



NEWSLETTER of the Joliet Township High Schools

RETIRED TEACHERS

Vol. 47 - September 29, 2017

West Campus Construction



Original view of main entrance prior to construction.



Left: Replacement of old front entrance corridor.



Below: Early stages and scaffolding as construction continues during the summer.



Far Left: Eastern facing view towards Larkin Avenue.



Left: North view of new firewall.

You may have noticed in passing Joliet West Campus this summer that a large construction project is in the process. The JT District is continuing with major building updates with the reconstruction of Joliet West High School Main Entrance. Ground was broken on a new 3,523 square foot addition during the 2016-2017 school year. The one story addition creates a new main entrance for the campus to achieve the goal of ensuring a welcoming environment while increasing safety and security. The new main entrance has an estimated completion date in December 2017 and includes a vestibule, waiting area, metal detector and bag check area, two conference rooms and a Police Liaison Office. Parents, community, staff and all visitors will experience a multi-functional space with natural lighting and state-of-the-art

amenities immediately upon entry to the school. Here are some pictures of the construction in progress.

News Notes

RETIRED STAFF REUNION

We will not be having a retired staff reunion in 2018. The attendance at past reunions was 125 at Syl's in 2000, 155 at the Empress in 2001, 75 at the Empress in 2004, 105 at Legion Post in 2009, 87 at Legion Post in 2011, 86 at Legion Post in 2013 and 67 at Legion Post in 2016. We are thinking of having our eighth reunion the second last Sunday in May of 2019 at the Legion Post. The cost of the facility is quite prohibitive at other locations. As

you can see, attendance has decreased from the initial two but a large number of retired staff has passed away. Hopefully some of the younger retired staff will develop an interest in attending. If you have any questions or comments, please E-mail Dean or Alice.

JTHS FOUNDATION

Once again, the Wadsworth annual golf outing was very successful with a profit of approximately \$10,000 which is used for scholarships and grants. The 18th annual outing will be held again in June of 2018.

In other news, Alice Henderson resigned from her position as treasurer after more than 20 years in the post. Sam Gersman of the First Community Bank replaced her as of July 1, 2017.

The Wadsworth trust fund produced interest to fund the \$28,000 in grants which will be awarded to students and staff on November 6, 2017. Check the Foundation website for details and pictures of the event.

As of July 1, 2017, the 1.5 million dollar Wadsworth trust fund has been moved from The First Midwest Bank to three investment firms, hoping the return will be greater. This will allow for even more grants and scholarships.

JTHS ARCHIVES

An area to hold archives from Joliet East has been established at the JT District Office to establish a place where items associated with Joliet East can be collected. There is already a good collection of pictures and other memorabilia donated after a recent get together of East Campus people. If you have or know someone with East memorabilia please should contact Kristine Schlismann, Director of Community and Alumni Relations for JT, at (815) 727-6967 or e-mail at kschlismann@jths.org.

Deaths

• **Richard Fahrner** passed away on May 11, 2017 at age 71 at his home in Plainfield. He retired from the JTHS Maintenance Department after 30 years of service. Rich enjoyed working on his computer and spending time with his dog Mindy. He will be remembered for his kind and giving heart, always putting others before himself, and for being a loving and devoted husband.

• **Richard Samlin**, long time JTHS History teacher, Dean, Assistant Principal and Principal passed away on May 5, 2017 peacefully at his home surrounded by his loving family. He was born and raised in LaSalle, Illinois and graduated from LaSalle-Peru High School. He received honors and set school records at LaSalle-Peru High School in track and field and Illinois Valley Community College as a state football champion. Richard earned a full scholarship in football to Adams State College, Alamosa, CO where he was an all conference champion for four years and was voted Little All American in his senior year. His education was vast, earning his Bachelor's Degree in Education from Adams State, two Masters in Education from University of Illinois and a Doctorate in Secondary Education from Nova University in Florida.

His coaching career began in Branson, CO and extended to Buda, IL, Bradley-Bourbonnais, IL, and Joliet West High School. He was admired for his expertise and skill in the areas of track, football, and basketball where he left a trail of state championships and titles in his path.

Dick's teaching career spanned a total of 37 years with knowledge in U.S. History and Civics taught at the high school level. He was an adjunct professor at Joliet Junior College for 33 years teaching Psychology. After leaving the classroom, he walked

the halls of Joliet West as a Dean of Students, Assistant Principal, and Principal before retiring in 1997.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 66 years, Joan, daughter, Cynthia and grandpuppy, Chloe.

And finally in the timeless traditions of the classroom teacher and thanks to the internet here are some of the best, bad puns.

1. Two antennas met on a roof, fell in love and got married. The Ceremony wasn't much, but the reception was excellent.
2. A jumper cable walks into a bar. The bartender says, "I'll serve you, but don't start anything."
3. A woman has twins and gives them up for adoption. One of them goes to a family in Egypt and is named "Ahmal." The other goes to a family in Spain; they name him "Juan." Years later, Juan sends a picture of himself to his birth mother. Upon receiving the picture, she tells her husband that she wishes she also had a picture of Ahmal. Her husband responds, "They're twins! If you've seen Juan, you've seen Ahmal."
4. Two cannibals are eating a clown. One says to the other: "Does this taste funny to you?"
5. Two cows are standing next to each other in a field. Daisy says to Dolly, "I was artificially inseminated this morning." "I don't believe you," says Dolly. "It's true, no bull!" exclaims Daisy.
6. An invisible man marries an invisible woman. The kids were nothing to look at either.
7. What do you call a fish with no eyes? A fish.
8. Two fish swim into a concrete wall. The one turns to the other and says "Dam!"
9. A group of chess enthusiasts checked into a hotel and were standing in the lobby discussing their recent tournament victories. After about an hour, the manager came out of the office and asked them to disperse. "But why," they asked, as they moved off. "Because," he said, "I can't stand chess-nuts boasting in an open foyer."
10. Mahatma Gandhi, as you know, walked barefoot most of the time, which produced an impressive set of calluses on his feet. He also ate very little, which made him rather frail and with his odd diet, he suffered from bad breath. This made him. (Oh, man, this is so bad, it's good...) A super calloused fragile mystic hexed by halitosis.
11. And now finally for real, there was the person who sent twenty different puns to his friends, with the hope that at least ten of the puns would make them laugh. No pun in ten did!

The next issue of this newsletter will be published at the end of January, 2018. It will only be available in a PDF version or on-line. If you are not on the e-mail list, send us your address. The newsletter will also be available on the JTHS home page (<http://www.jths.org/alumni-and-community/jths-retired-faculty/>). If you do not have an internet connection please send \$4.00 to Alice Henderson to cover mailing costs for two years. Keep the news and feedback coming as we all like to hear from and about former colleagues. Please send information to:

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