

Weequahic’s **MARQUIS “BO” PORTER, 1990,** named new manager of the Houston Astros Major League baseball team

By Brian McTaggart, MLB.com



With the Houston Astros about to embark on a new era that will include a move to the American League, a new color scheme and new uniforms next season, the team on September 27th revealed the man it wants to lead the players into the new frontier. The Astros named **Bo Porter** to become their 17th manager at a news conference at Minute Maid Park. The 40-year-old Porter, a resident of Houston, was the 3rd base coach for the Nationals in 2012. The chance to manage the Astros is a dream come true for Porter, whose wife, Stacie, grew up in Houston. The family has lived in the area for many years, and Jim Crane, Houston’s President, said he got several recommendations from Houston-area baseball people.

“I’m completely honored,” Porter said in a conference call. “It starts at the top with Jim Crane. He’s putting together a great leadership team, and I’m honored to be part of that leadership team. When you look at successful organizations, you have success from the top all the way to the

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Alumni awards 33 2012 scholarships for nearly \$50,000

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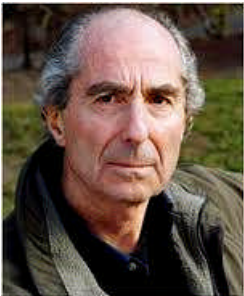
Phyllis & Donald
 Kalfus Fund

More scholarship recipients on page 3

Philip Roth is calling it a career

By David Daley

In a recent interview with a French publication called *Les Inrocks*, Philip Roth, 79, said he has not written anything new in the last three years, and that he will not write another novel.



“To tell you the truth, I’m done,” Roth told the magazine, in the most definitive statement he has ever made about his future plans. “Nemesis’ will be my last book.”

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PORTER continued from page 1

bottom. They did a thorough search and did a great job doing their due diligence throughout the process, and I'm honored they decided and were in agreement that I was the man for the job."

Porter, who signed a multi-year contract, had previously interviewed for managerial positions with the Marlins and Pirates. The Astros had an initial list of 49 candidates, which they whittled to nine semifinalists and eventually four finalists.

His career includes stints as a roving instructor, coach and player, but his focus with the Nationals was on base running and outfield defense. General Manager, Jeff Luhnow, said he has no doubts about Porter's ability to manage a game, but his communications skills are what set him apart.

Porter takes over an Astros team coming off its two worst seasons in its 51-year history with back-to-back 100-plus-loss campaigns. Under the leadership of Crane and Luhnow, the Astros are rebuilding through the Draft and player development, and they wanted a manager capable of seeing the process through to the end.

"His style is his biggest asset," Luhnow said. "He's a natural-born leader. He's very charismatic. You will get to know him over time, he's a motivational speaker. But he's able to connect individually, connect with groups, gets the best out of people, and that's really what we found the most compelling part of his style. He has genuine energy."

During his playing career, Porter played in parts of three seasons in the Major Leagues as an outfielder for the Cubs (1999), A's (2000) and Rangers (2001), appearing in a total of 89 games. He appeared in two playoff games for Oakland in 2000. Originally drafted by the Cubs in 1993, he hit 113 home runs with 503 RBIs and 236 stolen bases in 10 Minor League seasons.

Porter was an outstanding athlete while at Weequahic High School in Newark, New

Jersey, reaching All-State status in baseball, football and basketball. He attended the University of Iowa, where he earned a bachelor's degree in communications studies and played football and baseball.

He hopes all those experiences have prepared him for his biggest challenge yet.

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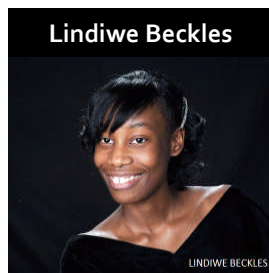
**Once again it has been
difficult getting the Alumni
Calumet to you in a timely
manner. So for your reading
pleasure, this issue is 32
pages - 12 extra pages of
Weequahic and Newark
nostalgia. ENJOY!**

CLASS OF 2012 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



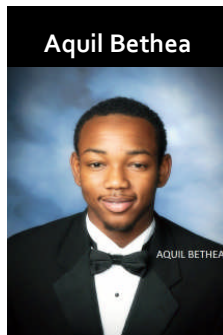
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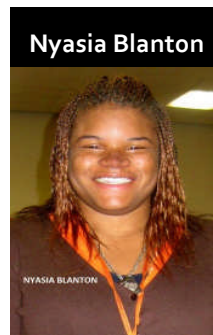
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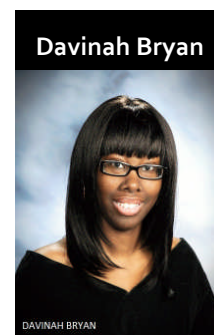
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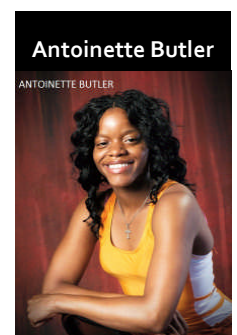
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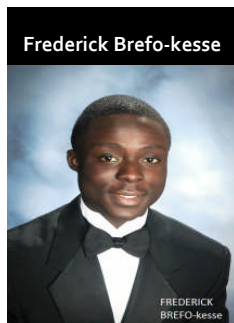
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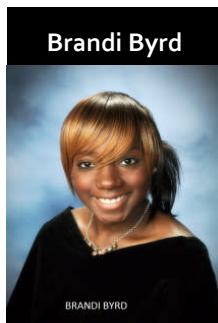
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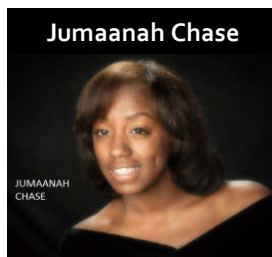
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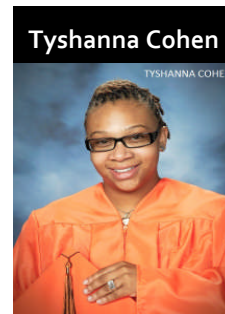
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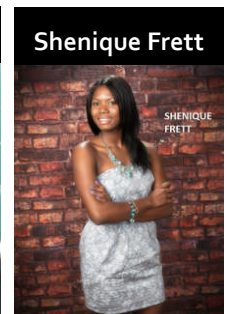
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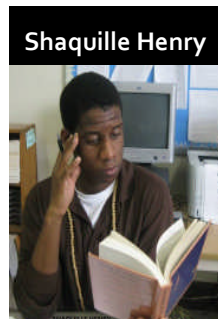
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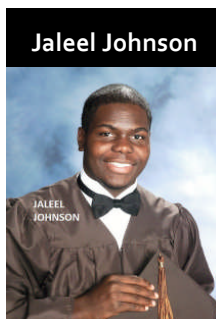
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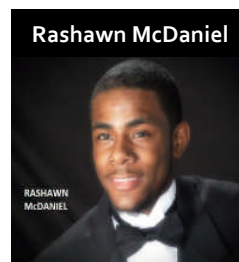
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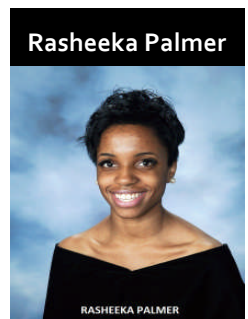
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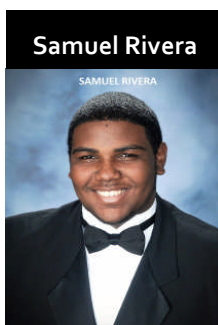
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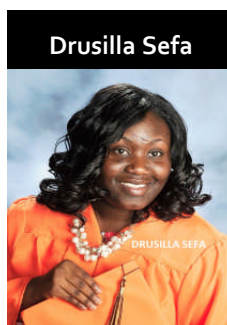
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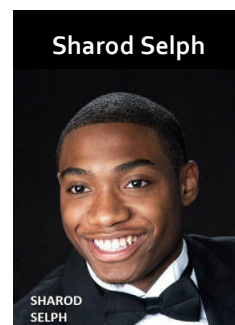
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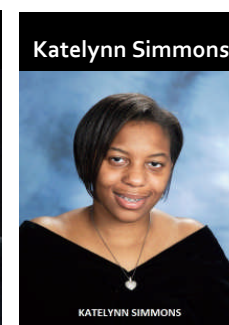
Drusilla Sefa

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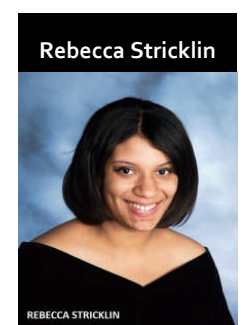
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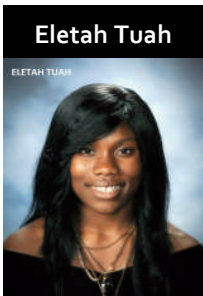
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INVEST IN WEEQUAHIC'S FUTURE

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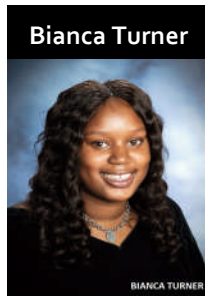
2012 SCHOLARSHIPS

Continued from page 3



Eletah Tuah

Alvin Attles Fund



Bianca Turner

Linda Small Fund



Amenze
Uhunmwangho

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Regina Williams

Sadie Rous Fund

Not Pictured

Essence Habibulla
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Scholarship recipients are
attending the following
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Berkeley College
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Essex County College
Georgian Court University
Iowa Western University
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Lincoln Technical Institute
Mercy College (NY)
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Rutgers University - Newark
Rutgers University - New Brunswick
University of Kentucky
Virginia State University
Wooster College (Ohio)

A monument to the magic of Olympic Park

By Mark Di Ionna, Star-Ledger

When Geri Besta was a little girl, she would lie in bed on endless summer nights and listen to the sounds from the magical land across the street: the whirling calliope music of the carousel, the click-clack of the ascending roller coaster followed by shrieks on the descent, the whistle of the miniature train, the shouts of game barkers.

She would lie there, trying to sleep, listening to all those sounds of wonder and fun, seeing the reflections of colored lights dancing across her shades.

And every night, at precisely 11 p.m., a one-armed former trapeze artist named Bubbles Riccardi would step to the microphone in front of Joe Basile's orchestra and sing "Smiles," a song made popular by Judy Garland and Jimmy Dorsey.

And then, in time, the park would grow quiet and the lights would go off.

"There are smiles that make us happy, there are smiles that make us blue," Besta sang last week in recalling the days of Olympic Park. *"You know the song. When I heard Bubbles sing that, I knew it was time to go to sleep."*

"Smile" was the theme at Olympic Park, a 40-acre amusement wonderland on the Irvington-Maplewood border, and from 1887 to 1965, it put smiles on millions of faces.

A couple dozen of those faces were on hand last week to dedicate a black granite monument to the old park at what today is 990 Chancellor Ave. The monument -



with inlaid etchings of the entrance roller coaster (*there were two*), the Ferris wheel and the carousel (*which today turns at Disney World with a Cinderella theme*) - gives a brief history of the park.

Olympic Park started as a beer garden and picnic area called Becker's Woods, back when Irvington was a bucolic suburb of Newark, with a large German population. Renamed Olympic Park after the 1904 Games in St. Louis (*the world was Olympic-crazy back then, too*), it quickly grew into New Jersey's largest amusement park. Called "*Newark's Coney Island*," the landlocked park compensated for its lack of ocean with the nation's largest fresh-water swimming pool.

Anything called clean entertainment could be found there. Semipro baseball, harness races, motorcycle races, a dance pavilion, an opera house, a daily circus. It was a place of a million lights, when electricity was just getting its start.

"It really was a magical place," said Alan Siegel, an Irvington lawyer who wrote Smile: A Picture History of Olympic Park and spoke at the monument unveiling.

That magic today lives in memories. The only evidence of the park's existence is the Olympic Market, an old Ukrainian meat and specialty shop that has defied the sweeping demographic changes of the area, and Olympic Terrace, a small street that dead-ended at the park.

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1970 WHS Grad

Wendy Ida

Encourages Women To 'Take Back Your Life'

In November 2012, National award-winning Bodybuilder and Figure Champion, launched her new book, *Take Back Your Life* - which became an Amazon bestseller within the first week of its release.

After 17 years as a sought after trainer, speaker and health and fitness expert who has earned her nick name as the "Ab Queen," Wendy Ida shared her story of how she went from a 180lb overweight fast food junkie to a rock-solid size 4!

In her book, *Take Back Your Life: My No Nonsense Approach to Health, Fitness and Looking Good Naked*, she outlines her 90-day plan for women of any age to feel strong and sexy and guides them to getting the body they want with her program.

Wendy creates a "no excuse zone" that effectively neutralizes the most common reasons people avoid eating well and exercising, and shows them how to push through anything from divorce and career changes to overcoming peer pressure for burgers and fries.

She speaks to the needs of women whose lives have spun out of control due to the physical changes that occur during midlife and the many major life transitions that hinder weight loss and can leave women feeling powerless and unattractive.

In July 2012, she held a "Take Back Your Life Gala Celebration" at the SLS hotel in Beverly Hills. It benefited *Window Between Worlds*, a nonprofit organization dedicated to using art to help end domestic violence.

About Wendy

Wendy Ida (ee'da) is a 60 year old top Los Angeles, nationally certified master trainer, coach, nutrition specialist speaker, author, and former assistant strength and



conditioning coach for the LA Avengers football team.

She is also an 8-time award winning national champion of top trophy awards in the NPC Body Building and Figure Championships as well as a magazine advice columnist and frequent guest on TV and talk radio. She has achieved international recognition via commercials, exercise videos, magazines and dozens of other appearances on NBC, Fox Sports Net, ABC News, KCAL(CBS), KTLA (CW), San Diego Living - The CW, Essence and others.

Guinness World Record and Other Recognitions

As of July 2012, Wendy won the Indie book award for her best seller, *Take Back Your Life*, and also set two Guinness World Records as (1) Oldest Active Instructor in multiple disciplines and (2) for the most "Burpees" (a calisthenics exercise) 37 in one minute (female).

