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## Elizabeth Banner Interview

Jacob Tynan  
jtyna1@brockport.edu

Shannon Regelsberger  
*SUNY Brockport*

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Shannon Regelsberger 0:02

Alright, so this is Shannon Regelsberger and today is October 31st, 2019. I'm here in the Tower building at the College at Brockport with Liz Banner. So, can you tell me a little more about your background? Where did you grow up?

Elizabeth Banner 0:18

Sure. I grew up here in Brockport. I grew up in the 60s, went to elementary school at Brockport Central, all the way through high school, graduated in 1980 from Brockport High School. And throughout my time, growing up, I participated in many activities here at the college, community activities. We had an art fest I remember; it was called Kaleidoscope and we came over and we did art projects here in the Tower of Fine Arts lobby when I was probably seven or eight years old. Really cool. There was string art there were some things with the wax and the crayons... the wax paper, you know that you press it with an iron, that kind of stuff. Just engaging community and youth with the arts program here. But I took violin lessons here as well, when I was little. Started maybe when I was four years old. And the program moved here as a continuing ed program. And so I learned to play violin here until I was probably about 12. And there was a community Youth Orchestra here at the time, which my mother actually was the director of, and there were a lot of kids that- there was probably 30 or 40 kids that came to take violin lessons here through one of the Sisters of St. Joseph, from the city, one of the sisterhoods there. But there were lots of concerts that I attended. My mom was a member of the Brockport Symphony Orchestra. And so, I I kind of grew up in this building actually. I had lessons and group session time in the choir room that we sang in, room 120. But I was also on campus because my sisters attended Brockport State from '70 to '74 and '71 to '75. And my cousins did and so sometimes they would give me a ride home from school. So, I would go to the Union to the commuter lounge, and if I was, I think probably 10, 11, 12 years old, maybe. And so, I was very familiar with the college campus. As I told you earlier, many of my friends growing up, were the children of the professors that had been brought here through the expansion of the college in the 60s. I think it was probably maybe '65, '66, '67, those years that most of them were moving in, because I was starting kindergarten with many professors' children. They were my good friends, growing up, and specifically, Dr. Brown, Al Brown, was the dad of one of my friends, Cheryl, and we went to church together, but we also went to school together. So, I played at the president's house a lot, had a lot of sleepovers and that kind of stuff. And our families were close, just as all the families in the community were close, but the college professors- there were a lot of families here that lived in the village and in the surrounding town. And so, yeah, I feel like I've seen a lot of that expansion. I graduated from Ithaca College, started teaching at Brockport High School, and had to get my master's degree. So, I enrolled here to finish my master's program and I worked with Bill Hullfish, whose children I had played violin and cello with when I was little. So I worked with Bill on my master's program, and graduated in 1989 with my master's degree, and a couple years after that Bill called me and said, "Hey, I like the work you've been doing with my grandson," that I was teaching at the Central School. He said, "Would you like to come

work here? I have a children's methods class for music, that I'd like you to lead." And I said, Sure. I'll give it a try.

Shannon Regelsberger 4:18

When was that? When did you start working here?

Elizabeth Banner 4:19

I think it was...probably 25 years ago, so maybe... I don't know what that is. 1995 maybe? '95, '96? So, I just had been doing one course over many years. Around 2008 I picked up another course, the Intro to Music class. And then just two years ago I picked up the choir. So yeah, I've been doing a lot of that. I also have a lot of history because my father, and my aunts, and my uncles and cousins all went to Brockport State. My dad graduated in '47. He was a very big alum, here at the college. So, it has kind of been green and gold, and blue and white, at my house for all my life.

Shannon Regelsberger 4:19

Do you think they went here because they kind of grew up around here?

Elizabeth Banner 5:09

Well my father's family is from Rochester, and I think they wanted to stay local, stay, you know, near their family in Rochester. But also, because most everybody in my family are teachers. And, back in the day, this was known as a teacher's college. And so it was, it was good training, and...yeah, and I think a lot of people that I work with now, or have worked with at the Central School, came here to college and stayed, and raised their families. It's just, I think it's partly because this is a great college community, but it's also a great village and town community that work together. And I think even if you aren't from Brockport if you're transplanted from Indiana, because you were recruited to come work here, you still caught the fever of the small town community and the sense of responsibility and stewardship to your community and sharing. And you know, lots of great events have happened over the years, here.

