



AIC President Vince M. Maniaci, Chair of the Abdow Corporation Ronald J. Abdow and Lewis Randall, AIC Board of Trustees officially dedicate the new football field at American International College.

Reminder Publications submitted photo

AIC names football field after Abdow

SPRINGFIELD – His name is synonymous with successful business, but he is also one of the most prominent names in college sports. And now Ronald J. Abdow has his own field, the Ronald J. Abdow Football Field at American International College (AIC).

The Longmeadow resident officially opened the new field Oct. 3 with a ribbon cutting ceremony during half time of the AIC Homecoming game.

Abdow has been a longtime AIC trustee and former Chairman of the Board.

“We feel this is a well deserved honor for Ron, recognizing all of the work he has done for the college over the years,” AIC President Vince M. Maniaci, said.

Chairman of the Abdow Corporation in West Springfield, Abdow has served for many years on the AIC Board of Trustees, including more than 18 years as chair. He currently serves vice chair.

Abdow acquired the Big Boy franchise in 1963 and ran 19 Abdow Family Restaurants before selling to the Bickford Restaurant Group in 1995.

He was a Division I College Football official for 28 years, officiating more than 270 games in three major conferences, including nine bowl games.

In 1997, he was honored by the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame receiving the highest award for football officiating.

He graduated from Worcester Academy and Brown University, where he majored in Economics. In 2005, Abdow received an honorary doctorate degree from AIC.

