



Edward Antonelli



After learning the game of golf from his father, Ed Antonelli's passion for the sport grew while being a caddy at the Trumbull Country Club. He went on to be a standout for the golf team at St. Mary's High School and Youngstown College in the early 1960's.

Ed then went to Germany where served in the U.S. Army. He was a member of the 24th Infantry Division golf team that won the All-American/European Championship in 1964. Upon his return to the United States, Ed worked as an assistant pro at the Trumbull Country Club for two years and at the Youngstown Country Club for two more. After earning his PGA membership, Ed became the head pro at the Grandview Golf Club in Middlefield.

One of his proudest accomplishments was a sixth-place finish in the 42nd Ohio Open in 1968. After his professional golf career ended, Ed worked for Packard Electric for 27 years before retiring in 1996. However, he continued to play competitive golf winning the 8th annual Packard Electric Golf Tournament and participating in several area golf leagues.

A member of the Old Avalon Golf Course and then Avalon Lakes for nearly 30 years, Ed was a perennial star in the prestigious Penn-Ohio Golf League. He was also the club champion at the Cleveland Heights Golf Course in Lakeland, Florida, in 2005, 2007 and 2009. Ed was co-owner of the Troy Hill Golf Center with his friend and pro, Leo Zampedro, and LPGA professional Barb Mucha.

Ed passed on his love for golf by donating his time to the Warren YMCA, giving golf lessons to beginners. He passed away in 2020 at the age of 81.



David Binko



As a member of the Warren G. Harding football team, Dave Binko excelled on both sides of the ball. He was a fullback and linebacker from 1963-65 helping lead the Panthers to a record of 8-1-1 his senior season. Dave continued his playing career at Virginia Polytechnic Institute (now known as Virginia Tech), as a linebacker for the Gobblers. During his junior season, the team played Ole Miss in the 1968 Liberty Bowl.

After graduating from Virginia Tech in 1970, Dave returned to Warren and was an assistant football coach at John F. Kennedy High School from 1971-73. He then coached the junior high football programs at Kennedy in 1989 and 2021. Dave has also coached baseball at the McKinley League, Niles Little League and Vienna Youth League.

In 2018, Dave was inducted into the Varsity Club Athletics Hall of Fame. The organization recognizes the athletic achievements of alumni and special friends from both St. Mary's and John F. Kennedy Catholic Schools.



Holly Chapin



A 1987 graduate of Warren G. Harding High School, Holly Chapin was a four-year letter winner in basketball and softball. She was a three-time first-team All-Trumbull County selection in basketball. A two-time team captain, Holly was named to the All-Steel Valley Conference first-team as a junior and Class "AAA" All-Inland District Honorable Mention as a senior. She was then chosen to represent Warren Harding in the 17th annual All-Star Basketball Classic at Youngstown State University.

Holly continued her playing career in both basketball and softball at Walsh College in North Canton. After playing at Walsh for two seasons, she transferred to the University of Akron. Holly's career-high in scoring was the same in both high school and college—27-points. She set the mark against Youngstown Ursuline and Lake Erie College, respectively.

After graduating from Akron with a degree in Elementary Education, Holly landed her dream job of teaching and coaching in the Warren City Schools. She was a volunteer girls' basketball varsity coach from 1992-95, an 8th-grade volleyball coach at Western Reserve Middle School and a 9th-grade basketball coach. Holly was also the girls' junior varsity coach for Harding's District Championship team in 2000. She returned to coaching 20-years later, as an assistant for the swim team.

Holly currently resides in Warren.



Sam Covelli



One of Warren John F. Kennedy High School's most staunch benefactors, Sam Covelli is a 1971 graduate of JFK. He has supported every sports team over the years by feeding players before home and away games, placing ads in every sports program published, participating in or sponsoring athletic fundraisers and notably, purchasing rings for the 1996-97 A.P. State Championship boys' basketball team.

Sam and his wife, Caryn, were also the lead donors to the construction of the Kennedy Tennis Complex.

Sam has always believed in the academic and operating mission of the school. For over 20 years, the Albert M. Covelli Foundation has awarded scholarships to families enrolled at John F. Kennedy High School. It gives families, who value Catholic Education for their children, the ability to help with the cost of tuition. In 2000, Sam was presented with the John F. Kennedy "Golden Eagle Distinguished Alumni" award. It is the most prestigious honor given at JFK and is bestowed upon the individual who lives a life based on the motto of courage, integrity and dedication.

