

SUMMER 2012 / ISSUE 35

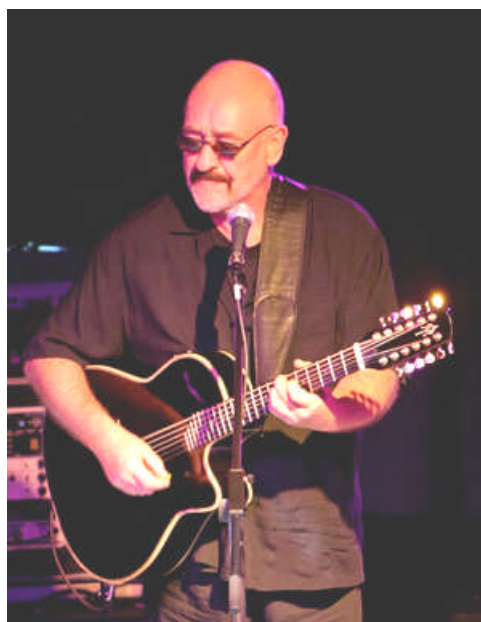
ALUMNI  
CALLUMNI



## WEEQUAHIC HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Celebrates its  
**15th Anniversary**  
with a fundraising event  
featuring rock and roll hall of famer

# Dave Mason



at the South Orange  
Performing Arts Center

Wednesday, 7 p.m.

**November 28, 2012**

Dessert reception *with Dave* to follow

\$125.00 for performance / \$140.00 with reception

Tickets can be purchased at the SOPAC  
Box Office (973-313-2787) or at their web site

### Music Is Her Passion

Myrna Weissman, class of Jan. 1953 and Treasurer of the WHS Alumni Association, has an eclectic taste in music. As she rides to work each day, her satellite radio allows her to hear all of her favorite tunes from the 50's through the 70's.

She loves Frankie Valli, has seen *Jersey Boys* seven times, adores Neil Diamond, is an avid fan of Bruce Springsteen, and is a good friend of Dave Mason - our headline performer for our upcoming fundraising event.

So if you're wondering how Weequahic and Dave became a tandem - it's Myrna's musical magic.

### ABOUT DAVE

At age 18, the Worcester, England, native teamed up with Steve Winwood, Jim Capaldi and Chris Wood to form the legendary band **TRAFFIC**, whose profound influence over rock music remains unquestioned even today.

At 19, Mason penned the song "*Feelin' Alright*." First recorded by Traffic, this song has since become a rock and roll anthem and has been recorded by dozens of artists, including Joe Cocker, who had a major hit with the song in 1969.

Mason departed from the group after their second album. In 1969, he headed for the USA to pursue a solo career. A prolific artist, Mason has penned over 100 songs. He struck gold with the album "*Alone Together*," which has become a rock classic.

This was followed by five albums for CBS/Sony including "*Dave Mason*" and "*Mariposa De Oro*," four of which received gold albums. "*Let It Flow*," which has gone well over platinum, contained the classic "*We Just Disagree*," a top-ten single!

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## MASON (Continued from page 1)

In addition to performing to sold-out audiences, Mason performed on a number of albums such as: The Rolling Stones' "Beggars' Banquet," George Harrison's "All Things Must Pass," Paul McCartney's "Listen to What the Man Said," and Jimi Hendrix's "Electric Ladyland."



One of the songs from the "Electric Ladyland" album, "All Along the Watchtower," featured Dave playing acoustic guitar. This song, written by Bob Dylan, remains a big favorite in Dave's live show!

His solo career is linked with many members of rock and roll elite, including Jimi Hendrix, Fleetwood Mac, George Harrison, Paul McCartney, Stevie Wonder, Michael Jackson, Graham Nash, Stephen Stills, Rita Coolidge, Delaney & Bonnie, Leon Russell, Ron Wood, and Eric Clapton.

Dave Mason's career spans nearly 50 years and has encompassed producing, performing and song writing, not to mention being one of rock's great guitar players! He was inducted into the Rock and



Roll Hall of Fame as a founding member of the group **Traffic** (pic is above), and is considered an important figure in American music history. Fans and critics alike hail Mason as one of the most talented songwriters and guitarists in the world.

When Dave is not touring, you can find him writing and producing new music in his home studio, as well as supporting philanthropic causes near to his heart, including Work Vessels for Vets, Yoga Blue, and Kids.

## NEW BOARD MEMBERS

### BRIAN LOGAN, 1982:



Current Head Football Coach at Weequahic High School. Won the North Jersey, Section II, Group III State Championship as head football coach at West Side High School in 2007 and was the NJ Football Coach of the Year. Newark Police Officer since 1991. Newark South Ward District Leader. Graduate of Kean University. He resides in Weequahic with his wife, Shawn. They have two adult children.

### MARC TARABOUR, 1963:



U.S. Marine Corps from 1964 to 1968. Founder and owner of REM Security Systems from 1970 to 1985. National sales manager for Radionics Corporation and CEO of NY Alarm Response Corp. Founder of the Yogi Berra and the NY Giants Celebrity Golf Classics. Graduate of Bergen Community College. He resides in Livingston with his wife, Sheila. They have two adult children.

### VAUGHN CROWE, 1998:



Senior Program Director for the MCJ Amelior Foundation. Previously, Marketing Manager at Chubb Group of Insurance Companies. Member of the Board of Trustees of the Boys & Girls Club of Newark and the Brick City Development Corporation. Graduate of Colgate University and enrolled in an executive education program at Harvard Business School. He lives in Newark with his wife, Tyra.

### KEITH SALTERS, 1985:

An inspirational leader in the Weequahic community where he resides. Newark Police Officer and Detective since 1991. Sponsors with his brother Anthony - a Shabazz HS grad - an annual dinner for the Weequahic and Shabazz football teams. He attended Montclair State University and volunteers with the Clearview Baptist Church. He is the proud father of daughters.

## ALUMNI CALUMET

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WHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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**Our office is at Weequahic High  
School, 279 Chancellor Avenue in  
Newark in the Library/Media  
Center on the 3rd floor. Come  
and visit.**

## Is the Alumni Calumet getting fatter?

You may have noticed that the time between newsletters has been getting longer. With so much alumni stuff to do, it is more difficult to get the newsletter to you in a timely manner. To compensate for this, we have added more pages to the last two issues - 24 for the winter edition and 28 for the summer edition. We hope you enjoy the extra content and we will continue to do better.

## What happened to our web site?

We are working on developing a new state-of-the art alumni web site. Currently, the web site is under construction. We will notify you when it is once again available for alumni visits.



# 15 Glorious Years Together

By Hal Braff, 1952, Co-Founder and Co-President  
of the Weequahic High School Alumni Association



On behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Weequahic High School Alumni Association, please know how very grateful we are to you whose contributions and support have created an amazingly successful and widely renowned organization, which, for fifteen years has provided scholarships and opportunities for youngsters who followed our footsteps into the Wigwam on the Chancellor Avenue hill.

But for the funds you have provided through your membership and donations literally dozens of terrific kids might not

have been able to afford to even begin college. You may not know them individually but you have blessed them. Our students know that Weequahic alumni are unique in their fondness for the memories of the community in which we grew up and the experiences we shared in and for the school. And they deeply appreciate how those emotions have brought benefit to them.

It is not a secret that economic circumstances in which today's Newark kids grow up are very different - much worse - than when we walked the same streets, the same hallways. It is not a secret that about one quarter of New Jersey's population lives at or beneath the poverty line.

For every other inner city school's kids no volunteer organization exists to offer scholarship funds, trips to France or to Washington, and summer sports training. Our Board of Trustees can be found cheering at both home and away games and working closely with Principal John Tonero and the faculty to provide assistance wherever and whenever needed.

Please continue to support us. Renew your membership each year. Start a Scholarship Fund in the name of your graduating class and donate proceeds from your reunion to it. Remember beloved family members, friends and faculty with contributions in their names. Come back to the school with your family. Show them where you grew up. See the marvelous new Ronald G. Stone Community Gymnasium and the basketball arena named in memory of legendary Coach Les Fein - and the beautified Untermann Field. Join us at a game.

We know that there are many demands and pulls on each of you for donations to worthy causes. Here, we are the only source of funds for Weequahic kids. No one is competing with us.

On this page and the next couple of pages, you will see the benefits of our alumni scholarships as four new college graduates are featured in this issue. What could be more gratifying!

May this find you all blessed with good health, joy and zest in your lives and love in your hearts.

Four new college grads who  
received alumni scholarships

## Dominick Brown

*WHS Class of 2007*

### William Paterson University



I am a recent graduate of William Paterson University, and I have been a Weequahic alumnus since 2007. During the time I spent at William Paterson, I used many of the skills that I learned as a Weequahic Indian. The first of which was the hard work and dedication I displayed while playing for the William Paterson University football team.

The leadership that I gained from being the captain of the Weequahic High robotics team made me yearn for more leadership responsibility, so I became the president of a club called, *Brothers for Awareness*. My next leadership role was as the President of my fraternity and I was also elected President of the Greek senate.

I accomplished many things at William Paterson, but none of them could have been accomplished without the help of the Weequahic High Alumni Association. It was of great financial assistance during my years at college. There were many semesters when I wasn't sure whether or not I would be able to pay the tuition, but one call to Mr. Yourish and I was bailed out again.

Currently, I am a Special Education teacher developing young minds using what I learned during my high school and college years. I am also looking forward to moving back to Newark and working with youth, as well as being active with the Alumni Association. I would like to say thank you to all those alumni who contributed to the scholarship fund, because without it, I don't know if I would have graduated.

*(Continued on page 4)*

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# INVEST IN WEEQUAHIC'S FUTURE

## GRADS *(Continued from page 3)*

### Syntyche Dennis

WHS Class of 2008

Rider University



**Syntyche Dennis**, WHS class of 2008 and a Weequahic High School Alumni Association Scholarship recipient, recently graduated from Rider University. She believes her calling is in the field of sociology, where she has gained valuable experiences through internships and being a Rider Bonner Community Scholar.

Bonner Scholars participate in a community service leadership development program that exposes them to social justice issues while providing them with hands-on experience that impacts their community.

A native of Ghana, Syntyche now resides in Irvington. She said when choosing a university, she was drawn to Rider because of the Equal Opportunity Program and small class size. *"When I got there, it was a really nice and warm atmosphere."*

Syntyche, a Sociology major with a minor in Law and Justice, said she has always wanted to go to law school and in the future hopes to attain that dream. She interned with Habitat for Humanity, was a case manager for the Children's Home Society of New Jersey, worked with the YMCA afterschool program, and at Homefront, she was involved with caring for young children.

During her time at Rider, Dennis also served as treasurer of the Sociology Club and mentored international students. She was the recipient of the Sociology Award for Social Commitment, in memory of John Clemons, at Rider's annual Student Awards Banquet on April 28th.

Syntyche states: *"It was such a great honor to be a recipient of the Weequahic High Alumni Association scholarship. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generosity. I would not have gone this far without your help."*

### LaTisha Prophete

WHS Class of 2008

College of  
Saint Elizabeth



LaTisha Prophete earned her bachelors degree in Justice Studies and Philosophy from the College of Saint Elizabeth on May 12, 2012.

She was also the commencement speaker for the undergraduate class with her speech entitled, *"Still Standing,"* which was about working together to achieve goals while also standing tall with diversity, confidence, leadership, and spirit.

On campus, LaTisha has been involved in the Student Government Association as a recording secretary and as vice-president of Women United in Color. She was treasurer of the National Criminal Justice Honor Society, Alpha Phi Sigma Lambda Pi and served as CSE Student Ambassador since 2009 and as an Equal Opportunity Fund Peer Leader/Tutor.

In acknowledgment of her exceptional leadership abilities and academic excellence, she has received numerous scholarships, awards, and honors including:

The first recipient of the Ophelia J. Berry Award, recognizing high school seniors who overcome obstacles with determination, empathy, active concern and caring for others and a commitment to excellence; CSE Presidential Scholarship; and a member of the Honor Program at CSE for four years.

Upon graduation, LaTisha will pursue a law degree in hopes to better her community.

Latisha states: *I want to first show deep gratitude for the faith that the Alumni Association had in me. The Association supported my growth mentally and financially. Collectively, the Alumni Association was my second family and all I can say is thank you.*

### Antwan Hill

WHS Class of 2008

Rutgers University



My college journey began at Tuskegee University in Alabama. I was thrilled about my acceptance into this school because it was my top choice. Unfortunately, I only stayed there for a year and a half due to the challenges I faced paying tuition for a school that was not only out-of-state, but private. So I transferred to Rutgers University in Newark where I was accepted into the Clinical Laboratory Science program which is offered

*(Continued on page 5)*



## GRADS *(Continued from page 4)*

jointly with UMDNJ. I learned to perform the tests that help with the diagnosis of diseases in hospitals. I chose this program because I wanted a career in health care and I always had an interest in science.

Furthering my education is my next goal. I'm considering applying to medical school or a graduate program sometime in the near future.

I would like to thank all of my teachers at Weequahic for encouraging me to work hard and to go beyond some of those limitations presented in my community. I feel so proud to be a Weequahic alumnus because my experiences at Weequahic molded me into who I am today. I wouldn't trade it for anything.

