

# Husky Connections



September 2021

## Wall of Distinction Ceremony Slated

The defined mission of the Dieruff Alumni Association is to promote Husky Pride... among alumni, current students and staff, and the community. Our Alumni Wall of Distinction makes a significant contribution to that mission.

Established in 2019, the "Wall" is designed to provide a lasting recognition to alumni who have brought honor to themselves and to Dieruff through their achievements. The Wall also serves as a source of pride for the entire Husky Nation. Those plaques are a visual reminder that determination and drive can produce remarkable success. Profoundly, alumni who are immortalized on that wall grew up in the same humble neighborhoods, and once walked those same hallways, that we all did.

On October 22, 2021 the Alumni Association will be inducting members of the Class of 2020 and the Class of 2021 onto the Wall of Distinction in a ceremony at The Palace Center. Family

and friends will pay tribute to the ten new honorees.



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The visual shown here is a mock-up of the plaques that will be on display.

As a matter of interest, a Nomination Form can be accessed on our Website, and you are welcome to submit your nominations for consideration for the Alumni Wall of Distinction, Class of 2022.



## President's Message: The Palace is Fit for Wall of Distinction

The Palace Center is certainly fit for a King (as well as for a Queen).

We regard our new inductees to the Dieruff High School Alumni Wall of Distinction as “royalty”, and we are pleased to announce that we have selected *The Palace Center* as the venue for our induction ceremony on Friday, October 22, 2021.

The Palace Center is a “very cool” place to hold our festivities! This beautiful banquet facility is located on the previous site of the Albeth Ice Skating Rink, and has developed into a very popular venue for weddings, reunions, and proms.

Inasmuch as the pandemic had frozen the induction of the Class of 2020 last year, this year's celebration will include inductees from that class, as well as the Class of 2021. The limitations posed by the Pennsylvania Governor's recent mandates regarding masks in the schools made our decision logical. It was necessary to relocate the program from the high school to another site. The Palace is perfect!



**Kay Kurtz - President  
Dieruff Alumni Association**





## Wall of Distinction Honoree: Andre D. Reed '81

Although the emphasis of our Wall of Distinction program does not focus on athletics, the notable achievements of our next 2021 inductee have soared so high that he undeniably deserves to be recognized as an outstanding Dieruff alumnus. For his unparalleled success on and off the field, the Louis E. Dieruff High School Alumni Association is proud to honor Allentown's native son, Andre D. Reed from the Class of 1981.

Every Lehigh Valley football fan knows Andre's record as #83 with the Buffalo Bills – seven consecutive seasons in the NFL Pro Bowl, four uninterrupted Super Bowls, a key receiver in the Bills' immortalized "Comeback" playoff game against the Houston Oilers on January 3, 1993, which is considered one of the greatest rallies in the history of all American professional sports. Wow ! The list could go on and on.

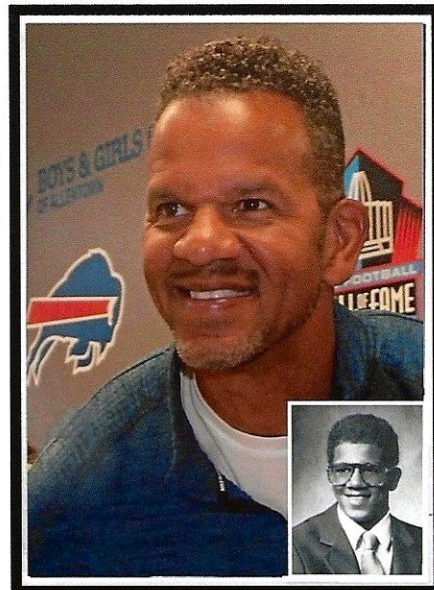
The crowning glory, of course, arrived in 2014 when Andre was enshrined into the NFL Hall of Fame. In the 100-year span of the National Football League, he is one of only 346 who have received the coveted gold jacket. Not bad for a kid from South Allentown.

On the screen Andre has provided commentaries for ESPN, analyses for Fox, and has appeared in Hawaii Five-0, MacGyver, and Magnum PI television episodes. Movie fans who pay close attention to Cuba Gooding Jr.'s character in the popular 1996 film "Jerry Maguire" will hear him compare his contract negotiation to that of "Andre Reed." Take a listen; it's fun to watch.

