

ALUMNI CALUMET



Phil Yourish, WHS 1964

Stepping down as founding alumni director after 14 successful and rewarding years

By Hal Braff, 1952, Co-Founder & former Co-President,



Since its doors opened in 1933 tens of thousands of teenagers have passed through them on their way to adulthood. Newarkers all. Of all backgrounds, colors and faiths. The passageway to opportunity, taken by many.

In its own way Weequahic High School has attempted to embrace each one of them. Most have accepted - learned - grown. And for a large number, in each generation, their time on Chancellor Avenue played a significant role in their maturity - a boost toward a successful life - and left them with warm and treasured memories.

It is they who have, for seventeen years, supported the goals of the Weequahic

High School Alumni Association - to provide opportunity, scholarships, and activities for today's Weequahic students - a give-back for all that the school provided to us.

The Association has been a major success - raising hundreds of thousands of dollars and providing alums of all ages an outlet to participate as one Indian family.

Since 2001 the face of that organization - the man who drove its engine on the scene as the Executive Director, tirelessly working more than full time at his part-time job has been the incomparable Phil Yourish, Weequahic class of 1964.

He writes and publishes the Alumni Calumet, dispersing to graduates all over the globe news of current student achievement, articles that spark our memories of the past, as well as alumni yarns, honors, and passings.

It is Phil who manages the alumni office, answers the questions about Weequahic's history, sells alumni shirts and hats at class reunions and football games, cheerfully leads alumni through the building during reunion

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Weequahic's Alumni Legacy Walk Fundraising Project

As a special memento and gift to our beloved high school, alumni will have an opportunity to leave a wonderful legacy of our time and memories spent at Weequahic.

Bricks Raise Money

Through a fundraising initiative of the Weequahic High School Alumni Association that will raise funds for scholarship and student activities at the high school, we will be offering personalized bricks that will be placed as pavers on the front walk to the high school's main entrance for all to share and admire.

Buy An Engraved Brick

Be a part of the **ALUMNI LEGACY WALK** by purchasing your customized brick. The brick will be laser engraved with names, dates, special messages, and logos.

These tribute bricks are perfect for honoring your family's name, celebrating a precious memory, remembering your graduation class, memorializing a loved one - or it can even make a wonderful graduation gift.

Bricks Benefit Students

This brick will forever preserve your legacy at Weequahic High School while helping raise funds to make scholarships and programs possible for the current generation of Weequahic students.

Marc Tarabour, 1963, our new Alumni Association Co-President, is providing the leadership for this exciting project. He looks forward to raising more than \$100,000.

Explore Your Brick Choices

Two sizes of bricks will be offered: the **4 x 8 brick** can be personalized with an inscription of your choice with up to 1-3 lines of wording (18 - 20 spaces/line).



Inscribe your name in Weequahic history

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YOURISH (Continued from page 1)

weekends, prepares detailed reports on school and alumni activities for each month's Board of Trustees meeting, and has been the foremost spokesperson for the glory of our beloved school. Throughout the country, he has become known as "Mr. Weequahic."

Though officially retiring, Phil will maintain his involvement with the Association continuing to produce the Calumet, maintaining the new web site, recruiting new members, and communicating regularly with alumni through the Internet.

No one is more loyal, or more caring, or more devoted to our school, its present and past. No one deserves more gratitude or has earned the praise and appreciation of all than our dear friend and colleague - Phil Yourish. May you be forever blessed.

Phil adds: *My thanks to all of the wonderful alumni who have contributed to the success of this unique phenomena called the Weequahic High School Alumni Association. I am thrilled at what we have been able to do for the current students at Weequahic. For me, the past 14 years has been an amazing alumni journey. Now I look forward to my next adventure, new challenges, and unknown possibilities!*

NEW ALUMNI DIRECTOR SELECTED

Elmira Lawson, from the class of 1970, has been selected as the new Executive Director of the Weequahic HS Alumni Association. She will be featured in the next issue.

