



**Waltham Public Schools
Retirees' Corner Newsletter
February 2019**

A Family Tradition

Below is a list of parents and their adult children who have worked in the Waltham Public Schools.

*currently employed

(Our apologies to anyone we missed. We will be glad to include your family in the next newsletter.)

Parent(s)	Sons and Daughters
Susan Aubert, Richard Aubert	Courtney Allia*
John "Skip" Bandini	P.J. Bandini*
Jeanne Burley	Diane Fitzmaurice
Doris Brucchi	Carolyn Ream
Joseph Cardillo	Carla Baxter-Paparella
Grace Carney	Marybeth Carney
Marlene Caterino	Ann Ciccarelli*
Joy Clark	Judith Araujo*
Robert Connors, Janet Connors	Patricia Beck*
Michael Coppolino	Krista Curley*
Margaret Cornelissen	Sandra Crimlisk
Cheryl Creonte	Natalia Creonte Parrella*
Sandra Crimlisk	Judith Vizard*
John Cronin, Hazel Cronin	Jeanne Cronin*
Mary Darcy	Maura Darcy
Mary Donahue	Patricia Mullin, Joan Martin
Deborah Drew	Heather Metallides*
Irene Dunbar	Kathryn Hines
Dorothy Eagle	Robert Eagle
Leonard Fay, Susan Fay	Michael Fay
Judith Ferolito	Amy Gullotti

Eileen Florio	Maureen Florio Jolin*
William Foley	Ryan Foley*
Marjory Forbes	Jason Forbes
Anne Forde	Christopher Forde*
John Gallagher, Pauline Gallagher	Maureen Taddeo
Patricia Genova	Maryann Genova Long*
Stephen Giardina	Susan Rizzo*
Stephen Goodwin	Jean Hunt*, Elizabeth Sturgis*
John Graceffa	J. T. Graceffa *
Dorothy Grady	Paul Grady
Evelyn Grinnell	Thomas Grinnell*
Carol Hazel	Christopher Hazel
Joyce Keith	Loxi Keith, Lorna Keith
Mabel King	David King
Angelica Kontos	Anna Kontos
Astrid LaForest	Scott LaForest*
Lorne MacArthur	Heidi Sardina
Norman MacDonald, Madeline MacDonald	Norm MacDonald, Ellen MacDonald, Jane MacDonald
Mary MacLeod	Jennifer LaForest
Patricia MacDonald	Jennifer McClary
Janet Maguire	John Maguire
Domenic Mauro	Christina Walsh*
Loretta McElroy	Constance Castelline
Alice McKenzie	Marie McKenzie
Carol McMahan	Tim McMahan
Christine Mirabito	Jackie Mirabito
Faith Monahan	Kathleen Monahan, Deborah Monahan Carey
Fay Norris	Adrienne Norris*
Eleanor Pacitti	Regina Pacitti
Marian Parrella	Alex Parrella*
Anthony Piantedosi	Paul Piantedosi
Dorothy Pittorino	Suzanne Pittorino*
Stephen Rando, Barbara Rando	Julie Ranucci*
Barbara Scichilone	Bernadette Scichilone*
John Sinerate, Joanne Sinerate	Jesse Bastarache*
Leonard Sorin	Russ Sorin*
Isabel Talanian	Diane Krueger
Louise Tower	Scott Tower
Dorothy Vincuillo	Dorothy Davis*
Ernest Viscarello	Maureen MacNeil
Raymond Yetten	Peter Yetten



Kudos to Bill Nolan for his legislative work on behalf of REAM! Bill was noted in the President's Column of the Winter 2019 REAM newsletter.

"I also want to give a shout out to Bill Nolan who helps us navigate the pieces of legislation in which we have interest in the State House. Although this was a frustrating legislative session he guided us through it all with his usual grace and dedication."

Marilyn Frank, President,
REAM (Retired Educators Association of Massachusetts)



On a sad note, over the past few months, we have lost six more retirees -

Ann Bennett - English teacher at Waltham High

Edward Hanlon - Industrial Arts/Career and Tech Ed.
at Central and Waltham High

David Landi - Assistant Principal at Whittemore and
classroom teacher at Whittemore and MacArthur

Robert "Bob" Powderly - Plympton School custodian

Elizabeth Rice - Plympton School Special Educator

Mary Sheridan - Grade 3 teacher at Banks and Stanley

Paul Thorp - Housemaster at Waltham High and Biology teacher and
founder of Waltham High School's Academic Decathlon and
the Robotics programs

Complete obituaries for all retirees who have passed in the past 4 years are identified at retireescorner.org under **Obituaries**.



