

SUMMER 2010 / ISSUE 30

ALUMNI
CALUMET



Weequahic in Washington, DC

For three days, 41 students experienced life in our nation's capital

By Hal Braff, 1952, Co-President, WHS Alumni Association

It is in keeping with the goals we set when the Weequahic High School Alumni Association was first organized in 1997 that the Coach USA bus, packed with 41 of our students and 12 chaperones, left Chancellor Avenue at 7 a.m. on Thursday, May 6, for three wonderful days in Washington, DC.

The promise of our *Mission* is to provide opportunity and scholarship funds for the kids walking the same halls as we did who are looking forward to the blessed lives that so many of us have had - and this trip was an inspiration fostering that goal.

We are grateful to Beth Kruvant and Paul Bartick who created the Heart of Stone movie for permitting us to raise the funds from the two sold-out screenings of the award-winning documentary at the South Orange Performing Arts Center and to Congressman Donald M. Payne whose staff was extraordinary in facilitating the logistics for the trip.

It was they who arranged for us to tour the Capitol when we arrived, watch a vote from the gallery of the House of Representatives, and meet with Senator Frank Lautenberg, who said that as a Nutley High student he had traveled to our neighborhood to date a Weequahic girl.



Moreover, they also set up a meeting with Congressman John Lewis of Georgia (in picture above), one of the leaders of the Civil Rights movement as Chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. Called by Speaker Nancy Pelosi the "*conscience of the U.S. Congress*," he shared with us his role in the March

HOMECOMING 2010

Saturday, October 16, 2010

Join us for brunch, a tour of the high school, a slide show of Weequahic's past, an alumni merchandise sale, a chat with Principal John Tonero, a neighborhood parade, and a football game with Verona High School.

\$51,000 for 2010 Scholarships

On June 17th at our Scholarship Celebration Dinner, the WHS Alumni Association awarded thirty-four \$1,500 college scholarships to deserving Weequahic students. More than 120 people attended - representing families, Weequahic faculty, and members of our Board of Trustees. The scholarship recipients will be featured in the Fall 2010 Alumni Calumet.



Washington continued

on Washington in August of 1963 and the story of his victory over Alabama Governor George Wallace in leading the march from Selma to Montgomery in 1965.

The students learned first hand of the efforts made in the 1960s which laid the groundwork for the opportunities available to them today. Congressman Payne was gracious in addressing the students in his office in the Rayburn Building, saying he would be glad to meet with them in Newark to hear of their concerns and hopes for the future.

Clearly a highlight of the trip was the forty minutes Justice Samuel Alito spent with us in the United States Supreme Court on Friday. He explained the duties and obligations of the Court and answered questions from the fascinated students and faculty.

The thrill for my wife Elaine and me was relishing our young people's awe as they viewed the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights at the National Archives, the Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery and the wonders available to see at the Smithsonian Institute.

On Saturday they spent the morning experiencing the

National Holocaust Museum. There, and at memorials to those who sacrificed their lives in our country's wars and at the Lincoln Memorial in front of which Marion Anderson sang and Dr. King spoke, our students really got it.

Throughout our whole visit, our kids were exceptionally responsive, respectful and appreciative. Thanks to Yvette King, the Chair of the Social Studies, Art and Music Department, who organized the trip for the high school; the faculty chaperones: Mr. Page, Ms. Hester, Mr. Caffrey, Mr. Rahaman, Mrs. Knight, and Mr. Pierantoni; and the Weequahic kids who were primed to absorb the symbols and significance of the government of this amazing country.

In addition, our appreciation to WHSAA Board member Ruby Baskerville. She made the hotel and transportation arrangements and went on the trip with her husband Cliff.

And thanks to you, the members and supporters of the Weequahic High School Alumni Association, for without your essential commitment to assisting us to provide opportunity and insight to our fellow Chancellor Avenue Indians we could never have accomplished all that we have.



Senator Frank Lautenberg



Rep. Donald Payne



Rep. John Lewis



Justice Samuel Alito, Jr.



Thank You! Weequahic High chaperones in Washington, DC.

ALUMNI CALUMET

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Editor, Layout & Design:

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**Dave Lieberfarb, Hal Braff,
and Myrna Jelling Weissman**

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CONTACT US:

**Weequahic High School
Alumni Association**

**P.O. Box 494
Newark, NJ 07101**

**(973) 923-3133
(973) 303-5294**

**whs@weequahicalumni.org
www.weequahicalumni.org**

HELP WRITE THE NEXT ISSUE:

*Send us letters, articles,
stories, memories, poems,
recipes, photos, cartoons,
trivia, obituaries, reunion
information, etc.*

WEEQUAHIC ARCHIVES:

*Send us your Weequahic
things: yearbooks, jackets,
sweaters, letters, Calumets,
class pictures, photos of the old
neighborhood, etc.*

For Weequahic class of '48, a return to 'different times'

by Robert Wiener, NJJN Staff Writer



More than 100 graduates of Weequahic High School's class of 1948 came together on May 16 to wish themselves a happy 80th birthday, even though some of them insisted they were "only 79." They gathered in the crowded clubhouse of the Suburban Golf Club in Union, some of them traveling from as far away as California, Florida, and Nevada to revisit an era they all still regard as special.

"Weequahic was the best time I had in my whole life," said Marcia Marks Jones, who now resides in Livingston. "Some of these people I haven't seen in 50 years." To many of them, what made the experience special was coming of age in an environment that was overwhelmingly Jewish. More than 90 percent of the high school's student body and the middle-class area of Newark where they lived was Jewish. "It was our neighborhood. It was a unique experience," said Ruth Pierce Lobalbo. "The world is not like that anymore."

As he greeted classmates after their buffet lunch, class president George Kaye recalled the world they entered after they received their high school diplomas. In 1948, the Soviet Union blockaded Berlin, Israel became a state, Harry Truman defeated Thomas Dewey for president, and Mahatma Gandhi was assassinated. It was also the year the first McDonald's opened, Milton Berle made his television debut, and the Cleveland Indians defeated the Boston Braves in the World Series. A gallon of gasoline cost 12 cents, and the average home sold for \$7,700. And, for the record, Weequahic's perhaps most famous son, author Philip Roth, was a sophomore, a member of the class of 1950.

Pauline Levine Levine of Jackson - she married a man named Aaron with an identical surname - said, "The lifestyle then was much easier than it is today. There is no bond between the Weequahic of 1948 and the Weequahic of today." That's not exactly true: The Weequahic High School Alumni Association has been raising funds for scholarships and other assistance for the present-day school's largely African-American students, an

From Ron Lauer, Co-Chair: Sunday, May 16, 2010 turned out to be a sunny, warm Spring day, which cast its shine upon the 112 classmates and guests of the combined January and June 1948 classes of Weequahic High School.

We gathered at the Suburban Golf Club in Union to meet, greet and eat as we celebrated an 80th Birthday Party for all, (one could be younger or older than 80 to attend), and a 62nd Reunion. With piano music from the 40's as background, joy abounded as old friends renewed acquaintances, shared memories and told stories of days gone by in the *Wigwam on the Hill*.

Alan Kampf and I served as Co-Chairs of the Committee. Credit and thanks are due to the Committee members whose efforts made our pow-wow a success: **Artie Buckner, Diane Newmark Denburg, Marcia Marks Jones, Eilene Unger Lauer, Sally Gettenberg Lind, Ruth Pierce Lobalbo, Joan Claire Marcus** (Treasurer), **Don Mopsik, Lila Glassberg Roberts and Pete Roberts, Claire Bernstein Shulman and Dan Weiss**. Don Mopsik deserves special recognition for his interest in promoting fellowship of the graduates and for his guidance during the process.

effort chronicled in the award-winning documentary *Heart of Stone*. The 2009 film is the story of Weequahic's sad evolution from an academic mecca to a seriously underachieving urban high school and the steps being taken to reverse its downward slide.

But the gathering was definitely a celebration of the bonds forged in that long-ago neighborhood that have survived six decades. "You better believe I'm connected to these people," said Joan Claire Marcus of Jackson. "I've stayed in touch with some of them since graduation." Irwin Korngold of Bridgewater said he came "to see everybody I can see today. I've been in touch with a few of the fellas over the years."

As a resident of Las Vegas, Arnold Markowitz has lived far away from his hometown - and from most of his classmates; more than 80 percent remained in New Jersey. But he was drawn back east by powerful memories. "I was a member of the Marine Corps and I've been through a lot. Weequahic is something to remember because I had a good time there and I don't want to forget my teens."

"I'm not 80," insisted one of her classmates standing nearby. "I'm not either," shouted another. But Helen Solondz Shane, who flew up from Sunny Isles Beach, Fla., had no intention of hiding her age. Because she was preparing to turn 80 on May 20, classmates presented her with a small cake, and circled her table to sing "Happy Birthday" to her and to themselves. "It's hard to believe we're 80," remarked Lenore Elias Pollock of Tinton Falls. "For an 80-year-old group, we look damn good."



Sandra West

Class of 1964

Keeps block association
alive with fight
to clean up corner lot

By Barry Carter, The Star-Ledger

If you are in the Chadwick Avenue area of Newark and you happen to spy a two-toned Ford truck, light and dark blue, dumping refuse onto a vacant lot, call Sandra West. She is on the lookout for that truck and when she finds it, well, you wouldn't want to be the driver.

West and her neighbors in the Chadwick Avenue Block Association - CHABA - are not to be messed with. They've got the city's neighborhood service and police departments on the lookout, too. CHABA makes keeping the South Ward block clean and safe its business, and the most recent foe is an old one - a truck that uses a vacant lot at Chadwick and Custer avenues as a dumping ground, turning a clean space into an eyesore. So West is calling officials, firing off e-mails, holding block meetings, standing watch. *"This garbage truck is terrorizing the South Ward,"* West wrote in one of her notes to officials. *"We've been dumped on again."*

Father began Block Association

West is part of a long tradition on Chadwick. Thank her dad, the late Willie West, who started the block association in 1959. He was a strong block leader, still well remembered. When he was alive, you couldn't change your motor oil in the street. You had to cut your grass, keep your property clean. You couldn't even honk your horn if you pulled up.

He knew city ordinances inside and out and kept the city's code enforcers, cops and others focused on Chadwick. And so did his late wife, Ruby. She called the city incessantly, as West remembers, to get trees planted that provide the shade today on Chadwick Avenue between Custer and Hawthorne avenues.

