

WINTER 2011 / ISSUE 32

ALUMNI
CALLUMIET



They created one of the largest, most active, and most successful high school alumni organizations in America - the *Weequahic High School Alumni Association*

Weequahic Alumni will honor **HAL BRAFF & SHELDON BROSS**



with a Testimonial Dinner on
Thursday, May 19th, 6 p.m.

at the historic Robert Treat Hotel in Newark



Weequahic legend, NBA basketball player, championship coach, and executive

Alvin Attles

will be the Keynote Speaker



and Hal's son, **Zach Braff**, star of the popular TV show, *Scrubs*, will join us

*Proceeds will support scholarships
and student activities at the high school*

To order tickets (\$100) or to place an ad in our Journal, call us at (973) 923-3133 ("tax deductible as allowed by law")

BRAFF & BROSS: THE VISIONARIES

It all began 14 years ago when the Weequahic High School Alumni Association was launched with a gathering of more than 300 alumni on a Friday evening in September at The Newark Public Library. The vision for this endeavor came from attorneys **Hal Braff, 1952**, and **Sheldon Bross, 1955**.

They believed that the wonderful memories and nostalgia of growing up in Weequahic could be transformed to create new energy for bridging the older and newer generations of the high school. And so the vision took shape:

It was not from our differences, but from the traditions that we have in common, that gave birth to the Weequahic High School Alumni Association in 1997 - a unique opportunity to bring people together - people who seemed so far apart yet who have shared something significant and precious: their lives were shaped in their Weequahic years.

Since that auspicious debut, Hal, as Co-President, and Sheldon, as Treasurer for many years, have provided the dynamic leadership for our phenomenal success, including the following:

- ◆ Created a diverse organization with more than 8,000 alumni, spanning nine decades.
- ◆ Raised more than one-half million dollars and awarded \$51,000 in student scholarships in 2010.
- ◆ Sponsored student trips to Paris, Montreal, and Washington, DC.
- ◆ Provided support for academic programs, athletic teams, and the marching band.
- ◆ Participated in the making of "Heart of Stone," an award-winning documentary about the high school.
- ◆ Established the Weequahic HS Alumni Hall of Fame.

PLANNED GIVING

Did you know that individuals are the largest source of funding for non-profit organizations? *Giving USA* stated that in 2008 charitable donations in the U.S. reached more than \$300 billion. Of that amount 75% came from individuals.

Ensure the future of our Alumni Association and its important work at Weequahic High School by establishing a "planned gift" so that our legacy can continue in the years to come.

When you are doing your "life planning," consider "giving back" to the high school that provided you with an outstanding education and so many countless memories. Below are some options:

Some specific "GIVING" suggestions for Weequahic

Association Life Extension

Make a gift that will help to ensure the longevity of the Weequahic High School Alumni Association beyond this generation.

Scholarship Fund

Establish a scholarship fund in your name, the name of your family, or in the name of a relative, classmate, favorite teacher, administrator, coach, friend, or your class.

Special Student Project

Fund a special educational project at the school, such as tutoring, mentoring, cultural activities, sports camps, educational trips, etc.

Facility/Programs

The high school is nearing eighty years old. Fund a project that improves and enhances the facility and its programs, such as mural restoration; new signage; attractive fencing around the school; landscaping; new trophy cases; new technology equipment; team, band, and athletic uniforms; musical instruments, etc.

ALUMNI CALUMET

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RECENT DONATIONS:

Steve Dinetz, 1965
Ceil Fein
Dena Gittleman Greenstein, 1964
Walter Hastreiter (in memory)
Judy Herr, 1964
Steve Bogner, 1966
Swede Masin Family
Thomas Boose, 1959
Warren Kessler, 1960
Beverly Tepper Alves, 1960
Howard Schnitzer, 1951
Provident Bank
Bank of America
Newark Academy
Class of 1939
Class of 1945
Class of Jan. 1950
Class of Jan. 1960
Class of June 1960
Class of 1963
Class of 1964
Classes of 1965 and 1966

CORRECTION:

Our apologies to Linda Whittle Reninger (6/63) whose name was incorrectly placed on the "In Loving Memory" list.



Weequahic names new gymnasium after the late Principal Ron Stone

By Phil Yourish, 1964, WHSAA Executive Director

I remember the old gym so well - tiny for today, but big enough then for our basketball games. The wooden bleachers open on both sides hugging the playing court. The ropes and rings hanging high near the ceiling. The horses and parallel bars pushed to the side. The white backboards made of wood. The balls with leather covers. Students packed tightly into the stands - eyewitness to the action unfolding on the hardwood. The cacophony of collective voices. The vicarious pleasure of watching Weequahic basketball at its best. And the glorious memories of so many unforgettable moments in the 60's. Three state championships, an undefeated season, and the number 1 team in the country. Our heroes: Pervall, Friedman, Bemby, Talley, Layton, and Lewis to name a few with Coach Fein choreographing more than a decade of hoops success. Could going to school be any better than this! Read on...



We've all been waiting so long. We began to think it would never happen. Promises were made and promises were broken. We always seemed to be on the bottom of the new construction list. We wondered how a school with such a stellar basketball tradition could be overlooked so often. For too many years, frustration and disappointment abounded - and then we saw the blueprints and the rendering ...

So you can imagine how emotional I was at age 64 in the year 2011 when I entered the new building erected in a place where we used to play knock hockey, touch football and "HORSE" on the asphalt and where generations of kids spent their after-school and weekend hours. Then I heard the balls bouncing in the new gym...

On Thursday, January 20th, something spectacular took place. I didn't know it was going to happen, so I was surprised when the announcement came. At 4 in the afternoon the Weequahic girls' basketball team would be playing Bloomfield High at the Ronald G. Stone Community Gymnasium - the high school's new athletic complex.

The last vestiges of waiting were over. After so many years of anticipation, the new gym was finally open. Yes, this was a remarkable day. To understand the grandeur of this moment, you have to know that the last home game played in the old

gym was in 1971. That was 40 years ago. Since then, the basketball teams have been playing at George Washington Carver School, an elementary school on the corner of Clinton Place and Lyons Avenue. And fitting for such an occasion, the girls launched the new arena with a victory over Bloomfield, continuing their fine play and winning ways.

Weequahic's new athletic facility, constructed in Chancellor Avenue playground, facing Goldsmith Avenue in the front, connected to the high school in the back, and adjacent to Untermann Field, is what they call a state-of-the-art building. It has a 2000-seat basketball court large enough to host tournaments; the Indian logo at center court; two professional-looking electronic scoreboards; a huge gymnasium that divides into three areas for physical education classes; locker, training, and exercise rooms; offices for the Athletic Director and Physical Education staff; a multi-purpose room for large meetings; booths for selling tickets and food - and so much more. In front of the building there is a parking area and another parking lot across the street.

Soon the banners will be hung and the basketball court (seeking approval) will be named to honor the memory of Weequahic's greatest basketball coach, Les Fein, and a formal opening will take place. Can being an "alumni" be any better than this!

Remembering the Weequahic Dream Team

From The New York Times, June 18, 1974

Weequahic High School in 1965-66 and 1966-67 had what some observers felt was the finest schoolboy basketball team ever to play in New Jersey, and quite possibly in the entire country. Each of the five starters played college ball, and two reached the National Basketball Association. *Yes, that was quite a ballclub,*" reminisced Les Fein, then Weequahic coach. *Not only were the boys excellent players, but they were gentlemen."*

The players were Dennis Layton, Dana Lewis, Leroy Cobb, George Watson and Bill Mainor. Layton, a 6-foot-2-inch guard, played with Phoenix and other teams in the NBA after a brilliant college career at Southern California. Lewis, a 6-10 1/2 center with a fine outside touch, was the Philadelphia 76ers' first round draft choice. Mainor, a 6-3 leaper, played at Fordham, and Cobb, 6-6 1/2, and Watson, 6-8, played at Southern Cal with Layton.

The Top 20 H.S. Basketball Teams

School	1967	City & State
1.	Weequahic	Newark, N. J.
2.	Torrance	Torrance, Calif.
3.	Schenley	Pittsburgh, Pa.
4.	Wood	Indianapolis, Ind.
5.	Lincoln	Milwaukee, Wis.

Cobb died of an embolism while undergoing surgery a couple years ago. *A tragedy,* Fein said sadly. *I stay in touch with the others. Layton is living in Los Angeles and is studying acting. He's had bit parts in a couple of films. Lewis bought a house in Haverstraw, N.Y., and played with Hartford in the Eastern League. Mainor lives and works in Long Island, and Watson is living in Los Angeles."*

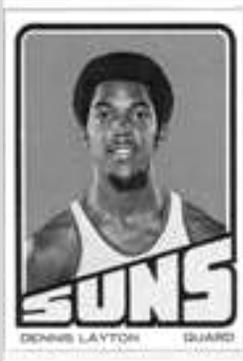
Of the five, Fein perhaps was closest to Layton. *He was the heart of my ball club,"* Fein said. *Dennis was a complete player and a dynamic leader.*

He could shoot, pass, penetrate, play defense. You name it, and he could do it. I can't understand how he could have gotten waived out of the N.B.A., and I've done something I've never done before. I've written to Red Holzman (Knicks coach) asking him to give Layton a tryout. There's no doubt in my mind Layton easily could be the Knicks' third guard."

