



# TIGER TALES

## CHAGRIN FALLS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

### SPRING 2023

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Fellow Alumni & Friends,

We are looking forward to another busy Blossom Weekend with classmates coming from near and far. There will be thirteen class reunions over the weekend ('67, '73, '77, '78, '79, '83, '88, '93, '98, '03, '08, '13, & '18) and the All-Class reunion will kick things off on Friday evening. There will be an additional reunion in June with the Class of 1953. We will also host tours of the Intermediate/Philomethian Street School and of the high school with a visit to the Chagrin Falls Schools Tom Mattern Historical Room on Saturday.

The weekend prior to Blossom we will welcome our next class of alumni with graduation on Sunday, May 21st. Our initial count, of the 151 seniors, 22 are children of a Chagrin graduate with 6 having both parents being a Tiger. We look forward to recognizing them at the ceremony with a corsage and give all the graduates the opportunity to ring the Chagrin Falls Alumni Association Tom Mattern Victory Bell to recognize their greatest victory at CFHS, graduation.

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We will be making a change to the newsletter. Costs have continued to rise on the printing and postage of the newsletters. Due to the increased costs we will be shifting to two issues per year starting in 2024. The winter issue will come out in February and the summer issue will be in August. We appreciate your understanding of this change. We do send hard copies of the newsletter to those that are Tiger Pride members, retired Chagrin Schools employees, graduated in 1970 or earlier, or are a current dues paying member. We also post the newsletter online for all to enjoy.

Have a great Blossom Weekend and terrific summer!

Brian McKenna '88  
Alumni Director

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## FILM CONVERSION HELP NEEDED

Over the years we have obtained several containers of film strips. The topics have varied, but cover our CFHS history.

Recently **Buck McWilliams '75** donated a film that was sent to him by a photographer from Ch. 5, who along with the sportscaster, came to do a story on our championship basketball team during the 1974-75 season. They had won their division and were headed to the first round of the playoffs in Canton to take on the soon to be legendary Phil Hubbard and his Canton McKinley team.

They interviewed Coach Wyville, and did several shots of the team practicing. We would like to convert/transfer this great piece of history along with other films so we can share these online.

If you have the equipment and opportunity to help, then please reach out to us so we can continue to *Keep Tiger Pride Alive!*

## SCHOOL NEWS

### CFHS Speed Networking Event Creates Dozens of Connections for Students



Business Management students at Chagrin Falls High School networked with professionals from all over the Chagrin Valley to learn about their respective positions on December 13. The speed networking event was held in the Commons of the high school.

There were more than 20 volunteers who served as mentors for the event. Each student had a few questions prepared to ask. Each networking round lasted approximately 10 minutes and each student was able to meet with four mentors. Special thanks to the Chagrin Valley Chamber of Commerce for helping to coordinate volunteers from their membership.

"Our class is composed of mostly upper class students who will head off to college and most likely pursue some type of business major," said Teacher John Bakalar. "Our class is full of high achievers and motivated individuals and our business community certainly had an opportunity to experience this first-hand."

"It was a really great experience," said junior Jessica Brett. "I was nervous at first, but everyone was so friendly and helpful."

"My favorite part of class wasn't an assignment or a project but the career meet and greet," said senior Henry Ryan. "It was very engaging and I got to meet amazing people from the community, as well as collect business cards in case I had questions for them in the future."

Special thanks to the following mentors that were CFHS graduates:

**Robert Esper '70**, Market Director (Retired), Praxair

**Jim Beard '72**, Vice President Marketing & Sales (Retired), State Industrial Products

**Andy Sworan '72**, IT Developer, CIO/CTO, Legal, Chagrin Valley Consulting

**Chris Koepf '01**, Owner's Representative, Harlan + Associates

**Tyler Koepf '05**, JD/CPA, M. Thomas Capital Management

### CFHS Students Create New Club - Cleanland

Students at Chagrin Falls High School have created a new club called Cleanland. The club is a student-run nonprofit organization that is dedicated to cleaning up Cleveland. Not only does the club help provide a cleaner environment for Clevelanders, it also gives students at the high school an opportunity to partake in service alongside their friends. This new initiative is teaching students how to give back to their community, inspiring the next generation to take care of the planet.

The students who are involved in the club have been going out into the Cleveland community, including the area of Ohio City, to pick up trash and litter from streets and sidewalks. While they already believe Cleveland is a beautiful city, their hope is to make it a healthier and happier place for citizens. They're taking the steps to accomplish this goal one piece of litter at a time.

### Chagrin Salutes Teacher & Staff Employee of the Year

At the staff convocation meeting, Chagrin Falls Schools surprised two staff members with one of the highest awards given by the District. Mike Sweeney, a math teacher at Chagrin Falls High School, is the Teacher of the Year. In addition to being a teacher, he is the varsity baseball coach, assistant varsity basketball coach, and eighth-grade football coach. The Staff Employee of the Year is Nicole (Niki) Lustig, an aide at Chagrin Falls High School.