I would also like to send a special thanks to the WHS Alumni Association for all their support. When I needed help they never hesitated. I feel as though this is not only my accomplishment, but it's an accomplishment of the WHS Alumni Association as well.

### Congratulations

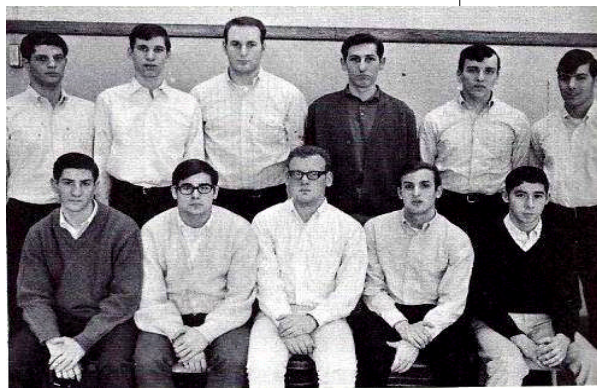
**Terrell Hearn**  
**Anniyah Smith**,  
and **Tiffany Hill**,  
from the class of 2008,  
on receiving their  
Associate Degree from  
Essex County College.

In September, Terrell  
will be attending NJ  
Institute of Technology,  
Anniyah will be at New  
Jersey City University,  
and Tiffany will be  
going to Rutgers  
University-Newark.

## 1968 KINGS CLUB GATHERING

By Bill Jacobowitz, 1968

The weekend of May 18-20 was a special one for ten 1968 Weequahic High School graduates. The Kings Club held its first reunion. The Kings met weekly at the YMHA on Chancellor Ave. throughout our high school years.



We ran dances, played basketball against teams from other centers and were involved in charitable activities. One of my favorite recollections was when we had a father-son softball game and got destroyed by our over-the-hill fathers.

On May 18, we got together as a group for the first time in more than forty years. Members **Bob Feinberg**, **Steve Fischbein**, **Jim Wolf**, **Mike Wigdor**, **Sandy Greenberg**, **Stuart Guterman**, **Harry Rosengart**, **Steve Schwartz**, **Jeff Rudin** and myself spent the weekend talking about the good old days in Newark.

On Friday night we had dinner at Irving's Deli in Livingston.

After dinner we went to my home to play poker as we had done on many Friday nights in the 1960's. My wife Dalia (Weequahic 1965-68) recognized everyone immediately.

Saturday morning, Alumni Association Director, Phil Yourish, hosted us on a tour of the high school. We were struck by how much many things have not changed, such as the auditorium and hallways. The new basketball arena is amazing. Untermann Field also looks great. After we left the high school, we

drove through the old neighborhood. It appears that the houses have gotten much smaller over the years.

We had lunch in Union at the Huck Finn Diner (formally the Peter Pan when we were kids), and had a visit from fellow

'68 graduate Marcia Hellring Tabakin, who amazingly still looks the same after forty plus years.

The guys returned to my house after lunch and Ilana Segall Tenenbaum (my sister-in-law and also a '68 Weequahic grad) dropped by to say hello. The rest of the weekend was spent reminiscing and laughing a lot. Even though some of

us have added a few pounds and lost a couple of hairs, the Kings were back. We won't wait another forty years to get together again.

The only downside of the reunion was that **Mel Narol** was not there. Mel, who was an integral part of the Kings, passed away more than ten years ago. Mel was a prominent attorney who was President-Elect of the New Jersey Bar Association when he passed away.



The guys decided to start a scholarship fund in his name to be used for future Weequahic grads who have an interest in law related areas. So far we have raised close to a thousand dollars.

Anyone who would like to make a contribution to the fund can mail a check made out to **WHSAA** to the Weequahic High School Alumni Association, P.O. Box 494, Newark, N.J. 07101. Write **Mel Narol Scholarship Fund** on the notation line.

# Weequahic's Adonis Thomas has NFL aspirations and hopes to represent Newark

By Matthew Stanmyre, The Star-Ledger  
(April 25, 2012)

Adonis Thomas could have worked out in nicer places last Friday, but he was much more comfortable making the familiar walk down Aldine Street in Newark's South Ward, strolling over the broken sidewalk stones and pockets of dandelions jutting through the cracks, the midday sun spilling over his shoulders.

After two quick blocks, he made it from his house to Weequahic High School and slipped through the heavy double doors out front, where a security guard stopped him. The guard hesitated to let him pass.

*"That's me right there,"* Thomas said, pointing over the guard's shoulder to a glass trophy case that held a picture of him from Weequahic's 2006 state football championship season. The guard smiled and waved him along.

Thomas came back to Weequahic to train in preparation for the 2012 National Football League Draft, which runs Thursday through Saturday and could result in Thomas' name being called. But before he headed to the field out back for sprints and passes with four friends, he wanted to see some of his former teachers and talk to some of the students.

In a city where role models can be hard to find, Thomas is embracing the chance to be seen and heard. A 2007 graduate of Weequahic and a 1,000-yard rusher at Toledo, Thomas is hoping to earn a spot on an NFL roster - something no one born and raised in Newark can currently claim.

*"I want to be the person that inspires other people,"* Thomas said. *"I want to be the person that everybody - a teacher or somebody in the neighborhood - uses as an example of somebody who made it out. I want to be that example."*

He understands there's a chance he will not be drafted and he may not make an NFL roster as a free agent. But Thomas -



the No. 22-rated running back in the draft pool, according to the National Football Post - says he has been training for the draft with the weight of Newark on his back. *"I want to put myself in a position so other people can be like, 'He made it. Why can't I?'"* Thomas said.

## TRAGEDY AS A CONSTANT

After popping into the main office and greeting administrators with hugs, Thomas and four of his friends and current football players at Kean University roamed Weequahic's narrow, pale brown hallways, stopping when they saw familiar faces.

*"We're all rooting for you,"* English teacher Robert Hylton said as Thomas walked by his classroom. *"We're proud of you."*

A muscular 5-9 and 185 pounds, Thomas strode through the halls remembering the students he once shared them with. He winced at the memories. *"Everybody don't make it out of here,"* he said. Two teammates from the 2006 championship team - a landmark squad that became the first Newark public school to win a state title since 1975 - have been killed,

Thomas navigated the turmoil surrounding him thanks to the strength of his mother and older sister, who monitored his every move when he was a kid and never allowed him to get off track. That's why he knows the importance of role models coming up in Newark.

With a huge smile and big brown eyes, Thomas has already started making a

difference in Newark by stopping by Pop Warner games on breaks from school, or hosting neighborhood kids at his mom's house and stressing the importance of school. The kids already look up to Thomas, a player they've seen scoring touchdowns on ESPN.

He continued his jaunt through the halls, slapping hands with students before stopping by Bashir Akinyele's history class on the second floor. The 10 students slumped behind their desks looked on with curious gazes.

*"Listen up!"* Akinyele told his students. *"This is Adonis Thomas. There's a strong possibility that he will be drafted into the NFL. This is a brother who came right from Weequahic High School. Right from the Bricks. Right from the 'hood."*

Akinyele turned the floor over to Thomas, who cleared his throat and stood up straight. He scanned the young faces looking back at him. *"A lot of y'all really don't think about college,"* Thomas said. *"Life after high school - I'm telling you - college is the way to go. A lot of people I went to high school with are either dead or in jail. If I can help one of y'all in this room, or if I can help anybody in this building, I feel like I've done my job. Keep your heads in the books and make smart decisions."*

## WORLD-CLASS SPEED

After the impromptu trek through the school, Thomas and his friends walked over to the football field to run wind sprints in the 75-degree heat. He has a shot at getting drafted because his fastest time in the 40-yard dash is 4.39 seconds - elite speed even for the NFL. He's worked out for the Jets and Giants and said he's received interest from the Colts, Buccaneers, Jaguars, Rams, Broncos and Eagles.

A scatback with a deft ability to elude tacklers, Thomas rushed for more than 1,000 yards in each of his last two seasons at Toledo, earning second-team all-conference honors each year.

*"He's so close,"* his mother said. *"He's so close to reaching his ultimate goal."*

(Continued on page 7)



## THOMAS (Continued from page 6)

Thomas, 23, will succeed whether he's drafted or not, those close to him say. After all, the same kid who failed to qualify academically out of high school went on to graduate from Toledo cum laude with a degree in psychology and counseling. He said his grade-point average never dipped below a 3.1.

*"If he plays professional football or not, he will always be a successful young man in my book,"* said Altarik White, Thomas' coach at Weequahic.

After the workout, Thomas and his friends packed up and left the field. He walked up and down Chancellor Avenue, stopping to talk to students and friends from the neighborhood. The streets were alive with people coming and going, the Friday afternoon traffic buzzing. Thomas soaked in the atmosphere.

*"I would always say to him, 'There are so many kids that are watching. You have to set an example,'"* his mother said. *"There are a lot of kids with a lot of dreams. If he can make it, so can they."*



Al "Bubba" Baker, one of Burney's football players at Weequahic, had a 12-year NFL career with the Browns, Cardinals, Vikings, and Lions; was the NFL Defensive Rookie of the Year in 1978; and made the Pro Bowl three times.

## BURNEY ADAMS

**Weequahic's legendary football coach to be feted by the high school's Fathers Club**



On Friday evening, November 23rd, former longtime football coach, Coach Burney Lee Adams, is being honored by the Weequahic High School Father's Club with a dinner in the *Coach Les Fein Arena* in Weequahic's beautiful new *Ronald G. Stone Community Gymnasium*. The *Field House* at *Untermann Field* will, thereafter, bear his name.

Tickets are \$100 and proceeds will go to the Father's Club for the benefit of the kids on the current football team. Please join us in paying tribute to this wonderful man.

Over a 34-year coaching career, Coach Adams built a remarkable football program at Weequahic and through it raised the aspirations and self confidence of countless young men.

For them, he served, not only as football coach, but also as a mentor, surrogate parent, and life counselor. When needed, he worked hard at obtaining scholarships and financial assistance for his players.

### Below is Burney's Compelling Story:

Burney Lee Adams is the youngest child of William Bradford Adams, Sr., and Louise (Hilton) Adams. He was born in Charleston, South Carolina, and grew up in Savannah, Georgia, where he graduated

from St. Benedict Elementary School and St. Pius X High School. Because St. Pius X High School did not have a football team, Burney played football for Tompkins High School in Savannah under the famed, legendary coach, the late Joseph James Turner.

After high school he served 27 months in the US Military in Germany as a paratrooper and played football for the 11<sup>th</sup> Airborne. He received an honorable discharge in May 1958 and returned home to Savannah for a very brief period before going to Florida A&M University (FAMU), in August 1958 for a one-week tryout as a walk-on for the football team. FAMU's world renowned football coach, the late Jake Gaither, told Burney he had just one chance for a scholarship - that chance was to make the team or he would be sent back home to Savannah.

Burney not only made the team, he made the varsity. Of the 61 freshmen who received scholarships that year, Burney was one of only three to make the esteemed varsity travelling squad. He was so fierce on the football field, his teammates nicknamed him *Killer Boy*, a name that stuck with him even to this day.

He was a member of the 1959 and 1962 undefeated Rattler football teams and served as team captain in 1962, his senior year. He was the 1962 Lineman of the Year, made the 1962 Southern Interscholastic Athletic Conference 1st Team, and was a 1962 All-American Nominee.

Burney graduated from FAMU in 1962 with a Bachelor of

Science degree in Industrial Arts Education. (*The University is inducting him into its Hall of Fame next month.*) He then signed to play professional football for the Hamilton Tigercats in the Canadian Football League. An injury ended his professional football career and the Tigercats released him in 1963. After leaving Canada, Burney was on his way to Miami, Florida, to take a teaching and football coaching position when he

**26 Years As  
Weequahic High's  
Head Football Coach  
Testimonial Dinner  
on November 23rd**

(Continued on page 8)

## ADAMS *(Continued from page 7)*

accepted his brother's invitation to stop over in Newark for a brief visit. Needless to say, that brief visit lasted over 44 years.

In 1963, soon after he arrived in Newark, Burney was offered and accepted a teaching and football coaching position with the Newark Public Schools.

Over a 34-year period of coaching (8 years as an Assistant Football Coach and 26 years as Head Football Coach), Burney, Weequahic High School's longest serving minority head football coach, developed a high school football program at Weequahic second to none.

Coach Adams was modest and never sought attention for his work with young people, but he was never afraid to take a stand for equality and fairness for his players, both on and off the field. He will long be recognized in the community as a great motivator of young people - someone who commanded their respect and admiration, and in so doing, achieved the support of their parents.

He was a pioneer - an innovative coach, who brought new ideas to the Weequahic High School football program. In the early 1970's he incorporated features that were way ahead of the their time, and made history when he hired NJ's first certified, on the field female assistant coach, Ms. Loraine White.

Because of its success, the WHS football program was featured in both the NY Times and The Star-Ledger in the early 70's, and, during the 70's, 80's and 90's, schools in the tri-state area modeled their football program after Weequahic.

