



Port Richmond High School *Alumni News*

VOL. 31 NO. 2

BRIDGING THE YEARS TOGETHER

SPRING 2023

PR Graduate and SUPERBOWL XVII



1980 PRHS alumnus, Jeff Stoutland, attended SUPERBOWL XVII as a participant and not as a spectator. Jeff observed the game from the coaches' booth high above the playing field, in his capacity as offensive line coach of the Philadelphia Eagles. He grew up in Westerleigh and attended PS 30, IS 51, and PRHS where he played football and baseball. Jeff then played football at Southern Connecticut University. Coach Stoutland never played professional football, but he found his niche in coaching. During his career he has coached at schools such as New Haven, Syracuse, Cornell, Michigan State, Miami, and Alabama before joining the Philadelphia Eagles organization. In a recent article in the Philadelphia Inquirer, Jeff was referred to as possibly the best offensive line coach in professional football. YOU GO JEFF!!

Principal's Message

Greetings from Port Richmond High School,



I hope this message finds you well and your loved ones continue to stay healthy and safe. As we begin 2023, I'm happy to share that it finally feels like things have returned to normal throughout the school. Since the writing of our last newsletter, I'm happy to share all of the exciting happenings throughout our great school. As I'm writing this message, students are upstairs taking January Regents Exams for the first time in three years. While some students are busy taking exams, our theatre students are in the auditorium rehearsing for our Winter Musical performance of Little Shop of Horrors with our new electronic digital backdrop, live-stream camera system and upgraded sound system courtesy of the New York City Council. Meanwhile, our 15.7 million dollar athletic complex is nearly complete and will be ready for use this spring. In addition to a new football field, baseball field, tennis courts and track, we will also be debuting Port Richmond's first softball field in our school's 96 year history.

As always, December was our busiest month with the Port Richmond Raider Spirit ringing loud and proud throughout our halls leading up to the Winter Break. We enjoyed music in the halls, themed spirit days, tree lightings, menorah lightings, Kwanza celebrations, charitable fundraisers, Santa visits and many more celebrations to remind our students about the holiday season. Our month long holiday celebration culminated with our amazing and talented musicians performing in our annual Winter Concert.

Other highlights from the Fall term include our annual SING competition, our ongoing P-Tech partnership with the College of Staten Island, Northwell Health, Community Health Action and the New York Power Authority. Our Culinary Arts program continues to impress everyone throughout the city, our Business students are winning national competitions, our TV/Media students continue to produce amazing weekly television episodes, our Med-Tech students are learning life-saving skills and our JROTC students are volunteering throughout the city. I'm also excited to share that in two weeks our Raiders Abroad students will be

traveling on our first international trip since COVID to Dublin, London and Paris.

Lastly, I'd like to wish Alumni President John Woodman well, as he deals with some health issues, and I'd like to thank the rest of the Alumni Board for helping with John's duties in his absence. As always, thank you to all of the alumni who reach out with support and remind me how lucky I am to be principal of our great school.

Fondly,

Andrew Greenfield

Andrew Greenfield (Class of 1988)
Principal

President's Column

To All Alumni



As Principal Greenfield indicated in his message, Alumni Association President John Woodman '62 is recovering from some medical issues that require rehabilitation over an extended period.

This is a most difficult time for John, his wife Nancy Olsen Woodman '62, his son John, and his daughter Suzanne, who is an Assistant Principal at PRHS.

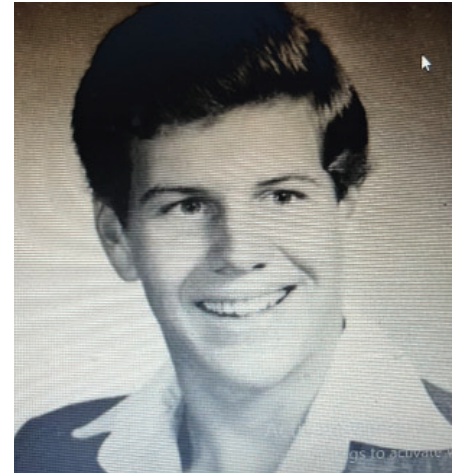
The members of the Board of Directors send John our prayers and best wishes for a full and speedy recovery. Association members who wish to contact John may do so by sending cards and letters to him at John Woodman, PRHS Alumni Association, 85 St. Joseph Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10302.

