

ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME

A History of Sports Excellence

Founded in 1974



2023



2023 HONOREES

LANCE ARIETTA (POSTHUMOUS)

DAVE BILLINGS | MARY BRECHBIEL-AGNETTI

HEIDI HIGGINS-SERMABEKIAN | SHAWN KAPUSINSKY

KIMBERLY MCDOLE-GORDON | JIM SCARINGE

JOE FAMELLETTE

JOSEPH HOLLAND LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

APRIL 1, 2023

PARAMOUNT COUNTRY CLUB

*ALL THE BEST TO THE ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME ON YOUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY
&
CONGRATULATIONS TO YOUR 2023 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES*

LANCE ARIETTA (POSTHUMOUS) – TAPPAN ZEE CLASS OF '76
MARY BRECHBIEL-AGNETTI – ALBERTUS CLASS OF '74
DAVE BILLINGS – NYACK CLASS OF '72
JOE FAMELLETTE – JOSEPH HOLLAND LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECIPIENT
HEIDI HIGGINS-SERMABEKIAN – SPRING VALLEY CLASS OF '81
SHAWN KAPUSINSKY – NORTH ROCKLAND CLASS OF '86
KIMBERLY MCDOLE-GORDON – RAMAPO CLASS OF '83
JIM SCARINGE – TAPPAN ZEE CLASS OF '73



The Honorable
HOWARD T. PHILLIPS, JR., SUPERVISOR
AND
THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW ELECTED OFFICIALS

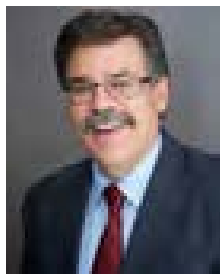
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- HAVERSTRAW-
HOME OF

THE BRICKS THAT BUILT NEW YORK - THREE MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS
WHERE HENRY HUDSON DOCKED THE HALF MOON - GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON'S TROOP ENCAMPMENTS
THE 95TH CIVIL WAR REGIMENT FLAG CARRIED AT GETTYSBURG

Chairman's Message – Pete Scheibner



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF SPORT EXCELLENCE

We celebrate our 50th gala anniversary Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame induction with a star-studded group of athletes who excelled in multiple sports. The talented lineup includes two trailblazing girls who left their mark in basketball and multi-sports; three track and field stars who set records in pole vaulting, long distance, cross country, sprints and jumping; two all-around athletes, one who excelled in golf and skiing, the other in football, wrestling and baseball; and an outstanding coach and educator with 50 years of service at Rockland Community College. Rockland County continues to produce outstanding athletes year after year, so there is no shortage of qualified candidates for future years.

The Hall of Fame has a website that serves as a rich repository of Hall of Fame information, including bios and photos on all 303 inductees. Visit our website at www.rcshf.org.

Sadly, this past year we lost two distinguished members of our RCSHOF induction class: Rich Conklin, inducted individually in 2000 and again in 2018 as coach of the undefeated 1989 Nanuet High School football team; and Ed Kolakowski, a 2014 inductee who was a basketball and softball coach at Suffern High School and 30-year football official.

A little less than four months from now – July 29, to be precise – we will honor two outstanding teams at a New York Boulders baseball game at Clover Stadium in Pomona. The teams to be honored are: the 1969-70 Clarkstown boys' basketball team, coached by legendary Hall of Famer Ed McGrath; and the 1993 North Rockland football team, the New York State Class A champions, coached by the dynamic and successful Hall of Famer Joe Casarella.

I wish to thank the people who keep our organization a vital force in the community: Jamie Kempton, secretary and program editor; Pete Castellano, treasurer and ticket chairman; Bill Rubbert, screening committee chair; Vince Sciortino, vice chairman and fund-raising; Chuck Maze, for community relations; Tom Doherty, master of ceremonies and for his tireless behind-the-scenes support; Bruce and Phyllis Schweizer of Quality Graphics, who do an outstanding job with graphic design, print and journal production; and to the entire Board of Directors for their contributions to our organization throughout the year.

Peter J. Scheibner
Chairman



VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT WWW.RCSHF.ORG

The Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame

*wishes to thank the following businesses for
their generous support of our organization:*

J. J. Donnelly, Pearl River 1-Hour Photo
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Louie's on the Avenue
Lynch's on the Green
Crown Trophy
Quality Graphics Tristate, Inc.
Rockland County YMCA
Music Works DJ's

Congratulations



All Inductees – Past, Present & Future

With gratitude,

JOE HOLLAND
FOUNDER & CHAIRMAN EMERITUS



ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME 2023 LIST OF INDUCTEES

LANCE ARIETTA, TAPPAN ZEE

(POSTHUMOUS)

Nominated By: Jamie Kempton

Introduced By: Pat Dizzine

Trophy Sponsor: Tappan Zee Athletic Department

Plaque Sponsor: Tappan Zee Athletic Hall of Fame

MARY BRECHBIEL-AGNETTI, ALBERTUS MAGNUS

Nominated By: Kristen Sullivan

Introduced By: Karen Leitner

Trophy Sponsor: Town of Haverstraw

Plaque Sponsor: Albertus Magnus High School

DAVE BILLINGS, NYACK

Nominated By: Jamie Kempton

Introduced By: Jamie Kempton

Trophy Sponsor: Tom Doherty & The Rockland County Track & Field Hall of Fame

Plaque Sponsor: Nyack High School Athletic Department

HEIDI HIGGINS-SERMABEKIAN, SPRING VALLEY

Nominated By: Charlotte Bonomolo

Introduced By: Bill Rubbert

Trophy Sponsor: Spring Valley High School Student Government

Plaque Sponsor: Betsy Evans, Jim & Soreida Ashcroft

SHAWN KAPUSINSKY, NORTH ROCKLAND

Nominated By: Gerry Kapusinsky, Joe D'Auria

Introduced By: Chuck Maze

Trophy Sponsor: North Rockland Sports Hall of Fame

Plaque Sponsor: John Ryan

KIMBERLY McDOLE-GORDON, RAMAPO

Nominated By: Jamie Kempton

Introduced By: Jamie Kempton

Trophy Sponsor: Spring Valley High School Student Government

Plaque Sponsor: Fred Adler

JIM SCARINGE, TAPPAN ZEE

Nominated By: John Scaringe

Introduced By: Pat Dizzine

Trophy Sponsor: The Scaringe Family

Plaque Sponsor: Tappan Zee Athletic Hall of Fame

JOE FAMELLETTE

JOSEPH HOLLAND LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Nominated By: Jamie Kempton

Introduced By: Pete Scheibner

Trophy Sponsor: RCC Athletics and Exercise and Human Performance Departments

Plaque Sponsor: RCC Athletics and Exercise and Human Performance Departments



DINNER PROGRAM

Pledge of AllegiancePat Dizzine

INVOCATION

Dave Billings

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Tom Doherty

COMMITTEES

Dinner Gibby Sweet

Program Book Peter Scheibner

Screening..... Bill Rubbert

TicketsPete Castellano

2023 INDUCTEES

Lance Arietta, Tappan Zee
(POSTHUMOUS)

Dave Billings, Nyack

Mary Brechbiel-Agnetti, Albertus Magnus

Heidi Higgins-Sermabekian, Spring Valley

Shawn Kapusinsky, North Rockland

Kimberly McDole-Gordon, Ramapo

Jim Scaringe, Tappan Zee

Joe Famellette
Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award

ENSHRINEMENT REQUIREMENTS

The Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame was established to honor outstanding sportsmen and sportswomen, living and deceased, who have gained prominence while residing or competing in, or have brought recognition to Rockland County. To be considered for nomination to the Hall of Fame, candidates must meet the following criteria:

- A. Attain prominence in sports as an athlete, coach, manager, official, owner, writer, broadcaster or supporter.
- B. Reside or have resided in Rockland County, competed here at the time of their prominence, or brought fame to Rockland County as a result of their accomplishments.
- C. Be a person of integrity and good character.
- D. Candidates cannot be considered until 10 years after their high school class graduation, except in special cases.

Our committee encourages the public to send athletic resumes/nominations of prospective candidates to Screening Committee chairman Bill Rubbert, 189 Ridge Road, Valley Cottage, New York 10989. Nominees are reviewed by this committee and, if accepted, voted upon for enshrinement by the committee as a whole.

The Hall of Fame Committee holds monthly meetings the first Tuesday of the month from October to May. Anyone wishing to join the organization should write to Chairman Pete Scheibner, 1 Captain McGovern Drive, Stony Point, NY 10980, or e-mail him at scheibnp@msn.com.

Each inductee in the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame receives a commemorative trophy and is further honored with an individual plaque, which is given to the inductee's high school for public display.

The Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame is more than awards and trophies and dinners, however. It is really about people – Rockland County people who have had an impact in the world of sports. A total of 303 have been honored since the hall's inception in 1974.

The Hall of Fame has evolved from those early beginnings to become a recognized presence in Rockland County athletics. In addition to its annual dinner, where it honors new inductees, the hall makes sizable donations to worthwhile local organizations and charities. Included among these donations have been cash gifts to:

- ARC • Varsity Athletes Against Substance Abuse • Salvation Army
- Haverstraw Little League Save the Fields Fund • American Cancer Society • Special Olympics
- Venture • Big Brothers-Big Sisters • Challenger Little League • YMCA Youth Programs • Homes for Heroes

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (OFFICERS)

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 Jamie Kempton Secretary
 Peter CastellanoTreasurer

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Pat D'Auria	Chuck Maze	Dan White
Pat Dizzine	Sid McCready	Robbie Woods



ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME NOMINATION FORM

Nominee: _____
(Last) (First) (M)

Current Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____ Date Submitted: _____

* If deceased, please give name, address and phone number of family member.

H.S. and Year of Graduation: _____

College and Year of Graduation: _____

On a separate typewritten page, list all of the significant accomplishments of the nominee, both as a Rockland County resident and otherwise. Please be as specific as possible. Include varsity sports played in high school and college, dates, letters earned, honors won, records set, post-collegiate achievements, etc.

* Please submit a clear black-and-white or color photo of the nominee.

Nominating Person:

Last name: _____ First: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Please Submit to:

Bill Rubbert
Chairman of the Selection Committee
189 Ridge Road
Valley Cottage, New York 10989
billrubbert@gmail.com

Rockland County Hall of Fame Inductees

1974

Chuck Aleno*
Henry "Peck" Artopee*
Dr. Daniel "Danny" Fortmann*
Joseph "JoJo" Mackey
Howard "Howie" Pierson

1975

Roger Brown*
Joe D'Auria
Bill Drescher*
Billy Hogan*
Donald "Pop" Sherwood*

1976

Howard Parker Talman*
John Koster*
Jim Ridlon
Pete D'Auria*
Gloria Callan Jones*

1977

Augusta Bradley Chapman*
Nick Gamboli*
Ed Greene*
Harry Jackson*
Paul Toscano
Richard "Gus" Shankey*

1978

Jim Brown*
Harold "Hale" DeChelfin*
Jim Faulk*
Ira Shuttlesworth*
Jim Schnaars
Nick Mottola*

1979

Bob Bacheller*
Frank Cosentino*
Harry "Dee" Dembnicki
Jerry Hollahan*
Bob Grossman*
E.J. Maurer*
Bruno Ablondi*

1980

Dr. Jeffrey Munson
Art Orlando*
Brit Paterson*
Nick Ryder
Horace Tyrus
Emil Willis*
Mickey Wittman*

1981

Art Hopper*
Frank Horan
Howard Johnson
Lester Lepori*
Walter Ostrom
Victor Shankey*
Bill Yuda*

1982

Frank DePatto*
Tony Gamboli, Jr.
Bill Perry*
George Jakowenko
Ed McGrath*

1983

Warren Austin*
Jim Brechbiel
Frank Dawson*
Jeanette Paddock
Walter Sickles*

1984

Jim Ashcroft
Marvin Branche*
Ralph Cordisco*
Bryan Hassett
Bob Tierney*

1985

Wil Arietta*
Joseph "Josh" Bolack*
Gene Erickson*
Tony Gemma*
Joe St. Lawrence*

1986

Joe Alleva
John Jemison
Harold Lederman*
Bob Mathias*
Sylvester "Molly" McGee*

1987

Fred Hahn*
Charles Holbrook
Chuck Scarpulla
Jim Stamos
Bob Strack*

1988

Ron Becraft*
Darryl Brown
Tom Canty
Pat D'Auria*
James "Sham" Feeney*

1989

Ralph Consiglio*
Patty Dillon Sollday
Vincent "Dugan" Kovalsky*
Frank Nelson*
Bob Wolff*