Shannon Regelsberger 6:17

How long have you been working at the high school?

Elizabeth Banner 6:19

This is my 36th year at Brockport Central. I did elementary school for a little bit, and then I transferred to the high school. So yep, 36 years.

Shannon Regelsberger 6:30

Why did you decide to come to Brockport after you went to Ithaca?

Elizabeth Banner 6:36

Well, there was a job opening and I had several interviews at other places around the state. And, I think I was probably a little green. And there were other more qualified candidates for other programs. I had interviewed here at the high school, well at the Central School, for a middle school position and they didn't think that I was qualified for it- which was fine- but a couple days after that interview, I got a call because they needed an elementary music teacher. And I went in and interviewed and then I got that job. So, I taught elementary two through five for my first few years and, yeah, and then when the high school gig came up, I asked to transfer and I got it.

Shannon Regelsberger 7:19

What did you major and minor in?

Elizabeth Banner 7:20

I majored in undergrad, I was a music major in music education, K-12. And I did take some graduate classes at Ithaca, which were transferred here as electives in my Master of Arts in liberal studies. I don't know if they have that program here anymore, but it worked perfect for me because I could take a bunch of different classes from all over the college and, mold it into what was important for what I was doing in my teaching. At that time, I did a lot of gender studies, classes and you know, some literature classes that I hadn't had to take as an undergrad, because I had AP English credits from high school that I could transfer. So, yeah. It just worked out.

Shannon Regelsberger 8:18

Have you always known that you wanted to do music? Because you mentioned you were playing violin at four years old.

Elizabeth Banner 8:22

Yeah. Well, my mom was a music teacher and played violin. And she got us all going in 1965, 1964, when the program came here to this community, from the Eastman School of Music. It was the Suzuki violin program. My sisters were a little old at that time, they didn't really catch on. They preferred their piano lessons. But it was a nice thing for me to do with my mom as I grew up, because that was the whole method... of mother tongue, is what they call it. Japanese culture. You learn language, you learn every skill you have from your parents. And so that's what that program is about. So, I didn't really think I was going to be a music teacher. Because I think, at that age when you're deciding what you're going to do in life, not every young woman wants to be like their mother. Right? And... that was fine. It wasn't until my junior year that I actually declared the major. And I was scared because I just didn't think I was good at it. And that's insecurities of a young girl. You know, even though I'd gone away to college and I was pretty successful at college, I still was afraid that I wouldn't be good enough, I guess. And my teachers there at Ithaca really helped me understand I was good enough, and I tried my best and that's what I do till today. Just try my best.

Shannon Regelsberger 8:26

When you went to graduate school here, I'm assuming you lived off campus?

Elizabeth Banner 9:57

Yeah, I was married at that time. And, we owned a home in the village, and I could walk to class sometimes. I took a lot of night classes and summer classes. When I did it, I got it done in, I think two and a half years. Back in the day they'd also...had like a stipend program for- or they were like, coupons, I guess I could say, for credits if people hosted a student teacher. And I don't know if they were supposed to, but people would have a student teacher and you could buy their credits for cheaper than having to pay the tuition. So, I got through a lot that way. They would transfer the coupons to me.

Shannon Regelsberger 10:45

So you stayed with someone or did you host someone?

Elizabeth Banner 10:49

I didn't host anyone from Brockport. But I have had many student teachers over the years from other colleges. But there's no music major here or music education major here. So that's why I went with the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies, because I could pick and choose social sciences and literature and things that I didn't really take much at my undergrad, and that were more applicable, in my mind, as I learned about kids and what kids needed, you know, to kind of diversify my scope of teaching. So, yeah, I drove here just from my house.

Shannon Regelsberger 11:32

What activities or clubs were you involved in on campus?

Elizabeth Banner 11:37

I wasn't involved in anything here because I was a grad student, and I had a full-time job. I was coaching at the time as well. I was coaching track and cross country at the Central School. So, I just went to my class and did my business and then went home. But, I mean, I would attend concerts that were still here, and I would do other arts events, I think that were sponsored here. But there wasn't any specific club. Like I see the kids are involved in a bazillion things now, which is great.

