

Education

First Mount View principal to be honored

THORNDIKE (Sep 6): Charles L. Cosgrove Jr., the first principal of Mount View High School, will be remembered in the new school's performing arts center, thanks to the efforts of former educators, students and community members.

Cosgrove was instrumental in organizing the 11 towns that comprise SAD 3, as well as in planning and supervising the construction of the current Mount View complex, which opened in 1964.



Charles L. Cosgrove Jr.

Rod McElroy, Mount View's first guidance counselor, is heading up a project to raise \$2,500 to name the center seat in the front row of the Mount View Performing Arts Center in Cosgrove's memory.

McElroy, along with Laurie Osgood, president of UniTel, are Honorary Campaign co-chairpeople for the Mount View Performing Arts Center capital campaign. ___A letter has been sent to 15 of the original Mount View

staff members inviting them to contribute toward the seat to be named for Cosgrove. McElroy, his wife Gloria, and the Cosgrove family have pledged support for the \$2,500 seat, and are inviting others to join them. Mount View alumni from the first two graduating classes when Cosgrove was principal — 1965 and 1966 — are also encouraged to contribute. School consolidation was a topic of conversation 50 years ago in Waldo County when SAD 3 was formed. With construction of the Mount View School in 1964, students from Morse Memorial High School in Brooks, Walker High School in Liberty and Uni-Fre High School in Unity all came together in the new Mount View facility.

McElroy recalls “how well things went, placing students and staff from three high schools under the same roof — the new Mount View. Cosgrove was a driving force in consolidation; he was the catalyst.” Cosgrove is remembered as a humble school administrator who was student-oriented and highly respected by students, staff, parents and fellow educators.

A graduate of Lewiston High School, Cosgrove served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He returned to the University of Maine to complete a bachelor’s degree in 1951 and a master’s degree in 1954. Between 1951 and 1966, Cosgrove worked in SAD 3 as a teacher, principal and superintendent. Cosgrove died in 2004; his widow, Aline, lives in Lewiston. “We all know that various individuals played significant roles in the organization of MSAD 3 and the 1964 construction of the new facility known as Mount View,” said McElroy. “I believe that the leadership qualities of Charles L. Cosgrove Jr. were the primary reason that they came about. People who read this will remember him fondly, and smile.” Individuals wishing to contribute toward the seat named for Charles L. Cosgrove Jr. should write “Cosgrove” in the memo section and mail a check directly to FUTURE MSAD 3, P.O. Box 151, Unity, ME 04988.

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