Since his retirement, this '81 Husky established the Andre Reed Foundation to help underprivileged youngsters reach their full potential. Serving as an Ambassador for the Boys & Girls Clubs of America, Andre travels the country to promote his "Read with Reed 83 Challenge," a literacy incentive program for children. And, with his full schedule, Andre still makes time to visit his East Side alma mater to encourage young Huskies to find their passion, work hard, and to never, ever give up.

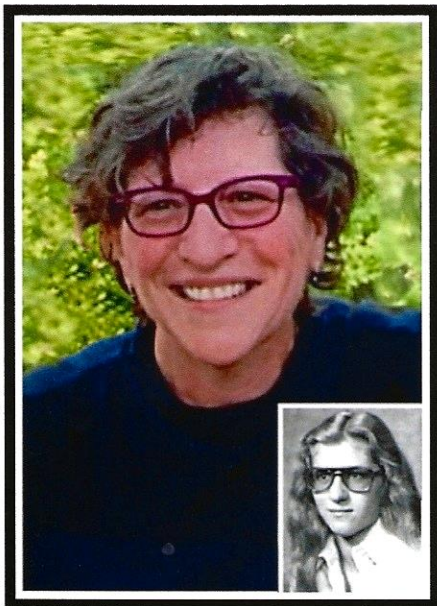
Andre never gave up. His bronze bust in Canton proves that.

Joanne Ogrydziak '76





## Wall of Distinction Honoree: Carmella A. Saraceno '75



My earliest memory of our next Wall of Distinction honoree is that she was always in the Dieruff Art Room or on her way to it. After classes ended for the day, she would stop at home for a snack and then return to the school to complete a special art project late into the evening. It is no surprise that this hard-working, multi-talented Husky, who was hand-picked during her junior year to attend the prestigious Governor's School for the Arts, became an accomplished artist/sculptor, teacher, creative entrepreneur, and writer. The Louis E. Dieruff High School Alumni Association is proud to introduce our hometown Husky from the Class of 1975, Carmella A. Saraceno.

Carmella went on to earn her BFA from the Tyler School of Art at Temple University during which time she also studied in Rome. After earning a living in New York City in the '80s, Carmella took her work ethic westward to the galleries and studios of Chicago, where she and her husband reside today. She has also been an instructor, advisor, and the Director of International Affairs at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

In 1990, Carmella founded Methods & Materials, Inc., a unique specialty service which provides rigging, relocation, and installation of fine art and the careful handling of rare artifacts. In addition to her writing and artwork, which has been exhibited both nationally and internationally, she functions today as the business's co-owner and Chief Financial Officer. She says of her company's work, *"Art is vital to a civil society. The services we provide within our society have truly been a great honor and privilege to orchestrate."*

Known for her warmth, benevolence, and storytelling, Carmella delightfully told me that her cheeks hurt from smiling so much upon receiving the news that she had been selected for the Dieruff Alumni Wall of Distinction. Her reaction was heartwarming, and her gratitude and enthusiasm were palpable. How appropriate it will be to see our tribute to her success permanently displayed on the wall around the corner from the same Dieruff Art Room in which her young talent got its start.

That made me smile, too, which stamped another memory of Carmella Saraceno.

Joanne Ogrydziak '76



## Braun Brothers “Big Band” Bash

In a jewel of a setting in the heart of our city, Allentown concert-goers were recently treated to a special performance by two of Dieruff’s finest alumni musicians. Joining his brother Russ ’77, who conducts the Royalaires at West Park throughout the summer, Rick Braun ’73 recently took a break from his annual gig at the Berks Jazz Fest in Reading to play in his hometown.

Under the clear, starry sky on a perfect August evening, the two brothers reminisced about growing up in a large family on North Sixth Street and how music had played a major role in their daily home life. With



Russ on his trombone and Rick tooting his trumpet, the lucky audience heard Glenn Miller favorites along with some toe-tapping tunes from the ‘60s era of Brazilian Jazz.

It was especially memorable for Russ who sadly announced that he is retiring from the Royalaires, a local swing band founded by former Dieruff Band Director Richard Hinkle. I’m sure that it meant a lot to these two highly-talented brothers to perform together on the band shell stage on such an unforgettable night.