Fein, now 55 years old, gave up coaching after Weequahic swept through its 1966-67 season undefeated and won the Group 4 state championship. In the winter of 1968 he went to Israel to help coach the Israeli national team in preparation for the Olympics. While there, Fein also conducted clinics, gave lectures about basketball and taught at the Wingate School of Physical Education for three months.

In 12 years of coaching Weequahic, Fein's team won eight city titles, six Christmas tournaments in six tries, two Essex County championships and three state championships. His secret for success: *balanced offense and superlative defense."* When he returned from Israel, Fein and his wife *Ceil* worked on developing the NJ Weight Watchers program which they had launched a couple years earlier. At the time he said, *"I have achieved all that I could as a high school basketball coach."*

DENNIS "MOE" LAYTON



Phoenix College

Moe started his college basketball career at Phoenix College and was one of the top players in the school's history. He led the team to a 35-1

record and is still the all-time leading scorer with well over 1,434 points.

Southern California

Moe then accepted a full scholarship to the University of Southern California where he was awarded *"First Team/All PAC Eight, TV Guide All-American, Converse All-American and Kodak All-American honors."* He led USC to their best record of 26-2 and to USC's first-ever #1 ranking while averaging 18 points a game. Moe once tallied 41 points against Arizona State while making 18 field goals, a record that still stands. He played with Paul Westphal and Weequahic teammates George Watson and Leroy Cobb.

NBA: Suns, Spurs and NY Knicks

Moe was then drafted by the Phoenix Suns and made the *"All-Rookie"* team. After two years, he played for the NY Knicks and the San Antonio Spurs. While with the Spurs, he teamed up with Hall of Famer, George *"Iceman"* Gervin, and was instrumental in the team winning their first two Central Division titles in 1978 and 1979.

In 2006, Moe was inducted to the Pac-10 Hall of Honor and was honored at USC's new Galen Center where his #34 is retired. He is active in sports officiating and private basketball training and was a recruiter for Fleisher & LaRusso Sports Agency placing star college athletes into professional basketball teams throughout the world. He is currently residing in Newark and working at his alma-mater.



Separating fact from fiction in Philip Roth's latest novel

Character shares name, occupation with figure from Newark's past

By Robert Wiener, NJJN

When Linda Forgosh read a review of Philip Roth's latest novel, *Nemesis*, something caught her attention.

"I saw the name Bucky Cantor, and I knew it was Roth's mode of operation to take somebody from his Newark neighborhood and recreate a story around him, whether right or wrong."

In the novel, Roth's protagonist is a gym teacher at the Chancellor Avenue School, Roth's alma mater, and its playground director during the summer.

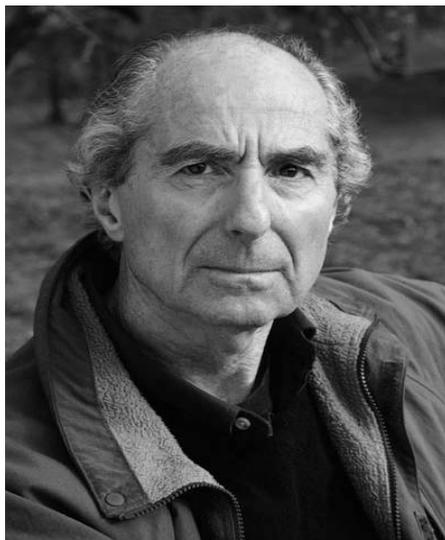
Forgosh, executive director of the Jewish Historical Society of MetroWest, recalled that a man named Bucky Harris was a gym teacher and playground director known by hundreds of kids who grew up in the Weequahic neighborhood.

Forgosh sent Roth - a dues-paying member of JHS - a letter asking whether Bucky Cantor was based on Bucky Harris. She enclosed a photograph of Harris, football in hand, coaching three young athletes in blocking techniques.

The author responded promptly.

"No, this isn't modeled on the Bucky Harris who supervised the Chancellor playground and coached at Weequahic High," Roth wrote. *"I do remember him playing ball with us on the playground one summer. I also remember him at Weequahic, when I vaguely recall him substitute teaching our history class."*

"I gave my twenty-three-year old Eugene Cantor the nickname 'Bucky' because its associations to manliness were savagely ironic for a boy who winds up the way Bucky does. His every word and action is my invention," Roth wrote.



THE "REAL" PHILIP ROTH and BUCKY HARRIS

Every Philip Roth novel sets off a flurry of speculation about the "truth" behind the fiction. Invariably, Roth replies by carefully asserting that he writes novels, not autobiography. Yet for those who grew up in Jewish Newark, or share other memories with the now 77-year-old New Jersey native, the impulse to match fact and fiction is hard to resist.

For example, Bucky Cantor is not the first Roth character to share a nickname with a real-life person from his old Newark neighborhood. *"He did that with Swede Levov in 1997's American Pastoral, who he did base on a real person, Swede Masin,"* Forgosh pointed out.

Like the real-life "Swede," who earned his nickname for his blond good looks, the fictional Swede is a star athlete at Weequahic High in the 1940s. Unlike Masin, the Roth character faces Job-like trials as the father of a 1960s radical who kills a bystander in a bomb attack. To this day, long-time residents of Short Hills claim to know the real-life identities of the Patimkins, the nouveau riche family whose daughter dates the protagonist in Roth's debut novella, *Goodbye Columbus*.

In *Nemesis*, the character called Bucky Cantor is a playground director whose poor eyesight keeps him from military service in World War II. A guilt-ridden Cantor wages his own battle against a polio epidemic that is rampant in his largely Jewish neighborhood.

Sandy Goldberg, an insurance agent in Livingston who attended both Chancellor Avenue School and high school with Roth and said he has read "just about all" of Roth's books, thinks Bucky Cantor shares more than his nickname with the real-life Bucky Harris.

"In the book, Roth talks about Bucky being the playground director, and Bucky Harris was involved all over," said Goldberg. (Goldberg cherishes his eighth-grade autograph album, in which Roth wrote, *"Don't suck lollipops, suckcess."* Goldberg said he "laughed at the time" he saw the inscription. *"Of course, Philip wasn't famous or infamous at the time,"* he added.)

Louis "Bucky" Harris was also a star football and baseball player for Newark Central High School who went on to play at Seton Hall University in South Orange and at Upsala College in East Orange. After his graduation in 1935, Harris became the football coach at West Side High School, leading his team to a Newark City League Championship in 1943.

He also served as head coach for Weequahic High and later became the recreation director of Chancellor Avenue Playground. In 2007 he was inducted into the JCC MetroWest Jewish Sports Hall of Fame.

Continued on next page

See the "**Heart of Stone**" movie - Wed. March 9th at 7 p.m. - at the **Movies of Delray** in Delray Beach, Florida - Sponsored by the **All People's Day Diversity Festival** - Call Susan Magezis Berkowitz-Schwartz, WHS June 1961, at (561) 495-9818

Alumni-sponsored
BLACK HISTORY MONTH

event at Weequahic
February 9, 2011

African Discovery Through Music

A performance by WINCEYCO

Written, produced, and narrated by Wincey Terry,
who once lived on Vassar Avenue

Two 50-minute shows. A series of live musical stage plays that take students on a journey - highlighting the African and African-American experience with Negro spirituals, Rhythm and Blues, Gospel, Jazz and Hip Hop.



ROTH continued from page 5

Imagining a menace

Roth also takes artistic liberties with the polio epidemic at the center of *Nemesis*. As he has pointed out in various interviews, there was no polio outbreak in Newark in 1944, when the novel is set. Roth told NPR that the outbreak was “fictionalized but plausible.”

“In a way I was imagining a menace we never encountered in all its force,” he told radio host Robert Siegel. “I wanted to imagine what it would have been like, in our neighborhood, had the menace struck.”

In fact, two very real outbreaks of polio struck Newark, and many other places in America, in the 20th century. The first came in 1916, when 26 states reported 27,000 cases of polio, with some 6,000 of them fatal. Fewer than 2,000 Newark children contracted the infection. The primary victims were Russians, Poles, and Polish Jews “in the most congested part of the city,” wrote Alan and Deborah Kraut in their book *Covenant of Care: Newark Beth Israel and the Jewish Hospital in America*. A second epidemic hit its peak in 1952, killing 3,145 of its 58,000 young victims.

“In terms of why he made up the year 1944, I haven’t got a clue, but it sounds like he needed the polio outbreak to be during World War II,” said Alan Kraut, a history professor at American University in Washington, DC. “That’s what historical novels do,” said Kraut, who said he was in the process of reading *Nemesis*. “Roth is a novelist, not a historian.”

He is a very honest person, a very honest intellectual, and he’s a novelist. He is entitled to play with the facts any which way he wants to. Only a fool would try to learn history from something that is so obviously a piece of fiction. He’s aiming at truth about the human condition.”