## **BLOSSOM TIME**

Don't Miss These Events –  
May 26-29!

Friday, May 26  
All-School Reunion  
Party for Alumni,  
Teachers & Friends  
7:30 - 11:00 p.m.

Chagrin Falls Township Hall  
The “icebreaker” for the  
Blossom Weekend.  
\$10

Saturday, May 27  
Intermediate School Tour  
10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.  
CFHS School Tour  
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Alumni Men's Soccer Game  
(Women are welcome to play)  
12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
Stadium

Sunday, May 28  
Blossom Parade  
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Monday, May 29  
Memorial Day Parade  
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  
Triangle Park to  
Evergreen Cemetery

## **Chagrin Schools Earn Recognition**

On the 2021-22 Ohio School Report Card, Chagrin Falls Schools had the 3rd highest performance index score in the State of Ohio (out of 607 school districts). The school is also one of only five districts in the State of Ohio with a performance index percentage higher than 100% on the 2021-22 Ohio School Report Card. In another evaluation, Chagrin is 1 of only 12 districts in the entire state to have five stars in every category on the report card. Five stars is the highest rating for districts.

## **National Merit Honors for CF Students**

Chagrin Falls Schools are pleased to announce that two students have been named National Merit Semifinalists by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. The students are Michaela Plante and Rose Zabik. Semifinalists are the highest scorers in each of the 50 states and represent less than one percent of each state's high school seniors. Finalists will be announced in February. In addition to the semifinalists, Broderick (Bode) Freese, Ryan Hill and Jenna Santamaria have been named National Merit Commended Scholars. More than two-thirds (about 34,000) of the approximately 50,000 high scorers on the PSAT/NMSQT receive Letters of Commendation in recognition of their outstanding academic promise.

## **IN MEMORIAM**

Don Bullock 1953  
Ann Griffin McClanahan Gilchrist 1955  
Dave Hill 1955  
Lee Anne Pealer Bahnick 1959  
Ted Whaley 1959  
Doug McFarlin 1960  
Marilyn McFarland Landon 1961  
Nancy Gift Knapp 1961  
Pam Peabody Furst 1964  
Craig Roeper 1964  
Kurt Laderer 1965  
Doug Wise 1966  
Joann Chess Carter 1968  
Janet Hillshafer Sanderson 1976  
Scott Flyte 1978  
Judy Soika Papesch 1978  
Brian Coulter 1988  
Jenny Thompson 2003  
Jonathan Colant 2021



## Marriages

**Susie Pike '81** & James Ignath, Dec. 21, 2022.

Vanessa Gomez & **Brandon O'Neill '05**, Feb. 25, 2023.



## Births

To Ben and **Laura Hall Sears '02**, a son, Josiah David, Feb. 27, 2023.

To Angie & **Adam Ripley '02**, a daughter, Emma Lucille, Jan. 5, 2023.

To Krystal & **David Bruno '03**, a son, Jackson Loewe, Jan. 17, 2023.

To Amanda & **Brian Hollingsworth '03**, a daughter, Brooklyn Violet, March 14, 2023.

To Philip & **Kristen Chemnitz Hunek '04**, a son, Noah James, Dec. 12, 2022.

To Ben & **Maggie Hermanson Woldenberg '08**, a son, Brooks Eliot, Feb. 21, 2023.



## Donations

**Martha Sindelar Hyatt '47** has given a donation in honor of Chagrin Falls Schools.

**Jay Picking '49** has given his annual dues in honor of his classmate **Emerson Best '49**.

**Michael Hoffman '56** has made a donation to the Elsa Jane Carroll Library in the Chagrin Falls Schools Tom Mattern Historical Room with his recently authored book "Beethoven - His Biography in Music."

**Jim Murley '64** has made a donation in memory of classmate **George Reitz '64**.

Both **Rick Johnson '65** & **Don Raker '65** have made donations in memory of the deceased members of CFHS's first rock band, the Heard. Their bandmates that have passed are **Tom Anderson '66**, **Ron Baker '71**, **Chris Cary '65**, **John Cary '70**, **Mike Mahon '65**, and **John Marsh '65**.

**Dennis '69** & **Wendy Kujat Street '69** have both given their annual dues in memory of classmate **Bruce Shelton '69**.

**Donna Rogers Frazier '71** has given her annual dues in memory of retired high school music teacher Dr. Bill Foley and social studies teacher Mr. Dale Richmond.

**Cindy Felger Helbig '74** has given her annual dues in memory of retired teacher CFMS social studies teacher, coach, and Alumni Director **Tom Mattern '55**.

**Ted Kagy '74** has made a donation of memorabilia to the CFAA.

**Natalie Gross Remington '86** has made a donation in memory of classmates **Craig Walters '86** and **Mark Morris '86**.