1990

Denise McGuire
Guy Guccione
Abe Schuster
Robert "Red" Schassler*
Don Clancy*

1991

Steve Drummond*
Lew Brundage*
Johnny Burns*
Pete Haubner
Ethel Doller*
Dominic Gamboli*

1992

Murray Olderman*
Jerome Bonomolo
Joseph "Biscuit" Picarello*
Dale Lydecker
John Mercurio

1993

Jim Kane*
Kathy Miller Dapolito
Jay Bohnel
Mike Deane
Don Driscoll

1994

Hubert Nealy*
Martin "Hawk" Jacobs*
Joe Goldsmith
Tom Collins
Ron Tellefsen*

1995

Ron Edwards*
Walter "Red" Levy
Max Talaska*
Joe Klopchin*
Joe McDowell*
Paul Urban*

1996

Harry Babcock*
Gerald Kapusinsky
John Orlando
Al Simonds
George Garrecht*
Marty Springstead*

1997

Mike Hagon
Hank Kapusinsky
Tom Mounkhal
Dennis Pozsar
Steve Wanamaker*

1998

Kevin Kane
Lou Klieve*
Rocco Marano*
Howie McNiff
Blaise Winter

1999

Jim Cann
Joe Casarella
Ervan Levine*
Gibby Sweet
Dick Yerg*

2000

Rich Conklin*
Kevin Houston
Dawn Royster
Sarah Will
Alex Zilko*

2001

George Dalzell
Gerald D'Auria*
Seth Joyner
Tod Giles*
Debbie Grant
Bill White

2002

Ken Harniman*
Derrick Lassic
Norinne Powers
Kris Snider
Dick Teetsel*
Walt Weiss

2003

Genny Mulderig Allard
Jeff Bryant
Peter Hackett*
David Hirsch
Bill Kurisko
† Joe Grasso*
† Charles "Jumbo" Strack*

2004

Jim Gallo
Dave Hanson
Joan Neuendorf
Nancy Rosenfeld Lewis
Ed Rubbert
Frank Samoylo

2005

Jane Ronner-Beckley
Mike Carroll*
Tom Doherty
Jamie Kempton
Lee Klepper
† Leon Pesner*
Rudolph Rejholec*

2006

Tony Harlin
Jon Hess
Jim Pollard
John Scanlan
Jeff Van Wie
John Van Wyck*

2007

Julius D'Agostino*
John Flaherty
Barbara Hebel
Robert Neuendorf
Richard "Dixie" Reilly*
† Dan White

2008

Noreen Annunziata Apicella
Charles Dittmer*
Reid Hoffer
Randy Nelson
Paul Pietropaolo
Tim St. Lawrence
† Elizabeth "Pat" Ryan*

2009

Joe Biddy
Jeff Brown
Jim Horvath
Mike Longuil*
Janice Olszewski
John Sottile

2010

Joe Conace*
T. J. Ford
Sol "Spike" Israel*
Barbara Mellen-Speerin
Margie Sahlstrom-Jaxel
Mike Sparago
Robbie Woods

2011

Jeff Becker
Dan Keeley
Gene Martin
Kristen Conklin-Sullivan
Shulton Whitley
† Wilbur "Web" Wanamaker*

2012

Marcel Cooper
John Diffley
Tom McTaggart
Dennis O'Sullivan
Dawn Sugrue
Victor Veltidi
Dan Sullivan*

2013

Keith Bulluck
Khyl Farrison
Gary Gray
Bud Kast*
Mike Rotundo*
Jodi Schlesinger Salsberg
Ed Wanamaker
† Vic Alfieri Sr.*
Ernie Capobianco*
Vic Alfieri Jr.
Deer Head Inn & Softball
Tournament

2014

Rick Carey
Don Fischer
Ed Kolakowski*
Lorraine Moylan
Richard Schumacher*
Thaddeus Wilson
† Al Witt*

2015

Joe Clinton
Bob Corvino
Jennifer Feeney Lovell
Ed Matott*
Bob Nadal*
Lintz Rivera Adams
Homer Wanamaker
† Nick Picarello*

2016

Virgilio Hernandez
Buster Keyes, Jr.
Joe McGuinness*
Ron Morgan*
Katherine Nowell
Steve Silverberg
Linda Soto
John Stephens
† Michael Coffey*

2017

John Castellano
Tom Mulroy
Al Taylor*
Jerome Whidbee*
Phil Donnelly
† Fred Adler

2018
Thomas Dickson*
Bobby Lawson
Chuck Maze
Jackie McCracken Houck
Thomas Sanders
Willie Worsley
1989 Nanuet High School Football
† Tom O'Brien

2019

Phil Bogle
George Coates
Kristen McGarvey Miedreich
Sherry Murphy McGill
Tommy Rowe
Todd Sinclair
Gene Dall
1990-91 Albertus Magnus
Girls Basketball Team
1981-82 Spring Valley
Boys Basketball Team
† Bob Veltidi*

2021

Emil Willis
Bob Willis
Tom Lawson
1971 North Rockland Football Team

2022

Phil Consiglio
Will Cunneane
Wilbur Eschen
George "Doc" Leitner
Jose Saint-Victor
Charlie White
† Margaret "Babs" Stead
1954 Tappan Zee
Cross Country Team
1972 New City Little League
1991-1992 Suffern High School
Hockey Team

* Denotes Deceased

† Old-Timers' Special Award

‡ Joe Holland Lifetime Achievement Award

Lance

ARIETTA

(POSTHUMOUSLY)

**TAPPAN ZEE HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF 1976**

Lance Arietta dedicated himself to being a champion pole vaulter. He parlayed a relentless work ethic, competitive streak, ample self-confidence and a showman's flair to secure a berth in the pantheon of all-time greats in Rockland track & field. He won two New York State championships, set the indoor and outdoor State records, and added an Eastern States title to his gold-medal haul.

Eccentric Outlook Well-Suited to Pole Vaulting

There's something about contorting your body upside down in midair that tends to make pole vaulters different than the rest of us. Call them eccentrics or daredevils, but there's no denying some of the best athletes in track & field wind up with a pole in their hands and a notion to soar into the clouds.

Is there any doubt Lance Arietta fit the mold of a classic pole vaulter? Here's a guy who hitchhiked along the Palisades Parkway to West Point – in a blizzard, no less – with 15-foot poles on each shoulder, just to get in his daily practice session. He lived under the bleachers at the Abilene Christian track for six months, again to find some quality training. He ran brutal hills with Kenyan elites in Texas and Mexico to build leg strength and endurance for his specialty. He even walked on his hands up hills at Tappan Zee, with his brother Rudy holding his legs up, to strengthen his shoulders for vaulting.

"The only person crazy enough to do these things was me," said Lance, a left-handed vaulter who personified the southpaw's reputation for flakiness. He offered these comments in 2007, when he was inducted into the Rockland County Track & Field Hall of Fame. "You find different ways to train so it doesn't get boring doing the same thing day after day. I went wherever I could go to jump and train."

Catapulting to the Top

Life as a vaulter was anything but boring for Lance. What started as a way to one-up his brothers playing high jump in their Blauvelt back yard turned into an infatuation with vertical lift that thrust the Flying Dutchman to unprecedented heights. He won the New York State outdoor crown as a junior and the State indoor



title as a senior. In 1976, he broke both the indoor and outdoor New York State records. His outdoor clearance of 15 feet 10 inches toppled the previous mark of 15-4 ¼ set in 1974 by Andy Pintus of Half Hollow Hills. His indoor record of 15-4 ¼ eclipsed the prior standard of 15-0 set in '74 by Paul Flint of James I. O'Neill in Highland Falls. Lance's marks were not eclipsed by a Rockland athlete for 17 years. He still ranks No. 2 all-time among Rockland vaulters indoors and out, behind only Ryan Dall of North Rockland, a national champion in 1993.

Lance was Eastern States outdoor gold medalist his senior year, finally getting the better of archrival Bill Hartley of Southern Regional (Manahawkin, NJ), to whom Lance had finished second two straight years. "That was a beautiful moment," said Lance, who vaulted 15-10 that day. He also placed second (to Hartley) at the Penn Relays, and qualified for the 1976 Golden West Invitational in Sacramento, Calif., where he tied for fifth with Billy Olson, who set the world indoor record at 19-5 ½ a decade later. The Golden West meet served as the de facto national scholastic championships before the advent of a national meet much later.

Back-Yard Beginnings, Rapid Progression

Lance came a long way from the 9-year-old who competed against his older brothers Rudy and Wayne in a crude high-jump setup of sticks for standards and crossbar. One day he impulsively grabbed a larger stick from nearby woods and "vaulted" over the stick crossbar, thus christening his pole vaulting career. "Whenever I

went over and it didn't fall off, it was a good feeling," he remembered. By eighth grade he was clearing 10 feet with a metal pole, then came the fiberglass pole and improvement by quantum leaps – 13 feet as a sophomore, 14 feet as a junior, and 15-10 as a senior.

Lance pursued his specialty with a passion, watching a videotape of Olympic champion Bob Seagren "till it broke" and attending vaulting camps by Seagren and Steve Smith – the first U.S. vaulter to clear 18 feet – for two summers in Maryland. He also found guidance and support from Tim St. Lawrence, the former state record-holder from Suffern and coaching guru, and brother Rudy, who studied the event and imparted invaluable advice on technique.

Pole vaulters need to be fast and strong, and while Lance would not win many footraces, he was exceptionally strong at 5-foot-9 and 145 pounds. Walking up flights of stairs on your hands will get you strong in a hurry. When he went to college at the University of Texas at El Paso, gymnastics and trampoline work were integrated into his training routine, and the hills he ran in Texas and across the border in Mexico kept his legs strong when he

wasn't doing vaulting-specific training. "I never had an off-season," he said.

Lance attended UTEP for a year, followed by one-year stints at Miami Dade Junior College in Florida and American River College in Sacramento. He returned to UTEP to train and compete but serious knee and back injuries ultimately derailed his vaulting career. He retired with a best of 17-feet, 1/4-inch, good enough to qualify for the U.S. Olympic Trials. Lance later took up competitive bodybuilding and won some local and regional honors.

Sadly, Lance passed away in 2017 at age 59. He had moved to Florida in 1989 with his partner, Carmen, residing in Coconut Creek. Lance had one son, Brandon, 29. Lance worked as a transportation coordinator for the Iron Mountain records management company, supervising a fleet of 20 drivers.

Lance is the second member of the Arietta family to earn enshrinement into the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame. A cousin on his father's side, Wil Arietta, who was a 1941 Nyack High School graduate, gained election in 1985.



Congratulates

ALL INDUCTEES TO THE
ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME
Class of 2023

especially

James Scaringe '73

and

Lance Arietta '76

(posthumously)



DR. LIAM FRAWLEY GOLF CLASSIC

THURSDAY, JUNE 29, 2023 – BLUE HILL GOLF COURSE

7:00 AM SIGN IN / CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST • 8:00 AM SHOTGUN START

BBQ FOLLOWS • *Contact Pat Dizzine 845-367-1339*

Dave BILLINGS

NYACK HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1972

Dave Billings ushered in a golden era for Rockland County distance runners. In the 1970s, Rockland groomed a succession of state-caliber long distance runners, and Dave kick-started the evolution with a string of barrier-breaking performances.

Before Dave came along, the County record in the two-mile run was 9 minutes 50.0 seconds, set in 1970. Over a two-year period, Dave chopped an astounding 38 seconds off that mark. His clocking of 9:12.0 to win the 1972 outdoor New York State championship established a state public high school athletic association (NYSPHSAA) record and cemented his legend in Rockland track lore.

Dave was on fire during the 1972 spring track season. After a knee injury playing basketball sidelined him from February to early April, Dave plunged back into a ferocious training regimen engineered by Mike Redmond, a Nyack College All-America runner who had convinced him to try running two years before. “I was a defeated puppy with the injury, but Mike gave me back that confidence,” Dave says.

The result? Four meets, four County records, one State record: County meet, 9:22.4, breaking his own County-meet record of 9:30.2 and County overall standard of 9:22.6 set in '71; Section 9 meet, 9:20.9; State Qualifier, 9:14.1; and State meet, 9:12.0.