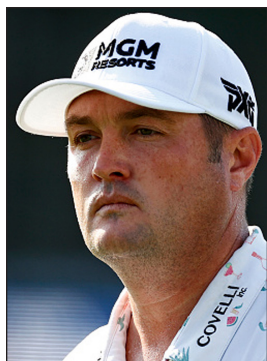
Sam is the owner and CEO of Covelli Enterprises, which has been headquartered in Warren for nearly 60 years. The Covellis' generosity has extended beyond Kennedy athletics by supporting the Cleveland Clinic and the Athletics Departments at Youngstown State University and Ohio State University.

Sam was the driving force behind the Panerathon, which is a 10K/2-mile run/walk in Youngstown that raises money for the Joanie Abdu Breast Cancer Comprehensive Breast Care Center at St. Elizabeth Mercy Health Center.

Sam and Caryn have three children: Candace, Albert and Danielle.



Jason Kokrak



Born in North Bay, Ontario, Jason Kokrak grew up in Warren and played golf at John F. Kennedy High School. He led the Eagles to the Ohio High School Division III state golf championships in 2000 and 2001. Jason set the all-time low individual score in the tournament, 134, in 2002 and was named the 2003 Ohio "Golfer of the Year." Jason went on to play collegiately at Xavier University, winning the 2006 and 2007 Ohio Amateur titles. He was inducted into the Xavier Athletics Hall of Fame in December, 2015.

After graduating college in 2007, Jason turned professional. He won his first Nationwide Tour event, the Albertsons Boise Open, in 2011 and followed that with his second victory within a month at the Miccosukee Championship, assuring him of a 2012 PGA Tour card.

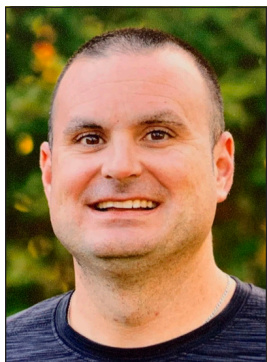
Jason made his first appearance as a member of the PGA Tour in January, 2012 at the Sony Open in Hawaii. He won his first PGA Tour event at the CJ Cup in October, 2020 and then won the Charles Schwab Challenge earlier this year in May. Jason captured the Hewlett Packard Enterprise Houston Open just last month. As of November 2021, he was the 20th ranked golfer in the world.

Jason is a supporter of First Tee, which is a youth development organization that integrates the game of golf with a life skills curriculum. The PGA Tour donates more to local charities than all other major sports combined.

Jason and his wife, Stephanie, reside in Hudson with their two children; Declan and Landon John.



Jim McGee



A 1998 graduate of Warren G. Harding High School, Jim McGee started swimming at the Warren Olympic Club when he was seven years old. He continued to swim throughout his childhood and eventually competed in high school. Jim was a three-time Ohio High School state finalist in diving, a three-time winner of the Glen Moore "Outstanding Swimmer and Diver of the Year" award and a two-time recipient of the Varsity Captains Award. In 1998, he was selected by the Ohio High School Coaches Association to be a member of the interscholastic team in one-meter diving. Jim still holds the 11 Dive Point Record for Warren Harding.

Jim went on to compete at Clarion University, where he was a seven-time Division II College All-American in the one-meter and three-meter dive. Jim was also a two-time Academic All-American. After earning his Bachelor's Degree in 2003, he received the Clarion University Certificate of Recognition for Outstanding Graduate Students while graduating with a Master's in Rehabilitation Sciences.

Jim is the Director of Health and Wellness at Clarion, where he lives with his wife Christine and daughter Chloe. Jim is still involved with diving as a judge for the University's home meets.



Michael McLain



A native of Warren, Mike McLain graduated from Western Reserve High School in 1971 and then attended Kent State University. He was one of the Tribune Chronicle's most versatile and skilled sports writers covering everything from high school sports to boxing to the Cleveland Browns.

Mike reported on some of the great games in the rivalry between Warren Harding and Warren Western Reserve. He also chronicled Brookfield's run to a state football championship in 1978 and Harding's 1990 state championship season. Mike watched the Mathews girls' basketball team cut down the nets after winning the state championship in 1988 and was in Columbus when the Girard boys' basketball team finished off a Cinderella season to win the state championship in 1993.

