

View this email in your browser



CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
FOUNDATION

EAGLE NEWS June 2024



The Best By Par: The Blackstone Social foursome was very determined to sink their putt on the 18th green at Golf Fore Eagles on June 3. Pictured: Dominic DiGiacomo ('95), Scott Moller, Mike DiGiacomo ('91), and Bob Bunjer.



Dear Supporter,

After a rainy start to the summer, the sizzling heat arrived in Omaha just in time for the summer solstice!

Our 22nd annual Golf Fore Eagles outing was another tremendous success this year. We had sunny skies, a full silent auction, and a sold-out registration. I want to thank Jono Bradford ('95), Wiff Farrell ('91) and Pat Salerno ('84) for chairing the golf committee once again, making this event something that our alumni and supporters look

forward to every June.

Lastly, reunion committees are finalizing details for their class reunions happening this fall. If you have a reunion this year, please make sure that you [update your record on our website](#) so that your physical invitation and event communications are mailed to the correct address. This pertains especially to recent graduates as we often have parental addresses instead of graduate addresses.

As always, thank you for helping perpetuate more than 165 years - and counting - of tradition and excellence! Go Eagles!

Sincerely,

Michelle Roberts

Michele Roberts, Executive Director

Golf Fore Eagles a Hole-In-One



The Class of '74 basketball state champions were recognized at Golf Fore Eagles.

Pictured: Thommie Allen, James Dorsey Jr., Kevin Buckner.

On June 3rd at the Field Club of Omaha, golfers teed off for a swinging good time at the 22nd edition of the "Golf Fore Eagles" fundraiser presented by PIP Marketing, Signs, Print. This event supports Central High School, and with a great turnout, it was a hole-in-one! The Foundation raised more than \$40,000 at this sold-out event for our present and future Eagles! If you missed out on the fun this year, mark your calendars for next year's outing on Monday, June 2, 2025; it's never too early to start practicing for next year! Congratulations to these flight winners:

4th Flight (Co-Ed)

2nd Place (Eight Under Par): Kelly Faiman, Sam Hardy, Jeff Wiles, Vicki Wiles

1st Place (Eleven Under Par): Jennifer Likes, Mason Likes, Rob Likes ('91), Sam Likes

3rd Flight

2nd Place (Two Under Par): Gordon Watanabe ('80), John Deardorff, Joy Watanabe, Reyn Watanabe

1st Place (Two Under Par): Ben Jezewski ('21), Brad Jezewski ('79), Jeff Jezewski ('82), Ron Talley

**** Scorecard playoff**

2nd Flight

2nd Place (Three Under Par): Cale Dillenburg, Drew Dillenburg, Jason Spretis, Tom Manley

1st Place (Three Under Par): Ty Egbert ('90), Michael Langan ('92), Brian Marshall ('88), Chris Neeble

**** Scorecard playoff**

1st Flight

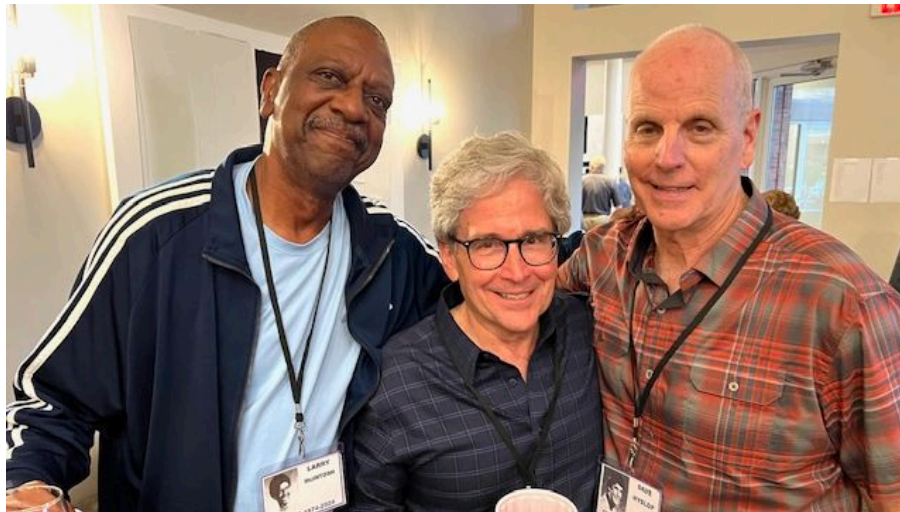
2nd Place (Fourteen Under Par): Justin Erspamer, Jed Ortmeyer ('97), Jamie Stogdill ('96), Paul Swirzinski ('96)

1st Place (Fifteen Under Par): Tony Driscoll ('03), Davis Garner, Steve Hogan ('04), Krista Malmos ('06)



PICTURED: 2024 Honoree, Chesterman Coca-Cola foursome

Timeless Ties: 50 Years and Counting for Class of '74



As May rolled into June, the Class of 1974 celebrated their 50th reunion!

