

# The RED & BLACK

SPRING 2022

## 2022 OUTSTANDING ALUMNUS RECIPIENT



Kathy Wallace, graduate of the class of 1970, is the recipient of the 2022 Outstanding Alumnus Award given by the Bellaire High School Alumni Association. Kathy is recognized for her tireless support for the Bellaire Community, and her Alma Mater, Bellaire High School.

Kathy is a lifelong resident of Bellaire. She is the proud daughter of the late Philip and Nance Bass Wallace. She is the blessed niece of the late John and Gertrude Wallace Klee and James R and Mary Shiretta Wallace. Kathy is a faithful sister to Bill (deceased), Betty Ann, Richard (deceased), Roberta, Helen, Kelly and Jeff, (aka Jeff).

Kathy is a graduate and proud member of the class of 1970. Following her graduation, Kathy attended Ohio University in Athens, Ohio. She entered the business world in 1973 as the owner/operator of the Martins Ferry Dairy Queen. She operated at this location as a "Big Red" in a community which was our arch-rival in all sports yet prospered as a businesswoman in "Rider Country". Her love and support of her Alma Mater, Bellaire High School, never faltered during her 43 years of operating her Dairy Queen store in Martins Ferry. When she left that business location in 2015, and closed her association with the store, to her credit, even our arch-rivals were saddened to see her go. During

her years in Martins Ferry, Kathy was a member of the Martins Ferry Business and Professional Women's Club. Attesting to her popularity as the owner/operator of the Dairy Queen, Kathy was recognized as their "Woman of the Year". Kathy is currently employed at Belmont Savings Bank, in Bellaire.

Kathy attended Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Neffs until its closing in 2018, and now attends St. John's Catholic Church in Bellaire. Over the years at the Neffs Church, she served on the Parish Council and the Finance Council, as well as, the Catholic Woman's Club. She served as the Sacred Heart Church Representative to the St. John High School Board of Education. Kathy also served as a lector and Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion.

Kathy's involvement with the community, and active support for the residents living there, is unmatched. For over 45 years, she was a volunteer at local nursing homes and for the past 50 years has been a Santa's helper for fraternal and non-profit organizations. She is also known in the community as a cheerleader, song leader, comedian, and auctioneer. She is a member of the Bellaire American Legion Auxiliary Post 52; Bellaire Fraternal Order of Eagles Auxiliary #371; social member of the Bellaire Sons of Italy Lodge #754; a charter member of the Great Stone Viaduct Education Society; and the Bellaire Touchdown Club.

Kathy's service, however, is far overshadowed by her support of Bellaire High School and its students. She is unmatched in the faithfulness, and true-hearted spirit of all those who love Bellaire High School. The lyrics of our fight song express the sincere hope "The defeat ne'er our Ardor cool", and Kathy through all the trials and tribulations our Alma Mater has faced remained "Joyous and ever loyal". Kathy served as the President, Secretary, Treasurer and

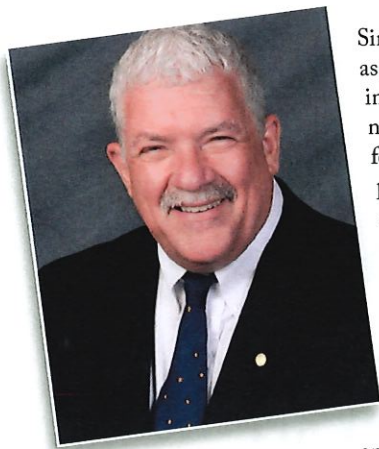
Trustee of the Bellaire High School Alumni Association for 26 years before retiring in 2019. For the past 20 years, Kathy has served as a Trustee of the Bellaire High School Endowment Fund and worked with this organization to bring academic scholarships to Bellaire High School graduates. Kathy is the "rock" that has anchored the class of 1970 for the past 50 years.