We are pleased to report that Board member, Joe Crescenzi '83, has agreed to serve as the acting president of the Alumni Association for the remainder of the current school year. Joe is a designer of software programs and is the Board's expert on all matters dealing with computers. We sincerely thank him for stepping up and taking on this additional responsibility.

Marching Band Washington Trip support has been incredible!!

Once again our Port Richmond alumni have been overly generous to our request for donations to help fund the school marching band trip to Washington DC on July 4th. **We have raised \$12,000** towards the \$30,000 needed for the trip more than one third of the total cost. Thank you alumni, your generosity is overwhelming. Our contribution together with fund Raising efforts and some funds from the school now will cover the entire cost of the trip. Thanks again.

Andy Saperstein '85, and Gertrude Simonson VanName '61 agreed to sponsor three band members each. Other contributing Alumni are: **Gladys Brown Johnson '45, Patsy Scarpato '48, Roberta Molnar Gunderson '52, Diana Lozier Sullivan '54, Kathryn Kirincich Kubasek '55, Patricia Vardijan Harder '56, Margaret Feldmeier DiBerardino '57, Kathleen Jamieson Du Barry '58, Ed Mattei '58, Nancy Olsen Woodman and John Woodman '62, Carol Torgersen Sparks '62, Thomas Anderson '62 and Evelyn Steinle Anderson '64, Ruth Kolbjornsen Nybro '64, Judith Thompson Lunde '64, Kathleen Brushett Murphy '64, James Oldham '64, Jack Hurley '65, Patricia Maiorano Gouin '66, Susan Gescheidt Connelly '67, Diane Masterpalo McConnell '68, Susan Brown Salvesen '68, William Tanzosh '70, John Harding '71, Jane Parisi Harvey '71, Peter & Marilou Cavicchio Saladis '71, Alexis Capofari Ventre '71, Denise DiStefano Sterner '74, Peter Alvestad '76, Linda Saladis Duane '76, Joe Crescenzi '83, Eileen Cohen Ret. Fac., Kathryn Turvey Cronin Ret. Fac., Howard Heller, Class of '77 45th Reunion, Beverly Tobin Morganmessenger '77.** Thanks everyone for your continued generosity!!!



Jeff Stoutland

Offensive Line Coach, Philadelphia Eagles



Stoutland Home in Westerleigh

CONDOLENCES

The Board of Directors of the PRHS Alumni Association wish to express their sincerest condolences to the families and friends of the following members of the PRHS family who have passed away:

MARY WISIENSKI ANDELLA '77
VALERIE DEMARCO BAILEY '70'
CARL BECKER '64
KAY LANDE SELMER BROWN '48
JOSEPH CARANETTE '41
GEORGE CARLIN '54
DANIEL CAVANAGH '65
WILLIAM J. CHARLTON '49
ARTHUR F. CONWAY '65
BERNICE BAILEY DIETRICH '39
VINCENT DIORIO '53
WILLIAM EDEL '64
EDNA NYBRO FARAH '58
MAUREEN FLANAGAN '73

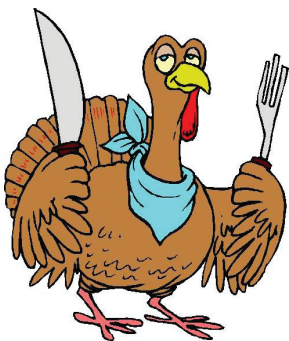
DIANNE PICKETT FORBES '74
MEL O. HANSEN '66
GLORIA DONNELLY HERMAN '46
RUSSELL KOHLMANN '64
LEFF LAHUTA - FACULTY
CHARLES M. LOMBARDI '53
RICHARD LUDERS '52
AUDREY GMINSKI LUDLOW '45
JOSEPH MONDELLO '52
ROSEMARY SAVASTANO MONTANTI '63
ARVID N. MYRHE '47
LEIF MYRHE '41
HERBERT L. NELLIS '64
MARIA FANELLI RAMPULLA '47

ELEANOR RICHARDS SAKS '41
GEORGE SCHNURR '62
JANET NOBLE SCULLY '52
JOHN SOBING '65
ROBERT STAVRAKAS - FACULTY
LOUIS R. TRELLA '57
EDWARD TYNAN '45
ROBERT F. TYNAN '48
VIVIAN WALSTROM TYNAN '48
BARBARA O'NEIL VAN ALSTYNE '53
DONALD VAN ALSTYNE '47
RANDY VAN NAME '77