## 1998 State Champion Girls Basketball Recognition at the OHSAA State Championship



Upper Right Picture (From L to R): Katie Carson Miller '98, Laura Miller Favaro '98, Lisa Hentamann Kent '98, Alexis Wyszynski '99, Katie Kruse Huey '99, Kate Wisniewski Tallman '98, Elizabeth Cornell '98, Ashley Wolhotz Clark '98, Matt Phillips (Coach Frank Phillip's son), Trish Kruse '98

## Winter Athletics Season Recap

The hockey team finished the season with a record of 15-8 and finished 2nd in the GCHSHL Blue East. The wrestling team finished 6th place in the CVC and had 4 qualify to districts. The boys' basketball team ended the season with a record of 13-11 and finished in 3rd place in the CVC. The girls' basketball team had a 16-7 record this year and won the CVC. The girls' swimming and diving Team came in 2nd place in the CVC and 6 girls qualified for states. The boys' team won the CVC and also had 6 that qualified for state.

This winter we had 29 athletes receive their 2nd year varsity award, 13 receive their 3rd year varsity award, and 12 who received their 4th varsity award. CFHS had 13 athletes make 1st team all-conference, 12 make 2nd team all-conference, and 13 were named Honorable Mention all-conference. Beth Sonnhalter and John Reagan were recognized as the CVC Boys and Girls Swimming and Diving Coaches of the Year and the D2 Girls District Coaches of the year.

This years 2023 Girls Basketball CVC Coach of the Year is **Brittany Anderson Laseak '04**. She lead her team to a record of 16-7 and won the Chagrin Valley Conference. Junior Samantha Holtz won the 2023 D2 state title in diving with a score of 454.95. She placed 3rd as a freshman and was 4th last year. This is the third state championship in swimming and diving on the girls' side for Chagrin with **Diana Munz '00** (200 freestyle - '98 & '99; 500 freestyle - '98 & '99) and **Lauren Preyss '03** (100 freestyle - '00 - '03; 200 freestyle - '01 & '02) being the others. She is the 2nd diver to win at Chagrin, joining **Jamie Enghardt '10** from the boys' side. Samantha is committed to continue her education and diving career at Harvard University.

## IN THE NEWS

At 93 years of age, **Martha Sindelar Hyatt '47** is enjoying her children, 8 grandchildren, and 10 great grandchildren. Martha has been widowed for the past ten years after a 64 year marriage. Her career included working at the Chagrin Falls movie theater, Kroger's, and Popcorn Shop. Martha was also an active volunteer over the years.

**Jay Picking '49** is retired from Southern Indiana Gas & Electric Company where he held the position of Vice President. Jay lives in Evansville, Indiana.

**Dennis '69** and **Wendy Kujat Street '69** are both retired and living in Western Pennsylvania to be near their two daughters.

**Lisa Gorretta '72** was inducted into the United States Dressage Federation's Hall of Fame as a Lifetime Achievement Award recipient in December.

**Lea Coryell '74** is a co-author of the article "*The surprising origins of the Coryell family of Colonial New Jersey*," which was recently published in the winter edition of American Ancestors Magazine.

**Cynthia Phelps '80** and **Diana Phelps Morrow '77** are co-owners of The Red Door Mercantile in Chagrin, a mercantile and apothecary store.

**Lisa Gebler Bowser '80** is coming up on her 36th wedding anniversary. Lisa lives in central Pennsylvania, where she is able to enjoy spending time with her three children (Zachary, Rachel, and Adam) and four grandchildren (Olivia, Aiden, Rylan, and Alexandra).

**Dr Jane L Phend '83** [AP/DOM BS, MSED, Certified Neuro Change Method Practitioner (Neuroscience/Neuroplasticity)] is opening a acupuncture and integrative medicine clinic this month. Essence Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine will be located in Chiefland, Florida.



**Beth Gaile Loxley '85** is the CEO and Founder of E.A. Loxley & Associates, a holistic small business consulting firm in Northeast Ohio, providing strategic accounting, tax, tech, and management advisory services. Recently, the firm once again was selected as a Weatherhead 100 Upstart company. Presented by Case Western Reserve University's Weatherhead School of Management, Weatherhead 100 recognizes the fastest-growing companies in Northeast Ohio.

**Alise Bowe Lenhardt '85** is a Recreation Assistant at Masonic Villages of Sewickley, Pennsylvania.

**Eric Fitzpatrick '86** started a new position as Business Unit Manager Automotive, Bearing and Gear at Radiac Abrasives, A TYROLIT Company.

The Tiffin-Seneca Economic Partnership (TSEP) has selected **Donna Gross '88** to be the Downtown Tiffin Main Street Manager. Donna is a successful entrepreneur, owning her own small business, Relevé Barre Studio, with locations in Downtown Tiffin and Birmingham, Michigan. She also serves on numerous downtown boards and committees.