Yes, it's true what they say about apples and trees. West, 50, didn't fall far from her parents' branches. She came back home to Chadwick Avenue several years ago from the city's West Ward when her dad became ill. Now she walks in his footsteps, carrying the torch of concern. West, a library associate at the Newark Public Library, does not hesitate to call City Hall. She doesn't yell, though. Her voice is Southern and genteel, but she is persistent.

Following in her father's footsteps

"My father used to be president of the block association," West said. *"I'll be doggone if I'm going to let somebody dump on that corner."* He spent most of his life trying to maintain a quality of life on good ol' Chadwick. She plans to be no different. *"I'm going to be here and fight the good fight,"* she said. Determination like this is why the right players came to an emergency meeting she had in her living room last year.



Sandra West and her dad, the late Willie West

There were police detectives and officials. Assemblywoman Grace Spencer was there. So was South Ward Councilman Oscar James and Melvin Waldrop, director of the city's Department of Neighborhood and Recreational Services. They all came for the same dumping problem, but the truck back then was yellow. *"When you find people like Mrs. West, that's a partnership you want to nurture and keep strong,"* Waldrop said.

The story behind the Chadwick Ave. lot

So here is the history of the lot on Chadwick: The City, thinking the lot was its, cleaned it in February of last year - after

being harangued by West. They fenced it in and gave West a key and a lock, so she and residents could plant trees and keep it clean. They did so until a few months ago.

It turns out the lot has an owner, who removed the lock and allowed contractors to place a Dumpster on the lot for construction debris from an abandoned house next door. West said the debris spilled out of the container onto the ground, and with the fence open, strangers began to toss their garbage and household junk on the lot. Little Underwood can't forget how upset it made West, her friend and neighbor, who sent out scores of urgent e-mails to city officials. *"Something terrible has happened on Chadwick Avenue,"* it read, Underwood remembers. *"The police came. They thought they were going to find bodies on the lot."*

Respect for community and residents

For West, it's the erosion of her community, a lack of respect for its people.

And that's why she is on the warpath again about the blue truck full of garbage that residents have seen in the neighborhood recently. Somebody had knocked down part of the fence at the corner of the lot and dumped another load.

Neighbors look out for each other

The fervor by which she operates to police the neighborhood is anchored in values - neighbors look out for each other, they check on the elders, they take care of problems together. *"Chadwick Avenue was an old-school, black church kind of neighborhood,"* said Zayid Muhammad, her good friend. *"She is a gem in that sense because she is trying to keep the neighborhood like that."*

People along Chadwick are not worried about this latest little disruption. They expect the person who leaves the garbage to be arrested any day now. Waldrop said residents gave him a picture of the truck with the license plate number, and he has passed it on to the city's illegal dumping task force. Little Underwood knows how this will turn out. West will win. *"She's not going to stop,"* Underwood said. *"She's going to get that truck."*

Editor's Note: Sandra West is the curator of the African-American room at The Newark Public Library and is the co-author of *The Encyclopedia of the Harlem Renaissance*.

Marc Curtis Little

Class of 1969

Radio Personality, Television
Talk Show Host, Political
Consultant, Public Relations,
Counselor, Author

Those are just a few titles that have described Marc Curtis Little over the past 35-plus years. Today, Marc is prouder to be called father, son, brother, friend and a child of God.

The award-winning mass communications veteran is now a published author with two books, *Don't Blink When God Calls* and sequel, *Angels in the Midst*, and gospel radio personality, though he still manages to consult organizations and clients on public relations strategy and broadcast advertising sales. Marc is also a play-by-play football announcer, motivational speaker and part-time commercial actor.

Marc Curtis Little was born on September 8, 1951 to the late Clara Little and Matthew Little in Newark. He was formally educated in the Newark public school system at Peshine Avenue School and Weequahic High School.

Marc learned survival skills in his blue collar neighborhood situated in the South Ward of New Jersey's largest city, and growing up in Mount Teman A.M.E. Church in Elizabeth. After graduating high school in 1969, Marc moved to California to attend Los Angeles City College.



His professional career began in 1972 when he accepted a job at WERD-AM in Jacksonville, Florida. That started a long career in communications that included on-air and management positions in radio and television, and ownership of a nationally recognized public relations company for 20 years.

Marc won seven Billboard Magazine awards, as well as honors from Black Radio Exclusive Magazine and Radio & Records Magazine. He was recognized by the Public Relations Society of America for his landmark work as Vice Chairman of its National Diversity Committee in the early 2000's.

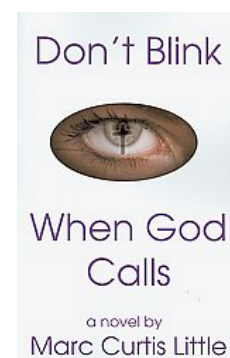
As one of America's most visible public relations counselors, Marc has worked with Pepsi-Cola, Pfizer, Glory Foods, Disney World, Comcast, The Florida Lottery, Florida's Anti-Tobacco Truth Initiative, National Basketball Association All-Star Amare' Stoudemire, Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, Congressional Black Caucus, Congresswoman Corrine Brown, Republican National Committee, Florida A&M University, Edward Waters College, CBS Records and the Florida Department of Commerce.

Marc's work as a public servant has crossed four decades. He was appointed by governors, Florida State Senators and

mayors to volunteer positions on the Florida Commission on Human Relations, the Office of Faith and Community-Based Partnerships, Foundation for Florida's Future, Florida Commission on Minority Economic and Business Development, Jacksonville Insight Committee and Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce Workforce 2000 Task Force. Marc has been honored with awards from more than 100 organizations for his work in the public sector.

Marc is the father of an adult son and a teenage daughter, and is a member of Agape Family Worship Center in Rahway. His brother Duane is a 1970 WHS grad and his sister is the best-selling author Benilde Little, 1976 - a member of the WHS Alumni Hall of Fame.

About Don't Blink When God Calls:



Don't Blink When God Calls chronicles the mayoral campaign of Curt Felton, Jr. in Forrestville, Florida, while examining the battle for an African-American man to gain credibility in a

political process that is perceptually reserved for White males.

Though Felton exhibits sophistication, shrewdness and spirituality, which makes him an attractive candidate who can possibly win and become the first Black mayor of the city, he also displays recklessness with an extramarital affair and past and present relationships that could wreck his chances to win. The mixture of politics, sex and religion will maintain the reader's interest throughout the story.



At Arlington National Cemetery, Washington, DC Trip

ALUMNI CONTRIBUTIONS:

\$3,000 - Class of 1963 Fund; \$1,000 - Swede Masin Fund; Class of 1945 Fund; Morey Bobrow Fund; Phyllis & Donald Kalfus Fund.

WEEQUAHIC SWEETHEARTS

If you are married to a Weequahic alum and would like to tell the story of how your magical moment took place, please contact us.

Millman's

Home of the Newark's Famous Foot-Long Hot Dog

By the late Nat Bodian

To many of today's youngsters, the name *Millman's* is an unknown. But to three generations of Newarkers, spanning more than half of the early 20th century, the name *Millman's* meant great hot dogs in a pleasant park-like environment, as well as a place to hang out, take a date, or meet friends.

I'm talking about Millman's Drive-In at 179-183 Meeker Avenue, just across from the entrance to Weequahic Park. It's a place that played a role in my own life from the late 1930s, when it first opened at that address, and I was a young reporter covering sports events across the street in Weequahic Park, to the early 1960s, when, as a married family man, I took my two small sons down on Saturday mornings for hot dog treats and a romp in the park nearby.

Millman's as a Hangout

But Millman's was a very special place to thousands, and in particular to the Weequahic High students who used the premises as an evening hangout before World War II. Then, during the War, it was a retreat for members of the armed forces housed in barracks in Weequahic Park, and after the War as a place to escape to for veterans and their families who were housed in the drafty low-rent barracks buildings in the Park until they could get back on their feet.

Story and History of Millman's

The story of Millman's is the story of one man - Oscar Millman - and his lifelong efforts to erect a popular refreshment spot at the Weequahic Park entrance at the time that the City of Newark was preparing to celebrate the 250th anniversary of its founding with a pageant that featured festivities in the Park.



Introducing Oscar Millman

Oscar Millman, remembered as the mustached cigar-smoking owner/ operator of Millman's during its 52-year run, was born October 26, 1901 to Harry and Katie Millman, Russian-Jewish immigrants. The Millman family settled in Newark in 1910 and Harry eked out a bare living as a street vendor selling snow cones and cotton candy.

In 1916, when plans were announced for an upcoming 250th anniversary celebration of Newark's founding, to include a four-day-long pageant in Weequahic Park, the Newark newspapers predicted that hundreds of thousands of visitors would be expected.

Oscar convinced his dad that this would be a good business opportunity and together they rented an 8 x 10 foot space from the Lehigh Valley railroad opposite the Weequahic Park entrance. Here they erected a shack, where during the festivities they dispensed frankfurters, bottled drinks, candy and cracker jacks.

Flushed with success from the Newark anniversary celebration, Oscar with his father negotiated a lease at the Lehigh offices in New York City for slightly more land and expanded the size of the refreshment stand to 22 feet x 22 feet. As the business prospered, Oscar realized that the street - Meeker Avenue - was a main street that led not only to Newark Airport, but also to Elizabeth. He saw that his future was here.

He took a long shot and renegotiated a lease with the railroad for a nearby large parcel of vacant land at 179-183 Meeker Avenue. The lot had a fifty foot sidewalk frontage, but widened to 200 feet farther in, and ran 400 feet deep.

Erects Permanent Building

On this 400-foot-deep plot, Oscar engaged the architectural firm of Arthur Wolfe and Glucksman to build the first permanent Millman fast-food establishment. The building also had living quarters in an upstairs apartment that was home to Oscar's parents, Harry and Katie, and to Oscar while he was still single. The building was completed at the beginning of 1937 and included complete restaurant facilities, as well as a black-topped spacious parking lot.

Building's First Year of Operations.

In that first year, 1937, business flourished during the spring and summer. But Oscar was determined to make *Millman's Drive-In* a year-round business, and, as business began to taper off with the end of the summer season and the onset of cold weather he quickly transformed the outdoor dining area into an enclosed heated restaurant.

