

# WEST WIND

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1      11 OCTOBER 2013

## KEEL HUNT TO ADDRESS LUNCH BUNCH NOV 14

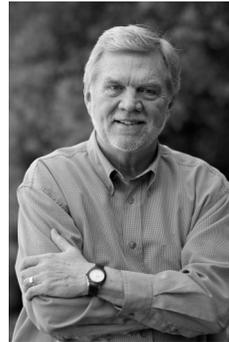
Veteran journalist, business advisor and political consultant Keel Hunt will bring the story of the Ray Blanton Pay for Parole scandal to the West High Lunch Bunch on November 14th.

The son of one of the first Metro councilmen, Keel attended Nashville public schools and graduated from Middle Tennessee State University, received his master's degree from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University, and he attended the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard.

In his early career, Keel was a reporter, editorial writer, Washington

correspondent, and City Editor of *The Tennessean*. In 1974, the Tennessee affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation named Keel their "Conservation Communicator of the Year" for his investigative journalism in 1972-73 that led to saving Radnor Lake, now protected by the state's Natural Areas Program.

He left the newspaper in 1977 to become an adviser to Lamar Alexander's campaign for Governor of Tennessee. Following the successful 1978 election, Keel was appointed Special Assistant to the Governor, serving as coordinator of the Governor's Policy Group and Executive Director of the Tennessee



Keel Hunt

State Planning Office. As Special Assistant, he assisted Governor Alexander in the development of the Better Schools Program, Tennessee Homecoming and other policy initiatives.

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### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Class of 1951 reunion Saturday, October 12*
- *Class of 1968 reunion (with class of 1967) Granny White Park, Saturday, October 12*
- *Middle School Homecoming, October 24*
- *Middle School Yard Sale October 26, help needed to price on Friday the 25th.*
- *Officers meeting November 4th, 6:00 p.m. Nero's*
- *All Class Reunion committee meeting, November 5th, 6:00 p.m. West library*
- *Executive Board meeting, November 11th, 6:00 p.m. Nero's*
- *Lunch Bunch at Hillwood Country Club, November 14th 11:15*

## ALUMNI GROUP GETS NEW OFFICERS

The West End High Alumni Association is now called the West End School Association and has elected a new slate of officers.

Along with a new name, the association has also filed for a charter from

the State of Tennessee and is in the process of filing for 501c3 non-profit status with the IRS.

The new officers are:

**Ray Sharer (55)** – President Emeritus

**Burton Dietz (67)** – President

**Julie Waters (60)** – Vice President

**Jo Foster (68)** – Secretary

**Dolly Jane Preznell (64)** – Treasurer

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## KEEL HUNT TO ADDRESS LUNCH BUNCH



Keel left the Governor's staff in 1986 to become a strategy consultant to a number of businesses, institutions and individuals, including Hospital Corporation of America and Pilot Oil Corp. During this period, he also served as the campaign consultant to the successful public referendum in Knoxville, Tennessee, that merged the city and county schools there.

Keel suspended this consulting work in 1987 to

serve as the staff director of the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce.

He joined The Ingram Group in 1990 and in 1993 established his own public affairs consulting business called The Strategy Group.

Keel writes a regular column called "Metropolitan" for *The Tennessean* editorial pages, and he is the author of *Coup*, the story of the 1979 ouster of Tennessee Gov. Ray

Blanton, published this summer by Vanderbilt University Press. In September Keel delivered the Vanderbilt Chancellor's Lecture that featured his new book. He is a Trustee of the Country Music Foundation, a member of the Nashville's Agenda Steering Committee, and serves on the CABLE Advisory Council.

He and his wife Marsha have two adult children and two grandchildren.

## ALUMNI GROUP GETS NEW OFFICERS

There will be a new Executive Board made up of all the officers, three members representing those in the association (non-officers) and Ray will chair this committee as President Emeritus.

The officers have monthly meetings on the first Monday of each month, 6 p.m. at Nero's in Green Hills. (Next meeting No-

vember 4<sup>th</sup>).

The Executive board will meet quarterly on the second Monday of the month, 6 p.m. at Nero's (First meeting will be November 11<sup>th</sup>).

These meetings are open to any and all who wish to attend.

We are also going to have an annual meeting of all

association members (anyone who graduated from the school, attended the school, or has a real interest in the school). The first of those meetings will be held next year in conjunction with the All Class Reunion and will be held in the auditorium at West, starting at Noon. This meeting should not last any longer than 30 minutes.

"...GOING TO  
HAVE AN  
ANNUAL  
MEETING OF ALL  
ASSOCIATION  
MEMBERS"

## T-SHIRTS, HAVE YOU GOT YOUR WEST T-SHIRT?



Just for us Alumni

The association is now selling T-shirts that will proudly show our school spirit to all who see us.

We have created one especially for our Alumni group, that has Alumni spelled out underneath a great line drawing of the front of West. The shirt is a beautiful navy blue and comes in sizes

for both men and women from medium all the way up to 4-X.