Undeniably real is the fear of polio captured in Roth’s novel. According to *Covenant of Care*, in the summer of 1916 guards were placed at quarantined homes, public libraries banned children, and the Harry Lukens Wild Animal Show was ordered out of town. Newark declared war on houseflies - a detail Roth borrows for his book.

Forgosh said she is always ready to distinguish between the Newark of history and the Newark of Roth’s art. “You can read the fictionalized accounts of the lives of Newark’s Jews in Roth’s books,” she said. “But you can get the facts from us.”

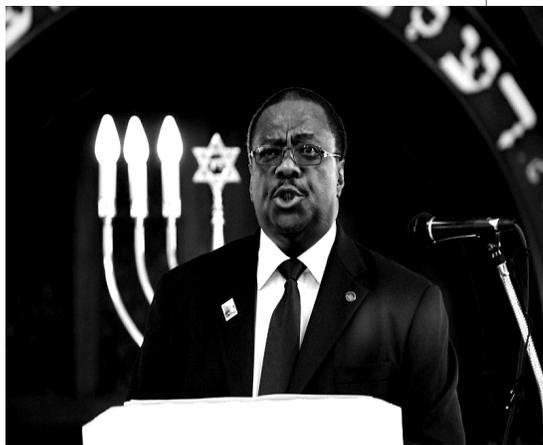


Weequahic High School football coach Bucky Harris, right, coaches three varsity football players in the art of blocking in 1949 - from left, Jerry Safer, Sandy Goldberg, and Herb Akelaitis. Photo courtesy Sandy Goldberg.

“Obama’s Rabbi” speaks at Newark shul for Martin Luther King, Jr. event

By Andrew Silow-Carroll, Editor-in-Chief of the NJ Jewish News.

Four decades after their deaths, Martin Luther King Jr. and Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel still symbolize the high water mark of black-Jewish relations. The civil rights leader and the Jewish theologian walked arm in arm at Selma, prayed at Arlington National Cemetery, shared a pulpit at Riverside Church. “*How is it,*” asked Rabbi Capers Funnye, “*that these two men from two different worlds were drawn together in the struggle over civil rights?*”



Newark’s Congregation Ahavas Sholom marked the King holiday Jan. 16 with a keynote address on King and Heschel by Funnye, who has become the nation’s most prominent African-American rabbi thanks in part to the fact that he’s Michelle Obama’s first cousin, once removed.

But it’s not just the Obama connection that distinguishes Funnye: He has been the most prominent leader in building a bridge between his Hebrew Israelite movement and Judaism’s white mainstream. He’s a member of the Chicago Board of Rabbis and at one point underwent a halachic conversion by Conservative rabbis to allay mainstream Jewish suspicions of his movement.

Newark’s Last Active Synagogue

Sunday’s event stood at the juncture between the two worlds he spoke of. Ahavas Sholom is among Newark’s two or three functioning synagogues - the only one still operating in its original building - after its

Jewish population migrated and then fled west from the 1950s on. Congregants, nearly all of whom commute from the suburbs, are driven to keep this small ember of the city’s fabled Jewish community burning and to build connections between two communities - black and Jewish - strictly segregated by geography and socioeconomic.

A Full House, Many Backgrounds

All of which made for fascinating optics: an ornate *bima* at which sat Newark’s black power brokers, including City Council president Donald Payne Jr., former council president Mildred Crump, and veteran lawyer and civil rights activist Junius Williams. The big crowd, meanwhile, which spilled over into the Clinton Memorial AME Zion Church next door, was a mix of older white suburbanites, Ahavas Sholom’s own diverse congregation, and black church-goers from the city.

Like a Baptist Minister

Funnye himself preached in the cadences of the black church, quoting both Heschel and King, working himself into a sweat and allowing his voice to swing from a quiet baritone to a shout. At the climax, he repeated the phrase, “*What would Martin say?*” like a mantra and listed contemporary evils like anti-Semitism, Islamic terror, Islamophobia, and the suffering in Haiti. “*We must become one people for truth, for justice, for righteousness, for all people,*” he said, before reciting the Priestly Blessing in Hebrew and English.

Blacks in the audience responded with “*Yes,*” and “*Amen,*” and emphatic “*Uh-huhs.*” The Jews applauded heartily. The folks sitting behind me, themselves black Jews, recited the Hebrew along with Rabbi Funnye. Black and Hispanic kids from the Robert Treat Academy Chorus sang “*Hinei Ma Tov Umanayim*” and a contemporary song about King.

Continued on next page

Our newest alumni trustee Tharien Karim Arnold WHS 1984



Tharien Franklin Karim Arnold is Assistant Director of Neighborhood Services for the City of Newark. He was recruited to the City of Newark

in 2006 and has served in several management roles.

Prior to his leadership in Public Administration, Tharien established his career in education. After graduating Rutgers University in 1995 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice, he served as Vice Principal of Marist High School in Bayonne for four years.

Eager to return to the college environment, Tharien became an Academic Advisor at Rutgers University in Newark. Then he provided leadership to the Rutgers Business School where he served as Assistant Director/Assistant Dean of MBA Student Services for Rutgers Newark and New Brunswick campuses.

Tharien is a Newark resident, a district leader, and a former member of the Newark Public Schools Advisory Board. He is also the founder of the Newark South Ward Community Collaborative, a former Board member of Project Re-Direct, a member of the Essex County College Advisory Board, Business Division, and a member of 10,000 Mentors of Newark. He has also served five terms as President of the Rutgers Alumni Association.

Tharien served our country for four years in the United States Army attaining the rank of Sergeant. He is currently enrolled in a Joint MA/PhD program in Urban Systems at Rutgers University in Newark.

He is a recipient of the Greater Newark Conservancy 2008 Nelson Mandela Freedom Gardening Award, and Grace Reformed Baptist Church’s 2007 Rising Star Award.

Tharien is married to Tracy, a Central High grad, and they have two children, Taraja, 13, and Amir, 9. They both attend the Pingry School.

Obama's Rabbi continued from page 7

It was moving stuff, and worlds removed from the typical sermon in the typical synagogue. Blacks and Jews mixed in a way you'll see at no other house of worship or - well, almost anywhere, actually. Just like the Ahavas Sholom project itself, it was beautiful and a little sad, highlighting the absence of the very thing it sought to celebrate.

A more diverse Jewish community

Yes, the Jewish community is becoming more diverse, thanks to conversion, adoptions, and mixed marriages, among other things. Funnye himself is a principal at the Institute for Jewish and Community Research in San Francisco, which promotes racial and ethnic diversity within Jewish life. A number of Jews remain deeply invested in Newark's schools, colleges, politics, and community organizing.

Lively discussion panel

But no one denied the deep divide between city and suburb. In the panel discussion that followed Funnye's remarks, Cornell Brooks of the NJ Institute for Social Justice noted that ours is among the most segregated states in the country. He spoke of the social costs when people "don't live near one another, don't shop at the same grocery stores, or send their kids to the same schools." Absent these interactions, he said, "opportunities for ethical and moral dialogue are diminished."

Rutgers historian Clement Price also spoke about the "racially Balkanized" state, and "the policies intended to separate us. We're paying dearly for that now." Sunday wasn't a day for discussing political solutions, but Price did speak of one way blacks and Jews can reach across the chasm.

Keeping out memories alive

"We need to keep our memories alive. Earlier Donald Payne spoke about swimming in a Jewish space (referring to the pool at Newark's High Street YMHA)" said Price. "We need to remember a time when this city was cross-fertilized in its public schools, when its communities were remarkably safe and sound." He remembered Newark as a "strivers' row, where everybody was trying to move up." He proposed the appointment of a deputy mayor of memory, who would be in charge of recalling this "cacophony of people" and fighting the "amnesia."

Funnye picked up on this theme. A one-man black-Jewish coalition, an odd-man-out in both of the communities in which he has chosen to live, he suggested what it would take to bridge those gaps, and keep King's, and Heschel's, dreams alive. "Until more of us are interested in having more hurtful conversations" about race, he said, "we are going to continue to speak past each other in our own private groups."



Martin Edelston, WHS 1946

Boardroom Inc. founder, teams with Rutgers Business School for a new course:

Love and Money: Valuable Lessons For Life

In 2010, Martin Edelston, founder and chair of Boardroom Inc., publisher of America's largest consumer newsletter, Bottom Line/Personal, teamed with Rutgers Business School to create a new undergraduate course, *Love and Money: Valuable Lessons for Life*.

"My business is all about telling people what they need to know to lead better lives," says Edelston, a Rutgers alumnus. "The idea was to give that same advice to college students."

Convinced that college students could benefit tremendously from such real-life lessons, Edelston and his executives at Boardroom set out to underwrite a business course unlike any other.

Designed by economist Susan Feinberg, Associate Professor of Management and Global Business at RBS, the course will teach students important personal-finance and life-management skills through scholarly readings, in-class exercises, and presentations by distinguished guest speakers.

Literally everyone I talk to who has heard about 'Love and Money' tells me, 'I wish I'd taken a class like that in college,' Feinberg said. *We feel that it's important to not only educate students for their careers, but also to empower them to make strategic decisions that will help them manage their own personal ca-*



reer and financial goals, and to provide them with tools to better navigate challenges that they will face in life."