May They Rest in Peace

THANKSGIVING COMES EARLY TO PRHS

Two days before Thanksgiving this past November, the students, staff, and teachers of PR's outstanding Culinary Institute prepared and served traditional turkey dinners for approximately 350 students and adults. The Raider culinary program is considered to be one of the best in NYC. Cudos to the students and their teachers, James Ryan, John Mulvey, and para. Sharron Keck, who prepared and served this culinary experience. Thanks also to Principal Andrew Greenfield and AP Suzanne Woodman for their support and encouragement.



PR Class of 1977 45th Reunion Celebration

A gathering of Class of '77 members and several friends from the Class of '76, occurred recently at Jimmy Max's Restaurant on Staten Island. Following are some photos from what proved to be a most enjoyable evening for all.



Class Reunion
Chairperson Diane Arnao;
SOUNDINGS '77
Editor-In-Chief
Beverly Tobin Morganbesser;
and
SOUNDINGS '77
Faculty Adviser
Mr. Ed Mattei.

CLASS NOTES:**1978**

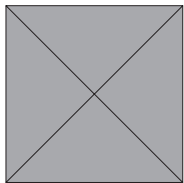
A 45th Reunion celebration has been planned for Saturday, October 7, 2023. The affair will be held at LiGreci's STAATEN Restaurant from 7-12 pm; the price is \$105 pp and will include an open bar, buffet, and DJ. Payment is due no later than September 9, 2023. No money will be accepted at the door. For more information please call Jeff Beyer '78 @ 973-652-0648

NB: Discussions are being held for class reunions for 1964, 1973, and 1974. Look for further details in the next edition of the Alumni newsletter.



Long-time PR Friends Do Lunch

On a beautiful, recent fall day a group of ten members of the PR Class of 1955 met for lunch at LiGreci's Staaten Restaurant to remember old friends, teachers, and good times at PRHS as they celebrated their 67th Reunion.



From Left: Doris Mayer Tierney, Kay Kirincich Kubasek, Carol Nilsen Bertoldo, Joe Yoffredo, Rosanne Zennario Yoffredo, Dotty Jensen Myhre, Josephine Tagliamonte Giordano, Barbara Harrison Percoco, Amy D'Esposito Cangialosi, and Esther McKee Timari.

1983 PR Alumna Honored as a "Woman of Achievement"



After an absence of several years due to Covid-19, the Staten Island Advance's outstanding annual tribute to local women has resumed. This year, the committee that selects the nominees for Women of Achievement recognition, has selected 1983 graduate, Denise Leahy Henick, to be so honored. The two paragraphs that follow will give the reader a good idea as to why Denise, who graced the halls of PRHS as a student, was selected. Denise lived in Mariners Harbor as a child, and attended PS 44 and IS 72. At PRHS in her Senior Year, she was in the Co-Op Program, and got a position in the NYC Mayor's Office. It became full time, and she worked there for 20 years, under Mayor Koch, Dinkins, and Giuliani. There,

she became Deputy Director of Fiscal Operations. She left, to be a full time Mom. In the years ahead, she and her husband Jeff, started their business, "Stop and Stor" and it grew, from one to 19 locations throughout NYC with over 100 employees.

Denise later joined the workforce, and today is a Director of Administration at their Staten Island Stop and Stor Headquarters. She and her husband generously support and raise funds for hundreds of charities, such as Stop and Stor Second Chance (helping former addicts and convicts to rebuild their lives and to advance in their company); Michael's Cause (Muscular Dystrophy); New Eyes for the Needy; Making Strides Against Breast Cancer; Sloan Kettering's Cancer Center; Greenbelt Conservancy etc. She has received many awards such as the Louis L. Miller's Business Leadership Award from the SI Chamber of Commerce, and the Executive Woman of the Year from the SIEDC. As a St. George businesswoman and community leader, Denise has gone above and beyond, to help others. Her record of Philanthropy is extensive, and she works tirelessly for our community and our people. We are very proud of our 1983 Graduate.

