

Maddie's Minutes

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Nancy Donahoo: An Eaton Lifetime Legacy

In the small town of Eaton, there are large legacies that have become overlooked throughout the years. In the process of the high school moving buildings, many traditions have been abandoned, and through the years, some remaining traditions have changed. Nancy Donahoo, an Eaton High School graduate from the class of 1952, has been able to see it all. Nancy was raised in Eaton, Colorado, living just a few blocks away from the old high school building. She still resides in Eaton, where she is in the care of her son, Steve Donahoo, also an Eaton

High School graduate. N. Donahoo attended Eaton schools from kindergarten through 12th grade, where she made many memories. In her middle school years, she attended Eaton Junior High, which had a dragon mascot to represent the school. At that time, the junior high school colors were black and white. While reflecting back on her high school years, N. Donahoo said, "One of my favorite memories was our 'Sneak Trip.'" Back then we could have one [trip] that nobody knew where we were going and we went. We went up to the Royal Gorge and

had such a nice day, but the kids tried to stop the school bus between here and Denver."

N. Donahoo was very active during her high school years. She was in Pep Club and band, as girls did not play sports during that time. S. Donahoo said, "When she went, there weren't any girls sports. 1974 was the first year of girls sports at Eaton such as gymnastics, swimming, basketball, and track." N. Donahoo specifically remembers season traditions such as Homecoming and Prom. "We had big Homecomings. They had a huge bonfire and ours that year was built where the middle school goes out, that whole corner was where we burned the debris. Ault came down and started our fire before we got to do it. It was really a tradition that we fought back and forth, which was stupid. The year I was a senior they burned the letter H in our football field. We wore fancy dresses to Homecoming too," said N. Donahoo. For Prom,

she recalled the tradition of having a king and queen, alongside wearing long fancy dresses and the boys wore tuxedos. S. Donahoo recalled a tradition EHS would have weekly where, "We had pep rallies every Friday where you went to the auditorium for the whole afternoon, because we only played on Fridays and Saturdays. We had one mascot, she dressed up as an Indian, but was never disrespectful to them."

N. Donahoo graduated in a class of 39 students. As one of her fellow classmates recently passed, she is the last living person from the class of 1952. N. Donahoo laughed as she said, "We were ornery. We had a huge library, which at that time was like a class itself. That was our study hall where we had a teacher who was very hard of hearing. We'd hide behind the books and holler back and forth across." Around that time, Eaton High School enforced a strict dress code. N. Donahoo recalled wearing skirts past her knees, which

were the uniforms the Pep Club wore, along with white sweaters. "I can remember I went to school one time and I didn't have any socks, anklets on, because you had to wear anklets. I had to go home and get some," said N. Donahoo. After graduating high school, N. Donahoo attended Colorado State University for a few years until she married a man in the Air Force. She bore two sons, Don and Steve Donahoo, who both attended Eaton schools as well. While her sons were in school she was a cook at Eaton Elementary School for 14 years, where she, "could stay here while my boys were growing up and be close to them to go to all their sports activities," said N. Donahoo. As N. Donahoo has experienced Eaton for a great amount of time, she recalled one piece of advice for current EHS students to remember, "Just enjoy yourself while you are there at school, because it is never the same when you're out."

Grace Hill

**Eamon's Editorial**

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Vandalism at EHS: Build YOUR culture and own it

It's a word most students at EHS can't stop hearing. -Vandalism. Year after year, the cycle continues in its most destructive way. Most recently, it's been targeted at the upstairs bathroom. The vandalism that occurred last year was corrected as EHS principal, Jessica Grable, stated, "Yes, the vandalism that occurred last year has been corrected. We correct current issues as much as we can, depending on what it is and what we need to fix it." This year, that vandalism is back just as soon as it left, forcing the administration to contemplate on how to correct it. The administration in response to the vandalism shut the upstairs bathroom down, pulling a gate in the entrance that blocks students from entering. That bath-

room was re-opened on Nov. 15, 2023. Since then, the bathroom has remained open. EHS has made it clear there will be a reward and EHS will prosecute the perpetrators. EHS has continued to devise strategies in order to put an end to vandalism.

The EHS administration is beginning to clamp down on the vandalism in an attempt to stop it. During the week of Nov. 13, 2023, Grable and assistant principal Andy Polland staged class meetings for the graduating classes of seniors, juniors, sophomores, and freshmen. The class meetings worked through multiple points concerning vandalism and other important issues that the administration is working to correct. Hopefully with integrating the reporting platform, "See Something,

Say Something," which is designed for students to report vandalism anonymously, the amount of vandalism will correct itself in due time.

The expectation of students is to build a culture within the school that immediately frowns upon behavior similar to vandalism. Though no fault of the administrators or the fault of the students, it is unfortunate and unfair that a select group of students ruin the culture that is trying to be built by the students and staff of EHS. It is not the duty of the administration to have to clamp down on vandalism and do everything in their power to correct it. The power lands in the hands of the students. This "culture" that the administrators, staff and students are building is directly influenced by

the students and the ones that speak up when they see wrong behavior. This is easier said than done, but the hope of "See Something, Say Something" is that students won't feel powerless to speak up against bad behavior. At the end of the day, it's the

students' culture to build. The students are the ones who can directly influence the environment that they are in. It's time for the students to take ownership of the culture they want to build and see it through to the end.

Corey Rinker