The first 18 sessions of *Love and Money* will focus on such topics as financial planning, investment strategies, budgeting, managing credit cards and debt, and making major purchases. The subsequent 10 sessions will examine the key ingredients for a fulfilling life, such as choosing a rewarding career, personal finance, successful negotiation and communication, achieving work-life balance, setting life goals, cultivating healthy relationships, and preparing for and managing major life changes.

As a native of Newark, I know as much as anyone how valuable a course like this can be going into the real world from college. The goal of my company's newsletters is to help our readers make better sense of a complex world. It has always been my dream to bring the same kind of useful and practical advice to college students.

Continued on page 11

NEWARK NEWS



Mayor Booker and Governor Christie at the Prudential Center in Newark

NCAA hoops in Newark

By Sara Portlock, Star-Ledger

State and Newark officials believe hosting the NCAA East Regional men's basketball tournament at the Prudential Center in March could be the biggest promotional pitch ever for the city, and they hope what the world sees of Newark will lead to future large-scale events.

The city is planning for as many as 50,000 visitors to Newark if big schools make it to the Sweet 16 and Elite 8 games on March 25, and 27, event organizers announced at a news conference yesterday detailing the city's efforts at promoting itself and the economic benefits of hosting the tournament. Which teams play in Newark will be decided at other playoff sites on March 19 and 20, and the winner in Newark will advance to the Final Four games in Houston.

Revenue from ticket sales, hotels, restaurants and travel could reach into the millions of dollars, although the actual figure is *hard to calculate*, said Newark Mayor Cory Booker. But the attention the tournament will bring to Newark - and potential for future opportunities - is as valuable as any money that comes in.

Beer & Solar: an electrifying concept

Anheuser-Busch has installed a solar array on the roof of its Newark brewery that will generate more than 523,000 kw hours of electricity annually. The array, consisting of more than 3,000 solar panels, covers 65,000 square feet, and at peak production will supply nearly five percent of the brewery's electricity demand. When combined with its solar

array at its Fairfield, Calif. brewery, the company claims it is one of the largest users of solar power in the U.S. brewing industry.

Anheuser-Busch entered into an agreement with Public Service Electric and Gas Company (PSE&G) to host the solar power plant at the Newark brewery. PSE&G will offer renewable energy certificates (RECs) to businesses or individuals to help offset their use of fossil fuel energy and greenhouse gas emissions.

The Newark brewery also uses a Bio-Energy Recovery System (or BERS), which has been in place for more than 15 years. The system turns the nutrients in wastewater into biogas that provides up to 15 percent of the fuel needed to power the facility's boilers. Currently, 10 of Anheuser-Busch's 12 U.S. breweries use BERS technology to help fuel their operations.



Newark's past as jewelry-making center in exhibit

By Anthony Venutolo, Star-Ledger

In a case at the Newark Museum's Ballantine House, a large diamond brooch glitters. It's beautiful all by itself, but it's on display in the mansion-turned-museum for what it represents, as well as what it looks like. The diamond-studded piece, designed by Theodore B. Starr, belonged to Julia Shanley - of the Newark Shanleys, founders of the Shanley Jewelry Company, contributors to the building of the Pennsylvania Railroad and the namesake of Shanley Avenue.

"I'm interested in jewelry for the story it tells," said Ulysses Grant Dietz, the curator of decorative design at the museum, who selected the brooch and the other pieces on display in *"The Glitter and the Gold: Jewelry From the Newark*



Museum," the first exhibit in the museum's new gallery dedicated exclusively to jewelry. The Lore Ross Jewelry Gallery is on the second floor of the Ballantine House.

Many of the pieces on display are there in tribute to Newark's often forgotten role as a jewelry-making capital. The Shanleys started their company here in 1918, just when the jewelry industry began to boom in Newark. By the time of the stock market crash of 1929, Newark was home to 144 jewelry manufacturers. City fathers boasted that 90 percent of all solid-gold jewelry made in the United States came out of Newark factories, according to the book produced by the museum to accompany the exhibit.

Some of the 60 pieces featured in *"The Glitter and the Gold"* were manufactured in Newark. Others were worn by notable New Jersey women, or represent pieces that raise fashion accessories to the level of art. Then again, *"Jewelry is art by definition,"* according to Richard Krementz, the president of Richard Krementz Gemstones, the last jewelry-making firm left in Newark (moved to Springfield three years ago, but maintains offices in Newark).

WHS 4th Multi-Reunion Party, 60s - 80s

**Saturday, September 17th
7 p.m at Newark Symphony Hall's Terrace Ballroom**

Music will be by DJ Ross Entertainment with Southern hospitality cuisine. Donation is \$40.00

**Contact Adilah Quddus, WHS 1971
at (973) 242-2346**

Weequahic 37, Shabazz 24

Turkey Day at Untermann Field

By Mike Kinney, The Star-Ledger



Altarik White hoped to keep his resignation a surprise until after the season so that his Weequahic team would not lose focus for its holiday tussle with Shabazz. What the spirited head coach failed to realize was that the surprise was the focus.

Fueled by that information - which became apparent to the players as the game progressed - and the brilliant running of senior Trevon Ellis, Weequahic rallied with three fourth-quarter touchdowns to a 37-24 victory before 4,000 at the Soul Bowl yesterday at Untermann Field in Newark.

Ellis rushed 27 times for a career-high 267 yards and scored twice in the decisive fourth quarter to help Weequahic rally from a 24-15 deficit and close to within 15-11-2 in this series, revived last year after a 16-year hiatus. And it also sent an emotional White out a winner after nine seasons on Chancellor Avenue.

“When we found out, we told him we were gonna give him a good game, send him out the right way,” Ellis said. *“Coach White is like a father to me. This means a lot.”*

White wanted badly to keep the announcement a secret to avoid distractions. He didn’t know that, equipped with this knowledge, his Weequahic club would uniformly demonstrate the same passion and iron-will White had always shown as a star at Shabazz and William Paterson College and throughout his coaching tenure.

“Halfway through the first quarter I started hearing rumblings on the sideline. I said, oh, no, guys, just focus on the game,” White said. *“When we got in at halftime, they knew. I swear I saw it in their eyes, those boys were not going to quit.”*

Ellis launched the comeback with a 2-yard run that pulled Weequahic to within 24-23 with 2:23 gone in the fourth quarter. That was the third play following a blocked punt by Tyrone Mans that landed at the Shabazz 21.



Weequahic’s inspired defense set up the go-ahead TD as well, a five-play, 26-yard move capped by William Robinson’s 1-yard carry and Duha Amin’s conversion run for a 31-24 edge with 7:13 to go. Raheem Hudson forced a fumble on a sack and Andre Darby recovered for Weequahic. *“We got in the huddle to start the second half and said tighten up and just play football,”* two-way lineman Gregory Corker said. *“I wanted us to express character. Character is what you do when nobody’s looking.”*

Continued on page on page 11

Taj Smith, WHS 2001

The journey from Weequahic to the Indianapolis Colts

By Conor Orr, The Star-Ledger

For six months, Taj Smith’s niece, Zayonna, had been talking about the iCarly doll. The one from the television show on Nickelodeon, she reminded him repeatedly in phone call after phone call.



Smith wasn’t bothered at all by the endearing nagging of a 6-year-old, one of four nieces and nephews who have come to rely on Smith as a father figure after two of Smith’s brothers were killed in the past six years. Whenever he returns home, just off Vassar Avenue in Newark, he makes sure to spend as much time as he can with them. He takes them out to eat and to see movies.

But it wasn’t until December that the 27-year-old Smith had finally ended up where he wanted to be - on the active roster of an NFL team, a full-fledged member of the Indianapolis Colts.

Zayonna was going to get that doll.

“It’s good, because ... I can do it now,” Smith said of embracing his role as a family patriarch. *“I’m always playing big uncle, and when they ask me for something, I always try and be there.”*

Growing up in the Prince Street projects, Smith endured a hardscrabble path to the NFL. A multi-sport standout at Weequahic High School, it seemed like Smith was destined for this place long before now.

Continued on page 11

Class of June 1960 - 50th Reunion

The Alumni Association and the students of Weequahic High School thank the Class of June 1960 for their donation of **\$1,800** from their reunion to establish an ongoing scholarship fund in their name.

Reunion Committee on right:

Harold Klein, Lois Blumenfeld Gilbert,
Alan Halperin, and Miriam Span Nusbaum



Edelston continued from page 8

This partnership with RBS - one of America's premier business schools - is making my dream possible."

Marty Edelston founded his company, Boardroom Inc., to solve a problem that had been irking him for years: when it came to some of the most pressing life questions, it was often difficult to find clear, concise, authoritative answers.

Today, Boardroom publishes America's largest consumer newsletter, Bottom Line/Personal, which has a monthly readership of well over 1 million. It offers no-nonsense, expert advice on things like shopping for a mortgage, planning for retirement, tips for a long-lasting marriage, and foods that can help keep seasonal allergies at bay.