Wendy's other credits include Director of the Obesity Prevention Initiative Program (OPI) - sponsored by USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center, Kaiser Permanente, American Bio-Clinical Laboratories and the Real Men Cook Foundation; an Award of Recognition for Outstanding Educational Community Service from Dr. Charles Adams - Founder and President; and her two time nomination by Who's Who Among Women in Business.

Reason for Living

Although Wendy Ida may appear "over the top" in her dedication to fitness, health and self empowerment, she has not forgotten her own journey from despair to triumph. She is a domestic violence survivor who was in poor shape bad health and had low self esteem.

Considering that all her life she was four dress sizes larger than she is today, and gained an additional 50 pounds after having two children back to back, she is grateful to have beaten the odds. She didn't begin her own exercise regime until age 43, but she has managed to improve her health, lose 80 pounds and dwindle down to a size 4 and hold onto it as a grandmother!

It's no wonder why Wendy feels sharing her self taught approach to mental readiness, self worth, teaching, preaching and inspiring others to live their potential can not only change the world, but it is her reason for living.

Wendy has a degree in accounting and worked as a corporate accountant for 20 years before turning to health and wellness. Now after 17 years of changing lives and rocking the worlds of many, the proof is in the pudding. Wendy walks her talk and often says: "***The power of fitness can set you free at any age!***"

For more information about Wendy, go to her web site at www.wendyida.com.

Remembering Newark's Thanksgiving Day Parade

By Lisa Rose, Star-Ledger

The sun was shining, the balloons were aloft and kaleidoscope floats rolled down city streets, accompanied by a sound track of marching bands and cheers from bedazzled spectators.

This Thanksgiving fest didn't take place amid the canyons of Manhattan. This parade snaked from East Orange to downtown Newark, home of the flagship Bamberger's department store.

Eighty years ago, the Market Street march made its debut and the tradition continued through 1957, drawing crowds that topped 600,000 when the weather complied. Although Bamberger's was owned by Macy's, the Garden State retailer kept its autonomy on turkey day.

"It was a beautiful parade," says Catherine Reynolds, 81, of Roseland. Her late aunt, Geraldine Gardner was a Bamberger's cosmetologist who rode a float as snow queen pre-WWII. "In New Jersey, Newark was the place for the parade. I never even heard of Macy's growing up."

During the Bamberger's boom years, New Jersey occasionally outshined New York on Thanksgiving. The Santa sled in the 1947 Christmas classic, "Miracle on 34th Street" was actually on loan from Newark. The film also featured a patriotic postwar eagle float made in New Jersey. Both got trucked across the George Washington Bridge for the movie shoot, according to the Newark Evening News.

Over the years, Jersey crowds applauded such celebrities as Abbott & Costello, Guy Lombardo, Walter Winchell, Janet Leigh, Emmett Kelly, Morey Amsterdam and Rin Tin Tin.

In 1955, Newark glimmered on Thanksgiving Eve, as Bamberger's pioneered a whole new style of parade for an international broadcast on CBS and the Voice of America network.

Advertised as the "world's first Thanksgiving Eve parade in black light," the night walk showcased rolling panoramas illuminated with flashing incandescent and ultraviolet bulbs. Street lamps were switched off to enhance the drama of the glow floats, created with a little help from General Electric.

The procession included an ice cream mountain, a Cinderella montage, a phantasmagoric turkey, a flying carpet piloted by actor William Bendix and a Santa sleigh strewn with Christmas lights.

The Bamberger's "blackout" enchanted viewers but also caused "one of the worst vehicular tie-ups in the city's history," according to the Newark Evening News. Father Christmas himself couldn't escape the gridlock, The Star-Ledger reported. A Santa impersonator named Lucky S. Squire was stranded in his red suit

because he locked his keys in his, er, gas-powered sled. "The roly-poly figure was just another pedestrian to some half a million spectators who dashed for cars and buses," according to The Star-Ledger article. Police helped St. Nick unlock his vehicle.

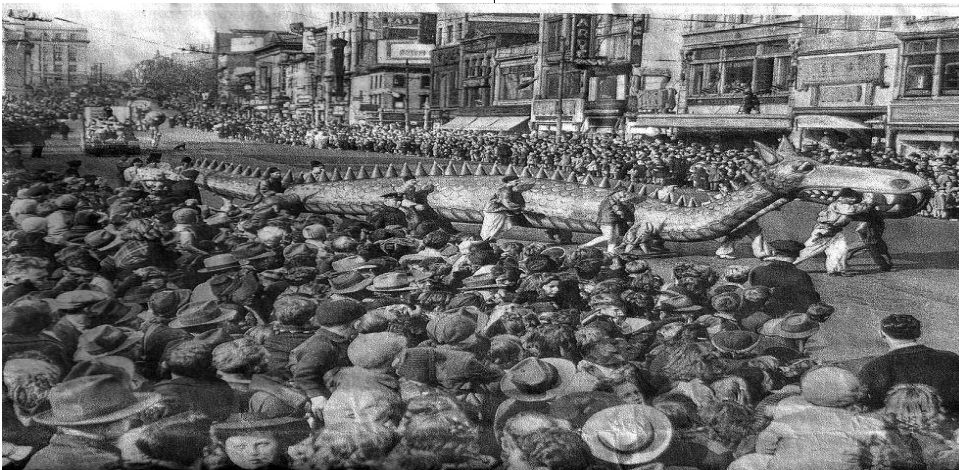


The event moved to Weequahic Park in 1956, where the blinking behemoths circled around a trotting track. After two years at the park, however, Bamberger's stepped out of the parade picture.

In 1958, Bamberger's pulled the plug on the parade. According to a Newark Evening News story, attendance declined as Jerseyans were gathering around television sets instead of packing the park. In 1986, Bamberger's branches were re-branded as Macy's and in 1992, the Newark store closed for good.

The inaugural Newark event in 1931 was a five-mile strut with masquerading buccaneers, ventriloquists, courtiers, gunslingers, a cat herd, a 100-foot dragon and, of course, Santa.

There were some technical difficulties with the leading balloon, a 50-foot figure named Major. According to newspaper reports, the helium colossus "became so invigorated by the crisp Thanksgiving day that he soared off long before the procession reached the store. He came to grief in Van Buren Street, was deflated and was flat on his back in the store when the excitement was at its height outside."



Continued on page 8

Congressman Donald Payne, Sr.

Newark's great statesman memorialized with a statue at the Essex County government complex

"Nothing is as powerful as a dream whose time has come."

This past November, a bronze statue of former Rep. Donald Payne Sr., who died in March 2012 at age 77, was erected in the Essex County government plaza on West Market Street in Newark. The plaza was named for him three years ago.

The life of Donald Payne Sr. reads like a history of the battles and triumphs of African-Americans through the 20th century. His impressive story follows:



A Tribute To Donald Payne, Sr.

By David Giambusso, Star-Ledger

Born into poverty in 1934, Donald Payne, Sr. began life in a cramped Newark apartment with no indoor plumbing. His mother died young and his father raised him and two siblings alone, working as both a chauffeur and an elevator operator to support his family.

But as black people fought for equality nationally, Payne was on the front lines of historic struggles in his native city. As battles raged and rhetoric soared over the course of 50 years, the quiet school teacher slowly evolved into a political force of nature.

In 1988, Payne became the first African-American to represent New Jersey in the U.S. Congress - an office to which he was elected 12 times and held for 23 years.

Payne's interest in politics began early in life. One of his first jobs was as a paper

boy delivering The Star-Ledger to Newarkers every morning. Reading the news gave him his first exposure to national affairs, and it was not long before he became a part of the action.

Along with the daily paper, Payne began distributing campaign literature for then-U.S. Rep. Peter Rodino. Decades later, he would challenge Rodino for the 10th Congressional District seat, losing to him in primaries in 1980 and again in 1986.

He eventually won the seat, which represents the city of Newark and parts of Essex, Hudson and Union counties, when the popular Rodino retired after 40 years in Congress. It was a long road from Newark to Washington and Payne tread it with a tenacity as gentle as it was unwavering.

A student leader at Barringer High School and later at Seton Hall University, the former South Side High School teacher defined his leadership by an unassailable commitment to his students, his neighbors and his constituents.

Once chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, Payne rarely spent a weekend in Washington, instead returning to spend time with his constituents, directing federal power and resources for everything from replacing community pool tables to making college more affordable for Newark students.

From his days as the first black president of the National Council of YMCAs in 1970, to his many trips to Africa as a member of Congress, education was the central issue of Payne's political career.

At South Side - now Malcolm X Shabazz High School - Payne met the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. when the civil rights leader came to Newark in 1968, just eight days before he was assassinated.



Years later, Payne would captivate students from his own district with tales of his meetings and meals with presidents and world leaders. He insisted the obstacles that faced him as a teenager were as daunting as those faced by children now.

Payne lost his wife, Hazel, in 1963 to cancer. To support his young family, he began working as an executive for Prudential Insurance and later became vice president for Urban Data Systems.

But politics was never far from his mind. Payne's political career began in 1972, when he was elected to the Essex County Board of Freeholders. In 1982 he was elected to the Newark City Council as Councilman of the South Ward and also served as Council President. But his ambitions often ran ahead of his successes. In 1978, he ran unsuccessfully for Essex County Executive before making his first unsuccessful run for Congress.

Once elected, Payne held the seat for more than two decades. And though he was re-elected by some of the widest margins in state history, he never lost his sanguine determination in a fight.

To commemorate his memory last March, members of the House of Representatives rose one by one to pay tribute to their fallen colleague. Rep. Rush Holt (D-NJ 12th District said the following:

"No one in Congress has been a stronger advocate for equality of opportunity in education. No one in Congress has been a greater advocate for children's

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PAYNE continued from page 7

services and youth development. No one has been more knowledgeable about Africa. No one has voted more consistently for peaceful and non-military resolutions to problems. No one has been more consistent in the fight to respect workers' safety and workers' conditions,"

Congressman Payne, Sr. is survived by his brother, former Assemblyman William Payne, and his sister, Kathryn James; a son Donald, Jr., who is currently replacing him in Washington, and former president of the Newark City Council; two daughters, Wanda and Nicole; four grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

PARADE continued from page 6



In 1933, Bamberger's puppeteer Tony Sarg designed a menagerie of inflated animals wired to "talk." The oversized creatures gobbled, growled, quacked and oinked loud enough to be heard for a half-mile. The Newark Evening News ran a preview with the headline, "Twelve-Foot Duck Will Lay Egg in Street During Weird Parade."

During the 1940's, the storybook stroll featured floats inspired by Mother Goose, Long John Silver and Donald Duck, seated in a rocking chair with a duckling on his lap. A massive Peter Rabbit wiggled its ears and bit "the largest carrot in existence," according to the Newark Evening News.

When Reynolds watches Thanksgiving balloons soar over New York on TV each year, she gets wistful, remembering a time when Newark held its own as a holiday hub.

"It was the place," says Reynolds. "Nobody needed Macy's because we had Bamberger's. If you lived in Jersey, you came to Newark for the parade and to shop."

OLYMPIC PARK continued from page 4



"It was a safe place," said Georgia Schilling, who was a Phys. Ed. teacher in Irvington schools. "We would walk down from Nesbit Terrace, me and a whole group of friends. We were just little kids. We learned to swim there."

Besta's earliest memories are of the fascination the park held for her. "My father held me up on his shoulders, watching the fireworks from our yard," she said. "I must have been 3 years old."

She was a teenager when the park closed. "I didn't want to see it end. My heart was broken," she said. In the years since, she has collected every postcard and piece of paper memorabilia she can get her hands on. Her scrapbook of daily passes, brochures and event bills shows the grand

architecture and entertainment array from the park's heyday.

"One of my favorite sounds was in spring, you would hear the clack-clack-clack of the empty roller coaster cars being pulled up the steep hill. Every year, they tested it and you knew summer was coming," Besta said.

Those sounds, and some smells, are still very much alive for some people. "I remember those waffles they made for ice cream sandwiches," said Fred Bromborsky. "They smelled so good, but I never had the dime to buy one."

That was when he was a little kid, walking home from a long day at pool. Later, when he got a job working the game stand, he could afford the ice cream waffle sandwich.

Bromborsky's brother-in-law, Tom Panitch, also worked at the park. "I worked at the Giant Cat game, where you had to knock down the stuffed cats, and at the booth where you guessed age and weight. I was pretty good at it, but it didn't matter. Even if I was wrong, people paid 15 cents and got a 3-cent prize, so the park still made 12 cents."

Panitch, an Irvington dentist, put together the group that funded the monument.

"We have an annual Irvington High reunion, and a guy named Herman Hilse said to me, 'We ought to do something about Olympic Park,'" he said. "He was right. It was such an important part of growing up here, and there was nothing to remember it by. And now, we at least have this."



AT THE WIGWAM ON THE HILL



BO PORTER DAY IN ESSEX

By Paul Milo, Newark Patch

Marquis “Bo” Porter remembers the exact instant he decided he could be one of the tiny fraction of high school baseball players who had a chance of getting to ‘the show.’

A participant in Project Pride, an athletic program for Newark youth, Porter played in a game against a team in Puerto Rico. That game was arranged by Joseph DiVincenzo, who ran the program a quarter-century ago. “I was on the plane coming back from Puerto Rico, and [DiVincenzo] read off my stats,” said Porter, 40, who grew up in the South Ward. “It was at that moment I believed I could play professional baseball.”

DiVincenzo went on to become the Essex County Executive. And Porter, as he suspected he would, made it as a professional baseball player - and beyond. In September, he was named manager of the Houston Astros, the first Essex County native in the modern history of the game to be placed in charge of a Major League team.

The two men recently reunited at the Leroy Smith Building, where coaches, friends, family, students and alumni from Weequahic High - Porter’s alma mater - gathered for a ceremony during which Porter was given an honorary “Key to Essex County.”

The son of a preacher, Porter was a three-sport standout at Weequahic, playing on the basketball and football teams as well as the baseball squad. He helped



Bo Porter, Hal Braff, and Mary Dawkins with framed WHSAA baseball uniform

lead Weequahic High to two city baseball championships, said his former coach, Frank Gavin.

Gavin said that for all his skills on the diamond, it was Porter’s character that made him stand out. He recalls being able to leave his team unattended with the young Porter in charge, safe in the knowledge practices would continue smoothly. “Bo has been a fantastic leader. Bo, I love you, not just as an athlete, but as a human being,” Gavin said.