We have sold out of our first allotment, but have a new order that should be arriving any day now and these won't last long, so order your very own now.

We also have some that the PTSO for the Middle

School had previously made up that are great as well. There are pink and gray ones with West Is Best and a Blue-jay on them, a shirt identical to the Alumni shirt, but without the alumni designation. A black shirt with *West* written in script and soon there will be our very own Alumni golf shirt that will come in medium blue.

## NO CHANGE TO THINGS WE HAVE BEEN DOING!

West Alumni have a strong history of doing wonderful things and all those things will continue well into the future.

The All Class Reunion that has been held for the last 18 years, every other year, will continue as before. The next one is scheduled for July 26th, 2014 and looks as though it will be at Hillwood Country Club.

*Kay Smith*

*Adamson*, class of 1953 is chairing our new All Class Reunion Committee and we hope to have plans finalized by November 5th, so we can provide further details. We are setting up a committee of five (including Kay) to keep this wonderful event going and to help make it the highlight of the 2014 year.

With lots of free parking and easy handicap access, Hillwood has all the things in place to make this

one of the best reunions yet. And it also appears the price might be in line with what we have charged in the past.

We want to completely update our member rosters, so if you have not been getting information on this wonderful event, please let us know, provide us with current contact information (including e-mail) and we will update your information in our database. Great things ahead for us Bluejays!



Bluejays having fun at one of our quarterly dinners

## ALUMNI GROUP HELPS MIDDLE SCHOOL PTSO

Our group has been very fortunate over the last couple of months to have forged a strong alliance with the West End Middle School PTSO.

*Mary Sanford*, *Diana Duren* and *Amy Lee* have been very generous in allowing us to interact with their group and make it possible to make those wonderful

West T-shirts available for sale to our alumni group.

In return we have helped them work the concession booth at two of their home football games, helped raise funds for the *Invest in West* campaign during the month of September and are also in the process of selling memorial bricks for the front portico (same type of effort

we did when the school was remodeled in 2007).

We have one more home football game to work on October 24th, which is also Homecoming. Our Alumni group will help present flowers to the Homecoming Court at halftime in recognition of our service to the PTSO and the school. We need 12 volunteers.

“WE NEED 12 VOLUNTEERS TO HELP OUT AT HOMECOMING”

## ALUMNI GROUP HELPS OUR SCHOOL

Over the last couple of months your Alumni group has been very active in supporting a multitude of things for the school itself.

Last year, the Alumni Association (with materials supplied by alum *James Ham*), installed dramatic lighting that brings the front of our beautiful building

to life at night for all passing by to see. If you have not made the journey past the school at night lately, please do it soon, so you can enjoy this wonderful addition.

The Alumni Association also provided nearly \$1,200 to the school to buy a new podium for the band director that was desperately

needed.

Alum *James Ham* is also installing high intensity lighting on the clock tower—at his expense—as a donation to his beloved school, that will dramatically increase the visibility of this gorgeous part of the school at night. By the time you read this, this should have already happened.

Key Club members put the final touches on the overflowing Christmas baskets filled by the homesome.



We have a strong tradition of helping not only the school, but the community as well!



## WEST END SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

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COMING SOON

[WESTHIGHBLUEJAYS.COM](http://WESTHIGHBLUEJAYS.COM)

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BLUEJAYS CARRYING FORWARD A  
GREAT TRADITION!

## OUR PURPOSE

WESA is organized to be a non-profit organization whose primary purpose is to conduct alumni activities typically associated with graduates from a particular institution of learning.

### Other Specific Purposes

To foster mutual support among the Alumni of West End High School and West End Middle School, Nashville, Tennessee including alumni gatherings, support for those in ill health and passing of WESA participants.

To continue the preservation of the West End physical facility and grounds.

To support the ongoing educational program at West End School by working with the Parent Teacher Student Organization, faculty, students or other interested parties in school activities, fund raising, and mentoring students.

To set an example to all as to why "West is Best".

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## HOPE YOU ENJOYED THE NEWSLETTER

Well, that's all we have for this issue of the revived *West Wind*, we hope you enjoyed it.

The West Wind will be delivered electronically to your inbox on at least a monthly basis and perhaps more often as we have more news to report. (When the Website is up and running, it will also be posted there and will be posted to the West Group on FaceBook as well.)

It is great to be a West High Bluejay, we have accomplished a lot in the years since we graduated and we have a bright and strong

future ahead of us as a group.

This will be a great place for class news, so please pass your information along.

Let us help with the planning for your next reunion by getting the information out quickly to your group.

When we achieve our 501c3 designation, all of your donations to the association will qualify for a tax deduction for you as a charitable contribution.

Looking ahead to serving on the Executive Board? If you are interested,

please reside in Nashville or an area close enough where you can make the quarterly meetings. Active participation is a must as we move forward with some great new projects and some wonderful events for all of us Bluejays to enjoy!

Thanks!

*Burton Dietz*

Burton Dietz  
WESA President



Comments, suggestions and ideas for future issues are always welcome!