



January 2022 Newsletter

A Very Happy New Year to All!

**Reading Room Update
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Reading Room Update

After a very generous holiday break, Barlow students are back and working hard. Our amazing JBHSAA Reading Room is in constant use and very much appreciated by both current students and staff.

For those of you who did not get to visit the JBHSAA Reading Room, we encourage you to stop by.

Alumni Spotlight



Debbie Cole JBHS Class of '70

For those of us who attended JBHS in the early years, girls were required to wear skirts. Pants were never ever allowed. If you graduated prior to 1970, this was a steadfast rule and no one dared to challenge it.

That all changed in 1970 when Debbie Cole, JBHS Class of '70, made a call from a pay phone outside of the JBHS cafeteria to the American Civil Liberties Union. At the time, the principal of JBHS had sent Debbie home from school on numerous occasions for wearing pants. As a result of Debbie's call, the ACLU sent a pamphlet to Debbie's home with the information Debbie was looking for that would eventually result in girls being able to wear pants to school. When Debbie read the paragraph in the pamphlet under the heading "PERSONAL APPEARANCE," it was clear that uniformity pertained to the health and safety of students and if it did not, it was violating the civil liberties of the students. The more she read the more Debbie was convinced that in fact there was no reason for girls to only wear skirts to school.

Long story short, from 1971 on, Debbie Cole is the reason that female students were allowed to start wearing pants at Barlow. Kudos to Debbie!

Debbie went on to receive a 20K grant from the Kiwanis to rent a storefront in Danbury and support a startup effort. Along with a Danbury friend named Talmadge Mayo and several others, they began a program called FRONT. FRONT was a hotline for kids in trouble. This is where Debbie spent her after-high-school days. It was a very successful program manned by many volunteers that developed into an ongoing program in Danbury. Eventually the name of the program was changed while it continued to provide services to youths in need.

After building a real estate career in NYC and Philadelphia, Debbie moved back to Connecticut and joined Sotheby's as a real estate agent. It was then that she met her husband, Fred. Today Debbie goes by her grown up name, Deborah. She and her husband have now relocated to South East Florida where Deborah continues to work for Sotheby's.

Although not particularly involved in Barlow activities while in high school, Debbie has been a tremendous asset to the JBHSAA, has worked hard to bring the JBHS Class of '70 together. She is also responsible for our Face book page that she continues to update. By far her greatest achievement while at Barlow was changing the dress code so that girls could finally wear pants. THANK YOU DEBBIE (DEBORAH) COLE!



Class Reunion News

JBHS CLASS OF '68: If you have not already been reached, contact Glyn Reinders, nhglyn@comcast.net

Obituaries



Virginia Olsen Bush, JBHS Class of '62: Virginia passed away on November 2, 2022. Virginia was an accomplished teacher, writer, poet, and above all loved being a mother and grandmother. Virginia was predeceased by her husband Milton and leaves behind her sons, Adam and Ryan and two granddaughters. Virginia is also survived by her brothers, Doug and Paul Olsen. We extend our deepest sympathy to Virginia's family and friends.

Mark Rossiter Fahan, JBHS Class of '74: Mark passed away on September 22, 2022 in Ventura, CA where he was an environmental consultant for a firm that he had formed with a friend, Holguin, Fahan and Assoc. Mark is survived by his wife, Elizabeth, daughter, Madeline and son-in-law as well as one grandchild, Poppy Heloise. Mark also leaves behind his brothers, Chris, Peter, Jon, and Patrick and his sister, Elizabeth Netherthorpe. We



extend our deepest sympathy to Mark's family and friends.



John (Jay) Sabanosh, JBHS Class of '81: Jay died on October 12, 2022 in a tragic accident in Cave Creek, AZ. While at Barlow, Jay was a stellar athlete. He is survived by his mother, Crissy Clark, his wife, Kristen, their three children; Christopher, Connor, and Bridgette and one grandson. He also leaves behind his sisters; Barbara Ahern and Whitney Simon and his brother, Douglas as well as a large extended family. We extend our deepest sympathy to Mark's family and friends.

Derek C. Marshall, JBHS Class of '61: Derek passed away on November 20th, 2022 in Sandwich, MA. Derek was in the first JBHS graduating class and married his high school sweetheart, Linda Whitworth. Together they were known both nationally and internationally for their work in pottery and lighting designs. Derek is survived by his wife, Linda, his daughter, Amy, and his son, Crofton, and five wonderful grandchildren. We extend our deepest sympathy to Derek's family and friends.



Judith Hoffman, JBHS Class of '67: We just received notice that Judith died on August 24th, 2006 at the age of 56 years old. Judith is survived by her two sons, two daughters, her brother, Jay Hoffman and her sisters, Betsy Spencer and Janet Coughenour. We cannot forget her four amazing grandchildren; pure joy for Judith. We extend our deepest sympathy to Judith's family and friends.

Jennifer Swift, JBHS Class of '77: Jennifer passed away in November of 2022. She leaves behind her son,

Lizbeth Rene Bourret, JBHS Class of '81: Lizabeth passed away on November 8, 2022 from complications of dementia. Lizabeth grew up in Easton, CT and lived in Bethel at the time of her death. Lisabeth is survived by her mother, Mona Bourret and her sisters, Jeanne Locke, Rachel Keneally, Lise Clancy, Mona Anne Bourret and her brother, Peter Bourret. We extend our deepest sympathy to Lizabeth's family and friends.



Be immortalized forever
in our JBHS Alumni Wall of
Fame!

Buy A Brick

Purchasing Options

Purchase a brick for \$50 and your message and/or name and class year will be engraved onto a brick and placed onto the growing brick pathway at Joel Barlow High School.

Go to jbhsaa.weebly.com or click on the link below.

Buy a Brick

**Support the
JBHSAA Fund**



The JBHSAA Fund supports our scholarships for graduating seniors as well as other high school alumni initiatives. Please consider making a gift - it's easy and a great way to support the community!

Options for Donating

1. Click "Make a Gift" to donate online via credit card
2. Send a check made out to:

Joel Barlow High School
Alumni Assn.
100 Black Rock Turnpike
Redding CT 06896

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Support Fellow Alumni



Place Your Ad Here!

Contact us to advertise your business and support the JBHSAA. We charge \$25.00 for an ad size of a basic business card.



Dr. Nick Pietrangelo ('63)

Nick is the founder of two companies: **Harding Energy**: Energy Storage to Power the World & home of the Heli-Lantern | 509 East Ellis Rd. Norton Shores, MI 49441 and **Power by Sun**: The First Source of ENERGY, the SUN | 19212 Norton Shore Drive, Spring Lake, MI 49456. These are worldwide companies supplying Energy and Energy storage to the world.

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Mark M. Scott

615 West Mount Pleasant Ave
Livingston, NJ 07039

mscott@newcommercialmortgage.com
www.newcommercialmortgage.com

Office: 973.716.0006
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Mobile: 201.787.7111

Questions about the JBHS Alumni Association?

Contact infojbhsaa@gmail.com

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