In our first newsletter last July, as an ongoing feature, we asked for you to share a wonderful memory or an insight about colleagues who have passed and who are remembered fondly. Each of our two newsletters put forth some names (the first six in each list below). Our thanks to those who shared fond memories. We have added a few more names for this month. Please share a memory about anyone on the list. We have not been getting a huge response from people sharing memories, but, we have received positive feedback about the reflections that have been shared. Again, our thanks to all those who did share such wonderfully poignant reflections and please share your memories too. Email reflections to retireescorner@gmail.com

We are sharing an historical perspective on the names in bold face at elementary and junior high/middle levels.

Elementary

Eileen Long (NE)

Helen Flynn (PLY)

Jack Pinzone (Fitch and Robbins)

Joe Sentence (Banks)

Carol Manganaro (Whit.)

Mary McCue (Plympton and FitzGerald)

Mary Sheridan (Banks and Stanley)

Frank Fandel (School Street, Newhall, and Fitzgerald)

Teresa Brassil

Miss Brassil was the first principal of the Fitzgerald School (known at that time as the Warrendale School). She was from Westborough, MA and lived on Washington Avenue in Waltham. There is a scholarship in her name.

Middle/Junior High

Paul Bolduc (South)
Lucille Hanna (Central)
Al Garnache (South and Kennedy)
Peg Martin (Kennedy and HS)
Henry O'Brien (HS and South)
Bill Patterson (South)
Joseph Linehan (Central and Ken.)
Jerry Peterson (South)

Edith Chase (Kennedy)

Information below taken from edithstewartchasefoundation.org

The purpose of the Edith Stewart Chase Foundation is to grant emergency financial assistance to retired educators who confront an economic crisis.

Professional training for Edith began at the Massachusetts College of Art and continued when she enrolled for a Master's degree at Boston University. Her first position was in Hartford, Connecticut where she remained until the desire to be home in Boston brought her to the Waltham Public Schools in 1963 until her retirement in 1973.

As a teacher, she is described by her principal, G. Lorne MacArthur:
"A quiet, highly dedicated teacher of art, she cheerfully fulfilled all assigned duties. Her room was always neat and attractive. She would stay long beyond the regular school hours, determined to have her room ready for the next day. Her students won many honors in all types of competition.

And, in this same quiet manner, Edith passed away in her family home on Chestnut Street, Beacon Hill, where she lived with her sister Nathalie Tumbridge. During a chilly March evening, a defect in the flue caused a smoky back-up and both sisters were overcome. Edith died that night and her sister, a month later.

In her will, Edith left a bequest to MRTA for assistance to members in need. Her legacy for members of her profession creates in us the determination to carry out her wishes through "The Edith Stewart Chase Foundation" with the same dedication that she showed during her lifetime.

High School/Vocational

Frank Strazzullo (HS)
Sarah Giacalone (HS)
Dick Collins (HS)
Marlyn Miller (HS)
Judy Baginsky (South and HS)
Pat Hurley (South and HS)
Jack MacDonald (Voc. and HS)
John Gallagher (Voc.)
Ann Bennett (Central and HS)

Judy Baginsky Papachristos was a warm-hearted special educator with many colleague and student fans. She worked tirelessly for her students whether she taught them or served as their team leader. She walked into any room and lit it up with her infectious good will and laughter. She was not only my colleague, but a personal friend who loved to entertain in her spacious and beautiful Acton home. We also shared a deep love of animals. She was a cat mom but appreciated dogs.

Regina Pacitti
WHS SAC

Miss Martin was first my Kennedy Junior High School math teacher. I found her no-nonsense and very focused on imparting the concepts of my most challenging subject-algebra. I am sure I also found her scary despite her diminutive size.

She later became an unofficial mentor of sorts to me in my neophyte teacher status. I doubt I'd have survived those early work years without her and her smoking buddy Martha Heaton. This homage to Peggy can't help but include Mrs. Heaton. Together they encouraged, advised and supported me in my worst despairing days. And in time, both became colleagues and friends. Once I transferred into a different role in another school, we continued to meet for dinner especially on Parents' Nights. They cared about me not only professionally but personally even into their retirement. We stayed in touch via letters and, with Martha Heaton, even an occasional rendezvous on Cape Cod. Their deaths were a profound loss for me. I can still hear their voices.

Regina Pacitti
WHS SAC

Marlyn Miller and I often collaborated closely as she was the bi-lingual counselor for some of my students. She always dressed smartly and often in blue! Marlyn was a soft-spoken and very bright colleague who had a gift for knowing the right practical approach in any circumstances. She initially seemed reserved but, in fact, was a strong advocate for her students. We shared many a cafeteria lunch not only discussing the needs of our mutual students but the cultural things outside of school we so enjoyed-travel, theater, music! There was a huge void when she went on sick leave, and it took many replacements to find somebody even approaching her expertise.

