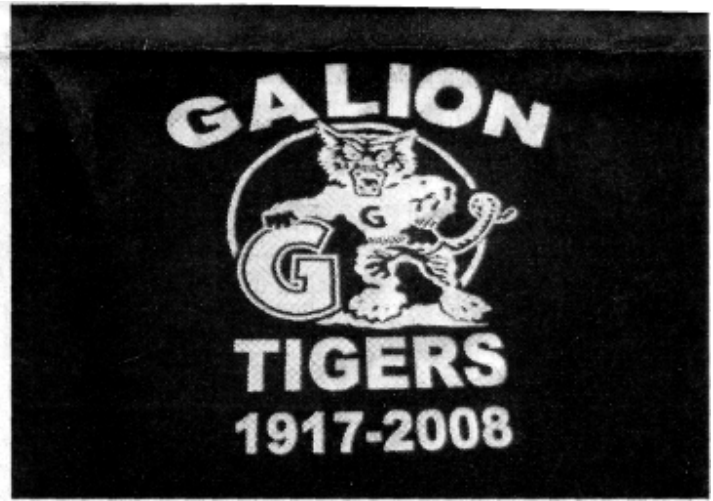


INQUIRER PHOTO/RACHEL MENDELL

The memorial t-shirt design came from this original GHS sweat shirt from the 1950s.



INQUIRER PHOTO/RACHEL MENDELL

GHS memorial t-shirts (\$20) are available by calling Carole Kemle at 419-468-5717.

## Thanks for the memories

### *T-shirt commemorating former GHS made available*

By **RACHEL MENDELL**  
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While getting ready for the May 15 rally at the old Galion High School, Carole Kemle searched her closet for the 1950s GHS sweat-shirt she had worn in high school. She found it and realized she wouldn't be able to wear it; so she brought it to the rally and showed it to the group gathered to show support in the effort to keep the building alive.

Kemle said that during the months of "ups and downs," when the plaintiffs, the re-use group and petitioners wanting to save the historic building weren't sure if "the community was going to get the building or not," it became apparent to her that there needed to be a way to draw the community together.

Add to that the need to

pay the mounting legal bills incurred by the lawsuit, Kemle needed an idea. Then a thought came to her — creating a keepsake for others who would like to remember the rally event and the old Galion High School.

"Hopefully it will be a keepsake," said Kemle. "Hopefully, when people see this t-shirt they will smile." The smile will be from fond memories of the old Galion High School.

"Who would have thought that the building we all couldn't wait to leave would evoke such emotions now," said Kemle. "Life is about emotion. If you don't have connections and emotions in the community, what do you have?"

Kemle said the project is trying to bring honor to all those that spent so much time in the old GHS and to try and keep the community connected.

The keepsake t-shirts are available for \$20 and all proceeds will go toward the legal fees incurred while trying to save the old GHS.

Anyone wishing to purchase a 1917-2008 GHS t-shirt may make arrangements by calling Carole Kemle, noon — 6 p.m., or by leaving a message, at 419-468-5717.

On Jan. 14, 2008, a group of citizens filed legal action against the Galion Board of Education, asking the court to stop the demolition of the old Galion High School. An agreement between the two sides was reached to complete the abatement with a view to remodel. The first hearing of the case, scheduled for Feb. 19, was continued until March 5.

During negotiations between lawyers, defendants, plaintiffs, and the judge on March 5, an agreement was

made to run the preliminary injunction request hearing and hearing on the merits together. April 3 and 4 were then set aside for the case. The hearing was postponed, and claims one and four of the plaintiffs request were dismissed by the judge.

The remaining portions of the case dealing with open meetings and open records laws was scheduled to be heard in front of a jury by order of Judge Russ Wiseman May 20, but was moved to July 8. The jury trial was converted to a bench trial. The Galion Board of Education awarded a bid for demolition of the building June 4.

The plaintiffs dropped the case before it came to trial, because the building was being demolished and court costs were becoming prohibitive to continue.