Football cont. from page 10

Few were looking when White took over the program in 2002. The team had won more than three games only four times in the previous 20 years and was mostly playing before scarce crowds at Untermann. The attitude changed quickly and profoundly. Weequahic won its only NJSIAA sectional title in 2006 and White was honored that year as Star-Ledger Coach of the Year. One of the stars from that squad, current Temple linebacker Amara Kamara, was one of many former players on hand yesterday.

"The guys came out in the second half and did just a wonderful job. I couldn't be prouder," White said. *"I've enjoyed my time as head coach here and now I'm really going to enjoy this."*

Availability became an issue for White when he accepted a vice-principal position at Shabazz several months ago. He also is in the process of beginning a charter school in Newark. He said those obligations made

it impossible for him to devote sufficient time to the squad. *"Coach White has done great things for us and we know how bad he wanted to win this game,"* Robinson said. *"We should have had a better season, but a lot of things went wrong. We wanted to make sure we had a good day today."*

Weequahic won its final two games to finish 4-6, and did so with Ellis following the blocks of Corker, Hudson, Jaleel Johnson, Nasir Lovejoy and Michael Watson. *"I told my linemen if they do their best, I'm gonna give my best,"* Ellis said. *"At halftime I said we can't go out with a loss. We're gonna get on our horses and play tough football."*

Shabazz grabbed its halftime lead behind the aerial combination of junior quarterback D.J. Williams and senior wideout Khalof Shareff. They hooked up on scoring plays of 47 and 85 yards and teammate Devonte Artis scored on an 11-yard run.

Weequahic put together long possessions in that opening half behind the hard-running Ellis, but penalties compromised its movement. *"We had three drives inside the 10, but we stalled because of a couple bad breaks and too many penalties,"* White said. *"There was no doubt in my mind we could move the ball on them."*

Taj Smith cont. from page 10

Only after nearly seven years of detours did he find a niche with the Colts. With its receiving corps decimated by injuries, Indianapolis plucked him out of New Jersey a little more than a month ago. And after watching their Super Bowl run on television last year, Smith will be active for the AFC wild-card playoff game this Saturday.

"I'm just excited for him because we've been through a lot," Smith's mother, Bernadine, said in a telephone interview.

"There's just a lot that's gone on in our family and for Taj to be where he's at right now, that's just heart and desire."

After so many chances, his faith didn't waver. He left Weequahic and spent two seasons at Bakersfield Community College before moving on to Syracuse University. He went undrafted in 2008, but latched on with the Packers that summer - only to be cut when Green Bay set its final 53-man roster.

His agent, Wes Bridges, remembers a trip the two took to Yankee Stadium together about a month later. Bridges knew his client could sense his anxiety. When the two reached the subway and said goodbye, Smith looked over at Bridges and told him not to worry. *"God's going to take care of everything,"* Bridges recalled Smith saying. By the time Bridges reached New York's Penn Station, he had a message from the Colts. *"I called (Taj) back, and he was like, 'I told you,'"* Bridges said.

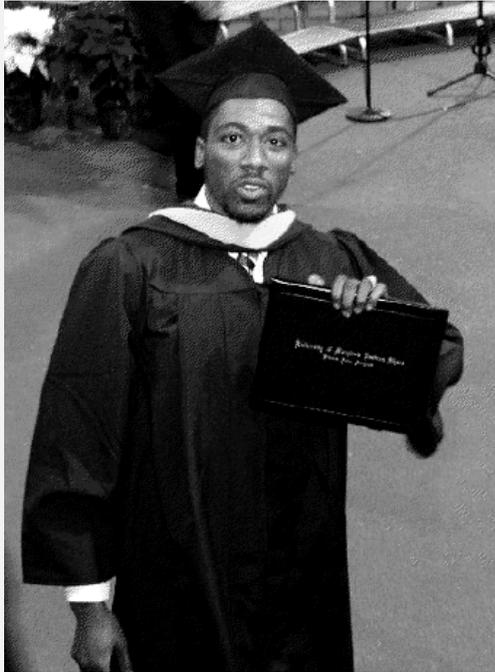
Fast forward two years, to Sunday, Dec. 6, 2010. Just a week after being re-signed by the Colts - they had cut him earlier in the season - coach Jim Caldwell tossed him into the mix on special teams against the Cowboys. With his team trailing in the fourth, 27-21, and Dallas punting deep in their own territory, Smith whizzed off the left side and blocked the kick. He chased the batted ball as it jumped from the 10-yard line down to the 5. He eventually fell on it in the end zone.

Smith estimated he's received 500 or so messages since then, on Facebook, Twitter and his cell phone. There were too many to respond. Mostly because there were more important things at hand. Christmas was coming and Zayonna needed her doll. His goddaughter, Akyla, wanted *"some sort of ball"* he needed to find on top of that.

"I'm going to send it out this weekend," Smith said of Zayonna's doll, smiling. *"For me, nothing else matters but them."*

David James-White
WHS 2006

*Alumni Scholarship Awardee
Graduates from College*



A 2006 graduate of Weequahic High School and an Alumni Association scholarship recipient, **David James-White** graduated from the University of Maryland, Eastern Shore this past December - the same month that he became 22 years of age - with a degree in Business Administration.

He also made the front page of the Daily Times in an interview about his college experience. He hopes to be able to continue his education and receive a graduate degree in Business Management.

Born in the South Ward of Newark at Beth Israel Hospital to Johnnie Mae James in December 1988, David is the older of two children. As a youth, he attended Urban League Essex County Day Care, George Washington Carver Elementary School, and Chancellor Avenue Elementary School.

David is a member of Solid Rock Baptist Church located on Chancellor Avenue in Irvington, where he is a part of the daily activities and groups.

He is much appreciative of the doors that the alumni association has opened for him by providing him with a scholarship and is proud to be featured in the alumni newsletter.

REUNIONS / GATHERINGS

in NEW JERSEY

Between Reunions, Class of January 1958 Gambols and Gambles at Big M

By Gerry Beatty

Five years is too long to wait, especially for senior citizens. Members of the Class of January, 1958 have made camaraderie a routine between reunions, enjoying dinners and even cruises.

After a wildly successful and emotional 50th reunion Down the Shore 2 1/2 years ago, what was next? How about a party celebrating all our 70th birthdays?

Next question: another cruise, or dinner, or trip? Then someone hit the jackpot: a night at the Meadowlands Race Track.

So it was that 29 people (including spouses and partners) gathered November 6 in a private room in Terraces Suites West, right above the finish line, to meet, greet, eat and spend a few dollars picking pacers. Attendance at *The Big M* is poor this season, but for one evening, our class helped alleviate the state's budget crisis and the racing industry's woes.

Class members from New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania showed up. Eric Alpert drove up from Georgia. Three attendees who missed the last reunion, or all our events, made a point of reconnecting.

The outing was organized by the class' longstanding reunion committee, led by Sue Schilling Grand and Don Kalfus. Within a week, the word went out to "*start putting your thinking cap on!*" for the 55th reunion.

Predictably, the results of the wagering were variable. Several people walked away in the black. For the ninth race, most of the group chipped in a buck apiece to bet on Hay Goodlooking, an 8-1 shot (the name sounded nice). But as Kalfus noted, "*by the end of the race the horse was not looking good.*"

For hunch players, the best Weequahic name of the night was Delightful Syd. But that hot dog in the third race performed like our football team when we were in school. She finished dead last.



More on next page

in ARIZONA - by Gil Lustig, Jan. 1960

I would like to report on the AZ reunion held on January 16th in North Scottsdale. Ninety-seven people attended a luncheon



Harvey Belfer, Luisa Unger, Gil Lustig

held at the Jade Palace Chinese Restaurant. The weather was absolutely beautiful, in the low 70s under a clear blue sky. Over the entrance to the outdoor patio hung the

Weequahic High

School Banner, which was borrowed from the Alumni Association, thanks to Phil Yourish.

As people arrived and entered the restaurant, they were greeted by this familiar banner which immediately made them feel like they were coming home again. Alumni from many different graduation years gathered to talk about Newark, NJ, the neighborhood, Weequahic High School, and the many connections between people that they knew. It was a melting pot of strangers who shared the same heritage and history and which enabled them to mix and mingle easily and comfortably. It was like a family reunion.

Some alumni drove two hours from Tucson to attend, and one came from Sedona, which is 115 miles away. There were also people from out of state who were visiting in Scottsdale and wanted to attend. The highlight of the day was when Judith Churgin, a history teacher at Weequahic in the 1950s, reunited with her former student, Larry Pass, who graduated in 1954. Everyone had such a great time that many were asking when the next one will be.

Weequahic Alumni are a unique group of people. Notwithstanding the year we graduated, we tend to flock together with other alumni no matter what part of the country we live in. We grew up in a fantastic neighborhood. We had the best education with the most dedicated teachers that resulted in many of us becoming very successful in our adult lives. I guess, as we get older, we need these reunions to remind us of our youth, who we are, and where we came from. We should be proud to be called Weequahic Indians.

in COLORADO - by Carol Miller, 1956

A six month effort to identify some 50 WHS graduates living in Colorado culminated in a first-ever gathering in Denver on October 16th, attended by 16 grads and six guests representing four decades - including a 1938 grad living in California who flew in to join the gathering. The event was held at the New York Deli News, Denver's iconic deli, where attendees enjoyed corned beef or pastrami on Jewish rye, sour pickles, chopped liver and kishka and Dr. Brown sodas, among other traditional fare.