ALUMNI LEGACY WALK

(Continued from page 1)

The **8 x 8 brick** will have 1-6 lines of wording (18 - 20 spaces/line). A logo or clip art can be added if you choose (from a list provided or you can upload your own!).

How To Get Your Bricks

To purchase your brick, log on to the new Weequahic High School Alumni Association web site at weequahicalumni.org and go to the **Menu** at the top of the page. Then click on **Links** and a dropdown menu will appear. Click on the link for the **Alumni Legacy Walk** and you will be taken to a special web site to purchase your brick(s).

more honors to Weequahic alumni

Jac Toporek, WHS 1963 Star of Essex Award

Jac is the publisher of Saturday's WHS Note, the popular alumni e-mail newsletter



The *Essex County's Annual Jewish Heritage Celebration* took place on May 20th. The festive event recognized the influence and positive impact that Jewish people have had, and continue to have, on the economy and culture of the county.

During the ceremony, the Star of Essex Awards were presented to **Jacob Toporek**, Executive Director of the NJ State Association of Jewish Federations, and **Rabbi Faith Joy Dantowitz** from Temple B'nai Abraham in Livingston

Jac has served as Executive Director of the NJ State Association of Jewish Federations since October 2007. With a long history of state government involvement through administrative positions held and community relations and advocacy, he directs the government affairs activities of the State Association.

THANKS FOR YOUR GOOD WORK!

Our acknowledgement and appreciation to the following alumni board of trustees members, who have recently left the board, for their commitment and dedication:

Sheldon Bross (co-founder & treasurer)
Myma Jelling Weissman (secretary & treasurer)
Judy Bennett (co-president)
Arnold Keller and Marshall Cooper

ALUMNI BOARD VACANCIES

Would you like to serve on our Alumni Association Board of Trustees? We are looking for alumni who will be *active, involved, enthusiastic, and dedicated*. If interested, send a cover letter and resume. Our P.O. Box address is above under Contact Us.

Correction: In the last issue of the Alumni Calumet, **Hal Lipton's** name was included on the "In Loving Memory" list by mistake. We apologize. Hal reports that he is doing well in Laurel, Maryland.

ALUMNI CALUMET

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WHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Editor, Layout & Design:

Phil Yourish, 1964

Proofreading:

Dave Lieberfarb, 1965
and **Hal Braff, 1952**

Our thanks for articles and photos from The Star-Ledger, NJ.com, NJ Jewish News, oldnewark.com, and our WHS alumni and friends.

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ALUMNI BOARD NEWS

Elections: At our *Annual Organization Meeting* in September, **Marc Tarabour**



was elected Co-President (1969 and before); **Mary Dawkins** was re-elected Co-President (1970 and after) for her 7th term; and **Art Lutzke** and **Ruby Baskerville** were

re-elected Treasurer and Secretary respectively.



Hal Braff, Co-Founder and Co-President for the past 17 years, who celebrated his 80th birthday in August, did not run for re-election. He will continue as a board member.

After 16 years, **Ruby Baskerville**, is



retiring as the founder and Executive Director of the Union Chapel Community Development Corporation on Wainwright Street. She will be honored by her organization at a dinner on Nov. 7th at the Westwood in Garwood.

Bravo To Our New College Graduates

Corey Rogers, WHS 2009



Seton Hill University

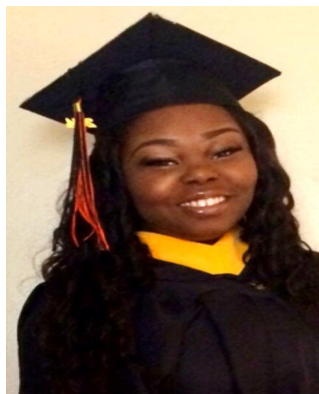
I graduated from Seton Hill University in Pennsylvania on Monday, December 16th. I was also the first student commencement speaker in the history of Seton Hill. Words cannot adequately express how grateful I am for your financial support during the past four years. Had it not been for the Weequahic High School Alumni Association, I probably would not have even graduated.