At the University of Iowa, Porter pulled off the equally impressive feat of starring in two sports, baseball and football, drawing inevitable comparisons with another famously versatile “Bo,” Jackson, a professional multisport athlete. When Porter turned pro, however, he stuck to baseball, eventually playing for the Chicago Cubs, Oakland Athletics and Texas Rangers.

Fellow Weequahic alum Sheila Oliver, Speaker of the State Assembly, said Porter’s achievements are a point of pride and an inspiration for city youth. “Today it’s about the orange and brown, it’s about the Weequahic Indians and it’s about Weequahic pride,” Oliver said. “You stand as a testament for the young people today.”

Hal Braff, co-president of the Weequahic Alumni Association, said Porter’s life story serves as a powerful example in a city where many youth feel they have few options. “There are only 30 people in the universe who are Major League Baseball managers....we’re very proud of you, because you’re a person who made it and you’re a symbol to so many kids in this city that they can make it.”

Addressing the young ball players and students at the ceremony, Porter said, “You may think the cards are stacked against you, but one thing I can tell you, one thing I stressed to every owner and GM, is that a lot of people look at where I come from and see it as a negative, but with all the obstacles you overcome, I view it as a positive. I am behind this city, I am from this city. This is where my heart is.”

Editor’s Note: Bo visited the high school later in the day after the ceremony with an entourage including Essex County Executive Joe DiVincenzo and was interviewed for a local television news station,

Student Council Officers

Orange & Brown Association

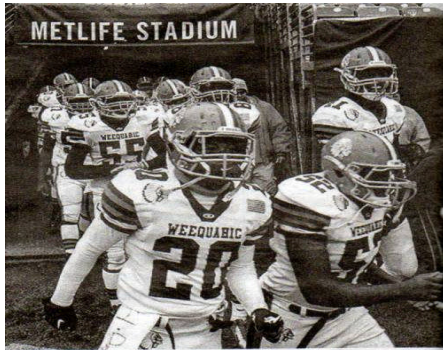


In front: Alianijah Slade - Secretary; Quaiesha Myers - President; In back: Na’Syia Drayton - Vice-President; Dominique Jarrell - Treasurer; Teacher Beverly Russell, and Principal John Tonero

Continued on page 10

2nd successive year in state title game

Excerpts from an article
by James Kratch, Star-Ledger



The Weequahic High School football team, with a 9-3 record made it to the state sectional finals for the second year in a row. The gridiron contest between the Indians and Carteret High School took place once again at Met Life Stadium in the Jersey Meadowlands with a large throng of student and alumni boosters present - distinguished by their orange and brown colors and their upbeat demeanor.

Historically, Carteret was 2-1 against Weequahic. They won 25-0 in 1937 and 18-12 in 1938. Weequahic won 3-0 in 1978.

This game turned out to be a tale of two halves.

In the 1st half, Weequahic had all the fire, passion and momentum as they dominated on offense and defense. Star running back, Akrum Wadley, scored two touchdowns on an 84-yard punt return and a 35-yard blast. As a result, the Indians took a 12-0 lead into the locker room at halftime - and with a little luck they could have had two more touchdowns.

In the 2nd half, it was all Carteret. They asserted themselves offensively and after gaining 71 yards in the first half, they finished with 232 for the game, thanks to the passing of Tyler Rodriguez (10-of-16, 157 yards) and the running of all-time school rushing leader Jerod Johnson, who was marked the entire day by

Weequahic's defense and held to just 49 yards. But that opened up Naji Johnson for the game-winning score as Carteret came back to defeat Weequahic in a heartbreaker, 13-12.

Weequahic, which was led by Wadley's 76 rushing yards and two scores, suffered its second straight loss in a state sectional final. It fell to Cedar Grove in the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 1 final in 2011. The playoff title is Carteret's first since 2007, when it won Central Jersey, Group 2, and is the fourth playoff crown in school history.

The irony of the day came from Naji Johnson who scored the winning touchdown:

"I've got a bunch of family down there (Newark)," Johnson said. "After the game, I shook hands with the (Weequahic) coaches. They know my father (Quinton Johnson), they know my uncle (Ronald Shuler, who played half-back for the school), they know my whole family. My grandma's house is on the same block (as the school). I've got a couple bragging rights for Brick City right now."

Football Recognition

Akrum Wadley

*Most Valuable WHS Player
Essex County Player of the Year
2nd team All-State - offense
1st Team All Group 2 - offense
1st Team All-Essex - offense
University of Iowa*



According to The Star-Ledger, the 5-10, 175-pound senior running back has the speed to leave defenders in his tracks, the power to throw a shoulder down and barrel his way through, the moves to

leave defenses spinning, and the athleticism to just jump over a would-be tackler. Wadley didn't need many carries to get his yards. It only took him 105 attempts to get 1,548 yards and 29 touchdowns - that's 14.7 yards per carry - and he also caught two TD passes to give him 31 for the season.

Sidney Gopre

*Most Valuable WHS Defensive Player
1st Team All-Group 2 - defense
1st Team All-Essex - defense*



Sidney, a 6-1, 210-pound junior linebacker, had the instincts and speed to rack up 132 tackles and five sacks.

Kadar Clark

*Quarterback
Most Valuable WHS
Offensive Player
5'9, 160-pounds
Junior*



Nate Jackson

*Running Back
Leadership
Award
Linebacker
5'10, 180-pounds
Senior*

Stephen Morris

*Rookie of the Year
Running Back
Defensive Back
5'7, 190-pounds
Freshman*

Continued on page 11

Cheerleaders Win Essex Championship



Hilda Annan, Shanice Bancroft, Dajah Bell, Makya Bembry, Nettia Conyers, Kearah Cook, Jabrie Dwight, Assata Edwards, Zydasha Ford, Raionna Gordon, Quanasia Hall-Finney, Precious Harris, Kahasia Hartfield, Tiaonna Holloway, Laquanda McIver, Keyocia Muhammad, Faiza Onque, Anari Ormond, Brianna Ramos, Tanasia Ransom, Madelen Soto, Asyah Strothers, An'na Stroud, Valerie White, Jada Velez, Naadirah Williams, Alexis Wheeler and Coach Shanea Dandridge

A letter to our Athletic Director on Weequahic sportsmanship

Dear Gary Westberry,

On behalf of Delran High School (in Burlington County) and the entire Delran community, I want to congratulate you and your school community on a well deserved victory on Friday night. I'm sure you are very proud.

More importantly, the Weequahic athletes, coaches, administration, and fans were a pleasure to host. The display of sportsmanship and mutual respect from both teams was one that should be highlighted across the state. You have an excellent team that played outstanding football on Friday night and we wish you the best of luck in the finals this weekend.

If you ever need anything, please let us know. Congratulations and best of luck!

Andrew Estrada, Athletic Director

ALUMNI VOICES

**George Brandmeyer,
Jan. 1951 - Texas**

About Frank Heilenday, Jan. 1945



Frank W. Heilenday, valedictorian of the class of January, 1945, and a distinguished aeronautical engineer, passed away at age 83 on October 13, 2011.

Frank was born in Jersey City on December 31, 1927 where his father practiced law. The family moved to Newark in the 1930's.

Frank and his sister Clair were both graduates of Weequahic. An older sister, Helma, taught business courses at Weequahic during and after World War II. Frank's wife, and my sister, Joan Brandmeyer Heilenday, was also a member of the class of January 1945.

After spending the early years of his career in private industry, Frank worked for the Eighth Air Force where he served as Chief of Operational Analysis. Later, he was Chief of Applied Research with the Strategic Air Command (SAC), serving a total of twenty-nine years at SAC and retiring at a civilian grade equivalent to Brigadier General.

Frank was also the author of the text, Principles of Air Defense and Air Vehicle Penetration. The volume is renowned for its lively discussion of lessons learned and lingering myths left over from World War II air combat.

Through its pages the reader visits the Nazi V-1 Missile attacks on Great Britain, the Luftwaffe vs. RAF Battle of Britain, night raids by the British Command, and daylight raids by the U.S. Eighth Air Force.

Once retired from SAC, Frank and Joan moved from Omaha to Olympia, Washington, where he continued working as a consultant for the RAND Corporation and taught several courses at George Washington University on aspects of air defense. He was living in Olympia when he succumbed to an infection while awaiting hip replacement surgery.

ALUMNI VOICES

From Irving Newman and Dr. Milton Luria, 1939

Buddies to the end and their Ode to Weequahic

From 1935-1939, Milt Luria and myself were classmates at Weequahic High and teammates on Coach Art Lustig's football teams. Milt was the star center (*football scholarship to University of Maryland*) and I was an inadequate substitute scrub quarterback.

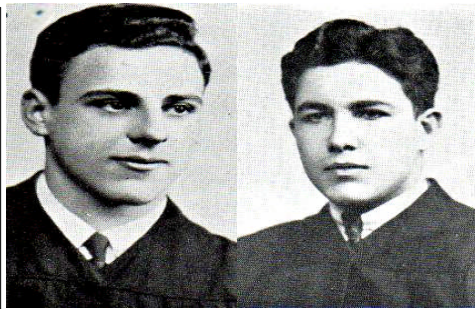
At the time, victories were few and precious but few players exceeded the camaraderie that prevailed on the team. Win or lose (more losses than victories) we hung together like bonded brothers. It was the time we wore leather helmets and there never was discussion about concussions. Equipment wasn't the best but everyone made do.

We carried our equipment on a two mile walk to Irvington Park which was our practice field (*no Untermann Field then*). Dedication and team loyalty surpassed the number of victories we chalked up.

Milt and I have (loosely) logged 90 years - connected in body, mind and spirit and affection for our respective families. In addition, Milt provided superlative treatment as advisor and doctor to my family. We both remain competitive and now it's about who has more aches and pains.

Jogging (make that strolling) down memory lane can encompass all the sweet stuff we experienced as students at Weequahic. We acquired an excellent education and four years of mostly delicious memories - recollections Milt and I (and other classmates) bring up at appropriate times. And this reservoir is inestimable in value. It covers (with us) a ninety year lifetime and still counting.

My last scribbling seems timely since this is gift giving time. Milt and I want to endow the graduated *Weequahicers* with an incalculable heirloom. You will never forget Weequahic. You will have it as



Irv Newman

Milt Luria

our own for as long as you live. Your interpretation of your Weequahic years have a uniqueness hard to match (*college and other associations don't measure up*). If the imperative of education holds true, Weequahic will have shown you a path to success.

If you are wise enough to put the stuff of the Weequahic years in its proper place you will have enriched your everlasting soul for a long time. Fail this recognition and you will have fluffed a precious gift of great durability.

Milt and I will assume you meet the irrefutable challenge and necessity of a good education. It didn't materialize by accident. It was your dedication, attitude, application and determination plus the committed teachers that helped you own that education degree. Around that valuable degree you built your own treasury of memories and accomplishments

One of the supreme joys of our Weequahic education can be summed up in one word - it's called FRIENDSHIP. What Milt and I have worked on successfully for 90 years is available to every Weequahic student. Working out the details depends upon the individuals. Good luck at that wonderful objective. Friendship doesn't solidify unless diligent and intelligent effort is expended.

The 'ol guys are just about finished with their brief journey down sentimental lane. There are considerations and gifts to be offered to complete the little saga. We, of course, will continue subscribing to the Calumet newsletter under the editorship of talented Phil Yourish. We'll continue to praise the 20+ page alumni bulletin printed a number of times during the year.

We'll offer a celebratory drink to the Alumni Association Board of Trustees who deserve high praise for sustaining all alumni activities. We urge strong and diligent attention to sponsor successful class reunions - and maybe best of all, Milt and I will offer money and support for scholarship funding.

The years literally fly by. Viewpoints and attitudes constantly change, but the solidity and tradition of Weequahic High School is an indestructible asset for the rest of your lives.

From Jack Feins, 1944, Florida

Hoops in the early 40's



I remember when the annual Thanksgiving football game was with Hillside High. We had the worst football teams because our wonderful Jewish mothers wouldn't allow us to play since we might

get hurt. So we played basketball and had a few good seasons.

Henry Donn was my coach at the time and we had so much talent in 1942-43 that we actually used a two team system. I was a forward and was tall for those days at 6' 2" inches.

I made the all-city and all-county teams that year. We had a great team which only lost to Thomas Jefferson (*the only regular season loss that year*) and then beat them in the State Group 4 Section 2 tournament.

My granddaughter now has my gold basketball that we were awarded. We lost to the Power Memorial in West N.Y in the semis for the championship.

Not that I'm bragging, but I held the team record at 23 points and I only played half of the game. In fact I broke Hesh Cohen's record of 21 while he was keeping score at the game. Loved it.

I don't know if you remember anything about those years but they were fun years for me in high school. Would like to see more about those years.

Class of 1962 - 50th Reunion

By Doris Spector



The Weequahic High School, class of 1962, celebrated its 50th Reunion on the weekend of October 6th. It was truly an amazing event. Many classmates came from in-state, but others came from afar - including Canada, California, Oregon, Florida and places in between.

A special attraction of the weekend was a bus and van tour of Newark. About 80 alumni participated. Our tour guide, Liz Del Tufo, pointed out landmarks, synagogues which are now churches, and many sights of old that are still in our memories. Along the way, we viewed new homes and gardens that are sprouting up all over the city. We saw that Newark is trying to rebuild itself and that it is succeeding, with the new and refurbished office buildings - and educational, housing, and retail developments. NJPAC and the Prudential Center are today's great venues for entertainment and sports.

Traveling along Elizabeth Avenue, we went past the sites of the Weequahic Diner and the Tavern Restaurant. As we rode

through Weequahic Park, with the lake and golf course on either side, memories of sledding down the snowy hills and walking along the green paths of our younger days came to mind. Then out of the park, up Chancellor Avenue, past the old "Y" building, onward to Weequahic High School, with Chancellor Avenue School looming nearby.

We entered Weequahic through the new Ronald G. Stone Community Gymnasium on Goldsmith Avenue and into the Coach Les Fein Arena, where the cheerleaders and drum line performed and slides of Weequahic's past were shown. Alumni director Phil Yourish, alumni co-president Hal Braff, and faculty led us through the halls of Weequahic in smaller groups. We marveled at the historic mural in the lobby, sat in the auditorium (on the same wooden seats), went into the old boys gymnasium, visited some open classrooms, and gathered in the Library/Media Center, which was the cafeteria in our day.

