

WHS NOTE

Class of 1963 Association

April 24, 2020

TO RESPOND WITH A COMMENT OF YOUR OWN, PLEASE CLICK ON WHSALUM63@AOL.COM.

Hi Orange & Brown Hued-quahics,

Mourning WHS Alumni:

Ellie Miller Greenberg (49)

I am sad to report the passing of Anita Klein Straussberg, Class of 1949, a resident of West Orange, New Jersey. Anita and Beverly Rappaport Goldberg were lifelong friends and I was privileged to be included in their friendship circle when we met in high school. We have remained friends across the miles throughout our lives. Ellie

Ruth Fein Silverman (6/56)

1944 Graduate Irwin Krupnick passed away the beginning of April in Palm Beach Gardens, FL. He was a fantastic Bridge player and as sharp and as quick as he was in 1944. No online obit is available, but messages of condolences and memories of Irwin can be left at [this link for Irwin Krupnick](#). Ruth

Lew Kampel (6/60)

It took me 32 years to finally "meet" Janie Wildman Raitt (1/61), who just died of Covid-19 virus, only two weeks after her husband passed away of the same illness. Like most guys at WHS, I noticed Jane back then, but never spoke with her. Fast forward to 1992 when we were helping our daughter Jamie move into a freshman dormitory at U. of Michigan in Ann Arbor. She goes to the bathroom and another parent notices her New Jersey accent, and the next thing I know my daughter is bringing Jane and her daughter Marnie into her room for a mini WHS reunion. Janie

and Steve were very kind to our daughter, for which we were grateful. And, we enjoyed having dinner with them on several trips to Ann Arbor. Our wishes go out to her family. Lew

Lois Blumenfeld Gilbert (6/60) send special birthday greeting:

On April 22nd my mom, Claire Liebowitz Blumenfeld, celebrated her 99th birthday. She's still sharp as a tack and knows which buttons to push! Mom graduated Bragaw Avenue School in June 1934 and Weequahic in June 1938. Unfortunately, I had to cancel my trip to help her celebrate, but she was inundated with cards and lots of flowers. Mom's Bragaw graduation class photo and current personal picture appear below. Lois



Reaching Out:

Bob Enda Hillside 66)

Thank you for accepting me as a member of WHS alumni group. Although I did not attend Weequahic, I did go to Bergen Street School, Hawthorne Avenue School and Clinton Place Junior High. If any of you from my old neighborhoods or schools recognize my name, please feel free to contact me at bob_enda@yahoo.com. Bob

Jack Rudowsky (49)

As a graduate of the Weequahic Class of 1949, I really enjoyed attending the class reunions that we used to have. I loved to go back to New Jersey for each and every

class reunion that. I was hoping that there was still enough of us left to have one more reunion. Please let me know if there are a few of us left to have ONE more. I will be coming from Tampa, FL to see you all. Please send responses to me at rochelletr@gmail.com. Jack

Calvin Schwartz (6/63) “tilts” (hope not) toward a “Part II” on pin ball, but this time at Jersey Shore:

During the 1950’s my parents rented a Belmar, NJ (Jersey shore) bungalow behind Carlson’s on Seventh Avenue. We’d spend August, 1955-1957 there. Just around the corner, on Ocean Avenue, was a large amusement arcade, with rows of pinball, Skeeball, and other games of reckless abandon where you could save points by the end of the summer for a prize. I remember this scene well. The Everly Brothers had released "Bye Bye Love" which was playing on the amusement arcade loudspeaker. I was a local urchin, climbing underneath rows of machines, caked with dust and filth, looking for lost pennies, nickels and even quarters. It was a living for me, paying for my pinball. It’s funny, whenever I hear the Everly Brothers now, I’m underneath those machines.