Two major components of the football program were the WHS Booster Club and

the WHS Father's Club (originally known as the WHS Father & Son Club). The Booster Club was established to support the football program through activities such as fundraising and a nutrition program - providing a nutritious meal to the team on game day.

Coach Adams, several community leaders and many committed parents, devoted thousands of hours of volunteer time to the Father & Son Club, which provided much needed mentoring and support for the players.



## THE WEEQUAHIC HIGH SCHOOL FATHER'S CLUB

*Coach Burney L. Adams Dedication Dinner*

**FRIDAY, NOV 23RD**

Chairperson: Hon. Donald Bradley  
Co-Chairperson: John Tonero

Honorary Chairpersons:  
Hon. Sheila Y. Oliver  
Hon. Ronald L. Rice  
Myrna Weissman  
Lorraine White  
J. "Kabooobie" Sedgewick  
Frank Verducci



MUSIC BY:  
DJ DEVERETTE ROSS  
TIME: 6:00 - 10:00 P.M.

FOR MORE INFO: SELVIN WHITE 973.986.4589, JEFF DYKES 973.202.0033, PRINCIPAL JOHN TONERO 973.705.3795

GUEST/KEYNOTE SPEAKER: AL "BUBBA" BAKER, WEEQUAHIC H.S. GRADUATE  
CLASS OF '74 & (3) TIME NFL PRO BOWL PLAYER

TICKET COST: \$100.00 DINNER BUFFET STYLE

**WEEQUAHIC HIGH SCHOOL NEW GYMNASIUM**  
279 CHANCELLOR AVENUE, NEWARK, NJ 07112 (ENTER ON THE GOLDSMITH AVENUE ENTRANCE OF THE NEW GYM)  
ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO THE WEEQUAHIC HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL PROGRAM

Coach Adams was also the visionary and founder of *The Soul Bowl*,<sup>™</sup> the annual Thanksgiving Day Game between Weequahic and South Side (now Malcolm X. Shabazz ) high schools, the South Ward's two high school football teams - an annual tradition was started.

For his entire 34-plus years of coaching, Coach Adams had a lasting impact on the lives of thousands of youngsters. He was dedicated and devoted not only to the players on the field, but to the youth of Newark and surrounding areas.

His mission as a head coach was to use football as a tool to propel youngsters on to higher aspirations. He understood early on that he needed to hone their unhar-nessed talents if they were going to excel on the football field and in life. To all of them he was their coach, teacher and mentor.

Coach Adams envisioned and instilled in his students that they were ambitious enough to be anything they wanted to be, including engineers, computer scientists, robotics specialists, bankers, administrators, law enforcement officials, educators, professional athletes, medical doctors, dentists, etc.

Since 1963, Coach Adams has been steadfastly instrumental in obtaining college scholarships and financial assistance for well over 1,200 minority students. He has never turned away youngsters who sought his assistance. More than 95% of those graduates went on to fulfill their ambition to pursue successful careers in every area imaginable.

Burney received a Masters Degree in Education Administration & Supervision from Rutgers University, and completed certified PhD equivalency hours and coursework, in Education, at Jersey City State University. Additionally, he completed and received several post-graduate certifications from Montclair State University, Kean University, and Jersey City State University.

In 2002, Burney Adams retired from coaching.

## COACH LES FEIN ARENA

The WHS Alumni Association received approval from The Newark Public Schools to name the basketball arena in the new Ronald G. Stone Community Gymnasium after Weequahic's legendary basketball coach, Les Fein, and contracted to have the above signage installed.



# AT THE WIGWAM ON THE HILL



**33 ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIPS  
AWARDED FOR NEARLY \$50,000**



**Antoinette Baskerville-Richardson  
with Rashawn McDaniel**

The Weequahic High School Alumni Association awarded 33 scholarships at its **Scholarship Celebration Dinner** held at the Solid Rock Baptist Church on Thursday, June 19th.

**Antoinette Baskerville-Richardson**, a 1970 WHS grad, an educator in the Newark school system, and the Chairperson of the elected Newark Public Schools

Advisory Board, was the keynote speaker. In attendance were the scholarship recipients, their parents or other family members, WHS faculty, and WHSAA Board of Trustee members.

The Alumni Scholarship Committee, made up of **Arthur Lutzke**, Chair, **Myrna Weissman**, **Harold Edwards**, **Pamela Threets**, and **David Schechner**, selected the following students:

**Tiana Anthony**, **Lindiwe Beckles**, **Aquil Bethea**, **Nyasia Blanton**, **Frederick Brefo-kesse**, **Davinah Bryan**, **Antoinette Butler**, **Brandi Byrd**, **Jumaanah Chase**, **Tyshanna Cohen**, **Mariatu Conteh**, **Laquan Ferguson**, **Regilio Gibson**, **Shenique Frett**, **Essence Habibulla**, **Shaquille Henry**, **Alkhadir Johnson**, **Jaleel Johnson**, **Rashawn McDaniel**, **Zakeyah McFadden**, **Rasheeka Palmer**, **Isaac Parker**, **Ashley Payne**, **Samuel Rivera**, **Jasmine Roberts**, **Drusilla Sefa**, **Sharod Selph**, **Katelynn Simmons**, **Rebecca Stricklin**, **Eletah Tuah**, **Bianca Turner**, **Amenze Uhumwangho**, **Regina Williams**.

## ISAAC PARKER CHOSEN AS A GATES MILLENNIUM SCHOLAR

**Isaac Parker**, the valedictorian of the 2012 senior class, was awarded the prestigious Gates Millennium Scholarship. One thousand talented students are selected nationwide annually to receive a good-through-graduation scholarship to use at any college or university of their choice.



The Scholarship also provides students with personal and professional development through their leadership programs,

along with academic support throughout their college careers. The Gates Millennium Scholars Program, established in 1999, was initially funded by a \$1 billion grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

## STUDENTS AS TEACHERS



During this past Spring semester, 10 seniors were trained as tutors to work with 20 first grade students at the Chancellor Avenue Annex (former YM-WYHA Building) in an afterschool program using a multifaceted teaching approach called *Fletcher's Place*. The basis of the program is to focus on the total involvement of the learner using visual, auditory, and kinesthetic activities that reinforce language understanding and retention.

The Weequahic tutors reported that their students observed significant growth and they all felt that the experience offered them the opportunity to discover more about teaching and learning, as well as creating strong emotional bonds with "*our little ones across the street*."

The tutoring was a project of the high school's National Honor Society. Mr. Justin Snead was the faculty advisor and the tutors were **Isaac Parker**, **Drusilla Sefa**, **Mariatu Conteh**, **Regina Williams**, **Samuel Rivera**,

*(Continued on page 6)*



**2012 WEEQUAHIC ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**

## WIGWAM (Continued from page 9)

**Tyshanna Cohen, Rashawn McDaniel, Laquan Ferguson, Zakeyah McFadden, and Tiana Anthony.**

### WEEQUAHIC HIGH GOES GREEN WITH ROCKET COMPOSTER



When school opens in September, Weequahic High School will be the first of Newark's schools to recycle its own food waste. The school will be using its recently unveiled Rocket Composter, a renewable-technology device that processes food waste into compost.

According to Peter Marcalus of NATH Sustainable Solutions, the Rocket Composter is an on-site aerobic system that will recycle Weequahic's food waste into compost that can be used for landscaping, horticultural needs and as a hands-on science learning tool. It will also reduce the cost of disposing food waste.

*"As one of the largest school districts that produces large amounts of food waste, it is important for us to explore alternatives to traditional disposal,"* said Steve Morlino, executive director of facilities and plant operations for the Newark School District.

### TWO STUDENTS WRITE ABOUT THE HOLOCAUST

In the Spring, students from Ms. Poole's Genocide and Holocaust Studies class attended the Holocaust Survivors Luncheon, sponsored by the Holocaust Council of the Jewish Federation of MetroWest. At the luncheon, students had the opportunity to meet and hear first-hand the stories of the Holocaust survivors who were present. Afterwards, Hal Braff, Co-President of the WHS Alumni Association established an essay contest which provided a monetary award for the best essay on the Holocaust. The essays of two students, **Mose McNair May** and **Michael Laurel**, were selected.

## SAUNDERS DAVIS SCHOLARSHIP

Most people in the Weequahic High community remember Saunders Davis as a music teacher and guidance counselor. However, he was also the co-founder of the Newark Community Center of the Arts, located at Lincoln Park. In May, this organization sponsored a concert in his memory and established a scholarship for Weequahic students in his name. Mr. Davis passed away in 2008.



Saunders Davis graduated from Montclair High School, was an Army veteran, specialist 3rd class, and earned a BA degree from Northwestern University and a MA degree from Seton Hall University. He was employed by the Newark Board of Education for 35 years, retiring in 2000.

Having worked first-hand and having the opportunity to witness the poverty, dreams and talent of inner-city children who had no direction or venue to develop their special skills, he was instrumental in starting a community center in Newark to serve this purpose. Now almost 45 years old, that community center has become one of the finest schools of art in the country.

### ANNUAL SKI TRIP

**Vivian Simons, 1959**, a former Board member of the Alumni Association, once again organized an exciting ski trip for about 40 students at the Shawnee Ski Center in the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania. After initially slipping, flopping and falling, some students became adept at skiing and snowboarding.



## TEAM SPORTS

### Cross Country:

1st in City Championship; 1st in Super Essex - Colonial Division;

### Football Team: 9-3

1st in Super Essex - Colonial Division; 2nd in North Jersey, Section 2, Group 1 Championship Game.

### Soccer: 10-5

### Girls Basketball: 15-10

### Boys Basketball: 12-13

### Girls Softball: 12-11

### Outdoor Track & Field:

Boys: 1st in City Championship; 1st in Super Essex Independence Division; 1st in Central Jersey, Section 2, Group 1.

Girls: 1st in City Championship; 1st in Super Essex Independence Division; 2nd in Central Jersey, Section 2, Group 1.

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SUPPORT

### Student Council

### Thanksgiving Turkey Donations

### Weequahic-Shabazz Football Dinner

### Football Team Celebration Lunch

### Ski Trip to Shawnee, PA

### Signage for the new Gymnasium

### Lunch for HESPA students

### Project Alpha

### Men's Day Activities

### Women's Day Activities

### Holocaust Survivors Luncheon

### National Honor Society Induction Ceremony

### Tutoring Program Celebration

### Scholarship Celebration Dinner

### Girls Basketball Team Summer Camp

### Football Team Summer Camp



# Two Kids From Newark Win World War II

By Evanne Schreiber Geltzeiler, WHS 1952



Shared values, “*One Nation Under God, Indivisible*,” was absolutely ubiquitous during World War II and my brother Dickie and I were in it, all the way.

Ambitious and self-confident, Dickie also wanted us to be famous. We imagined cheering and headlines in The Newark Evening News and even a photo of President Roosevelt pinning medals on us. We might even, we imagined, make The Jewish

News. Confidence in our power to discharge our planned assault never wavered and the warm and precious memories thereof are described herein:

Our parents hushed us to silence while the radio was reporting that Hitler’s armies were rolling over most of Europe. Dickie and I vowed that we would never let Hitler tear to pieces, our beloved Newark.

Every war has its heroes and when Dickie, eight years old and I, seven, would single handedly wipe out The German Army, that feat would bring us fame. When Hitler and his troops advanced on Belmont Avenue, Dickie and I would be ready.

## Glorious Patriotism

The handprints of our Uncle Sam were powerfully absorbed by Dickie and me. Devotion to our country was absolutely total and henceforth, our robust engagements were imaginative, dramatic and labor intensive.

My genius brother, Dickie, carefully devised our plans and thus empowered by his stupendous ideas I, his avid and adoring collaborator, shared his unquenchable enthusiasm and dedication to carry them out.



## Dickie’s Plan – Part One: Empowering The Home Front

First, a lemonade stand – 2 cents a glass – that’s how Dickie and I earned the money needed to buy seeds for our Victory Garden. We were ecstatic when the superintendent of our apartment building acquiesced to our urgent request to use part of the backyard to grow vegetables for our war effort. Dickie did the digging and I planted and watered the seeds.

To our fabulously good fortune, many entrepreneurs brought their wares to the neighborhood in a horse-drawn wagon stocked with fresh fruits and vegetables. At the sound of a bell tinkling, every lady in the apartments would drop her mop, put some coins in the pocket of her apron and hurry out to the curb to select, from the wagon, fruits and vegetables that would last for a couple of days. Preservatives weren’t invented yet and it was necessary to replenish with frequency, as food spoiled in two to three days.

Systematically, and for several days, we combed the streets, Dickie with dust pan in hand and I, holding the brown bag for the droppings of horses. Our objective – to nourish the seeds in our garden and thus help with the food shortage that necessitated wartime rationing, via little booklets with ration stamps.

## Dickie’s Plan – Part Two

The preparation commenced with our Breyers Dixie Cups, a shared bottle of coke, and an animated urgency. With the full force of our genetic chutzpah, “*Don’t tell mommy or she’ll kill us*,” I admonished as Dickie broke the empty coke bottles into shards, the main ingredient of our meal for the enemy. “*We’re not PLAYING with glass*,” Dickie asserted. My concerns relieved, I mixed the water and dirt to prepare the “*chocolate*.” Courage and perseverance prevailed as we carefully inserted the forbidden glass into the Breyers ice cream Dixie Cup “*pies*” that would enable our skillful foil.