My mother and I made many sacrifices, but that didn't seem to be enough. Had it not been for the financial endowment you graciously gave me, it probably would not have been possible. I am proud of being an alum of Seton Hill, but I am even prouder being an alum of Weequahic High School. I will be attending Seton Hall University in South Orange to pursue a master's in public administration.

I would like to thank the entire Weequahic High School Alumni Association because I couldn't have done it without them. The constant financial support has helped me accomplish this important phase in my life. I am forever grateful. I hope one day I will be able to give back to others.

Da'Aiyah Smith, WHS 2009

I felt this day would never come. I'm the first person in my immediate family to graduate college. All my hard work has finally paid off. Needless to say, this journey wasn't a walk in the park. There were plenty of days where the workload was so strenuous that I wanted to give up.



William Paterson University

The love and support from family and the WHS Alumni Association always put me back on track. Every single time I needed help financially, the WHS Alumni Association was in my corner, and for that I'm very appreciative.

This coming Fall I plan to enter the master's program at William Paterson University to concentrate on secondary education. I intend to give back to the Newark Public Schools to show my appreciation. Besides, I know that I can make a difference as a teacher in the school system.

Dukpe Smith-Obasuyi, WHS 2009



Felician College

Since receiving a Weequahic High School Alumni Association scholarship, I was granted the opportunity to live my basketball dreams in college. I was able to attend and play basketball at New Mexico Military Institute, Erie Community College, where I graduated with an Associate's Degree in Liberal Arts, and Felician College, where I earned a B.A. in History this past May.

Soon, I will be starting the process of earning my Master's degree in higher education at Mercer University in Atlanta, Georgia.

The Alumni Association has assisted me throughout my college years with contributions toward my books and tuition. I am grateful to have been an alumni scholarship recipient and thankful to everyone who believed in me.

Ayomipo Bajome, WHS 2009



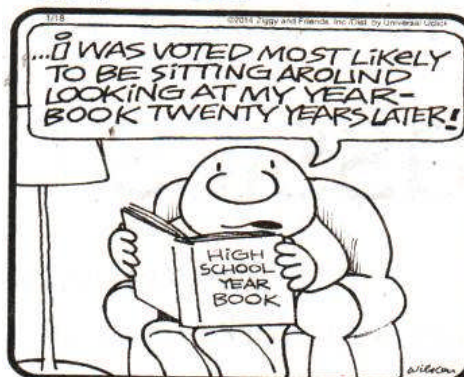
William Paterson University

College is not about partying or having fun 24/7. You actually have to work and manage your time because you do not have teachers constantly reminding you that you need to turn in your assignments or other things that high school teachers would do. You are responsible for yourself in college and once you fall off track, it can be very difficult to get back on.

I have learned a lot throughout my undergraduate experience. I have learned to stay on task with my work because it can be overwhelming if you don't. I also had the opportunity to participate in different programs which enriched my college experience.

With my degree in Psychology and a minor in Public Health, I will further my education by starting my master's program in the fall of 2015.

Ziggy by Tom Wilson



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Celebrating Two Anniversaries



Irwin Schrob, WHS 1963, exclaims that *"this is a year to celebrate."* Not only are he and his wife **Barbara Blerbaum Schrob, WHS 1964**, commemorating their 45th anniversary, but they are also celebrating 10 years since Bobbi courageously and unselfishly donated one of her kidneys to a woman with severe renal failure so that this woman's husband could donate his to Irwin.

This remarkable story, written in 2004 by **Aparna Narayanan**, a health writer for the Home News, follows:

Racquetball, golf, tennis. East Brunswick resident Barbara Schrob describes her husband Irwin as *"a very active man...always on the go."* But a year and a half ago, Irwin, who has lived with diabetes for many years, started to develop kidney failure.