It meant a lot to this Husky to see them.

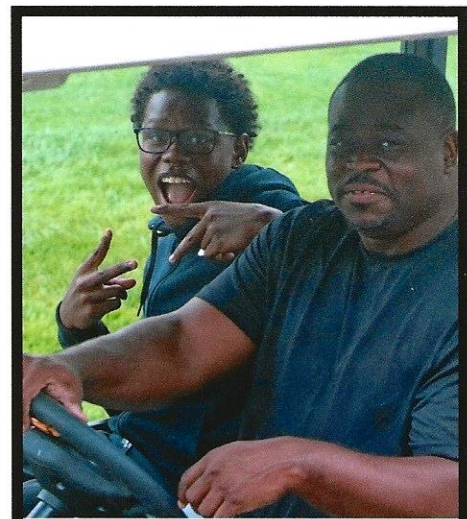
Joanne Ogrydziak ‘76



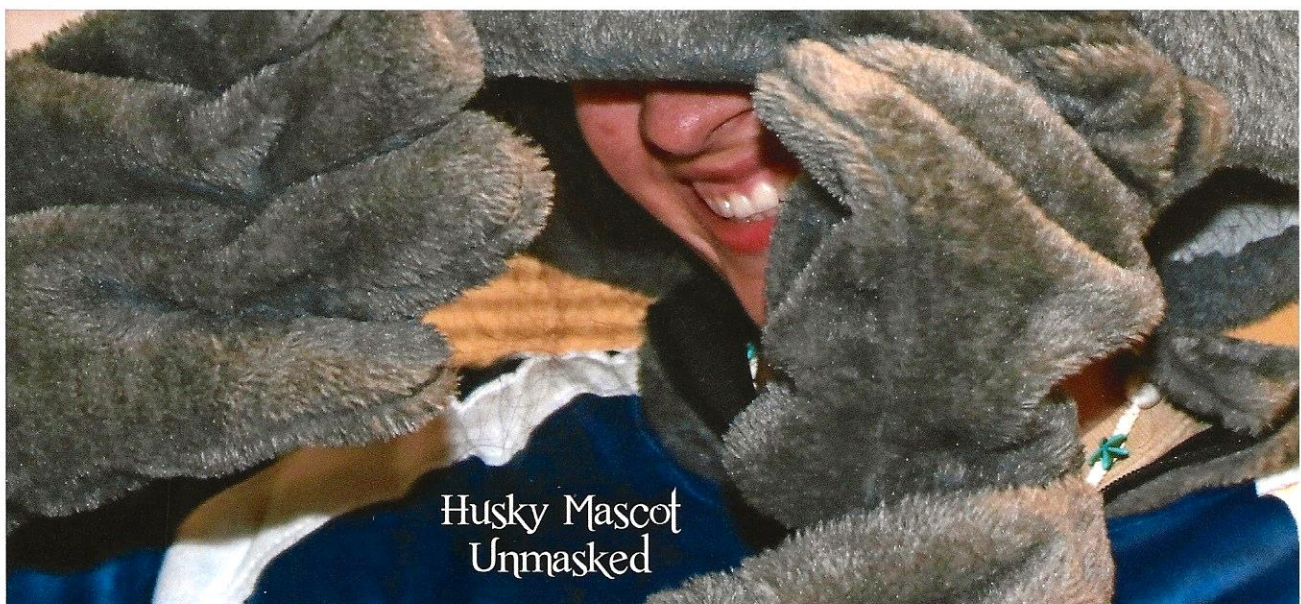
## Husky Happenings



Dieruff Leadership Team: l-r Ms. Joey Schubert, Mr. Ronnell Heard, Mrs. Lisa Krause, Mr. Michael Makhoul, Mrs. Melissa Petronio, Mr. David Reimschuessel



Dieruff Basketball Coach Jai-T Randall at Golf Fundraiser, Allentown Municipal Golf Course.





## Husky Happenings





## FLASHBACK: 1988 Ledannus Makes Accurate Forecast

Yearbook editors sometimes nail their predictions. The editors of the Dieruff 1988 Yearbook were certainly "spot on" when they selected Thomas M. Henderschedt as the *"Most Likely To Succeed"* Senior.