Kathy came from a large family on Rock Hollow, just beyond West Bellaire, and her humble beginnings made her the kind of person who understands the plight of other less fortunate. Her circle of friends extends well beyond her classmates in the class of 1970. She is devoted to many less fortunate people in our community, at times shrugging off her own needs to care for them.

Kathy is a person well known to those who participate in the annual Alumni Banquet, and at times, she may appear bold and daring as she strives to make those around her laugh and smile. She has done this for the past Fifty (50) years even when faced with difficulties of her own. She has brought memorable times to us through her ability to make us laugh and smile. Her quieter and caring side, and her humility, is often overshadowed by her desire to make us laugh, yet those who know her best understand that these are her greatest qualities.

When we think of a "Big Red", we need only recall the words of our Fight Song for a description of what they should look like. We think of one who is "Faithful and True-Hearted". We think of one who is always "Joyful and Ever Loyal". We think of one who will always "Boost for Her, "Bellaire High School". Kathy Wallace is such a person, and we congratulate her upon being recognized as the 2022 Outstanding Alumnus of Bellaire High School, for her Civic and her unequivocal love of her Alma Mater.

# Message from the President



Since our last newsletter your alumni association has been extremely busy in trying to get back into a sense of normalcy by planning and preparing for what used to be annual events. I am pleased to report one of those events is our Spring Banquet which will be held at The Wheeling Country Club on Saturday May 21, 2022.

We expect this year's dinner to be well attended, especially with the absence of the past two years dinners and the Classes of 70, 71 and 72 50-year celebrations.

After much debate and consideration within the association, along with taking attendees comments into consideration we decided to explore alternative venues. Please know this decision was not taken lightly. Upon recommendation of the banquet committee (after reviewing venues and pricing) the board met at the Wheeling Country Club, toured the facility, sampled the menu, and agreed it will be a great venue for this year's event.

As many of you are aware the Bell Tower renovation is complete and receiving great reviews. Another iconic event was the razing of the visitors' bleachers and press box at Nelson Field. The project at Nelson Field will include visitor bleachers, new restroom facilities, new concession stand and track resurfacing. The project is expected to be completed by the start of this year's football season. It's hard to believe but the first game played at Nelson Field was in 1934 against Shadyside.

Once again, we are proud to report several BHS students have been recognized locally, regionally, and statewide for academic and athletic accomplishments. We also have a group of talented students who received recognition during a recent Stifel Fine Arts Center competition. Heather Bennington received a first-place award for photography while Donovan Estes-Stevens earned second place. Jada Pugh was a second-place finisher in painting and Jenna Miller was awarded third place in 3D/sculpture. Recognition like this is a true testament to the continued quality, work and dedication of the staff, administration, students, and teachers at BHS.

We continue to update our membership roster and were glad to hear the positive response from our last newsletter. The printing and distribution of the newsletter is a costly service many alums truly appreciate and is well worth the effort and price. We now have a bulk mail permit and process for purging addresses which may no longer be accurate. Like any new process, there are still some bugs to work out. Please work with us during this transition and let us know if we need to update any contacts.

I want to personally thank the Alumni Board and you, our members, for your time, patience and understanding over the past couple of challenging years. Hope to see you at the banquet on the 21st and don't forget to RSVP prior to May 14.

Fraternally

Ed Good "77"

## HOMECOMING 2022

Saturday, September 24th – Details to follow in the Fall Newsletter.

[bellairebigredsalumni.com](http://bellairebigredsalumni.com)

## BONAR NAMED NEW HEAD FOOTBALL COACH

Mark Bonar is not a unfamiliar name to Bellaire football. He was recently chosen as the new 2022 head football coach. Mark is returning to Bellaire for the first time since



1996 and the first time being a head coach at the high school level. Bonar was a assistant coach under John Magistro as the offensive play caller during the Big Reds' run of success in the 90s. Although it has been 25 years, Bonar expects to utilize many of the same offensive principals.

Bonar graduated from Shadyside High School in 1972 and attended Bethany College. He is currently a math teacher at St. Clairsville High School but along with becoming the head football coach at Bellaire, he will also join the faculty at Bellaire as a math teacher in the fall.

