports season are planned for the remainder of the spring, they will be shorter seasons and there will be limitations of fans at the events. It is so important that we give our students a chance to be a part of sports and activities event if it is a modified season. We continue to make the most of a difficult situation and our athletic director has been working diligently to make sure that as many students as possible can participate.

In the end, this will all be over. We will return to school and we will continue to thrive as a school. While COVID pandemic has had a significant impact on our community, we will re-build and thrive when we return. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Jeff Broome

THS Principal

Class of 1997

Reunion Romance

On September 14, 2019 THS Alumni Association held its very first all class reunion at Sherman Valley Ranch. The event was well attended and two former classmates were brought together that evening. Lee (Toler) Lee was not planning to attend the event and when the call went out for an extra ice chest, she had one, and decided she could haul it out in her truck. Vaughn Hagen wasn't planning to attend this event, either, but his sister talked him into it at the last minute. Lee is a Class of '72 Alum and Vaughn would have been THS Class of '72, had he not moved with his family to Moses Lake in 1970. Lee tells me that Vaughn has actually attended all the THS Class of '72 class reunions with the exception of one over the years, though. Whatever magic was in the air the night of the all class reunion, the THSAA Board is happy to take credit for bringing these two together and the rest is history. See the pictorial timeline that ended in the marriage of this happy couple on May 2, 2020. COVID-19 couldn't stop them.

Picture #1. 10/24/19 - Lee and Vaughn at the Sandbar in Tacoma for Lee's brother's karaoke showcase. (Her brother, Rob, is a 1980 THS Alum.)

Picture # 2. 10/25/19 - Pioneer Bowl

Picture #3. 10/26/19 – THS Dance Team Gala

Picture #4. 12/6/19 – “He asked, I said yes.” Engagement photo at Tumwater Falls Park.

Picture #5. 5/2/20 – Wedding Day



He asked, I said yes!! ❤️❤️❤️

May 2, 2020 · 🌐



2020 Scholarship Winners

THSAA awarded six \$1,500 secondary education scholarships to six graduating THS seniors. The graduates are Jaiden Carpenter, Lilian Gow, Sunshine Roach, Elijah Stonerock, Trevor Verellen, and Chloe White. The scholarship selection is made based upon leadership and scholarship. These persons are fine examples of the values of THS and the alumni association. Congratulations Jaiden, Lilian, Sunshine, Elijah, Trevor, and Chloe.

“What it will mean to be a THS graduate and how I will carry on the values of THS”

Jaidyn Carpenter (Edna Belle Granacki, Community Service Scholar)

I am honored that I get to call myself a Tumwater High School graduate. It was always a given that I would attend Tumwater because my mom is a proud THS graduate and we were raised with Bird Pride. We bleed green! So many THS alumni are supportive of the school and attend sporting events and concerts. I know many of the teachers and staff are THS alumni and their children go to Tumwater Schools too. The values and traditions built at this school carry on from generation to generation.

The values that I learned while attending THS will always stay with me. We have been encouraged, since elementary school, to be respectful, responsible and kind. We've been inspired to get involved in our school and in the community. THS Key Club allowed me to participate in community service and I have found a passion for it. I've been the President of Key Club for two years and I've been able to set up a lot of service opportunities for our members. Being involved in Key Club as well as THS Fastpitch have helped me build confidence and positive self-esteem. I've grown so much over these four years. Celebrating accomplishments like taking 4th at state in softball last year and crying together during hard times, we've become Bird family. I will always be grateful to THS, my teachers and coaches.

Choosing to do the Running start program at SPSCC was a difficult decision for me. Academically, I felt ready for the challenge, but emotionally I was sad to not be in the halls of THS every day. Luckily, THS has such amazing extra-curricular activities that I never felt like I was missing out. I could still go to football games, participate in club activities and sports after school. Ultimately, I chose to do running start because I could complete two years of college hopefully saving me about \$ 50,000 in college expenses. My goal is to become a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) which requires eight years of college.

The current events with COVID-19 are keeping our THS family apart. Not only is it heartbreaking for me personally, but our whole 2020 class is missing the milestones we've talked about and dreamed about since kindergarten. The hardest part for me is missing my senior season of softball with the girls and coaches that have become my family.