**If you have moved,
be sure to include
your new address
on membership form**

FOR YOUR RECORDS

Amt. \$ _____

Ck. # _____

Date _____

Port Richmond High School Alumni Association Membership Form 2022 -2023

General Membership	\$15 per year	Patron	\$100 per year
Co-Sponsor	\$25 per year	Business Sponsor	\$250.
Sponsor	\$50 per year	Benefactor	\$500 one lifetime payment

(Dues Are From July 2022 - June 2023)

PLEASE PRINT

NAME _____

MAIDEN NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____ YEAR OF GRADUATION _____

Renewal ☐ New Member ☐

Please enroll me as a: General ☐ Co-Sponsor ☐ Sponsor ☐ Patron ☐ Business Sponsor ☐ Benefactor ☐

Please make check/money payable to: Port Richmond High School Alumni Association and mail to:

CARMEN COGNETTA, TREASURER

24 CLINTON COURT, STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK 10301

SP-2023

DUES ARE ALWAYS DUE!!!!

Thank you to the hundreds of alumni who have already sent in their dues. Our membership year runs from July 1-June 30, We use the dues money to provide six scholarships at graduation, fund our Hall of Fame event, and buy items, not provided by the Department of Education, to enhance the educational experience at Port Richmond for our students. Last year we helped fund the new STEM lab at Port Richmond, the first high school to have one on Staten Island. This year we gave additional scholarships to students in need. Don't be left out, so if you haven't already, send those dues in.

To pay dues, please fill out the form above and mail them to the address on the form. Please add your e-mail address so we can change as many alumni as possible to e-mail rather than paper. It allows us to spend more of your dues money to benefit the school and students! If you wish to pay by credit card (via Pay Pal) go to our website at www.portrichmondalumni.com and click on the donate button, fill out the information requested, enter your credit card number and it is done! Don't forget to enter your class year in the box where you can add information and include your maiden name if necessary. If you have any questions about dues you can reach the treasurer at treasurerprhsalumni@gmail.com

LIFETIME MEMBERS

The last two years saw a record number of lifetime member's joining, 19 in each year. So far this year we already have 18 new lifetime members. Looks like we are off to a record year. We would like to thank those Alumni who have already joined. Joining since our last newsletter are; **John Vincent Scalia Sr. '60, Hope Polovina Ulrich and Timothy Ulrich both class of 1966, Jordan Schapiro DDS '84.** Those who joined prior are; **Joan Alice Vallas Panopoulos '59, Dorothy Jonas Hattan '63, Rosemarie Montanaro Stapleton '63, Patricia Johnson Silva '64, Lois Horowitz Levcovitch '65, Isabella Goodfellow Cavanagh '66, Rosalie DiBianca '69, Craig R. Sleaf '71, Isabel Liotine Deliberti '74, Denise DiStefano Sterner '74, Thomas Kasprowitz '77, David Leinwand '84, Melissa Kitchner Schreck '86, Scott Smaldone '91.** Thanks Again!

Port Richmond High School

Alumni News

85 St. Joseph's Avenue

Staten Island, NY 10302

www.portrichmondalumni.com

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PLEASE SEND IN YOUR DUES TODAY



MEETINGS!

All meetings now are held using zoom. Anyone interested in participating should send their e-mail address to ejmattei@si.rr.com. Information concerning dates and times of meetings will be sent via email.

PORT RICHMOND HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

JOHN WOODMAN '62 President
JUDI ROGOFF SASNAUSKAS '66 Vice President
JOSEPH CRESCENZI '83 Recording Secretary
EDMUND J. MATTEI '58 Newsletter Editor
CARMEN COGNETTA '64 Treasurer
CHRISTINE TWAITE THORSEN '64 Archivist

Eric Bennedetto '19 Gary Lane '69 Mary Ann Sonnegrén '74
Claire Pompa Panazzolo '76 Danielle Sorrentino Zayer '11

PAST PRESIDENTS

GREGORY HALL '65 1986 - 1988
CARMEN J. COGNETTA JR. '64 1988 - 1990
WILLIAM MCANDREWS '65 1990 - 1992
CARMINE COLCA '53 1992 - 1994
ROBERT MATHEWS '48 1994 - 2001
BEVERLY WURTH NEUHAUS '62 2001 - 2005
JOHN JANKOWSKI '79 2006 - 2018

Written correspondence maybe be mailed to:

Ed Mattei PRHS Alumni News

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85 St. Joseph's Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10302