After leaving Weequahic, we traveled by Maple Avenue School, down Lyons Avenue, past Beth Israel Hospital, along Bergen Street, past Peshine Avenue and Bergen Street schools, through Downtown Newark to Hobby's Deli for a delicious lunch. Before heading back to the hotel, we traveled through the Ironbound section of the city on the other side of Penn Station. Some folks didn't know that this area is populated by many Portuguese, Spanish, and Brazilian families and is well known for its tasty restaurants.

250 classmates, spouses, and friends gathered again on Saturday evening for a terrific Reunion at the Renaissance Hotel in Edison - featuring a cocktail hour, hugs, kisses, pats on the back, pictures, buffet dinner, and dancing. Our old friends and new friends celebrating our high school years. Two slide shows showed yearbook pictures of students in the class of '62 and snapshots highlighting the memories of our youth.

Praise and kudos to **Marty Powers** for recruiting a committee of hard workers and for graciously guiding, encouraging, inspiring and leading us during the two years it took to make this 50th year reunion a wonderful success. To the delight of all who attended, it was a great weekend!

40th Reunion

Class of 1972

November 24, 2012

The Manor
in West Orange



BURNEY ADAMS

football coach honored by the former players he helped become men

By Barry Carter, Star-Ledger

Burney Adams showed up late one day to football practice at Untermann Field in Newark. This was something that never happened with Adams, a disciplinarian and workhorse. But the coach made no excuses when he had his players from Weequahic High School huddle up around him. What he did next said so much more to show them he was accountable for being tardy.

Adams began running laps around the track like he made his players do whenever they were late. Adams ran full tilt, pumping hard like a madman until he had run a mile, diving across the finish line when he was done. The players couldn't believe it, their eyes wide open, looking as the coach seemed to nearly kill himself to drive home a point.

"He was showing us that he was no better than us," said Al "Bubba" Baker, a former offensive lineman, who recalled the story. *"That was the ultimate commitment to us."*

This story is nearly 40 years old, but it still resonates as one of many lessons Adams used to teach young boys from Newark how to be men. Well, the men are grown now and they came back to Untermann Field this past Thanksgiving Day to thank the coach for teaching them about more than just wins and losses. They represent a brotherhood of gridiron success. Some are doctors and lawyers, educators and bankers, former professional athletes and law enforcement officers.



The tribute to Adams occurred during halftime at the "Soul Bowl," the annual Thanksgiving Day game between Weequahic and Malcolm X Shabazz high schools. The announcer's voice echoed across the stadium, calling all alumni, players and friends to follow Adams to midfield.

They came from across the country - from places like Memphis, Denver, Florida and Kentucky - to honor the man they look to as a mentor and father figure. *"I wouldn't have missed this for the world,"* said Wilder Lee, a middle school dean in Memphis who played quarterback for Adams in 1985. *"He saved my life."*

When they reached the 50-yard line, Adams, 75, was in the middle of the circle, standing strong as ever. He drove from Savannah, Ga., for this moment. Players called his name, shouted that he was a great man. Many scrambled to be next to him and take pictures.

"Somebody's going to carry him today," said someone in the crowd. And they did, hoisting Adams onto their shoulders for a few seconds. He pumped his fist, trying to hold back the tears underneath his glasses. The game for bragging rights didn't seem to

matter anymore. The players walked Adams to the field house, the place where he spent many hours as coach.

Tears welled up in his eyes again when the tarp was taken off the building. Adams' name was written in big, bold letters: **Coach Burney L. Adams Field House.**

"I'm so proud of these guys," said Adams, who coached 34 years at

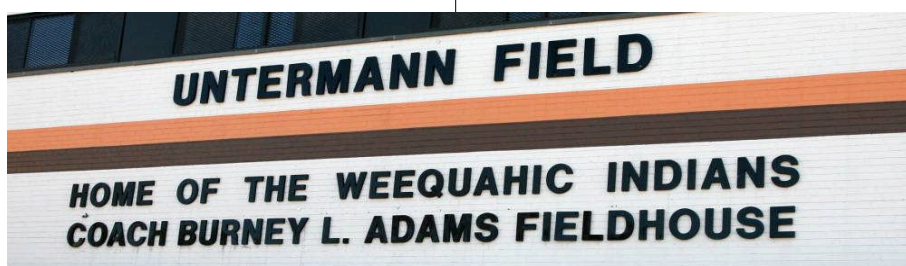
Weequahic before retiring at the end of the 2001 season. *"This is special because of what they did."* They listened to their coach, who drilled into their heads that football was a way to get an education and to do something with their lives.

After a 13-year career on four National Football League teams, Baker owns a well-known barbecue spot right outside of Cleveland. Vaughn Crowe, class of 1998, is a program officer with the MCJ Amelior Foundation. Leon Baptiste owns a company that designs, installs and maintains electrical and solar systems. The list goes on and on.

"Those are some good young people, man," Adams said. *"They were kids where some people said they would never make it, but a lot of them made it."*

Adams' toughness had something to do with that. He was an Army paratrooper and a hard-nosed lineman at Florida A&M University, which recently inducted him into the school's hall of fame.

During his time at Weequahic, Adams also got involved off the field. He knew his players' class schedules. He'd roam the halls, too. Teenage hangouts after school and parties were off limits to the team. Adams would not let his players be with undesirables or do anything less than their potential. There was a curfew and Adams enforced it by riding around town to see if the players had snuck out the night before a game.



Continued on page 15

ADAMS continued from page 14

"That's when he kicked my butt," said Robert Hockaday Robinson, a Newark city carpenter who once got caught violating curfew. "If he saw you with a bad group of people, he would tell you to get off the corner, get your butt home, and I would do it."

In the summer, Adams took his kids on college tours, showing them the country beyond Newark. They ate lunch with congressional leaders and visited military academies. It was all about exposure and another way of life from city streets.

"What he's done speaks louder than any kind of trophy or naming of a field after him," said Hassan Arbubakrr, a Weequahic defensive end who went on to play for two NFL teams and the Canadian Football League.

Adams did what some believe is missing in society today. He filled a void, he invested time. He did what needed to be done.

He turned boys into men.

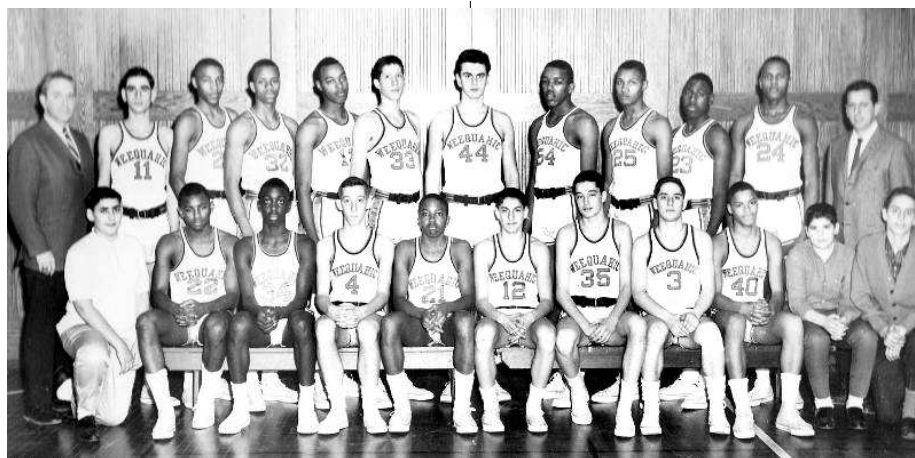
First State Basketball Championship

The first one is always very special!

When Weequahic, 23-3, led by Chris Pervall, beat Westfield, 55-52, for the Group IV state basketball title in 1962, it was the first state championship for the high school. Since then, there have been four more in 1966, 1967, 1973, and 2001.

Below are the names of the players and coaches on the 1962 team:

Ernie Bethea, Steve Bleier, Joe Daniels, Allen Friedman, Ken Jones, Larry Koonce, Larry Layton, Lenny Levine, Frank Marshall, Charles Meyers, Chris Pervall, Elliot Ponchick, Robert Russell, Les Schofferman, Alan Simkowitz, Larry Stewart, Kenny Thompson, and Danny Wuensch. The head coach was **Les Fein** and the assistant coach was **Hal Ginsburg**.



Newark Athletic Hall of Fame Inducts Ernie Barron, 1968, and the 1962 State Championship Basketball Team



Ernest Barron, 1968

WHS Football and Baseball Star



Ernie "Bulldog" Barron, an All-City and All-County football and baseball player at Weequahic in the late 1960's was inducted this past October into the Newark Athletic Hall of Fame in

the class of 2012 at a ceremony at the Robert Treat Hotel in Newark.

At the college level, he attended Florida A&M, where he excelled in baseball. He was the captain of the team and played catcher, 3rd base, and left field. In his Junior year he was the 7th leading hitter

in the country with a batting average of .418. In June 1972, he was named College Athlete of the Month, appearing in Black Sports magazine. Upon completion of college, he played semi-pro baseball for 15 years with the Rookie Cardinals and Newark Dodgers in the Stan Musial League, Brooklyn Division.

Ernie, an educator in the Newark school system, taught physical education at Hawkins Street School, Clinton Place Jr. High School, and West Side High School. Currently, he is the glove man for the Golden Gloves Association of New Jersey. He also enjoys deep-sea fishing and attends many sports events.

He states: *"I have to give all my praise to my parents, Ernest and Cora, for my accomplishments and becoming the man I am today. My father encouraged me to excel in sports and instilled the tools to being a better man. He was and is there for me always and is an excellent role model"*

After 42 years, Harry Sutton, owner of Je's famous soul food restaurant, is retiring

By Barry Carter, Star-Ledger



The news hit customers hard: "Get the hell out of here," said Rudy Graddy, a regular. Yes, soul food friends, **Harry Sutton**, owner of **Je's**, is retiring. Nobody could blame Sutton for wanting to chuck it in. He's been at it 42 years and kept the place going after the heart and soul of the business died in 2001. Her name was Diane, his late wife and high school sweetheart. The news hit customers hard:

As word spread about his departure, people have packed Je's more than usual for grub that'll make you kiss your mama. Some teared up talking about it, upset that another slice of Newark history was disappearing. Others implored him to stay, wondering where they would get a good, home-cooked meal if he left. One lady flat-out cried after taking a picture with him.

Sutton expected disappointment, but he had no idea people would be so distraught. The emotional backlash, he said, made him lift the cloud hanging over the soul food universe. But hold on now: Je's is not closing, folks. It's Sutton that's hanging it up. "I'm working with some people who are really interested in keeping it open," he said.

So Merry Christmas, everyone. Now pass the oxtails and short ribs. Order slabs of bacon and eggs with a side dish of fluffy biscuits and hearty grits you can pick up with a fork. Smell those smothered turkey wings, fried corn and okra.

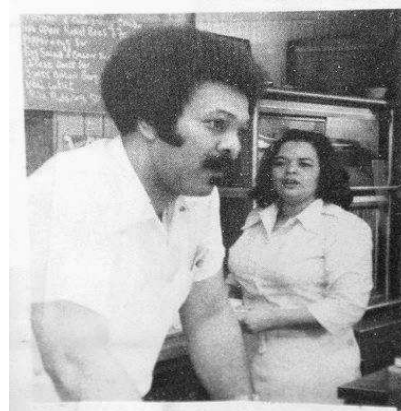
And don't forget to taste the chicken livers dripping in gravy. It's the kind of cultural fare you crave when you don't want to cook, the kind you can't bear to see go away.

Stacey Christmas and Cassandra Haith have been at Je's every week for the past month since they heard the end was near. "It broke my heart, but it's good to know that it's going to be open," Haith said.

Je's began as a coffee shop, where Sutton's wife was a waitress, on William Street and Treat Place. She took over the business in 1970 after the owner, Laszlo de Jezierski, promised to sell it to her. When she and Harry needed more space, they moved Je's one block in 1980 to where it is now, at William and Halsey streets. Her name is on the street sign, too, as a tribute to all that she's done. Not bad for a sharecropper's daughter, who turned a Polish coffee shop into a must-visit destination.

"She had a down-home personality," Sutton said. "She touched people and she was always doing something different." Diane sang "Happy Birthday" to customers, or she'd give them a slice of cake or a serving of peach cobbler on the house. Harry got into the act sometimes, playing the blues on his harmonica while somebody else played piano in the corner.

Their three sons helped out as well, making it a true family business. The Southern hospitality they spread was the same for catered events and whenever Je's prepared food on a moment's notice. "You remember that, Harry," the Rev. John Baker said. Without reservation, Baker said Sutton hustled dinner to a Newark church years ago to feed 70 visitors from Washington, D.C. "And I had to make him take the money,"



Good, hardworking people are how the Suttons are thought of in this town. It's another reason everybody comes to Je's, from ordinary folk to politicians, entertainers to celebrities. You just don't get soul food, customers say. You're treated to friendly service from waitresses who remember what you like to eat and chefs make everything to order. Any day of the week is like this, but Sundays are prime time, when the line is out the door.

"Je's has a very special feel to it," said Clement Price, a Rutgers history professor. "When you step into Je's, you know you are not only in a black-owned business but a black-owned business that caters to the taste and fellowship and cuisine and memory of black Newark."

But Sutton says it's time to go. The non-stop daily grind has worn him down. When he's not shopping for food and making deliveries, Sutton is in and out of the kitchen bagging orders, working the cash register. The waitresses buzz past him, grabbing plates from the pickup slot. They cradle two in one arm and their free hand balances glasses filled with tasty Uptowns. That's Je's special brew: lemonade and iced tea topped with a lemon wedge.

Barbara Anderson, the senior waitress, has been here 29 years and wasn't worried at all about Je's closing. "What did I tell you?" she said. "I wasn't giving up until he (Sutton) tells me I can't come through the door anymore."

Welcome back, Je's, and thank you, Mr. Sutton.