I am proud that I will be a graduate of Tumwater High School. As I move away to college and eventually settle down in a career and hopefully with a family, I know I will always support my Birds. If I stay in this community, I will be active cheering in the green & gold! I've been so blessed to be part of a rich tradition at Tumwater and I hope my children grow up feeling the same pride in their hometown as I do.



“What it will mean to be a THS graduate and how I will carry on the values of THS”

Lillian Gow

You are not successful until you have failed. Being a Tumwater student has taught me that it is ok to fail. That when you fail you have to keep pushing. I am proud to be graduating from Tumwater High School because we are a proud school and we show it. During my four years I have seen how much care goes around our school; I see how much the staff care about the students, I see students caring about one another. As a transfer student freshman year it was hard, I went from attending a 2B school to a 2A school; not only were the staff welcoming, but the students as well. I made friends very quickly. I wouldn't have wanted to go to any other high school because of the high school and community. I have grown to pursue college so that I might help others by getting a degree in social services or social work. At the beginning of the school year, I wanted to be a journalist; as of now I want to do something to help my city, state, and country. I want people to live a healthy and happy life. I have always been a leader and a contributor, I have always been the one to take charge in tough situations. I want to have the control of taking people that are in bad situations out of them and providing them with the tools to keep them safe and make them successful. There is too much darkness in our society today so there needs to be more light. As I walk around the high school I can tell some students are in tough situations.

As I sit in the counseling center every day I see students come in needing something due to something not having or being enough. This has become the reason of the career path I am wanting to take. It is because of Tumwater High School, that I want to do more in our community when I am older to spread more light around the city, state and country and take some of the darkness away from kids that have it in their life. Because of Tumwater I care more and want to spread the good further and further out into the world. I am beyond excited to see how my future pans out, and beyond excited to help those who are in need or want the help.



2020 Scholarship Winners Cont.

“What it will mean to be a THS graduate and how I will carry on the values of THS”

Sunshine Roach

I don't think I realized the value of my experience at Tumwater High School until just this year. It was like the way Hemingway described going bankrupt: "Gradually, and then suddenly." Some things in life we don't have space of mind to appreciate before their time in our lives is almost over, even if everyone warns you that 'those four years just fly by'. The high school experience is a stepping stone further into life, a way to figure out who you are and who you don't want to be. It's a time to make mistakes and terrible fashion choices. While I certainly experienced plenty of those experiences, Tumwater High School brings something more.

There's something special about spending a game night in the Nest. Everyone around you roars as we score with a break at halftime singing and dancing. This embodies so much of the sense of community Tumwater has and inspires in everyone here.

Something else Tumwater taught me was determination, persistence, and getting through it no matter what. No matter where you look in Tumwater High School there are pathways and steps to success, if you commit yourself to your goal. Teachers have Core/Flex to help students that need extra help on assignments or time on tests and school on Saturday to help make up missed class and earn needed credits. On my swim team, there was an extra practice on Saturdays for more improvement if you needed or wanted it. The counseling center is always open to help with any trouble, personal or otherwise, that you might be struggling with. What makes Tumwater special is the environment that has been created and built upon for success and the culture for the success to flourish.

While I did spend my final years taking advantage of the Running Start program, I did so only out of necessity. I have become increasingly aware of what I have lost, but I know it was the right choice for me in the end. I will graduate this June with two years of college under my belt, and with that, two years less college debt I will never have to repay as I head to UW Seattle. Yet, I did enroll in a class at the high school this fall because I missed this school. If there was a way to get both, I would've gladly taken that choice. However, in my financial situation, I had to make the best choice for my future, and that did mean choosing Running Start.

I wholeheartedly believe that the experience of Tumwater High School is a unique one. Our community faces trials and adversity together, showing our true colors in the most trying of times. We will get through this current one together, and come through it stronger than before. Through the lessons I have been taught here and the love I have been shown by both my peers and my teachers, I hope to continue the Tumwater tradition of love, community, and the spirit of hope and determination in the darkest of times and as I go into the world, doing my part to make it a better place.