Bonar, who plans to call the offensive plays, has already had a meeting with students

who want to play football and started to build his coaching staff with Adam Quirk, a former quarterback at St. Clairsville, and former Bellaire teammates, quarterback Ty Masciarelli and Clint Lekandous. Bonar will also bring back previous staff, Todd Poe, Bailey McGrath, Ryan McMahan, Zach Musilli and Ben Doyle who is currently the Elementary principal, to the staff.

Mark and his wife, Kathy have three children, Marci who is a fifth grade teacher at Bellaire resides with her husband, Adam Quirk and their two children, Jackson and Kira. Bart resides in Alaska and is a Air Traffic Controller. Karlie is a teacher in Upper Arlington and her husband Pete Burkett reside in Central Ohio.

# LAROCHE NAMED 2022 HOBY YOUTH LEADERSHIP REPRESENTATIVE



The HUGH O'BRIAN YOUTH Leadership was created as a leadership development program for high school Sophomores across the country. It is designed to be a "fun, life changing experience and cultivates leadership skills that will serve students into the future."

The BHS Alumni Board of Trustees feels this is a great opportunity and experience

for students. The trustees have committed financially to send one or two students.

This year, Abigail LaRoche, Dusty and Adrienne LaRoche will be representing Bellaire High School at the HOBY Leadership Program at Marietta College.

My name is Abigail LaRoche, and I am honored to represent my Sophomore class as the 2022 HOBY Youth Leadership Representative for Bellaire High School. I would love to introduce myself and include the achievements and accomplishments that I have worked so hard to receive. I am on the Principal's List and over the past two years at BHS, I have been a Varsity Cheerleader, a member of Student Council, and Sophomore Class President. I am also a member of the Foreign Language Club and serve as the Service Director where I helped plan the Cornhole Tournament and Turkey Trot. I was Student of the Month for November 2021 and have volunteered at the Bellaire Elementary School's Someone Special Dance.

I am a 13 year member of the LDT Dance Centre and have been a member of the Competition Squad for the past 10 years. I am a Regional and National Photogenic Winner for Nexstar Dance. I am serving as an LDT Assistant this year helping teach younger students.

I had the honor of being the Sunburst Beauty Miss Merry Christmas Queen and Miss Winter Princess Queen this past fall. I am also a member of the Bellaire Christian Church, and am certified in CPR and Teen Mental Health First Aid USA. I enjoy spending quality time with friends and family, and I babysit when time allows.

In closing, I am very blessed to have such wonderful opportunities and role models in my life both in the school setting and out in the community. I am excited to see where the next two years take me. I take pride in being a Big Red and look forward to this wonderful team building experience with HOBY.

Thank you to the Bellaire Alumni Association. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.

## SPRING BANQUET 2022

The 2022 BHS Alumni Association Spring Banquet will be held on Saturday, May 21, 2022 at the Wheeling Country Club 906 Oglebay Dr. Wheeling, WV 26003. After a two year hiatus we encourage you to attend the 117th year to celebrate together the Bellaire High School PRIDE, SPIRIT and TRADITION.

We are honoring Kathy Wallace for Business who was chosen in 2020 as the Outstanding Alumnus but due to Covid, the banquet was cancelled that year and in 2021. It was only fair to bring her back and honor her at the banquet in 2022. Also being honored that evening are past graduates to recognize their achievements, Ron Marling, Civic, Class of 1970, Kevin West, Civic, Class of 1980, Peter Cook, Medical, Class of 1992, CJ LaRoche, Business, Class of 2004 and Megan Sechrest, Arts, Class of 2004.

The Alumni Association will also recognize the classes of 1970 and 1971 for their past 50 year milestone and the class 1972 for their 50 year milestone this year.