Roth said that at 74, realizing he was running out of years, he reread all his favorite novels, and then reread all his books in reverse chronological order. *"I wanted to see if I had wasted my time writing,"* he said. *"And I thought it was rather successful. At the end of his life, the boxer Joe Louis said: 'I did the best I could with what I had.' This is exactly what I would say of my work: I did the best I could with what I had."*

"And after that, I decided that I was done with fiction. I do not want to read, to write more," he said. *"I have dedicated my life to the novel: I studied, I taught, I wrote and I read. With the exclusion of almost everything else. Enough is enough! I no longer feel this fanaticism to write that I have experienced in my life."*

Krim Family Tragedy

On October 25th, Bill Krim, a 1955 graduate, and his wife, Karen, lost two of their grandchildren, Lulu, 6, and Leo, 2, when the children were killed by their nanny in their NYC apartment.

The parents of the children, Kevin and Marina Krim, who also have a three-year-old daughter, Nessie, have set up a web site to raise funds to *"celebrate the beautiful lives of Lulu and Leo."* One way they're hoping to do so is with the recently launched **Lulu & Leo Fund**, which will bring art programs to underprivileged kids.

Kevin and Marina state: *"The Fund will support participatory art and science education for young children in schools, museums, and other community institutions. Lulu's art classes provided some of her most joyful and enriching moments. We'd like to help other children obtain access to similarly great experiences. Please join our family in supporting art and science programs for youth."*

You can make a donation at the web site,
<http://lululeofund.org/donate>

Donate by check: Checks may be made payable to
Lulu & Leo Fund / FJC and mailed to:

FJC - Lulu & Leo Fund
520 8th Avenue, 20th Floor
New York, NY 10018



Waldo Winchester

This popular column first appeared in the CALUMET in 1950

Vincent Herbert, 1988, is a behind-the-scenes music industry giant who has come into the public eyes since the reality show, **Tamar & Vince**, with his wife Tamar Braxton, which premiered on the WE Network.



Born on New Year's Eve in 1969 in Newark, the writer, producer, founder and President of Streamline Record has contributed to the success of everyone from **Destiny's Child, Michael Jackson, Jo Jo, Stevie Wonder, Toni Braxton, Bobbi Brown, Aaliyah** to **Lady Gaga**. He has a huge commitment and interest in music, which he successfully channels into hit song after hit song.

La-Rome H. Talley, the son of Charles and Diana Talley, 1966, was inducted into the 2012 class of the Newark Athletic Hall of Fame - joining his father who was inducted in 2004 and his late Uncle Dwain, WHS '71, inducted in 2005.



La-Rome was born in Newark and attended Maple Avenue School. He graduated from Plainfield High School in 1984, where he excelled in basketball (no surprise) and his team (like his father's team in 1966) won the state basketball title.

He attended Mansfield University in Pennsylvania and Florida A&M University on a basketball scholarship. He graduated from FAMU in 1989 and began working for one of the Big Eight accounting firms, where he had the opportunity to gain experience in business, world travel, and community outreach.

In 1998, La-Rome earned his MBA in Finance from the New York University Stern School of Business and accepted a position with Wacoal, one of the largest global intimate apparel manufacturers. He is currently Vice-President of Finance and Corporate Comptroller - the youngest and the first African-American executive in the company's history.

During the past couple of years, La-Rome's company has made large donations of sports apparel to Weequahic High School for its athletic teams.

His family includes his wife, Tiffanie Sterling-Talley and three children, Autumn, Romey and Skylar.

Weequahic Sweethearts

By Marc Little and Zaundria Mapson-Little



This is a tale of how two people with Weequahic connections discover each other by chance 45 years later – and how this serendipitous opportunity leads to friendship, a meaningful relationship, and a wonderful marriage.

Zaundria Mapson and **Marc Little** were brought up in two vastly different worlds, yet they lived less than two miles from each other in Newark. Although, they both attended Weequahic, they weren't at the high school at the same time.

Zaundria graduated in 1964 and completed her college studies at Glassboro State College and Montclair State College. She became an educator (teacher and literacy coordinator) with The Newark Public Schools.

Marc left Newark after he graduated in 1969, attended college in Los Angeles, established a career in mass communications, and became a spiritual author, inspirational speaker, and social media evangelist. Zaundria stayed home in New Jersey. Marc ended up living in Jacksonville, Florida for 38 years.

Marc: Last year I was working at the Alumni Office as membership coordinator for the Weequahic High School Alumni Association with Phil Yourish, the Executive Director. Phil knew that I previously lived in Jacksonville, Florida and he mentioned that he had a 1964 friend and classmate who was living there named Zaundria Mapson May. Phil urged me to give her a courtesy call while I was in Jacksonville during the Christmas holiday of 2011. And that's all I meant to do.

Zaundria: I retired as an educator for The Newark Public Schools after 34 years. I decided to move to Jacksonville to be with my parents, the Reverend and Mrs. J. Wendell Mapson, who retired there in 1998 - and to help take care of my father, who passed away in 2007. When I arrived, I conducted an exhaustive search for a church to attend, finally uniting with Shiloh Metropolitan Baptist Church in January 2010. I had visited Shiloh a number of times and I felt it was the place for me.

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Sunday Morning Group

It's That Time Again!
21st Gala Get-Together
OUR 42nd YEAR!!

*Come and be prepared to see and greet
your old friends and to spend
a memorable evening with the boys.*

**BRING A FRIEND AND/OR SON(S)

Maplewood Country Club
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Thursday Evening, May 23, 2013
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\$85 per person (Includes Gratuities + Valet Parking)

*PLEASE GET YOUR CHECK IN EARLY.
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West New York, NJ 07093

The "Walk" Makes a Huge Impact on The Valerie Fund!

Founded by Ed Goldstein, WHS 1951, and his wife Sue

The **Valerie Fund** relies on the dollars raised to help the children who live in our community.



We Can Fight Cancer and Blood Disorders One Step at a Time

The Walk and 5K Run will take place on Saturday, June 15, 2013 at Verona Park.

It will support our mission to provide comprehensive health care for children with cancer and blood disorders. Every step you walk or run and every dollar you raise helps at **The Valerie Fund Centers**. Our philosophy is that to truly heal the children with whose care we are entrusted, we must treat them emotionally, socially, and developmentally, as well as medically.

For more information, to sign up, or to sponsor a team, go to the Valerie Fund web site at <http://www.thevaleriefund.org>

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Zaundria: Though Marc sang in the choir and was well known at the church, I never met him. God showed Marc to me when I attended the church's Christmas concert on December 21, 2011, almost two years after I became a member. He was the narrator and I saw him speaking from the pulpit. I had no idea that I would receive a telephone call from him the very next day.

Marc: I was making plans to leave Jacksonville to return to New Jersey just as Zaundria was getting acclimated to worshipping at Shiloh. But God was assigning me to a new mission. My mother passed away in March 2009 and my father was having a difficult time adjusting. He and I talked quite a bit during that year and he asked me to come back home. So the chance that I would meet Zaundria was practically impossible. Little did I know!

It was my intention to call Zaundria when I arrived, but then I was asked to substitute teach at a high school, work at the gospel radio station for a couple of weeks, and rehearse for a Christmas concert. Thus, I was very busy when I hit town and did not make the call. After things became less hectic, I called Zaundria and left a message with her mother. When I didn't hear from her, I concluded that she wasn't going to call. Plus, since her last name was different from her parents, I figured she was married. As it turned out, Zaundria wasn't married, but she was deeply involved with caring for her mother.

Zaundria: I had decided that I would make the best of my time with my mother, get involved with church activities, and enjoy retired life. On the day Marc called, I had been running errands and I was exhausted. Nonetheless, my mother greeted me with a number of messages when I returned home. One of them was from Marc Little. Since I didn't recognize his name, I wasn't going to return the call. After my mother kept reminding me to call Marc, I relented.

Marc: Zaundria and I broke the ice by speaking about mutual acquaintances from Newark, that she was caregiver for her mother, which of course interested me, and we also found out that we were both members of Shiloh. We talked for a while, and then we made arrangements to have lunch the next week to continue the conversation in person.

Zaundria: He came to our home with a copy of his latest book and other gifts. He talked with my mother and me about the mission from God to take care of his father in New Jersey. It was Marc's spirituality and surrender to God's Word that attracted me more than anything else in the beginning. After he left, I went to his web site and researched him on Google. I must admit, I was impressed.

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1948 Weequahic grad Ed Segall's Sunset Salute

The Jersey Shore is dotted with legendary bars - Martell's in Point Pleasant Beach, the Sawmill in Seaside Park, the Sea Shell on Long Beach Island, the C-View Inn in Cape May, among many others - but no one does sunset quite like the rambling cedar-shingled bar on Sandy Hook.

"Good evening, ladies and gentlemen," says the bald-headed, bushy-mustached man on the upstairs deck at Sea Gulls' Nest. *"Let me have your attention, please. How many are here for the first time?"* Ed Segall looks into the distance. *"That sunset is probably the greatest on the East Coast."*

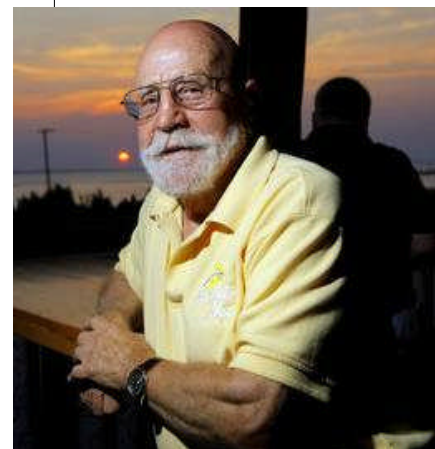
The "ceremony" Segall has conducted every business night for nearly 25 years is not about the Technicolor sunset visible from Sea Gulls' Nest, poised spectacularly between Sandy Hook Bay and the Atlantic Ocean.

It's about pride and patriotism, and appreciation for those who have served in the armed forces. And it's about all those who have "worn a badge" or "put their life on the line" - policemen, firemen, and FBI and DEA agents, among others.

"The freedom you have did not come free," Segall continues, citing the hundreds of thousands of Americans killed in wars from World War II on.

At the beginning of the ceremony, he asks everyone to stand up, take off their hats and hold hands.

What happens, he is asked later, if someone refuses to stand up? *"Those who don't want to stand, I ask them to please leave and go*



downstairs until we're finished," he says. It's Ed Segall's show, and you'd better conduct yourself properly. The 84-year-old, born and raised in Newark, was one of four brothers who served in World War II and its aftermath.

Segall's brother, Seymour, was killed in the invasion of Normandy. Segall served in the occupation force in Japan from 1946-48. A Golden Gloves fighter, he was a boxing instructor for the 187th Glider Infantry Regiment.

He had operated an ice cream truck while in college; after the war, he ran concessions at several Jersey state parks - Liberty, Cheesquake, High Point. In 1962, he won concession rights at Sandy Hook, operating snack stands out of shipping containers in several parking areas. *Sea Gulls' Nest* - a play on his last name - was built in 1996.

Five years earlier, Ed Segall almost died. A propane tank exploded at a festival; Segall suffered second-and third-degree burns on 30 percent of his body. *"They gave me a 7 percent chance of surviving,"* he says, sitting at a table overlooking the bar's bay side.

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Marc: Our conversation over lunch was refreshing because I felt I could relate to the challenge Zaundria faced as a caregiver to her mother. Since I was doing the same for my father that stoked my interest. As I listened to her, I could feel a spiritual bond beginning to form between us.

Zaundria: After lunch, the two of us visited a bookstore at Marc's request. That suggestion just blew me away. I thought *'not only does he carry himself well, but he's interested in something intellectual.'* I wanted to know more. Marc was days away from ending his visit, and he was making some last-minute visits and calls to friends.

Marc: I knew I had to leave Jacksonville, but my brief encounter with Zaundria continued to bring a smile to my face and a pleasant feeling in my soul, something that I had not felt in many, many years. I was not willing to give this up, but I had to be realistic about the chances that we would be anything more than friends.

Zaundria: We had one more conversation before Marc left Jacksonville. It happened to be on the night that his beloved NY Giants were playing the Dallas Cowboys for the division title on television. I offered to get off the phone, but he urged me to talk while the game was on. He paid more attention to me than he did to the game. That was unbelievable to me!

Marc: I wanted to talk to her no matter what, though it was okay because the Giants were whipping up on the Cowboys. I probably would have had a different attitude if the Giants had lost.

Zaundria: Though he was preparing to depart and had no idea if he would be returning any time soon, we decided we would stay in touch. Little did we know we were beginning a series of telephone calls and e-mails that would take up more than 500 hours and thousands of words between us over a span of just 60 days, during which we realized that our common interests were based on a strong belief in God.

Marc: The more I talked to Zaundria, the more she reminded me of my late mother, Clara Little. It was then that I said to God that I knew I had no control over whether another marriage was in my future. When I went down the checklist that I had asked God to review, I realized that God had sent Zaundria to me.

Zaundria: Circumstances surrounding the care for his father dramatically changed when Marc returned to New Jersey in early January. It turned out that after he exhausted all possibilities to remain in New Jersey or move elsewhere, Marc would be going back to Jacksonville. I still remember the day he told

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He survived, but required grafts on his back, legs and hands and had to wear a protective rubber suit for two months. He praised the staff at Saint Barnabas Medical Center, where he was treated, and later formed the Sandy Hook Friends of the Saint Barnabas Burn Foundation, which has raised \$300,000 to date for the foundation, according to Segall.

"I was lucky to get through that one," he says of the harrowing incident. To this day, he requires that all his vendors and friends buy advertising space in an annual program printed as a foundation fundraiser. *"I'm not going to tolerate friends or vendors turning me down,"* he says.

He may come off a bit blustery, but he's the kind of guy who commands respect and admiration around the Sea Gulls' Nest. A woman - whose boyfriend had thrown gasoline on her and then lit a match - stopped in the bar several weeks ago to thank Segall for his charity work. He throws a party at the Sea Gulls' Nest every June for Saint Barnabas employees, and sends young burn victims to summer camps.

On the wall in the office are letters from and photos of various dignitaries who have made the trip to the Nest. There's also an autographed photo of the late Baltimore Orioles manager Earl Weaver, Segall's card-playing buddy in Florida.

There are mousetraps on the bar; they're used not for rodents but to hold down checks. A sign advertises the Sandy Hooker, a piña colada with Blue Curaçao and Malibu. On the ceiling are

military flags: Marines, Seals, Coast Guard, POW/MIA and others.