The 58-year-old salesman dreaded the thought of dialysis, which seemed inevitable as he awaited a kidney transplant. One of Schrob's sons was a match, but the Schrobs were uncomfortable with the idea of a 21-year-old donating a kidney. Barbara was willing to donate, but her blood type was incompatible with her husband's.

Then, through a family friend, Barbara heard about a kidney-donor-exchange program at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia. She contacted the facility and soon after learned that another donor/recipient pair with the opposite blood-group incompatibility had been found.

The kidney-donor-exchange transplantation was performed on August 13th when Barbara donated her kidney to a patient whose husband donated his kidney to Irwin Schrob.

That couple also are from New Jersey, but wish to remain anonymous, *"They were on the same path as us,"* Barbara said. *"It's such a wonderful solution because people die every day waiting for transplants."*

Barbara underwent minimally invasive laparoscopic surgery, which required four small incisions, only one of which was over an inch. She has made a complete recovery, but admits she was nervous. *"It's scary, there are always the risk of infections and blood loss,"* she said. *"But I wanted to help my husband."*

In Barbara's case, there was a bonus. *"Not only was I happy to be helping my husband, but the fact that I was helping somebody else made me feel even better about it."*

Irwin Schrob's recovery has been slow, but Barbara sees the donor-swap program as a ray of hope for the many patients whose would-be donors are not a match. *"I really wish that other hospitals would do this program,"* she said.

The first paired kidney exchange in the United States was performed at The Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore in 2001. Until 2003, the facility had done four such transplants.

On July 28, surgeons at John Hopkins performed what is believed to be the world's first *"triple swap"* kidney transplant, giving kidneys from people they had never met before.

Barbara sees another benefit to the kidney swaps - the availability of much-coveted spots on transplant-waiting lists for other patients.

As they celebrate two anniversaries, Irv is thankful to Bobbi for her sacrifice and generosity. In addition, he wants to bring attention to this wonderful alternative to direct donation to anyone who finds themselves in the same situation as him.



at the
WIGWAM
on the hill

Weequahic is alive and well in its 81st year!



Currently, there are many educational reforms taking place in Newark. Some have negatively impacted Weequahic High School. In late

December 2013, the high school was notified that it would be phased out in three years and that two gender-specific academies, grades 6-12, would be moving into the building this September.

The Alumni Association took the lead in opposing these plans and in mobilizing its large alumni family. It developed a 12-point position paper which was sent to the Newark state-appointed Superintendent of Schools and other officials. In addition, it asked alumni from Newark and all around the country to write letters, send e-mails, and make phone calls to local and state officials - and also to sign a petition, and, for those locally, to attend community meetings.

Clearly, our voice was strongly heard. At our board meeting last January with the Assistant Superintendent, it was agreed that Weequahic would continue to exist as a comprehensive high school, enrollment of 9th-grade students for September would take place immediately, a new instructional design would be developed by the Principal and teaching staff, and progress would be reviewed in two years.

Although this was encouraging, there is more to be accomplished - but it is an opportunity, a positive step forward. We will continue to closely monitor this situation and maintain communication with representatives from the NPS.

At present, Principal **Faheem Ellis** has left the high school as a result of health issues and has been replaced by **Lisa McDonald**, formerly a Vice Principal at Barringer. And the boys academy and the girls academy now occupy the 4th floor of the building.

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85th anniversary of the Weequahic Branch Library celebrated with

Libraries, Landmarks, & Literacy:

a booklet of memories of the Weequahic
Branch Library written by former Weequahic kids



Published by Sandra West, 1964 and
edited and formatted by Phil Yourish, 1964

Many of us who grew up in Newark, resided in the Weequahic section, attended one of five elementary schools in the area, and graduated from Weequahic High have one more wonderful experience in common - we developed or enhanced our love for reading at 355 Osborne Terrace, the Weequahic Branch Library.