Life can be full circle. Twenty years ago, I was gifted an old Gottlieb Pinball Machine. It rescued me from the perils of Nintendo, and I played it often enough to keep a broad smile on my face. Then it broke. No Google yet to find a repair service for pinball, so my son Neil, appropriated the pinball top, bottom and side for miscellaneous storage uses. I’ve been oscillating lately on pursuing a repairman. This article should accelerate my determination,

A bit of a postscript. Several years ago, I discovered pinball nirvana in Asbury Park; Silverball Pinball Museum on the Boardwalk (see picture, below). Indeed heaven, with endless Gottlieb, Williams machines to play. As the world turns, I think it’s owned by a Rutgers grad. I’ve written about the joys and magic of that place. Been there often. Even Bruce Springsteen goes there. So, I guess, even the machines which I never played at Stein’s are there. More on “The Net” at [Link for Silverball Museum, Asbury Park](#). There is justice. Cal



Commentaries on HBO's "The Plot Against America:"

Alan Eisenberg (Hillside 60)

Once again, thank you the producers of the weekly newsletter for keeping our important social history alive. And God Bless Phillip Roth for spinning the tales of our city, the Weequahic section and its people. With love and with "warts-and all," awesome to have known and grown up in this very special section of America.

For our families, the timing could not be more meaningful and appropriate. HBO's television version of Philip Roth's "The Plot Against America" is just one episode old as I write this note. The way the director and production team are capturing the soul of the neighborhoods, homes, streets, the times, businesses, people, sections and spirit of Weequahic, Newark, and the environs, I find truly remarkable. That work is nearly as good as the story itself. Alan

Aileen Resnick Marcus (68)

I'm also enjoying watching the HBO mini-series, "The Plot Against America," but laugh whenever they say or refer to living "in Weequahic." I shout out to my television "Weequahic SECTION!!!" LOL Aileen

Michael Gross (6/63)

I read that most of the exteriors were shot in Jersey City, not Newark. Mike

Bernice Lewitter Manshel (49)

To Lucie Prinz (49), I enjoyed reading your comments on the HBO dramatization of *Plot Against America*. My family belonged to B'nai Abraham and your father was a towering figure in my childhood. His inspiring sermons and his visits to my Sunday School class for short talks had a big influence on my values. Even now at 88, I often cite Rabbi Prinz when the subject of racism comes up, especially concerning Jews and racism.

When I read *The Plot Against America*, I was thrilled to recognize Rabbi Prinz. How lucky I was to have been exposed to his wisdom and passion. If you haven't listened to the *Fresh Air* interview with Philip Roth, I think you would find it interesting: [Philip Roth on NPR Fresh Air program talking about The Plot Against America](#). Bernice

Jac Toporek (6/63)

Part two of the "Plot" had some really pleasant reminders of "dem days." Public Service Bus emblem on Phil and friends transport to the burbs was one. Loved the scene where builder Steinman walks into Tabachnick's and order enormous amounts of sturgeon and lox and only pays \$37 plus change. Today the cost would be five times that amount. The Lehigh Street sign in one of the segments and mention of Summit Avenue in another was a memory recall. And the Hahne & Co. segment was notable for the human operated elevator and just Hahne's in general. And, the family listening to the radio for news and programming like Walter Winchell. Not sure I recall listening to Winchell, but there were so many great comedies and mystery dramas on the air. A brief view of a bus stop station that read "14 Clinton Place" was a delight. And, in the final episode, older brother Sandy was drawing the line of people ready to vote at WHS (see below; taken from TV screen by Vivian Barnett Toporek (Irvington 66)).



An Episode 3 scene brought back the memory of the clothes lines, even hanging from the rear on the apartment. And what pleasant moment of recall when Philip and his friend flipped trading cards against the front stoop of their apartment building. Do not even want to think of the loss to a competitor's "topper" or "leaner" of what would be considered today "valuable" rookie cards of baseball immortals. However, our cards were not flipped on the front stoop of 225 Meeker Avenue, but in the back courtyard of the apartment building.

To watch and monitor Newark Public Library panelists' Zoom discussion that took place preceding the final episode of "The Plot Against America," go to [Link on NPL discussion on The Plot Against America](#). Jac

Elaine Hersh Krusch (6/50)

Went all through Chancellor with Phillip, back and forth for lunch too. I see those places he wrote about and reminisce. The movie takes liberties with the book just as Phillip took liberties with his books. He did stick well to reality. Elaine

Judy Herr (64)

When I read *The Plot Against America* soon after it was published, I did not particularly like it; it seemed almost in the science fiction genre and too preposterous. Not sure anymore. Like others, I am enjoying the series. To Rabbi Printz's daughter, Lucie, he was a hero of mine and I have always felt so proud that he was our rabbi during the Civil Rights era and after. Judy

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