



NEWSLETTER of the Joliet Township High Schools

RETIRED TEACHERS

Vol. 61 - January 30, 2023

Teachers, Staff and Employee Reunion

We are considering a JTHS Teachers, Staff and Employees reunion 5:00-7:00 PM on Sunday, May 21, 2023 at the American Legion Post 1080 at 2625 Ingalls Ave in Joliet. The occasion would be sandwiches, fruit and vegetables with a cash bar available. The cost of \$12 per person would cover the food and the hall rental. If you are interested, please send a check made out to Alice Henderson, 3205 Willardshire Road, Joliet, IL 60431 so that we can see if there is any interest in a reunion. If the reunion doesn't take place, your check would not be returned but would not be cashed so that you could just void it. Affirmation of the reunion would come in the May newsletter.

New Principal at Joliet Township High School,
West Campus

Our featured JTHS employee for this newsletter



edition is the "new" principal at Joliet West, Mrs. Tecera Parker.. Although she has been in this position since July 1st we thought that our retirees would like to read some information about her. So -

On July 1, 2022, Mrs. Parker started her tenure as principal of Joliet West High School, administering to 10 administrators, over 200 faculty and about 3400 students. She is assisted by Matt Narducci and Jo Wooten, her assistant principals.

Born in Chicago, Mrs. Parker attended Lincoln Elementary School, Lincoln Junior High School, Thompson High School, DePaul University (Bachelor of Arts in Education) and Governors State University (Master of Education in Educational Leadership). She is married to Christopher Parker who is a JT West alum and they have a five year old shih tzu dog named Crockett.

Before coming to Joliet, Mrs. Parker taught English, was dean of students and director of summer school at Bloom Trail High School and Hugh Grant Manley

Career Center in Chicago. When she came to Joliet Township High School in 2019, she felt welcomed by students, staff and families. She considers JTHS students to be resilient and feels that they have a genuine and infectious zeal for life.

Her four areas of focus as principal of JT West are building relationships, improving climate and culture, increasing student engagement and connection to the school and increasing collaboration and communication. The Joliet Township High School district is proud and happy to have her as its newest administrator.

News

JTHS Foundation

To continue to increase the amount of grants and scholarships, the executive board is busy planning for the next fund raiser, the trivia event: *Television Memories*, which will be held Sunday, March 12, 2023 at 176 West (1100 NE Frontage Road). Tables of 10 are \$200 and 1st and 2nd place prizes will be awarded for high score as well prizes for the top two table decor as well as for best themed table decor. and costume. A variety of sponsorships are needed to support the event. Visit the JTHS Foundation website (jthsfoundation.org) or like them on facebook for details. The annual golf outing will be held in June at Inwood Golf Course in Joliet. Again, visit the website for details.

• **Bruce Tompkins**, who has lived in Cherry Hill since his employment at JTHS, is the third generation of his family here in the USA. His grandfather, father, son, grandson and great grandson all have the same middle name - six generations of the Tompkins family. Bruce taught in the T & I Department at both East and West Campus. He retired in 1994 - 28 years ago.

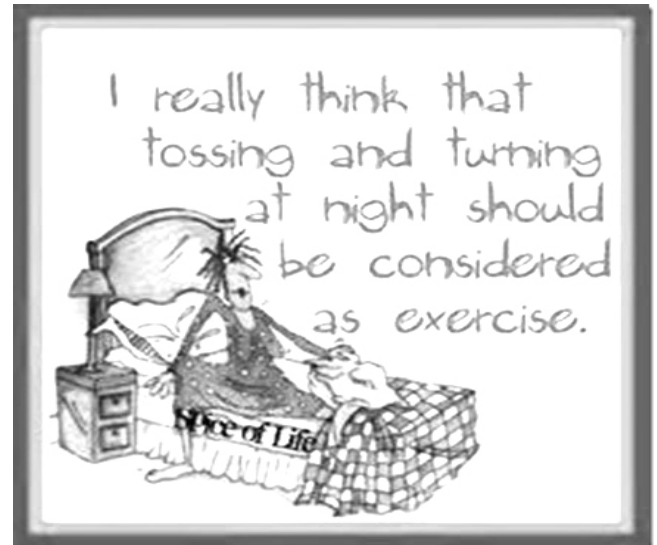
Deaths

• **Frank James “Boomer” Crotty, Jr.** Born: December 23, 1941 in Joliet, IL He taught Social Studies very briefly at Joliet West High School. “Boomer” passed away January 9, 2023. He was a much-loved father, grandfather and animal lover who will be greatly missed by his friends and family.”

• **Marshall Crandall**, 80, died peacefully in his home in Tucson, AZ on December 7th, 2022. He was born January 6, 1942 in Mason City, IA. He attended Northern Iowa Community College and then the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls where he graduated in 1964. He spent his early career teaching history in North Platte, NE. In 1967, Marshall moved to Joliet to continue his career, teaching in JTHS for the next 13 years. In 1982, Marshall transitioned to a role as lead Administrator of Media Services for the high school system in Orland Park and Tinley Park, IL, finally retiring from this role in 1999. He was a devoted Chicago Cubs fan and held season tickets for many years.

• **William “Bill” Paul Klepec**, age 83, passed away peacefully on Thursday, November 10, 2022. Born September 18, 1939. Bill grew up in Lockport and later enlisted in the U.S. Navy, serving four years for his country. Bill was employed by Weber Dairy and then worked in maintenance at Joliet Central High School for the majority of this career. In his spare time, Bill greatly enjoyed playing golf and took pride in being a member of the Hole in One Club. He was an avid movie watcher and a life-long Chicago Cubs, Bears, and Bulls fan. Perhaps even more he loved cheering on the Fighting Illini.

• **William R. Palmer**, age 82, passed away Friday, December 2, 2022, at Silver Cross Hospital in New Lenox. Born November 29, 1940, in Joliet. Bill was a lifelong area resident. He graduated from Sacred Heart Grade School, Joliet Catholic High School, and Joliet Junior College. He earned his Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in education from Illinois State University. Bill spent over 30 years teaching high school social studies at both Joliet East and Joliet Central before retiring in 1996. On July 1, 1967, Bill married his wife Mercedes, who was also a JTHS teacher and the two most recently celebrated 55 years of marriage. Together they raised two children,



And Finally...

A Few More Chuckles for Seniors

GETTING OLDER

A distraught senior citizen phoned her doctor's office.

“Is it true,” she wanted to know, “that the medication you prescribed has to be taken for the rest of my life?”

“Yes, I'm afraid so,” the doctor told her.

There was a moment of silence before the senior lady replied,

“I'm wondering, then, just how serious is my condition because this prescription is marked **NO REFILLS**”

Aging: - Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it. This is so true. I love to hear people say “you don't look that old.”

The next issue of this newsletter will be published at the end of May, 2023. It will only be available in a PDF version on the JT Web page or mailed to those who have requested to have hard copies.

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