Mike began covering the Browns in 1980 with the Kardiak Kids. He went on the beat full-time in 1987 and continued through the 2015 season, retiring in early 2016 as the senior reporter covering the team. Mike was there for some of the most memorable moments in Browns' history, such as; "Red Right-88," "The Fumble" and "The Drive."

Mike's earliest memory of covering a major event involving a Warren-area figure was when Bobby Lewis, Jr., won the Ohio Open golf title in 1978 at Mill Creek Park. It was also a time when boxing was king—Harry Arroyo was the IBF lightweight champion and Ray "Boom Boom" Mancini held the WBA crown.

Mike won several Ohio Associated Press Sportswriters' Association awards, including first place for general excellence in 1990, first place for a game story in 1995 and first place for a news story in 1981.



Patrick Merrick



A consummate athlete, Pat Merrick was born in Sharon, Pennsylvania, but soon called Warren home. He was a standout on the Warren G. Harding football team, and capped off his high school career by playing in the Trumbull-Mercer County All-Star Game.

After graduating in 1959, Pat went on to play at Newberry College in South Carolina. He was named to the All-Carolina Conference team three years, Little All-American two years and was twice named the Most Valuable Lineman at Newberry.

Following his college career, Pat took part in the Cleveland Browns' rookie camp as a free agent in 1967. Although the Browns invited him back the following year, he decided to begin his career in teaching and coaching at the high school level.

Pat started coaching football as an assistant at Mid-Carolina High School in South Carolina. He then returned to Trumbull County in 1967 to teach at Joseph Badger High School in Kinsman. Pat was then at Harding from 1967-70 as a teacher and assistant football coach. He went over to Warren John F. Kennedy from 1970-72 before heading to the Niles school system in 1973. Pat was an assistant football coach, the head baseball coach and the school's Athletic Director. After his retirement, he was an assistant football coach at LaBrae High School.

Pat was inducted into the Newberry College Letterman's Club Hall of Fame in 1989 and later the Trumbull County Sports Hall of Fame in 2016. Pat passed away in 2018 at the age of 76.



Anthony Payiavlas



A lifetime resident of Warren, Anthony Payiavlas is a 1980 graduate of Warren G. Harding High School, where he served as the Student Body President. Soon after graduation, Anthony was elected to the Warren City Schools Board of Education serving for eight years, including three years as President.

Anthony believes in supporting the youth of Warren by providing opportunities and resources that aid in maximizing their potential for future success. For over 40 years he has enthusiastically supported a wide array of academic and athletic programs in the Warren City Schools and continues to be a mentor to many of the student-athletes.

In addition to that, Anthony supports numerous organizations, such as; the Warren Gridiron Club, Warren Football Association, Warren Harding Rebounders Club, Warren Athletic Club and Warren Soccer League. He has offered his support and leadership for the creation of the Paul Warfield monument and the annual Warren Football NFL Legends events that benefit the Harding football program.

Anthony serves as the President and CEO of AVI Foodsystems in Warren, a company founded by his father, John Payiavlas, in 1960. He continues to offer his support to the Warren City Schools to ensure that Warren's youth learn the true meaning of commitment, perseverance, sacrifice and dedication in the classroom, on the field, and beyond.

Anthony and wife, Tina, have four sons. Their twins, John and Constantine, graduated from Harding in 2017, Alexander is a 2019 graduate and Anthony is a senior at Warren Harding.



Vanness Provitt



A former student-athlete and past member of the National Football League, Vanness Provitt was a wide receiver for the Warren G. Harding football team from 1991-95. He also lettered in basketball and baseball while in high school. Vanness received All-Ohio honors for football and basketball and was named the Most Valuable Player of the "Big 33" Ohio-Pennsylvania All-Star Game.

After graduation, he attended Fork Union Military Prep School in Virginia for one year before transferring to The Ohio State University. While at OSU, Vanness was a three-year letter winner as a wide receiver. Among his many accomplishments in the Big 10 were winning the Rose Bowl Championship, the Sugar Bowl Championship and being named Big Ten Champions.

Upon graduation with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology, Vanness signed as a free agent with the Pittsburgh Steelers in 2001.

He is grateful to his mother, Debbie for being his greatest cheerleader and his father, Bernard, Sr. for developing his work ethic. Vanness' twin sister, Vernita, also played college basketball at Shawnee State University and his brother, Bernard, Jr., is the head coach of Warren's own AAU basketball team, "The Family."