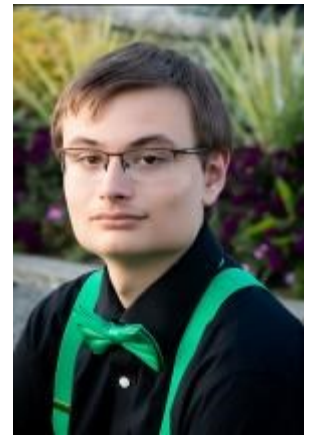
“What it will mean to be a THS graduate and how I will carry on the values of THS”

Elijah Stonerock

Two primary characteristics define THS graduates: community involvement and striving to learn. THS graduates are models for the school by living by the values of THS. In order to live up to values, such as respect, never giving up (or NGUNGU), active participation, and teamwork. A THS graduate must participate in community and want to learn. I embodied those characteristics at THS and will continue to embody the values of THS after graduating. I participated in community activities such as Choir and Boy Scouts. Performing in choir concerts filled me with vigor, and I grew a passion for music. After completing Men's Choir Sophomore year, I auditioned for both Concert Choir and Honors Choir (or Notables) the next year. I sang at various venues like McCaw Hall and the Washington State Capitol Building. During my time at THS, I spent much of my time in Boy Scouts. That kept me involved with the beautiful natural landscape of Washington and with community service. My time serving as a leader in my troop, actively engaging in scouting events, and doing community service lead me to earn the highest rank in scouting: The Eagle Rank. To show the scope of community service, I spent 37 hours repairing a set of stairs and building a fence at my local church just for my Eagle project. The values of THS are present in being involved with those two activities. My desire to go study music at a community college shows how I will never give up on my passion and how I will work in a team.

The position of an Eagle Scout comes with both honor and a promise to help the community. THS graduates also want to learn. I took advanced classes throughout high school because I wanted to challenge myself. I learned the most particularly in AP Literature, AP Government, and Notables. Throughout it all, I showed my growth through my academic achievements and high grades. At THS, I got into the Top Ten percentile half way through my Sophomore and Senior years. While I was at a different school during my Freshman year, I made it into the Dean's List.

My time with the Debate Team also shows my desire for education (and even further community involvement). The team spends hours researching topics and formulating arguments. Because of the structure of the debate, we must understand both sides of the topic and stand ready to defend either one. I learned how to extensively research materials and how I want to challenge my own beliefs by listening to my opposition. After high school, I want to travel the world and challenge my beliefs by experiencing different cultures. Just as I learned in debate, I can research more and defend my beliefs through travel. The adventure of high school taught me many values of THS, and my character reflects this.



2020 Scholarship Winners Cont.

What it will mean to be a THS graduate and how I will carry on the values of THS”

Trevor Verellen

I am honored to be part of the Tumwater High School experience. The things I have learned from my time at this school will surely not go unused. They will be part of me for the rest of my life.

Graduating from Tumwater High School is a major privilege. To be part of the proud history of this school is something that I can't even describe in words. You only graduate from high school once, so I am grateful to have been part of such a special one. This graduation not only signifies the next step of my life, but also all the lessons and memories that have gone into the past four years. This graduation will forever remind me of the ties I have to this school, these people, and this community, and that is a treasure in itself.

The knowledge and abilities I have gained from Tumwater High School have prepared me for what lies ahead. I have a hard work mentality that will be useful in my college career and beyond. My AP classes have given me a lot of great information that will be used in my college classes.

Even my time as a baseball player has taught me to be an effective team member and leader, which is a quality that pays dividends in the future when working a job. These values are critical in being able to succeed in the real world, and Tumwater High School has provided me all of them to ensure my best chance to succeed.

All in all, my time at Tumwater High School has been truly special in so many ways. It has been a pillar of support throughout the last four years and has been slowly preparing me for my future. I do not know what the future has in store for me, but I will always hold this school in a special place in my heart.



What it will mean to be a THS graduate and how I will carry on the values of THS”

Chloe White

My name is Chloe White and I am a senior at Tumwater High School. Even though I will have only attended Tumwater High School for four years, this school has been a part of my life for many years, since my mom has been a teacher at THS for eleven years. I always remember her students coming back after graduating to catch up with her, and I know that will be me in the near future. Although I did decide to enter the Running Start program for my Junior and Senior years, there have been many teachers at Tumwater that have made an impact on me, and that I have and will come back to visit. One of the main reasons I chose to do Running Start was because it saved money. I was able to explore different subjects to see what I wanted to do and I was able to obtain ninety-two credits, which is especially helpful as I will be attending a private college, Seattle Pacific University.