"When I travel, all I do is praise America," Segall says. Even *"with all the trouble we're having in this country, no one's leaving. If anyone wants to leave, I'll write them a check so they can do it. No one's taken me up on the offer."*

His nightly *"speech"* is followed by *"God Bless America,"* sung by Daniel Rodriguez, *"the singing policeman."* In the ceremony's early years, Segall played Kate Smith's version.



What happens when he passes on? Will the ceremony continue? *"They have no choice,"* he says, smiling, of his daughter, Tina, and son, Scott, who run the business. *"In my memory alone, they'll have to do it."*

Later, he walks around the bar, greeting patrons. *"Every time he does it, I cry,"* says Amy Schaeffer of Oceanport. *"He does a wonderful service to the community and to those who are fighting."*

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Sweethearts continued from page 20



me he was coming back. As much as I wanted to see him again, I was not sure if I could handle having him close to me on a day-to-day basis.

Marc: I knew we wouldn't be living together because that was not close to being considered by either of us, but there was also a question of how much time we would be spending together. I was going to have to be working odd hours of the day and night, and I would be living with relatives far from where Zaundria and her mother lived. But once again God made the impossible possible and it was worked out. With careful scheduling and sacrifice, I spent a lot of time with Zaundria over the next several months. During that time, I asked her to marry me.

Zaundria: Marc had hinted about marriage a number of times while he was in New Jersey, but I didn't think he was serious. After all, we had only seen each other one time and that was for only about three hours. But he kept talking about the possibility, and when he asked, I accepted his proposal.

Marc: I must admit that when I first met Zaundria I had a strong notion that ours would be a special

SEGALL continued from page 20

Michele Panfile of Budd Lake walks up and thanks Segall *"for making so many of our evenings memorable."*

"I don't do the ceremony to get a big crowd. I'm not trying to promote anything," Segall explains. *"I don't do this to make money. We had these crowds before I started making these speeches."*

Several years ago, two World War II veterans in wheelchairs were on hand. At the end of *"God Bless America,"* one lowered his head and started to cry. Segall put his arm around him.

"I told him all these people here love you and appreciate what you did," he recalled. The vet lifted his head up, wiped the tears from his eyes, and said, *"This is the first time anybody said thanks."*

relationship. She helped edit my latest novel, *Magnificent Redemption*, and her presence - albeit more than a thousand miles away - stabilized my mood during a very difficult time for me when I returned to New Jersey. I gave it all to God and He moved this relationship to its current state. There was nothing Zaundria and I did. It was all due to the Lord.

Since September 9th, the day of their marriage, Marc and Zaundria Little have enjoyed each other's company every day. Zaundria, with Marc's help, is operating MLPR, a company that assists self-published authors in the areas of merchandising, marketing, web site design, book cover design and editing. Zaundria is also managing Marc's new career as an author, working on book sales and his public appearances.

They are a team, in both marriage and life. They call themselves magnificently redeemed with a loving formula that they feel will endure for however long God will leave them on Earth. All of this from a simple suggestion by Phil Yourish - the unintended matchmaker - who brought them together.

55th Reunion

Class of June 1957

October 14, 2012

Cedar Hill
Country Club
In Livingston



'The Smith Tapes'

Howard Smith, 1955, releases his celebrity interviews

By Ben Sisario, NY Times

John and Yoko are there, talking for hours and hours - during a bed-in, at a "happening," listening to the Beatles at home.

Dennis Hopper and Peter Fonda, just back from Cannes in June 1969, rap about their new movie, "Easy Rider."

Eric Clapton, between shows at the Fillmore East in 1970, struggles with a sense of responsibility for his new band, Derek and the Dominos.

Those are among more than 100 interviews with rock stars, artists and assorted radicals recorded from 1969 to 1972 by Howard Smith, a longtime writer for The Village Voice. They have now been cataloged and packaged for the digital era as *"The Smith Tapes"* and will be released in monthly batches over the next year. The first, with John Lennon and Yoko Ono, Lou Reed, Frank Zappa, Eric Clapton and others, is already out in Amazon's MP3 store and on iTunes.

At a time when rock 'n' roll, the sexual revolution and the antiwar counterculture all intersected, Smith spoke to seemingly every boldface name for *"Scenes,"* his influential column in The Voice. He also had a knack for being in precisely the right place at the right time. In one of his most famous columns, from the summer of 1969, he described being trapped with the police inside the Stonewall Inn as the famous riot raged outside.

"The Smith Tapes," drawn primarily from interviews for his Voice column and a radio program he had at the time on WABC-FM (which became WPLJ), feature many of these people at pivotal moments in pop culture and in their own lives, speaking candidly and often at unusual length. One of the five



John Lennon and Yoko Ono are interviewed by Howard Smith in 1969

Lennon-Ono interviews in the collection lasts two hours.

"This is not someone talking about the time; this is the time," said Ezra Bookstein, a documentarian who delayed his film projects for a year to prepare the interviews for release. If some subjects are familiar stars who by now have been interviewed ad nauseam, their appearances on *"The Smith Tapes"* often capture them before their current iconography had been set.

Lou Reed, interviewed in March 1969, makes an unpersuasive case for his newfound sobriety. (*"I think anybody that distracts themselves from reality is cheating themselves from what really exists,"*) he says. Smith sounds skeptical, noting that Reed's band, the Velvet Underground, was known as a "big bad dope group."

Smith was a prominent name at The Voice during what is often considered the paper's golden age. His column ran from the late 1960s into the '80s and was structured as free-form vignettes chronicling pop culture and groovy urban life. He even won an Oscar, for *"Marjoe,"* his 1972 documentary about the young evangelist Marjoe Gortner.

Smith, now 76 and by his own description laid low by cancer, said he kept the tapes at his downtown loft with a vague notion of someday using them for his memoirs. Over the years, though, they became buried under piles of detritus.

The tapes were uncovered in 2000 when one of his sons, the architect Cass Calder Smith, helped his father move to a new apartment. Cass Smith spent several years sorting and digitizing the tapes and sold a few before he met Bookstein, and they decided to collaborate.

"This stuff was of no value to anybody boxed up and hidden," Cass Smith said. *"I want to get the story out there, and also for Howard, to get his story out there."*

Bookstein, 40, in a cramped editing room in his Midtown Manhattan office, where he has sorted through hundreds of hours of the tapes, said he was struck by the quality and intimacy of the conversations, and instead of making a film decided to prepare them for full release. *"They were just people hanging out. They didn't know what kind of icons they'd be,"* he said.

Each collection, with about half a dozen interviews, will sell on iTunes and Amazon for \$13. Bookstein is also raising money on Kickstarter for a CD boxed set of some of the collection's highlights, with deluxe packaging by Masaki Koike, a Grammy Award-winning designer.

Smith said that listening to the interviews today he was surprised by the flow of the conversations. *"They gain a certain other kind of value over time,"* he said. *"They were heard differently then than they will be heard now."*

NEWARK NEWS

(the following are excerpts from articles in the Star-Ledger)

ROLLING STONES at the ROCK

By Tris McCall, Star-Ledger



On December 13 and 15, the Rolling Stones were in Newark, for sold-out performances at the Prudential Center (The Rock), while declaring that this was the last stop on their 50 and Counting Tour - celebrating their 50th Anniversary. To the delight of all those fortunate enough to get a ticket for Saturday's finale, Bruce Springsteen and Lady Gaga were the surprise guests, singing with Mick Jagger and the group on stage.

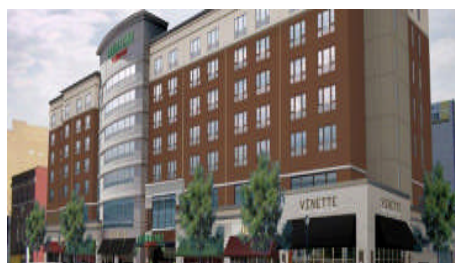
The show was broadcast live on a pay-per-view special and the band was in high gear. The group was tight, tough and shrewd, balancing its trademark recklessness with poise befitting showmen - and the black-clad Jagger was in a feisty mood. With no need to hold anything back, the Stones went hard from the outset, opening with "Get Off of My Cloud" and "The Last Time." Then They served up FM radio standards like "It's Only Rock and Roll (But I like It)" and "Miss You" with a healthy pinch of spice.

During the performance, the Stones were also joined by young blues rockers, Gary Clark, Jr., John Mayer, the Black Keys, and former Stone Mick Taylor.

More than three hours before the Stones were actually due on stage, fans lined up outside the Prudential Center wearing their tongue shirts and bomber jackets. Few were from New Jersey, many coming from hours and thousands of miles away. Some came on the slight chance this final 50 and Counting Tour actually would be the last Stone show ever.

Downtown Newark's Newest Hotel

By Eliot Caroom, Star-Ledger



A 150-room Marriott has opened in downtown Newark - the first new hotel in the city in the past 40 years. The Courtyard by Marriott hotel is located on the corner of Broad and Lafayette Streets behind the Prudential Center. The \$35 million project by Illinois-based Tucker Development also has 14,000 square feet of street-level storefronts to rent.

The hotel planted at the heart of the Prudential Center development area is Newark's first new downtown hotel in decades, though there is a cluster of relatively new hotels by the airport. There are also long-tenured hotels in the city like the Best Western Robert Treat Hotel by Military Park and the Newark Penn Station Hilton. Other hotels may soon follow: there are plans for a 110-room Hotel Indigo a block away at Broad Street and Edison Place, and there are plans to redo the Carlton Hotel's 110 rooms near Public Service Enterprise Group headquarters.

More than 30 percent of the project's construction workers were hired from Newark and the hires so far for the hotel jobs exceed 50 percent of Newark residents with more jobs still to come when the property's retail space is rented out.

Teachers Village Project

By Emily Badger, Star-Ledger



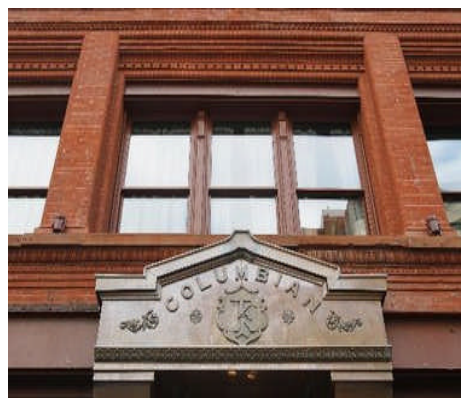
Downtown Newark plans to anchor a massive redevelopment project, complete with apartments, restaurants, and stores, around a group seldom associated with economic development (or disposable income, for that matter): teachers.

Over the next year, eight new buildings - five of them designed by the renowned architect Richard Meier (who grew up in Newark) - will start to rise on three square blocks (Halsey and William streets) of the city, at a cost of about \$150 million. The development, called Teachers Village, will include affordable housing for teachers, three charter schools in which some of them will teach, a day care center, and retail stores.

The city expects the concept - part educational development, part economic development - to be a win for everyone: Teachers who can't afford to live well in Newark finally will be able to (and hopefully will want to), local schools will benefit from the greater investment of those teachers in the community (currently, just 17 % of teachers in the Newark school district live in Newark), and the downtown will start to come alive again.

A Makeover of Newark's Four Corners

By Tom De Poto, Star-Ledger



A project that would transform Broad and Market Street - once known as the busiest cross streets in the nation - into a residential and retail neighborhood is being proposed by the RBH Group - the developers of a nearby Teacher Village project.

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NEWARK NEWS

FOUR CORNERS continued
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At an estimated \$410 million, the *Four Corners Millennium Project* would be among the most expensive developments in Newark history. The vision is to convert empty office and warehouse space in several buildings into 827 apartment units and a 130-room hotel. It also calls for 150,000 square feet of street-level retail space. Four of the buildings are designated as historic.

The 1.25 million square-foot project will transform a four-block area of mostly vacant office spaces into a modern urban neighborhood with a mix of residential and retail.

The project is a part of the city's *Living Downtown Plan*, which calls for turning the upper floors of downtown buildings into residences. The first apartments in the neighborhood opened in the Bowers Building on Market Street. Recently, 22 loft-style apartments at Rock Plaza Lofts above the new Dinosaur Bar-B-Que also opened on Market Street.

At the dawn of the automotive age, the Four Corners was called the busiest intersection in the United States. A traffic study made in 1926 tallied 30,596 vehicles, including taxi cabs, busses, passenger cars and 121 horse-drawn carriages in one day.

Drake's Cakes May Live On

Drake's cakes, the makers of *Devil Dogs*, *Yankee Doodles*, *Ring Dings*, *Funny Bones*, *Yodels*, etc., was once located on Lyons Avenue in Irvington near the Newark border. This past November, Hostess Brands Inc., its mother company,



announced that it was shutting down its business and selling its breads and snack cakes. Recently, Hostess picked the maker of *Little Debbie* as the lead bidder to buy its Drake's cakes.

So even though Hostess Twinkies are gone, Drake's cakes may continue to survive for another generation.

Milt Campbell Passes Away

**1956 Olympic Decathlon
Gold Medal Winner**



Milt Campbell, who became the first African-American to win the Olympic decathlon in 1956 and went on to play pro football and become a motivational speaker, died at 78.

A native of Plainfield, N.J., Campbell was a rising high school senior when he won the silver medal in the decathlon at the 1952 Olympics in Helsinki, finishing second to Bob Mathias. The Americans swept the decathlon that year. Four years later, Campbell won gold at the Olympic Games in Melbourne, Australia.

The 6-foot-3, 217-pound Campbell, who attended Indiana University, was drafted in 1957 by the Cleveland Browns, where he played one season in the same backfield as Jim Brown. Campbell then played for various teams in the Canadian Football League until his football career ended in 1964.

Campbell was inducted into the National Track and Field Hall of Fame in 1999 and was honored this year by the International Swimming Hall of Fame. In 2000, the New Jersey Sportswriters

Association named Campbell its New Jersey Athlete of the Century. He was also inducted into the New Jersey Hall of Fame.

In the early 70's, the Milt Campbell Community Center was established on Bergen Street in Newark.