The coal bin in the basement of our apartment building was our factory and there, with passionate aggression and inflexible purpose, we daily reconstituted and increased our Breyers arsenal. Of course, we saved the lids to add to our collection of baseball players and movie stars displayed thereon.

Our carefully planned attack would be very close range and in front of our apartment at 375 Belmont Avenue. Our ability to carry this off was never in question. Courage and determination

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Book #4

(Continued on page 13)

# Philip Roth

## WHS Jan. 1950

### AMERICA'S LION

As he turns 79, author reflects on his life, his writings and his Jersey roots

By Amy Ellis Nutt, The Star-Ledger

Philip Roth laughs. It's not a belly-shaking guffaw - the lanky novelist couldn't do that even if he wanted to - rather, it's a head-thrown-back chuckle, the kind of mirth that comes at the end of a good punch line. In this case, though, the joke is actually about him.

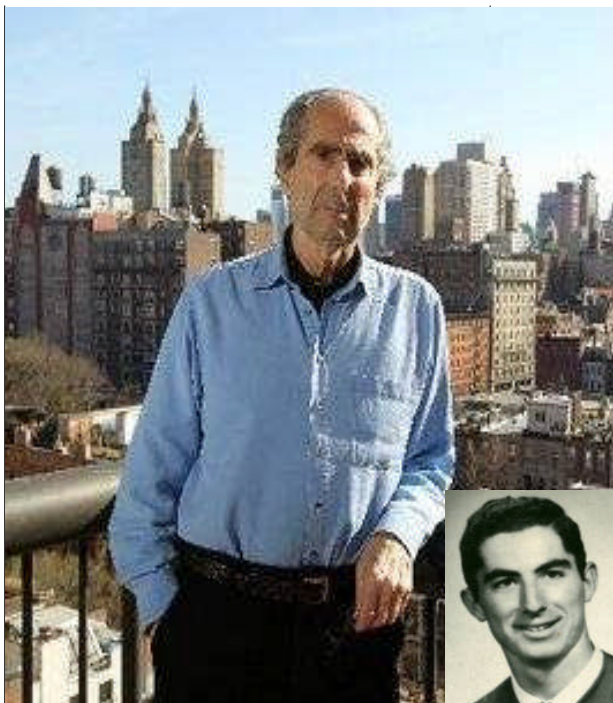
On the eve of his birthday, Roth has spent considerable time over the past few months fielding calls about a public celebration. The party, however, isn't tomorrow, he explains to a puzzled reporter. It's next March when he turns 80.

"I just got a call about the catering," he says, with a bemused smile. The call, in fact, was from Liz Del Tufo, president of the Newark Landmarks and Historic Preservation Committee, who is spearheading the 2013 two-day birthday bash for Newark's hometown hero, now just 366 days away.

"We did want to start well in advance," Del Tufo says. *He's so funny. Every time I call him, he picks up the phone and says, 'Am I 80 yet?'"*

Not quite, of course, but Del Tufo, along with the Philip Roth Society, which is co-sponsoring next year's mini-fest, is not wasting any time prepping for the big party. It's all a little bit embarrassing for the man many critics regard as America's most important living literary treasure, but he appears to be taking it in stride.

Last Wednesday, still five days short of 79, the author leaned back in an armchair in his sun-swept Manhattan apartment and reflected on his past. He is as trim and fit as he was at 17 when he was a lanky summer camp counselor in the Poconos. (In a photo, reprinted in a German magazine sitting on Roth's coffee table, he is, in fact, a tanned, preternaturally suave teenager in tennis shorts, white socks and loafers.)



Thirty-one novels and more than six decades removed from that youthful summer, Roth summons his memories, especially those of his Weequahic neighborhood, with Proustian ease.

*"Well, if it was the summer, there was no air conditioning. I'm hot. All the windows are wide open. The radios are on. You hear Walter Winchell, Fred Allen, Jack Benny. You hear people talking in the alley ways. They'd have beach chairs in the driveway, so you'd hear laughter and radios. I'd put the ball game on, the Dodgers. ... Red Barber was the voice of the Dodgers."*

#### 'PHILIP ROTH HOME'

Roth shared a bedroom on the second floor of the small clapboard house at 81 Summit Ave. with his beloved older brother, Sandy, who died in 2009. Today, the house bears a plaque inscribed "**Historic Site: Philip Roth Home**" and the corner of Summit and Keer avenues bears a third street sign, "**Philip Roth Plaza.**"

But for the man whose novels often draw on New Jersey, the past is not only present, it's palpable. "*It was delicious,*" he says of summer vacations at Bradley Beach, which Roth spent with family and friends from Newark. "*We played a game called 'Buzz,' and the object was to tear the limbs off your opponent. ... It was a great game. There was always a*

*little blood. Then we'd run into the water screaming."*

And when they came out, they'd run across the scorching sand to buy hot dogs at Mike and Lou's on Ocean Ave. "*We'd run on the hot boardwalk, buy half a dozen hot dogs, then run back to the beach."*

On weekends in Newark there were baseball, softball or stickball games to play on the field behind the Chancellor Avenue Elementary School - "*I still have a bad arm from throwing a Spalddeen against the brick wall,*" Roth says.

On Saturday nights, he and "*the boys*" would take their dates to a movie, drop them home, then meet up again at the Weequahic Diner for hot pas-trami sandwiches. And if it was too crowded at the diner, they'd duck across the street for burgers at the White Castle.

"*We liked to have fun,*" says one of Roth's childhood friends, Howard Silver, a retired dentist now living in Florida. "*We wanted to be with girls all the time. Sports was very important. It was a very close-knit group."*

Many of his friends ended up in his fiction, but Roth says he didn't even think about becoming a writer until he was an upperclassman at Bucknell University. But first, he was inspired by the novels of Thomas Wolfe, especially "*Look Homeward, Angel,*" which he read during his junior year in high school.

"*I was exhilarated. It was the greatest explosion of my young life,*" Roth says, referring to Wolfe's "*gushing prose*" and the "*feverishness of his imagination.*" "*You can't get enough gush at 16. He's so full of appetite. He was a great teacher to me."*

Roth credits Weequahic High School with instilling his love of language, and he can still rattle off the names of the poems he was required to memorize:

(Continued on page 13)



## ROTH (Continued from page 12)

Whitman's "O Captain! My Captain!"  
Shelley's "To a Skylark," Keats' "Ode on a Grecian Urn."

"People say it's just memorizing, but we got the language in our heads," Roth says. By way of proof, he recites, in lilting Middle English, the first few lines of the General Prologue to Chaucer's "Canterbury Tales":

Whan that aprill with his shoures soote  
The droghte of march hath perced to the roote,  
And bathed every veyne in swich licour  
Of which vertu engendred is the flour...  
hello, fame

## HELLO, FAME

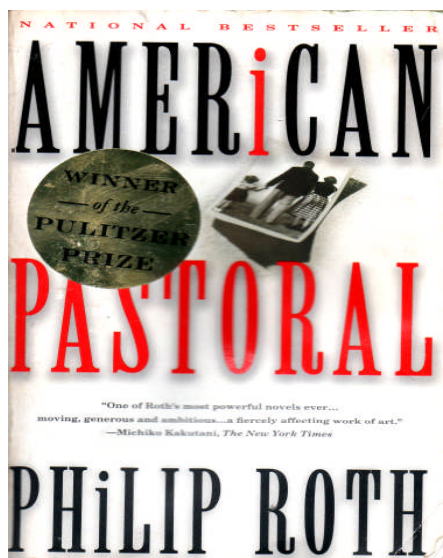
Roth's first fiction book, "Goodbye, Columbus," appeared in 1959, a month after he turned 26, but in 1969 it was his relentlessly salacious comic novel "Portnoy's Complaint" that catapulted him into public consciousness - and public controversy.

Roth weathered both the outrage and the acclaim, spinning out best-sellers at an astonishing clip. In the process, he won a slew of literary accolades, from the 1960 National Book Award for his first major work, "Goodbye, Columbus," to a 1995 National Book Award for "Sabbath's Theater," three PEN/Faulkner awards and the 1998 Pulitzer Prize for fiction for "American Pastoral."

He is only the third writer to have the Library of America publish a special edition of his life's work while he was still alive. (The others were Eudora Welty and Saul Bellow.) The only major honor missing from his literary résumé is a Nobel Prize.

Novelist, poet and journalist Michael Bourne wanted to remedy that when he wrote an open letter to the Swedish Academy last September: "Can we please stop the nonsense and give Philip Roth a Nobel Prize for Literature before he dies?" Bourne's entreaty went unheeded, at least for the time being.

"Roth can stand the test of time," says Aimee Pozorski, who teaches English at Central Connecticut State University and is a member of the Philip Roth Society.



*"What is so great is he creates a whole world in his novels in which you can lose yourself, and yet the books are also highly relevant to today ... the idea that America was founded on freedom and individualism, and the value of hard work."*

Roth is both storyteller and intellect, according to Pozorski, and "he appeals because he just writes beautiful sentences. I think this is why he earns the title greatest living American novelist."

Despite his success, Roth remains oddly ambivalent about his chosen profession. "I find writing is largely an ordeal I have to face every day," he says. "It's a strange occupation. You are on your own. There is no rule book, no casebook. Nothing. ... I guess that's what I wanted."

In "American Pastoral," Nathan Zuckerman, one of Roth's many alter egos, talks about the double life of a novelist as both object and observer - roles that leave man and author open to error, but the reader open to understanding.

*(G)etting people right is not what living is all about anyway. It's getting them wrong that is living, getting them wrong and wrong and wrong and then, on careful reconsideration, getting them wrong again. That's how we know we're alive: we're wrong.*

*Maybe the best thing would be to forget about being right or wrong about people and just go along for the ride. But if you can do that - well, lucky you.*

No, lucky us.

## GELTZELER

(Continued from page 11)

would triumph with a magnitude of patriotism gloriously exercised with all the unfettered imagination and strength we possessed. We felt invincible. Hitler and his army would meet their end as they hungrily consumed our homemade chocolate pies.

### May 8, 1945 – V-E Day

Our bold endeavors collided, head-on, with the fantastic announcement of V-E Day. Tears, prayers and ecstasy prevailed. The war in Europe was over.

How is it that a couple of kids believed that they could stand up against a formidable and powerful enemy? The priceless power of PATRIOTISM – the warm and wonderful feeling that we were Americans, all in it together – and with our novel stratagem, outlandishly treacherous, would defend it on Belmont Avenue.

That is, to my untarnished recollection, what we were trying to do and had victory not prevailed as it did, I am absolutely certain that Dickie and I, with loyalties and patriotism so strong, would have somehow pulled it off.



# Irwin Brody, WHS 1944

## *Reflections on a pioneering dad*

By his son, Bob Brody. Reprinted from *The Star-Ledger*

The baby who became my father was born almost completely deaf, able to discern only about 10 percent of all sounds. Early on, he had a hard time understanding anyone who talked to him, and equal difficulty making himself understood.

In the face of a society that often regarded the deaf largely as dumb, several physicians misdiagnosed him as mentally disabled. That was how the world generally saw deaf people. His hearing loss frustrated everyone he knew, most of all himself. He lived with his parents and two sisters on the second floor of a small house on Leslie Street in the Weequahic section of Newark. He was bright and, by all accounts, also absent-minded, a daydreamer, his head in the clouds.

His father had come to New Jersey from Austria at 12, alone - no money, barely any education and little English - to live with an aunt and uncle he had never met. He ran a tavern, working seven days a week and coming home only to eat and sleep. He saved almost every penny he earned - enough, eventually, to bring his mother, father and six brothers and sisters to America.

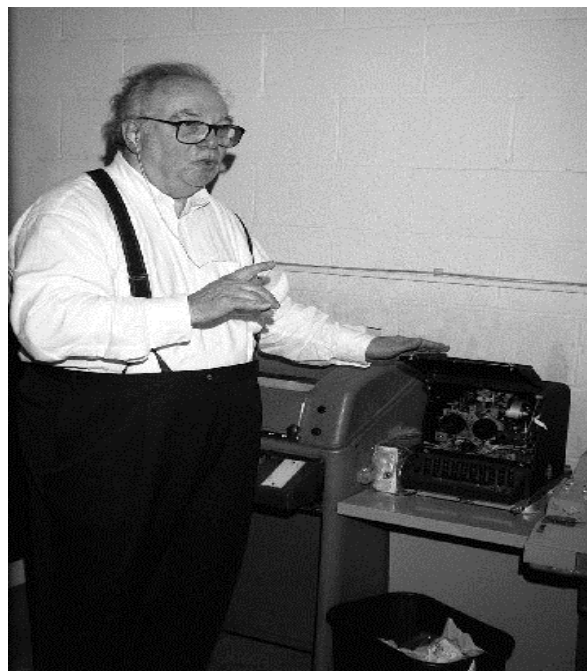
He also saved enough money to send his hard-of-hearing son, then only 5 years old, on an odyssey of his own, to the Central Institute for the Deaf in St. Louis. He took him to Newark's Penn Station in 1931 to board him on a train headed 886 miles west. Nobody on that train except the porter assigned to his care knew anything about the boy, neither his name nor his disability, much less how much he would go on to accomplish.