During my time in Running Start I realized that I want to get a degree in Computer Science. This prompted me to join the Girls in Coding Club at Tumwater High School. At South Puget Sound Community College, I also discovered my love for math. This led me to complete several different math classes, including the calculus sequence, as well as being hired to be a tutor in the math center. I have a 4.0 GPA in my Associate Degree, which has earned me a spot on the Presidents List for five straight quarters and membership in Phi Theta Kappa. Even though I first decided to do Running Start because it saved money, I found that there have been even more positive aspects of this program than I imagined.

Throughout my experience in high school, I have learned the many values that are evident in all aspects of Tumwater High school. One value that particularly stands out to me is community. Tumwater has the best community. Alumni bring their kids to this school because of how great their experience was when they were students. Teachers bring their own children to the school because they see every day what a great impact the teachers have on the lives of students. Additionally, students throughout the local communities are filling out paperwork to try to get a spot at Tumwater High School.

Throughout high school everyone goes through some type of hard time. During those hard times, the importance of community is definitely noticed. The teachers and staff at Tumwater demonstrate community by always being there for everyone. They have shown me kindness and compassion, which are two values of Tumwater High School that I will carry with me for the rest of my life.



THSAA AND OTHER THS ACTIVITIES:

ARTESIAN GOLF CLASSIC 2021



IT'S ON FOLKS!!!

GET OUT OF YOUR COVID-19 FUNK

AND GOLF WITH US ON SATURDAY JUNE 5TH, 2021

The 2021 Artesian Golf Classic will be at 1:00 PM (Modified Shotgun start) on June 5, 2021 at Capitol City Golf Club. Sign-up at our website: tumwaterhighalumni.com.

Reunion:

All Class reunion:

THSAA "All Class Reunion" is scheduled on August 28, 2021 at **Sherman Valley Ranch.** These dates are subject to change depending upon progress to contain the pandemic. Stay tuned at our website: tumwaterhighalumni.com or on Facebook: "Tumwater High School Alumni" group.

SOAR 2021

Currently planned for Saturday May 15th, 5:30 to 9:00 PM at the Capital Events Center.

It is believed that the event will not happen due to current Covid restrictions. SOAR executives will make the final call in April 2021.

BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Alan and Louisa (Ward) Shimamoto (THSAA Vice President) Win Entrepreneur of the Year. Congratulations Alan and Louisa.



To read about Louisa and Alan go to page 10 where you will find an interesting Bio about a life-long T-Bird



Louisa (Ward) Shimamoto, THS Class of 1975

I was raised at Tumwater High School. In fact the THS sports bleacher seats were both my brothers (Bill '72 and Pat '77) and my playpens when we were little. Dad was Tumwater High School's First Basketball Coach and helped open the school in 1961. Years later when he retired from Coaching/Teaching at THS he came to work for me and was on my Champion Insurance Team. The 50th Celebration of THS was something my Father really wanted to see happen and he looked forward to having "All of the kids come back home." He so looked forward to that day but passed before the celebration. In his honor I was not going to see that day come and go without the celebration he visioned. I met with the principal and we started having planning meetings and formed committees. It was awesome for not only all the student alumni & staff, but current students, teachers, staff, and the community too. My daughter Elizabeth (THS Freshman) was one of the students that helped give tours of the school that day. Following the success of the celebration is when our Tumwater High School Alumni Association was born. Serving on the board has been wonderful. Once we bleed green, wouldn't you agree we always will? ☐

Serving as your Vice-President and Activities Director for THSAA is such an honor. Over these past few years, we have provided numerous scholarships for graduating seniors through our Annual Spring Artesian Golf Tournament, THSAA \$25 membership, Business Event Sponsors, and Alumni Donations. We also have an annual Fall THS All Class & Staff Reunion the last Saturday of August that THSAA sponsors. Join us!

My family and I moved away from Tumwater for a few years but are so thankful we came back to this wonderful community. My family consists of my husband Alan, son Kalani, his wife Kelsey, their son Ryan, and Elizabeth who was in the THS Class of 2014. My Grandson Ryan is currently attending Tumwater Hill Elementary virtual Kindergarten. His favorite Color.... Yep green!