Sam Brummer, owner of Hobby's Deli, honored at veterans event



Sam with his two sons

It's hard to miss the signs of patriotism when you walk into Hobby's Delicatessen and Restaurant. That's because the heart and soul behind the famed corned beef and pastrami sandwiches that beckon celebrities and locals alike is WWII Army veteran Samuel Brummer, who bought the eatery in 1962.

American flags hang inside and outside the landmark kosher-style deli on Branford Place and Halsey Street. Stacks of boxes stamped "*Operation Salami Drop*" line the back of the dining area. Those mark a project that's shipped 30 tons of salami to armed service members deployed overseas since 2005.

Last November, the man behind Hobby's was honored at Essex County's annual Veterans Day event. Brummer, 89, was presented with a ceremonial key to the county before a crowd of about 150 people at the county's Veterans Memorial Park.

Drafted into the Army, Brummer told of fighting on the beaches of Normandy on D-Day, June 6, 1944. His voice filled with emotion, the white-haired North Caldwell resident recalled memories of fighting on a blood-soaked beach. "*Somehow, I survived,*" he said.

Continued on page 25

NEWARK NEWS

BRUMMER continued from page 24

Brummer, with his mother and sister, had emigrated five years earlier from his birthplace, Grażłowa, Poland, to flee the rise of Nazi Germany.

Even after three open-heart surgeries and a devastating fire in 1992, that shuttered the deli for nine months, Brummer can still be found there several days a week greeting patrons while his wife Rona handles payroll. Their two sons, Michael and Mark, co-own Hobby's and manage its daily operations.

Editor's Note: Sam's wife, Rona Lalinga Brummer, is a 1951 Weequahic grad).

2012 Dodge Poetry Festival



In October, Newark once again hosted the Dodge Poetry Festival - the largest in North America, attracting visitors from throughout the world to hear great works of poetry in some of Newark's most important cultural and historical locations.

With the NJ Performing Arts Center at the hub, the festival's readings, performances, and conversations took place in a "Poetry Village" throughout the city. During the festival, more than ten stages offered events for audiences from 100 to 2,000 people.

Featured speakers included Newark native C.K. Williams; Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Philip Levine, Poet Laureate of the United States; poet-musician Kurtis Lamkin; and Eavan Boland, Ireland's leading woman poet.

Dinosaur BBQ Debut

By Peter Genovese, Star-Ledger

Dinosaur Bar-B-Que - which opened its first Jersey location in Newark - gets it. I usually wait several months before reviewing a new restaurant, but the anticipation surrounding Dinosaur's arrival in



Newark was at a fever pitch. Good barbecue is nearly impossible to find in North or Central Jersey - go South, young man - so a barbecue icon opening in the state's biggest city is big news on the barbecue front.

The spacious restaurant, located in a former hardware store/chandelier factory, is a slap shot away from the Rock. Salvaged material and vintage signs provide a décor that is both down-home and retro. Any restroom with stills from "The Hot Box," "Psycho a Go-Go" and "House of 1000 Dolls" is my kind of restroom.



John Stage and two partners started Dinosaur as a mobile concession unit in 1983 with a 55-gallon drum cut in half. The first restaurant opened in Syracuse; locations in Rochester, Harlem and Troy, N.Y., followed. And now Newark.

There was a healthy crowd on both early afternoon stops. The big question, of course, is whether Dinosaur will attract evening patrons to downtown Newark - when there isn't anything going on at the Rock. A year or so from now, we'll know. In the meantime, grab some of those ribs. Good barbecue in North Jersey is off the extinction list, thanks to this Dinosaur.

Landmark Teachers Contract Includes Merit Pay

In a landmark vote, the Newark Teachers Union in November ratified the state's first teacher contract to provide bonus pay based on classroom performance.

The three-year deal, which sparked strong opinions on both sides, will be the first in the state and one of the first in the nation to base teacher pay on classroom performance, including student progress.

The contract will cost the district \$100 million, half of which will come from private donors, including Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg.

Author Barbara Kukla writes her memoirs

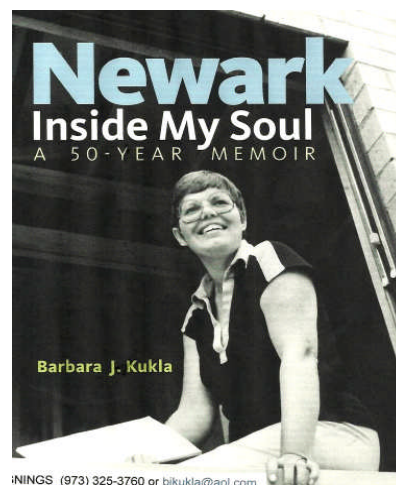
Author, journalist, and West Orange resident Barbara J. Kukla has written *Newark Inside my Soul* - a memoir of her experiences of writing in and about Newark.

She is the former editor of the "Newark This Week" column in the Star-Ledger and the author of three previously published books:

Swing City: Newark Nightlife 1925-50

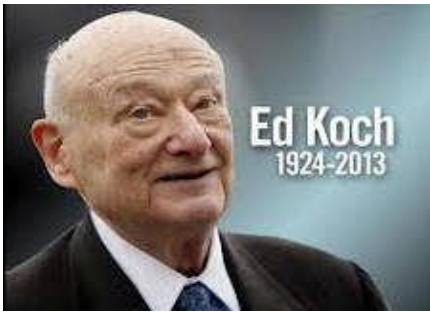
Defying the Odds: Triumphant Black Women of Newark

Sounds of Music: The Dolores Collins Benjamin Story



Continued on page 26

NEWARK NEWS



Former NYC Mayor, but a South Side High Grad

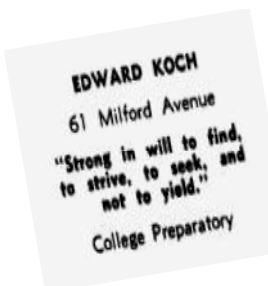
By Jason Grant, Star-Ledger

It was the height of the Great Depression when a young Ed Koch, who one day would become one of the best known and most irrepressible mayors in New York City history, moved with his struggling immigrant-parents to Spruce Street in Newark.

His father's fur business had plummeted. But his uncle, across the river in New Jersey, owned a catering hall that ran dances and plays and offered Ed's father, Louis, the coat-check portion of the business.

It wasn't much but it was living. Ed was just 6 or 7 then, his sister, Pat Thaler, said recently from her home in Pompton Plains. And a few years later, young Ed was assigned the job of "hat-check boy" at the coatroom.

Thaler also recalled that Koch enjoyed his days at Newark's South Side High School. He was studious and often quiet, she said - quite different than he was as New York's tenacious mayor.



From the Huff Post, New York

When Ed Koch was mayor, it seemed as if all of New York was being run by a deli counterman. Koch was funny, irritable, opinionated, often rude and prone to yelling. And it worked, for a while at least.

With a Bronx-born combination of chutzpah and humor, Koch steered New York back from the brink of financial ruin and infused the city with new energy and optimism in the 1970s and '80s while racing around town, startling ordinary New Yorkers by asking, "How'm I doing?" Koch died this month of congestive heart failure at age 88.

He was Mayor of New York City for three terms from 1978 to 1989. He graduated from New York University law school and then entered politics locally, first in Greenwich Village when he was elected to the City Council. From 1969 to 1977, he served in the House of Representatives.

Best Provisions celebrates 75 years

Leonard Karp, WHS '51 grad, was former co-owner

By Pete Genovese, Star-Ledger

For the retail operation, such as it is, of Best Provision in Newark, park in front of the formidable-looking brick building on Jelliff Avenue, scamper up the loading dock and muscle aside the heavy gray swinging door.

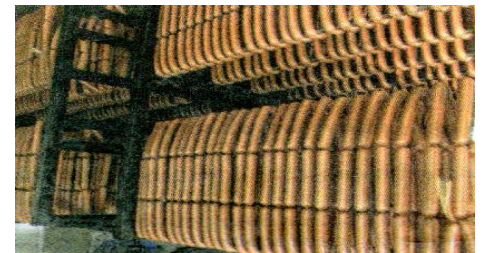


Leonard Karp

Vegetarians, beware. The 80,000-square-foot plant - one giant refrigerator, with temperatures at 40 degrees or cooler - is fragrant with the earthy, funky aroma of raw and cooked meat. Workers operate machines with oddly poetic names - choppers, shrink tunnels and the Frank-a-Matic, which stuffs, shapes and sizes hot dogs. A shiny space-capsule-like contraption is used for brine distribution.

"In July, we're packing out 100 pounds (of hot dogs) a minute, all day," co-owner Rich Dolinko says. Where's the beef? It's right here; Best Provision, celebrating its 75th anniversary this year, is the food icon most Jerseyans have never heard of. The company doesn't produce chicken, pork or any other meat; it's hot dogs, pastrami, corned beef, roast beef and brisket - all beef, all the time.

Best may be "America's #1 manufacturer of private label cooked beef products" - clients include ShopRite, Stop & Shop, Wegman's, Wal-Mart, Smashburger and others - but it keeps a famously low profile. Best also supplies franks to scores of hot dog storefronts, trucks and carts in and beyond New Jersey - but the operation itself is shrouded in CIA-worthy secrecy.



Best Provisions hot dogs on the rack

In 1938, Karp's grandfather, Saul Karp, opened a wholesale and retail deli on William Street with Joe Wolfiler and Paul Dolinko. "Started as a butcher shop," says Rich Dolinko, Paul's grandson, who oversees Best's production side. *Over the years, we kept adding on.*

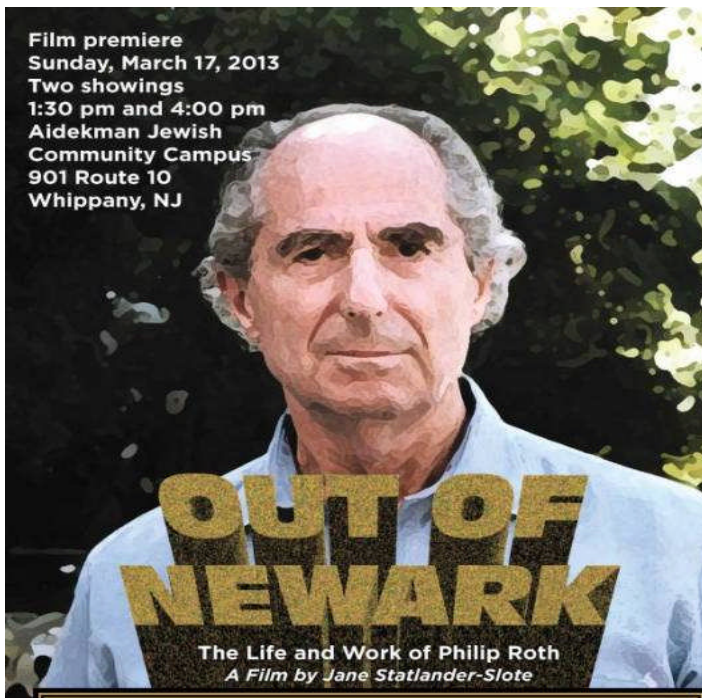
And the secret to this family-owned business staying in business and in Newark for three-quarters of a century? "We're here because of the water," co-owner Kevin Karp says, smiling. "Newark water is the best water in the country."

There are no plans to move or expand; Karp and Dolinko like the old brick building on Jelliff Avenue just fine. "We're neighborhood. We're here 75 years. Must be doing something right," Karp says.

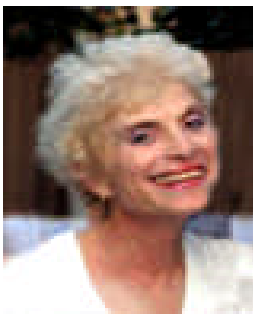
Editor's Note: In 2012, Best Provisions donated hot dogs and rolls for Weequahic's Men's Day activities.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 17, 2013



Jane Statlander-Slote, 1961,
to debut Philip Roth documentary at
the Jewish Historical Society of NJ



The Jewish Historical Society of New Jersey will present a program celebrating the 80th birthday of Pulitzer Prize winning author Philip Roth.

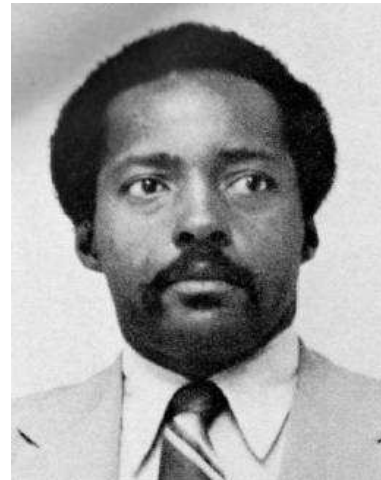
Immediately following the film there will be a talk and discussion of the film and Mr. Roth's work led by the film's writer and director, **Jane Statlander-Slote.**

Out of Newark - written, produced and directed by Jane Statlander-Slote - featuring Roth scholars **Jeffrey Berman**, State University of N.Y. Albany; **Peter Rudnysky**, Florida State University; **Miriam Jaffee Fogar**, Rutgers University; **Aimee Pozorski**, Connecticut State University; **Victoria Aarons**, Trinity College; **Mark Shechner**, Independent Scholar; **James Duban**, University of Texas; **Daniel Walden**, Pennsylvania State University. The film is free for members and \$10 for non-members. RSVP to **Linda Forgosh** at (973) 929-2994 or lforgosh@jhsnw.org.

The film will also be shown at The Newark Public Library on **March 19th** at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

MAY 18, 2013

**Coach Burney Adams
Celebration Dinner Rescheduled**



at Weequahic's Ronald G. Stone
Community Gymnasium / Les Fein Arena

Buffet Dinner / Music by
Devette Ross / Tickets: \$100

Contact: Selvin White at (973) 986-4589
swhite9466@aol.com

JUNE 17, 2013

Seymour Tabatchnick

Deli and frozen soup pioneer

by Lori Silberman Brauner
NJNJ Staff Writer

Seymour Tabatchnick of Basking Ridge, who brought Jewish deli-style cooking into American homes through a nationally distributed brand of frozen kosher soups, died this past September at age 91.

Born in Newark, Tabatchnick was a World War II veteran of the U.S. Army Signal Corps when he returned home to learn the smoked fish business at his family's appetizer store, which was owned by his father, Joseph - who had inherited the business from Seymour's grandparents, Louis and Sarah, who started it in 1905.