Shannon Regelsberger 12:08

What about Ithaca? Were you involved in anything?

Elizabeth Banner 12:11

Well, I had my extra ensembles. I did a lot of music. I did a madrigal group that put on productions at Christmas time for a fundraiser for the scholarship fund. And... oh I was in residential life. I was a big Residential Life girl. I was an RA, I was an apartment manager, as I got into my upper years. And I was in charge of the summer conferences there, which ironically, the violin program, the Suzuki program, had three weeks of, massive camps and thousands of kids would come in with their families and have Suzuki camp so it was kind of funny I was in charge of the housing for them. It was kind of funny...to come full circle. But yeah, residential life. And I had part time jobs, I had work study. That kept me busy too.

Shannon Regelsberger 12:59

Did you have any memorable classes or teachers, either at Brockport High School or here at the college?

Elizabeth Banner 13:05

Well, yeah. Actually, I was asked this question earlier in the fall by my administration, upper administration as an alum to think about, and I had- well, backtrack a little, 1979 we hosted the international Special Olympics here. I thought it was the first international Special Olympics, but when it came up as the 40th anniversary of it, in August, there was some publicity the college put

out and it didn't say it was the first, it might have been the third international, but it was a huge event. It brought celebrities from all over the nation and the world here. The Kennedy Shivers were here as big supporters of the Special Olympics program. And the reason I got into working at that event was because of my coach and theater director and social studies teacher, all one person. His name is John Izzo, who had graduated from SUNY Brockport as a history teacher, and track star here. I believe, in the 60s. He got our whole team involved in being volunteers. And, I had just redone a scrapbook from high school over the summer and I was seeing all these pictures of the Olympics, Special Olympics, and all my track memorabilia and all my programs from shows. And I kept thinking this man is the common thread here. He was such an inspiration to me and so many people. And I think he got that from his family, of course, but I think he got a lot of it here. And he became immersed in this community. He was one of those people that didn't leave once he came. He grew up in Rochester, so he didn't travel far to get here. But he set up his home and his family and his career, his life, here and just shared so many great things. So I'd say John Izzo was probably a huge inspiration for the athletics and the arts and the education that I was given. And that I then give to my students.

Shannon Regelsberger 15:12

That's cool that he's not just one thing. He's involved in many-

Elizabeth Banner 15:15

Yeah. And I think that's kind of me, too. You know, I see that. So that was really an impressive thing when I was looking at the handwritten notes that he gave me before a show.... but he didn't just give it to me, he gave it to everybody in the cast. And it could be a summer production in summer theater, but he still did all those little personal touches and, made you feel very important. And I think that's what I try to do for people.

Shannon Regelsberger 15:46

Do you have any memorable stories from college? Either at Ithaca or here.

Elizabeth Banner 15:54

Well, I remember that two days before I graduated, I found out I was pregnant. So I was graduating- over at the ice rink is where we graduated... the inside ceremony for the graduate students. Because I think it rained, I think we couldn't be outside. I don't know. And I always look back at those pictures and think, wow, I was two months along, and I was finally done with my masters and I kind of, I felt like I had my act together at 28. You know. I don't know, I guess maybe I have more memories here as a child because I was running around these halls with all the music professors' children, who were my friends from playing violin. And I remember sitting