Goodbye Hoops, Hello Track, XC

Dave was an unlikely candidate to become a record-breaking state champion. Beset by what he called a troubled youth, he endured the death of his twin sister, Connie, at age 13 due to cancer. He also had a rebellious streak. At the end of his sophomore year at Nyack High School, he received a school suspension for an altercation with a teacher, and the detentions carried over to his junior year.

The transformation from uninspired basketball player to standout runner began the summer between 10th and 11th grade, when Redmond spotted Dave playing basketball on the outdoor courts at Nyack College. Redmond saw distance-running potential in Dave's tall, thin frame. “He told me, ‘I could make you one of the best runners in the state,’” Dave recounts. “He would pick me up at 5:30 each morning and by 6 a.m. we’d be running six miles.”



When the fall season rolled around, Dave asked Nyack coach Joe McDowell if he could come out for the cross country team. Mindful of Dave's discipline problems in school, McDowell was skeptical, but eventually relented. “Since we had only six guys, Joe McDowell said that OK, I could be his seventh man,” Dave remembers with a chuckle.

Logging as much as 18 miles a day, Dave had found his athletic calling. He won the first cross country race he entered, a dual meet versus Suffern, and was second in the County meet to Tappan Zee's Joe Olcese. In the spring, Dave was the County's premier two-miler and shadowed Olcese in the mile. In his senior year, he went undefeated in cross country as he swept the County, Section 9 and New York State Class B titles, won his division in the Eastern States meet and captured the AAU junior (19 and younger) title over a 4-mile course at Van Cortlandt Park. [In 2000 Dave was elected to the Rockland County All-Century Cross Country team.]

College Success & Answering Call of the Ministry

After graduating from Nyack High in 1972, Dave enrolled at Nyack College, which is not surprising since his parents, Nathaniel and Virginia, both were professors and missionaries at the college, a Christian missionary institute. At Nyack College, Dave continued his successful cross country career (Nyack had no track program), twice earning NAIA All-America honors. In his sophomore year, he captured the National Christian College Athletic Association championship. Dave also won three conference titles and twice earned the Outstanding College Athlete award at Nyack.

After stints at Taylor University in Indiana and Monmouth College in New Jersey, Dave returned to Nyack and graduated in 1978. Following the career path of his father, an ordained minister, Dave obtained a master's degree at the Alliance Theological Seminary in Nyack in 1979. From 1979 to '87 he worked for church-affiliated organizations, including a fulfilling role as executive director for a youth ministry in Ocean Grove, NJ.

Still in his running prime during that period, Dave established himself as one of the finest road-racers in the metropolitan region and southern New Jersey for distances ranging from the 5K (3.1 miles), 5 miles and 10K (6.2 miles) up to the marathon. Among his noteworthy efforts was an excellent clocking of 2 hours 27 minutes 13 seconds in the Jersey Shore Marathon, his debut at the 26.2-mile distance. That performance ranks in the top five all-time for Rockland running alumni.

Around that time Dave began coaching other runners. He has since coached four high school teams – St. John's Vianney in New Jersey, Seymour HS and Christian Heritage HS in Connecticut, and Mount Academy in Esopus, NY – as well as two college teams, Nyack and St. Thomas Aquinas, several post-collegiate elite runners, and others just training for local races or trying to get in shape through running.

In 1987, Dave's vocational calling took him to Laconia, NH, where he presided as pastor of the Christian Missionary Alliance (CMA) church for four years. He then helped found a CMA church in Oxford, CT, and led that congregation for eight years before a one-year stint as pastor in Lombard, IL.

Returning to Rockland and Orange

The new millennium brought Dave back to Rockland County. After spending the first four years of his life in the

Ivory Coast in West Africa, where his parents were missionaries, Dave moved with his family to Nyack at age 4. He served as pastor at the Evangelical Free Church of America in New City from 2000 to 2006, and has been pastor for the past 15 years at the Middletown Alliance Church, now Crossroads Church, CMA, in Middletown, NY.

Dave is owner/operator of Lifeworks International, which helps people develop their potential through life coaching, leadership coaching and coaching runners. He is a life and leadership coach/country coordinator to CMA International workers in the Middle East and Central Asia – Russia, Ukraine, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Palestine and Israel.

In the local community, Dave serves as chaplain and running coach of the Run with God training group for runners and walkers, which he co-founded. The group's motto is "connecting fitness and faith." He is also Run/Walk training group coach and a board member at the Middletown YMCA, and formerly served as vice president, chaplain and running coach for the Orange Runners Club. He has helped direct and consult for various races in Orange County, including the popular Classic 10K (formerly Orange Classic), and still maintains connections to his Rockland running roots as a member of the Rockland Road Runners club.

Dave, who is 69, and his wife, Carol, have been married for 46 years and reside in Wallkill Township in Orange County. They have four grown children: twins Bjorn and Kristin, 45; Leif, 42; and Hans, 40, and five grandchildren ranging in age from 12 to 17.

Dave was inducted into the Rockland County Track & Field Hall of Fame in 2005, and was enshrined in the Nyack High School Athletics Hall of Fame in 2017.

Congratulations, Dave!



**NYACK
REDHAWKS**

Mary BRECHBIEL- AGNETTI

**ALBERTUS MAGNUS HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF 1974**

Mary Brechbiel was shooting jump shots when the other girls were still hoisting set shots. On the basketball court, she was always a step ahead of the opposition and made her Albertus Magnus teammates better with her advanced all-around skills, honed from playing against her four older brothers while growing up in Haverstraw. During her four-year varsity career for the Falcons, she developed into the dominant player on scholastic basketball courts in Westchester and Rockland counties. And she continued that streak of excellence during a Hall of Fame career at Mercy College.

During the early years of Title IX, which opened avenues of athletic opportunity previously unavailable to girls, Mary paved the way for local female basketball players to aspire to higher levels of play and the chance for college scholarships. Indeed, Mary earned the first athletic scholarship awarded to a female basketball player at Mercy.

Statistically, we will never know the full extent of Mary's superiority because individual records were not kept during her first three seasons, when Albertus played in a Westchester County league comprising Catholic, parochial and private schools. Her coach during her sophomore and junior years, Meg Feerick, estimated Mary averaged more than 25 points a game in those two seasons, and she was removed from games early en route to blowout victories by Albertus. She led the Falcons to the league championship in the 1971-72 campaign.

Cementing Legacy as Impact Player in Rockland

By her senior year, Albertus had joined the Rockland County Public School Athletic League (RCPSAL) and Mary, the team captain, wasted little time establishing herself as the centerpiece of a squad that lost only one game the entire season. She set Rockland records by averaging 24.2 points per game and pouring in 44 points in one game, versus North Rockland. There's little doubt Mary could have been a 1,000-point career scorer had records been maintained her first three years.



If there was an all-time Rockland girls' basketball team, Mary would surely land a spot on the first team, according to many local sports observers. When The Journal-News invited readers in 1988 to submit names of the best athletes ever from each Rockland school, Mary received the most votes of any Albertus female athlete.

In the newspaper article on Albertus's "Best-Ever" female athlete, tributes came flowing in for the versatile 5-foot-5 guard. "Mary was ahead of her time," said Tom Collins, then the Albertus athletic director and boys' basketball coach. "She came from a family of fine athletes" – brothers George, Peter, Frank and Danny – "and she followed right in their footsteps."

"There really wasn't anything she couldn't do on the basketball court," said Coach Feerick. "She was unstoppable."

"If you were on the other team, you had to be in awe of her," said former teammate Patti Walsh Lyver. Despite Mary's ascendancy, "she was never out there to be the best player. She was a team player. She would pass off on shots you know she could've made."

"The things I did, I guess people weren't used to seeing in girls' sports," Mary said. "There was a group of seven or eight of us at Albertus that loved to play sports ... we would just go out and have fun and play."

Seamless Transition from Albertus to Mercy

The good times continued to roll for Mary at Mercy College, located in Dobbs Ferry in Westchester. She finished her four-year collegiate career as the school's all-time leader in scoring, with 1,534 points, and steals, 488; as well as fourth in assists, 414, and ninth in rebounds, 686. During her senior year she played a major role in Mercy's advancement to the championship game of the Eastern Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW) Northeast Regional tournament. She scored 29 points to pace the Flyers to an 89-60 decision over Brown, and scored her 1,500th point during Mercy's 89-69 semifinal victory over Yale.

After graduating from Mercy in 1978 with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice, Mary continued to work at

St. Agatha's Home for children in Nanuet, where she had worked throughout college. She went on to join the New York City Police Department in 1980, starting as a police officer in the Bronx, moving up the ranks to detective and detective sergeant and later assigned to the Manhattan Special Victims squad.

Mary retired in 2001 and became a substitute teacher in the North Rockland school district. She was the assistant girls' varsity basketball coach at North Rockland High School from 2001 to 2008 and assistant varsity softball coach in 2009-2010.

These days Mary, who is 66, lives in Myrtle Beach, SC, with her husband of 24 years, Bob Agnetti. She has three grown stepchildren and eight grandchildren.

Congratulations, Mary!

Dr. Kevin D. Reilly and Family

extend our congratulations to the

**ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME
2023 INDUCTEES**

as it celebrates its 50th Anniversary



We especially want to recognize the accomplishments and extend our sincere congratulations to family members

Mary Brechbiel Agnetti

&

Shawn Kapusinsky

Heidi HIGGINS- SERMABEKIAN

SPRING VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1981

Where to begin with Heidi Higgins? Her athletic career was marked by a pair of firsts: first girl to play baseball in the Monsey Little League, and first girl to play on a boys' high school baseball team in New York State. But it was also marked by a record-setting career as a soccer goalkeeper for Spring Valley: she still holds five Rockland County records, including saves in a game (30), season (254) and career (504).

Wait, there's more. How about her two All-County selections for basketball, helping lead the Tigers to the 1979 Section 9 championship and 1980 Rockland County title? Or her All-County nod and team captaincy in softball? Let's not forget her four years of full-scholarship basketball at Nazareth College, where she is still one of the all-time single season (251) and career (741) rebounding leaders and spearheaded the No. 8-ranked Golden Flyers to the NAIA national tournament in Kansas City.

And here's a fun fact you probably didn't know: Heidi, a former NYPD detective and social worker, once appeared on "60 Minutes" for her work in getting a homeless veteran, "The Wild Man of W. 96th Street," into appropriate mental health care after he wreaked havoc in the streets of New York. She received an award from New York City Mayor David Dinkins and NYPD Commissioner Ray Kelly, and was featured on the Times Square Trinitron for a week.

Breaking the Mold: A Girl on the Boys' Team

That's a lot to digest. Maybe we should start with an appraisal by one of her teammates at Spring Valley, Charlotte Smith Bonomolo, who cited Heidi's "spirit, her desire to win, her never-give-up attitude about sports and life." Heidi had to mine all of that spirit, desire and resiliency when she tried out for the freshman boys' baseball team. New York State required demanding physical tests that Heidi had to pass before gaining eligibility to play. The tests included an obstacle course, sprinting and long-distance running, pullups, pushups, situps, squat thrusts, suicide runs, catching balls at high speed, throwing at a target, running the bases in the allotted time, and proper technique in sliding into a base under the tag. If she failed any one of these tests, she failed overall.

Guess what? "I passed with flying colors," Heidi said gleefully. "It became a personal challenge that made me want



to play on the team even more." Thereafter followed an evaluation by the state-certified instructor to determine whether Heidi was psychologically sound enough to participate in this "contact" sport with boys her own age. After answering a series of probing questions to the satisfaction of the evaluator, Heidi finally was deemed worthy of playing baseball with her male peers, and was quickly welcomed into the fold by her new teammates.

A Player For All Seasons

All told, Heidi participated in 12 seasons of sports at Spring Valley, playing on 10 varsity teams, one JV team and one freshman team encompassing girls' basketball, softball, soccer and track, and boys' baseball. How much did she love the competition? Her comment about playing soccer goalie is telling: "My favorite was defending the goal for a penalty kick. Just me and the net. It was such a rush."

Heidi played center and forward in basketball, first base in baseball, and third base, shortstop and first base in softball. In soccer she made first-team All-County goalkeeper her junior year and second team her senior year, while in basketball she made second-team All-County both years. Heidi was coached by Paul Sbröllini and Paul Shapiro in basketball, Lou Kliewe and Shapiro in soccer, and Cliff Hillman in softball.