With the enclosure added, Millman's continued as an around-the-clock business, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. With a later purchase of a liquor license, a 27-stool bar and package goods department was installed in the restaurant area at the rear of the building. A jukebox was also added, as were car hops on roller skates to serve the cars. The dining area, and later the bar area, both had oblong wooden tables with laminated tops, each table with four wooden chairs.

The Famous Millman's Hot Dog

While Millman's boasted a large but unpretentious menu, its big attraction was its ten-cent foot-long all beef hot dog. It was made to Oscar's specifications by Reinfeld and not sold anywhere else.

Continued on page 7

Millman's continued

It was served on a 10-inch long toasted roll with mustard, sauerkraut, and your choice of either sweet or hot relish, or both. The rolls were made by Sabrett.

As I made many visits to Millman's Drive-In from its starting year into the 1940s, I recall Oscar as a constant presence behind the hot dog counter, a handsome slight man 5'9" tall wearing rimless glasses and with black hair combed straight back, trimmed mustache, and a cigar clenched between his teeth. I later learned that he typically spent 15 hours a day at the hot dog spot.

Millman's Opening Year Menu

From its first year of operation in the Drive-In building, Millman's boasted a varied but unpretentious low-cost menu, led off by its leading item - the ten-cent hot dog. Soda fountain drinks were 5 cents for plain drinks, 10 cents for a plate of ice cream, and 15 cents for either ice cream soda, a malted, or a frosted drink. Beverages were 5 cents for coffee or tea, and 10 cents for hot chocolate, milk, iced coffee, or iced tea.

Sandwiches ranged from 10 cents to 25 cents. The 10-centers included boiled ham, cream cheese, tuna fish, or salami. The 15-centers included Virginia ham, ham and cheese; lettuce, bacon, and tomato; sardine sandwich, and imported Swiss cheese. The 20-centers were ham and egg, and Western egg. French fries with sandwich orders were 5 cents extra. A separate order of French fries was 10 cents. Juice drinks were all 10 cents: lemonade, orangeade, limeade, or orange juice.

Oscar Gains "Partner" at Age 39

Oscar had been so immersed in the operations of his business, that he was still a bachelor in April 1941 at age 39. In that month, he cast eyes on a pretty 27-year old Newark secretary from 136 Hawthorne Avenue, Ethel Ducker, and fell hard. On Wednesday, June 11, 1941, during Ethel's lunch hour from her Downtown Newark secretarial job, Oscar and Ethel were married in a civil ceremony by a Newark City Magistrate at 20 Branford Place in Newark. Four months after their civil marriage, on Sunday,

MILLMAN'S FAMOUS FRANKFURTERS on TOASTED ROLL
with Mustard, Sauerkraut and Relish 10 cents

| SANDWICHES | | SODA FOUNTAIN | |
|---|-----|-----------------|-----|
| Boiled Ham | .10 | Plain Drinks | .05 |
| Fried Ham | .15 | Ice Cream Sodas | .15 |
| Virginia Ham | .15 | Malted Milk | .15 |
| Ham and Egg | .20 | Frosted Drinks | .15 |
| Fried Egg | .15 | Plate of Cream | .10 |
| Bacon and Egg | .15 | SUNDAES | |
| Hamburger | .10 | Walnut | .15 |
| Sliced Egg | .10 | Pineapple | .15 |
| American Cheese | .10 | Strawberry | .15 |
| Ham and Cheese | .15 | Fruit Salad | .15 |
| Lettuce, Tomato and | | Cherries | .15 |
| Bacon | .15 | Barana Splits | .20 |
| Cream Cheese and Olives | .15 | Chocolate | .15 |
| Cream Cheese | .10 | Vanilla | .15 |
| Tuna Fish | .10 | BEVERAGES | |
| Salmon | .10 | Hot Coffee | .05 |
| Western Egg | .20 | Tea | .05 |
| Salami | .10 | Hot Chocolate | .10 |
| Sardine | .15 | Milk | .10 |
| Imported Swiss Cheese | .15 | Iced Coffee | .10 |
| Steak Sandwich | .25 | Iced Tea | .10 |
| French Fries | .10 | DESSERTS | |
| French Fries with Sandwich Orders, 5c Extra | | Cut of Pie | .10 |
| | | Pastry | .05 |

November 23, 1941, they were remarried in a religious ceremony by Rabbi Julius Silberfeld at the Temple B'nai Abraham on Clinton Avenue and South 10th Street.

In the years that followed, Ethel became a true partner and worked with Oscar at *The Stand* for many years. She oversaw the help, served hot dogs, did the ordering of the food supplies, and otherwise put in the same 15-hour workdays as her husband.

Millman's During World War II

With the outset of World War II, so much of Millman's youthful clientele had gone off to join the war, that as business tapered off, car-hop service was discontinued. However, as Newark's young men, especially Millman regulars from the nearby Weequahic Section, left for the war, the Government built barracks for troops based in Weequahic and for an AAF field hospital there. On Thanksgiving Day in 1944, a day the business would have closed, Oscar opened the business and held an "*Open House*" for the service men and women that were stationed in the Weequahic Park barracks, and all the food and drink was free.

Millman Postwar

At the War's end, Millman's made up for the loss of their business from the military personnel based in the Park by the patronage from the 578 veterans and their families who lived there. The Government had hastily built barrack-type apartments late in the Pacific War to house evacuate casualties from an anticipated invasion of Japan. Of course, with

the atom bomb, the invasion never happened and at War's end, the premises were rented to veterans with families for \$37.50 a month. Many became Millman patrons.

Famous-Name Patrons

Award-Winning Novelist Philip Roth, as a Weequahic High student before his 1950 graduation, had frequented Millman's regularly to hang out with school friends. Jackie Gleason was a Millman's 'regular' while employed as M.C. and standup comic at the Club Miami on Clinton Avenue in the late 1930s before he hit the "big time." And Frank Sinatra and Jerry Lewis had also visited Millman's, I was told by Oscar's daughter, Andrea.

Millman's Sell 52-Year-Old Business

In 1968, fifty two years after the start of a business intended to capitalize on Newark's "*Quarter Millennium*" Anniversary Celebration, Oscar sold the business on Meeker Avenue. The Millmans, Oscar and Ethel, had been used to an active business life, and over the ten years after the sale, Oscar dabbled in real estate and Ethel took a job at the Newark courthouse.

In 1979, they sold their home in Maplewood and retired to Tamarac, Florida, where they lived out a full and active life into the late 1990s. Ethel died in June 1996, three months short of her 83rd birthday, and Oscar died in February 1997 at age 95.

The Millman Family

The Millmans had two daughters, Bryna and Andrea. Both helped out in the family business in their formative years. Andrea had waited on tables. Bryna was a helper during her summer vacations. Today, Bryna earns her living as a freelance writer living in Brooklyn. Andrea Millman Gentry lives in Coconut Creek, Florida and has been a teacher and geriatric case worker.

Oscar's parents, Harry and Katie, lived out their lives in the apartment over *The Stand* and remained active in the business while still alive. Oscar's father, Harry, died in 1943. Katie Millman continued to reside in the upstairs apartment until her death in 1963.

MORE WEEQUAHIC WRITERS

Calvin Barry Schwartz Class of 1963



Calvin Barry Schwartz joins an illustrious list of Weequahic High School published authors with his January 2010 debut novel *Vichy Water*.

He graduated from Rutgers University in 1969 with two degrees and practiced Pharmacy before a career in sales and currently imports eyewear from China. Calvin is a husband and father. Interests include environmental issues, political science, spirituality, extending life and Rutgers sports. He auditioned for *The Apprentice*, went to the casting call for *War of the Worlds* and did his first keg stand in June 2008.

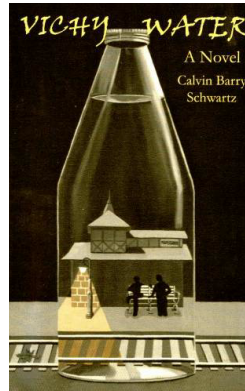
"Memories, experiences and a Weequahic essence, then and now, helped fuel that something which started my writing career in life's sixth decade, Calvin states. "How would someone remember me? Visualize any local basketball court, at Maple, the Chancellor Y, or a Weequahic junior varsity basketball practice session. I'm still 6'5" and there was my four years."

Asked about what a reader might find in *Vichy Water*, Calvin used fingers to enumerate, "friendship spirituality, murder, the environment, racism, religious tolerance, women's issues, Jersey shore, Rutgers."

About Vichy Water: *Alex Zari, Egyptian and Elvin Stone meet in 1960 in a vacant lot as Newark high school students and become life long exceptional friends. Exceptional means trust, sharing life and spirituality, pulled from the author's experiences with angelic intervention and clairvoyance. Alex's haunting visions tell*

of becoming more than friends. Elvin attends Rutgers University while Alex studies astronomy and joins a discussion group at Princeton University where he's groomed to slide into a secret organization and government security clearance. Eventually, Alex lands in the Situation Room of the White House with potentially unsettling news for the President.

Life abruptly changes. Clandestine government meetings, murders, and a plane crash follow. Overcome by change and great loss, Elvin searches self in Sedona, Arizona, Guadalcanal, Montana, Key Largo, Vietnam War Memorials, Guadeloupe, and a Chicago African-American cemetery where Emmett Till is buried.

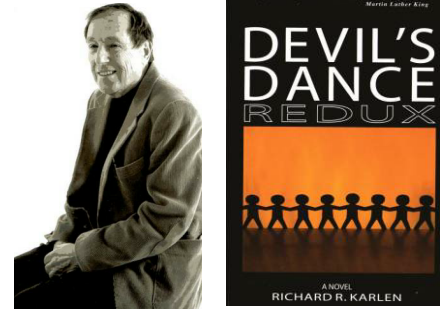


Elvin marries twice, changes career to sales, has an affair with the daughter of a European businessman and when morality is confronted, ponders the Virtue of Selfishness. The story twists through the universe, women's perspectives, racism, tech noir movies, environment, a college bar and a Hollywood antique store where a bottle of Vichy Water from 1942 is found.