**Wendy Diamond '88** is now a member of the Advisory Board of the Ellis Island Honors Society. The Society awards the Ellis Island Medals of Honor and is one of our nation's most prestigious awards. Each year, its recipients are read into the Congressional Record. The Medal celebrates inspiring Americans who are selflessly working for the betterment of our country and its citizens. Since the medal was founded, they have honored distinguished and diverse Americans including seven U.S. Presidents, several Nobel Laureates and countless leaders of industry, education, the arts, sports, and government. Wendy was a 2016 recipient of the award.

**Laurel Worley Heater '89** and **Kristen Worley Thalman '93** are TV hosts for an Emmy nominated series called The American Dream – one that has featured some of the biggest names in real estate! Their third episode airs mid-April. The show highlights Lifestyle, Culture + Real Estate in over 90 markets. This authentic show focuses on the stories of local neighborhoods. Each episode airs Live on local or cable and can be streamed on Amazon Fire, Hulu, Roku and Apple TV. You can go to <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsfUBzUhB86h2-LbCHZfeYg> for their latest episodes on their Worley Heater Team YouTube channel. On a separate note, Laurel teamed up with husband Mike Heater '91 to earn first prize at a Pickleball Tournament at the Mandel Jewish Community Center this past March.

**PJ Meyer '94** is the Director of Bright Built Home, a company that builds modular "net zero" homes in New England.

**Christy Carlson '96** has recently published her 14th book, The Bodyguard's Baby. The book is a Christmas-themed love story and was out just in time for the holidays. Her first book in the series, Billionaire Bodyguard, came out exactly ten years prior and within a week ascended up the bestseller list at Barnes & Noble, making its way to the top 10 of all the books in the entire e-bookstore.

**Dr. Elisabeth Frazier '02** is an Attending Psychologist at E. P. Bradley Hospital. Elisabeth is also a Clinical Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Human Behavior at the Alpert Medical School of Brown University.

**Adam Ripley '02** started a new position as Director Strategic Sourcing at Associated Materials in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio.

**Allie Hollister Carr '05** was recently recently honored with the #1 Agent award and "Diamond Status" within Berkshire Hathaway. Allie is the top producing individual agent among over 700 in Ohio. She oversees the Cleveland office with over 20 agents.

**Mathew Bramson '07** has taken a new position at CoverMyMeds. Mathew is now the Director of Product Management leading a team in their emerging product space focusing on problems in the specialty medical benefits domain.

**Emily Mazzola Monarch '12** was promoted to Director, Business Development & Communications at the advertising agency Doner.

**Will Hinman '13** started a new position as Founder and Principal at Forrest Hinman Capitol Consulting, LLC. It is a lobbying and government affairs firm based in Columbus, Ohio.

Chagrin Falls is now home to the world's first zero-waste, carbon negative holistic health company. Founded by **Yianni Kellis '15**, OneTrue offers private online sessions in Meditation, Yoga, Barre, Pilates, Dance, Fitness & Nutrition. The company aims to revolutionize wellness through an Infinite Guests policy that encourages users to bring their family & friends, and an eco-promise to plant a tree with every session users take. Chagrin villagers get their first session free with code 'Chagrin100'. Learn more at <https://onetruefitness.com>.

# CLASS & REUNION NOTES



## ***FLORIDA ALL-CLASS REUNION***

What a TIGER TURNOUT!!!! The All Class Reunion Florida Chagrin Falls High School was a "ROARING" success. Alumni from all over Florida attended as well as vacationing alumni. We welcomed 15 new attendees which brought our total gathering to 65. Ten years ago when **Jim Fitz '58** and **Suzie Sutton Wright '62** resurrected this long standing Chagrin Falls Day, we were 13 strong. Graduates from the classes 1956 to 1985 enjoyed a perfect Florida day with food, fun and fellowship. Thanks to the combined efforts of **Suzie Sutton Wright '62**, **Doug Thomas '65**, **Rita Boslaugh Walker '64**, **Pat Hodges Furth '64**, and **Kathy Conley Polen '71** and items donated by **Karen Swaye '65** and a lovely tribute by **Doug Thomas '65** on the passing of his classmate **Kurt Laderer '65**. Due to the generosity of all those who attended, this reunion will be donating over \$600 to the Alumni Scholarship Fund. To everyone, thank you for coming and we will gather again next February 2024.