Heidi considers herself fortunate to have played with a roster of high-caliber female athletes at Spring Valley, teammates like Janet Pia Grahn, Nancy Connors Brezovsky, Rhonda Carden, Charlotte Smith Bonomolo, and MariEllyn Dykstra Thurston Donnellan, among others. Many went on to play

competitively in college and receive scholarships. Heidi also relished playing against top-flight competitors such as Carol Duke of Tappan Zee, Christine McGuinness, Eileen and Cathy Sullivan from Albertus Magnus and Denise McGuire from Pearl River. Several of her basketball and softball opponents wound up as her teammates in summer leagues. “Many of us are still friends after all these years,” she said. “Some of us were in each other’s wedding parties too!”

Support From Those Who Care

Heidi singles out Lorraine Guerri Moylan and Paul Shapiro as two influential mentors in her life. As Spring Valley’s JV girls’ basketball coach during Heidi’s senior year, Lorraine helped Heidi navigate the challenging college selection process. “Not only did I respect her as a coach but as an athlete and a person. Lorraine is someone to emulate as she is intelligent, an exceptional coach, a tough competitor, an athlete and good role model for young women.” When Heidi returned to Spring Valley in 1985 to serve for one year as assistant coach for the girls’ basketball team, she had the privilege of coaching alongside Shapiro, who had coached her in basketball and soccer. “He is one of the best men I’ve ever had the pleasure of knowing,” said Heidi, who has remained good friends with Shapiro. “He was a good teacher and coach but most of all a solid human being filled with compassion and decency.”

Heidi received numerous college scholarship offers for basketball, softball or soccer but ultimately accepted a full basketball scholarship to Nazareth College in Rochester, N.Y. At Nazareth, she started all four years, scoring 895 career points and averaging 13 points a game. She was chosen as NAIA Player of the Week three times, and was team captain and MVP her senior year. Heidi graduated with a bachelor’s degree in social work. “Choosing Nazareth was a good fit for me,” she said. “It was a small college but very competitive and well respected both academically and athletically.”

Fun fact No. 2: Heidi graduated college with Jeff Van Gundy, the former New York Knicks coach and current NBA broadcaster. Van Gundy was point guard for Nazareth’s men’s team, which played in Division III.

Heidi continued playing basketball and softball after college, competing in circuits including the Kingsbridge Softball League, White Plains Women’s Basketball League, Empire State Games basketball, and the NYPD Commissioner’s Softball League. She also coached and taught at various basketball camps and leagues, including the Girls’ All-Star Basketball Camp, CYO Basketball Camp in Peekskill, NY, swimming for the NYS Special Olympics.

Police Career: Maintaining the Family Tradition

After her one-year stint as assistant coach at Spring Valley, Heidi entered the NYPD Police Academy and became a

police officer in 1986, the fourth generation of her family to wear the vestments of New York’s Finest, dating back to 1880 (with a fifth-generation Higgins currently serving). After seven years she was promoted to detective, a position that was tailor-made for her. She spoke of “so many incredible experiences,” including a stint as an undercover prostitute.

Then there was that turn in the spotlight taming “The Wild Man of W. 96th Street.” The homeless veteran was an addict who went on rampages after bingeing on drugs and alcohol. He nearly killed people on numerous occasions, including throwing a child in front of an oncoming utility truck. Heidi took a personal interest in the case since it was in her precinct in Manhattan and she had experience as a social worker. “He was falling through the cracks of our system,” she said. “He was a vet and our responsibility as a society was to help him and make sure he was not a danger to himself or others.” Heidi had to go to court to get the man placed in a mandatory mental hospital, Creedmor Psychiatric Center in Queens, NY. It was a precedent-setting case that received ample air time on “60 Minutes” in a much-publicized segment hosted by CBS news journalist Leslie Stahl.

Heidi retired in 2006 as a detective in the Community Affairs Division. Her retirement was hastened by illnesses stemming from her three months of work as a first responder at Ground Zero after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Heidi suffers from COPD and pulmonary hypertension. Last fall she experienced heart failure from long-term use of steroids, which are prescribed to improve breathing function but weakened her heart over a long duration. She continues to undergo pulmonary rehabilitation to regain greater lung capacity.

“It’s been and it’s going to be a long road but I don’t have any regrets because I would do it all over again if such circumstances should arise,” Heidi asserted. “I took an oath and I will always be true to that oath, which I raised my hand and swore to uphold way back in July of ‘86.”

After college, Heidi lived in the Bronx for 13 years before moving with her husband, Robert Elie Sermabekian, to Sloatsburg in 1999. The couple moved to Wilmington, NC, five years ago and “we are loving every minute of it,” Heidi said.

Heidi, who is 60, and Elie have been married 28 years. She is stepmother to his three children. Despite her health setbacks, she maintains a sunny outlook on life and lives each day to the fullest. “I have been so blessed in my life to have so many incredible experiences, opportunities and achievements,” she said. “I follow the old Irish proverb, ‘Do not resent growing old for many are denied the privilege.’”

Congratulations, Heidi!

Shawn KAPUSINSKY

**NORTH ROCKLAND HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF 1986**

No one could ever call Shawn Kapusinsky a late bloomer. In the seventh grade, he was already a varsity athlete, a member of the golf team at North Rockland High School. It was just the start of a long and varied career as a varsity athlete.

He was so accomplished that at the end of his second golf season, he became North Rockland's first-ever eighth grader to be selected to the All-County first team. He finished that season undefeated in Rockland County individual match play.

Also as an eighth grader, he added a second varsity sport, joining the varsity tennis team. And it just kept getting better.

Five-Year Reign in Golf

For five seasons, right through to senior year, Shawn was the Red Raiders' top golfer, a five-time first team All-County selection and a four-time All-Section selection.

As a ninth-grade golfer, he placed second in Section 9, which covered Rockland, Orange, Ulster and Sullivan counties.

As a sophomore, he placed fifth in the New York State golf championships to go along with finishes in 13th and 8th place in two other state championship appearances.

Shawn also had a second-place finish in the South Atlantic Junior Championship, composed of the top junior golfers on the East Coast. In the process he beat both the Maryland and Virginia junior champions. Four times, Shawn won the Metropolitan Regional Qualifier for the Insurance Youth Golf Classic.

As a junior, Shawn added winning the Section 1 Conference A Qualifier and then won the Sectional championship against Section 1, including Rockland and Westchester.

As a senior he was one of three golfers statewide to qualify for the National Insurance Youth Golf Classic, which pits the top three youth golfers from each state against each other.

Shawn also has a Metropolitan Golf Assoc. Junior Summer League championship to his credit.

Along the way, Shawn reaped the benefit of having two legendary coaches, Joe D'Auria and Ralph Cordisco, both of whom are enshrined in the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame.



"It was a pleasure coaching Shawn because he was very teachable and had a great concentration level and a positive attitude," Coach D'Auria wrote in supporting Shawn's nomination. "Shawn was the best golfer I coached at North Rockland High School," he added.

A Man for All Seasons

What's just as remarkable as Shawn's golf success is his athletic versatility. Shawn won six varsity letters in golf but added another five as a skier and four more from eighth to 11th grades competing in doubles on the tennis team.

On the ski slopes, Shawn was selected to the All-League and All-Section 1 ski teams as a junior and won two ski meets as a senior. In addition to his slalom and giant slalom racing, Shawn competed in freestyle moguls at Gore Mountain and Smuggler's Notch where he took first place.

In his senior year at North Rockland, Shawn was honored by selection as a Journal-News Scholar-Athlete of the Week in recognition of his athletic prowess, membership in the National Honor Society and participation with Varsity Athletes Against Substance Abuse.

Naturally enough, Shawn continued swinging his clubs for three golf seasons at Penn State University, where he earned a B.S. in secondary education in biology and general science in 1991. Two years later he earned his master's in environmental sciences from CCNY.

Paying It Forward

It's also no surprise that sports remain a thread running through his life as a parent, teacher and coach.

Shawn and his wife, Chandra, who is also a teacher, live in Tomkins Cove where they raised their three now-adult children – Carly, 23, Jamie, 19, and son Logan, 17.

Just as his father, Gerry Kapusinsky did, Shawn taught his children to golf, ski and play tennis. All three attended North Rockland High School and became outstanding scholar athletes in their own right. All three captained their Red Raider teams – Carly, tennis and golf; Jamie, tennis and skiing; and Logan, baseball.

By virtue of his long career in teaching and coaching, Shawn has shared both his athletic skills, knowledge and passion with countless students. During his more than three decades as a biology and AP environmental science teacher at Spring Valley High School, he has also coached both the boys' and girls' golf teams there. He also served as the varsity coach for the North Rockland High School boys' and girls' ski teams. Shawn also served as assistant golf pro at the U.S.

Military Academy golf course at West Point and at the Philip Rotella Memorial Golf Course, where he conducted clinics for youth golfers.

In the process, Shawn has emphasized the value of both golf and skiing as sports that provide a lifetime of recreation, fun and fitness.

Throughout his adult years, Shawn has also devoted himself to his students, local families and community organizations. He coached in Stony Point Little League, the North Rockland Soccer Association and CYO, volunteered with Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts and participated in drug awareness seminars, Elks Club programs for underprivileged youth and various charity drives.

Shawn is the third member of the Kapusinsky family to earn enshrinement into the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame. His father, Gerry, was inducted in 1996 and his uncle, Hank, was inducted in 1987.

Congratulations, Shawn!

Congratulations

SHAWN KAPUSINSKY & MARY BRECHBIEL/AGNETTI



Blessed to have two family members inducted into the prestigious Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame.
Even more proud to celebrate people with fine characteristics, talents and a true love for God's people.
Giving back to society will always be rewarded in the annals of Rockland County.

RAIDER PRIDE!

(APRIL, 2023)

Joan & Gerry Kap

Kimberly

McDOLE-GORDON

**RAMAPO HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF 1983**

Kimberly McDole-Gordon forged a legacy as one of the greatest jumpers and sprinters in Rockland track & field history. She excelled in the jumps, sprints and relays while representing Kakiat Junior High, Spring Valley and Ramapo high schools, and the University of Houston.

Kim first served notice of her jumping prowess as a freshman at Spring Valley with a New York State indoor championship in the long jump. After transferring to Ramapo as a sophomore, she continued to shine for three more years. She finished second in the State long jump in both the 1981 indoor and 1982 outdoor seasons, losing the latter by a single inch.

Kim's senior year, 1983, proved to be one for the history books. She won her second State title in the long jump, spanning 19 feet, 9 ½ inches to set a New York State outdoor record. That mark still ranked in the top 10 all-time statewide as recently as 2010. The 1983 State outdoor championship meet was a double coronation for Kim, as she added the 100-meter dash crown to the long jump title. She was the first Rockland girl to win two individual events at a single spring State meet, a feat that has been duplicated by only two others (Jen Clayton of Suffern won three, Katelyn Tuohy of North Rockland, two.)

Relay Magic

Sprint relays were another ideal outlet for Kim's speed and competitiveness. Along with Ramapo teammates Debbie Grant (a fellow Rockland Hall of Famer), Suzette Francois and other notables, she ran on two New York State championship 4x400-meter relay teams, in the 1982 spring and 1983 winter seasons. Kim also contributed to two second-place and two third-place State medalist relay units for the Gryphons, in the 4x100 and 4x200.

That talented group of Ramapo relay sprinters is being honored next month with induction into the Rockland County Track & Field Hall of Fame in the Girls' Relay category. Kim was an individual inductee in the inaugural class of the Track Hall of Fame in 2004.



Starring at Loucks, Penn Relays, Junior Nationals

The Loucks Games also served as a showcase for Kim's amazing leaping ability. She thrived on the White Plains long jump runway, taking first place her freshman and senior years, and second and third in her sophomore and junior seasons, respectively. Kim also found great success as a senior at the prestigious Penn Relays in Philadelphia with a second-place finish.

After the high school season had concluded, Kim demonstrated her proficiency on the national stage. At the U.S. Junior National championships at Penn State, she finished second to Clair Connor of Rahway, N.J. However, she later defeated Connor to win the long jump in a summer international meet among American, Canadian and Italian junior athletes. She also finished second in a similar three-way international meet that summer.

Team Championships, All-Time Rankings

Closer to home, Kim helped Ramapo to three straight Section 9 outdoor titles (1981-83) and a pair of Rockland County outdoor championships (1982-83). Her Ramapo quartet's 4x100-meter relay time of 48.1 remained the County record for 27 years and now ranks No. 4 all-time. Her 19-9.5 distance stood as the County record in the outdoor long jump for 26 years and currently rates No. 2 all-time. Her 19-3 indoor long jump was a County record for 18 years and now stands No. 3 all-time.