in concerts. They would bring the dance department over sometimes and the stage can be set up so there's a flat area in front and the orchestra was set behind, and they were dancing in the aisles and then up onto the stage when they were dancing to some orchestral music. WC's Afternoon of the Faun. And that was just really impressive to me that someone- and I was little. I went to a lot of concerts that were boring, but when they had that extra visual of the movement that was neat to me. I guess, I remember that. I remember Dr. Brown making us blueberry pancakes when we'd stay over for a slumber party. That was fun. And we would go- they had a little dock set up at the back of the president's lawn, and they had a boat. So, we'd go on the canal and stuff too, as kids. Yeah, I do remember, I was little during the Vietnam War...and there was a lot of protesting. And I remember- this is pretty vivid- I was in my second-grade classroom and a bunch of college kids came through protesting the war, over on the Central School campus. And it wasn't high school kids, it was college kids. And my sisters were older. I mean, they were ten and nine years older, so I wasn't afraid of my sisters, but I was afraid of the people that were outside shouting, I remember. And we had a bomb scare drill that we had to do when it happened. And it resonated with me. I was afraid that I was going to be hurt. And I remember if I had to walk through the campus from the school to get to my violin lesson, even when I was 10, 11, 12...I got that panicked feeling because I was near college students. And when I started teaching here, whenever it was in the mid 90s, a couple times early in that being back on the campus and walking through the Mall by myself, I felt that panic again...just because that was something I grew up with when I was a child. And I was never in any danger, but it was just...it was loud and it kind of bothered me a little bit. But then I don't feel that way anymore when I walk through. I like going to Jitters, getting a cup of coffee. It's a good place.

Shannon Regelsberger 19:19

You're involved in the drama club at the high school. When did you start doing that?

Elizabeth Banner 19:24

Well, this John Izzo guy got me to try out for the play in eighth grade. When I was in eighth grade, we did The Music Man. And I was one of those pick-a-little talk-a-little girls because I could... I guess because I could sing. I never had a role that was really a lead role or a named role. One thing in summer theater. I didn't really... I was usually a good ensemble person. You know, I could do that. I was a maid in... what was it? The...I could have danced all night one... My Fair Lady. I did that in high school. I played in the pit. I played my violin in the pit for a lot of shows over there. And we did summer theater through John. He would set it up through the community. I came and watched a couple shows over here, they used to have a summer theater program here, that Adam Lezar did. And I grew up with his daughter too. He was a theater professor here. But I had never directed or anything. But I had my craft, I knew I could teach music, so at one point, John Izzo's brother came to me and said, "hey, let's do the Wizard of Oz, you could be the music director." So, we did that. That was my first directing thing, and that was in 1987. Yeah. And so, I was working on my masters at that time that I was directing that. And

then, we're actually working on our 25th production with my colleague who directs, who graduated from Brockport High School and Brockport State, who was influenced by John Izzo, Neil Czerniak is his name, and his son is in our choir here at the college. He's doing a theater production major. But, yeah, so we're working on our 25th show together. And the father, Neil, was the Cowardly Lion when we did our first show with John Izzo's brother. It's just a big community here you can tell.

Shannon Regelsberger 21:23

Yeah everyone's connected it seems.

Elizabeth Banner 21:24

Everybody's connected. Yeah, everybody's connected. And actually, their family's from Hamlin, which is a farming community. But the influence that the teachers at Brockport had, to have the whole kid be taught- and I think it was probably what a lot of the teachers learned here. And we do a lot of collegial things between the Central School and the college. You know, with the athletic fields and with just events, and sponsoring of student teachers, and the diversity. I know there's a bunch of kids that came over for the diversity conference that was here the other day. And I know that Dr. Myers, our superintendent, works with the President, MacPherson, on projects that involve the community. So I think it is a really... it's a really cool thing. I don't know if New Paltz does that, you know, or SUNY Fredonia has that kind of a connection because I've never been to those communities, to see. But I think it's very special, how Brockport reaches out and in, you know, weaves itself in.

Shannon Regelsberger 22:08

That's really cool. So, what do you like about working at the high school versus the college?

Elizabeth Banner 22:42

Well I like the time that I spend at the high school. I spend most of my day at the high school, and week, and weekends...because it's a large program that we have. I like the ability to show kids over a four-year period that I am connected to them, how they can grow and become independent, and confident, and think for themselves, and be creative and share- take care of each other. I like how when the freshmen come in, they don't really know what's going on, but we pull them right on in and we're big sisters and brothers to them. And I like how kids take responsibility. I don't have that kind of a relationship with people here. The community people I do because they come back here, year after year, you know, semester after semester. And actually, a lot of those people I'm familiar with because they were friends of my parents. You know, like Betty who sings in the tenor section.

Shannon Regelsberger 23:45

Oh yeah, I was talking to her the other day.