Sandra West, the co-author of the *Encyclopedia of the Harlem Renaissance* and a 1964 grad, is now a librarian at the library of her youth. Last year she proposed the idea of putting together a booklet of library recollections and issued a call for articles from the Weequahic clan who knew the library so well. The booklet contains 11 articles written by Weequahic individuals, a variety of images, and a library fact sheet. 1970 grad **Sheila Oliver** wrote her reflections in the Introduction.

The Weequahic Branch opened its doors in May 1929, and was the sixth branch library of The Newark Public Library system to open between 1923 and 1946. It underwent a \$1 million renovation in 1992, which included off-street parking

facilities, improved lighting, online public access computers, elevator, air conditioning, and a story-pit area for children. The branch is handicapped accessible, with an exterior ramp and an elevator.

Today the library features a special emphasis on African-American materials, a diverse collection of fiction and non-fiction books, popular video and DVD collection, magazines, audio books on cassette and CD, computers, word processing, Internet, and access to the library's electronic resources. A multi-purpose room with a seating capacity of 85 is on the second floor. The room may be used for library or community-sponsored programs.

Exhibits centered on holidays, celebrations, and other themes are held throughout the year, along with a variety of programs for adults and children.

Special events are held on a regular basis, including the popular Summer Reading Challenge. After-school activities include arts and crafts, games

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at the WIGWAM on the hill

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Graduation

150 students graduated on June 26th. **Yetunde Oloko** was the valedictorian and **Destiny Norman**, the salutatorian. Former Principal **John Tonero** was the keynote speaker. Alumni Association Executive Director, **Phil Yourish**, was honored with a plaque for his years of service.



Yetunde & Destiny 2014 Alumni Scholarships

On Thursday evening, June 19th, at the Solid Rock Baptist Church in Irvington, a Weequahic High School Alumni Association Scholarship Celebration Dinner took place for 25 deserving Weequahic students, their families, WHS faculty, alumni board members, and invited guests. **\$26,000** was awarded - two scholarships were in the amount of \$1,500 and twenty-three were for \$1,000.

Antoinette Baskerville-Richardson, the former Chair of the Newark Public Schools Advisory Board and a WHS 1970 grad, was the keynote speaker



The scholarship recipients were as follows: **Nancy Boachie, Quadasia Burchett, Aniqua Butler, Dajahna Butler, Ameerah Carson, Kearah Cook, Toshiea Davis, Eboni Deloatch, Jabrie Dwight, Tania Faison, Osafi Anthony Fordyce, Uriah Golding, Alliyyah Kamal, Trevlon Hamer, Randel Maxwell, Medjina Meronee, Destiny Norman, Yetunde Oloko, Ryan Rasberry, Jr., Jada Reynolds,**

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LIBRARY (Continued from page 5)

and puzzles, movies, and contests. The Little/Big Readers Club and The South Newark Literary Society meet once a month on Wednesdays.



On October 23, 2006, Pulitzer Prize winning author and 1950 Weequahic grad, **Philip Roth**, was honored by the City of Newark and the Newark Preservation and Landmarks Committee. The reception for this event took place on the 2nd floor of the Weequahic Branch Library. In his remarks at the library, he exclaimed, *"Today, Newark is my Stockholm, and that plaque is my prize. I couldn't be more thrilled by any recognition accorded to me anywhere on earth."*

Below are some excerpts from the articles in the booklet.

From Sheila Oliver, 1970

I often joke with friends and colleagues today that there have been times during the course of my life when I preferred books over the company of people! Through reading, you are able to travel the world, develop an extensive vocabulary, perfect your own writing and public-speaking skills, cultivate a sensitivity to the human condition, experience the ranges of human emotion, and identify with those you would adopt as role models. In essence, reading a book is joy and libraries are the depositories of that joy.