Kim was coached by Betsy Evans at Spring Valley and by Jim Pollard and Matt Mulligan at Ramapo.

At Houston, a top-tier NCAA Division I program, Kim just missed 20 feet with a 19-11.75. She placed fourth in the Southwest Conference indoor meet, and scored highly in several other major invitationals.

Kim, who is 57, lives in Spring Valley and works as director of medical records at Oakland Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center in Oakland, N.J. She also serves as jumps coach for the Dominican University track team and has been a Rockland County track & field official for 14 years, giving back to the sport and offering support and expert technical guidance to local jumpers.

Kim has three children: Kaylyn Gordon, 26, a two-time New York State triple jump champion while at Ramapo; Trevon, 25; and Trevonafaith, 20.



Congratulations, Kimberly!



Jim SCARINGE

**TAPPAN ZEE HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS of 1973**

Jim Scaringe so excelled as a three-sport athlete that in his senior year at Tappan Zee High School he was captain of the football, wrestling and baseball teams.

As a senior during the 1972 football season, Jim was so dominant that he was honored as the New York All-State second-team defensive end. That came on top of being honored as First Team All-Rockland County defensive end.

If you think Jim was coasting along on the other side of the line of scrimmage, that was hardly the case as he took All-Rockland County 1972 honorable mention at offensive tight end.

A season earlier, as a junior, Jim was second-team All-Rockland defensive end. Obviously, he didn't rest on his laurels.

Jim was also a tough opponent on the wrestling mat, taking second place in the 1973 Section 9 wrestling championships.

In the spring of his senior year, Jim had a superlative season on the baseball diamond. He earned first-team honors on the 1973 All-Rockland County baseball team and topped that with being chosen as the first baseman on the New York Daily News First-Team Tri-State baseball team.

On the whole, Jim's senior year won him recognition as Tappan Zee High School's Athlete of the Year for 1973.

Jim's athletic career continued after graduation.

Testing the Collegiate Gridiron

Jim went on to West Virginia University where he played football as a "walk-on" for legendary head coach Bobby Bowden, who had already helped West Virginia neighbor Marshall University in rebuilding its football program after a tragic 1970 plane crash and would go on to turn Florida State into a decades-long power.

"After 'spring ball,' I was offered a full athletic scholarship but decided not to sign," Jim says. "Instead, I transferred to Nassau Community College and played football there for two years and graduated with an associate degree in December 1976."

He finished his undergraduate studies at East Stroudsburg State College in Pennsylvania. He played one season of football there and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology in the spring of 1978.



A Career in Social Work

The same passion and drive for excellence exhibited during his high school athletic exploits carried over to Jim's career choices.

After graduation, Jim worked for two years at New York Hospital's psychiatric division, where he was employed as a mental health worker on its adolescent unit. "My experience at the hospital convinced me," Jim reflects, "that I had found my calling in working with kids with emotional and behavioral issues."

To progress professionally, Jim decided to go back to graduate school. He was accepted into an advanced placement program at the University of Alabama School of Social Work, earning a master's degree in the spring of 1980.

While at Alabama, Jim recalls, "I was able to have my competitive needs met (while at the same time meeting quite a few 'characters of interest') by playing inside center on the university rugby club. I even got to meet Coach Bear Bryant," one of the few coaches who could earn billing over Bobby Bowden.

Jim returned to upstate New York for a job as the school social worker at a private residential school for developmentally and emotionally challenged children.

"While living in the middle of nowhere had its charm," Jim says, he wanted to return to a more urban setting and jumped at an opportunity to stay with friends in Boston.

He decided to look for work in the Boston area and, he says, "the rest is history."

Jim quotes Joe Walsh: "Life's been good to me so far."

He's been living and working in the Boston area for the past 41 years. "I worked for 33 years for the Boston Public Schools at a school for emotionally and behaviorally challenged students – the kids who were kicked out of

all the other public-school programs," he says. "While there, my career path arced full circle. I started out as a social worker/guidance advisor; I then became an assistant principal; then (believe it or not) the principal of the school for eight years before returning to the social work job I loved best." In 2007, Jim was selected as one of the City of Boston's "Educators of the Year." He retired from Boston Public Schools in 2015.

Congratulations, Jim!

Congratulations to

Jim Scaringe

and the

**Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame
Class of 2023**

The Scaringe Family

Joseph M. FAMELLETTE

ROCKLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE COACH/PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Joe Famellette is a highly deserving recipient for the Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award. He served Rockland Community College with distinction for 50 years and made an indelible impression on RCC's athletics program.

Coach Famellette was fresh out of Springfield College when RCC Athletic Director Ed Greene hired him as a physical education instructor. Joe was hired part-time in the fall of 1960, RCC's second year, to coach the first soccer team, and he became full-time in the spring. He first coached soccer and wrestling, and later added men's tennis, bowling, golf, women's basketball and women's volleyball. He also started the women's tennis program and designed a personal fitness course. Appropriately, the college's fitness lab is named in his honor.

Joe attained the title of professor of physical education and was one of the longest-serving faculty members in RCC history, retiring in 2010 after a half-century with the college. His teams won more than 10 Mid-Hudson Conference and Region XV championships. The first regional championship was in men's bowling. Thereafter, Joe had exceptional success coaching the Hawks' tennis teams. The men's tennis team won five conference titles and two regional crowns while posting undefeated seasons in 1968, 1973 and 1976. The women's team won the regionals and was undefeated in 1981. Spanning 20-plus years, RCC individuals or teams qualified for and played in eight NJCAA national tennis tournaments. Joe also coached nine All-America athletes, five in soccer and four in wrestling.

Giving Back to RCC, SUNY Orange

Joe and his wife, Judy, who is deceased, started three scholarship funds for RCC students: the Heinz Ahlmeyer USMC Scholarship, the Jerry Donnellan Veterans Scholarship, and the Joseph and Judith Dryer Famellette Scholarship. The latter scholarship is awarded to incoming students who maintain a high academic standing and participate on an RCC athletic team.

Joe was also involved in charity work for the RCC Foundation.

At SUNY Orange County Community College, from which he graduated in 1958, Joe co-funds a \$500 scholarship, the



Joseph and Judith E. Dryer Famellette and Thea D. Fry Scholarship, awarded to an entering student who played varsity sports, and is a nursing major or a veteran with demonstrable financial need. [Judy Dryer Famellette taught biology at Suffern High School and RCC.]

Joe was inducted into the RCC Sports Hall of Fame in 2010, and into the SUNY Orange CC Hall of Fame in 2018. At SUNY Orange, Joe was named the college's Athlete of the Year in 1958 after participating in tennis, wrestling and basketball. He went on to earn bachelor's and master's degrees in physical education at Springfield College.

Joe had served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1953 to 1956 before embarking on his post-secondary education. He started in the engineering program at SUNY Orange but later switched to physical education. His first position in education was as a student-teacher at Suffern High School, prior to his arrival at RCC.

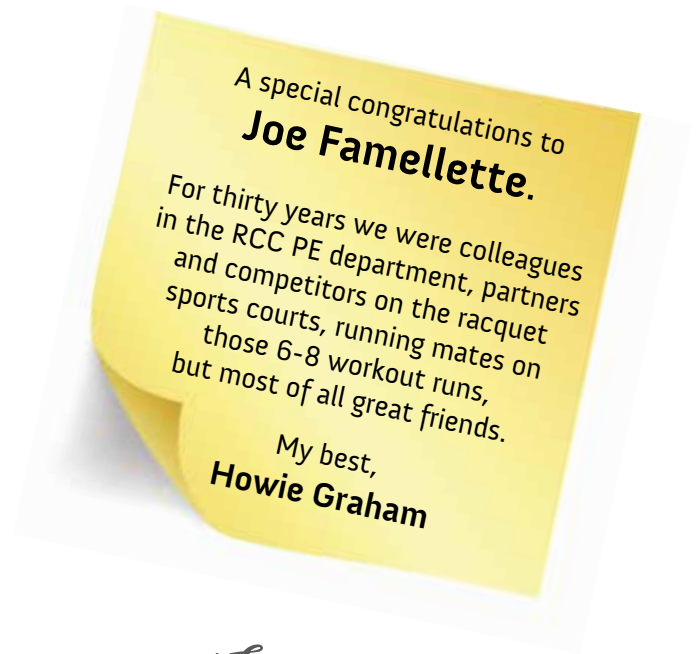
A Lifetime of Fitness Pursuits

Joe has prided himself on maintaining healthy fitness throughout his life, both for recreational and competitive pursuits. In 1995, he competed for Team USA in the World Biathlon Championships in Mexico. In 2008, he and his partner placed fourth at the National Senior Olympics. He remained an avid and successful runner, cyclist, racquetball and squash player well into his 70s. Joe, who turns 89 in August 2023, has lost his sight and, since a recent bout with Covid, walks at a slower pace. He was continuing to work

out three times a week at a local fitness center until the gym suspended operations due to the coronavirus outbreak. He makes use of a manual treadmill at home to stay active.

Joe received a diagnosis of multiple myeloma, a form of bone cancer, in 2016 and underwent a stem-cell transplant operation in February of that year at Montefiore Medical Center in the Bronx. He began to receive regular immune therapy infusions at White Plains Hospital. In 2021 Joe contracted Covid and received effective medication to arrest the illness. At the same time, his bone cancer became inactive and has remained so. He is now off the cancer medication and undergoes checkups to monitor his condition.

Joe lives with his life partner, Thea Fry, in their home in Katonah in northern Westchester County. [The land was once the ox lot of the John Jay Homestead.] Joe's four children all attended RCC.



Congratulations, Joe!

Recognizing Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame's Fiftieth Year of Sports Excellence!

Congratulations to all the 2023 Inductees!

Tom Micelli

"Golf Advisor to Pete Scheibner"



Congratulations!

Mary Brechbiel-Agnetti
Albertus Magnus Class of 1974
and
The Class of 2023
Rockland County Hall of Fame Recipients

The Albertus Magnus High School Difference...

- 85% of Seniors accepted to first choice college/university
- 103 League and Section Championships
- Award winning Performance Arts Program and Honor Choir
- \$25M Awarded to the 2022 graduating class in scholarships
- 159 Advanced Placement Scholars over the last 5 years
- 16,000 community service hours supporting local communities
- College Partnership Program with guaranteed admissions and scholarship dollars to over 14 Colleges/Universities

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LEAD

SERVE

INSPIRE

To Our Mary,

Your athletic career is only outshined by your daily interactions with the world. Your love of family, people, sports and doing all you can to help others is a true delight and inspiration to every life you touch. We your family and friends, cannot tell you how proud we are of you and your lifelong athletic accomplishments. The recognition and accolades bestowed upon you over the years as you participated in, and coached sports are well deserved. As a player you were humble and always a team player. You never sought the limelight or performed as a player to enhance your own personal accomplishments. Your uncanny skills did all the talking. Your motto was always to play fair, do the best you can, have fun and be a good teammate. Although winning was never the most important thing, your skills and leadership as a player and coach somehow resulted in more often winning than losing. As a coach, you were always a great mentor and instructor. You brought out the best in your players and forged lifelong relationships with many of them that you continue to enjoy to this day.

We congratulate you on your induction into the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame. It is an honor you should humbly accept knowing that your family, friends and the people you played with, along with those you coached and coached with, know it is truly deserved. We also know that Frannie and Jiggs are proudly smiling down on us and joining us in this celebration. Congratulations!

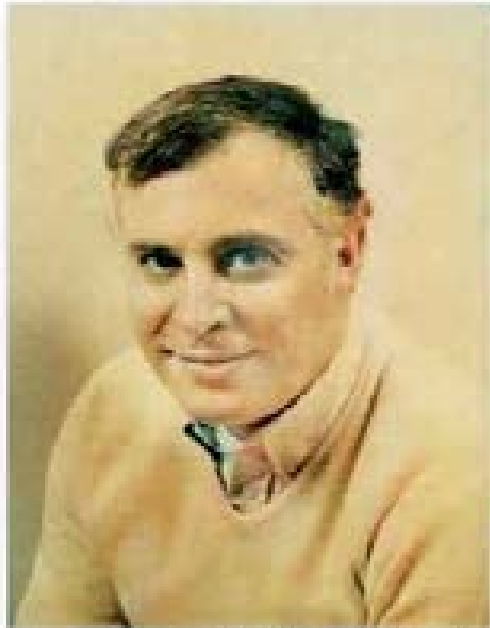
With the utmost pride and love,

Your Husband, Family and Friends





CONGRATULATIONS ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME 50TH ANNIVERSARY



10 May 2023

Dear Dad,

By gift to you, for your gift of those memories is only something that
you have to read but it is yours.

