May 2015

Richie Rebel says, "A candidate, a mom, and Golden Alumni. We've got 'em here! " View this email in your browser





Campaigning in Hammond, Indiana, is a Venecz family affair for Janet, husband Phil, and their grandchildren.

Janet Claussen Venecz Seeks Re-election Classmate Running for Hammond City Council

Tuesday, May 5, 2015 is election day in Hammond, Indiana, and one of our own 1969 TFS Classmates, **Janet Claussen Venecz**, is up for re-election as Councilwoman At Large on the Hammond City Council. Janet's campaign slogan, "Keep a Woman's Perspective on the Hammond City Council," reminds voters that she is the only woman currently serving on the Council. Here is what Janet recently told the Life & Times.

I was elected in a special election in August 2011 to fill a vacancy. I went on to win in the General Election in November 2011 and am currently running for re-election.

The City Council in Hammond is comprised of six District Councilman and three At Large Councilman – I serve At Large which means I represent the entire city.

One of the things I like best about Hammond is our rich history. As a young girl I remember taking the bus from Lansing to downtown Hammond. It was such an adventure because we walked everywhere and rarely left Lansing. My first job was at a restaurant on State Street in Hammond. Those memories have served me well as a Councilwoman because I have an appreciation for our history.

However, being a city of 131 years, we do have our challenges. I believe we have done an excellent job of making old new and rebuilding.

Resident safety and quality of life issues have been my focus. I've worked with all the community groups to engage our residents to be the eyes and ears of our Police Department and city officials. We have an excellent network of concerned citizens who care about Hammond and are proud to call Hammond their home.

Both of my children are Hammond property owners. I have four grandchildren who are my heart. Three of them attend our Hammond schools and they are the reason why I have worked so hard to make Hammond a place we are proud to call home. My hope is that one day they will call Hammond their home with the same pride I have for our city today. If in some small way I can make that happen, I've done my job.

Find out more about Janet at http://www.janetvenecz.com/



Ask Richie Rebel!

Hey Richie, What happens when the Class of 1969 celebrates fifty years beyond high school in 2019?



Richie Says: Good news for you! You become a Golden Alumni! And there's a group for that. The Thornton Fractional Golden Alumni Association (TFGAA) is for classmates who graduated 50 years or more ago. The Golden Group has an annual reunion banquet. For info about these special alumni, which include TF, TFN, and TFS alumni, check them out here:

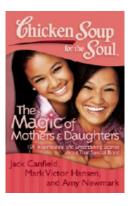
https://tfgaa.wordpress.com/

OK, TFGAA...See you in four years!

It's a Good Read!

Patty Rompca, wife of **Len Rompca** of Indiana, wrote a heartwarming story about her very special relationship with their daughter Annemarie, and her special seatmate on a transocean flight. To the delight of her family, friends, and now her readers, Patty's story "My Travel Companion" was chosen for publication.





Her short story appears in the 2012 *Chicken Soup for the Soul: The Magic of Mothers & Daughters: 101 Inspirational and Entertaining Stories about that Special Bond.*

It's a good read for Mother's Day, or any day, and you can read Patty's story here by clicking on this link: <u>http://www.chickensoup.com/book-story/30620/61-my-travelcompanion</u>



lt's 2015.

Do you know where your class ring is?

A couple of classmates are missing their TFS rings. John Giles's class ring disappeared in 1969. John says: Mine was stolen from my locker in '69... I'd bet someone knows something ... Would love to get it back!!

Cheryl Baily Zima lost her sapphire-stone class ring somewhere in Illinois. She'd like hers back, too.

There actually is a website for lost and found class rings. You can click on this link for more information : <u>https://www.alumniclass.com/tfsouth/lost-rings</u> Or if you have a found or missing ring, you can also contact **TEAM69** at <u>TFSouth69@gmail.com</u> and we'll try to help.

Classmate Comment...

TEAM69 heard from **Linda Jensen** in California. Linda writes:

Received my newsletter... thanks so much for the updates and bringing it back.

Where in the World?

It's a fact. 96% of our subscribers are in the United States (including Hawaii and Alaska). But we also have subscribers in India, Israel, France, Japan, and Canada. We'd love to know what takes these classmates so far from Lansing. Tell us! <u>TFSouth69@gmail.com</u>

Happy May Birthday!

Marlene Koster Taylor, Wayne Wilson, Kathy Orban, Tony Perovich, John Link, Pat Link, Christine Markiewicz Paryl, Becky Bonnar Eck, Kathy Prondzinski Dugovich-Fabanich, Donna Torgerson Clark, Christine Nelson Haro, Alan Eckhardt, Paul Warn, Barb O'Dell Johnson, Norma Albertson Koch, Bud Jenkins, Pat Walsh, Ralph Miller, Anita Harris O'Dell

Happy 43rd Wedding Anniversary! Linda and Tim Wells

Thanks! We proudly have 152 subscribers to the *Life* & *Times of the Rebels*

of '69!

Photo credits: Janet Claussen Venecz, Cheryl Ridder Woldhuis Technical assistance: Bill Hutchison Editorial: Pat Walsh, Cheryl Ridder Woldhuis

Keep in Touch!

Share your news, photos, questions, Twitter name, website, or reflections on the past, present, or future. Email us at <u>TFSouth69@gmail.com</u>

Help us reach our TFS Class of '69 classmates. Send them to our website to subscribe to the class newsletter. <u>tfsclassof69.weebly.com</u>

Past issues of the *Life & Times* can be viewed on our website. Go to <u>tfsclassof69.weebly.com</u> and click on Past Issues in the upper right hand corner.

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	You Can Follow These Rebels on Twitter, Too!	
	Kathy Orban @OrbanKO Dennis Knoezer @dennisknoerzer1 Becky Eck @EckEck1	
	It's not <u>really</u> a competition, buthere are the numbers: Harry Smith @HarrySmith has 6,486 followers Mike McNary @comeridethwhale has 5,756 followers	
	f Share Forward Tweet	
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	o promote and grow our network of TFS Class of 1969 frier nation and planning reunion events to keep the spirit of and vibrant.	
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