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To the Editor:

I'd like to issue a challenge to all graduating classes from Dundalk High.

The Class of DHS '62 currently provides scholarship donations to DHS graduating seniors each spring, having pledged an amount of \$6200 annually for 2009 and beyond, an impressive figure for "oldies" like us, most of whom have reached their 65th birthdays this year!

We're able to do this because our scholarship committee is active and dynamic, and the results are dramatic. For the past few years our contributions have grown and flourished due to our continued efforts to raise consciousness and encourage our donors, who receive legal tax benefits for their contributions. Some class members have even designated our scholarship fund in their wills, a heartwarming way of "giving back".

Now we'd like other classes to make a similar effort. We are not attempting to diminish the efforts of the DHS Alumni Association—not by any means! The DHSAA does a great job of fund-raising, and we wholly support them. In fact, most of us contribute to both the general fund and our own class's gift.

A DHS committee of faculty and staff chooses the annual winner of our scholarship. All we do is collect the money and offer the gift. Past recipients have shown their appreciation by supporting our fund, and even encouraging their own graduating classes to set up similar programs, so it's a gift that "keeps on giving".

Dundalk has been bashed to pieces by surrounding metro areas, so it's good to know that so many folks who have come from Dundalk have never forgotten our home town's heart and soul along the way. For many of us, Dundalk now is long ago and far away, yet we support it both in spirit and—more significantly—financially. We don't want to let Dundalk's young people down. They need our support and backing, both financially and emotionally.

Yes, we're proud of what we—and the Alumni Association—have been able to do. Now we'd like to challenge other classes, no matter how old or young, to do likewise. DHS is glad to work with contributors.

Above all, it's for the kids. They're well worth working for.

Sincerely,

Barbara Wernecke Durkin, DHS '62