Despite the wide difference in ages, the common bonds of graduating from WHS, growing up in the Weequahic neighborhood, and recalling the Newark of their youth, encouraged the participants to share their memories and experiences. Some discovered fellow classmates they had never known in school.

Those in attendance, by class, were: **Bernie Rolston '38, Martin Block, '42; Bea Block, '43; Irv Sternberg, '47; Sandra Levitt, '48; Elinor Miller Greenberg, '48; Inez Kasen Curiel and Ralph Rothstein, '54; Carol Miller, '56; Perry Koonce and Evelyn Wolf, '58; Bruce Kasen, '63; Arnold Kaplan, Carol Kaye and Lisa Zimet, '64; and Jonathan Keller, '65.**

The event committee consisted of Ellie Greenberg, Carol Miller, and Irv Sternberg.



L-R: Bernie, Lisa, Irv, and Inez

in FLORIDA - by Roni Slate Lewin, June 1960

There is an old saying that you cannot go home again, but in December in Boca Raton and again in January in Boynton Beach, eleven Weequahic girls proved that wrong. **Sara Friedman Fishkin, Harriet Fein Waldman, Roni Slate Lewin, Adrienne Drucks Aberbach, Marcia Shindelman Trechak, Ann Rosenblatt Patashnik, Vivian Confield Rausch, Bette Krupenin Kolodney, Lois Siegel Sandler, Judy Shara Shuster**, all from the class of June, 1960 and **Judy Epstein Rothbard**, June 1958, gathered for lunch and a wonderful afternoon of memories.

Although most of us had not seen each other since graduating, we re-connected last October at our 50th reunion promising to get together again this winter. And so, this sisterhood of Weequahic girls came to be. We have decided to meet every month and no, we are not getting club jackets. We are wives, mothers and grandmothers. Yet, for one afternoon every four weeks we again became the teenagers we were, laughing and reminiscing about life as we knew it at a very unique high school. Weequahic is our common bond. It is hard to believe that it was half a century ago when we were classmates; and yes, you can go home again.



L-R: (seated in front) Vivian, Adrienne, and Roni (standing) Harriet, Marcia, Ann and Sara

POLIO, 1945

Marcia Kahan Rosenthal, Jan. 1952

I recently read Philip Roth's latest novel, "*Nemesis*," about a polio epidemic in Newark in 1944, and, as his books do, this one, too, brought back some very stirring memories of growing up in Newark. His wonderfully descriptive writing continues to keep my childhood and adolescence alive for me, particularly the Weequahic section I knew until I was 18, when I moved to California.

I would have certainly forgotten by now, 58 years later, much about that time and place and I am eternally grateful to Philip Roth, who, with his beautiful words, has so vividly and brilliantly (and repeatedly...since "Goodbye Columbus" in 1959), painted the landscape of that little bit of heaven (and haven) that was Newark in the 30's 40's and 50's.

"*Nemesis*," however, also brought back another memory...a painful and terrible memory of a tragedy that happened to our family in 1945, the details of which I had buried deep within me for so many years.

In May of 1945, a month before my 11th birthday, my parents, Rose and Fred Kahan, little sister Frannie, and I, moved to 234 Schley Street from 42 Tillinghast Street. I do remember being excited about moving to the Weequahic section of Newark into the second floor of the two-family house on Schley Street, which my paternal grandparents had recently vacated when they moved to Florida.

Our home was above that of my aunt, uncle and two cousins, Howard (11) and Sheldon "Butsy"(9) Kahan. My uncle, Herman Kahan, my father's brother, was the rabbi at Schley Street Shul which was directly across the street from our new home (and where Philip Roth attended Hebrew School..as did I).

I entered Chancellor Avenue School in the sixth grade (with only one month left of the term) and soon made a few wonderful and, what turned out to be, life-long friends, in spite of the 3,000 miles that, since 1952, have kept us separated.

In 1944 - Front: Howie Winard (6), Francine Kahan (5), Aunt Harriet Winard holding Howie Sommers (2) - Back: Ronnie Winard (2) on friend's shoulders



In addition to our Schley St. relatives, we had other members of our family living in the area and we enjoyed a very close relationship with them. Two of my father's sisters and their families were within a few blocks of us. Harriet and Lou Winard and their sons, Howie and Ronnie, lived on Summit Avenue. Lee and Harry Sommers and their two children, Howard and Susan, lived on Wainwright Street, directly behind our home on Schley Street.

That spring of my move to the Weequahic neighborhood soon gave way to summer with its attendant fears of polio. However, though the usual vacation activities of swimming, going to the movies (or wherever there might be crowds) were curtailed, we managed to have some fun and got through that summer unscathed.

When the new school year started in September, 1945, my cousin Howie Winard, who was almost 7, entered 2nd grade at Chancellor. His brother, Ronnie Winard, who was 3, and our cousin, Howard Sommers, also 3, were enrolled in a nursery school, which my aunts were going to try out.

For several weeks all went well. Fall had arrived, the air seemed purified after those hot summer months and one Sunday, in mid October, the Winard family... Uncle Lou, Aunt Harriet and the children came to spend the day with us.

We had lunch together at our home and then Uncle Lou took the kids..my sister, the two boys, and me to Irvington Park to play ball and enjoy the playground area. (My Aunt Harriet stayed behind with my folks. At 37, she was entering her ninth month of pregnancy, expecting their third child). We returned from the park later in the day and the Winard family went home.

It was the very next day that we were told the shocking news that little Howie Sommers was diagnosed with polio. We barely had time to try to take in those terrible tidings when we found out that Ronnie Winard was now exhibiting symptoms.

Within a day or so, following the confirmation that he, too, had polio, his older brother, Howie Winard, was diagnosed with it, as well. In a matter of several days, my three young cousins were all at Beth Israel Hospital and were critically ill. Howie Sommers, just 3 years old, was partially paralyzed and in an iron lung.

And....on October 21, 1945, exactly a week to the day since he had been at our home and we had gone to the park together, Ronnie Winard, 3 years old, died of the polio virus. Four days later, on October 25, his brother, Howie, age 7, passed away. The two little ones had attended a neighborhood nursery school where, it is believed, they were exposed to the deadly virus.

Miraculously, because he had been the sickest of the three children, Howie Sommers survived and flourished. He underwent years of painful therapy, recovered completely and now, 65 years later, though he has post-polio syndrome, he continues to live a full and active life. Aunt Harriet and Uncle Lou suffered the most tragic loss imaginable...within a few days, two beautiful, healthy, adorable boys were taken from them.

For weeks we were all in shock, agonizing over this tragedy that had befallen our family. We prayed for Howie Sommers and we feared for the emotional and physical health of our aunt and uncle and spent much of our time consoling them as best we could. How would they go on?

Continued on next page

POLIO continued from page 14

The family feared, too, since our cousins had been in our home just two days before they were diagnosed, that we, my parents, sister and I, surely had been exposed to the virus. At one point, soon after the first little cousin died, I developed a sore throat and fever. I soon recovered, and we tried not to make ourselves sick with worry...at least until the next summer's epidemic would be upon us.

And so it went....summer after summer we lived in a state of anxiety, rarely leaving the house, never mingling with large groups of people.

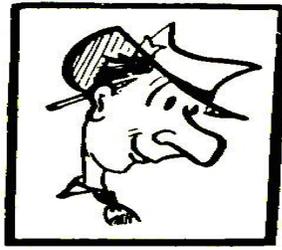
Ten years later, in April of 1955, the Salk polio vaccine, which would almost eradicate the dreaded disease in the United States, was introduced. It was too late for my cousins and others who succumbed to it during the first 50 years of the twentieth century, but a miracle... a blessing had taken place for all future generations who would never again have to fear being afflicted by this horrible scourge.

Life did go on for my Aunt Harriet and Uncle Lou, as life must. A new baby son was born a month later and, in 1948, Aunt Harriet gave birth to a daughter. They lived to see a lovely granddaughter grow to young adulthood.

Uncle Lou passed away at 95 years old, never having missed a week, in over 50 years, visiting the graves of his two beautiful sons. Aunt Harriet died, in 2008, a few days after her 100th birthday.



Uncle Lou Winard (90), Marcia, and Aunt Harriet Winard (85) in 1993

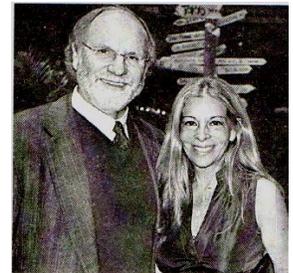


Waldo Winchester

This popular column first appeared in the **CALUMET** in 1950

Former NJ Governor Jon Corzine marries 1963 Weequahic grad, Sharon Levine Elghanayan

- ◆ Former Gov. Jon Corzine and longtime companion **Sharon Levine Elghanayan** tied the knot in a cozy pre-Thanksgiving ceremony at Corzine's Hoboken penthouse. They and their families then left on a Turkey Day vacation to parts unannounced.