Social and cocktail hour begins at 5:00 with dinner at 6:00. Cost for dinner is \$35.00 per person. Reservations can be made by filling out the insert included in the newsletter and mailed back or on our website at [www.bellairebigreds alumni.com](http://www.bellairebigreds alumni.com). Reservations must be made by May 14th. Dinner consist of Chicken Romano, salad, green beans, roasted gold potatoes, rolls and dessert. Coffee and ice tea included. A Bar serving additional drink options is available and ONLY accepts credit cards, NO cash.

Please mark your calendars and plan on attending. Several accommodations are available near this venue include, The Hampton Inn Wheeling, Wilson Lodge and Springhill Suites

## STUDENTS NOMINATED FOR SENIOR SERVICE

The following students are from the class of 2022 and were nominated by BHS faculty members. These four students received the most votes.

Lilli Back, daughter of Brian and Courtney Back

Katelyn Hart, daughter of Jeff and Kim Hart

Colt Sechrest, son of Mike and Jenny Sechrest

Steven Street, son of Ed Street and Crystal Gmitter

These students filled out a detailed Bio on their four years at BHS that included, extracurricular activities, awards, community service and volunteer work. Each student will go through a 15-20 minute interview with members of the Senior Service Committee and before a vote is taken. One girl and one boy receiving the most votes will be named at the Spring Banquet and each will receive \$1,000.00 and a Lifetime Membership of the Alumni Association.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE DISTRICT

## Big Reds,

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to share some exciting developments within the Bellaire Local School District. This year, we have been working diligently to future proof our school district for the post COVID world. Our certified, classified, and administrative staff have been working closely to ensure our students are placed in a position to be successful.

We are working through several facilities projects that will change the face of our district for years to come. As many of you have noticed, the scaffolding has come down and our beautiful clock tower has been restored to its full glory. We have retained the original clock faces and plan to display them in various places in the community. Our old clock hands will be donated to the alumni association for future endeavors, with the exception of one set in our archives.

Our front yard, Nelson Field, is also getting the attention it deserves. While the former visitor grandstand holds a special place in all of our hearts, it couldn't be saved. We are moving forward with a new visitor bleacher structure, concession stands, and restrooms. We will also upgrade the plumbing, electrical, and PA systems. As a result of this project Nelson Field will have a larger, level plaza inside the main entrance and fulfill ADA requirements.

The district is also investing in cutting edge HVAC technology. Each of our three school buildings have had new chillers installed. The air handlers throughout all buildings have also been upgraded with bipolar ionization to prevent the spread of airborne illnesses. Our new HVAC system increases energy efficiency and allows tighter scheduling windows to prevent the heating and cooling of unoccupied spaces.

We have started the process of reinventing our curriculum in grades PK-12. The Bellaire Local School District is rolling out Project Lead the Way in all grade levels. This program will tie our STEM curriculum to specific areas in the engineering, medical, and computer science fields. For students who are interested in the trades, we are building a menu of industry recognized credentialing programs that can be obtained directly through Bellaire High School. Our reading and math teachers have also been tasked with picking out new instructional materials that are aligned with state standards. I am happy to report that our district is in a solid position to face the future. We are a small school district with big school facilities and educational options. Our staff and students are up to the task of building this school district to stand the test of time.

**P. Derrick McAfee**  
*Superintendent Bellaire Local Schools*

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## COACH SPIG CALLING IT QUILTS

After six years of being the head football coach at BHS, Mark Spigarelli has decided to retire from football. His decision was a hard one due to all the great memories coaching football and especially his coaching years have been at BHS.

During his six year tenure, the Big Reds posted a 39-26 record and played five times in playoff games, winning three tournament games. Coach Spig had his most successful season this past fall, posting a 9-1 season, claimed the OVAC Class 3A title and advanced to the regional quarterfinal game before losing to Garrettsville Garfield. His team was able to defeat arch-rival Martins Ferry to bring SPARKY back to the "All American Town".

Coach Spig is thankful for all the hard-working kids during his six year tenure at BHS, along with his assistant coaches and school administration.

We wish him the best!!