I started coaching in 1991 in the Insurance industry and this is where I met my husband Alan (He was also a coach). After he and I left that industry we set out to help coach all industries. Our business together is called **Accelerate Growth Coaching** www.AccelerateGrowthCoaching.com We are Business and Personal Breakthrough Coaches. Combined we have nearly 60 years' experience helping businesses, corporations, and entrepreneurs with one-on-one coaching, webinars, masterminds, workshops, summits, and in person events as well. Alan and I are not only certified coaches but also NLP practitioners. NLP Coaches (Neural Linguistic Programming), but also in Timeline and Hypno-Therapy. I am excited to share that in March 2021 I will have earned my Master NLP Practitioner Certification and am looking forward to taking our business to another level and seriously helping people break the chains that are holding them back both professionally and personally.

We also have a weekly networking group called The **IN TEAM** (Intentionally Networking) that met before Covid19 in person but are currently via ZOOM on Monday's at Noon and Thursday's at 8am. Zoom Meeting 346-848-613. We are also the founders and host of the annual **South Sound Business & Career EXPO** www.SouthSoundEXPO.com right here in Thurston County. We have been recognized by the Thurston County Economic Development Council as their New Business of the Year in 2017 and Lacey South Sound Chambers Entrepreneur of the Year in 2018. We belong to not only the Tumwater Chamber, Lacey South Sound Chamber, and the Thurston County Chamber and have volunteered for several nonprofits over the years.

Covid19 has impacted many businesses here in our community, worldwide, and ours too. Business owners needed our coaching services now more than ever to help shift their mindset and pivot their business. We have been exceptionally busy. With the lock-down, we took our business of coaching and networking to a virtual format of which now we have clients all over the USA and some also in other countries. We have also turned our home into a Business Event Center and plan to turn our barn into even a larger event opportunity. Sadly, our EXPO had to be postponed and eventually cancelled in 2020 due to Covid19, but we will take it virtual this April and turn it into the largest 2 -hour networking event ever for Thurston County and will also include some awesome speakers. Date is April 21, 2021 www.SouthSoundEXPO.com Our in-person South Sound Business & Career EXPO will be postponed to Wednesday November 17th 2021 and to be held at the Hotel RL from 9am to 5pm. God willing we can have large meetings again by that time. (In 2019 we had 86 business & employer booths and over 500 attendees.)

Serving you on the board of THSAA and serving the community at large personally and with our businesses, has been a great honor.

Go T-Birds!

God Bless You,

Louisa Ward Shimamoto
THSAA Vice-President - Class of 1975
LouisaTHS75@gmail.com

AccelerateGrowthCoaching@gmail.com

Go to www.CoachLouisa.com for Appt. Link

**THSAA
Treasurer Report
YE 2020**

OPERATING ACCOUNT

01/01/20	Beginning Balance	\$2,700.32
	Deposit:	
	Membership renewal/new memberships	\$1,435.00
	Golf tourney: golfer/sponsors (Held over to 2021 tourney)	\$ 580.00
	Ron Moon Donation (designated)	\$5,000.00
	Transfer from savings acct	\$5,000.00
	Expenses:	
	Scholarships	\$7,500.00
	Misc. office expenses	\$ 64.00
	Taxes/License fees	\$ 24.72
	Renew post office box	\$ 106.00
	Web Hosting	\$ 286.60
	THS (designated Moon donation to career center)	\$5,000.00
	Transfer to savings	\$ 574.00
12/31/2020	Ending Balance	\$1,160.00

MM OPERATING ACCOUNT

01/01/20	Beginning Balance	\$5,219.53
	Deposit:	
	Interest Income	\$ 9.37
12/31/20	Ending Balance	\$5,228.90

Savings Account

01/01/20	Savings (beginning balance)	\$9,418.51
	Deposit:	
	Interest Income	\$ 6.04
	Batura (designated for scholarships)	\$2,500.00
	Donations designated for scholarships	\$1,603.00
	Deductions:	
	Txfr to checking	\$5,000.00
12/31/20	Ending Balance	\$9,101.55

CD (33 mo) for Endowment Fund

12/31/20	Ending Balance (matures 12/31/21)	\$18,820.85
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Respectfully submitted

Pamela Sapp, Treasurer