The boy stayed at the school for the next 10 years, studying hard. He learned to speak without relying on sign language, to listen and to read, to function as well as most any hearing person, to make do with the little hearing he possessed - learned, in effect, how to hear.

His father financed this expensive special education in the bowels of the Great Depression. Tuition plus room and board cost more than later putting all three of his children through college. My grandmother went years wearing the same dress.

Once back home in Newark, attending Weequahic High School, he demonstrated a scientific, creative turn of mind. He tinkered with telegraph machines and experimented with chemicals in a homemade basement laboratory. His first invention, as a teenager, was an alarm clock rigged to shine a bright light in his face.

He was among the first students with hearing loss ever accepted at Washington University and graduated from Rutgers. His taste for technology and innovation grew sharper. As a new father, he fastened a microphone over my crib to capture my crying in the middle of the night and signal my mother with a flashing light. He could take apart almost anything, whether a clock or a washing machine, and put it back together again, only better than before.



In 1969, my father founded a nonprofit organization, his dream to establish a network that for the first time would enable the deaf to communicate with one another and everyone else by phone. He bought, stored, adapted and distributed old teletypewriters, or TTYs, all from a closet with a foldout desk in our home in Fair Lawn.

Soon, he rented a vast warehouse in Hackensack. Within only a few years, the devices, now outfitted with special modems to tie into regular phone lines, cropped up in homes, schools, hospitals, libraries, and local police, fire and emergency call departments, first in New York and New Jersey, then nationwide. He even created the world's first Braille TTY for deaf-blind people.

The deaf community honored him with awards for his public service. In 1975, Bell Telephone accepted him in the Telephone Pioneers of America, only the 29th member since Alexander Graham Bell in 1911. He received a letter on White House stationery, congratulations on his accomplishments from President Ronald Reagan.

Irwin Lee Brody died in 1997. The Stevens Institute of Technology held a memorial service for him and 500 people showed up to pay tribute. Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C., named a scholarship after him.

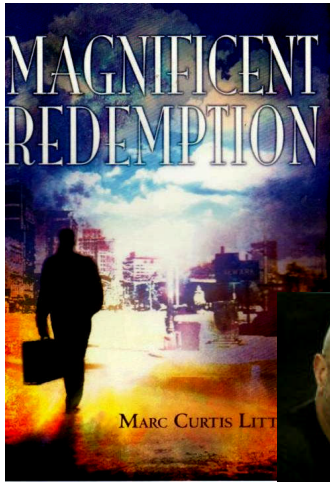
As it happened, my father wound up connecting with everyone except his own family. He worked almost all the time. His dedication to the TTY dominated his life and mine. I grew up feeling wronged. Only now, all these years later, have I come to accept the injustice. My father influenced all of American deaf culture for the better. From the children of geniuses, and especially if the genius is also a hero, certain compromises are to be expected.

*Bob Brody, who grew up in Fair Lawn, is an executive and essayist in New York City. He blogs at [letterstomykids.org](http://letterstomykids.org) and has contributed to the New York Times, The Wall Street Journal and The Washington Post, among other publications.*



# WEEQUAHIC WRITERS

## Marc Curtis Little, 1969



The racial unrest in the United States during the 1960s changed this country and its people forever. Those six days of rioting in Newark, NJ in 1967 not only left neighborhoods destroyed and lives lost or indelibly altered, but also highlighted the cultural, social and economic status of African-Americans at that time.

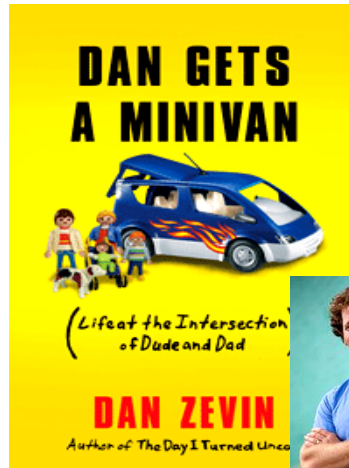
During his high school years in Newark in the sixties, Desmond Anderson was an honor student and a nationally recognized four-sport athlete seeking a promising future. However, in his first year in college, his plans were derailed by an accusation that had paramount implications. Desmond was sentenced to spend the next forty years in a Georgia prison for a crime that he did not commit. He endured prison life in the South with a yearning to return to his hometown.

This compelling, suspenseful novel focuses on Desmond's determination to use his experiences to change the fortune and future of this city of his youth. For him, the Newark riots did not begin and end in 1967. It formed the roots of his personal mission for his entire life. Upon his release from prison, Desmond returns to Newark, and his strengthened compassion for humanity fuels his efforts to make positive changes for the people and lives that are dear to him.

Marc has written two other books: *Don't Blink When God Calls* and its sequel, the Indie Excellence Award-winning *Angels in the*

*Midst*. A mass communications veteran, he is now a published spiritual author, inspirational speaker and social media evangelist, though he still does play-by-play sports, and public address sports announcing from time to time. Marc also is a former Board member and staff person for the Weequahic High School Alumni Association.

## Dan Zevin, son of Dr. Ronald Zevin, 1953

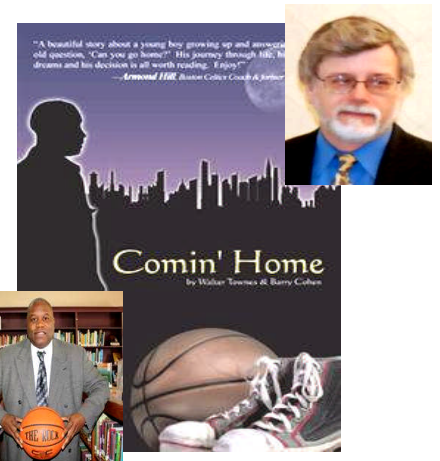


The least hip citizen of Brooklyn, Dan Zevin has a working wife, two small children, a mother who visits each week to "help," and an obese Labrador mutt who prefers to be driven rather than walked. How he got to this point is a bit of a blur. There was a wedding, and then there was a puppy. A home was purchased in New England. A wife was promoted and transferred to New York. A town house. A new baby boy. A new baby girl. A stay-at-home dad was born. A prescription for Xanax was filled. Gray hairs appeared; gray hairs fell out. Six years passed in six seconds. And then came the minivan...

Dan has written three other books: *The Day I Turned Uncool*, a finalist for the Thurber Prize for American Humor, *Entry-Level Life*, and *The Nearly-wed Handbook*. He has been a comic correspondent for National Public Radio's WBUR, the humor columnist for Boston Magazine and the Boston Phoenix, and a contributor to national publications including Rolling Stone, Maxim, Details, TheNewYorker.com, and Parents. He also wrote an original sitcom pilot for CBS and Warner Brothers. His latest project is *Star Vehicle*, a YouTube talk show he hosts inside his minivan.

Dan lives with his wife, kids, and pet rabbit in the suburbs of New York, where he has become an active member of his local Costco.

## Walter Townes & Barry Cohen - son of Aaron Cohen, 1944



Born and raised in the projects of Newark, NJ, Willie Joe Cunningham aspires to become a professional basketball player. Surrounded by everything from race riots to drug and alcohol abuse, Willie Joe manages to rise above his humble beginnings.

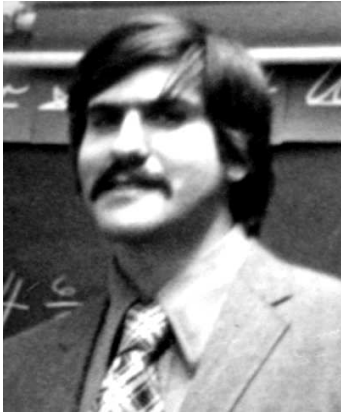
Guided early by a few caring mentors, he now has to confront the issues of race and politics. After qualifying for a spot on a professional basketball team, he suffers an injury and a career setback. Willie Joe overcomes his injury, marries his college sweetheart and becomes a successful college basketball coach. He settles in suburbia.

His perfect world is unsettled by the appearance of a former teammate, who implores him to come home and help the youth of his native city of Newark. Torn between two worlds, he finds major obstacles that include a wanting wife and an even more wanting ex-lover. Willie Joe's story concerns the search for one's own moral compass. It is everyone's story, regardless of his or her circumstances.

*Comin' Home* is Walter Townes' semi-autobiographical story of overcoming adversity. A graduate of Clark University, he parlayed his love for sports into a 25-year career as a college basketball coach. He is currently the Athletic Director of the Knox School in NY. To help him shape his vision and add depth and realism to his story, Townes enlisted the aid of Barry Cohen, a serial author, book editor and contributing writer to a variety of publications. Cohen, born in Newark, developed the back story for *Comin' Home*, drawing on his personal knowledge of the history and diversity of Newark.

## Bob Fishbein,

a 1964 WHS grad and Newark educator, writes about a remarkable woman who became his supervisor, mentor and good friend



Bob teaching at Montgomery

## Below is the story of Dorothy Gould

a 70-year Newark educator who turned 90 years old this year



Dorothy as Principal at Montgomery

Only in rare instances do you come across an individual who is so unique as is **Ms. Dorothy "Dot" Gould**. Having spent 43 years as an educator in the Newark school system, Dot has continued to educate out of her home in Newark, for the past 27 years. She is indeed a Newark legend.

You see Ms. Gould is the best kept secret in Newark to most people and to a select number of lucky ones she remains a men-

tor, advisor, dedicated educator, surrogate mother, and a respected member of her community.

She lives by the statements *"you must be accountable, kids come as is, and don't ever mess with my kids."* She has never stopped giving and is the poster model for every person that says, *"You must give back to your community."* This giving brings so much joy to her life, it probably is the best medicine she could ever get on a daily basis.

Still sought after as a speaker and consultant in the community, her phone rings constantly with questions, concerns, and a desire to get her to relate her fascinating memories of years gone by. Although her vision has diminished greatly, her brain gets more exercise than her body now as she repeats many of her experiences as if they just happened yesterday. Even at age 90, she is wonderful example of keeping the mind functioning at a consistently high level.

If awesome was as popular a word in her day as it is today, she would epitomize that word. She indeed is one of a kind and her mold will never be duplicated. She has positively affected tens of thousands of lives in the Newark community and it appears there is no end to this special gift that the good Lord has brought us.

Dorothy is all about Newark. She attended Charlton Street School from kindergarten to grade eight and South Side High School through grade twelve. She graduated from Upsala College in East Orange with an undergraduate degree in English in 1943 and received her teaching certification the next year. She then became the first black teacher to teach at Cleveland Junior High School at a salary of \$144 a month.

In the years to follow, she received her Master's Degree in Mathematics from Montclair State College and a certification in Special Education in 1950. For the next six years, she taught at Montgomery Street School.

In 1956, she became *"Title One Coordinator"* at Wickloff Street School and two years later was appointed Principal at Alyea Street School for severely disturbed children. To complete the circle, Dot returned to Montgomery Street

School as Principal in 1960, a position she held for 20 years.

It is here in this job that her skill level exploded. She amazed everyone, who knew the reputation of Montgomery as a very difficult school, by turning it into a highly respectable educational setting within a short period of time. Students loved and appreciated her. Staff enjoyed working with her, knowing that her commitment was genuine in providing the best teachers and learning environment for the betterment of students with special needs.

In 1980 she became the Executive Assistant Superintendent of Pupil Services for the Newark School System, and her staff and schools learned why this woman was held in such high esteem.

Today, if Dot were a candidate in line for Superintendent of Schools, she would have a problem with the P word. Politics had no place in Dorothy's vocabulary or in her makeup. There was no compromise and no questions if you were going to mess with kids' lives.

Before a packed house at the Robert Treat Hotel in 1986, Dot retired. Attendees included teachers, parents, friends, dignitaries from Newark and Trenton, and most important her family and extended family. The sign on the podium read 43 years of dedicated service and *"Kids come as is."*

In addition to all of her local work, Dot has traveled internationally during her summers and loves to spend time helping others. But she has never shut down her engines.

Dot, who continues to live in Newark's Weequahic section on Keer Avenue, is the lone survivor of six siblings and her dear parents. Today her residential companion is Michalene Bowman, who Dot has known since infancy and who was a former Brownie and Girl Scout under Dot's leadership at the Friendly Neighborhood House.

Michalene has provided an incredible house setting for Dot and encourages her to function to her maximum abilities. She is in awe of this unique opportunity to have a significant role at this time in Dot's life.

(Continued on page 17)



## GOULD

(Continued from page 16)

So, what about the 26 years since her retirement? She became a founding-member and Treasurer Emeritus of Saint Philips Academy in Newark, a private school, starting from one classroom in the Cathedral House to a new building on Central Avenue. The school has received national recognition.

She has served on the Board of Friendly Fuld Neighborhood House for over 50 years, is a lifetime member of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and was President of their North Jersey Alumnus Chapter for 8 years. Moreover, she received a Newark Legends Tribute from NJPAC.