Review: Calvin Barry Schwartz emerges on the scene of accomplished novelists with his debut work entitled *Vichy Water*, a heavily dense interleaving story of childhood friends of unique backgrounds finding trust and friendship in a changing world...His work is very complex...Full of hidden meanings, intricate plots and subplots, views on scores of topics including sexuality, occult powers, extraterrestrial life, religious strengths and conflicts, racial and ethnic coexistence, and basic good versus evil, Schwartz weaves his views into a fabric of his interpretations... This book is for the seasoned reader looking for something different and challenging.

- Gary Sorkin, Pacific Book Review

Richard Karlen Class of 1948



Richard R. Karlen was born and grew up in Newark on Goldsmith Avenue, where he attended Maple Avenue Grammar School and Weequahic High School. He has a BA degree from the University of Chicago. After graduating from NYU Dental School, he enlisted in the Air Force and was stationed in South Korea and Japan for three years.

Upon completion of his tour of duty, he returned to New Jersey where he practiced dentistry in Newark for thirty-five years, until he retired and embarked on a new career as an author. He currently lives in Scotch Plains with his wife, daughter, son and grandson.

He has written nine works of fiction and established his own publishing company, Ironbound Press. Richard's ninth book, *Through Thin Shirts*, a novel of the Holocaust, was published this year.

About Devil's Dance Redux: *Alan Stone is a 37-year-old neurologist and Jennie Kowalski, a 30-year-old public defender, who become guardians of six African-American children after their mother is shot in the head during a robbery. The struggles of everyday life surface dramatically when Alan and Jennie attempt to raise these six African-American children in a racially tense neighborhood in Newark, NJ.*

Ultimately, they are faced with a life-threatening decision when Burgess, the oldest son, becomes determined to go after the man who shot his mother. The narrative is intertwined with Stone's dilemma as one at risk to develop Huntington's Disease (HD), a rare

Continued on page 9

Karlen's Devil's Dance Redux:

genetic, neurological condition that his father, Harry Stone, died of 20 years ago.

The relationship between Alan and Jennie is in constant conflict because of Alan's procrastination in taking a blood test that would determine whether or not he would one day develop HD. Resolving this dilemma is a fundamental question, which thousands at risk for HD deal with on a daily basis.

Another alumni scholarship recipient graduates from college

Kamil Horton, 2001



Kamil Horton is a 2010 graduate of Ashford University in Clinton, Iowa with a Bachelor of Science degree in Social Science/Education. He is currently enrolled in a Master's degree program in Business Administration at Grand Canyon University. He is married and he and his wife Lee Andrea have their own business, H2 CREATIVE CRAFTS. The Hortons reside in Plainfield.



FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL ON THE HILL



Introducing the Law Academy



**By Ms. Beverly Russell,
Lead Teacher**

Weequahic High School opened a Law Academy on October 8, 2009.

Joining the Allied Health and Fine Arts and Business Academies at the high school, the Law Academy will prepare students to enter college or law-related careers upon high school graduation.

During the opening ceremony, Vice Principal Ronald Morse presented certificates to 52 students representing all grade levels that are currently enrolled in the Academy. Parents, administrators, and teachers attended to congratulate and encourage the students in this new undertaking.

Principal John Tonero envisions the Law Academy offering two career pathways - law and public safety. The law pathway is designed to attract students interested in becoming attorneys, judges, and paralegals. The public safety pathway will attract students interested in careers as police officers and other law enforcement officials.

The Law Academy has several goals to keep the students actively engaged in preparing for a law-related career. They include training students in trial techniques, and preparing them to participate in mock trial and moot court competitions.

This experience will provide students with placements in summer internships with practicing attorneys and law enforcement officials. This will benefit students with their college and career planning.

Weequahic's thriving community of students with a common interest in law will serve as another source for student leaders as we enter this new decade.

Editor's Note: *Weequahic is also hoping that funds will be available to build an actual courtroom at the high school. Recently, Law Academy students participated in a mock trial held in the Library/Media Center at the high school. Judge Claude Coleman presided and brought with him a court officer and court clerk. David Schechner, WHS 1946, was the lead defense attorney.*

Weequahic is also very fortunate to have Beverly Russell, Esq., to head up the new Law Academy. She is a former Assistant District Attorney in New York County, NY and has a BA degree in Education. After prosecuting many young people in her career, Ms. Russell is highly motivated to provide opportunities for students to expand their options for success. As a result, she now focuses her energies on education at Weequahic.

Chef Jessie Jones

Wins Ultimate Chef Bergen County Cook-off

By Kimberly L. Jackson, Star-Ledger

Editor's Note: *Jessie attended Weequahic for his first two years and lived on Faybryan Place and Chancellor. He graduated from Plainfield High, but says that "he always will be an Indian."*

With an audience of more than 100 spectators, chef Jesse Jones of Irvington, NJ clinched the title of Ultimate Chef Bergen County, showcasing rice in four courses.



Jones, who has catering clients in Bergen County, won the title serving Carolina rice with a pulled pork strudel and a fresh apricot and rice wine vinegar reduction, and by blending rice into his crawfish soufflé served with blackened grouper and a light creole sauce of roasted tomatoes, roasted peppers and white wine. He added puréed rice to the soubise sauce for his roasted guinea hen, and spiked rice pudding with rum to make the ice cream he offered with a praline blackberry cake.

ALUMNI VOICES

Harold Saferstein, WHS 1950

On Doc Lowenstein

When I learned that Doc Lowenstein was 103 and still alive, I wrote him a letter about a week ago. Today I got a lovely handwritten letter. He still calls me *Saf* as he did 62 years ago, a name that stuck with me for many years. He says he is 102 and wishes me even greater longevity providing I retain my "*piss and vinegar*." What a thrill it was to hear from my favorite HS teacher.

Wayne Slappy, WHS 1970

In Loving Memory of Florence Misurell

The late Florence Misurell was my German teacher at Weequahic for three wonderful years from 1966-69. With the exception of Mr. John Silva (my Honors English teacher for two years), she was undoubtedly the best teacher I ever had. My classmates and I were really looking forward to studying German IV in our senior year because we would be allowed to speak only German to the entire class. Sadly, upon our return from summer vacation, we were told that the class was canceled because there were only 8 students registered to take it.

I opted to study Swahili with Mrs. Owens instead. That's right...Swahili! The Indians were one of the few high schools in the country that offered it – which, once again, speaks to the quality of education we were given.

Anyhow, Frau Misurell (as we referred to her in those days) was incredible. Incredibly, I actually learned the structure and syntax of the English language in her class. Maybe it was the transliteration of verbs, nouns, tenses and idiomatic expressions as well as grasping if things were being referred to as masculine or feminine. Perhaps it was simply that she explained things so well.

I honestly believe it was because she genuinely cared about each of us. How,

each day, she made sure to touch us on the shoulder, look us squarely in the eyes or just smile a certain way when we got it just right.

Fortunately, shortly after reading an article written in the Alumni Calumet, I was able to reconnect with her. From that point on, I made it my business to call her as often as possible. Despite being well into her 90's, she recognized my voice immediately. I let her know how much I appreciated her classes. I called her at least once or twice a month.

She told me about how much she was enjoying her study of Shakespeare. I told her I had been to England and visited places where he grew up and honed his craft. She told me about her daughter, Janice, who was a music instructor in Chicago and her granddaughter, Carmen, who was an actress in Los Angeles – where I now reside.

I went to see Carmen perform and let Florence know how much I enjoyed it. Janice and I correspond via e-mail and even via telephone. Regrettably, it was during one of those conversations that I learned of Mrs. Misurell's transition. Here I was, an African-American kid who grew up in the bowels of an urban ghetto, befriendings and weeping about the passing of a Jewish teacher from a school in a middle class neighborhood in Newark, NJ.

A basketball player whom she helped mold and inspire into a fairly decent scholar-athlete. Amazing, huh? Only those of us who attended our awesome school would truly understand! During various occasions upon meeting German speaking people here in America as well as in my travels abroad (both in Germany and Hungary) while coaching or working on a film, my German studies certainly come in handy.

To this day, people are amazed at how well I speak and remember it. No question about it. All credit is due to my inimitable instructor. Thanks to Florence Misurell, Orange and Brown (hey, hey, hey!) still looks so good to me and I remain so glad (so glad) to be a Weequahic Indian!

Norman Mann

Class of 1968

Co-owner of



By Guy Kipp, Star-Ledger

For a small and friendly retreat that offers a generous selection of food and drink to accompany an evening of jazz or blues, Skipper's Plane Street Pub is a distinctive destination in the central business district in Newark.

The cozy setting offers room for about 60 patrons. Its location makes it an ideal spot for lunch during the week for the many folks who work or attend college classes within walking distance of its address at 304 University Avenue (formerly Plane Street).

The evening brings a different crowd - one which enjoys fine food and smooth and relaxing music. Almost every night brings a special music program. Mondays feature live jazz jams hosted by vocalist Eugene *Goldie* Goldston with Greg Bufford on drums. Tuesday is easy listening night. Wednesday is the night for live blues music. There is a featured live jazz artist every Thursday. Friday is *Fun Variety Night*, hosted by Dennis Hamilton. Sundays offer live matinee jazz sessions with Radam Schwartz.

The live music performances usually begin at 8 p.m. and continue until midnight. When the music isn't live, it's pumping out from a jukebox that contains jazz, soul, and R&B.

The music shouldn't overshadow the sumptuous selection of food, though Skipper's has a menu that includes traditional fare, wraps and salads, as well as stuffed scallops, deep-fried chicken shanks, Maryland crab cakes, fried calamari, mussels in Spanish sauce, jalapeno poppers, and a large selection of tapas.

Skipper's is open every day, but Saturdays are reserved for special events. Lunch begins at 11 a.m. weekdays. On Sundays, open from 4 to 8 p.m. All major credit cards are accepted. It is not wheelchair accessible. (973) 733-9300

Nadine Walker Jenkins

Class of 1983

Heart Disease Survivor and Spokesperson

Nadine Jenkins, a 45-year-old mother of four, is a heart disease survivor and spokesperson for WomenHeart and the American Heart Association.

When she was 18 she was told that she had mitral valve prolapse and was advised to take antibiotics when having any surgery or dental procedures. While she always felt palpitations or the sensation of an irregular heartbeat, it was not until 1999 - when she was stuck in atrial fibrillation for several days - that she realized something was truly wrong.

At just 34 years of age, doctors found evidence that at some point in time she had suffered a silent heart attack; even though it had permanently damaged her heart, she never even noticed the symptoms.