Elizabeth Banner 23:45

She would come to my house trick or treating, you know, with one of my friend's mothers, Sue **Savored**, and, yeah.... I don't have the connection. And it being part time, it's hard for me to really...I do engage with the other staff and faculty, but I don't work on many projects with the other music people... that are long term projects. You know, we see each other at meetings, but I don't have that collegiality that I have at the high school, because I'm the old timer. You know, I've been there the longest of anyone in the district at this point, so, I don't know the young people, you know, but I have that history. And I have really long-term relationships. And, I've been here longer than anybody here, but I'm part time, I'm not a full-time person. So, I haven't developed that. But I do like that sometimes I can connect with a kid and I know them further down the road. You know, so, yeah. I like that I don't have to spoon feed here. I have to spoon feed a little bit with the freshmen especially. Yeah and I like that I don't have to stop and wait for, you know, stuff with the older students.

Shannon Regelsberger 24:04

**Do** you wish you had more time here to work on projects with other faculty?

Elizabeth Banner 25:17

**Yeah**, I do. But it's just, I don't have enough time in the day to do that. I work pretty closely with the theater department. Every other year I've been doing productions with them. So, when you work on a 10-week project with somebody and you see them two to three times a week for intensive rehearsals and planning. I feel more connected in those projects, because...I have done a couple projects with Scott, our orchestra conductor, because we've worked together on a couple concerts together, and other people come and help... we help each other with our concerts and things like that, but I still don't see them on a day in-day out basis. But I see, you know, the theater directors, when I work on a project with them, I see them 2, 3, 4 times a week. And when we're actually in production, I see them more than I see my family and, you know, it just depends on where we are in the production. So, it's just different.

Shannon Regelsberger 26:24

You said there was a big community when you went to school and do you still feel like it's the same? There is a sense of community here, but do you think it changed at all?

Elizabeth Banner 26:35

Yeah, it was around the time my son was five, so that would be maybe like '94, '95, the expressway came out further. And that changed... who lives here and works here. And I think there's a trend right now that it's just as easy to live in the city or on the other side of the city of Rochester because you can still get here in a reasonable amount of time to get to work.

Shannon Regelsberger 27:05

Yeah, it's just a straight shot.

Elizabeth Banner 27:07

Right. And, now, I don't think that the college professors are living here and raising their families in this community. And that's fine. I know that Natalie [Sarrazin] does, Frank Koon does, Davida Bloom raised her family here. So, it's not a blanket statement, but back in the day...everybody lived here, you know. And I think it's just grown. And society has changed too. So, yeah, it is different as far as that goes in the community.

Shannon Regelsberger 27:48

Okay, how is teaching at the high school and the college different from being a student there? And what has changed at the schools?

Elizabeth Banner 28:03

Well, when you're a student, you don't really know what hoops people have to jump through for their employer and for State Department of Education regulations and just, you know, all the kind of- they call it hoop jumping, you know, to make sure that we're satisfying protocols and expectations from people who aren't even here to manage us. That's very different perspective when you're an employee. What you have to, you know, how the environment is different, because you're the adult. Kind of said this to you at the beginning. You know, we have to have sexual harassment training and we have to have chemical, you know, an explosive hazard training, and there's lots. And they do it. We don't go to a room and hear a lecture to be trained... we watch videos at this point. And that's fine, it gets the job done. But when you get two employers asking the same thing, but they use two different companies for it, I can't have the stuff here satisfy the other employer. So, I mean, there's a lot of hoop jumping, I guess. And there's, you know, everybody has a different email system, everybody's got a different- and you even have email system. There's even internet. When I was in school, there was no internet. You know, when I had to register for my classes, I waited here, I waited in a really long line up at the

registrar's office, because you didn't... I don't know if there was mail in... I don't think. I don't think there were computers back then. I can't remember when did computers come into existence? I remember when I first started teaching the music and the child class, I wanted them to have a list of websites that they could use as resources because when I was at Ithaca, we had to have a list of resources. And so, I was listing people and stores. And you know, there was nothing online, and so it was like a new, you know, frontier. You could get so much more information, you know. But when I was studying here, I was going over and reading microfiche, in the Drake Memorial Library to get my research papers done. Do you know what microfiche is?

Shannon Regelsberger 30:26

No...

