

# DECEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER A QUARTERLY REVIEW

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The Fairfield County Sports Commission is a 501c (3) non-profit, educational and charitable organization dedicated to developing, implementing and supporting community programs designed to promote and educate our youth on fitness, nutrition and an active, healthy lifestyle as well as personal development through sports. The Commission's Chelsea Cohen Fitness Academy is the primary umbrella vehicle for these programs.



## Hall of Fame's New Home at Chelsea Piers





On Nov. 8 our FC Sports Hall of Fame was re-opened at its new home at Chelsea Piers Connecticut. **Photo 1**- The plaques were taken down in August from UConn Stamford, where it was housed for 13 years; **Photo 2**- A group of the HOFers stand in front of the new display at opening ceremony; **Photo 3**- FCSC Exec. Director Tom Chiappetta chats with CP's Marti Etter and Greta Wagner; **Photo 4**- The J.Walter Kennedy Professional Wing plaques; and **Photo 5**- Class of 2011 Hall of Famer Bennett Salvatore stopped by a few weeks after the opening to have a photo snapped with his plaque. To learn about the history of the Hall of Fame, sponsored by the Aquarion Water Company, click <u>here</u> to view a video.

### Tim Teufel Celebrity Golf Tourney Presented by SWEET'N LOW



Our annual Tim Teufel Celebrity Golf Tournament presented by Sweet'n Low was another rousing success. Thanks to Tim's continued support and leadership (photo right) it continues to be our #1 fundraising event each year. Thanks to a large group of celebrities, including (photo left) John Franco and Tommy John and (photo center) former Steelers QB Terry Hanratty, who made the day special for all our loyal golfers.

Executive Director: Tom Chiappetta (203) 984-4806 tomchip21@aol.com FIND US ON:

## **FCSC Donations**







In 2018 we donated more than \$35,000 to local charities. Photo at upper left is Stamford Health's KIDS' FANS Manager Ilaria St. Florian (left) and Boys & Girls Club of Stamford/Yerwood Center's exec. director Mike Cotela (right) receiving check for a pilot program called "Cooking with Kids" that FCSC is helping to launch under the Vita Collaborative, a community effort to educate children on the farm-to-table healthy food process; photo at left is the Carver Center's "Girls Youth Development Program" participants, a program FCSC is supporting for a second straight year at the Norwalk organization; photo above is check presentation to The First Tee of Connecticut. Through the very generous support of the Ferraro Foundation and funds raised from the Lou Ferraro Golf Classic, First Tee youngsters receive scholarship help in the county at its Fairchild Wheeler golf facility in Bridgeport.

#### THE ANNUAL Sports in Fairfield County



Our 14th annual Sports Night dinner was Oct. 15 at the Stamford Marriott. Above are some of the evening's honorees. Photo left, Class of 2018 HOF inductee A.J. Mleczko receives her award from former U.S. Olympic Women's Hockey gold medal winning teammate Sue Merz, a 2012 HOF honoree. Photo center, Chelsea Cohen Courage Award recipient Ryan Boyle gets a hug from Chelsea's mother Barbara Rittner; photo right, Norwalk's finest were in attendance, from left pro boxer Tarvis Simms, FCSC Norwalk local rep George Albano, 2018 Hall of Famer Travis Simms and Norwalk Sportsperson of Year Joe Madaffari.

## 6 PM Club Recap

FCSC's 6 PM Club networking & reception event continues to attract top sports industry speakers, and our most recent on Nov.1 featured Mark Lazarus, Chairman NBC Broadcasting and Sports, NBC Universal. Sports Business Journal's Terry Lefton was the moderator for the discussion. Photo at right, from left, FCSC Executive Director Tom Chiappetta, Lefton, Lazarus and FCSC marketing committee member Bob Basche pose after the festivities.



## The Commission In The Community - A Busy November

November had a lot of activity for FCSC. **Photo 1**- Westport Sportsperson of the Year and U.S. Olympic team snowboarder Julia Marino returned from her overseas training to receive her award from FCSC's Tom Chiappetta; **Photos 2 & 3**, Julia also found time to visit the Carver Center to speak with the youngsters there about her Olympic and life experiences; **Photo 4**-The Commission helped support and promote a baseball panel discussion at Brien McMahon High in Norwalk titled "Advancing to the Next Level in Today's Game" that was headlined by FC Sports Hall of Famer Bobby Valentine (fifth from left) and UConn baseball coach Jim Penders (third from left). **Photo 5**-Chiappetta welcomed home two Hall of Famers at the Norwalk Old Timers dinner as Randy LaJoie (left, Class of 2017) and Calvin Murphy (Class of 2005) came in from out of town for the event.



## 2018 Thank Yous

FCSC had a terrific 2018 thanks to sponsors and supporters like these below.

1- Sweet'n Low's Steven Eisenstadt and golf tourney host Tim Teufel.

**2**- Jim Ferraro and the Lou Ferraro Golf Classic.

**3-** Former NY Giants great Mark Bavaro representing us at the ICAP Charity Day in December.

4- Colony Grill's Ken Martin with FCSC's Tom Chiappetta at opening of their newest pizza parlor in Port Chester.

We appreciate everyone else who helped us along the way as we head for a prosperous 2019.



## **Charlie Needs Our Help**

Charlie Capalbo, our 2017 Chelsea Cohen Courage Award recipient, is facing another battle with a second bout of a different type of leukemia that he is in treatment for in Boston. We ask everyone to do what they can to support efforts by Charlie's family and friends to help defray the medical costs as two community events will take place to aid that effort.

On Dec. 30, the Fairfield Theatre Company will host "Capalbo Crushes Cancer" night, featuring a live band, a DJ and food trucks.

The Bridgeport Sound Tigers plan a benefit night for the family on Feb. 23; a portion of the proceeds from tickets bought via a web link will go to the family. The team is hopeful that Charlie will be there.

For the Dec. 30 event click on this link to learn more on how you can help and about the fundraising effort:

www.eventbrite.com/e/capalbo-crushes-cancernight-at-ftc-tickets-52615169388

We wish Charlie the best as he fights to overcome this major health issue.