With no known risk factors, she was given beta-blockers and continued to do well. Then, in late summer 2003, she fainted. This resulted in more testing and a diagnosis of ventricular fibrillation. Five years later at age 37, she had a cardiac defibrillator implanted to regulate her abnormal heart rhythm.



Jenkins is proud of the steps she's taken to become a heart-disease survivor. *"Remember, you can be young and beautiful and still have heart disease, so know your risk factors, eat right, exercise and always love your heart,"* she says.

In addition to her volunteer activities with the American Heart Association as a Survivor Ambassador, she is also a Women Heart Champion. With Women Heart, the National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease based in Washington, D.C., she serves as an advocate and educator. She participates in health fairs, symposiums and media events, as well as meeting with Congressional leaders to advocate for support of the Heart for Women Act.

Recently, Nadine modeled the winning design in *Project Runway's* special Heart Health Challenge episode. The designs were inspired by real-life stories of people who have faced or overcome the challenges of heart disease. The winning designer, Amy Sarabi, was motivated by Jenkins' perseverance and positive

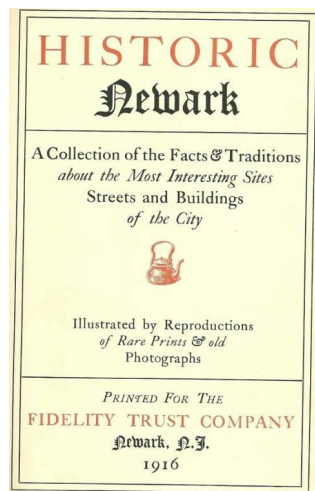
attitude. *"I designed a dress to showcase Nadine's confidence and demonstrate her spirit in the fight against heart disease."* Nadine was recognized as a Lifetime Remarkable Women.

In 2007, Nadine returned to school and earned a Masters of Human Services (MHS) degree from Lincoln University (PA), and at present, she is a doctoral student at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) in pursuit of a PhD in Health Science.

She is focused on community based, action-oriented research and the reduction and/or elimination of health disparities, like heart disease in women. It is her hope that through both research and practice, disease prevention and health education will ultimately improve how individuals approach their own health care.

Nadine is currently the Program Administrator for the Cancer Registry at University Hospital in Newark. In this position, Nadine is responsible for cancer patient data collection and data management, and is a primary team member responsible for securing and maintaining the hospital's cancer program accreditation with the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer.

Nadine lives in East Orange with her husband Wesley, the Executive Director of Babyland Family Services, Inc. in Newark, and their four beautiful children; two sons, Ibn and Mikal, two daughters, Ashley and Alana, and one grandson, Chase.



ALUMNI ARCHIVES:

Our thanks to **Dave Lieberfarb, 1965**, for donating the book, **History of Newark**, which was published in 1916 by the Fidelity Trust Company



Hal Braff with Weequahic students in Washington, DC



Weequahic students with Senator Frank Lautenberg

NEWARK NEWS

Excerpts from articles in the
Star-Legder, NJ.com, etc.

Cory Booker Re-elected Mayor



Newark Mayor Cory Booker easily won a second term Tuesday night, but with a tighter margin of victory than in 2006, and with only seven of his nine council candidates winning re-election. Booker received 59 percent of

the vote, beating out three challengers - Clifford Minor, Yvonne Garrett Moore and Mirna L. White.

Minor, a subdued former prosecutor and municipal judge, received just 35 percent of the vote. In 2006, Booker won with a clear mandate of 72 percent of the vote. Former Weequahic Vice-Principal, Ras Baraka, was elected Councilman in the South Ward.

Cherry Blossoms Champs

The 4,100 cherry trees in historic Branch Brook Park has surpassed the 3,750 in the nation's capital.



"This is the largest collection in one site, and it's also the most diverse," said Brad Garner, a landscape architect with Rhodeside & Harwell of Virginia. His firm replenished the trees in Branch Brook and selected

the 17 varieties that provide a long bloom period. The massive display of color in the 360-acre park was the main event for the 34th Annual Cherry Blossom Festival in late April.

The collection in Branch Brook began with a gift of 1,985 trees from Caroline Bamberger Fuld, sister of department store magnate Louis Bamberger. With a lifespan of just 40 to 50 years, those trees dwindled to 987 in the mid-2000s. Replenishment began by planting 150 in 2006, 770 in 2007, then 400, then 1,093 and finally, this year, 600 - enough to surpass the collection in Washington, D.C.

NJ NETS at the ROCK for next 2 years



After years of political wrangling and failed deals, the New Jersey Nets will be coming to Newark,

political and sports leaders officially announced in March. Newark Mayor Cory Booker, Nets CEO Brett Yormark and New Jersey Devils chairman Jeff Vanderbeek joined city and county leaders at the Prudential Center's Verizon Tower to welcome the team to Newark in a move anticipated to bring revenue and notoriety to the city's three-year-old arena. The Prudential Center, also known as the Rock, is the home of the NJ Devils hockey team. In two years, the Nets will move to a new arena in Brooklyn.

1st Black Woman Judge in City

Golden Elizabeth Johnson died Sunday after a sudden illness. She was 66 years old. She grew up in the Franklin D.



Roosevelt Homes housing project *down neck* in Newark's East Ward and went on to become the first black woman to serve as a Newark municipal court judge. Johnson ran for Congress in 1980, had a career of public service and helped create a significant list of organizations for black attorneys. Those who knew her note that whatever Johnson achieved, she was quick to credit the place and people of her early life for the values that influenced her career: a deeply rooted sense of community and family, and a desire to fight for justice and the underdog.

Oheb Shalom's 150th Anniversary

The *Walk of Ages - a Fundraising Walk 150 Years in the Making*, took place on Sunday, May 23rd, one of a year-long series of signature events to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of



Oheb Shalom Congregation of South Orange.

The event began with a short opening ceremony in front of Oheb Shalom's original home on Prince Street in Newark, now the centerpiece of the Greater Newark Conservancy's urban environmental center. Listed on the State Register of Historic Places, it is one of the 35 oldest extant synagogue buildings in the United States. A community walk of less than a mile retraced the steps to Oheb Shalom's second home, from

1911-1958, on High Street (Martin Luther King Blvd.), now the home of the Wells Cathedral Church of God in Christ.



African-American Heritage Parade

On Sunday, May 30th, more than 4,000 people lined Broad Street for the 44th African-American Heritage Parade. They watched an aerial show, city council members dancing on floats, and performances by the Navy's Northeast Band and local high school bands.

Rutgers-Newark professor donates \$100K for black history lecture series

It's not every day that a college history professor gives \$100,000 of his own money to preserve something that has been close to his heart for nearly half his life. But if you know anything about Clement A. Price, you understand why this modest man has left such a benevolent gift to Rutgers- Newark.



Price, 64, has devoted his life to scholarship and to taking academia beyond the classroom. He has shared it with others - people from all walks of life - so that we may understand one another through serious, thoughtful discussion.

He has done this for 30 years with the Marion Thompson Wright Lecture Series, an annual two-day conference on black history that, with his down payment, now may be on its way to having a permanent future at the university.

Newark News continued

Connie Francis returns to Newark on golden anniversary of classic song

Newark native Connie Francis reconnected with her Jersey roots in May, stepping into an Ironbound recording studio to sing a new take on a malt shop classic, *Where the Boys Are*.



The project was timed with the 50th anniversary of the ballad, the title song for a beach party film that featured Francis in her acting debut. A meditation on loneliness penned by Neil Sedaka, *Where the Boys Are* is being

reinvented as electropop by producer Rob Fusari, best known as Lady Gaga's mentor and former boyfriend. His studio, coincidentally, is in the Newark neighborhood where Francis grew up.

"I got the chills when I got here," says Francis, 71, visiting the Ironbound from Florida, where she now resides. *"It's like deja vu. I used to come here all the time to Elm Street. I knew all the families here. I grew up with these people."*

Three-plus decades and many gold records later, Fusari (who knew Francis when he was a kid) reconnected with her to update *Where the Boys Are*. They completed the tune in time for a May 29 celebration of the song and the film in Fort Lauderdale, where the movie was shot.

Francis, born Concetta Rosa Maria Franconero, was first discovered as a preteen singer/accordionist in a 1950s talent search, and became one of the biggest-selling female artists of all time. She was the voice of lost love, with 35 Top 40 singles, including, *Who's Sorry Now*, *Stupid Cupid*, *Lipstick on Your Collar*, and *Everybody's Somebody's Fool*.

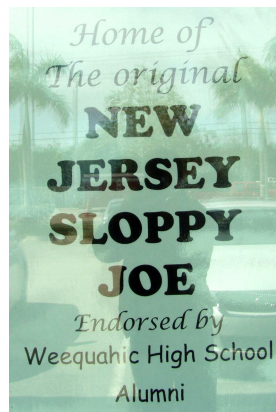
Francis established herself as a multi-faceted entertainer when she hit record shelves and movie marquees simultaneously with *Where the Boys Are*, portraying a young woman having fun by the sea on the prowl for guys.

PHOTO GALLERY



David Wright, class of 1966 and retired Principal in the Newark Public Schools, is flanked by Stephanie Brown and Eunice Mitchell. They are the newest members of the Orange Board of Education.

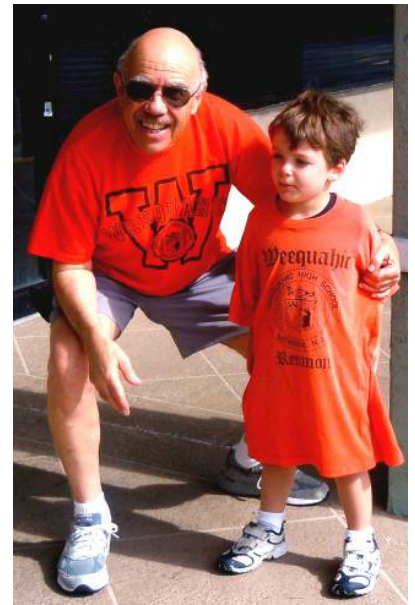
From the West Palm Beach Area of Florida



On right:

You're never too young to be a WHS alum.

