

# features

09.25.2009 The Antioch Tom Tom

International Relations: an old class teaches new ideas PAGE 6

PAGE 4

## She did everything right in life...

### Katie LaPlante: Member of class of 1994, scholar, Peace Corps volunteer, wife, daughter

ChrisTerzic Sports Editor

Before you read this story take a seat or at least put your life into perspective for a quick second. Because, by the end, you are going to be left with a sense of humility.

This particular story is about a woman named Katie LaPlante: a woman who did everything right and who everybody loved. You were lucky if you knew her. Katie was born on Oct 27, 1976, and grew up in Antioch her whole life up until her graduation from ACHS in 1994.

From that point on Katie LaPlante was the type of person who put others before herself, a lesson that is undervalued in today's society. After graduating from St. Cloud State with her Bachelors Degree in 1998, she

earned her Master's Degree from Florida International University in 2006.

During the eight-year gap from when Katie earned her Bachelors Degree to when she earned her Masters, she dedicated herself to people in need.

From 2000-2002, Katie served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Bangladesh. Then, upon returning to Illinois, Katie wasted no time to become the coordinator of volunteer services at the Greater Chicago Food Depository. She spent the

next two years as the coordinator of volunteer services in Chicago and then

once again went out of her way to extend her help across the sea in Romania to start a new project.

From 2006-2007 Katie became the project director for the faith-based multi-million-dollar HIV/AIDS/Family violence international public health program, which is funded by the US government.

Clearly, Katie LaPlante was the type of person who wanted to, and very well did, make a dif-

ference in this world. Even while maintaining her rigorous schedule, Katie met her husband, John LaPlante, while serving in the Peace Corps and, they married in 2004. Once they were married, the two did everything together, and that included the project in Romania, which required John and Katie to find a house and live amongst the amazing landscape and environment of Romania.

It was the type of environment Katie loved. She was an outdoors woman, and when she wasn't busy with her project, she always tried to take advantage of what Romania had to offer. However, on June 23, 2007, Katie tragically passed away as the result of an unimaginable bear attack.

Through her vision and with the help of her entire family and closest friends, the Katie Memorial Foundation was formed. The foundation was created to keep Katie's spirit alive and is successful, but now it is time to give back to Katie what she gave during her life.

Every year since the tragedy, the Katie Memorial Foundation

holds a 5K run in Lake Villa, IL, at the Sand Lake Forest Preserve. All proceeds from the event go directly to Katie's local and national projects that were sadly left with the challenge to move on without their inspirational leader.

Family friend Margaret Petronick offered what she thought about Katie, "Her Story touched me so much that it made me want to run for those that loved her, lost her tragically, and kept her spirit alive through the work of the foundation."

The 5K run is more than just running. Activities are set up throughout the preserve, all of which are family oriented. The run is Saturday, Oct 24, and registration is available now. For more information contact Meghan Cashman at 773-209-2690.

The event itself is a great way to keep Katie's spirit alive because even though Katie spent her life trying to help others, it is time to help Katie. This story is an inspirational one and one that should carry on.

"Her Story touched me so much that it made me want to run for those that loved her..."  
-Margaret Petronick  
Family Friend

## New Game...

### Stephen Rose creates a new way for students to explore

ChrisHombaker Photo Editor

Teacher Stephen Rose of Antioch High School has created a club in which any student can join and play the game Civilization IV in a large group on Fridays after school.

The players are some of the most diverse students in Antioch Community High School. Meeting every Fri-

day in a computer lab, this new club brings loads of fun to anyone, freshman to seniors.

Civ Club was created last year by teacher Stephen Rose who created it because of an idea between one of his students and him. While the creator himself can't see it as becoming a competing

event between more than one school, there definitely is a level of competition about the room while the game is going on.

"I like the process of thinking and analyzing involved in the game." Says Rose.

He goes on to say, "I've always been a very relaxed [Civilization] player."

This is the first time in two years in which the game has been full. That means that thirty people are already in the game, with others on a waiting list. Rose says that if they could get another faculty member to observe another group of kids, they could even pull off a 60 play-

er game. Because this is all in school computer labs over the schools internet, there is a need for adult supervision.

Civ club is growing in popularity mainly because of its leisure. People come in with food from local restaurants, such as M Dogs, and enjoy their food while talking to new people and enjoying the interactive computer game.

"I like playing with people that I have never known before and getting to know

them," says Senior and first year member Brandon Schneider. He also says that he has met a couple of new people there and really enjoys the club.

Civ Club is a great place for people to get together and show a little competition for a game that they love to play. The

historical aspect of the game is something that will hopefully grow in interest in upcoming years at Antioch High school.

"I like playing with people that I have never known before, and getting to know them."  
Brandon Schneider  
Club Member

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