Her home has an open door policy just like her school offices were for visitors, representatives of neighborhood organizations, friends, and parents of children in the school. With her problem solving expertise, you would almost believe she could still run circles around many current school administrators.

For people like me who have been privileged to know her, work with her, and frequently seek advice from her, I continue to see her flourishing, thriving on the memories of people and events that have touched her life over the past 90 years. I make it a point to visit her on yearly trips to New Jersey and call her on a regular basis.

Sometimes I try to trick her and remind her of what she said to me when she interviewed me 43 years ago at Alyea Street School for a position at Montgomery. She remembers every word of what she said to me and it assures me that she hasn't lost a beat.

I plan to write a book about her experiences and her lifetime of giving. If any of our alumni and friends have any stories and lasting memories about Dot, you may contact me, Bob Fishbein, at [bobfishbein47@gmail.com](mailto:bobfishbein47@gmail.com).

## First Annual NJ Weequahic Golf Fundraiser



The above golf fundraising event was organized by **Charles Talley and Harold Edwards from the Class of 1966**. Members of their Committee were: **Myrna Weissman, 1953; Pamela Scott Threats, 1966; Adilah Quddus, 1971, and Cheryl D. Bush.** Co-Chairs were: **J. Barry Washington, CEO of Custom Digital Network and Penny Jones-Joseph, Director of Corp. Outreach Programs for Panasonic of North America.** **Cory Booker**, Mayor of the City of Newark, was Honorary Chairman.

*We would like to thank all supporters of our First Annual Weequahic Golf Fundraiser" held at the Galloping Hill Golf Course in Kenilworth in New Jersey. Please mark your calendars and save the date of **Monday, June 17th, 2013** for our 2nd Annual Golf Event.*

## 30TH REUNION - CLASSES of 1981 & 1982



The reunion took place on the weekend of August 17th. Alumni stayed at the Embassy Suites in Secaucus and the Reunion Dinner Cruise was on the "*Spirit of New Jersey*" in Weehawken.

The committee consisted of chairpersons **Faith Howard-Johnson, 1982, and James Little, 1981, Reggie Price, 1981, Phyllis Vanover, 1982, Yolanda Newsome, 1982, and Al Howard, 1982 (tee shirt design).** Assistance with the Web Page and Facebook was provided by **Yvonne Causbey, 1977.**

# NEWARK NEWS

## Lonnie Wright, one of Newark's greatest athletes, passes away



In the Newark Patch, Scott Egelberg writes: *How many men could say they intercepted a pass from Joe Namath or scored over Julius Erving? And then how many can say they helped 2,000 minority youths in New Jersey from underprivileged backgrounds become medical doctors. Lonnie Wright could say he did all that and more in his illustrious life.*

Lonnie Wright, perhaps the greatest all-around athlete Newark has ever produced, passed away in March at age 67 of congestive heart failure.

Born in Newark and a 1962 graduate of South Side High School, Lonnie earned All-City, All-County, All-State and All-American honors in basketball and football. He also excelled in track and field and baseball. He was inducted into the Newark Athletic Hall of Fame in 1988 and into the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association Hall of Fame in 1997. Lonnie led South Side to the Group III basketball championship in 1962.

Following high school, he attended Colorado State University where he played basketball and set the school's shot put record. He scored 1,246 points in his college basketball career and was a member of two NCAA basketball tournament teams. He was also inducted into their Hall of Fame in 1989.

Lonnie was drafted by the St. Louis Hawks of the National Basketball Association, but signed as a safety with the Denver Broncos of the American Football League and played for 2 years. Switching sports in 1968, he joined the Denver Rockets (now the Denver Nuggets) of the American Basketball Association and remained with them for four years, scoring a season best 16.4 points a game for the 1968-69 season. He was only the 3rd professional athlete to have careers in both football and basketball during the same year.

Once he retired from professional sports in 1972, Lonnie returned to Newark and became the Assistant Superintendent of Parks and Recreation and then became the Director of Students at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, a position he held for 36 years when he retired in 2010. He was a resident of South Orange with his wife Johanna, who is the head basketball coach at Columbia High School, and their three children.

## Anheuser-Busch eagle flies again



The glowing flying eagle is back. Repairmen have fixed the Anheuser-Busch plant's neon sign that stands above Route 1 & 9 in Newark, giving drivers, pilots and airline passengers back a bright landmark. The fix is a relief for those who use the eagle as a beacon. Air traffic controllers tell helicopter pilots to look out for the eagle as they approach Newark Liberty International Airport.

The 15-ton rotating sign was mounted in 2001 to celebrate the brewery's 50th birthday. The sign is 34 feet wide and six feet deep, with 4,500 feet of neon tubing and 2,000 incandescent light bulbs. The "flying eagle" effect is achieved by flashing the six layers of neon on and off sequentially.



## A monument for Althea Gibson

Fifty-five years ago, tennis great Althea Gibson was showered with ticker tape in the Canyon of Heroes in Lower Manhattan by thousands of admirers who lined the parade route to celebrate her history-making accomplishment as the first African-American to win a Wimbledon title.

In May, under a tent at Branch Brook Park, 150 people, including Gov. Chris Christie and other state, county and local officials, as well as tennis legend Billie Jean King, assembled for the unveiling of a bronze statue of Gibson, not far from the Althea Gibson Tennis Court Complex, previously named in her memory.

## Branch Brook Park's new Concert Grove



After four decades, music will be heard again at Branch Brook Park. A four-million, 18-month project to revamp the lakefront area in the park's southern end has been completed. The work included laying bricks and stone flooring,

*(Continued on page 19)*



# NEWARK NEWS

(Continued from page 18)



installing two replicas of the original Prudential limestone lions, restoring the ornamental stone railing, refurbishing two small historic buildings (a public meeting building and restrooms), and adding lighting and landscaping.

It's been 40 years since musical performances graced Branch Brook's waterfront area. But, at the dedication, classical melodies floated through the air as a crowd of more than 150 community leaders, county officials, and distinguished guests gathered in the park to mark the project's completion.

Funding came through the Prudential Insurance Company and the Branch Brook Alliance. The restored original lions have been moved to the entrance of the Hall of Records building.

## A film on Longie Zwillman



Abner "Longie" Zwillman has been gone for more than 50 years, but the idea of Jewish gangster with a love for his people and the fledgling State of Israel still manages to hold interest and evoke some grudging credit.

A native Newarker born in 1904, Zwillman was forced to quit school to

support his family after his father's death in 1918, he eventually became involved in the numbers racket before graduating to bootlegging during Prohibition, importing liquor through Canada, and earning the nickname "*the Jewish Al Capone*."

Co-producers Michael Weissman and Matthew Miele have spent the last seven years working on a documentary with the working title, *Gentleman Gangster: The Longie Zwillman Story*, which tells the story of this man of contradictions.

"*He was part of the 'Big Six' - Bugsy Siegel, Meyer Lansky, Lucky Luciano, Joey Adonis, and Frank Costello - three Jews and Three Italians,*" said Weissman, putting Zwillman in context with his criminal contemporaries.

He adds, "*They were all partners. They divided up the Northeast part of the country. Our argument is that Longie was bigger than all these guys because he was into more things*" including bootlegging, gambling, casinos, hotels, and the film industry, among other nefarious activities.

Like many anti-heroes, Zwillman had a certain charisma and charm. "*He was a hero to the Jewish people in Newark and Irvington because he formed this group of Jewish boxers who would throw stink bombs in the meetings of the Bund - the German-American pro-Nazi movement - and wait for them to run outside and then hit them with bats, sticks, and fists and beat the crap out of them.*"

Zwillman was also a Zionist sympathizer, and helped ship arms to Israel during its fight for independence.

He had friends in high places, too. "*He had everyone from the cop on the beat all the way up to the governor in his back pocket - he had the Mayor of Newark over for brunch every weekend.*"

Zwillman died under mysterious circumstances in 1959 at the age of 54. Some say he committed suicide brought on by the stress of a tax evasion trial; others say he was bumped off.

The initial money for the documentary came from Zwillman's stepson, John Steinbach, and a few colleagues. Part of it went to engage Richard Dreyfuss as

narrator. To complete the film, more funding is being sought.

## "America's Got Talent" at the NJ Performing Arts Center



The popular NBC series "**America's Got Talent**" has made its home this summer at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center, broadcasting two nights a week since July, NJPAC officials told *The Star-Ledger*.

The move from a Burbank, Calif., studio to Newark's 2,200-seat Prudential Hall is a concession to the schedule of new judge Howard Stern, who agreed to join the show if it originated from the New York-New Jersey metro area, according to NJPAC CEO John Schreiber.

Stern, Howie Mandel and Sharon Osbourne are the judges for the seventh season, which kicked off with two two-hour episodes May 14 and May 15. The production has been in Newark since July for the final 10 weeks.

Its selection as host venue of a major network series is a groundbreaking opportunity for the 14-year-old arts center and for the city of Newark. Schreiber said both will benefit from the exposure *America's Got Talent* "will generate and the economic activity it will spark.

The production's benefits will extend beyond the arts center's bottom line. Some 75 people were transplanted from California to Newark for the summer, and that will mean additional hotel nights, food, drink and parking.

Schreiber said, "*It shines a light on Newark. It's an unexpected windfall for all of us. This is a wonderful opportunity for the city to put our best foot forward.*"

## WEEQUAHIC ARTS & CRAFTS EXHIBIT

**Bob Goldberg (1955)** is organizing an Arts and Crafts exhibit planned for next spring that will feature "senior" graduate artists and craft persons of Weequahic High School. The exhibit will take place at The Jewish Museum of New Jersey and possibly at the JCC. He is seeking the names and info of Weequahic alumni who have produced works of high quality in the areas of painting, sculpture, ceramics, photography, etc.

If you or someone you know might qualify, please contact Bob at [jarrettbob@verizon.net](mailto:jarrettbob@verizon.net). Many of our senior graduates have produce outstanding works. Bob himself is a potter and his wife, Jarrett (Scaradowsky) Goldberg (1955), a sculptor.

## WHS ALUMNI WEDDING

**Buddy Freedman, 1952**, sent a picture of Weequahic grads from 1944 through 1952 who attended the recent wedding of **Sondra Green, June 1952**, and **John Weissman, June 1947** at John's home in Orange, CA. Not only was it a beautiful ceremony and a delightful reception, but it also turned out to be a wonderful Mini-Reunion for thirteen Weequahic people!

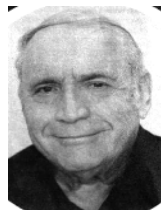


Left to right, sitting: **Lenore Ganek Popick (6/52)**; **Rhoda Gold Rozalsky (6/52)**; **Felice Lefkowitz Blank (6/52)**; standing: **Burt Unger (6/50)**; **Judy Patchesky Unger (6/52)**; **Tina Centuori Freedman (6/52)**; **Carol Oelbaum Tendler (WHS/Columbia High 6/52)**; **John Weissman (6/47)**; **Sondra Green Weissman (6/52)**; **Mort Henig (1/46)**; **Howard Rozalsky (6/51)**; **Bud Freedman (6/52)**; **Gene Tendler (6/44)**



## Waldo Winchester

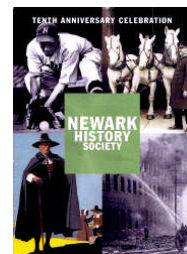
**This popular column first appeared in the CALUMET in 1950**



Congratulations to **Irwin Horowitz, 1955**, on being named NJ Biz's General Counsel of the Year. For more than 25 years, Irwin's leadership has created business opportunities for Hartz Mountain Industries, Inc., and positioned the company to succeed.



The *Newark History Society* celebrated its 10th anniversary in May at The Newark Public Library. **Warren Grover, 1955**, is the co-founder of the organization, which organizes public programs about Newark on a regular basis.



**Gail Malmgreen, 1960**, is the Project Director for the **Newark Archives Project**, (initiated by the Newark History Society in 2009) which will provide a comprehensive online source of information about primary materials for Newark history through a survey of collections located in Newark, in the New Jersey-New York area, and ultimately throughout the U.S.



**Jane Mendlowitch Statlander Slote, 1961**, is making a documentary on Philip Roth, entitled, "*Out of Newark: The Life and Work of Philip Roth.*" During the week of March 15-19, 2013, it will premiere in Newark at a joint Newark Public Library/Newark Museum showing; with another lecture and showing by the Jewish Historical Society of NJ. Jane has been publishing poetry, literary criticism, and theater and film reviews since her teens. She is the author of "*What Philip Roth Never Told You...The (True) Story of a Newark Girl.*"



**Cynthia Plishtin**, who attended Weequahic for two years in the late 40's was honored at the Jewish Historical Society of New Jersey's **2012 Lasting Impressions Gala** as a *Women of Valor* for her volunteer work for the MetroWest Federation and the United Jewish Appeal.







## '63 Grad Barbara Kruger Artwork Speaks Truth To Power

Excerpts from an article  
By Ron Rosenbaum,  
Smithsonian Magazine



Barbara Kruger is heading to Washington bearing the single word that has the power to shake the seat of government to its roots and cleave its sclerotic, deep-frozen deadlock.