Ray Mark, (Jan. 1956) and his grandson Jacob in Boca Raton on May 22nd
Photo by Bob Kerner (June 1955)



UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Weequahic's new athletic facility being built in Chancellor Avenue playground. Opening is scheduled for November 2010

Recent Weequahic alumni and staff win the 2010 Flag Football Trophy against Shabazz High School at Untermann Field



In Loving Memory

Ruth Klein Fien, 1942

Co-Founder of Jewish Historical Society

By Robert Wiener, NJ Jewish News

Ruth Fien, who fulfilled a life-long dream as a co-creator of the Jewish Historical Society of MetroWest NJ, died Feb. 8 at the age of 85.

Born at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center and a graduate of Weequahic High School, Ruth Klein Fien's interest in her local Jewish community was heavily influenced by her father, Sam Klein. He was an accountant who served for 30 years as president of the Hebrew Academy of Essex County, a school that ultimately became Joseph Kushner Hebrew Academy in Livingston.

"She was an independent woman who loved the community," said JHS executive director Linda Forgosh. *"Ruth inherited a sense of community obligation, and to not preserve the history, in her mind, was probably just as awful as anything else you could think of,"* said Forgosh. *"She felt the history of the community needed a place."*

In 1988, Fien asked her husband, Jerome, and Saul Schwartz, a friend and assistant executive director of United Jewish Federation of MetroWest (now United Jewish Communities of MetroWest NJ), to help her create the society. Two years later, the federation's board of trustees approved the idea, and the Jewish Community Foundation allocated seed money to start the project.

"Our lives were more about community and politics than about history," said her daughter, Judie Fien-Helfman. *"Mom was not a stay-at-home mother,"* Fien-Helfman, who inherited that commitment, is the chief planning officer at Jewish Federation of Greater Washington, DC.

"Ruth was a mover and shaker who had the contacts in the community," said current JHS president Howard Kiesel, a close friend for 25 years. *"The people*



who were the founding members of the society were her contacts. She pulled them in. She was the membership chairman, she was the president, she was the organizer. She was the everything."

Warren Grover, who followed Fien as the society's president, serving between 1996 and 2002, praised her creative vision. *"She made the society into a first-class Jewish historical institution,"* he told the NJ Jewish News.

The cornerstone of JHS was the cache of documents and memorabilia Schwartz had been storing in the cellar of his home in Livingston. *"He saved things from garbage dumps, and he let it be known that if an institution didn't want to keep its minutes, he would take care of them,"* said Forgosh. Today that material and more are stored in a state-of-the-art archive with rolling shelves in the collections Forgosh has supervised for a decade.

'She did good'

Fien's interests extended far beyond history. She was an avid art aficionado who spent 10 years supervising exhibits at the West Orange JCC. Her daughter said that *"she would prowls New York City in search of new artists, visiting galleries and studios. The exhibits she organized would last three to four days and raise tens of thousands of dollars for local charities. Her favorite shows were the personal exhibits by seniors and children, but she also used art to teach, and this led to shows on anti-Semitism, prejudice, Israel, and Newark's history."*

Fien also turned some of her creative energies to clothing design, creating a cottage industry in tie-making in her family's South Orange home always

making sure the varying widths of her works kept pace with the changing trends in men's fashions. *"She was infamous for her neckties,"* said Fien-Helfman. *"She called them 'Ruth Fien Originals.'"*

At the graveside eulogy for her mother, Fien-Helfman said: *"My memories of mom growing up were of a tireless woman who entertained effortlessly, worked or volunteered during the day, loved to travel, and who attacked social and civil injustices. I remember her love of art, of culture, of tirelessly focusing her moral energy on ideals and causes,"*

But those activities slowed down sharply after Fien suffered a debilitating stroke in 1998. *"It left her with partial paralysis and speech difficulties coexisting with an undamaged mind,"* said her daughter. *"But she found intense joy in life's simple pleasures - family, good food and wine, and backgammon."*

"Were it not for Ruth Fien there would be no Jewish Historical Society," said Bob Max, another former JHS president. *"I think the community would be poorer were it not for Ruth and the others who created the society. We owe her a deep debt of gratitude."*

Predeceased by her husband, Jerome, who died in 2003, Ruth Fien is survived by her son and daughter and by five grandchildren. Donations in Ruth's memory can be made to the Jewish Historical Society of Metro West or the Fien Endowment Fund.

In Loving Memory

Roger Darling
Martin Duyk, Jan. 1951
Harry Glass, June 1946
Dr. Raymond Gorman
Howard Hoffman, 1966
Paul Karwell, Jan. 1961
Wesley Keefer, June 1950
Robert Keil, 1963
Sheldon Kimmelman, June 1948
Anne Kramer, June 1961
Susan Zaitz Munkacsy, 1961
Ina Schanerman Nadler, 1958
Larry Remstein, 1942
Herbert Scher, Jan. 1953
Betty Shereshevsky, Jan. 1956
Sanford Steinberg, June 1947
Maxine Shara Bier Weckstein, Jan. 1954
Abner Weinberg, 1936
Doris Chinsky Werner, Jan. 1951
Donald Zimmerman, Jan. 1947



WALDO WINCHESTER

This popular column from the Calumet first appeared in 1950. Please let us know about how our alumni have distinguished themselves in their lives after Weequahic.

While in Florida this winter, Alumni Association Executive Director **Phil Yourish, 1964**, met with the following alumni: brother **Stu, 1962**; **Ted Slate, 1953**; **Paul Goodman, 1945**; **Phil Meadow, 1961**; **Ray Mark, 1956**; **Bob Kerner, 1955**; and from the class of 1965 - **Marv Schlanger, Poppy Braunstein Segal, Jonathan Krasney, Sheryl Rich Brunswick, and Alvin Meth.**

The late Weequahic **Principal Ron Stone** posthumously received the Kean University *Distinguished Alumni Award* in April.

Dr. Elinor Miller Greenberg, 1949, an education innovator, was one of ten distinguished women recently inducted into the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame.

Dr. Neil Feins, 1950, a pediatric surgeon and accomplished artist, donated one of his paintings to the South Shore Hospital in Weymouth, MA., where it now hangs in the surgeon's lounge. Neil has been on the hospital's surgical staff since 1969 and is a full professor of surgery at Harvard, Tufts and Boston University.

Philip Roth, 1950, was one of 15 luminaries inducted into the 2010 class of the New Jersey Hall of Fame.

Josh Braff, son of **Hal Braff, 1952**, has written his 2nd book entitled, *Peep Show*, about the adult entertainment industry and the world of Hasidic Jews.

Fran Katz Sekela, 1954, was honored by Congregation Temple Beth El for her dedication to San Diego's Jewish community.

Loraine White, 1964, a physical education teacher, football coach, social services counselor, and administrator at Weequahic High School for the past 40 years, is retiring at the end of this school term. She is also a former Alumni Association board member and a recipient of the *Distinguished Alumni Award*.

Sandra King, 1965, and Raymond A. Brown, Jr., the co-hosts of the *Due Process* show on NJN, took home their 15th Emmy for coverage of the Supreme Court's ruling on Voting Rights. They then accepted the ACLU NJ's Legal Leadership Award for their work on *Due Process*. Sandy was also selected as one of the Loyola Law School Journalist Law School Fellows for 2010.

Antoinette Shar'ron Johnson, daughter of **Patricia Harrell Wilson, 1965**, has written her first book entitled, *No More Hair Dreams*, about the challenges and pressures experienced by African- American women in regards to their hair.

Mary Brown Dawkins, 1971, Co-President of the Alumni Association, was appointed as Manager of Child Care Operations for Babyland Family Services in Newark. She will be overseeing child care services, a proposed Charter School, and a new child care facility.

Weequahic Sweethearts

Jerry and Lana Greenberg Lieberman
Class of 1961



It was beshert (destined)! What else could it be? Lana and I knew each other from our days at Weequahic. She a shy, nice girl and me, an equally shy (she thought me "stuck-up") boy. Now it was the spring of 1963. I had left Temple University and was working at Ballantine Brewery and going to Rutgers night school in the winter and working part time at Bamberger's in the spring and summer.

Lana was going to Newark State Teachers College (now Kean) full-time and was working at Bam's part time. Between our day activities and our night jobs the only dinner that time would allow was at the snack bar in the toy department on the 4th floor.

The snack bar was shaped like a "U". I was seated in the middle of the long front side lamenting my life at the time: no money, no social life, no car, no future. On the short return side to my right was a presence I barely knew was there until I raised my eyes and did a very fast double take. There she was...the most beautiful young woman I had ever seen. From the shy, fluffy, girl I knew at Weequahic, she had turned into this model like beauty. A tanned size 9 in a very attractive royal blue, form fitted two piece dress with jewelry that matched her nail polish. She could have been Sophia Loren's kid sister. It was love at first sight.

I mumbled "Lana?" and the conversation began. A few short minutes later we walked away from the snack bar hand in hand, and I had a date for Friday night. We dated only a couple of months when we parted. Frankly, I was scared. I knew she was "The One." I was only nineteen, with (see above) no money, no car, no future and many challenges in my life.

The summer passed. In the fall I went to work for Bamberger's full time as a buying office expeditor. I was the assistant buyer's assistant. It meant I did all the dirty jobs the assistant didn't want to do but had the opportunity to learn the business. I worked many hours and many Saturdays. Lana was still working part time and was friends with the sister of a friend of mine. So when I took my friend's sister home, Lana would get a ride too. Painfully she would end up talking to my friend's sister about her current boyfriend.

Continued on page 17

In Loving Memory

Florence Yourish Gerard, 1935



Florence Gerard, age 91, died September 27, 2009 in Santa Fe, New Mexico where she was living at the Ponce de Leon Retirement Community. She was born in Chicago, Illinois,

on January 3, 1918, to Israel and Rose (Asarnow) Yourish.

Florence graduated from Weequahic High School in Newark in 1935 and became a custom dressmaker. She and her husband lived in Irvington and South Orange, and later retired to Toms River.

She is survived by her daughters, Diane Gerard of Morris Township, New Jersey, and Jan Perelson (Alan) of Santa Fe, New Mexico. She is also survived by her grandchildren Andy Perelson of Sydney, Australia, and Ellie Vigil (Steve) of Santa Fe; and by her beloved great-grand children, Enzo and Orion Vigil.

Donations may be made in her memory to the Weequahic High School Alumni Association.