Those in attendance: **Ken Lauterer '56**, **Bob Lambert '57**, **Bill Fish '58**, **Bruce Bird '58**, **Carol Nye '59**, **Bill Szitar '59**, **Ginny Pierce '60**, **Alan Wilber '61**, **Mark Laderer '62**, **John Lambert '62**, **Suzie Sutton '62**, **Ron Brooks '62**, **Bob Mayberry '62**, **Helen Hodges '62**, **Jim Pierce '62**, **Marilyn Lambert '63**, **Rita Boslaugh '64**, **Pat Hodges '64**, **Robbie Sickling '65**, **Doug Thomas '65**, **Dave Barry '65**, **Larry Walker '65**, **Don Raker '65**, **Rick Johnson '65**, **Cherie Glaser '66**, **Paul Conley '66**, **Larry Alstrom '67**, **John Blazer '67**, **Stan Barr '67**, **Chip Morrill '67**, **Kathy Walker '68**, **Robert Thomas '69**, **Martha Pugsley '69**, **Kathy Conley '71**, **Ann Louise Solether '71**, **Kathryn Kagy '71**, **Ann McCourt '73**, **Lisa Glaser '73**, **Nancy Kaye Lester '73**, **Kathy Cornelius '73**, **Kirk Brown '74**, **Tom Martinko '74**, **Ed Eloff '75**, **Keith Wolf '76**, **Harry Edwards '79**, **Dee Rowe '80**, **Karol Wilber '83**, & **Margaret Stanton '85**.



The **Class of 1953** will be celebrating their 70th year reunion on Saturday, June 17, at the home of Shirley Hills Takacs. All are welcome to come and share memories and reconnect with old friends. No reservations are necessary, but we would appreciate a call 440-543-4991 or email welljudy@sbcglobal.net to let us know you will be there. Any classmate who is unable to attend is encouraged to send a greeting and a short bio to share with the group or to make arrangements to have a Zoom session during the reunion. So, using a cool expression of the 1950s: Be there or be square.

The **Class of 1967** will be having their 55+1 Reunion on the Saturday of Blossom Weekend in 2023. Classmates will gather at The Village Martini and Wine Bar from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. for heavy hors d'oeuvres and an open bar. If you have updated contact information or questions please email Cindy Wyszynski (cwysinc@roadrunner.com) or Ralph Hastings (hstngs@gmail.com).

The **Class of 1973** will be holding their 50th reunion Blossom Time Weekend! We will kick off the weekend at Town Hall for the All Class Reunion. (Friday, May 26) @ 7:30pm. Saturday will begin with school tours for those who are interested...10am – 10:45am – Chagrin Falls Intermediate School. Meet in the parking lot at Philomethian Street. 11am – 12 pm – Chagrin Falls High School & Historical Room. Enter at the front lobby of the High School. The main event will be Saturday afternoon from 3pm – 7pm. We will have a casual event at Rollhouse, 33185 Bainbridge Road, Solon. We will have the outdoor patio to ourselves to visit and reminisce. Heavy appetizers will be served and there will be a cash bar. Cost pp is \$35.00  
Please mail your check no later than May 12 to Betsy Hanson Street (Contact Betsy for info. - betsygstreet@gmail.com) or Venmo Nancy Stern Lester. (Contact Nancy for that info. - nkslester@gmail.com)

The **Class of 1977** will be having their 45 +1 reunion on Saturday, May 27 from 6-10 p.m. at the Pine Lake Trout Club.

The **Class of 1978** will be holding their 45th Class Reunion on Saturday, May 27 at 5:30 at the Crooked Pecker in Bainbridge. The cost will be \$50, payable through PayPal. Please go to the CFAA donations page (<https://www.chagrinalumni.org/dontations>) and click on the option for reunions to pay. Also, bring cash for an exciting on site raffle!! For more information or questions, please contact Katie Stone Watkins at [kathryn.watkins52@gmail.com](mailto:kathryn.watkins52@gmail.com).

The **Class of 1979** will be getting together for our 44th on Saturday, May 27th. Class members, please go to our class reunion page for details: <https://sites.google.com/view/chagrin-falls-class-79/home>. As always, Go Tigers!

**Class of 1983** please join us for our 40th Reunion! Festivities begin Friday night at Town Hall for the All-Class Reunion. Our main event will be held on Saturday evening from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at The Tanglewood Club.

\* Tickets are \$40 per person. Payments can be made two ways:

1. Check payable to Chagrin Falls Alumni Association and note "Class of 1983" on check so it can be applied to our class account and mail to CFAA, 400 E Washington Street, CF 44022.

or 2. Pay Pal @

<http://chagrinalumni.org/donations/>. Scroll down to the right to access class reunion. Please RSVP by May 11th to Kelli Wall @ [Kellilwall@outlook.com](mailto:Kellilwall@outlook.com) or Elizabeth Heiss Wyss @ [mrsbretwyss@gmail.com](mailto:mrsbretwyss@gmail.com). If you are interested in underwriting a portion of the costs, please contact Kelli Wall, John Henderson, Chandra Baldwin or Elizabeth Heiss Wyss. Please check in to the Chagrin Falls High School Class of 1983 Facebook page for additional updates.