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## LAST CALL FOR ALUMNI ARCH

A bronze plaque will be cast this year for placement at The Alumni Arch of the Great Stone Viaduct listing all BHS classes who have participated with the GSV Society in this project. The Alumni Arch was established by your Bellaire High School Alumni Association as the Keystone of this arch, with supporting Ringstones made up of individual classes. The earliest class to date is the class of 1945, and the youngest class is 1976. Gaps exist for the classes of 1947, 1949, 1952, 1956, 1958 thru 1964, 1973, and 1977 thru the present. If you want your class to be listed on this Permanent Memorial, you must contact the GSV Society for your contribution and class information.

**DEADLINE IS JUNE 30, 2022. BE A PART OF THIS ARCH DEDICATED TO THE GRADUATING CLASSES OF BELLAIRE HIGH SCHOOL!**

Contact Daniel Frizzi, Jr., Chairperson of the Committee at 740-676-2743.

## A FACE WITH NO NAME



Meet Mr. Scot McMahan, the new high school principal at BHS. The 2021 fall newsletter had a picture and article of Mr. McMahan but his name was omitted. We apologize for this error.

# DONORS FROM SPRING AND FALL OF 2020 & SPRING OF 2021

Alumni members that have generously made donations to one of the many funds which helps the alumni association give back to Bellaire Local Schools and students.

## EDUCATION ASSISTANCE FUND

Frank & Arleen (Brunori) Sabatino, In Memory of John Irwin  
Stanley & Carol Stein  
Members from the Class of 1953  
Steve Sorvalis  
Traci (Balsei) Hughes  
Marci (Bonar) Quirk  
John Mike & Linda (Zacchini) Marinacci  
Robert E. Hubbard  
Joyce (Johnson) Mellott  
Saundra (Capitini) Hill  
Cynthia (Thompson) Hill  
Sydney Purtiman  
Rylie Purtiman  
Jason Weekley  
Paul & Cathy (Dodrill) Latham  
Carol (Malpiedi) Brinkley  
Charles Boston  
Robert Kinter  
Karen & Ernest Hutchins  
Norman & Mary Ann (Camsky) Balsei  
Dan Angus  
Sue Ann (Buchanan) Eastwood  
Ron Gill  
Willa (Trigg) Cain  
Paul Toxie  
Shirley (Bishop) Caldwell  
Patricia (Willerton) Shimble  
Alice (Peck) Chirpas

Mary (Kaplet) Bishop  
CJ LaRoche  
Jane (Mobley) Wethington  
Rosemary (Busack) Baum  
Dorothy (Purtiman) Feinberg  
Julia (Schramm) Rezoni  
Jayden Lowe  
Jonette (Hamilton) Lowe  
Marlene (McNeil) Symank  
Jennie Capitini  
Gerry Mendelson  
Judy (Civin) Hill  
Kellie (Balsei) Cusick  
Brenda (Lyden) Thompson  
Marjorie (Klee) Switz

## BELL TOWER FUND

Richard Blacker  
Steve & Mary Jo (Zacchini) Kurko  
Wallace & Deanna (Criswell) Major  
Gregory Exner  
Dan Frizzi  
Al Vaglianti  
Charlotte (DeVaul) Vaglianti  
Craig Tschappat  
Traci (Balsei) Hughes  
Rosemary (Derry) Durant  
Robert E. Hubbard  
Barbara (Derry) Hubbard  
Georgia (Bruce) Hamilton  
Saundra (Capitini) Hill  
Cynthia (Thompson) Cline