This is an unbelievably happy day for me, Sharon, and our family,'Corzine told The Star-Ledger in a prepared statement. When you get to share this kind of joy with your kids and grandkids, you know that you've been truly blessed. We are grateful for the many well-wishes we've received, and we wish everyone a happy and peaceful Thanksgiving holiday."

Corzine was married once before and has three grown children. This is the third marriage for Elghanayan, who has two grown children.

- ◆ **Norbert Gaelen, 1944**, (formerly Goldstein) and his wife Audrey Laffer Gaelen celebrated our 60th wedding anniversary on August 20th with their son Marc & daughter Meryl along with their children. Norbert graduated Penn State in 1947 and went to work in the family business, O.Berk Company, currently celebrating it's 100th anniversary. The company, a distributor of rigid packaging containers, is in it's 4th generation of family ownership and management.

Weequahic Sweethearts



Channon and Juliette Green went to Peshine Avenue School, Weequahic High School, and Howard University together. They graduated WHS in 1972 and 1973 respectively. Two years later they were married and soon will be celebrating their 36th anniversary.

At Weequahic, Channon was a fencing star, played in the marching band and was drum captain in his senior year. Juliette played clarinet in the band and was the band secretary. In college, Channon majored in Physical Education and Juliette in Early Childhood,

They reside in Largo, Maryland where Channon works as the district manager for McKee Foods (Little Debbie) and Juliette is a substitute teacher. For the past 20 years, Channon has served as the Asst. Director for the Boys and Girls Club basketball program and Juliette has served as cheerleader coach and Brownie leader.

They have a son, Channon, Jr. a daughter, Chante, a daughter-in-law, Ishia, and a 3-year old granddaughter, Shannah.



ALUMNI VOICES

Ted Slate, 1953

Just wanted you to know how much I enjoyed reading the Fall 2010 issue of the Alumni Calumet. I especially related to two of the articles in that I pitched my best game at City Stadium, beating Baringer, 9-0, and I lived just three miles from Mars, Inc.

The Weequahic Writers section was of great interest. One comment: very often, the title of a book will raise potential readers' interests because it may be provocative while not revealing the book's contents.

This was not the case with *Fart Without Fear*, 'a book which I will gladly acquire and place next to my other flatulent opus, Kathleen Meyers' *How to Shit In the Woods.*" I am now trying to decide if these two how-to books represent the beginning of a new theme in my book collecting.

Larry Geller, June 1960

The Philip Roth Tour of Newark was a stroke of genius and I cannot thank you and the tour guide enough for what became the most memorable and fascinating part of my 50th high school reunion.

When the bus driver detoured to take a pass by my grammar school (Maple), he also drove past my former family home-stead at 394 Clinton Place (both coming and going). Naturally, not being the quiet, shy or retiring type, I became quite vocal while alerting the entire busload of passengers of its significance.

Please know that your commitment to the students and former alumni is quite impressive. Thanks for everything.

Gary Prager, 1961

I've been observing for the past few years the stereotype that has been built around Newark. Contrary to popular belief, there are worthwhile activities being performed by many former residents and WHS alums. Most suburbanites come to Newark only to attend NJPAC, go to the airport or to the Rock for an event. Well, much is being missed, changes are being made

Representing the North Jersey Section of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, Ed Bergen and I, former scouts, are involved in bi monthly activities of Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts at The Bethany Baptist Church and The Pilgrim Baptist Church in Newark.

This includes merit badge implementation for scouts and belt loop mastery for cubs. Scouting values is also a high priority element of the program. However, mastery of chess skills, mathematics, science fundamentals and reading are activities which are also emphasized.

The satisfaction of helping kids master chess fundamentals or learning how to use a slide rule is truly gratifying. The same feeling is exhibited when cubs assemble crystal and transistor radios and upon completion have something they have assembled themselves and can keep as their own.

So if there are Weequahic Alums who are former scouts, why not give this a try? E-mail Gary at prager7@comcast.net.

WEEQIAHIC ALUMNI ON



The Weequahic High School Alumni Association now has a FACEBOOK PAGE (a gift from Lew Kampel and the Class of June 1960 who created it and have transferred it to us).

All of our alumni from 1933 to the present time are welcome to join us at this site. Invite others to join. Keep in touch with friends and classmates, post photos, videos and list events. Create ongoing conversations with other alumni. Share your growing-up experiences and your life after high school. Become a regular visitor. ENJOY!



Ziggy by Tom Wilson



IN LOVING MEMORY

Founder of Cohen's Knishes
- a Weequahic landmark

Pearl Cohen Kasoff

By Lori Silberman Brauner, NJJN

Pearl Cohen Kasoff, a former Newark resident who launched a kosher frozen hors d'oeuvres empire, died at age 101 in June 2010.

Cohen Kasoff, who started her business with a single storefront on Newark's Hawthorne Avenue, died in West Orange, where she resided.

Born as Pearl Fishman in Seattle in 1908, she lived in Newark and Elizabeth before moving to West Orange in 2003.

Kasoff, the founder and owner of Cohen's Famous Knishes in Newark, opened the first U.S. government-inspected plant for kosher frozen foods, and expanded her store to other locations, including Irvington, Livingston, and West Orange. According to the Lakewood-based Cuisine Innovations, which now manufactures frozen food products sold under the Cohen's label, by 1983 Cohen's Famous was a major food company with distribution in supermarkets around the country.

The brand was sold in 1997 and the restaurants were closed long before that after the family's focus shifted to national distribution. "They concentrated on the frozen food aspect" and manufacturing, said daughter-in-law Barbara Cohen, who also credits Pearl with patenting the potato dog, a hot dog deep fried in a potato knish skin.

"Three thousand calories and boy, was it good," said Barbara Cohen, whose husband, Edward, worked closely with his mother and brother Sidney developing the business.

As a young wife and mother Cohen Kasoff opened up a small knish store on Hawthorne Avenue in Newark, preparing the delicacies from



her own recipes, granddaughter Gail Grossman told NJ Jewish News. "It was because of her dedication, perseverance, and spirit that her company became a nationwide name and she a national icon," she said. "She allowed people to have faith in her," said Barbara Cohen. "Whoever had contact with her knew that she was an honest woman."

Cohen, who worked as a waitress at the family's Irvington restaurant, also recalled her mother-in-law hand-rolling knishes into her 50s and riding on the back of a motorcycle in her 70s.

Another of Cohen Kasoff's nine grandchildren, Cindy Cohen Zolchonock, noted that her grandmother foresaw the importance of the company's obtaining kosher status. "It was all gut instinct," said Cindy, whose father, Sidney Cohen, worked with his mother for over 45 years. "How pioneering she was in the day."

"My grandmother had a phenomenal life," she added. "Not many women could have a resume even close to her."

"She never took 'no' for an answer," Grossman said of her grandmother. "She should be an inspiration to all women."

She received recognition for her contributions to the industry, including a nomination in 1960 as "Small Businessman of the Year" by the Small Business Administration in Newark, and a

letter of congratulations on her 80th birthday from Sen. Frank Lautenberg.

Cohen Kasoff was also a member of the

Deborah chapter of West Orange, B'nai B'rith Women of West Orange, and the Sara Slifer Organization. "The most important memory that one would remember about Pearl was that she was truly a very giving and loving person who always wanted to better any situation," Grossman said.

Elsie Selikof, 1936

Elsie Selikoff, beloved mother, sister, grandmother, and great-grandmother passed away at home on Jan. 15, 2011.

Originally from Newark and West Orange, Elsie lived in Long Branch for the past 40 years. She was the owner of Herculite Mason Supply Company in Hillside and Wall Township and a foundering member of B'nai Shalom of West Orange.