The **Class of 1988** will gather over the Memorial Day weekend for their 35-year reunion. The festivities begin on Friday evening at 8th Day Brewing Company to hear fellow classmate Dan Mills and graduate John Barile perform. Afterwards, classmates can come down to the All-Class reunion. Saturday begins with tours of the Intermediate School and CFHS. The evening will have the main event where classmates will gather at the home of Brent Luce. For details and to stay in the loop make sure that Brian McKenna (chagrinalumni@gmail.com) has your recent contact info. and also that you are a member of the CFHS Class of 1988 Facebook group.

The **Class of 1993** will be celebrating their 30th reunion over Blossom weekend. Festivities will commence on Friday with cocktails at the Gips home at 5:30. Stay as long as there is fun to be had or stroll into town for the All Class Reunion and/or dinner. The 1993 Reunion Party will take place at Panini's Bar & Grill from 7-10pm. There is a private room/bar we have booked. Cash bar. Cost for the party is forthcoming and payment via PayPal will be provided or at the door. If you are not a member or have access to our class Facebook Chagrin Falls Class of 1993 page, please email Lindsay Saylor Gips at lgips2@roadrunner.com for information. We're looking forward to a great turnout and some fun times!

The **Class of '98** will be having their 25th reunion this coming Blossom. The reunion will be on Saturday May 27th, 2023. We are working on details but ask that if you have updated contact information or questions please email 98cftigers@gmail.com. We are really excited to see everybody!

The **Class of 2003** will be celebrating their 20th reunion on Saturday, May 27 from 12:30-3:30 at Crooked Pecker. An invite will be sent out around April 1 with details, please update your email with Abbey at scoteseabigail@gmail.com or (440)773-9412



The **Class of 2008** will be hosting their 15 year class reunion on Blossom weekend Saturday, May 27th, 2023. Meet us at Heinen's patio in the downtown Chagrin plaza from 2:00-5:00pm for small bites and a drink from the bar. Please reach out to Liz Wilson (Monda) at emmonda@gmail.com with any questions, suggestions, or to be added to the Facebook group where we will send updates regarding the event. We would love to see you there!

The **Class of 2013** will be hosting their 10 year reunion on Saturday, May 27th, 2023! Meet us at Ponyboys for small bites and drinks from 2-4 PM. Please reach out to Shannon Fung at shannon.h.fung@gmail.com with any questions or to be added to the Facebook group where we will send updates regarding the event.

The **Class of 2018** will be having their 5 year reunion on the Saturday of Blossom Weekend. To be kept in the loop on the details, please email Eneh Turoczi, eneh.turoczi@gmail.com, or Michael Donley, donley17@gmail.com, with your current contact information.

# 53 Year Old Mystery Solved

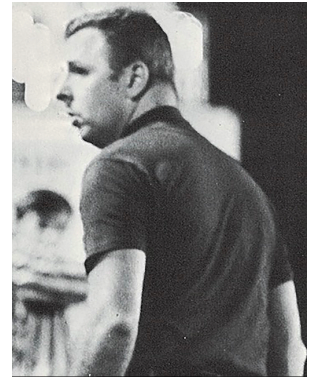
By Skip Church '71

A 53-year-old mystery was solved recently concerning a cake that was sent to the Orange football team in 1970 before they traveled to Chagrin to face the unbeaten Tigers. The message on the cake said Orange was the worst football team in the world and that Chagrin would destroy them. The Orange players believed the Chagrin players sent the cake and used it as motivation.

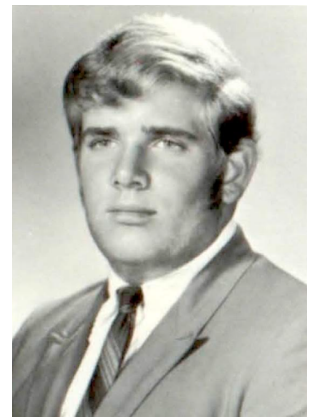
At that point, the Lions had lost all three of their games and had scored only one touchdown. The powerhouse Tigers were 3 and 0, having outscored their opponents 106 to 8. The Chagrin-Orange game was supposed to be a colossal mismatch. It wasn't. The mysterious cake and its message motivated the Lions and they took it out on the Tigers. All night long, Orange exploited a weakness in the Chagrin defense. The Lions led 15 to 6 at halftime and increased their lead in the second half to 27 to 12. But Chagrin pulled off an astounding comeback.

First, a **Dave Batchelor '71** touchdown and a two-point conversion cut the Orange lead to 27 to 20. That was the score with 1:25 left in the game. Then, quarterback **Skip Church '71** threw his second touchdown pass of the game, this one to wide receiver **John Abbott '71** for 35 yards.