Elizabeth Banner 30:27

They take pictures of documents and they put them onto these little micro.... what do they call them? It's like a picture but it's a slide... a film strip. Do you know what film strips are?

Shannon Regelsberger 30:42

Sort of.

Elizabeth Banner 30:43

They're little plastic strips that they put in front of a lens and it would project. You know, it was really a cool thing when you were little and showing a film strip, so the video, and the bell would ding and you were the kid that was chosen to advance the slide when we heard the bell. Whatever. But yeah, I remember sitting in the basement of Drake, reading article after article from my research. You know and then having to document it. And oh, there's no computers. You had your typewriter and mine, my Smith Corona had a little key that you could punch, and it would back space and type the last letter that you typed with the correction tape.

Shannon Regelsberger 30:45

Oh okay.

Elizabeth Banner 30:47

So, you didn't have to retype the whole page. [laughter] One summer I typed- oh my gosh, it was awful. There was a graduate student here from Germany and he needed to do his thesis, and he needed somebody to type his thesis. And my boyfriend at the time was a resident director here at the college. And he got me this gig of typing this guy's thesis and it was so much work. Oh my gosh.

Shannon Regelsberger 31:58

Did he speak fluent English or...?

Elizabeth Banner 32:01

It was kind of broken English, but it was all written in English. But he kept giving me another chapter. But it was inserted in- it was.... I remember that being a real hard time, because I was meeting a deadline. And he was paying me fairly well, I guess for the time, but I did a lot of typing for people over in college because people didn't know how to type. Then I got one for graduation, so I got to type a lot. I altered clothes for people too hemmed their pants and so that got me into the costumes... that I, you know, did for summer theater and then I costume the shows... this show I'm currently on and the junior high show we're doing Yeah.

Shannon Regelsberger 32:25

Nice. Looking back on your college experience, is there anything you would do differently?

Elizabeth Banner 32:54

I don't think so, because the master's degree- I was the last class back in the 80s, '84, I think it was '85 was the first class that had to- there were different regulations on getting your masters for your certification, and you had to start taking the teacher tests. So, I was the last class that didn't have to do that. So, that worked in my benefit. And the state approved my Masters of Liberal Studies here, program to qualify me for permanent certification. And I had to write a big paper that justified everything but, yeah. I don't think I would have done anything different because it was very convenient for me to do my masters here, because we didn't have online masters. A couple of my friends that I teach with now that are doing that whole permanent certification, they are doing online programs. So, yeah, I wouldn't do anything different. It was great to be able to come here.

Shannon Regelsberger 33:55

Cool. Are there any other stories that you can remember that you want to tell?

Elizabeth Banner 34:00

You can tell I'm my father's daughter, the long winded. My father told stories about going to Dr. Tower's house. He was the president of the college, I believe. And I believe at the time the president's house was the alumni house in front of Hartwell. And he, you know, he tells stories about, you know, going there, you would be invited for dinner, because my father was in the student Faculty Association. And, I don't know, sometimes he made up stories, I think, but he says that he was the first president of the Student Faculty Association. I don't know if that's true. Andrew Bruce Schlageter, 1947, check it out. Yeah, I don't know if that's really true. But he did an awful lot of work with the Alumni Association in the 60s, 70s and 80s and 90s, until he passed, and at one point, you know, during alumni, they honor, Alumni Weekend, they honor people. And he was selected for the Big Cheese award, the big green and gold, you're a great Alumni Award. And they gave him a chair with his name on the back. And he didn't have room in his house for it so we asked them if they would put it in the alumni house. So, when I rent the place out for different things, well for his wake, and for bridal showers and things like that, you can use the Alumni House. I always go and look at his chair and sit in it. Yeah, so.

Shannon Regelsberger 34:48

That's cool. He's like a piece of the campus.

