

COMMUNITY NEWS

Family thanks heart surgeon for help

Members of the Bove family recently marked American Heart Month by coming to North Shore University Hospital and publicly thanking the cardiac surgeon who saved them and put them on track to lead healthier lives.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of February being called "American Heart Month."

John Bove, 52, of Copiague, joined his sister, Frances Bove Agosta, 55, of Hauppauge; his aunt, Pauline Bove, 85, of Massapequa Park; and his mother, Angelina Bove, 80, also of Hauppauge, at a press event Wednesday to discuss the various cardiac diseases that brought them to the attention of Alan Hartman, MD, chairman, Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery, North Shore-LIJ Health System.

Dr. Hartman also performed heart surgery on another member of the family, Joe Bove of Oakdale, in 1987. He is thriving and enjoying life in Florida.

During a press conference held at the hospital, Dr. Hartman explained that heart disease is usually attributable to two major factors—heredity and lifestyle. With slides illustrating the various conditions experienced by the Bove clan, Dr. Hartman stressed that education and awareness are essential to good heart health in an aging population.



(Top row, l to r). John Bove, Dr. Alan Hartman (bottom row, left to right) Frances Bove Agosta; Pauline Bove; Angelina Bove. During a press conference held at North Shore University Hospital, four members of the Bove family re-united to thank Dr. Alan Hartman for performing their life-saving cardiac surgeries.

"The Bove family is a great example of how heart disease should be approached and managed," he said. "The purpose of heart surgery is to help our patients get back to their lives. Of course,

patients will think often of their surgeries, but this is not a subject on which to dwell. The Boves have done a wonderful job of getting on with their lives."

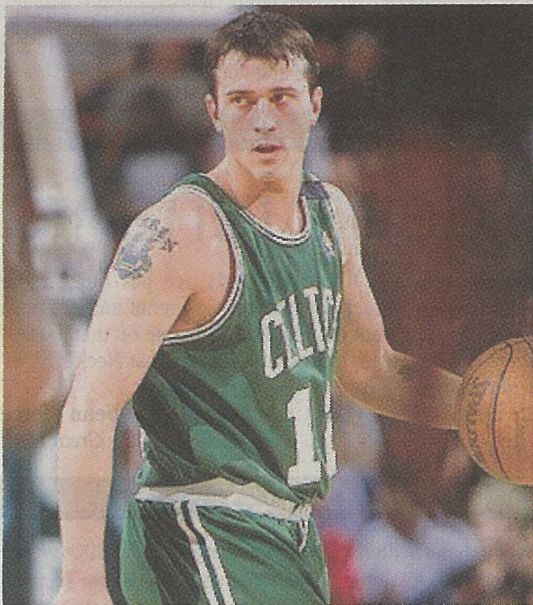
As proof that heart disease often does

run in families, each member of the panel discussed his or her condition. Both John Bove and his sister Frances had mitral valve replacement surgery to repair a prolapsed mitral valve—she in 2004 and he in 2013. Pauline, who reported shortness of breath whenever she went dancing, had quadruple bypass surgery in 1999. Finally, Angelina underwent TAVR (Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement) surgery in December of 2013.

"As you can see from this family, there are many different types of heart disease. Certainly, we have to consider the role of genetics, but we also have to look at what we are doing to our bodies and consider the interplay of these two important factors," Dr. Hartman said. "But I have to say, I've never had the privilege of operating on five members of the same family. This was a great privilege."

Each member of the Bove clan spoke about their gratitude to Dr. Hartman and the surgical teams who gave them back their quality of life.

"There were times when each of us had to wonder if we were going to pull through," Pauline Bove said. "And now, we're all back to living our lives the way they were before. We're just so happy to be here."



Former NBA star Herren to speak about addiction

Chris Herren, NBA Basketball star from the Boston Celtics, will be the featured speaker at a community wide Town Hall Meeting sponsored by the Manhasset Booster Club, Manhasset CASA and the Manhasset SCA on Thursday, March 27, at 7:30 p.m. in the Manhasset High School Auditorium. Admission is free and open to the public.

The basketball legend from Fall River, lived the dream of every high school athlete. He broke scoring re-

cords, was courted by top colleges, featured in Sports Illustrated, and was even the focus of an acclaimed book, *Fall River Dreams*. Herren, having his first drink at age 14—stealing his Dad's beer and going in the woods with friends—will speak openly about how he wished he were comfortable enough with himself in high school NOT to drink and to focus on other things. He lost it all to addiction: first alcohol, then cocaine, Oxycontin, and finally heroin.

Clean and sober since 2008, Herren's presentation tells the tale of his harrowing descent into addiction, a miraculous recovery and his new life mission: to share his story with audiences in the hopes of reaching just one person and making a difference in their life. For more information about this exceptional community presentation, please contact Manhasset CASA at (516) 267-7548 or go to their website at Manhassetcasa.org. You can also like CASA on Facebook!

SCHOOL NEWS

Seeking facilities committee volunteers

Manhasset Schools Convenes Long Term Facilities Planning Committee

A district-wide long term facilities planning committee is being convened to assess and prioritize district-wide facilities' needs both short and long term in Manhasset. The committee will be comprised of parents, community members

and members of the district administration. The committee's preliminary findings are to be presented to the board of education in June.

The Long Term Facilities Planning Committee will begin with a series of three evening meetings in March, one at each of the three school buildings. After a tour of each

school building, the committee will identify specific projects for consideration to be included in a long range plan through 2020. Following these initial meetings, additional meetings will be scheduled in April and May so that the committee can be prepared to report to the board in June with preliminary findings.

The board is actively seeking at least three members of the community who are interested in serving on the long term facilities planning committee. If you are interested in serving, please contact Superintendent Charlie Cardillo at (516) 267-7705 or at ccardillo@manhasset.k12.ny.us by March 3.

An average of \$4 million has been invested annually district-wide over the last 8 years on facilities repairs, infrastructure replacement, renovations, upgrades and long term maintenance. This ongoing investment reflects the district's commitment to maintaining our valuable community asset.