Larry Kelberg ('74) hosted a mixer on Friday evening at The Hill. Saturday morning, over 100 classmates toured Central High School; some had not been back to the school since graduation. That evening, the class gathered at the Omaha Press Club. The views of downtown and Central High from the Press Club were beautiful. Seventies music added to the atmosphere, and the class paid tribute to the 1974 State Basketball champions. The state trophy even made an appearance!

Sunday afternoon the class held a picnic at Elmwood Park with a food truck and yard games. On Monday, six foursomes participated in the 2024 Golf Fore Eagles tournament. Several other classmates attended the banquet that

evening. The class of 1974 had a lot of fun and made many great memories over the four-day reunion weekend!



Participate in the First Class Challenge

Listen Now to a New Episode of Eagle Tales



A new episode of Eagle Tales has been published! Eagle Tales is a podcast from the Central High School Foundation that highlights the amazing things that alumni have achieved since graduating from Central.

We are excited to share that Episode 18 of Eagle Tales has been published! Episode 18 features an interview with two incredibly talented musicians. **Juliet Yoshida ('05)** and **Trevor Petersen ('17)** are both musicians in the Omaha Symphony, carrying on a tradition of musical excellence they cultivated during their times at Central.



Want to be notified of new episodes as they are released? Subscribe to Eagle Tales on [Spotify](#), [Apple Podcasts](#), or wherever you listen to your podcasts!

Listen to Eagle Tales

Legendary Eagle Earns Recognition



1964 alumnus Harry Friedman recently returned to Sony Pictures Studios for a special recognition. The longtime executive producer for hit shows *Wheel of Fortune* and *Jeopardy!* was honored by Sony Pictures Entertainment, renaming the street outside the stages as Harry Friedman Way. **Friedman produced more than 10,000 game show episodes** and was the recipient of fourteen Emmy Awards, the most won by a game show producer.

Pictured left to right: Ravi Ahuja (Sony Pictures Entertainment Chairman, Global Television Studios, President and COO), Friedman, Tony Vinciguerra (Chairman and CEO, Sony Pictures Entertainment)

Honor an Eagle with a Tribute Gift

Your Impact: Soaring to Pride Rock at *The Lion King*



Experiences and opportunities outside the classroom walls engage learners in a way different from the typical day-to-day academic courses. Attending and immersing oneself in a Broadway show might be the catalyst that sparks students' interest in the performing arts. Earlier this spring, Central students who met specific attendance and behavior goals attended *The Lion King* musical at the Orpheum Theater. With the combined financial resources of the

CHS Foundation and Omaha Performing Arts, **this opportunity exposed more than 300 Eagles to a high-quality performing-arts production** that they may not have had the opportunity otherwise to experience.

