



THE CHSAAP

CENTRALITE

Newsletter

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Class of 1968

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....DON BIANCO DEPARTS FROM CHSAAP PRESIDENCY

After several years of passionate and energetic service as Central High School Alumni Association President, Don Bianco has decided to step aside from the position. Don was one of the foresighted founders of the CHSAAP, which mainly was designed to help provide further education scholarship funding to deserving Central students. His leadership as President will certainly be missed. However, Don will continue to contribute to the growth of the CHSAAP and its new Central Hall of Fame.

Vice President Debbie Cockfield, who also contributed to the beginnings of the CHSAAP and who was instrumental in developing the last two CHSAAP Gala Celebrations will now serve as interim President. All the best to Don and best wishes to *Debbie as President!*

...CENTRAL ALUMNI HALL OF FAME NAMES FIRST INDUCTEES!

After months of consideration and deliberation, the Central Alumni Athletic Hall of Fame Board has named nine initial inductees into the new Hall!

Athletes, coaches and teams from all eras at Central were considered. The inductees are:

....Bill Osmanski, a legendary football star who played for the Knights in the mid 1930s and who went on to a great career with Holy Cross and the NFL Champion Chicago Bears in the 1940s.

....Marvin Barnes, who played on the great Central basketball teams of the late 60s and early 70's and who, along with Ernie DiGregorio, led the Providence College Friars to the 1973 NCAA Final Four. Marvin played in the ABA and NBA, including with the Boston Celtics.

....Bill Kutneski, beloved educator and football coach who led Central to a tie for the 1957 Class 'A' football title. Bill lettered in basketball and football at Providence College, was a founding member of the R.I. Interscholastic League Injury Fund, was principal of Cranston East High School in the 60's and was inducted into the Providence College Athletic Hall of Fame.

....Stephanie Perry, who earned three straight All State honors in girls basketball from 1982-84. She led Central to the 1982 Class 'B' title averaging 29 points per game. She scored over 2,000 points in prep school and went on to excel in education and athletics at the University of Maryland and at the Florida Institute of Technology.

....Jimmy Adams, long time Central championship coach in basketball, football and baseball. Jimmy played pro football with the Providence Steamrollers in the early '60s and was an assistant basketball coach under Dave Gavitt for the great Providence College Friars teams of the '70s.

....Bobby Thompson, a great Central football player and track star in the 60's. In college, Bobby helped lead the Oklahoma Sooners to the Big 8 Conference title in 1967 and later played with the Detroit Lions in the NFL and the champion Saskatchewan Roughriders in the Canadian League.

....Team inductees include the '54 Central State Champion Wrestling team, the '57 Central State Co-

Champion Football team and the '73-'74 Central State Basketball Champions.

More initial inductees into the Central Hall of Fame will be chosen over the next two years.

Hearty congratulations to all of our 'first year' Central Hall of Fame inductees! Our first Hall of Fame Awards Banquet is being planned for Saturday night June 1, 2019 at the Chelo's Restaurant Banquet facility on Post Road in Warwick. Plan to attend to honor our great Hall of Famers and to help fund the Central Hall of Fame! Ticket information will be made available soon on our CHSAAP website and in our next Centralite Newsletter.

.....A GREAT HOMECOMING WEEKEND FOR CENTRAL!

After a lively Central Pep Rally in the school auditorium on Friday Oct. 19th, the Central Knights football team was victorious in the Homecoming Game that night at Conley Stadium, rallying for a last minute 41-34 victory over South Kingstown! The Central Cheerleading squad, resplendent in their new uniforms provided by funding from the CHSAAP, cheered on the Knights to victory.

.....The next day on the 20th, the annual CHSAAP Bus Trip to Foxwoods took place, with ticket income benefitting the Central Hall of Fame. It was another fun trip including great food and gaming at the Casino!

.....In the Div. 1-B football playoffs, Central started well in the quarterfinals as Coach Rios's Knights topped the East Providence Townies, 15-7. However, in the semifinal vs. the Cranston West Falcons, the Knights took a tough loss by a 27-14 score. The highlight for Central was Chris Germosen's 58 yard TD on a fumble recovery! Malik Monteiro threw a 23 yard TD pass to Ranado McKay for Central's final score. Congrats to the Knights football squad for a winning season in Div. 1!

..CHSAAP MEMBER ELAINE COLANERI FEATURED IN JOURNAL ARTICLE

The Providence Journal "GO" section featured a great article on CHSAAP Director Elaine Colaneri back on Sept. 20th, written by Andy Smith. Elaine started her first dance studio back in 1962 and founded the Modern Jazz Dance Company twelve years ago in Providence. Elaine is a very familiar name on the Rhode Island dance scene. Despite a hip replacement a few years ago, Elaine is still very active in teaching jazz dancing including tap.

On Sept. 23rd, the Dance Alliance of Rhode Island honored Elaine at a supper and performance at the Twin River Event Center in Lincoln. The event raised funds for the 'Chance to Dance' program which brings dance instruction to public schools.

Congratulations to Elaine for being honored by the Dance Alliance and for being so influential to dancers and to those who would like to be, all around the state. She is a very valued member of the Central Alumni Association!

.....INTO 2019 WITH THE CHSAAP!

To help our current Central seniors, the CHSAAP will soon be making plans for our **2019 Scholarship Appeals**. We will also be growing our new Central Hall of Fame to honor the many great Central students and athletes of the past. In the meantime....the **CHSAAP wishes you all the best and happiness for the upcoming Season and the New Year!**