Elizabeth Banner 35:47

Absolutely. There's a tree- I thought about that the other day too, because when they had a 1947 reunion once, they...I think that might have been the year, the 50th or the 60th, I don't know. And that was when he was inducted into the Hall of Fame, and his class's tree was planted in... there's a walkway that goes from the tunnel under the railroad tracks there by Cooper, up to Tuttle. A tunnel up to Tuttle. Yeah, it's kind of neat to see how the campus has changed. Because when I was a little girl, next to the campus- well the Cooper Center was called the Campus School, and actually, I went to preschool there. My teacher was Mrs. Gilbert and she was wonderful. She still sends me birthday cards. She still knows my birthday. I don't know. But she was married to Joey Gilbert, who was a philosophy professor here. They had been recruited from downstate to come here and they raised their family. And I saw her at a college graduation for her granddaughter a couple, I think maybe two years ago, over at the SERC, because the high school graduates at the SERC, and so she was there. And yeah, she gave me my favorite children's book, The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats. I treasured that book that my teacher gave me. Anyways, but next to where Tuttle would be, there was a big Quonset hut. And there was a, I think, athletics track inside of it, and at one point, they wanted to expand the campus and build the Drake Memorial Library and build the Allen Administration Building, and then Tuttle. So, they put that thing on trailers, and they lifted it up and they drove it down the road, and they put it out where the town Park is now, out on Redmond Road. It was so weird. And, just past there, there's a big hill at the

end of the campus road, there's a big hill, and we would do cross country workouts there. But across the street was this famous Stage 16 apartments, that were really designed, apparently, for a warmer climate. And so, they were all made of metal. And so up here in the snow and the rain, they started to rust. So, then their nickname was rust city. And I remember my sister's fiancé lived there. I remember going, though they were kind of weird, but we would use the bathrooms at the community center when we were running up the hill. Yeah, I don't know, that's a little story.

Shannon Regelsberger 38:09

So, the campus did it just stop at the train tracks? There wasn't really anything on the other side?

Elizabeth Banner 38:38

Well, it started at Hartwell, and there was a campus school at the back of Hartwell, like when my dad was here in the 40s. And that was where he student taught. And funny thing, my second principal was in my father's class that he was student teaching in. He was a little kid in that, anyways. But it used to go just, I think to Kenyan street. Which now is closed off. They did all that renovation. And then in the 60s, when Dr. Brown came in, and they expanded, they moved everything out to the quad. And then the Union, right. And the library used to be where the registrar is, that's where my sisters worked, when Drake Library was there, at where the registrar and the [??] are, that whole thing. And so that moved down, and eventually the campus school was built across the railroad track. And so, things just kept moving down to the high rises. And they moved a lot of houses that are at the end of Holley Street past the college. Those houses were all here, and I don't remember them picking them up and moving them there, but a lot of houses at the end of the street had been here, on Holley Street before. There was one other little thing I thought about. I don't know.... Oh! I love how they have included North Campus into this plan. Whoever decided that, was a genius. It is so much better to not have the wall.

Shannon Regelsberger 40:13

Oh, like the hill here?

Elizabeth Banner 40:13

Yeah, there was a wall and you had to walk around, and it was just always hard, and a hike. And now I feel like if I wanted to scoot over and get a cup of coffee it would be nothing. But it was like, I felt like it was a three day walk to get from Tower to the Union. Which it wasn't, but it was just, you had to go up the stairs, and then you're up the hill, and they leveled it all off. And I think they fixed some things with physical plant too with the heating system, because Holley

Street used to always be torn up because of the heating system apparently. But I just, I really like it. I love the design of it. I think it really is a fresh outlook. And I think that the college is moving in a good place, to a good place. It's in a good place. But it's still, it's got that forward thought. And I think the lighting, and the architecture, the landscaping. I think it's just all... I love that part. I love to leave at the end of the day here and everything's lit up, and I often take a picture and send it to my cousins and my sisters because they came here.

Shannon Regelsberger 41:24

Yeah, it's beautiful campus. Okay, is there anything else you want to say?

Elizabeth Banner 41:33

Got to get ready for rehearsal. Right? Right. Well, I hope that people come to our concert on December 8th.

Shannon Regelsberger 41:40

Yes, and go see Mamma Mia!

Elizabeth Banner 41:42

And go see Mamma Mia next week. Yeah, I brought the posters so.

Shannon Regelsberger 41:46

Well thank you so much for sitting down with me. It was very interesting.

Elizabeth Banner 41:48

Well, I'm glad that you weren't bored by my rambling and thanks for asking me Shannon.

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