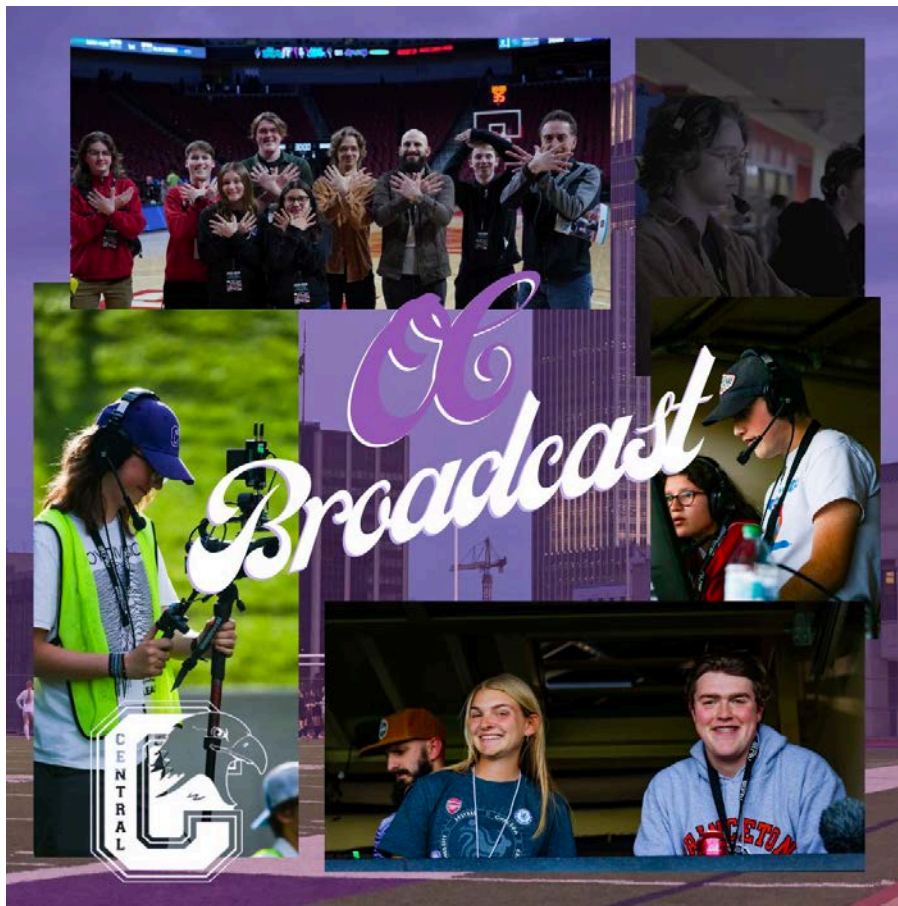
"Thank you, Central High Foundation, for making it possible for us to attend *The Lion King* at the Orpheum. It was my first Broadway show and the question and answer session where we met some of the performers was so great. Thank you so much!"

- Artie Shaw, Class of 2024

Your donation to the Central High School Foundation helps support our students at Central High School, including experiential learning opportunities outside of the classroom. To continue to help our Eagles soar, join Generation "C" today!

Join Generation "C" Today

Eagle Broadcasting Concludes Successful School Year



The Omaha Central broadcasting team wrapped up a successful 2023-24 school year. Funds from the Central High School Foundation allow the OC Eagle Broadcasting team to learn how to effectively produce, announce, and broadcast athletic, performing arts, academic, and alumni events. This hands-on experience allowed the OC Broadcasting team to stream events to Eagle

supporters around the world, including special events such as Senior Recognition Ceremony and Hall of Fame induction ceremony. Highlights from this year's schedule include:

- **11.5K viewers**
- **38 events**
- **3 sports showcases**
- **15 students**

Being a member of Generation "C" supports students at Central, including the OC Broadcasting team. To help our Eagles soar, join Generation "C" today!

[Join Generation "C" Today](#)

Alumni Spotlight: Alvin Samuels, CHS 2006



Dr. Alvin R. Samuels, Jr. graduated from Omaha Central High School in 2006. Upon graduating, Alvin attended Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska graduating in 2010 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and in 2015 with his Doctor of Dental Surgery degree. Thirty minutes after graduation, Dr. Samuels recommissioned into the United States Navy and became Lieutenant Samuels.



For the next five years Lieutenant Samuels served his country as a Dental Officer in his new home of Virginia. Most of his time was spent as a Dental Officer aboard USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73) where Lieutenant Samuels grew both personally and professionally, while gaining a tremendous appreciation of the military. In the summer of 2020, Lieutenant Samuels resigned his commission and transitioned back into civilian life as a general dentist.

Today Dr. Samuels divides his time between his three passions: being a father, instructing his students, and caring for his patients. Dr. Samuels is a father of

an 8-year-old daughter and hopeful future Central Eagle! He practices dentistry one day at week at Summit Dental Health – Dundee in Omaha. He also teaches four days a week at Creighton University School of Dentistry. His responsibilities include but are not limited to serving as the first-year Course Director of Operative Dentistry and Dental Materials, Co-Director of the ILAC Summer Health Program in Santiago, Dominican Republic, and Staff Clinician at Heart Ministry Center in North Omaha.



The foundation of Omaha Central High School has been built on a tradition of excellence since 1859, and Dr. Samuels strives to add to that tradition one day at a time.

We love seeing our Eagles give back to their communities! Keep up the great work, Alvin!