Regina Pacitti
WHS SAC



Dr. Drew Echelson, who has been the Superintendent for the past few years, will be taking a new position in the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

Over 40 retirees attended the December Fitch and Family celebration held at Embassy Suites!



Waltham High School's Student Santa
the program and year in review.
(information below written by Steve Goodwin)

This past December there were 350 recipients from this program. We believe it's a completely unique program because it is entirely community based and entirely funded by the students (and staff) of Waltham High School. In fact, we have generally refused large outside corporate donations each year because we want this to be a student service project that is the product of their charitable efforts and theirs alone.

A few facts about our program (and why we consider it so unique):

- Waltham High School students each year donate an average of \$25,000 in presents! From one school of about 1400 students. We think that is unprecedented anywhere. (We notice that each year the entire school system of Boston (over 100 schools) raises and donates approximately the same amount to Globe Santa).
- We don't just take a money collection – every homeroom, school club, team or organization adopts a disadvantaged Waltham child for the holidays – students collect money (approximately \$75 a child) and buy a variety of presents; the class then wraps and “codes” them so they can be delivered to the specific children assigned.
- All recipients are Waltham children.
- All of the families of the children on the list receive help during the year with food and clothing, but this drive ensures that all of these children will have toys under their trees. The child information is given to us by the St. Vincent DePaul Society.

- The program culminates with a “Student Santa Assembly” (this in which the mountains of donated wrapped gifts are displayed at a holiday music assembly)
- To contrast with the difficulties many organizations are having this year, we are again had great success at raising money for more kids than ever before – for whatever reason we are finding that our program is still thriving.
- Human interest stories abound:
 - Students here begin to realize that they were recipients themselves when they were young – we have had kids tearfully say that to us – and many become our largest contributors.
 - Teachers here also pitch in and donate to supplement what the students give – we had one set of husband and wife teachers who each year provided for the same set of twins for ten years. (without ever having met them).
 - Students have given their entire pay-checks from a part time job, saying “it’s the least I can do.”

a few facts about the namesakes of some of our schools



Did you know that **Nathaniel P. Banks** (1816-1894)

- was born in Waltham?
- was the 23rd governor of Massachusetts?
- had been an apprentice to and a cousin of Elias Howe, who had the first patent for a sewing machine?

and...in the words of Thomas P. Smith, Esq., when the portrait of General Banks was represented to the city to be hung in the Council Chamber. Mr. Smith said "Mr. Mayor, we ask you to allow this portrait to hang in this room whose walls have echoed to the grand voice raised in the cause of patriotism in every cause which tended to the dignity of mankind and to the benefit of American Institutions. And, when in the progress of events, this hall shall give place to a grander building; in the new Council Chamber let a place be found for this picture. Let it there be visited by our sons until time is no more. Let them drink in the inspiration coming from record of a true man, a firm patriot, and a citizen without reproach."

(The Banks School, at the corner of Main and South Streets, has been converted into 24 condominiums,)



Did you know that **Henry Whittemore (1843- 1931)**

- was a Civil War veteran?
- was the second Superintendent of WPS (1883-1898) prior to being named as leader of Framingham Normal School (1898-1917), now Framingham State University?
- lived on Worcester Lane after retiring from Framingham Normal?

The naming of the Whittemore School was the first time in which a Waltham school was named in honor of a living person.

Did you know that the design of the Whittemore School is in the form of an H in honor of Henry?

(The Whittemore School is on Parmenter Road on the South Side of Waltham.)



Did you know that **Chauncey Newhall** (1801-1872)

- was on the School Committee for 35 years?
- was known to have saved the school system significant funds as he was very handy with a hammer and other tools, always eager to make small repairs?
- was president of the Rumford Institute, which was a precursor to the Waltham Public Library?

The Newhall School has been converted to senior affordable housing and is known as the Winchester Crane Apartments.

“He was a firm friend of the teachers under his care. A gentleman of the old school, he was kind hearted, sympathetic, and was ever ready to visit the afflicted or sick.”

(The Newhall School is at the corner of Prospect and Charles Streets.)

***(information about Banks and Newhall taken from a transcribed publication of the January 31, 1896 Annual Report of the School Committee, printed by Waltham High Vocational Graphic Arts class (2010-2011) for the Waltham Historical Society.)
or follow the link below.***

https://books.google.com/books?id=KL1EAQAAMAAJ&pg=PA461&lpg=PA461&dq=chauncey+newhall+waltham&source=bl&ots=cN-905uG2Q&sig=ACfU3U2E6rTtZOCd-n_e-NfxIHmQtnkwXQ&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwi5jfe4sP_fAhVmmuAKHSuUCq8Q6AEwBHoECAYQAQ#v=onepage&q=chauncey%20newhall%20waltham&f=false