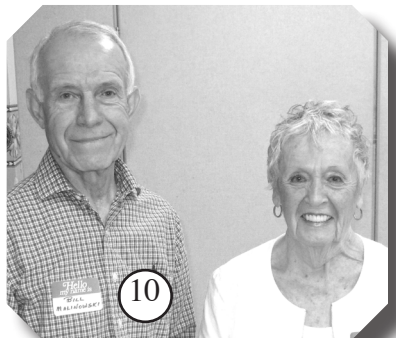
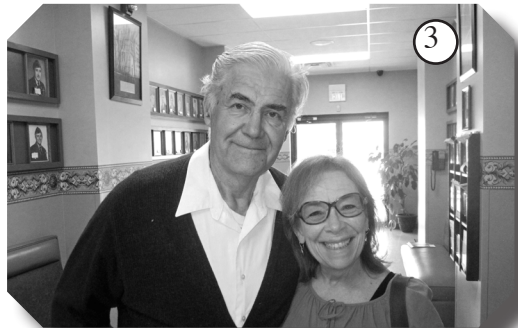




NEWSLETTER of the Joliet Township High Schools

RETIRED TEACHERS

Vol. 52 - September 25, 2019



1. Nancy Jamnik, Angie Burke, Vince McGirr, Chuck Baker, Alice Henderson, John Halbesma, Nancy Louck, Nicki Alander Bill Palmer
2. Wayne Waddell, Irene Green
3. John Kilday, Kathy Katchel
4. Mickey Beach, John Randich

5. Lillian Casten, Alice Henderson, Cele Trizna-Vargo
6. Vince McGirr, Myra Thomas
7. Sandy & Mike Zigrossi
8. Phil Staley, Ron Marketti, Jim Kachel
9. Tom & Ellen Begler
10. Bill Malinowski. Nancy Jamnik

NEWS NOTES

The JT Retired staff group held a reunion on May 19, 2019 at the American Legion 1080 hall. (See pictures on reverse side.) 53 were in attendance and enjoyed a limited menu this time instead of the full meal. After the fees and costs were covered (\$200 hall rental, \$36 for a bartender, food costs and tips) we turned a profit of \$23.58 which was put into our activity fund. The profit will be used for mailing costs most likely. Only 17 of the 53 attendees came from outside Will County. Everyone was very happy to reconnect with former co-workers. If you would like to see another gathering in a couple years drop an email to Dean or Alice to let them know.

Deaths

• **Eunice Frenk**, age 90 years, passed away on Sunday, June 2, 2019 at Alden Estates of Shorewood. Born in DeKalb, Illinois on December 19, 1928 and residing in Joliet since 1932. Eunice was a graduate with high honors from Valparaiso University with a degree in Foreign Language. She was a teacher at Joliet Township High School and Joliet Junior College for 30 years before retiring. She was the Foreign Language Department Head for 28 years. Eunice was a life-long member of St. Peter's Lutheran Church. She was a member of the Ladies Aid, the Mission Society, served as a Sunday School Teacher and spear-headed all church activities. Eunice's faith was very important to her and St. Peter's Lutheran Church was her life. Eunice's unique gift was her ability to genuinely engage anyone in conversation and make them feel important. She was an avid reader of newspapers, puzzles and scholarly journals. She enjoyed travel both in the United States and overseas, especially loved her trips to Mexico.

• **Anthony Gutierrez** passed away peacefully at Presence St. Joseph Medical Center, Monday, September 10, 2019 at the age of 91. Anthony enjoyed 40 years as a teacher, coach and administrator in the Joliet Township High Schools. He was a long-time member of the Industrial Arts faculty both at Joliet Township and Joliet West. He taught Industrial Drawing and also served as a department chairman at JT West. Tony was a graduate of JT and also a successful basketball coach while at JT. He was a member of the Joliet Police and Fire Commission, was awarded with JJC Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award and elected into the Joliet Sports Hall of Fame. One of his volunteer joys was in taking trips of Central and South America to help with the distribution of eye glasses and eye care. During summers he and his crew, mostly of family members and other faculty built 49 homes in the Joliet area. Tony was a kind, gentle and caring man, a loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather and brother. Anthony proudly built over 49 homes in the Joliet area. Tony is survived by his wife of 68 years Dorothy, their children Lisa, Jim and Ed, eight grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren, and his siblings Robert, Jesse, Dr. Daniel Gutierrez, Carmela, Rachel. He loved traveling and being near water.