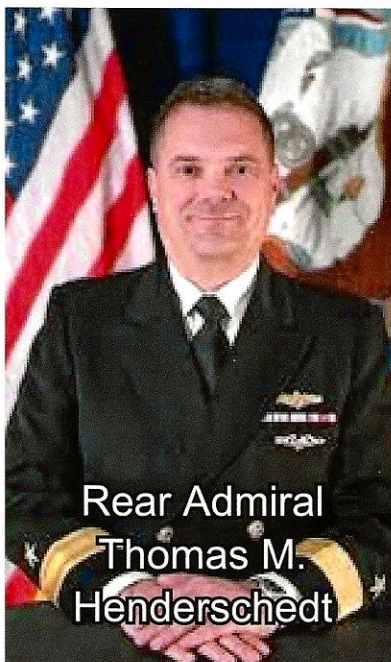
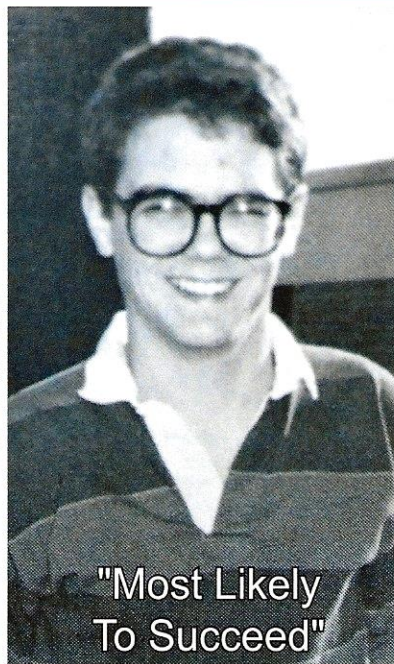
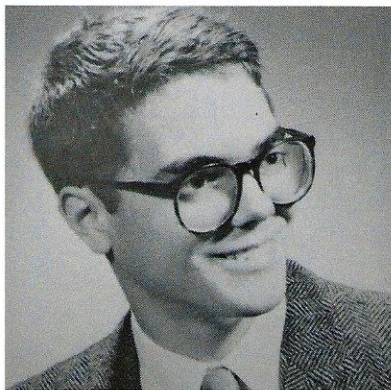
During his high school career, Thomas had distinguished himself with strong leadership positions in multiple school activities. Most noteworthy was his exemplary role in the award-winning AFJROTC unit. During his senior year, he held the position of Cadet Lieutenant Colonel, serving as the Corps Commander, with over one hundred cadet members.

Predictably, Tom did pursue a career in the armed services. Recently, he was promoted to the rank of Rear Admiral in the United States Navy, and is now serving as the


Senior Defense Attache in the United States Embassy in Beijing, China. He is regarded as one of the Navy's most knowledgeable experts on China relations, with three China tours to his credit.

The Louis E. Dieruff Alumni Association has selected Rear Admiral Henderschedt for the Alumni Wall of Distinction, Class of 2021. He is scheduled to be inducted during the October 22, 2021 ceremonies.

The Alumni Association proudly salutes Thomas M. Henderschedt for his outstanding achievements. We would also like to add our sincere congratulations to those 1988 yearbook editors who very accurately forecast his brilliant success.







**ADVERTISE IN THE  
"Husky Connections"  
Monthly Bulletin**

Reach over 5,000 Dieruff Alumni each month

**Quarter Page Ad - \$20 / Mo.**  
**Business Card Ad - \$10 / Mo.**

See contact information in  
Masthead on last page of Bulletin

**health  
markets**  
HealthMarkets Insurance Agency  
Health | Medicare | Vision | Dental | Life



*Bill Zeky Dieruff class of 1978*

**Attention Medicare Recipients**  
Annual enrollment begins October 15 and runs through December 7.  
Exciting changes for 2022

- Lower prices
- Expanded Rx coverages
- VA companion plans
- Expanded extras like dental, vision and hearing
- New dual eligible plans
- OTC benefits
- Transportation benefits
- Silver sneakers

**Attention classes of '74 & '75:** We can start discussing Medicare coverage three months prior to your 65<sup>th</sup> birthday. Always free consultation.