And, you have not the word for the 50th of sports events by being the
first one to write. You, there was Jordan, Shirley and things that were
are also completed in. They because you only had to see and for 5 months
and you were involved with your program. That of them.

And, you were an excellent sports writer but more importantly you have
been a great father. It has been a tremendous experience and privilege
being your daughter. I do not know how many other daughters that
have the kind of relationship we have. You, from memory about in the
second grade because I would be for me an educational field trip to see the
Hudson River Museum. It was a trip to play in the ice rink and
then hockey games in the way to learn physics, to go to the museum
John Davidson, for a short paper, to being that 1st world class short
called "Hudson". You, many would call that my father but it is not that
it was for.

And, there being in your world of sports I learned that you can have
values, ideas and principles and still make it to the top. After, the you
always treated people as equals whether it was Hudson Hall of the
New York University winning a hat and in the 10 year old of the
University Hudson playing a game with 7 or 8 years in the 17 of it.

So, Dad congratulations and I am truly proud to be here to share this
big moment and more importantly being your daughter.

Love, Sherry
10/23



NORTH ROCKLAND SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Congratulates the

ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME
on their 50th Anniversary
and the Class of 2023

Lance Arietta (posthumously), Tappan Zee class of '76

Dave Billings, Nyack class of '72

Heidi Higgins-Sermabekian, Spring Valley class of '81

Kimberly McDole-Gordon, Ramapo class of '83

Jim Scaringe, Tappan Zee class of '73

Joe Famellette, Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award recipient

&

Former NR Coach, Mary Brechbiel-Agnetti, Albertus class of '74,
and

Shawn Kapusinsky, North Rockland class of 1986

A "Tradition of Excellence"

Haverstraw & North Rockland individuals inducted into the Hall of Fame since 1974:

Victor Shankey – 1909

Gus Shankey – 1917

Nick Gamboli – 1916

Hale DeChelfin – 1930

Dominic "Babe" Gamboli – 1935

Jim Gallo – 1938

Ralph Cordisco – Coach

Joseph "Josh" Bolack – 1942

George Garrecht – 1942

Martin "Hawk" Jacobs – 1944

Rocco Marano – 1945

James "Sham" Feeney – 1945

Paul Urban – 1948

Robert Strack – 1952

Joseph "Biscuit" Picarello – 1952

Robert "Red" Schassler – 1952

Fred Adler – 1953

Frank Horan – 1953

Richard "Dixie" Reilly – 1955

Vincent "Dugan" Kovalsky – 1955

Nick Picarello – Lifetime Achievement

Johnny Burns – Sports Organizer

Hank Kapusinsky – 1959

Nick Ryder – 1959

Marty Springstead – Umpire, MLB

Tom DePatto – 1960

Joe "Jo Jo" Mackey – 1963

Gerald Kapusinsky – 1963

Sylvester "Molly" McGee – 1970

Mike Deane – 1970

Jim Brechbiel – 1972

Dan Keeley – 1972

Chuck Maze – 1973

Joe Casarella – Coach

Todd Sinclair – 1980

Linda Soto – 1984

Phil Consiglio – 1985

Shawn Kapusinsky – 1986

Derrick Lassic – 1988

John Stephens – 1989

John Sottile – Coach

Dennis O'Sullivan – 1994

Jeff Becker – 1995

Gene Dall – Coach

Bob Nadal – Coach

Mike Carroll – Coach

Mary Bechbiel-Agnetti – Coach

"Babs" Stead – Sports Official

2023 North Rockland Hall of Fame Golf Outing
June 26, 2023 – Philip J. Rotella Golf Course in Thiells

For more information please call 845-942-3390
or visit <https://sites.google.com/view/north-rockland-sports-hof>

Congratulations for 50 Years of Sports Excellence to the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame and to their more than 300 Inductees.



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Tappan Zee celebrates with the championship plaque after defeating Irondequoit 49-36 to win the NYSPHSAA Class A basketball championship at the Cool Insuring Arena in Glens Falls, receiving an trophy from the NYSPHSAA (Photo: Tappan Zee)

Congratulations to the 2023 TAPPAN ZEE State Championship Boys Basketball Team



ALBERTUS MAGNUS
FALCONS



CLARKSTOWN NORTH
RAMS



CLARKSTOWN SOUTH
VIKINGS



NANUET
KNIGHTS



NORTH ROCKLAND
RED RAIDERS



NYACK
REDHAWKS



PEARL RIVER
PIRATES



RAMAPO
GRYPHONS



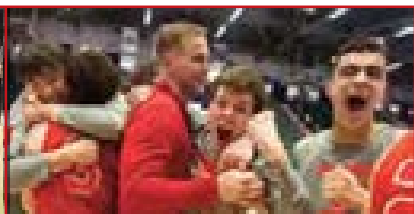
SPRING VALLEY
TIGERS



SUFFERN
MOUNTIES



TAPPAN ZEE
DUTCHMEN



You make us all look good!

Congratulations

TO: ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME
ON YOUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY
AND TO ALL
FORMER AND NEW INDUCTEES

LEON PESNER (INDUCTED 2005)
AND THE OTHER FOUNDERS OF THE RCSHOF
HAD THIS VISION!

The Pesner Family

GREAT GRANDSON - LEO PESNER

GRANDSON-MICHAEL PESNER

GRANDSON-BRIAN PESNER & SHAE GAINER

SON-STEVEN PESNER & MICHELE PESNER

SON-ALAN PESNER & KAREN PESNER

DAUGHTER- SUSAN PESNER & STEVEN ELLIOTT

To Our Meeema
Congratulations on this wonderful honor.

We always knew you were special
but we didn't know everyone else knew it too!

We love you so much and we are so
very happy for you.

Please still play with us now that you are a
Hall of Famer.

You are the best Meeema anyone could ever have.

We love you MORE!

Emily, Olivia, Robby, David, AJ, Aubrey, Samantha, & Nicky xoxoxoxoxo





THE ROCKLAND COUNTY TRACK & FIELD HALL OF FAME

Proudly Salutes

Dave Billings – Nyack's State Champ in Track, Cross Country

Kim McDole-Gordon – Ramapo's Long Jump, Sprints Queen

***Lance Arietta** – TZ's Pole Vaulting Ace (posthumous)

Mary Brechbiel-Agnetti – Albertus Basketball Superstar, Pioneer

Joe Famellette – RCC Phys Ed, Coaching Legend

Heidi Higgins Sermabekian – Spring Valley Multi-Sport Whiz

Shawn Kapusinsky – North Rockland Golfer Extraordinaire

Jim Scaringe – TZ's Three-Sport Standout

On your induction into the
Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame

Congratulations

to the Class of 2023
on your induction into

ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Lance Arietta, Tappan Zee (POSTHUMOUS)

Dave Billings, Nyack

Mary Brechbiel-Agnetti, Albertus Magnus

Heidi Higgins-Sermabekian, Spring Valley

Shawn Kapusinsky, North Rockland

Kimberly McDole-Gordon, Ramapo

Jim Scaringe, Tappan Zee

Joe Famellette

Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award

*“To everything there is a season,
A time for every purpose under heaven.”*

Ecclesiastes 3:1

Congratulations and thanks to all of the past inductees; athletes, teams, coaches, and their families as we recognize and celebrate 50 years of athletic excellence in Rockland County. Special thanks to Chairman Pete Scheibner and the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame Board of Directors for their dedication, promoting excellence in athletics and charitable support to our scholar athletes and community.

Chuck and Maureen Maze

Congratulations

to the Class of 2023
on your induction into the

ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME!

Lance Arietta, Tappan Zee

(POSTHUMOUSLY)

Dave Billings, Nyack

Mary Brechbiel-Agnetti, Albertus Magnus

Heidi Higgins-Sermabekian, Spring Valley

Shawn Kapusinsky, North Rockland

Kimberly McDole-Gordon, Ramapo

Jim Scaringe, Tappan Zee

Joe Famellette

Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award

*Deep Appreciation to the
Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame Committee
for Their Continued Financial Support of the
Rockland County Senior Athletes of the Season Program*

From

**THE ATHLETIC DIRECTORS
OF ROCKLAND COUNTY
AND THE RCPSAL**



ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME NIGHT

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 2023 – 5:00 PM

NEW YORK BOULDERS AT CLOVER STADIUM

New York Boulders vs. Evansville Otters

Proceeds will help to defray the medical costs of Jarred Monroe, a 2005 graduate of North Rockland High School, stepson of Ben Beamon, a 1971 North Rockland Football Team inductee honored by the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame in 2021. Jarred recently was diagnosed with bacterial meningitis, suffered a stroke, and lost vision in one eye. He had open heart surgery to replace infectious valves and is having kidney dialysis. At this time he is anxiously awaiting a kidney transplant.

RCSHF will be Honoring

1969-1970 Clarkstown High School Boys Basketball Team

1993 North Rockland High School Football Team

RIGHT FIELD SHORT PORCH

\$50 – Includes ticket and buffet

A portion of the proceeds go to RCSHF

No pre-game on-field presentation

FOR TICKETS PLEASE CALL 845-364-0009 OR ROCKLANDBOULDERS.COM

Congratulations 2023 Inductees Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame

Lance Arietta, Tappan Zee
(POSTHUMOUS)

Dave Billings, Nyack

Mary Brechbiel-Agnetti, Albertus Magnus

Heidi Higgins-Sermabekian, Spring Valley

Shawn Kapusinsky, North Rockland

Kimberly McDole-Gordon, Ramapo

Jim Scaringe, Tappan Zee

Joe Famellette
Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award

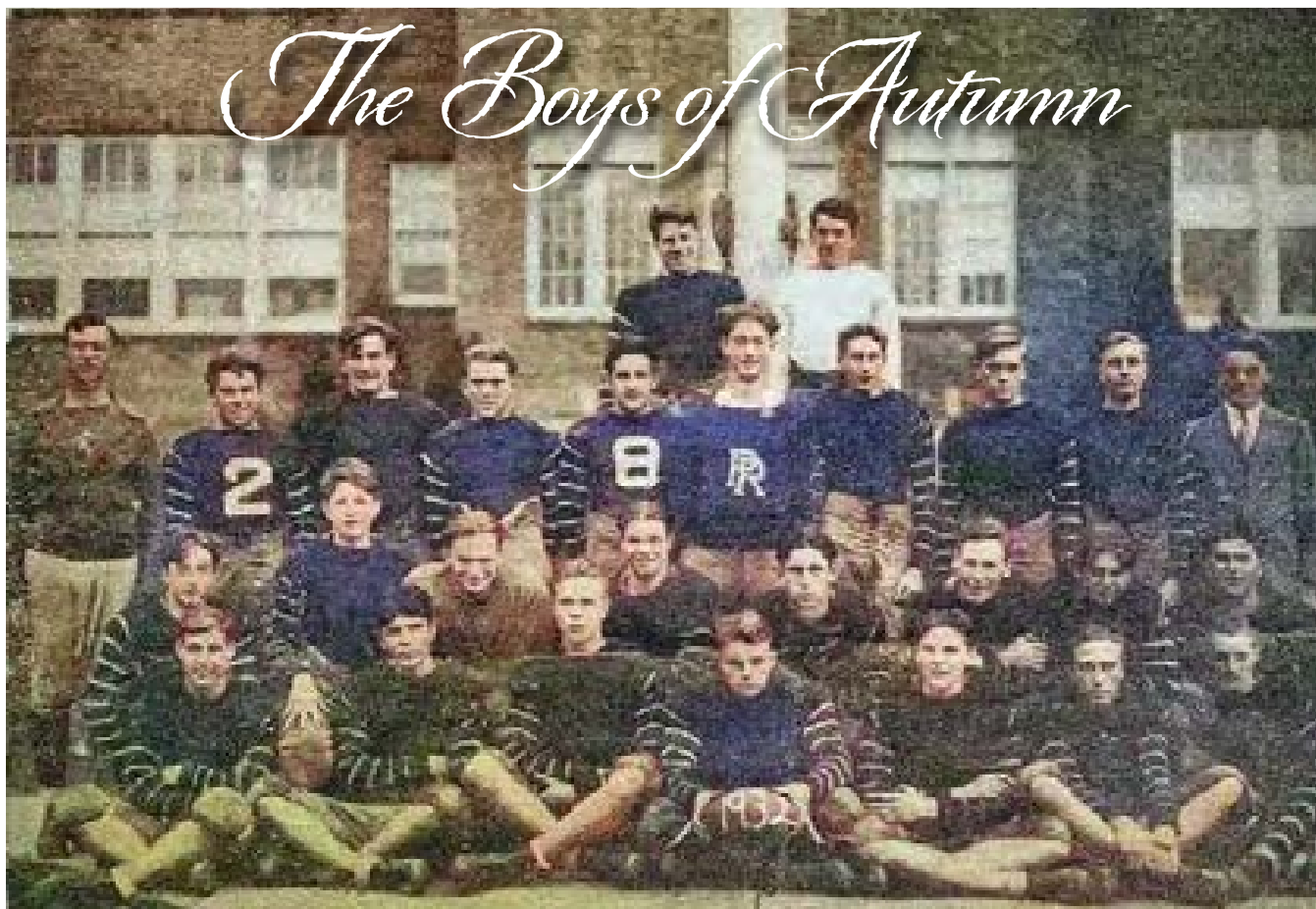


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The Boys of Autumn - These were the members of the 1932 Pearl River High School Football Team.