• **John Harr**, age 78, of Shorewood, IL and Ft. Myers, FL passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, May 19, 2019. Born November 28, 1940 in Savanna, IL, he was a graduate of Savanna High School, the University of Dubuque, IA, and received his Master's Degree from Northern Illinois University. John is survived by his wife of 56 years, Karen; two children, Steven and Sherry and three grandchildren. John taught at Washington Junior High School and for 30 years at Joliet West High School coaching basketball and track at both schools. He was especially proud

of his track team winning third place in the State Track Meet in 1987, and the State Championship in 1990. He was Coach of the Year in 1990, and elected into the Illinois Track Coaches Hall of Fame in 2005. His first love was his family and next was his school and the kids he taught and coached. During retirement, he had a great passion for fishing as a hobby and spending the winters in Florida.

• **Bonita Johnson**, was born November 19, 1946 in Fort Dodge, Iowa. She received her high school education in Iowa. Following graduation, Bonnie attended Northwest Missouri State College, in Marysville, Missouri, earning a Bachelor's Degree in physical education, in 1968. She accepted a position as a physical education teacher in Joliet, where she taught for five years. Bonnie then began working for U.P.S. retiring after thirty years. Bonnie and her husband Jim moved to Emmetsburg, Iowa after their retirement where they made their home. She was a member of Bethany Lutheran Church in Emmetsburg and was also an active supporter of Relay For Life. Bonnie passed away Monday, May 13, 2019 at Lakeside Lutheran Home in Emmetsburg, Iowa, at the age of 72.

• **John E. Lopez**, affectionately known as "Hello My Friend" to students, faculty and visitors to JT West for many years, passed at the age 82 of Joliet, on Tuesday, July 30, 2019 at Salem Village Nursing and Rehabilitation due to complications from dementia. John was proud to work for the Illinois Migrant Council, Joliet Job Corp, and Joliet West where he retired as a security guard in 2002. He enjoyed helping people and volunteering his time at the Spanish Center for many years. John also joined the Joliet Police Department as a volunteer after his retirement. He wanted to be remembered for his contribution to the community, his outgoing personality, and his pride in calling Joliet his home.

• **David A. Smith**, age 76 of Joliet, passed away Saturday, July 20, 2019 at Alden Courts of Shorewood. Born October 11, 1942 in Joliet He was raised and educated in Joliet, and after working a few odd jobs, David proudly worked as a custodian for Joliet West High School for over 30 years until retiring in 2008. He was also an accomplished guitarist. David's band, "The Midnighters" were popular in the Joliet area during the 60's and 70's. At one of David's gigs he met Betty Stein and on June 1, 1968 they were married. Betty and David would go on to make a home and raise their family together in Joliet. Aside from music, David's other interests included listening to and communicating with CB and Ham Radio operators, getting together with the "Grumpy Old Men Club" for lunch daily at Old Fashioned Pancake House, and keeping an eye on the neighborhood. David's favorite times were always with his family..

The next issue of this newsletter will be published at the end of January 2020. It will only be available in a PDF version on the JT Web page or mailed to those without internet access who have requested hard copies.

Alice Henderson
3205 Willardshire
Joliet, IL 60431
(815) 436-5418
Cah3205@aol.com

Dean Sayles
2618 Old Woods Trail.
Plainfield, IL 60586
(815) 267-7911
deansayles@comcast.net