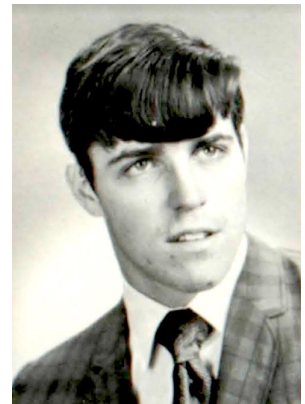
However, Chagrin still trailed by one point 27 to 26. Wingbacks **Bill Groth '71** and **Richard Leach '71**, who alternated as messengers bringing in plays, delivered something special. On the play, Church faked to **Paul Snavelly '71**, lateralled to Batchelor who threw it to the late **Jeff Smith '71**. Miraculously, the play worked and Chagrin completed a 28 to 27 come from behind victory.



Coach Piai



David Crowle

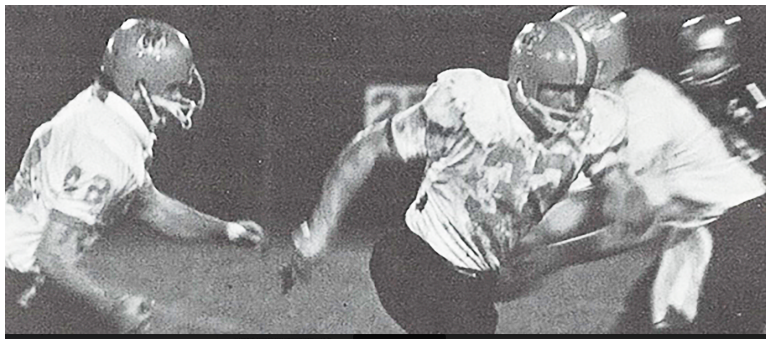


Duncan Othen



Team Bench

Dave Batchelor  
taking the  
handoff



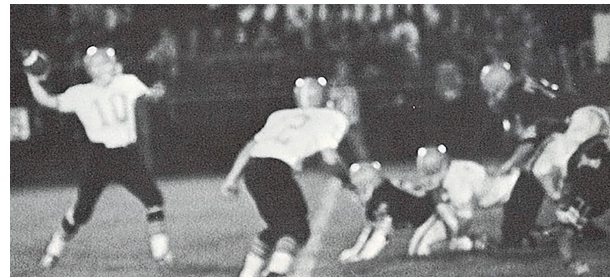


After the win, Tiger offensive tackles **Duncan Othen '71** and the late **Dave Crowle '71**, wearing Chagrin letter jackets, went to Manners Big Boy in Orange for a celebratory meal. There, they were greeted by several Orange football players who asked if they had sent the cake to the Lions. Duncan and Dave didn't know what they were talking about. So, the Orange players took them out to the parking lot and opened the trunk of their car to show them the cake. The Lion players said it was the cake that inspired them to play a great game against Chagrin, one that just barely fell short.

For nearly 53 years, the mystery of the cake has haunted Duncan, never knowing who sent it. Finally, in January 2023, one of the Lions who played in the game for Orange, told Dave Batchelor that an Orange assistant coach sent the cake to motivate their winless team. That cake almost worked.

The Tigers would go on to win a share of the Chagrin Valley Conference crown that year and begin what, two and a half years later, would become a 28-game winning streak, the longest in Ohio.

Quarterback Skip Church



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## The Heard - Chagrin's First Rock and Roll Band

By Don Raker '65 and Rick Johnson '65

The youth of the 60s grew up in a very turbulent time – the Cold War, the Cuban missile crisis, the President Kennedy assassination, and the Vietnam War. Meanwhile, the American pop music scene was rapidly evolving in a youthful direction, from songs like “Rock Around the Clock,” and “Tutti Fruity” and “Hound Dog” in the 50s and “Blowin’ in the Wind” in the early 60s, to teen angst ballads, Motown, surf music, folk rock, and psychedelia in the mid 60s. But that momentum underwent a truly seismic shift when the Beatles led the “British Invasion” and exploded onto the U.S. scene in 1964.

Suddenly, everyone wanted to be a Rock and Roll star. A group of Chagrin High School sophomores and juniors thought “Why not us?” So, in Spring 1964, eight teenagers formed Chagrin’s (and its high school’s) first rock band. They called themselves The Heard. And heard they were - by literally thousands of fans - over the next 18 months. By any measure, The Heard was a smashing success!

The original Heard included eight members: **Tom Anderson '66**, rhythm guitar; **Ron Baker '66**, bass; **Chris Cary '65**, harmonica and vocals; **John Cary '66**, lead guitar; **Rick Johnson '65**, keyboards; **Mike Mahon '65**, drums; **John Marsh '65**, vocals; and **Don Raker '65**, vocals. Sadly, only Johnson and Raker survive.

The Heard initially played publicly for fun at friends’ parties in their homes. That soon evolved into sock hops in the high school gym, and the Orange and Black Revue at Philomethian School auditorium.

