



# THE CHSAAP CENTRALITE

## Newsletter

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Class of 1968

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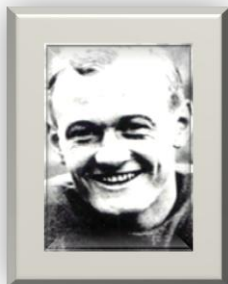
**....*History making event!!!!!!!!!!!!*.....**

### **.....DON'T MISS THE FIRST CENTRAL ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME BANQUET..... JUNE 1ST!**

The Inaugural CHSAAP Central Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Banquet is set for Saturday night June 1, 2019 at Chelo's on Post Road in Warwick! The event gets underway at 6 pm with a cocktail reception including hors d'oeuvres, followed by dinner at 7 pm and guest speaker John Gillooly of the Providence Journal Sports Dept.

First time Central Hall of Famers will include great individual athletes and teams from Central's past. Individual inductees will include legendary football star Bill Osmanski, long time coach and educator Bill Kutneski, basketball great Marvin Barnes, girls basketball star Stephanie Perry, football and track great Bobby Thompson and basketball and football coach Jimmy Adams.

Bill Osmanski



Bobby Thompson



There will be an induction of ***three Central Hall of Fame teams***, including the 1954 Central State Wrestling Champions, the 1957 Central Div. 1 State Football Champions and the 1973-74 Central State and New England Basketball Champions.

Dinner choices at Chelo's for the Banquet will include Prime Rib, Baked Haddock and Boneless Stuffed Sage Chicken

Make your reservations for this historic night for Central High School and support our new Hall of Fame! Just go to our website, CHSAAP.org and click on 'Events' and 'Hall of Fame Banquet

Details'. You can also purchase an ad for your group or business in the Banquet Booklet by clicking on 'Ad Buy'. See you at the first CAHOF Banquet, Saturday June 1st at Chelo's!

#### **.....CENTRAL GIRLS COME CLOSE TO DIV. III BASKETBALL TITLE**

Congratulations to the Central Girls Basketball team for a great effort in trying to reach the State Div. III basketball title game! The lady Knights had a fantastic regular season, with a **15-3 record!** This earned them a bye in the prelim round of the Div. III playoffs. In the quarterfinals, the Central gals toppled Davies, 48-29.

In a memorable semi-final defensive struggle, the lady Knights were nipped by the Pilgrim Patriots, 23-22! It was quite the battle. Pilgrim ended up losing to Tolman in the championship final, 37-26. However, for Central, it was a girls basketball team season to remember!

The Central Boys basketball team had a tough season, with only a handful of wins. However, the boys and girls track & field teams did very well in meets this past winter. Now it's on to baseball for the boys and fast pitch softball for the girls. Central won their opener in baseball, 11-1 over Pilgrim while the Central softball team also won their opener by the same score of 11-1 over Juanita Sanchez!

#### **.....CHSAAP SCHOLARSHIP FUND AND ELECTIONS**

**It is never too late to make a much needed contribution to the CHSAAP Scholarship Fund!** The Fund helps excellent Central students receive scholarship money for continuing education. Go to [CHSAAP.org](http://CHSAAP.org) to contribute today!

#### **.....ANNUAL MEETING DATE CHANGE!!**

The CHSAAP Annual Meeting and election of board directors and officers was moved up to **Tuesday, April 16th** due to some scheduling conflicts. Four seats on the board were up for re-election, with only one not being run for.

Former Vice President **Deb Cockfield**, who replaced Don Bianco as President, was appointed by the Board to stay on in that position through April 2020. Thank you to Deb.

**Jayne O'Brien** is seeking re-election as Treasurer. *There is currently no candidate for Vice President.*

For 2019-2020, the CHSAAP has a very busy year ahead! As was reported in the last Centralite, we could always use volunteers from among all Central alumni!! That includes running in our Officer and Board elections! Contact Steve Bianchi of the Nominating Committee at 401-781-2022 or at [sbianchi2@verizon.net](mailto:sbianchi2@verizon.net) for more information.

#### **.....PASSINGS.....**

**Joe Mercurio**.....Central graduates of the mid 1950's and all Central alumni mourned the passing of another great Central athlete, Joe Mercurio in March. A three sport athlete playing baseball, football and basketball for the Knights, he mostly excelled at the catcher position on the baseball team. He made the baseball All-State team in 1953 and 1954.

In the mid 60's, Joe played for the famous Local 57 Engineers fast pitch softball team, helping lead them to several regional championships. He earned All-World Honors as the Engineers catcher when they appeared in the 1966 World Championships as runners up to the Clearwater Bombers in Florida.

Joe leaves his wife Johanne. They were married for 49 years.

**Marie Lauro.....**Central graduate Marie (Colarusso) Lauro passed away this past January. She was the wife of long time Central teacher and educator Carl G. Lauro.

Marie held administrative positions at UNCAS Manufacturing and with the Providence School Dept. before retiring. She was an active volunteer with the Family Aids Center for Treatment and with 'AIDS Care Ocean State'.

She was also quite an artist, with her works being displayed at the Federal Hill Art Festival and at the Providence Art Club. Marie was 92.

**We'll see you at the inaugural Central Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet on June 1st at Chelo's!! Make your reservations today by visiting our website, CHSAAP.org. Have a wonderful Spring season!!**