Edward Diamond, Jan. 1946



Edward Diamond passed away at 81 on December 4, 2009 after a long battle with cancer. He was retired and lived in Snowmass and Carbon-dale, Colorado. Born

November 25th, 1928 in Newark, he graduated from Weequahic High School where he was class president and voted "most likely to succeed." He was married to Linda Ruth Johnson for 40 years and had 4 children.

Ed was a world famous micro-surgeon in the field of infertility and established the Diamond Institute for Reproduction after many years as a highly successful Obstetrician and Gynecologist. He was on staff at St. Barnabas Hospital in

Livingston and Beth Israel Medical Center in Newark for many years.

After graduating from Weequahic, he attended Franklin & Marshall College and then went on to Chicago Medical School. He was the first Diamond to attend college. Ed was an accomplished golfer and skier, two of his three true passions. He was also a compassionate, loving, caring, deeply committed physician who helped literally thousands of families realize their dreams of being able to have children!

According to his son Stu, "*Weequahic High School was so important to my dad and he spoke fondly about it all the time! Whether it was the sports teams he played on, the band, the various clubs or the wonderful lifelong friendships he began with his classmates, Weequahic was a truly special place for Ed Diamond!*"

Edith Kravet Schapiro, June 1947



Edith Schapiro, 80, of Montclair and New Paltz, N.Y., passed away after a long illness. Edith was born in Newark in 1929. She graduated from Weequahic High

School; Douglass College of Rutgers University, summa cum laude; and the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. In 1953, she married her high school sweetheart, Jerry Schapiro.

Edith was among the first female television reporters in New York City, appearing under her maiden name, Edith Kravet. She earned the distinction in 1951 when Channel 11 produced its newscast in cooperation with the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. After graduating from Columbia, she became a reporter at the Newark Evening News. She was promoted to society editor, where she profiled outstanding women across the nation with a series of articles that has become a reference work in numerous biographies. She went on to become the newspaper's literary and theater critic.

Throughout her journalistic career, Edith maintained a close affiliation with CBS News. Over the years she worked with

Edward R. Murrow, Don Hewitt and Dallas Townsend. In 1962, she assisted Murrow with his speech that inaugurated Newark's Channel 13 as an educational television station.

While balancing the challenges of raising her children and being a full-time homemaker with her continuing career, she wrote for The Montclair Times, The Verona-Cedar Grove Times, and The Little Falls Herald, as well as serving as a publicist for the United Way and the Boy Scouts. From 1975 to 1978, she was the editor of the "Lively Arts" section for the NJ Jersey Jewish News. She was honored with the National Award of United Synagogues of America for excellence in communication. She later became the Jewish Community News editor of North Jersey and Greater Clifton-Passaic.

In the 90's, Edith and her husband created the nonprofit Sullivan-Ulster Jewish Star in the Catskills. In 2000, she wrote and produced a television commercial for the Red Cross' "Project Search," a global effort that reunites families separated by war and natural disasters.

Edith was an active member of Temple Sholom in Cedar Grove and Congregation Shomrei Emenah in Montclair. She is survived by her husband Jerry, daughter Lois Cohn; sons, Bob and Ken; and six grandchildren.

Bernard Rudd, June 1943

Bernard Rudd, 85, passed away on May 1st. Late of Hutchinson Island, Fla., he was a longtime West Orange resident. Rudd served in the U.S. Army in the European campaign during World War II. He fought with the 14th Armored division and was awarded two battle stars and a Bronze Star for bravery. He was a graduate of Rutgers University and Rutgers Law School.

He practiced law in the Newark area for 30 years, and was appointed to the bench in 1981, by Governor Thomas Kean. Judge Rudd served in the Superior Court in Newark. He had numerous published opinions. He retired in 1994. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Enid (WHS '48); son, Matthew, and two grandchildren, Maxwell and Ivan.

In Loving Memory

Nat Bodian

Keeper of Newark's flame

**By Robert Wiener, NJ Jewish News
and excerpts from the Star-Ledger.**



Nat Bodian of Cranford, a journalist and historian who specialized in chronicling the history of Newark's Jewish community, died May 1st at the age of 80.

"Nat was indispensable," said Linda Forgosh, the Executive Director of the Jewish Historical Society of MetroWest, who began working with Bodian when she arrived at the JHS 10 years ago. "If you wanted to know about Newark's Jewish history, he was the one you called. He loved the city," said Forgosh. "He really was the modern-day storyteller of Newark Jewish life."

Born in Newark, Mr. Bodian went to work as a teenager at the Newark Star-Ledger. After joining the Army Air Corps during World War II, he became the South Atlantic correspondent for Yank magazine, a publication for American GIs. *"Even during the war he wrote home and told stories about fellow Newarkers, particularly about Newark's Jewish boxers,"* said Forgosh.

After the War, Mr. Bodian was in the first graduating class of the public relations program at the New School for Social Research in New York. He retired in 1988 from John Wiley and Sons in New York City after a 30-year career as a marketing manager for professional and scholarly books. In the course of his book industry career, he also wrote 14 books on the business and craft of book publishing, which became industry references and university texts. Mr. Bodian lectured before national and international publishing groups, and was nominated for the Publishing Hall of Fame. In retirement he focused on his

interest in American History, and in 2000 he completed a book on presidential curiosities and oddities. He presented lectures on this topic to groups throughout northern New Jersey.

Acquiring his first computer at the age of 79, Mr. Bodian became involved with the Old Newark web site at www.oldnewark.com, featuring recollections by former Newarkers on the city's life from the 1920s through the 1960s. Mr. Bodian contributed more than 100 articles for the site, providing intimate and detailed recollections of the flourishing Newark Jewish Community.

He also contributed historical articles on notable Newark neighborhoods and landmarks, and on the lives of notable former Newarkers, such as Louis Bamberger, Supreme Court Justice William Brennan Jr., ballplayer and war hero Moe Berg, playwright Dory Schary, New York Mayor Ed Koch, and crime boss Longy Zwillman. He lectured often at synagogues, senior citizen centers, and other Jewish institutions.

Mr. Bodian was a lifelong YMHA member, beginning in the late 1920s in newly constructed YMHA on High Street. During the Depression years he considered the YMHA a second home. He served on the boards of directors of the YMHAs in Hillside, Newark, and Union and as an officer of B'nai B'rith and the Anti-Defamation League.

Bodian was predeceased by Ruth, his wife of 56 years, in 2005. He is survived by two sons, Mark of Darien, Conn., and Les of Silver Spring, Md.; his brother, Albert of New York City; and two grandchildren, Spencer and Natalie.

Editors Note: Over the years, some of the best articles in the Alumni Calumet were written by Nat Bodian (Weequahic Diner, Tavern Restaurant, Bergen Street, Millmans's), and I was privileged to have numerous phone conversations with him. He would always tell me how much he enjoyed reading the Alumni Calumet newsletter and praised the wonderful mix of articles from the past and present. His nephew, Lou Bodian, is a 1964 WHS grad.

Weequahic Sweethearts continued

And so it went until I lost track of Lana. Time passed and it was the late spring of 1964. I was at Judy Fuch's (also June '61) house. She and I were very close friends from Weequahic and I was lamenting my lack of a social life to her. Being ever the organized problem solver, Judy suggested making a list of all the girls I would want to date. Of course Lana's name was at the top. My objections were many but empty: *"What if she's married? What if she moved?"*

I got up my courage and called. Her Mom answered the phone and my heart sank. As she was telling me Lana was not home... Lana walked in the door. She and I talked and I asked if she would like to go for a ride (it was a sweet ride in a 1961 Oldsmobile Dynamic 88 convertible). We talked for hours and began dating continually. Since I had already gotten my notice and was to be drafted September 1, 1964, I asked Lana to marry me in August.

There was no question she was *"The One"* and the added incentive of being deferred from the draft if you were married made it the sensible thing to do. There was one insurmountable obstacle. Lana's parents had been divorced and it had put a deep mark on her. She wanted to be sure. I thought I was sure enough for both of us.

Off I went to Fort Dix for Basic Training. I was there about 12 days when I got a pass to come home for a trial. (Nothing exciting, I just had been a passenger in a car involved in an accident.) The trial was on a Monday and the Army was kind enough to give me a weekend pass. On Sunday night we went to the drive-in, (where most of us went for privacy) and once again, I asked Lana to marry me. She said *"YES"* just 12 days away from the possibility of a deferment.

I finished Basic and was immediately sent to Fort Benning, Georgia. It was so close to the holidays the Army guaranteed us a Christmas leave. In the interim there were many tearful phone calls from Lana. She was living between two recently divorced parents and it made her life difficult at best and impossible most of the time. Time passed at a snail's pace. The Friday before Christmas finally came and I began my journey home at midnight.

I flew from Columbus to NYC and arrived at Lana's father's house in Queens. When I rang the bell, she buzzed me in and came running

Continued on page 19

Membership / Merchandise / Scholarship Form

Mail to: WHS Alumni Association, P.O. Box 494, Newark, NJ 07101

- Please Print Clearly - DATE: _____ TOTAL AMOUNT: \$ _____

2 Payment Choices:

1. **CREDIT CARD** (mail or telephone): MC VISA - Amount \$ _____

Credit Card #: _____

Exp. Date: Signature: _____



2. **CHECK:** Make out check to **WHSAA** - Amount \$ _____

Weequahic Murals Restoration Project : \$ _____

9 Merchandise Choices (add \$5.00 for shipping & handling) circle your size if applicable:

1. \$25.00 BOOK: *JEWS OF WEEQUAHIC* (soft cover book)
2. \$20.00 BOOK: *SWEDE: WEEQUAHIC'S GENTLE GIANT* (soft cover book)
3. \$20.00 DVD: *TRIBUTE TO MR. FEIN* (21 minute video on legendary coach, Les Fein, with interviews and basketball footage)
4. \$12.00 T-SHIRT: (sizes S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL - in khaki or orange with the WHS logo)
5. \$15.00 HAT: (one size fits all - khaki with orange & dark brown lettering)
6. \$20.00 GOLF SHIRT: (sizes S, M, L, XL, 2XL - orange with Indian head and WHS "alumni" wording)
7. \$25.00 SWEATSHIRT: (sizes S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL - in khaki or orange with the WHS logo)
8. 9. \$5.00 ALUMNI LAPEL PIN: (O & B in the shape of the WHS logo) or **ORANGE TOTE BAG** (sturdy eco-bag with WHS logo)