Seymour would go on to open 12 delicatessens, three deli restaurants, a manufacturing plant for meat provisions, and a frozen soup factory, with some 24 varieties of soup, including New York Style Chicken Broth and Barley & Mushroom. Although all the delis have closed (Tabatchnick's Smoke House made way for a Staples at the Millburn Mall in Union in 2009), his founding of the Tabatchnick soup business in 1972 remains his lasting legacy.

"I'm not aware of any [other] frozen soup in the supermarket," said Tabatchnick's daughter-in-law Rita, noting that he came up with the concept as a way to naturally maintain the freshness of vegetables without using preservatives. While soup giants like Campbell's eventually followed suit in selling frozen soup in pouches, his family also credits Tabatchnick for inventing kippered salmon spread, whitefish spread, and the famous



Seymour with son Ben

Jewish-style delicacies, Smoky Joes (triple-decker sandwiches made of smoked fish) and Sloppy Joes (the triple-decker rye bread sandwich made up of layers of sliced deli meat, coleslaw, and Russian dressing).

Health issues were also important to Tabatchnick, who suffered a heart attack in his 40s, Rita said. His frozen macaroni and cheese, for example, is made with skim milk.

"The world has changed so much since the days when he smoked fish," said Rita, who with her husband Ben now owns the business. *"It's really a lost art."*

Tabatchnick's work ethic was steadfast. *"He worked to the day he died,"* Rita said. *"He always was working on some project."*

Creative and enterprising, he loved to explore his interests and ideas, many of which were way ahead of his time, family members said. *"He thought out of the box,"* said Rita. Twenty years ago, she said, he predicted supermarket home food delivery and the arrival of club stores, *superstores that will have everything."*

"He really was a visionary" who had his hand on the "pulse of what was going to be," Rita said.

Rita Tabatchnick said her father-in-law was also involved with the founding of the Rabbinical College of America in Morristown, the Chabad-Lubavitch seminary. *"He just loved education,"* she said.

"He worked hard for the community," said Rabbi Mendy Herson of Chabad Jewish Center of Basking Ridge, noting that Tabatchnick was an early supporter of the RCA and had been an honorary trustee in addition to being a synagogue member. *"He was a giving person; he was a friend,"* said Herson of Tabatchnick, whose funeral he officiated at.

At his father's funeral, Ben Tabatchnick quoted Seymour as saying, *"I never look at my feet; if you look at your feet you could stumble. I look at the mountain in the distance and put one foot in front of the other till I reach the mountain."*

Seymour Tabatchnick is survived by his wife, Isabel; four sons and their wives, Justin and Norma of Pollack Pines, Calif., Ben and Rita of Randolph, Larry (whose wife, Debbie, is deceased) of Fayetteville, NC, and Joe and Lin of Millburn; a sister, Beatrice Seagull of New Paltz, NY; 12 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Philip Roth Lectures and 80th Birthday Party in Newark - March 18-19, 2013

Organized by the **Philip Roth Society** and the **Newark Preservation and Landmarks Committee**, a series of events will take place on **Monday, March 18** and **Tuesday, March 19**.

They will include a photographic exhibit of Roth at The Newark Public Library; a Roth Academic Symposium at the Robert Treat Hotel; a Roth Bus Tour of Newark; an afternoon reception at the Newark Museum; a lecture at the Museum featuring speakers discussing Roth's works; and an 80th birthday celebration at the Museum.

Admission to most of these events are by invitation only. There may be a limited number of tickets available for the birthday celebration. The Philip Roth photo exhibit at the Library will extend through August 2013. Also, on **March 29**, the documentary, *Philip Roth Unmasked*, will air on PBS at 9 pm.

In Loving Memory

Jack Kirsten, 1949

Attorney & Judge



Honorable Jack B. Kirsten, a retired Superior Court judge of Essex County, died on Nov. 7, 2012. He was 81. Judge Kirsten was born in Newark, N.J., on Oct. 20, 1931, and

graduated from Weequahic High School in the Class of 1949.

Judge Kirsten was recognized as one of New Jersey's leading attorneys in public utility law. He was appointed public utility rate counsel by the New Jersey attorney general from 1970 to 1974 and had served as special counsel to the Virgin Islands Public Services Commission.

He received his B.S. degree from New York University in 1953 and his LL.B. from Harvard Law School in 1956. Judge Kirsten had been a co-adjunct professor at Rutgers University Graduate School of Business and had lectured extensively in rate making and public utility regulation at programs of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners.

Judge Kirsten was a partner in the law firm Kirsten Friedman and Cherin for 20 years. He became of counsel to Jersey Central Power and Light and during that time he was one of the lead attorneys for the Three Mile Island accident. He also represented New Jersey Bell and Public Service Electric and Gas. He was a member of the Essex County, NJ State, Federal Energy, American and Federal bar associations, the American Judicature Society, and American Arbitration Association's National Panel of Arbitrators.

Judge Kirsten was also chairman of the section on Administration Law of the New Jersey Bar Association from 1967 to 1969 and a member of the Essex County Bar Association Judiciary Committee from 1970 to 1973. He was appointed by the New Jersey Supreme Court to the Essex County Ethics Committee from 1974 to 1977. In 1992 Governor Florio appointed Judge Kirsten to

the Superior Court of Essex County. He sat on the bench from 1992 to 2001, handling many complex cases.

Judge Kirsten is survived by his wife, Marcia (Yecies) Kirsten; two daughters, Amy and Maurice Cohen and Abbe and Cory Schiffman; six grandchildren, Lindsay and Gregory Perelman, Buzzy and Elisha Cohen, Esther Schiffman, Sam Schiffman, and one great-grandchild, Benjamin Perelman.

Francine Jonas Klein, 1955

Senior Housing Director



Francine Klein, who served as executive director of the MetroWest Jewish Community Housing Corporation from its inception in 1980 until her retirement in 2004, died of cancer

Sept. 12 at the Ridgefield Crossings senior living facility in Ridgefield, Conn. She was 75.

As the head of JCHC, she supervised over 600 housing units for senior citizens living in Essex and Morris counties. Her tenure coincided with a period of wide expansion for the agency, a partner agency of the Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest NJ.

"Fran was there from the very beginning and played a key role in seeing all five of the JCHC's independent living and assisted living apartment buildings completed," said Harold Colton-Max, who succeeded Klein and is currently the JCHC's chief executive officer.

Over these past 30 years, more than 10,000 senior residents have had a roof over their heads and a better quality of life due to her dedicated efforts at the JCHC. These are major accomplishments on the path to *tikun olam*.

"Hopefully, her legacy will bring some level of comfort to her family during this difficult time," Colton-Max added.

Klein was born in Newark. After graduating from Weequahic High School, she began a career in personnel at the now-defunct Good Deal supermarket chain.

After becoming the first director of the JCHC, she encouraged Jewish residents of the public Seth Boyden Housing Project in Newark to relocate to the JCHC houses in West Orange and Irvington.

"They provided food, housekeeping services, and everything needed to help people - particularly Jewish people - grow old gracefully," said her brother, Daniel Jonas of West Orange.

In addition to Jonas, Klein is survived by her husband, Joseph Klein of Ridgefield, her daughters, Lisa Petno and Marcy Thilow, and seven grandchildren.

Edward Brenner, 1944

Owned desk company in Newark



Edward F. Brenner, 86, of Short Hills, NJ and Boca Raton, Fla., passed away on December 27. Born in Newark, he was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, successful business-

man, and generous benefactor to charitable organizations.

As a student at Weequahic High School, he was the editor-in-chief of The Calumet, the school newspaper, and a school sports reporter for the Newark Evening News. He graduated from Cornell University in 1948 with a degree in electrical engineering

His father, Joseph, then asked him to spend six months working at the family business, Brenner Desk, because two employees left. The six months lasted 37 years until 1983 when he sold the business. Under the leadership of Ed and his brother Robert, Brenner Desk became one of the largest contract office furniture businesses in the state.

Predeceased by his first wife, Judith Horowitz, he is survived by his wife of 30 years, Dr. Lee Brenner; brother, Robert; children, Jeffrey Brenner, Julius Brenner, Howard O'Desky, Dr. Gary Brenner, Dr. Ilyse O'Desky, and Dr. Grant Brenner; and eight grandchildren.

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

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5 MEMBERSHIP CHOICES: ☐ check if change in postal address

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

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* In Memory

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In Loving Memory

Dr. Robert Lowenstein, renowned Weequahic and Newark educator, passes away at 105



Dr. Robert Lowenstein, 105, of West Orange, died peacefully at home on Jan. 7, 2013. A memorial service will be held in the spring. He lived most of his life in Newark where he was born on July 13, 1907, before moving to West Orange in 1973. He was predeceased by the love of his life and wife of 64 years, Zelda Lewis Lowenstein, in 2005.

Dr. Lowenstein was a courageous and stalwart progressive whose intellect, warmth, and profound integrity made him an inspiration to his family and generations of students, colleagues, and friends. He was a scholar, teacher, and published poet who helped found the Newark Teachers Union in the 1930s.

In 2008, he was among the first group of inductees into the Weequahic High School Hall of Fame, where he was honored for his exemplary teaching and chairmanship of the foreign languages department over a long career.

He graduated from Newark's South Side High School and received a bachelor's degree in classical languages from Rutgers University in 1928, a master's degree in English from the University of Pennsylvania, and a Ph.D. in French from the Johns Hopkins University with a thesis on Voltaire. He taught at a boys' high school in France for a year, forming life-long friendships with some of his students.

After earning his doctorate, he began his teaching career in Trenton, N.J. before coming to Newark, where he taught romance languages at Weequahic, South Side, and Barringer High Schools. Dr. Lowenstein was a decorated World War II veteran honored for his service as a Master Sergeant in the Army Air Corps in North Africa, Italy, and Yugoslavia.

In 1955, Dr. Lowenstein was one of three Newark teachers fired during the McCarthy era, when the House Un-American Activities Committee came to Newark. He lost his job for six years, with his case going twice to the New Jersey Supreme Court before he was completely vindicated and reinstated in 1961.

Among the many students with whom he maintained decades-long friendships was Philip Roth, who used him as a model for the main character's brother Murray, an English teacher, in his novel, *I Married a Communist*. Like Murray, he was a wise,

principled, but down-to-earth teacher who cared deeply about his family and the world in which he lived.

After reaching the mandatory retirement age of 70 in 1977, he turned to writing poetry and had more than 100 of his poems published in small magazines such as *California Quarterly*, *International Poetry Review*, and *Parnassus Literary Journal*.

Dr. Lowenstein is survived by his children, Amy Lowenstein and her husband, Daniel Schwarzkopf, of Yardley, Pa.; Martha Lowenstein Rennie and her husband, Eric, of Cromwell, Conn.; and James Lowenstein and his wife, Hadassah, of Fair Lawn, N.J.; four beloved grandsons, Matthew and Aaron Rennie, and Ben and Luis Lowenstein, and great-grand daughter, Alexandra Lee Rennie; his sister-in-law, Florence L. Fayer, of St. Petersburg, Fla.; and numerous cherished nieces and nephews.

In addition to his beloved wife, Zelda, he was predeceased by his brother, Dr. Aaron Lowenstein, and sisters Ida Penn, Eleanor Zoob, Evelyn Bernstein, and Jean Dorison.

In Loving Memory

ALUMNI:

Harriet Menkes Alpert, 1940; Lenore Yavner Baer, 1953; Dorothy Daniels Bergman, 1945; Harold Blinder, 1943; Selma Rosenstock Cohen, 1943; Susan Reimer Davidson, 1964; Kenneth Dollinger, 1942; Renee Abramson Eisenberg, 1945; Morey Ershow, 1945; Susan Manchyk Friedman, 1963; Jack Gesten, 1941; Ronald Goffman, 1956; Allan Goldblatt; Michael Goldman, 1960; Rose Reider Handler, 1939; Richard Hersh, 1961; Larry Hockaday, 1969; Madelyn Hollander, 1951; Martin Jacobs, 1960; Philip Koplin, 1966; Muriel Friedman Ladoux, 1945; Beverly Greenfeder Levine, 1953; Beverly Witkowsky Liebeskind, 1949; Lucille Meisel, 1937; Brenda Skuratofsky Pickholtz, 1960; Michael Prince, 1960; Betty Reiss Ram, 1945; Jerome Reinfeld; Fredda Rich, 1966; Steven Schachner, 1964; Elana Golden Schipper, 1945; Janice Bruck Schofel, 1948; Robert Schram, 1963; Lillian Margulies Singer, 1939; Harvey Sinins, 1964; Elaine Werner Smith-Koenig, 1949; Rosalind Pollack Strauss, 1939; Roslyn Schneider Trunsky, 1945; Henry Vogel, 1937; Robert Wallad; Myrna Gilule Wasserman, 1958; Stanley Wertheimer, 1961; Donald Zadoff, 1944.

FACULTY: Frank Fiorito, English teacher

2013 REUNIONS

Friday, May 24, 2013

Class of June 1948

65th Reunion
McLoone's Boathouse
West Orange, NJ

Contact Ron Lauer at
973-243-2622 or email at
eilandron@comcast.net

Sunday, June 2, 2013

Class of June 1953

60th Reunion, 11:30 a.m.
McLoone's Boathouse
West Orange, NJ

Contact Barbara Klein Schneiderman
at (973) 422-0001 or e-mail at
schneidermanc@comcast.net

Sunday, June 2, 2013

Class of Jan. & June 1943

70th Reunion
IL Vicolo Restaurant
Livingston, NJ

Contact Sheldon Denburg at
(973) 515-6949 or Sarah Doppelt
at (973) 992-7488

Sunday, Sep. 22, 2013

Class of June 1958

55th Reunion
Crestmont Country Club
West Orange, NJ

Contact Charlotte Golum Cohen at
charlcohen@aol.com

Saturday, Oct. 12, 2013

Class of 1963 & Jan. 1964

50th Reunion, 7 p.m.
Woodbridge Renaissance
Edison, NJ

Contact Jac Toporek at (732) 986-4498
or e-mail at whsalum63@aol.com

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

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Order
on page 30

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Hobby's Deli - Newark
MPI Mailing Service - Belleville
Printing Delight - East Orange
Robert L. Horn Accounting - Clark
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incorporated in New Jersey in 2001

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