What is the word? Well, first let me introduce Barbara Kruger. If you don't know her name, you've probably seen her work in art galleries, on magazine covers or in giant installations that cover walls, billboards, buildings, buses, trains and tram lines all over the world.

Her new installation at the Hirshhorn Museum in Washington, D.C., that opened August 20th - the one that focuses on that powerful, power-zapping word (yes, I will tell you what it is) - was visible from two floors of public space, filling the entire lower lobby area, also covering the sides and undersides of the escalators. And when I say floors, I mean that literally. Visitors will walk upon her words, be surrounded by walls of her words, ride on escalators covered with her words.

What's the best way to describe her work? You know abstract expressionism, right? Well, think of Kruger's art as "extract expressionism." She takes images from the mass media and pastes words over them, big, bold extracts of text - aphorisms, questions, slogans. Short machine-gun bursts of words that when isolated, and framed by Kruger's gaze, linger in your mind, forcing you to think

twice, thrice about clichés and catch-phrases, introducing ironies into cultural idioms and the conventional wisdom they embed in our brains.

A woman's face in a mirror shattered by a bullet hole, a mirror on which the phrase "*You are not yourself*" is superimposed to destabilize us, at least momentarily. (Not myself! Who am I?). Her aphorisms range from the overtly political (*Your body is a battleground*) to the culturally acidic (*Charisma is the perfume of your gods*) to the challengingly metaphysical (*Who do you think you are?*).

Kruger grew up middle class in Newark, New Jersey, and her first job was as a page designer at *Mademoiselle*. She turned out to be a master at using type seductively to frame and foreground the image and lure the reader to the text.

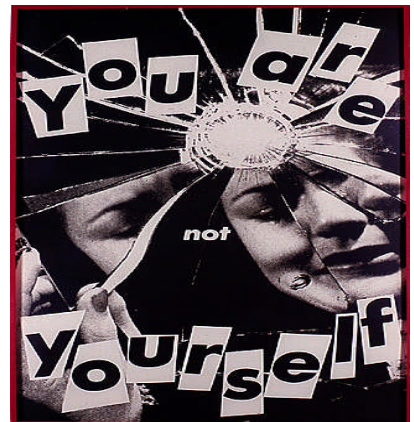
The dream-machine magazine empire of Condé Nast (which also publishes *Vogue*, *Vanity Fair* and *Glamour*) - the dizzyingly seductive and powerful fusion of fashion, class, money, image and status - represented both an inspiration and an inviting target.

The fantasy-fueled appetite to consume became Kruger's enduring subject when she left for the downtown art world, where many of her early pieces were formal verbal defacements of glossy magazine pages, glamorous graffiti. One of her most famous works proclaimed, "*I shop therefore I am.*"

Christopher Ricks, a former Oxford professor of poetry, once told me the simplest way to recognize value in art: It is "*that which continues to repay attention.*" And Barbara Kruger's words not only repay but demand attention from us.

...All of which brings us to her upcoming installation invasion of Washington and that potent, *verboten* word she wants to bring to Washington's attention. The magic word with the secret power that is like garlic to Dracula in a town full of partisans. The word is "**DOUBT.**"

Krueger states: "*I'm interested in notions of power, control and love and money and death and pleasure and pain. So I'm looking forward to bringing up these issues of belief, power and doubt.*"





## Jewish Museum of New Jersey to offer exhibit: "Memoria: Assisi and the Jews, 1943-44" - and a fabulous trip to Italy

On Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 in the afternoon, a remarkable exhibition about the history of Italian Jews will open at the Jewish Museum of New Jersey, located at historic Congregation Ahavas Sholom at 145 Broadway in Newark.



The exhibition, entitled "*Memoria: Assisi and the Jews, 1943-44*," explores the heroic efforts made by the citizens of Assisi to conceal their Jewish neighbors from Italian fascists and German occupiers. Jews were hidden in monasteries and convents through the efforts of a priest named Don Aldo Brunacci and a number of fearless citizens.

Panel discussions, films, and a variety of events are also planned to tell this story. For information, call (973) 485-2609 or visit the Museum website at

[www.jewishmuseumnj.org](http://www.jewishmuseumnj.org).

## Tour Tuscany, Umbria and Rome in May, 2013



This tour created for the Jewish Museum by industry leader General Tours World Traveler, will include special guides who will open the doors to synagogues, neighborhoods, and sites that reveal the rich legacy of Jewish life in Italy. Assisi, Florence, Siena, and Rome are on the itinerary, as are smaller hill towns that are rich with Jewish history. For more information, visit [GeneralTours.com](http://GeneralTours.com) or speak with a dedicated agent for the Jewish Legacy tour at (800) - 223-0266.

## Rabbi Joachim Prinz Documentary



Two Maplewood filmmakers, **Rachel Pasternak**, the daughter of **Claire Mayers Nierenberg, 1958**, and Rachel Fisher, are working on completing a documentary about an outspoken and courageous rabbi, Joachim Prinz.

The one-hour work is scheduled to be released in 2013 in honor of the 50th anniversary of the March on Washington and will be broadcast by PBS affiliates in New York and New Jersey.

The story follows Prinz as a young rabbi in Berlin, where he defied the Nazis to speak out against Hitler. Three decades later, as a religious leader of Temple B'nai Abraham in Newark, he stood beside the Rev. Martin Luther King at the March on Washington. The two filmmakers have raised over \$16,000 to complete the project they have been working on for four years.

## CLASS OF 1987 - 25th REUNION



The reunion was on the weekend of August 10th at the Chateau Resort and Conference Center in Tannersville, Pennsylvania. Organizers were: **Alisia Hughes, Monica & Sam Bearfield, Robin Whittington-Easter, Mecca Abdur- Rahim, Yolanda Butler, and Cleveland Small.**

## CLASS OF 1952 - 60TH REUNION

The reunion took place on Sunday, May 20th at the Marriott Hotel at Newark Liberty International Airport



Marvin and Diane Dinetz



Stella Goldberg Geller,  
Ina Mae Weber Kirsch, and  
Paula Sarbone Mont



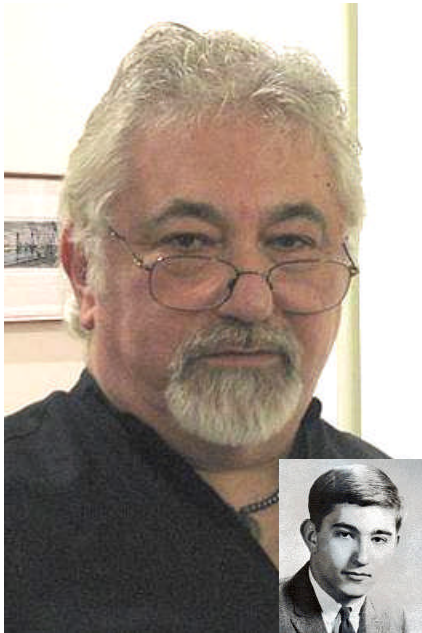
Don Shachat, Howard Hart, Tina Centuori Freedman,  
Hal Braff, Milt Westrich, and Bud Freedman  
after visiting Weequahic High School



Sandy Bodner,  
Bud Freedman,  
and Allen Siegel



## Marc Zimetbaum, WHS 1961, shares his story as an artist



I was born in Newark on May 19, 1943 to a middle class Jewish family. My sister Lisa (WHS 1964) and I both graduated from Weequahic. My father, Raymond, was an intellectual who was very involved in the NYC art world and became friendly with Lou Pollack, owner of the Peridot Gallery on East 12th Street.

Lou was the first dealer, starting in the late 1940's, who showed many of the breakthrough abstract expressionists early on. These included Philip Guston, Jackson Pollock, Esteban Vicente, Louise Bourgeois, James Brooks, and Jimmy Rosati. He was the first American dealer to rediscover the work of Medardo Rosso and bring it to NYC.



As a child, ten or so, through Lou, I met Esteban Vicente and visited both his and Jimmy Rosati's studios on East 10th Street, NYC. I was so taken with their studios and so impressed with them as men that I decided that they were what I would become someday.

After graduating from Weequahic in 1961, I went to Pratt Institute in Brooklyn to study art. It was there that I met Mercedes Matter, who was my drawing instructor during my junior year in 1963. A group of students in my class were very unhappy because too little time was spent in the studio (15 hours a week) and too much time in degree-required classes.

That September, Art News published an article by Mrs. Matter entitled *What's Wrong with U.S. Art Schools* which was an extremely articulate and passionate diatribe that echoed our dissatisfaction with Pratt. We decided the best way to receive the training we wanted was to start our own school. When we approached Mrs. Matter with our idea, she embraced it. Out of this the New York Studio School of Drawing, Painting & Sculpture was born.

During the next 3 years, 1964-1967, I studied at the school which was then located in a large loft at 646 Broadway, NYC. I continued drawing with Mercedes Matter, studied painting with Esteban Vicente, Charles Cajori and Leland Bell, and studied sculpture with Sidney Geist and most importantly Giorgio Spaventa, who had a profound impact on me.

At that time I had a loft on Great Jones Street, around the corner from the school and often opened the school at 8:30 a.m. and was there until 11 p.m. I was also very involved in the administration of the school, first as leader of the student body and later as director of the school in 1966.

I was obsessed with making the dream of the school a reality and basically burned out, soon thereafter had a breakdown, and wound up in a mental hospital in Westport, Connecticut. After my release, six weeks later, I walked away from the school too embarrassed to face my friends and colleagues and went into a tremendous depression which lasted for several years.

While all this was going on, I was both newly married and became a new father,



to my daughter, Erica. I paid a big price for starting the school. My wife, Nancy, left me and moved to Maine with my daughter.

This was a very painful period in my life, yet I have

never regretted it because we achieved something so extraordinary - creating a real art school where none had existed before. It was a dream turned into a reality through hard work, the right mix of both visionary students and faculty, most especially Mercedes Matter.

I have always worked from the model, both in clay and drawing. For the last 10 years I have taught figure sculpture at the Chautauqua School of Art in western New York State. I currently have organized an open figure sculpture workshop at Wagner College on Staten Island and for the last 9 years have exhibited with Friends of Fire, a craft guild on Staten Island.



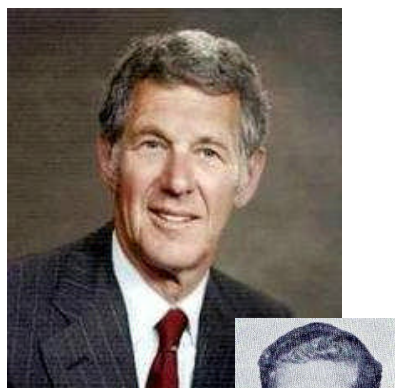
I am also writing a history of the founding of the New York Studio School for which I have received a grant from the Harriet & Esteban Vicente Trust. I am also the subject of a feature length documentary entitled "*Marc Zimetbaum - Journey of an American Artist*" that was made in 2006 by Eric Emerick and Mark Oz. It premiered at Chautauqua in 2007 and is available for sale on Amazon and there are three clips that can be viewed on You Tube.



## In Loving Memory

### Mort Lindsey, Jan. 1940 WHS Grad, TV Bandleader and Accompanist to Stars, Dies at 89

Reprinted from the NY Times



Mort Lindsey, who led Merv Griffin's television orchestra, accompanied Barbra Streisand on the piano in Central Park and played with Judy Garland in her celebrated comeback concert at Carnegie Hall, died on May 4 at his home in Malibu, Calif. He was 89.

Mr. Lindsey was musical director for "The Merv Griffin Show" from 1962 to 1986, during a six-decade career in which he brought his big-band finesse to jazz, swing, pop, country and rock in performances and recordings with a diverse array of artists. Among them were Pat Boone, Eddie Fisher, Liza Minnelli, Elton John, Rod Stewart, Willie Nelson, Chris Botti and Michael Bublé.

Mr. Lindsey won an Emmy in 1969 for his musical direction of Ms. Streisand's CBS concert special, "A Happening in Central Park." The show led to an album of the same name.

For Mr. Lindsey, however, his performance of a lifetime occurred on April 23, 1961, when Ms. Garland - at 38 and trying to resuscitate her career after bouts with alcohol and pill addictions - performed before a full house at Carnegie Hall.

The double album from that performance, "Judy at Carnegie Hall," with Mr. Lindsey leading the orchestra, was No. 1 on the Billboard chart for 13 weeks that year and won four Grammy Awards.

Ms. Streisand said in a statement that she had dreamed of working with Mr. Lindsey. "I first saw him when I was a teenager and got to attend a free Judy Garland concert," she said. "Mort was onstage conducting for Judy, and I could sense how safe she felt with his judgments and encouragements."

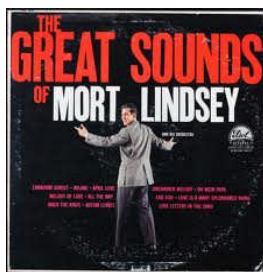
In January 1971, when Mr. Griffin devoted two nights of his show to bandleaders like Les Brown, Lawrence Welk and Vaughn Monroe, it was Mr. Lindsey who reprised their harmonies.

