

Thank You to the Superintendent, Principals, Parents, Teachers and Children of
the Coldwater Community Schools

In the gentle words of our children lie the strength of what our society aspires to be. And recently I was immeasurably moved by the power of those young voices that expressed a deep sense of gratitude that will live with me forever.

Their heartfelt words in recognition of our contribution for an indoor Aquatic Center and all-purpose Recreation Building was -- to say the least -- overwhelming.

Mrs. Browne and I were pleasantly stunned by the outpouring of handwritten letters, cards, notes and pictures sent by the students, teachers and administrators of the Coldwater Community Schools.

Never has a simple *thank you* meant so much or been so sincere.

While we humbly accept these beautiful words of gratitude, it is I who owes a debt of thanks to so many memorable individuals whose collective spirit, strength and support made growing up in Coldwater inherent to any success I have achieved.

I owe a sincere debt of thanks to friends such as Corwin Zinn, John Woodward and Donald Pascoe, three of my close classmates from the 1942 class of Coldwater High. My gratitude extends to my coaches and teachers such as: Mr. "Sunny" Bauer, football coach; Mr. Frizzo, basketball coach; Mr. Weeks, tennis coach and principal; Miss Schultz, English teacher; and Mrs. Haynes, country school teacher.

These and so many others from 80 years ago helped to shape my character, work ethic and moral compass to allow us to provide a facility that I hope will inspire this and many generations to come.

No individual is larger than the community as a whole. And no community is larger than the youth of today and tomorrow.

I am proud to have come from a community such as Coldwater that shaped my character and developed my abilities. A community that prides itself in a hearty work ethic based upon the foundations of honesty and integrity.

I thank all of you so much for the gratitude you have taken time to share and reinforce the pride that I have always felt for Coldwater.

Sincerely,



R.W. Browne, BA, DDS, MS