Barbara Dubin Blumenfeld Klein, 1962

I can still remember taking out my library card and having the librarian stamp the card that went in the book. Boom! She would bang on the machine that printed the due date. But, I think, my fondest memory was a summer reading program called the *"Bookworm Club."* For each book you read, you got a piece of a worm (made out of colored paper) on the bulletin board. If you read enough books by the end of the summer, a whole *bookworm* was formed. It sure made me feel proud!

Henry Klein, Bragaw Avenue School and Weequahic Annex

I'm 70 years old, but my first remembrance of the library was as a preschooler being taken by my mother to a children's reading group held in a room on the south side of the second floor ... we sat in a circle on those indestructible little wood and metal chairs while we were read to.

Paula Garrett, 1968

My dearest memory of this great Library actually goes back to grammar school days at Maple Ave. I can remember my first Library card, and how it fit into the front or back jacket of the book. It had a metal arm attached, and that was the stamp for borrowing the book.

Larry Koenigsberg, 1964

My recollection is that the library was the only reason that I would cross Lyons Avenue from where I lived, on Parkview Terrace between Vassar and Chancellor; later on Pomona Avenue at Elizabeth

Judith Wright Dubowy, 1959

The Weequahic Branch Library was our family's regular walk from Custer Avenue in freezing snow and the hot, humid New Jersey summers. In fact, one time we made it to the library and the librarians didn't! I read in blocks - weeks of fairy tales, then biographies, then the Alcott books, and then kid series - and spent my allowance on batteries so I could read at night.

Joyce Janoff Feder, 1960

I learned to LOVE books and reading at a young age. My parents often related that, when I was very young, and unable to read on my own, I could often be heard whining to a family member, or anyone who would listen: *"Read me, read me!"*



To satisfy my desires, my mother, Selma Janoff, and I made frequent trips to the library. My favorite library experience was Story Hour and I could not wait for

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at the WIGWAM on the hill

(Continued from page 5)

Lanayesha Richardson, Shanazz Robinson, Ebenezer Oduro Tweneboah, Shalaya Washington, and Breeyantae Wells.

Academic Progress

Weequahic students continue to improve their test scores. 11th-graders reached the **86%** level on the Language Arts section of the High School Equivalency Test.

Pigskin Prominence



What an amazing season for the Weequahic Indians football team, featuring an **11-1** record and **8** shutouts. Some of the highlights are as follows:

- Super Essex Conference Colonial Division championship
- ranked #20 in the state
- #2 in the county
- #1 in Group 2
- won the *"neighborhood bragging rights"* for the 5th year in a row by beating rival Shabazz High School on Thanksgiving Day
- and appeared in the Central Jersey Group 2 finals for the 3rd straight year - losing to Rumson 14-6.

The WHS head coach is 1982 grad **Brian Logan**.

Senior linebacker **Sidney Gopre**, who will be attending Rutgers University, was named the *"Defensive Player of the Year"* in NJ.



The Alumni Association has assisted in providing funds the summer football team camp.

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LIBRARY (Continued from page 6)

the appointed day and hour. We had to be the first ones at the door and I would keep my nose pressed to the glass until the librarian came to unlock it.

Sandra West, 1964

As a teenager at Weequahic High School, now a South Ward resident, I remember walking from school to Osborne Terrace to this comfortable looking brick building. The librarian was warm and accessible. She always asked how I enjoyed my book. She was genuinely interested. She waited for an answer. I remember The New York Times best-sellers on the front desk, the first books any of us patrons saw. I read a lot of Ernest Hemingway and James Baldwin in those days.

Lee Altman (Lillian Dunn), 1973

She (the librarian) used to say, "Whatever you need, we have it right here at the library." She also said that studying for the next day's lesson was very important. It prepared you for the next day of questions from the teacher so you can be the first one to raise your hand with the answer. This advice took me throughout my years of education and beyond. I lived by her advice and many years later taught it to my daughter who is now in college. I have no doubt that she will teach it to her children one day.