Tenley Hughes  
Sharon (Pramik) Banig  
Michael Dennis Banig  
Michael John Banig  
Laura (Connors) Peddicord  
Sydney Purtiman  
Rylie Purtiman  
Class of 1971, In Memory of Deceased Classmates  
Eric & Marilyn (Blon) Kemper  
Betty (Wallace) Busack  
Terri Heil  
Henry Ault  
Dan Angus  
Shirley (McKay) Wiesenmayer, In Memory of Dr. Peter McKay  
Lois (Taggart) Palicka  
Willa (Trigg) Cain  
Shirley (Bishop) Caldwell  
Patricia (Willerton) Shimble  
Alice (Peck) Chirpas  
CJ LaRoche  
William Cieslewski  
Carol Martin  
Ellen (Phillips) Tschappat  
Richard Van Fossen  
Pat Roth Mayhew  
David Mayhew  
Tom & Linda (Kahl) Rataiczak  
Frances (Rhodes) Conaway  
Marlene (McNeill) Symank  
Steve Williams  
Ray Somerville

## SPECIAL GIFT FUND

Albert Piatt, In Memory of Sally (Rumskey) Piatt, Lucille Fitch, Coach Don Ault, Bob Kovalyk, Richard Althar, & Larry Drummond

Roberta Bragan

William Kreiter

Ben & Mandy (Baker) & Family, Website Subscription

Elizabeth (Beth) Heil

Sarah (Steele) Horne

Robert E. Hubbard

Barbara (Derry) Hubbard

Saundra (Capitini) Hill

Cynthia (Thompson) Cline

Mary Ann (Carpino) DeBlasis

Catherine (Martin) Weekley

Eric & Marilyn (Blon) Kemper

Dan Angus

Patricia (Willerton) Shible

Sam Robinson

CJ LaRoche

Lee Ann (Hrdlicka) LaRoche, In Memory of Bev (Johnson) Hrdlicka

Ruth (Trigg) Campbell

Shauna (Ray) Walker, In Memory of Beverly (Snider) Ray

Robert Wallace, In Memory of Beverly (Snider) Ray

Regis Woods

## THEATRE & ARTS

Martha (Crozier) Johnson

Wallace & Deanna (Criswell) Major

Shawn Ann Bolon

Saundra (Capitini) Hill

Cynthia (Thompson) Cline

Eric & Marilyn (Blon) Kemper

Paul \* Cathy (Dodrill) Latham

Dan Angus

Shirley (McKay) Wiesenmayer, In Memory of Dr. Peter Wiesenmayer

Robert Hill

CJ LaRoche

## GENERAL FUND

Carol Saunders

Benjamin Taylor

Gary Gill

Stan Burech

Roberta Bragan

Rick Shible

Janice (Willerton) McMahon

Cindy Wheeler

Robert E. Hubbard

Dan Angus

Dolores (Burda) Derry

Richard & Kim (Mlynek) Frizzi

Goldie (Sykes) Rogers

Jack Cera

CJ LaRoche

Marla (Scales) Montgomery

Gina (Farnario) Fuller

Kathryn (Wallace) Simon

Rudy Bresiger

Linda Thorton

Virginia (Snider) Cartwright

# NEED NOMINATIONS FOR OUTSTANDING ALUMNUS AWARD

The Alumni Association is seeking nominations for the 2023 Outstanding Alumnus Award. To qualify, any BHS graduate who is distinguished in a chosen field of work along with service to Bellaire Local School District and their communities is eligible for this award.

The outstanding alumnus represents just a fraction of the thousands of alumni who contributes in countless ways to their fellow alumni, BHS, to their community, to their profession and to mankind.

If you know a graduate that fits in this category and feel they should be recognized for this award, send a current detailed resume outlining their work history and service to BHS and their community along with a letter of recommendation for the graduate.

Nominations must be received by December 31, 2022 to be considered for the 2023 Outstanding Alumnus Award. Please send the required biographical information of the nominee to: Bellaire Alumni Association P.O. Box 307 Bellaire, OH 43906

## Upcoming Class Reunions

### Class of 1982

BHS Class of 1982 will celebrate their 40th Class Reunion on Friday, September 23rd at the Sons of Italy in Bellaire. Homecoming game is Saturday, September 24th. More details to follow....Please go to our Facebook page, Bellaire High School Class of 1982, Bellaire, Ohio or Email Shawn Bolon at [Shawnann06@gmail.com](mailto:Shawnann06@gmail.com)