**I speak Medicare!**

Bill Zeky | 610-554-7332 | [bzeky@healthmarkets.com](mailto:bzeky@healthmarkets.com)  
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Never a fee for my services!

**ADVERTISE IN OUR MONTHLY BULLETIN 1/4 Page Ad: \$20/ Mo. Business Card Ad: \$10/ Mo.**

## Giant Cash For Causes Gift Card Order Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Number of \$25 cards \_\_\_\_\_

Number of \$50 cards \_\_\_\_\_

Number of \$100 cards \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Due \$ \_\_\_\_\_



Clip order form and mail, along with check payable to "Dieruff Alumni Association", to  
John Hughes, 2038 Majestic Overlook Drive, Bethlehem, PA 18015



## Upcoming Events

**DIERUFF HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1961**

THEN we were going to.....



and NOW we are going from Noon to 4 PM on Oct. 15th to our.....

### 60<sup>th</sup> Class Reunion!!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Guest \_\_\_\_\_ \$20.00 Per Person **RSVP by: 10/01/21**

Make your check payable to Dennis Blankowitsch and mail to:  
Dennis Blankowitsch  
5535 Monocacy Drive  
Bethlehem, PA 18017

**DIRECTIONS:** Take 145N (McArthur Rd) passed the malls to the light at Columbia St. Make a right onto Columbia (Columbia will turn into Ash). Follow to the second stop sign. Maennorchor is on the right at Ash & Ruth St. Ample parking available.

**Wall of Distinction  
Induction Ceremony  
Friday, October 22, 2021  
5:30 - 8:30 PM  
The Palace Center**

**Homecoming Football Game  
Cheerleaders & Coaches  
October 15, 2021 7:00 PM  
J. Birney Crum Stadium**

**Dieruff vs. Allen  
Football Game  
October 30, 2021**

## CLASS REUNIONS

**Class of 1966      55th Class Reunion September 18, 2021  
The Barristers Club, 1114 W. Walnut St., Allentown**

**Class of 1961      60th Class Reunion, October 15, 2021  
West Coplay Maennorchor**

**Class of 1970      Reunion, October 16, 2021  
Fullerton Fire Company**

**Class of 1965      Reunion, October 30, 2021  
Northampton Community & Events Center**





Louis E. Dieruff High School  
Alumni Association

Louis E. Dieruff High School  
815 North Irving Street  
Allentown, PA 18109

**"Husky Connections"  
Alumni Bulletin**

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[www.dieruff-  
alumni.org](http://www.dieruff-alumni.org)

## Husky Howls & Hugs

Greetings,

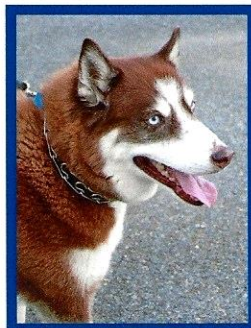
With all the trouble in the world, thought it was time for some Husky Humor and some Husky Health advice. Mom clicked on a site: *65 things you need to know about your Siberian*. Shocked and thrilled when she saw this one. For years Mom has joked the reason she did not have deep wrinkles is her use of husky spit. According to a University of Florida study, you should allow your husky to kiss you, especially on the mouth. Some probiotics and proteins are good for better human digestion. Mom was right! So pucker up, Coach Lutte. Dog spit is healthy.



Mascot duty has been difficult. We skipped practice for football because of the excessive heat. Same for the first football game. At eleven, with health issues, the heat and humidity would have been rough on me. Getting arthritis in my front legs so do not know how much I can run this season.

We did play Nazareth, which is my hometown. The funny thing is I usually walk on the campus once or twice a week. But I was not allowed on the field. Several years ago, our town had a feral cat problem, and the cats were using the field as a litter box. Thus the ban.

Mom and I showed up in the public parking lot to greet the team as they came off the bus. Until they came, Mom and I did the usual. Walk the streets. Was really a blessing because had I been on the field, I would have had leg problems. Due to the nearby creek, the Nazareth field is damp like a swamp. So Mom took me home, I napped and Mom and Aunt Cindy went to the game. All worked out.



Love, *Kiska V.*