"The hero of Griffin's two-part program," Jack Gould wrote in The New York Times, "was his own regular orchestra conductor, Mort Lindsey, the pianist, who with amazing accuracy and musicianship led his band through all the different styles and arrangements associated with the guests of honor. To shift effortlessly from the Champagne horn of Lawrence Welk to the Dixieland beat of Bob Crosby left no doubt of Mr. Lindsey's versatility."

Born Morton Lippman in Newark on March 21, 1923 (he changed his name early in his career), Mr. Lindsey was one of two children of immigrants from Russia. Classically trained as a pianist as a child, he earned a bachelor's degree and a doctorate in music education from Columbia.

In 1955 he married Betty Bonney, who in 1941, performing with Les Brown's Band of Renown, recorded the hit song "Jolting Joe DiMaggio."

Besides his wife (who changed her name to Judy) and his son Steve, a record producer, Mr. Lindsey's survivors include two other sons, Trevor and David; three daughters, Bonney Dunn, Deborah Morris and Judy Grant; and a sister, Janet.



### Arthur Brody, Class of Jan. 1939 Businessman, Entrepreneur, and Philanthropist



If you've ever borrowed a library book and accidentally knocked a cup of coffee onto the cover, you may have Arthur Brody to thank for not having to replace it. As an electrical engineering student at Columbia University, Arthur figured out a way to turn clear photographic film into a protective cover that was so superior to the brown paper versions his classmates used.



Arthur Brody passed away at age 91 on May 10, 2012, following a brief illness.

Arthur's commitment to serving the library community began inside a small lending library on Bergen Street in Newark, called the Bro Delle Book Shoppe, owned by his parents, Samuel and Ruth.

By the time he graduated from Columbia, he had eight employees turning out his invention. The simple clear plastic jacket remains in great demand and is used by libraries worldwide and this accomplishment is still evident in libraries today.

Granted a patent for his book jackets and using a small personal savings, he started the Library Service business. Following his participation in World War II, he changed the name of his company to Brodart in 1946. The name was chosen through an employee contest where the winner suggested using Art's first and last names turned inside out.

Through the years he positioned Brodart as the company to supply all things required to run a library from filing systems to furniture. His instinct for business is illustrated through the many

(Continued on page 27)

# **MEMBERSHIP / MERCHANDISE / SCHOLARSHIP FORM**

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

Please print clearly: Date \_\_\_\_\_ Total Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## **2 PAYMENT CHOICES:**

1.    CREDIT CARD   MC   VISA   AMEX   DISC. - Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

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

## **5 MEMBERSHIP CHOICES:**   check if change in postal address

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

Class (Month & Year): \_\_\_\_\_ Current or Past Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last name at WHS: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State:    Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

- ◆    \$5.00 ALUMNI PIN: - (in orange & brown in the shape of the WHS logo)
- ◆    \$5.00 TOTE BAG: - (in orange or brown with logo)
- ◆    \$10.00 KNIT CAP: - (one size fits all in orange with brown "W" on front)
- ◆    \$12.00 T-SHIRT: - (sizes S, M, L, XL, 2XL - (dark brown or orange with WHS logo)
- ◆    \$15.00 HAT: - (one size fits all in khaki or dark brown with Weequahic alumni lettering)
- ◆    \$20.00 SWEATSHIRT: - (sizes S, M, L, XL, 2XL - dark brown or orange with WHS logo)
- ◆    \$20.00 GOLF SHIRT: - (sizes S, M, L, XL, 2XL - orange with Indian Head WHS alumni lettering)
- ◆    \$40.00 HOODED SWEATSHIRTS: - (sizes M, L, XL, 2XL - dark brown or orange with WHS logo)

## **26 SCHOLARSHIP CHOICES:**

1. \$    Alvin Attles Fund
2. \$    Maxine Boatwright Fund \*
3. \$    Morey Bobrow Fund \*
4. \$    Sharon Nicely Boose Fund \*
5. \$    Class of 1952 Fund
6. \$    Class of June 1960 Fund
7. \$    Class of 1963 Fund
8. \$    Class of 1964 Fund
9. \$    Dena Gittleman Greenstein Fund
10. \$    Ronald Griffin Fund \*

11. \$    Miriam Hample Fund \*
12. \$    Walter Hastreiter Fund \*
13. \$    General Alumni Fund
14. \$    Reada & Harry Jellinek Fund\*
15. \$    Phyllis & Donald Kalfus Fund
16. \$    Hannah Litzky Fund \*
17. \$    Bert Manhoff Fund \*
18. \$    Seymour Swede Masin Fund \*
19. \$    Edwin McLucas Fund
20. \$    Melvin Narol Fund \*
21. \$    Marie O'Connor Fund \*

22. \$    Carolyn Parm Fund \*
23. \$    Leo Pearl Fund \*
24. \$    Richard Roberts Fund
25. \$    Sadie Rous Fund \*
26. \$    Linda Marcia Small Fund \*
27. \$    Ronald G. Stone Fund \*

*\* In Memory*

## **NON-SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS**

- ◆ \$    Les & Ceil Fein Fund
- ◆ \$    Class of 1945 Fund



## **BRODY** *(Continued from page 25)*

firsts highlighting a career populated by the perfect blend of inventiveness, good timing, and calculated risks. By the 1970s, Brodard had more than 1,500 employees.

Arthur lent his creative mind to many ideas and had a hand in recognizable industry names of today. He was involved in experimenting with a formula for a new adhesive to replace library paste, which later became "Elmer's" glue.

His idea for "Magic Mending" tape would be picked up by Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing better known as 3M.

Some of the many patents credited to him throughout his lifetime include the book jacket and book pockets, plus the machinery to produce them, tabs for ring binders and systems for recording library transactions are among the products he developed for library use.

Although he was involved in varied business ventures, serving the total needs of libraries was his main focus. He made it possible for libraries to begin with an empty building and become a fully furnished library, supplying shelving, catalog card files, seating, tables, and computer workstations, book carts, spinner racks for all types of material, database management software, and scanners.

In 1982, Arthur relocated to Ranch Sante Fe, near San Diego, California and officially retired in 2004 after 65 years in an industry he remained passionate about and very much enjoyed.

Arthur's accomplishments in the business world are only part of his amazing legacy. He was listed in Who's Who for more than two decades. Serving on a number of civic and not for profit boards, he contributed time and money to many local and national charities.

Arthur was president of Friends of New Jersey libraries, an executive board member and council member at large for the Robert Treat Council of Boy Scouts of America, a Mason and a Shriner, and a past president and trustee of Newark Symphony Hall. He also served on the boards of the Rady School of Management, the San Diego Symphony, Seacrest Retirement Village and the Sanford Burnham Cancer Institute.

His greatest achievement will be his philanthropic legacy created through serving as the President of the Sophie and Arthur Brody Foundation. His success in business afforded him the opportunity to give back to the communities he loved both far and wide by donating generously to a host of causes important to him and his family.

Arthur was predeceased by his wife of 60 years, Sophie. He is survived by his companion of the last seven years, Phyllis Cohn, his daughter, Janice Brody (Bruce Rule), his son Donald Brody (Toby Mickelson), and his five grandsons.

## **Esther Epstein Schwartz** **Class of Jan. 1951**

### **Former Councilwoman in Irvington**

Former South Ward Councilwoman Esther D. Schwartz, 79, of Irvington, passed away on July 29, 2012. Born in Newark, she resided in Irvington for 46 years. Her education from Rutgers University included an associate's degree in accounting and business administration.

Esther attended the Jewish Theological Seminary and taught primary grades at Congregation Oheb Sholom in South Orange. During her lifetime, she devoted herself to the community, the state of New Jersey, and to many organizations for the benefit of children, the hungry, the disabled, and the needy.

She was the founder of the American Hope Association for the homeless in the late 80's, and was instrumental in getting food subsidies through Mt. Carmel Guild in Newark. Esther was responsible for Head Start in Irvington for middle income and needy families, and served as the President of the Webster Women's Club for several years, bringing Neighborhood Watch to the area.

Through her efforts, she was able to spearhead the drive to raise the drinking age from 18 to 21 under the Governor Brendan Byrne administration. Her political career began in 1976 when she was elected to the Irvington Municipal Council as South Ward councilwoman, and was re-elected again in 1980 and 1984, serving 12 years. In 1985, Esther was appointed as the director of the Essex County Division of Consumer Affairs.

Predeceased by her husband, John, she is survived by her brother Sanford Epstein; a daughter, Bonnie Sacks; and sons, Michael and Perry Schwartz. Her grandchildren include Justine, Robyn, and Jenna Sacks, as well as Jonathan, Jordan, Jared and Joshua Schwartz.

## *In Loving Memory*

Janet Sprei Balicer, 1945  
Suzanne Debow Benjamin, 1961  
Edward Berman, 1948  
Marvin Bromberg, 1948  
Aaron Cohen, 1944  
William Cohen, 1950  
Edward Denholtz, 1938  
Sylvia Sine Edelman, 1941  
Marvin Eisler, 1943  
Marvin Facher, 1937  
Rita Levine Gaber, 1945  
Sheldon Geller  
Lewis Geltzeiler, 1949  
Judy Girion Gerstein, 1960  
Irene Martoccio Graham, 1956  
Robert Greenbaum, 1939  
Irwin Helfgott, 1953  
William Karlen  
Bernard Kass, 1951  
Michael Kaufman, 1964  
Evelyn Saperstein Mullman Kramer, 1944  
Alma Weinberg Klausner, 1939  
Harold Knox, 1965  
Gilda Konwiser Kress  
Anthony Kurz, 1962  
Gilda Konwiser Kress  
Calvin Leichtling, 1939  
J. Donald London, 1938  
Jason Darian Lowther, 2000  
Stanley W. Levy, 1940  
Minna Mandelbaum  
Ruth Cohen Martin, 1945  
Arnold Miller, 1963  
Sandy Rachmiel  
Linda Whittle Reininger, 1963  
Mat Rice, 1956  
Gail Silverstein Ritz, 1962  
Rhoda Rosenfeld, 1945  
Ronald Schnack, 1964  
Lenny Schneider, 1960  
Claire Bernstein Shulman, 1949  
Timothy Screven, 1963  
Etroy Sherman, 1960  
Ellen Mandelbaum Sillman, 1962  
Beatrice Denburg Talbert, 1938  
Jack Tessel, 1962  
Aron Wallad, 1965  
William Weinstein, 1948  
Clifford Wooden, 1965  
Marlene Schapiro Wilks, 1952

## 2012 REUNIONS

**Saturday, Oct. 6, 2012**

### Class of 1962

50th Reunion, 6 p.m.  
Renaissance Woodbridge  
Hotel, Woodbridge, NJ

Contact: Marty Powers at  
marty.powers@optonline.net  
or (732) 536-2023

**Sunday, Oct. 14, 2012**

### Class of June 1957

55th Reunion, 12 p.m.  
Cedar Hill Country Club  
Livingston, NJ

Contacts: Miriam Perlman  
Feldmar - mfeldmar11@verizon.net  
and Ruth Lerner Smith at  
rlsmith354@comcast.net

### More Scholarship Celebration Dinner Snaps



*Weequahic High School Alumni Association*  
P.O. Box 494, Newark, N.J. 07101

## ALUMNI STORE

**T-SHIRTS, TOTE BAGS**

**GOLF STYLE SHIRTS**

**REGULAR SWEATSHIRTS**

**HOODED SWEATSHIRTS**

**ALUMNI HAT, KNIT HAT**

**ALUMNI PIN**

Order  
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## WHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The WHS Alumni Association is  
a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization  
incorporated in New Jersey in 2001

Phil Yourish, 1964, *Executive Director*

### Board of Trustees:

Hal Braff, 1952, *Co-President*

Mary Brown Dawkins, 1971, *Co-President*

Myrna Jelling Weissman, 1953, *Treasurer*

Tharien Karim Arnold, 1984, *Secretary*

Ruby Baskerville, 1961

Judy Bennett, 1972

Sheldon Bross, 1955

Vaughn Crowe, 1998

Marshall Cooper, 1969

Harold Edwards, 1966

Arnold Keller, 1952

Brian Logan, 1982

Arthur Lutzke, 1963

Adilah Quddus, 1971

Gerald Russell, 1974

Keith Salter, 1985

David Schechner, 1946

Charles Talley, 1966

Marc Tarabour, 1963

Pamela Scott Threats,

1966

John Tonero, Principal

### High School to Board Liaison

Yolanda Cassidy-Bogan, 1987 - Counselor

## OUR LOCAL VENDORS:

All Star Sporting Goods - West Orange

Awards Trophy - Hillside

Bragman's Deli - Newark

Budget Print Center - Bloomfield

Dominick's Pizza - Hillside

FYI Food Service - East Rutherford

Hobby's Deli - Newark

MPI Mailing Service - Belleville

Printing Delight - East Orange

Robert L. Horn Accounting - Clark

Schechner Lifson Insurance - Summit



WEEQUAHIC HIGH SAXOPHONE CHOIR 1933-34 HENRY MELNIK, DIR.