Elsie is survived by her son, Mark and his wife Barbara; daughter, Judy Mayer and her husband, Robert Levine; brother, David Steiner and wife Sylvia; and sister, Gertrude Nudel. She is also survived by nine grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Other Passings:

Ruth Barron, June 1941

Jon Eric Bauman, June 1958

Franklin Chenitz, Jan. 1940

Mickey Coppick, June 1969

Ruth Dorman, 1947

Harriet Hirsh Eisenberg, June 1940

Martin Freedman

Seymour Grossman, June 1942

Bernice Kamm, 1936

Eileen Oxman Kobitz, June 1952

Roy Lebovitz, Jan. 1951

Leatrice Robinson Kessler, June 1952

Joel Levinson, June 1955

Arthur Newman, June 1960

Ronni Fern Goldberg Porbin, 1958

Stan Pressman, 1949

Steven Schwarz, Jan. 1954

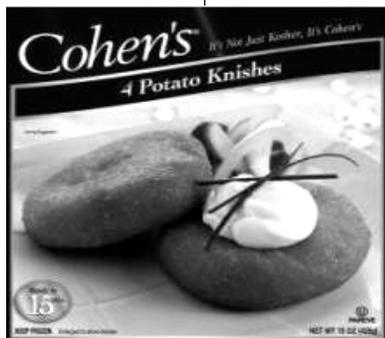
Jeffrey Reiber, June 1960

Herman Tenenbaum, 1937

Sandra Belfer Tobias, June 1956

Meyer Traberman, June 1944

Elaine Tepper Weiner, Jan. 1956



MEMBERSHIP / MERCHANDISE / SCHOLARSHIP FORM

Mail: WHS Alumni Association, P.O. Box 494, Newark, NJ 07101 / Call: (973) 923-3133

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5 MEMBERSHIP CHOICES: check if change in postal address

\$25 Alumni \$50 Orange & Brown \$100 Ergo \$500 Sagamore \$1000 Legend

Class (Month & Year): _____ Current or Past Occupation: _____

Name: _____ Last name at WHS _____

Street: _____ Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: () _____ Cell Phone: () _____

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8 MERCHANDISE CHOICES: (add \$5.00 for shipping & handling / Circle your size and color / Larger sizes can be special ordered)

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2. \$5.00 TOTE BAG: - (in orange or brown with WHS logo)
3. \$10.00 DVD: "Tribute to Mr. Fein Video" - (21-minute video on Coach Les Fein - player interviews and basketball footage)
4. \$12.00 T-SHIRT: - (sizes S, M, L, XL, 2XL - (dark brown, orange, khaki with WHS logo)
5. \$15.00 HAT: - (one size fits all in khaki or dark brown with Weequahic alumni lettering)
6. \$20.00 SWEATSHIRT: - (sizes S, M, L, XL, 2XL - dark brown, orange, khaki with WHS logo)
7. \$20.00 GOLF SHIRT: - (sizes S, M, L, XL, 2XL - orange with Indian Head WHS alumni lettering)
8. \$20.00 BOOK: "Swede: Weequahic's Gentle Giant" - (soft cover book about one of Weequahic's greatest athletes)

25 SCHOLARSHIP CHOICES:

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2. \$ ___ Maxine Boatwright Fund *
3. \$ ___ Morey Bobrow Fund *
4. \$ ___ Sharon Nicely Boose Fund *
5. \$ ___ Class of 1945 Fund
6. \$ ___ Class of June 1960 Fund
7. \$ ___ Class of 1963 Fund
8. \$ ___ Class of 1964 Fund

9. \$ ___ Class of 1968 Fund
10. \$ ___ Les & Ceil Fein Fund
11. \$ ___ Ronald Griffin Fund *
12. \$ ___ Miriam Hample Fund *
13. \$ ___ Walter Hastreiter Fund *
14. \$ ___ General Alumni Fund
15. \$ ___ Reada & Harry Jellinek Fund*
16. \$ ___ Phyllis & Donald Kalfus Fund
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18. \$ ___ Bert Manhoff Fund *
 19. \$ ___ "Swede" Masin Fund *
 20. \$ ___ Edwin McLucas Fund
 21. \$ ___ Marie O'Connor Fund *
 22. \$ ___ Leo Pearl Fund *
 23. \$ ___ Richard Roberts Fund
 24. \$ ___ Sadie Rous Fund *
 25. \$ ___ Ronald G. Stone Fund *
- * In Memory

Weequahic HS Murals Restoration Fund: \$ _____ General Contribution: \$ _____

IN LOVING MEMORY

Eleanor J. Lutzke Lewis

June 1959, Advocate for Social Justice



Eleanor J. Lewis died in her Princeton home Friday after battling ovarian cancer for almost a decade. She was 68.

Born in Newark on December 9, 1941 to Maurice Lutzke, a grade school principal, and Hilda G Lutzke, a high school English teacher, Eleanor graduated from Weequahic High School in 1959.

She spent 2 years at Cornell University studying industrial and labor relations,

and then transferred to Sara Lawrence College, where she received her Bachelors of Arts degree. She earned a master's degree in human development from Harvard University, and received her doctorate in psychology and education from the University of Michigan. She earned her law degree from Seton Hall Law School.

Her mother was one of the founders of the American Federation of Teachers Union in Newark, and Eleanor was raised by her parents to be conscious of social injustice, an influence that would shape her for the rest of her life. In fourth grade, she was already very conscious of civil rights issues, and when her teacher tried to force her to do something she did not want to do, she informed the teacher that her civil rights were being violated.

As a graduate student at the University of Michigan, Eleanor became very involved in the women's movement and worked with an organization to improve the status of women there. She soon became a part-time consultant to the federal government for affirmative action on college campuses. After receiving her doctorate, she moved to Washington, DC, to continue working for the government.

Shortly thereafter, she visited Ralph Nader's office and asked to work with him. They determined it would be best for her to become head of a state PIRG (Public Interest Research Group). She was hired as the first executive director for NJPIRG in 1972. During its initial year, students working with NJPIRG operated a consumer complaint center at Rutgers, did clean water testing of NJ streams under the new fed-

eral Clean Water Act, and took courses in public interest topics.

While working at NJPIRG, she investigated NJ's no fault auto insurance system and the composition of the New Jersey Blue Cross board of trustees. Insurance Commissioner Richland McDonough responded to Eleanor's Blue Cross investigation by changing the Blue Cross board composition to include more women and minorities.

In 1973, Eleanor was hired by Brendan Bryne's gubernatorial campaign. After Bryne won, she worked on the transition team. She was then hired by Insurance Commissioner James J. Sheeran to serve as the Assistant Commissioner of Insurance for Consumer Services, where she supervised investigations of consumer complaints and hearings. The Department levied more fines in 4 years under Commission Sheeran than it had in the previous 50 years combined. Insurance company claim files were examined for fair consumer treatment, and consumer education materials were prepared and distributed.

Eleanor left the insurance department in 1978 after graduating from law school, and practiced law on her own in Princeton and then with Yvette Weiss. In 1991 she moved to Washington, DC, and resumed working with Ralph Nader as director of the government purchasing project, which promoted the purchase of environmentally safe products and services such as recycled paper, energy efficient light bulbs, and natural cleaners. She also served as director of the American Association of Legal Publishers, fighting West Publishing's copyright of legal citations.

In 2000, she returned to New Jersey and resumed practicing law focusing on consumer fraud. She stopped practicing law in 2005 after her illness reoccurred, but continued her lifelong work supporting individual rights and consumer advocacy through various volunteer efforts. She also spent her final years enjoying time with family and friends, reading her beloved New York Times every day, following various intellectual pursuits and taking stand-up comedy classes, which she looked forward to every week.

She is survived by her 97-year-old mother Hilda G. Lutzke of Verona, her brother Arthur and sister-in-law Nancy Lutzke of Amagansett, NY, and nieces Jessica Lutzke and Melissa Turowsky, both of New York City. She is also survived by many first cousins and their children and grandchildren, and by countless good friends who added significant meaning to her life.

Eleanor set a priority on enjoying vacations, activities and conversations with the friends she maintained from each decade of her life. With her commitment to social justice, those relationships with family and friends formed the core of her life. She is missed and will continue to be missed by all the people who loved her and benefited from her activities.

SUNDAY MORNING GROUP - 20th Gala Get-Together

Thursday Evening, May 26th, 7:00 p.m., at the Maplewood Country Club

*Call Len Alpert at (201) 868-7135
for tickets and more information*

2011 REUNIONS

Saturday, April 30, 2011

Class of Jan. & June 1961

50th Reunion, 12:30 p.m.
Hilton Hotel, Short Hills

Contacts: Jill Grafer Watkins at (973) 226-1559; Barry Warner at (908) 380-2766; Fred Marra at (412) 559-5983; Phil Meadows at (561) 641-9357.

Sunday, May 15, 2011

Class of Jan. & June 1946

65th Reunion, 11:30 a.m.
Maplewood Country Club.

Contact: Dave Schechner at (973) 763-9232 / fishhooks@aol.com

Friday, July 22, 2011

Class of 1986

25th Reunion, 7 p.m.,
Grand Chalet, Wayne.

Contact: Arlene Williams-Lampley at arlene973@yahoo.com / (570) 369-4789

Saturday, Sept. 10, 2011

Class of January 1956

55th Reunion, 7 p.m.,
Hyatt Hotel in Morristown.
Brunch on Sunday at 9 a.m.
at the hotel.

Contact: Ray Mark at (561) 445-5009 / raycpa12@comcast.net
www.whsjan56reunion.com

Class of 1990 20th Reunion Committee

Stanton Washington, Matoka Boone, Faith Bryant, Lance Mann, Nashonda Hutchins, and April Washington

Group pic on right

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Hal Braff, 1952, Co-President

Mary Brown Dawkins, 1971, Co-President

Samuel Weinstock, 1955, Treasurer

Myrna Jelling Weissman, 1953, Secretary

Tharien Karim Arnold, 1984

Ruby Baskerville, 1961

Larry Bemby, 1966

Judy Bennett, 1972

Sheldon Bross, 1955

Marshall Cooper, 1969

Harold Edwards, 1966

Arnold Keller, 1952

Marc Little, 1969

Arthut Lutzke, 1963

Adilah Quddus, 1971

Gerald Russell, 1974

David Schechner, 1946

Vivian Ellis Simons, 1959

Charles Talley, 1966

Pamela Scott Threats, 1966

John Toner, Principal