*(Front Row) Ted Thorn, Art Aleno, Carl Wilkens, William Konazewski-Captain, Al Zlotnick, Walt Roscoe, Ed Sickles.
 (Second Row) Wally Bearry, Leo Weishaar, Foster Sheffield, Spike Web, Hamilton Fisher, Ray Partridge,
 Brit Patterson, Fred Hodurski. (Third Row) Coach Ira Shuttleworth, Al Metress, Ed Covey, John Metress,
 Frank Blumenstock, Waly Ainsworth, Ed Shaffer, Lee Aamold, George Retz, Peter Galdzewska, Manager.
 (Fourth Row) Fred Roberson, George Slade. Photo courtesy of Ed Sickles.*

Congratulations

ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME

on its 50th Anniversary

In memory of our father, 'Willy' Konazewski, Class of 1932

Tom and Sandy (Konazewski) Collins

Jack and Gail (Konazewski) DeGregorio

William 'Billy' Konazewski, Jr.



**THE NYACK H.S. CLASS OF 1952
WISHES TO CONGRATULATE THE 2023 INDUCTEES TO
THE ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME.**

Lance Arietta, Tappan Zee (POSTHUMOUS)

Dave Billings, Nyack

Mary Brechbiel-Agnetti, Albertus Magnus

Heidi Higgins-Sermabekian, Spring Valley

Shawn Kapusinsky, North Rockland

Kimberly McDole-Gordon, Ramapo

Jim Scaringe, Tappan Zee

Joe Famellette

Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award

Charles Alden*
William Anderson*
Gordon Beck*
Jerome Bernstein*
Douglas Bohr*
Adrienne Bomar
Helen Bosco
Richard Bowers*
Donna Brill*
J. Wesley Brill Jr.
Carl Brooks
James Brown*
Johanna Brown
Winifred Bruce*
Carole Capone*
Albert Fred Castaldo*
Paula Cevasco
Gary Chaize*
Betty Ann Chapman
David Cohen
Dorothy Collins
Angeline Conace*
Michael Condello*
Carole Cooke
Irene Crean*
Frank Cuff Jr.
Mary Jane Davis
Anthony Dellolio*
Roderick Delphos*
Jaqueline Del Pizzo
Adele De Vries
Mary Di Nardo

Donald Donnellan
Lois Du Pont*
Raymond Faivre*
John Faragason
John E. Faulkner Jr.*
Ruth Feeney
Alan Felter*
William Felter
Julia Fenton*
Anthony Ferretti*
Geraldine Forte
Barbara Friedman
Philip Friedman
Helen Frohling*
John Gaetien
Angelo Gallo
Donald Gallo
Helen Geick
Elizabeth Giacobbe*
Robert Gilmore
Michael Gnoutcheff
Gerald Gross*
James Gulezian
Carole Hecht*
Louis Hellwig
Richard Hoehn*
Sonia Homyak*
Sara Housman*
Arthur Hyman
Jennifer Jewett*
Barbara Johansson*
Helen Kefeli*

Robert Johnson*
George Kelly*
Jaime King Jr.
Lawrence Klainer*
Sally Knight*
Patricia Komonchak
Robert Kopenhaver
Ruth Kosel*
Olga Koulomzine
Claire Kunik
Glandon Laing
Kenneth Laird*
Barbara Lester*
Patricia Lester*
Paul Lieval*
Jennifer Linton*
Freda Littleton*
Lawrence Loftus*
Albert Logodice*
Gennady Lubinsky*
Sheila McKenzie*
Frank McCarty*
David McCormick
John McCormick*
Mary Jane McDermott
Grace McManus*
Mary McNulty
Jane Meredith
George Merwin*
Stanley Metlitz*
James Miele*
Bruce Miller*

Sally Ann Mock
Carolyn Morgan
Marlene Morrisohn
Helen Mueller
Janice Muller*
Robert Myers
Benson O'Connor*
Michael O'Dowd
Michael Pallassino*
Theresa Paone*
John Park*
Barbara Partridge*
Harry Pearsall*
Lydia Penkrat*
Charles Petterman*
Lawrence Pia*
Janice Polhemus
Sandra Lee Portz
Louise Pounds*
Robert Prindle*
Harold Pringle*
Madelyn Probert
Irene Procopiow
Rudolph Ramcke*
Mildred Rippey
Roselyn Roman*
Kenneth Rossi
Anne Schofield*
Henry Schriever
Joan Schuler*
George Senne
Divino Serratore*

Judith Shaver
Patricia Shaw
Phyllis Shefsky
Vassily Sivakov*
Linda Smith
Mary Smith*
Virginia Smith*
Patricia Spitzer*
Anabel Stanley
Donald Starke*
Joy Stern*
Frances Stevens
Robert Stewart
Margaret Stoothoff*
Lawrence Sucsy*
Robert Taylor
Eleanore Theis
Agnes Trahan
Phyllis Traverson
Barbara Travis
Jill Travis*
June Van De Mark*
Barbara Vanderbilt
Edwin Van Zilen*
Geraldine Vice
Frances Vodak
Marilyn Ward
Margaret Wilkinson*
Carol Williams
Edward William Wood III
Robert Ziegler*

**Deceased but still alive in our hearts.*

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ROCKLAND
COUNTY
SPORTS HALL
OF FAME**

1974-Chuck Aleno
1974-Dr. Danny Fortmann
1978-Coach Ira Shuttleworth
1979-Jerry Hollahan
1979-Bruno Ablondi
1980-Brit Paterson
1981-Art Hopper
1981-Bill Yuda
1983-Frank Dawson
1983-Walter Sickles
1984-Bob Tierney
1987-Chuck Scarpulla
1988-Coach Tom Canty
1990-Denise McGuire
1991-Lew Brundage
1992-Jerome Bonomolo
1993-Jay Bohnel
1994-Coach Tom Collins
1995-Coach Max Talaska
1996-Harry Babcock
1998-Lou Kliewe
1999-Gibby Sweet
2000-Kevin Houston
2000-Alex Zilko
2005-Coach Tom Doherty
2006-John Scanlan
2007-Coach Julius D'Agostino
2008-Noreen Annunziata Apicella
2012-Victor Veltidi
2013-Bud Kast
2014-Coach Lorraine Guerci Moylan
2016-Michael Coffey
2017-Phil Donnelly
2018-Tom O'Brien
2019-Kristen McGarvey Miedreich



PEARL RIVER SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Salutes

**THE GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY OF
ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME**

~ Celebrating 50 Years of Sport Excellence ~

BEST WISHES 2023 INDUCTEES

LANCE ARIETTA RIP

DAVE BILLINGS

MARY BRECHBIEL-AGNETTI

HEIDI HIGGINS-SERMABEKIAN

SHAWN KAPUSINSKY

KIMBERLY MCDOLE-GORDON

JIM SCARINGE

JOE FAMELLETTE

JOSEPH HOLLAND LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

PEARL RIVER SPORTS HALL OF FAME COMMITTEE

Douglas D'Agostino, President
Lorraine Moylan, Vice President
Artie McCormack, Treasurer
Chris Woolgar, Secretary

Noreen Apicella
Helen D'Agostino
Billy Donnelly
Kevin Mahoney
Mike Santini

GO PIRATES!!

**We are SO proud of you
Grandpa/Daddy/Joe/Joe Who?/Grandpa Joe!**



**Your zest for life and commitment to your students
continues to inspire us all.**

**Congratulations for receiving this great honor!
You are SO deserving of it.**

Love,

**Suzanne, Joseph, Jeannie, Andy,
Montana, Rosetta, Nicholas, Rose, Eric, Don,
Sharon, Evan, Grace, Helen**



Congratulations

to the

**Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame
2023 Inductees**

Lance Arietta, Tappan Zee
(POSTHUMOUS)

Dave Billings, Nyack

Mary Brechbiel-Agnetti, Albertus Magnus

Heidi Higgins-Sermabekian, Spring Valley

Shawn Kapusinsky, North Rockland

Kimberly McDole-Gordon, Ramapo

Jim Scaringe, Tappan Zee

Joe Famellette

Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award

Best Wishes,
Conklin Scholarship Fund Inc.



CONGRATULATIONS

JOE FAMELLETTE

A WELL-DESERVED HONOR
PROFESSOR, COACH, FITNESS ENTHUSIAST
AN INSPIRATION TO ALL

-YOUR RCC FAMILY-
DANNY, PATTI, DIANA, ERIK, ED, MIKE, KAREN, DYLAN,
VINNIE, DENNIS

*The
St. Thomas Aquinas College
Department of Athletics*



*Congratulates
Dave Billings*

STAC Cross Country & Track Head Coach (2007-08)

*2023 Rockland County
Sports Hall of Fame Inductee*

Making Success A Habit



*22 NCAA Division II Sports Teams
4 Varsity Sports Teams
Club Sports & Intramurals*

SALUTING ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME ON ITS GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations 2023 Inductees

Lance Arietta

Tappan Zee, 2-Time State Champion
May he rest in peace

Dave Billings

Nyack, 2-Time State Champion

Mary Brechbiel- Agnetti

Albertus Magnus, The pioneer of Rockland
County's Girls Basketball

Heidi Higgins- Sermabekian

Spring Valley, Multi-Sport Athlete

Shawn Kapusinsky

North Rockland, Multi-Sport Athlete

Kimberly McDole- Gordon

Ramapo, 5-Time State Champion

Jim Scaringe

Tappan Zee, Multi-Sport Athlete

Joe Famellette

The Bedrock of RCC Sports

Joseph Holland Lifetime
Achievement Award

Go Pirates!

Tom & Katie
DOHERTY



Congratulations 2023 Inductees!



Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame

Lance Arietta (posthumous) – Tappan Zee '76

Mary Brechbiel-Agnetti – Albertus Magnus '74

Dave Billings – Nyack '72

Joe Famellette – The Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award

Heidi Higgins-Sermabekian – Spring Valley '81

Shawn Kapusinsky – North Rockland '86

Kimberly McDole-Gordon – Ramapo '83

Jim Scaringe – Tappan Zee '73

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To a great coach, mentor, and friend. You are so deserving of the Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award for all your service to the RCC community of students and athletes. To a truly dedicated father, outstanding educator, competitive athlete, and innovator. Thank you for all your support and friendship over the many years.

Peter & Ann
SCHEIBNER



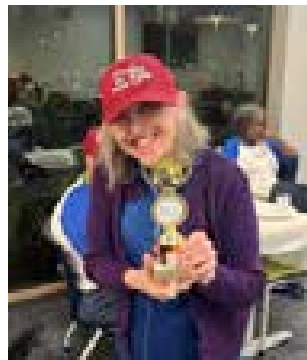
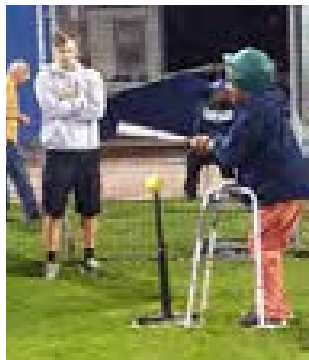
1971-1972 Mid-Hudson Champions, 2nd Place Region XV
Front Row L-R. Coach Joe Famelletto, Norman Appel, Jerry Goldstein, Joe Francella, Bill Vallee. Back Row L-R, Pete Scheibner, John Jacob, Carmen Rivera

Touching Bases

Baseball League of Rockland

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The 240 men and women with disabilities - ages 21 to 92 -
who play on Touching Bases Baseball's 15 teams,
will mark our
21st anniversary season this September...