They played an end-of-summer outdoor concert in the Chagrin Shopping Plaza before hundreds of fans in front of Finch's Chagrin Department Store. This caused the group to consider the financial potential of their growing popularity. They rented the Chagrin Falls Township Hall on North Main Street and charged admission to their shows. It worked!

Looking for a larger venue, they began to rent the National Guard Armory on East Washington Street, where they were able to bring in a significantly larger gate. Exposure there led to engagements outside of Chagrin at several different venues. One memorable out-of-town gig took place at the Alpine Valley ski resort in Chesterland. They were hired to provide music at an apres-ski party organized by a Cleveland-based ski club comprising about 40 twenty-somethings. It was an open bar and there wasn't a chaperone in sight. Supposed to play until 10 pm, they were still playing at 12:30 am! A good time was had by all.

Then, seeking broader exposure, the boys entered the media realm – they auditioned for, and were booked on the Gene Carroll Show, a local Cleveland televised talent contest (at a time when most TV was broadcast live).



1966 Orange and Black Revue

From left to right: Ron Baker on bass guitar, Tom Anderson on guitar and vocals, Chris Butler on drums and John Cary on guitar and vocals.

Unfortunately, despite much support from their loyal Chagrin followers, they came in a close second to a matronly lady and her accordion. Such were the vagaries of show business. And it was a gut check for The Heard: apparently, polka was more popular than Rock and Roll - at least in Cleveland, Playing in a band taught them many things, including the critical importance of compromise (essential when half the band favored the music of the Beatles and the other half were Beach Boys die-hards); the satisfaction of working together and seeing teamwork pay off (with no supervising adult(s); and the sheer joy of performing live before appreciative fans, both high school friends and perfect strangers - standing and rocking side-by-side, dancing to the music and, yes, screaming until they were hoarse.

In a word, The Heard was FUN!

# **Betcha' Didn't Know**

Excerpts from History of the Chagrin Falls Schools, 1833 - 1960 by Tom Mattern '55:

Schools today are asked to do more and more things that were once done by the home and/or community. There was a time, however, when the Chagrin Falls Schools and a local doctor went beyond the call of duty.

One tidbit from the 1920s dealt with schools and tonsils. Beginning in 1925 and for the next 15 years, a local doctor, Chauncey Wycoff '00, would arrange to spend a day each year at the old Philomethian Street School, the one torn down in 1940. He was there to take out students' tonsils at a cost of \$7.50 per student in the old building's Assembly Hall. With their parents' permission, students would line up and wait to be called. Once called, they would be given a little ether and have their tonsils removed. The tonsils were then thrown into buckets and the youngsters placed on cots and given ice cream and pieces of ice to chew. Once recovered, the children were sent home.....

What happened to the buckets of tonsils remains a mystery. One probability is that they ended up at the old village dump on Solon Road, which is known as River Run Park.

.....

In the late 1930s, and into the 1940s the senior class had a Kid Day at the end of the school year where the class would dress up as little children and just "act silly." The class of 1942 was informed by the school administration that Kid Day was cancelled due to the seriousness of World War II which had just begun. Disappointed, the class decided to have a different kind of day and to cut school and "play hooky" at the shelter house in the Metropolitan Park. With the military draft looming ahead for the senior boys, one last fling seemed appropriate. Margaret Manley Batchelor '42 remembered that the class was punished with three additional days of school. The teachers were not amused. It remains a cherished memory for the class of 1942.

.....

Norm Fry came to Chagrin Falls in 1937 to teach industrial arts (shop). Through the years he had many "firsts" to his credit. For example, during World War II, he worked evenings in the school with a group of juniors and seniors who built, to specification, model airplanes -- replicas of the fighter planes and bombers that were being used in the war. These models were then used by the United States government to teach soldiers identification of planes. What he was most remembered for was the use of his famous paddle. Norm retired in 1977 after "forty years of fun!"

## **Do You Remember**

B & E Restaurant, Fall's Way Bar, Mug Shot Tavern, Cahill's Restaurant, sledding in the MetroParks, completing unknowns in chemistry class, Mr. Battles & Mr. Hurst's bio notebooks, Miss Carroll's green pen, running the Village for a day in Mr. Richmond's government class, the marriage unit in Mr. Lerch's sociology class, the 8th grade social studies project with Mr. Mattern '55 and Mr. Ehrenbeit, watching the Carol Burnett Show to get a laugh from our very own Tim Conway '52, the first day of school, graduation, the Gurney holiday show, Taggart's Toy Store, getting an ice cream cone at the Popcorn Shop, swimming at the Rec Center, running up Grove Hill during a practice, Coach Q making you take a lap, locker tags, clap outs, & pep rallies.





A day in Commons - 1976



Bon Fire 2011



1964 Blossom

*The year may not be yours,  
but these are memories so  
many of us share.*

1993 Pumpkin Roll



1958 Band

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