



## **Moon Area School District**

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Feb. 11, 2009

### **MASD Holds Groundbreaking Ceremony, Time Capsules Reveal Historic Treasures**

A crowd of approximately 150 community members, local officials and Moon Area staff and students gathered to break ground for the new Moon Area High School, a project nearly a decade in the making, on Feb. 10 in the MAMS auditorium.

MAHS jazz quintet and a choral ensemble provided festive music for the event and various speakers including Dan Engen of Eckles Architecture and Mark Scappe, Board of Education president, relayed some history and design foresight pertaining to the project. The groundbreaking marked the first step in the district's secondary schools campus construction and renovation plan, which includes a new high school and a renovated middle school along with state-of-the-art athletic facilities and a two-way road connecting Beaver Grade Road and University Boulevard.

Arguably, the highlight of the event was the opening of two time capsules buried in or around the former Carnot Elementary School in 1942 and 1976 and recovered during the building's demolition this summer.

Graduates from Carnot, which was originally Moon High School, returned to witness the opening of a time capsule they had buried as teenagers in the midst of World War II. The steel pipe was vacuumed-sealed and contents were perfectly preserved. Carnot grads Ruth and Clyde Meanor of Moon Township performed the honors pulling from the capsule "Mademoiselle" magazine circa August 1941, the "Pittsburgh Post-Gazette" from January 1942 and "Life" magazine dated January 12, 1942. A highlight for many was the more personal additions including a long scroll where students had written their names and their future ambitions.

Following the 1942 capsule, MAMS teacher Larry Covelli displayed some '70s memorabilia from the PVC pipe he buried as a young teacher at Carnot Elementary in honor of the nation's bicentennial. Sadly, water had damaged most of the paper contents, but many trinkets were recovered including a tabletop lighter, a Woodsy Owl sticker urging "Give a Hoot, Don't Pollute!," and a ruler from Mt. Lebanon Federal Savings and Loan Association that lists the most current U.S. President as Gerald Ford, who is serving a term of 1974 - ?.

The time capsules and their contents will be displayed in the high school in the near future and eventually will be buried with a new time capsule upon the completion of the secondary schools project.