23 Scholarship Choices:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. \$ _____ ALVIN ATTLES Endowment Fund | 13. \$ _____ READA & HARRY JELLINEK Endowment Fund |
| 2. \$ _____ MAXINE BOATWRIGHT Memorial Fund | 14. \$ _____ PHYLLIS & DONALD KALFUS Fund |
| 3. \$ _____ MOREY BOBROW Memorial Fund | 15. \$ _____ HANNAH LITZKY Memorial Fund |
| 4. \$ _____ CLASS OF 1945 Fund | 16. \$ _____ BERT MANHOFF Memorial Fund |
| 5. \$ _____ CLASS OF 1963 SCHOLARSHIP Fund | 17. \$ _____ SEYMOUR 'SWEDE' MASIN Memorial Fund |
| 6. \$ _____ CLASS OF 1964 SCHOLARSHIP Fund | 18. \$ _____ EDWIN McLUCAS Athletic Fund |
| 7. \$ _____ CLASS OF 1968 SCHOLARSHIP Fund | 19. \$ _____ MARIE E. O'CONNOR Memorial Fund |
| 8. \$ _____ GENERAL ALUMNI Fund | 20. \$ _____ LEO PEARL Memorial Fund |
| 9. \$ _____ SHARON NICELY BOOSE Memorial Fund | 21. \$ _____ RICHARD ROBERTS Fund |
| 10. \$ _____ LES & CEIL FEIN Endowment Fund | 22. \$ _____ SADIE ROUS Memorial Fund |
| 11. \$ _____ RONALD GRIFFIN Memorial Fund | 23. \$ _____ RON STONE Memorial Endowment Fund |
| 12. \$ _____ MIRIAM HAMPLE Memorial Fund | |

5 Membership Choices:

 Check if change in postal address

 \$25 ALUMNI \$50 ORANGE & BROWN \$100 ERGO \$500 SAGAMORE \$1,000 LEGEND

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

Name: _____ Last Name at Weequahic: _____

Street: _____ City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

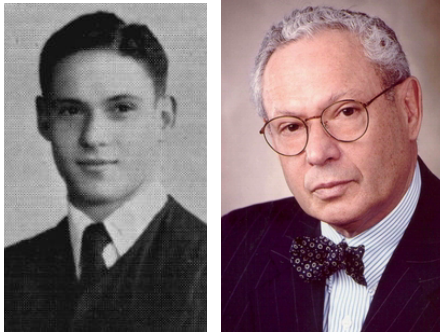
Phone: () _____ Business: () _____

Cell: () _____ e-mail: _____

In Loving Memory

Clive Cummis, 1945

Prominent lawyer in NJ politics



Clive S. Cummis, a monumental figure in New Jersey's legal community and an influential Democratic fund-raiser who founded one of the state's largest law firms and became an Atlantic City power broker through his expertise in casino law, died February 9, 2010 at Saint Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston. He was 81.

Cummis, who lived in West Orange, died of complications from a recent fractured hip and a stroke he suffered last year, said his wife, Ann Cummis.

With his trademark bow tie, business savvy and taste for aggressive deal-making, Cummis was among the pioneers who propelled the Newark law firm of Sills Cummis & Gross to national prominence. *"There are very few people who practice law and are also good business people. Clive Cummis was one of them,"* former U.S. Sen. Robert Torricelli said.

Cummis also harnessed that business sense to become one of New Jersey's most prodigious Democratic benefactors, often hosting fundraisers at his home in the Llewellyn Park section of West Orange. He advised nearly every recent Democratic presidential contender and was particularly close to former House Democratic leader Richard Gephardt. *"His political fundraising prowess flowed from the respect he had in the business community,"* former governor Jim Florio said.

As one of New Jersey's most successful fundraisers for the Democratic Party, he was appointed by President Clinton as a

member of the President's Commission on White House Fellowships from 1993 to May 2001. He was a founding member of the New Jersey Performing Arts Center and served on its executive committee. He was a director of Blue Cross & Blue Shield of New Jersey, director of The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey, a trustee of the Foundation of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, a trustee of the Flame of Charity Foundation and a trustee of the Newark Museum.

He was also a Commissioner of the New Jersey Turnpike Authority. He served on the Board of Trustees of Newark Beth Israel Hospital, the Daughters of Israel Home for the Aged and the Northfield YM-YWHA and was associate editor of the *New Jersey Law Journal* from 1961 to 1998. He was also honored by Integrity House of Newark. *"He was truly a legend in his own time,"* said Steven E. Gross, chair of Sills Cummis & Gross.

Cummis was one of the original attorneys involved in bringing gambling to Atlantic City. In the 1990s, he worked with fellow Newark native and Democratic stalwart Arthur Goldberg, who rescued Bally's from near bankruptcy and founded Park Place Entertainment, once the largest gambling company in the world. For years, Cummis was general counsel and executive vice president for the company, which later merged with Harrah's Entertainment. *"In a lot of ways, Clive Cummis and Arthur Goldberg were the architects of Atlantic City,"* Torricelli said.

Cummis was born in Newark, the son of a salesman and the older of two boys. After graduating from Weequahic High School, he attended Tulane University in New Orleans and earned a law degree from the University of Pennsylvania. He also earned a master's in law from New York University.

"What a special person," said Bill Gormley, a legislator for 30 years who retired in 2007. *"Brilliant. Witty. You didn't want him as an opponent - a brilliant lawyer and a brilliant mind."*

Cummis was a private in the Army in 1954 when his mother arranged a date for him with her canasta partner's niece, Ann

Denburg. He took her to the ballet in Manhattan. They married in 1956 and had four daughters.

Cummis began his legal career as a clerk for a state appellate court judge. After brief stints working for firms, Cummis and another lawyer went into business for themselves. They shared a single office in Newark and paid the rent by writing legal briefs for the landlord, also a lawyer. In 1971, he became a founding partner in Sills Beck Cummis Radin & Tischman with five attorneys, ultimately growing into what is today Sills Cummis & Gross, with over 150 attorneys in Newark, Princeton and Manhattan.

Cummis is survived by his wife, a brother, state Superior Court Judge Philip Cummis; daughters Andrea Cummis, Deborah Cummis-Sandlaufer, Cynthia Cummis and Jessica Cummis; and three grandchildren.

Weequahic Sweethearts continued

down the stairs and into my arms sobbing. We kissed and held each other. We didn't want to let go - ever! It was like a magical moment in the movies.

That night Lana came back to my parents' house and Sunday night it was back to the drive-in to discuss our future. Our decision: We couldn't be any more miserable together and poor, than we were apart. Four days later we were married courtesy of Lana's father...on Christmas Eve. Now where could two Jewish kids get married on Christmas Eve in New York? Why Arlie's Kosher Nightclub, off the Long Island Expressway, of course.

There is a lot more to the story, but the important thing is in a generation that was the first to reach a 50% divorce rate, we celebrated our 45th wedding anniversary last Christmas Eve.

Lana is the love of my life, and we still consider each other soul mates, still hold hands both when we go out or just watch TV. We have two wonderful children married to equally wonderful people and four grandchildren who would make any grandparent proud. Life is good...and we are grateful.

2010 REUNIONS

June 11 & 12 / 1977 - 33rd

Friday, 8 p.m. at the Crown Plaza in Edison. On Saturday - a Class Cookout. *Contacts: Nona Smith Davis at (201) 341-3215 or Dexter Adams at (864) 877-1104.*

June 13 / 1939 - 71st

Sunday, 11 a.m., at Pal's Cabin in West Orange. *Contacts: Fran Kasen at (973) 731-7061; or Mickee Lublang at (973) 857-0353; in Florida, Irv Newman at (941) 349-5766.*

July 24 / 1990 - 20th

Saturday, 7 p.m. at the historic Robert Treat Hotel in Newark. 3 days of fun activities starting on Friday evening at the hotel. *Contact: Nashonda Hutchins, (908) 482-3594 / nhutchins@comcast.net.*

September 26 / 1945 - 65th

Sunday, 12 noon at the Martinsville Inn, Martinsville. *Contact: Dave Horwitz at (973) 539-5158 / phylanddaveh@yahoo.com*

October 9 / Jan. 1960 - 50th

Saturday, 6 p.m. at the Kenilworth Inn, Kenilworth. *Contacts: Michael Kessler at (973) 992-8817 / central124@aol.com & Susan Bohrer Barr at (732) 574-0721 subarr@comcast.net*

October 9 / 1965 & 1966 - 45th

Saturday, 7 p.m. at the L'Affaire, Route 22, Mountainside. *Contacts: Dennis Estis, 1965, at (908) 812-8750 & Sy Mullman, 1966, at (973) 376-5929.*

October 16 / June 1960 - 50th

Saturday, 7 p.m. at the Marriott Renaissance Hotel, Woodbridge. Includes tour of WHS & Philip Roth Tour of Newark. *Contacts: Harold Klein (hmklein42@verizon.net), Allan Halperin (alhalperin@comcast.net), Lois Blumenfeld Gilbert (elemgi@verizon.net), Miriam Nusbaum Span (miriamspan@yahoo.com)*

October 16 / 1985 - 25th

Saturday, 8 p.m. at the Rio Rodizio, Newark. *Contact Kim Jones at (201) 349-4523 / weequahicclassof85@verizon.net*

November 26 / 1970 - 40th

Westwood Banquet Hall, Garwood. Two-Day Celebration. *Contact Patricia Price at whsindians1970@yahoo.com.*

Weequahic High School Alumni Association
P.O. Box 494, Newark, NJ 07101



ALUMNI STORE

See page 18 to order



WHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Established in 1997, the WHS Alumni Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization incorporated in New Jersey.

Phil Yourish, 1964, Executive Director

Board of Trustees:

Hal Braff, 1952, Co-President
Mary Brown Dawkins, 1971, Co-President
Sam 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
Arthur Lutzke, 1963
Adilah Quddus, 1971
Gerald Russell, 1974
David Schechner, 1946
Vivian Ellis Simons, 1959
Charles Talley, 1966
John Tonero, Principal



Weequahic High School Ski Trip at Mountain Creek in Vernon, NJ for 34 students - organized by WHSAA Board Member, Vivian Simons, 1959.

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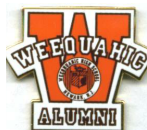
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Vivian Ellis Simons, 1959
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