[Nominate an Alum for the Spotlight](#)

[Join the 1859 Society Today](#)



[What is Your Legacy?](#)

Named for the year of Central's founding, the 1859 Society honors donors who have included The Central High School Foundation in their estate plans. By arranging for such deferred gifts, alumni, parents, and friends of CHS play a vital role in securing the future of Omaha's oldest educational institution. Combining financial planning, estate planning, and tax planning techniques, planned giving enables donors to make gifts of significance often with tax and financial rewards. If you're interested in joining the 1859 Society and making a planned gift, contact Michele Roberts at the CHSF Office at 402-556-1996 or michele@chsfomaha.org.

[Click Here for the 1859 Society Brochure](#)

Upcoming Class Reunion Schedule



The Class of 1960 at their class reunion in 2021!

Upcoming Reunion Schedule [Class of 1964](#)

September 20-21, 2024

[Contact Jeannene Rice Mason](#) 402-301-9234

[Jeannette Rice Johnson](#) 402-699-0820

Class of 1965

September 5-6, 2025

[Contact Holly Jepsen Hoberman](#)

Class of 1970

POSTPONED

July 25-26, 2025

[Class of 1979](#)

November 9, 2024

[Join the Facebook Group](#)

[Class of 1984](#)

September 6-8, 2024

Contact [Beretta Smith-Shomade](#) or [Betty Brown-Broughton](#)

[Join the Facebook Group](#)
[Register and Pay to Attend](#)

[Class of 1989](#)

September 13-14, 2024

[Class of 1994](#)

October 18-20, 2024

centralhigh1994@gmail.com

[Join the Facebook Group](#)

[RSVP to Attend](#)

[Class of 2004](#)

September 6-7, 2024

Contact Ally Thomson, Steve Hogan, Daniel Gutman

[Class of 2014](#)

October 4-5, 2024

If you are the reunion organizer for your class and haven't finalized a date, please [contact Erika Buffington at events@chsfomaha.org](mailto:events@chsfomaha.org) or call 402-556-1996.

2023-24 Generation "C" Chair - Leslie Gotch



The Central High School Foundation is proud to announce Leslie Gotch, CHS 1964 as the 2023-2024 Generation "C" Chair.

With 27 years of consecutive giving, Leslie Gotch has never wavered in his support

of Central High School.

Born in San Diego to two WWII Navy veterans, Leslie, the eldest of five children and his family moved to Omaha in 1952. He attended Pickard, Belle Ryan, and Jackson Elementary Schools. "I could not wait to get to Central High School in 1960. My grandmother had just retired as the pastry cook in the

cafeteria, so when I went through the lines, the ladies would sometimes put a brownie or piece of cake on my tray and not charge me the 7 cents!”

Leslie has fond memories of his time at CHS. “I loved being a student at Central - the opportunity to be able to study several courses with different teachers was exciting. My teachers taught me to be a critical thinker which was integral in my future career as a computer security engineer.”

His talents were in high demand by not only the private sector, but also the U.S. military. “My company produced a specialty product that would scan every email and file passing through the network. This product was incorporated into the military’s new messaging systems used on bases from Qatar to Pearl Harbor. Eventually my customers included NATO, The Department of State, and other intelligence agencies.”

While at Central, Leslie participated in activities outside the classroom. “I was very involved in the JROTC program. I was on the crack squad rifle drill team for two years and the Hussars my senior year. The Hussars were a precision drill team that performed at the Aksarben coronations.”

Now enjoying his retirement, Leslie continues to value the importance of education and giving back to his community - core values he learned, in part, during his time at Central High School - he volunteers at the information desk at a local library and went back to school to study five international languages.

Join Generation "C"

Support CHSF While You Shop



The Central High School Foundation has partnered with TAGG (Together A Greater Good) to provide an easy and free way to support the Foundation.

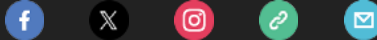
It's easy to do! Just go to the link tagg.today, snap a photo of your receipts from [participating businesses](#), and a percentage of your total will be donated to the Central High School Foundation. Visit their [website](#) to learn more!

Stay Connected With Us on Social Media



Are you on [Facebook](#)? How about [Instagram](#) or [X](#)? Follow and like us across social media platforms to stay connected to other Central alumni, staff, parents and supporters, all while receiving the latest news.

Thank You to Our Adopt-A-School Partner



Copyright © 2024 Central High School Foundation, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).