



WHN SHARP SHOOTERS ACKNOWLEDGES

Timothy Beechnau, DO of Ravenna Family Practice

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Letter from Dr. Tim & JoAnn Beechnau To the Ravenna Public Schools Board of Education

Dear Mike:

Please accept this donation of \$1,000 from JoAnn and I to Ravenna High School. We would like to designate it to the Science Department to be used at the discretion of Scott McFarren. He has done a wonderful job over the years to help make science interesting and enjoyable.

We would like to someday see Science Olympiad brought back. It is a great program for both the scientifically inclined students as well as the non-scientists. We need to continue to expose as many students to the sciences as possible because scientific illiteracy is rampant in our society. Poor or limited knowledge of science is how otherwise intelligent people can be led to believe in ludicrous ideas.

According to the famous astrophysicist, Carl Sagan Ph.D., "We have a society exquisitely dependent on science and technology, of which the average person understand hardly anything about. This is the clearest imaginable prescription for disaster."

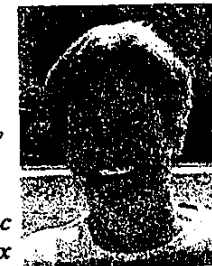
On the brighter side, I'm sure we have graduated a lot of students over the years that have gone into advanced scientific fields, but the one I've kept track of is physicians. We currently have six physicians or physicians in training, which I can think of, that have graduated from RHS. Besides myself, they include Larry Wahl, D.O., neurologist, Mary Ellen Walter-Rosel, D.O., internal medicine, Bonnie Arends, D.O., internship and medical students Steve Johnson, Kansas City College of Medicine and Ronald Stratton Jr., Michigan State University College of Medicine.

Sincerely,

Timothy L. Beechnau, D.O.

****On behalf of the school, we thank you Dr. Tim & JoAnn. Scott sure has done a great job in science, in fact he had the top Science Olympiad team in Class C twice. Once he accepted the head football coaching job he was unable to continue as Science Olympiad coach. The school provided a budget item for the position but was unable to fill it.*

Regarding RHS grads in science, my sister Ann earned a B.S. from Michigan State University in Microbiology, then worked on a Ph.D. in Immunology at Tufts University in Boston for 3 years. She was then hired by Baxter and worked on some of the first HIV tests, then worked in Germany and France for 8 years before joining Roche (molecular diagnostics) in Pleasanton, California in 1997 as a strategic planner. Ann then worked for Affymetrix (gene chip research) before starting



Theranostics Consulting in 2002, featuring viral detection products. She contracts internationally and with many federal agencies. Ann combined science with business, marketing and strategic planning experience to venture out on her own. She makes her home in Brisbane, California.

Mike-
James Wells was our family doctor for several years. Then he got a notice that he was going into the military as a doctor. Doctor Jim was a kind and considerate man. I see in the Chronicle he died. Thanks Doctor Jim for everything.

-Pete O'Brien-