We Love the game and we salute
The Hall of Fame Class of 2023

Donate, volunteer, find out more or come out to cheer us on...

BOB BAIRD, FOUNDER / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



The Nanuet High School Athletic Department

Congratulates

**The Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame
on their Fiftieth Anniversary!**

Praise

**Class of 2023 Inductees
into the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame**

Lance Arietta, Tappan Zee (POSTHUMOUS)

Dave Billings, Nyack

Mary Brechbiel-Agnetti, Albertus Magnus

Heidi Higgins-Sermabekian, Spring Valley

Shawn Kapusinsky, North Rockland

Kimberly McDole-Gordon, Ramapo

Jim Scaringe, Tappan Zee

Joe Famellette

Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award

PAST NANUET INDUCTEES INTO ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Mickey Wittman-1980

Dave Hanson-2004

Rick Carey-2014

Daryl Brown-1988

Tony Harlin-2006

Thad Wilson-2014

Jerry Bonomolo-1992

Paul Pietropaolo-2008

Jackie McCracken Houck-2018

Rich Conklin-2000

Janice Olszewski-2009

Bob Veltidi-2019

Norrine Powers-2002

T.J. Ford-2010

1989 Football Team-2018

Billy Kurisko-2003

Margie Sahlstrom Jaxel-2010

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Congratulations to the 2023 Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame Inductees!



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Councilman Keith Williams

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Weston, Dale, and Drew Lydecker
Three Lydecker family quarterbacks at
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Congratulations
ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME
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and

Best Wishes
to all the 2023 Inductees

The Family of Robert Veltidi



extends CONGRATULATIONS to all 2023 RCSHoFF inductees
and
to the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame
on their 50th year!



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Congratulations to the
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Peter, Pat, and Jerry D'Auria

who graced the fields of Rockland
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for the life lessons you taught
your Children and Grandchildren

The D'Auria Family

THE DAN SULLIVAN FOUNDATION

(Danny Sullivan, Rockland County Sports Hall of Famer, Class of 2012)

**HERE COME THE SUN
AND IT'S ALRIGHT**

Congratulations to the Class of 2023

on your induction into the

ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME!!

Lance Arietta • Dave Billings • Mary Brechbiel-Agnetti

Heidi Higgins-Sermabekian • Shawn Kapusinsky

Kimberly McDole-Gordon • Jim Scaringe

Joe Famellette

Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award

THE DAN SULLIVAN FOUNDATION

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MAY DANNY REST IN PEACE



Congratulations

2023 ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Lance Arietta | Dave Billings | Mary Brechbiel-Agnetti

Heidi Higgins-Sermabekian | Shawn Kapusinsky

Kimberly McDole-Gordon | Jim Scaringe

Joe Famellette

Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award

Love and Best Wishes,

Tom and Sandy Collins & Family

Congratulations, Dave Billings

Longtime Rockland Road Runner



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*Happy 50th Anniversary to the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame!
Congratulations to Dave Billings, Nyack HS Class of '72,
and to all of this year's Inductees!*



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Congratulations

ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME ON YOUR FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY!

Best Wishes

TO THE CLASS OF 2023 INDUCTEES

Lance Arietta | Dave Billings | Mary Brechbiel-Agnetti
Heidi Higgins-Sermabekian | Shawn Kapusinsky | Jim Scaringe

Joe Famellette

Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award

Special Praise to our own

COACH KIM McDOLLE-GORDON

Joe Clinton, Athletic Director

2015 RCSHF INDUCTEE

Congratulations
DAVE BILL

DAVE BILLINGS

2023 Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame

From
THE NYACK REDHAWKS ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

CELEBRATING OUR FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF SPORTS EXCELLENCE

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To the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame Inductees



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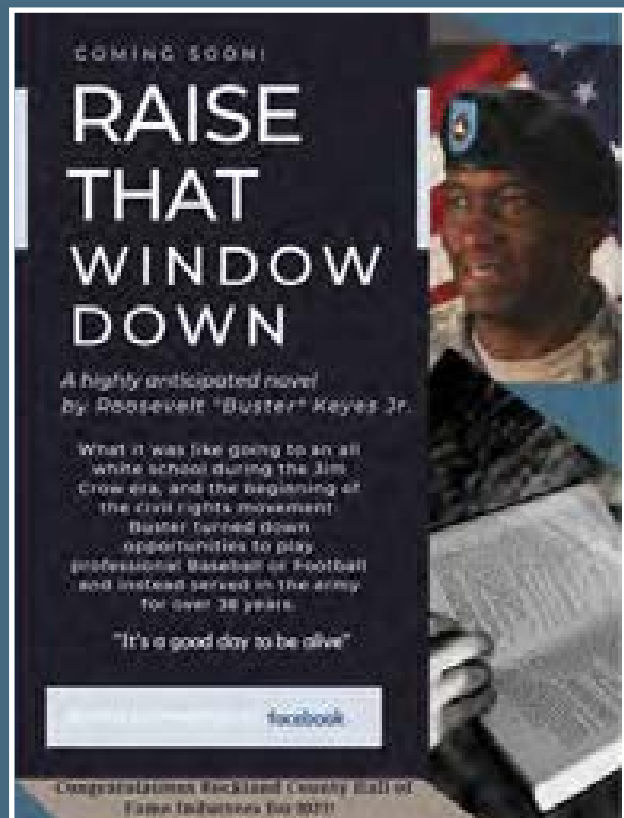
Congratulations

ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME
ON YOUR FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

AND TO THE

CLASS OF 2023 INDUCTEES

Lance Arietta
Dave Billings
Mary Brechbiel-Agnetti
Heidi Higgins-Sermabekian
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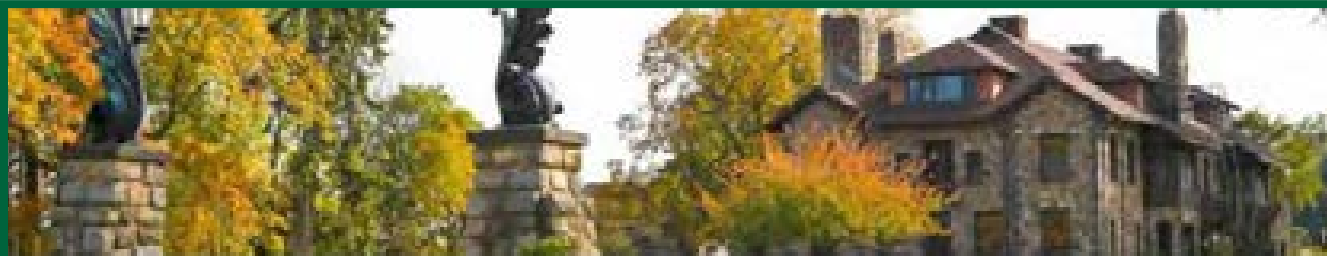


DAVID EVANGELISTA, CPA

*Congratulations to
Shawn Kapusinsky, NRHS Class of 1986
and all the
2023 Hall of Fame Inductees !!!*

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Congratulations
to the
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2023 Induction Recipients

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Congratulations

Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame
on your 50th Anniversary

&

To the 2023 Inductees
for this prestigious honor

Phyllis & Bruce Schweizer

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Congratulations to all
2023 Hall of Fame recipients



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Congratulations
and Best Wishes

to all

2023 Rockland County

Sports Hall of Fame

Inductees



Bob Marino

TAPPAN ZEE HIGH SCHOOL TRACK & FIELD PROGRAM

*Congratulates
Rockland County
Sports Hall of Fame
on their Fiftieth Anniversary*

*Best Wishes
To all the 2023 Inductees
Especially our own*

**LANCE ARIETTA
JIM SCARINGE**



RCSHF SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY.....

The Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame (RCSHF) provides proceeds and funds to individuals who, as athletes, coaches, or contributors to Rockland County sports, have suffered traumatic injury or require extensive medical treatment services that require significant expense. Over the years RCSHF has contributed to such individuals. Organizations that have made an impact on the lives of citizens throughout Rockland County in the field of sports, community service and health care have also received support.

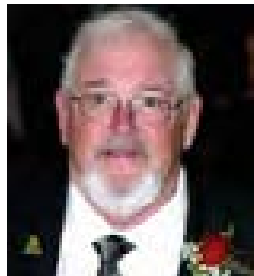
Suffern Mat Club receives donation from RCSHF



Left to Right Steve Dugandzic, Alan Veltidi, Pete Castellano and Pete Scheibner and award recipients of 2022/23 Suffern Wrestling Team

The Suffern Mat Club received proceeds from the RCSHF Team Induction event held in August 2022 at Boulder Stadium.

These proceeds honor the memory of Bob Veltidi. Bob was a strong supporter of the Suffern Mat Club and a great athlete and contributor to Rockland County Sports and the RC Sports Hall of Fame.



Touching Bases Baseball of Rockland

RCSHF provided proceeds helping to fund a return to the playing field for Touching Bases Baseball of Rockland. Adults with disabilities continue to enjoy America's pastime in a safe, supportive, and fun atmosphere. The league was founded by Bob Baird in 2002. Touching Bases celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2022.

This article appeared in **Home Page**,
Montefiore Nyack Hospital Employee Newsletter
January 2023.

Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame presents the Dr. Leitner Plaque to Nyack Hospital

HONORING A FOUNDER

George "Doc" Leitner was a physician and one of the earliest founders and supporters of Nyack Hospital. In April 2022, he was inducted into the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame as the first Rocklander to play for Major League Baseball (MLB). Dr. Leitner had pitched for the Indianapolis Hoosiers of the National League during the 1887 season. He died in 1937 at age 71. Last month his great-granddaughters, Karen Leitner and Debbie Frey, bequeathed his induction plaque to Montefiore Nyack Hospital. The recognition plaque now has a home in the Hospital's historical archive and museum of artifacts located in the anterior vestibule near The Hematology and Oncology Center off Midland Avenue. We thank the Leitner family for sharing this piece of Rockland County's history with us.



(Pictured from left to right: Bob Mayer, researcher; great-granddaughters, Debbie Frey and Karen Leitner; Kathy Lunney, Chief Nursing Officer at Montefiore Nyack; Dr. Mark Geller, President and CEO of Montefiore Nyack; and Pete Scheibner, Chairman of the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame)

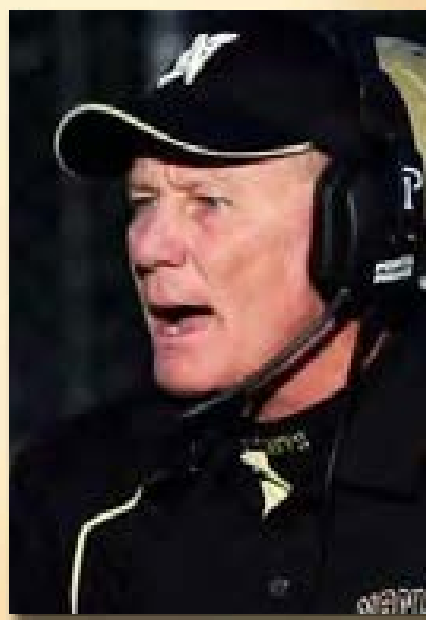
Montefiore
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In Memory



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COACH AND PLAYER



RICH CONKLIN

(2000)
NANUET, 1967;
WINNINGEST WRESTLING
COACH, NO. 2 IN FOOTBALL

rest in peace

Rockland County YMCA

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Sports Hall of Fame Honorees*

Lance Arietta – Tappan Zee

(POSTHUMOUSLY)

Dave Billings – Nyack

Mary Brechbiel-Agnetti – Albertus Magnus

Heidi Higgins- Sermabekian – Spring Valley

Shawn Kapusinsky – North Rockland

Kimberly McDole-Gordon – Ramapo

Jim Scaringe – Tappan Zee

Joe Famellette

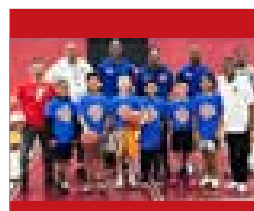
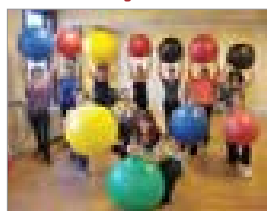
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