Vanness is the proud father of one son, future basketball phenom, Vanness, II, and works as a Sheriff's Deputy at Franklin County Sheriff's Office. He has called Columbus home for nearly 20 years and has volunteered as a basketball coach in the community.



Vernita Provitt-Lyons



As a coach, mother and mentor, Vernita Provitt shares her knowledge, passion and leadership skills with young athletes to help them succeed in sports and in life. She was a four-year starter for the Warren G. Harding girls' basketball team from 1991-95 and was the Trumbull County Girls' Basketball "Player of the Year" as a senior.

Vernita received a scholarship to play basketball at Shawnee State University. She helped lead the Bears to the Mid-Ohio Conference Regular Season and Tournament Championships and a trip to the NAIA Division II tournament in each of her three seasons. Vernita was a two-time First-Team All-MOC honoree, a Third-Team NAIA All-American in 1995-96 and a First-Team NAIA All-American in the 1996-97 season. She is still the all-time leader at Shawnee State in free throws made and attempted in a season and is second in program history with a career scoring average of 17.1 points per game. Vernita was inducted into the Shawnee State University Athletics Hall of Fame this past October.

After graduating from SSU, she started her career in Corrections and later received a Master's in Community Counseling from Kent State University. Vernita is currently a Juvenile Parole Officer and Mental Health Counselor. In 2010, she was named the Franklin County "Foster Parent of the Year."

Vernita returned to basketball as an assistant girls' coach at Warren Harding, head junior varsity coach at East High and the fourth-grade girls' coach at John F. Kennedy's lower campus.

Vernita and her husband, Cedric Lyons, live in Warren with their children; LaMarcus and Rahmiya.



Congressman Tim Ryan



Before he became a United States Representative, Tim Ryan was an All-Ohio performer in football and basketball at Warren John F. Kennedy High School. He quarterbacked the Eagles to the 1989 Ohio High School Division IV state football championship game and was named the Trumbull County "Football Player of the Year" after his senior season in 1990.

The Niles native was recruited by Youngstown State University, but a knee injury ended his playing career. Tim then transferred to Bowling Green State University, where he graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science. Tim also holds a law degree from the University of New Hampshire School of Law (formerly the Franklin Pierce Law Center).

Tim was first elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 2002 and is currently serving in his 10th term. He is as a member of the House Appropriations Committee which controls the expenditure of money by the federal government and the co-chairman of the Congressional Manufacturing Caucus. Congressman Ryan is a dynamic leader in the House speaking out on issues concerning Northeast Ohio.

Before his election to public office, Tim served as President of the Trumbull County Young Democrats and as Chairman of the Earning by Learning program in Warren. He began his career in politics as a congressional aide with the U.S. House of Representatives in 1995 and later served as an intern for the Trumbull County Prosecutor's Office.

Tim resides in Howland with his wife, Andrea, and their three children; Mason, Isabella, and Brady.



Dr. Calvin Washington



A 1973 graduate of Warren Western Reserve High School, Calvin Washington was a dual threat in football and track. He was the team captain of the Raiders' Class "AAA" state football championship team in 1972. An All-Ohio selection at defensive tackle, Calvin was chosen to play in the "Big 33" Ohio-Pennsylvania All-Star Game.

While gaining a Bachelor of Science Degree in Animal Science at Cornell University, he was a member of the 1976 All-Ivy League Football Team, won the football student athletic award and was a member of the agricultural and athletic honorary societies. Shortly after receiving his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from The Ohio State University in 1981, Calvin founded the East Columbus Veterinary Hospital which has thrived in Columbus for 37 years. He then received the Distinguished Service Award of the Ohio Veterinary Medical Association in 2012 and was recognized as the 2019 Distinguished Alumnus by the College of Veterinary Medicine for his meritorious service to our country, his excellent service to the profession, and his unwavering commitment to mentoring within the community.

Dr. Washington proudly serves in the U.S. Army Reserves, Veterinary Corps achieving the rank of Colonel. Calvin is a community and education activist serving as the Vice Chairman of the Board of The Fountain of Hope, a Christian-based organization for at-risk youth. He was a 2002 inductee into the Warren High Schools' Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame.

Calvin is the proud father of two children.