Judy Sarnow Gluck, 1960

I remember a librarian in the children's section reading the book *Little Pear* to us. I can see myself sitting on the floor in front of her, all the way across the big room, after climbing the stairs to the second floor and walking to the wonderful children's

section in the back corner. I remember my mother settling me on the floor and walking away, probably to browse for her own books, as she was an avid reader.

Judy Wolff, 1964

How wonderful to grow up with such a grand resource! Being able to borrow four books at a time from the children's room upstairs and to have two weeks in which to read them allowed me to develop the taste for novels and biographies that stays with me to this day.



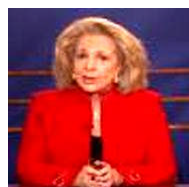
WALDO WINCHESTER'S Alumni News

Dr. Victor Parsonnet, 1941, was honored



on his 90th birthday by the NJ Symphony Orchestra on October 10th at the NJ Performing Arts Center in Newark. He is the Chairman Emeritus of NJSO.

Sandy King, 1965, the co-host of *Due*



Process, which airs on NJTV, was awarded two more New York Emmys in two important categories: *Outstanding Public Affairs Reporting* and *Outstanding Criminal Justice Program*.

Antoinette Baskerville-Richardson, 1970,



was recently re-elected to the Newark Public Schools "Board of Education." For the past two years, she has served as Board President and is an ardent foe of the "One Newark" school reform plan.

Jerry Enis, Jan, 1956, was honored by the NJ



Performing Arts Center Board of Trustees for 25 years with the team that implemented the dream of Gov. Tom Kean of creating a world class center that would be a catalyst for the rebirth of Downtown Newark.

Rayvon Lisbon, 2007, was recognized by



Tau Sigma, a national honor society, for his high academic achievement while at Rutgers Newark. In his 4th-year, he was on the Dean's List with a 3.6 GPA. Ray was one of the students featured in the award-winning documentary, *Heart of Stone*, a film about

Weequahic High School, Principal Ronald Stone, and the WHS Alumni Association.



at the WIGWAM on the hill

(Continued from page 6)

The Girls Are Now The Hoop Stars



At Weequahic, basketball was always the exclusive territory of the boys - but no more. The girl hoopsters, with a 23-4 record, won the Super Essex Conference Liberty Division championship, won the North Jersey Section 2, Group 2 championship; and almost grabbed the Group 2 golden ring.

Senior **Stephanie Davis**, the team's top player, averaged 19 points a game and was 2nd in steals in the state. She will be attending LaSalle University next year. **Amiri Baraka, Jr.** is the girls' basketball coach. The Alumni Association has paid for the girls' basketball camp for the past few summers.

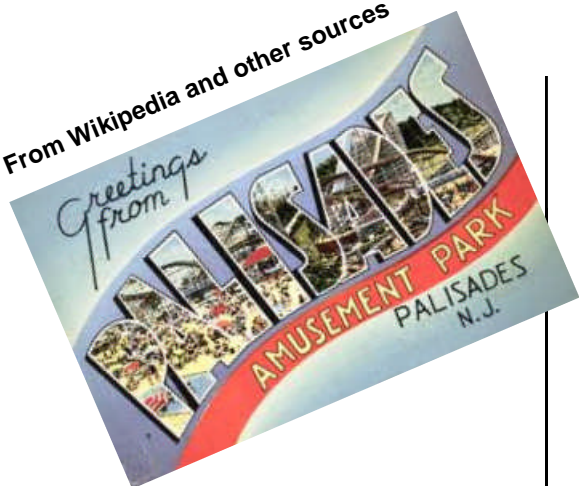
Around The Bases



Weequahic went 13-5 and was first in the Super Essex Conference - Independence Division. Sophomore **Deon Merchant**, who made the All-Newark team, emerged as one of Newark's top talents, hitting .632 with 33 RBI. **Juan Alvarez** is the coach.

Art Award

Senior **Nancy Boachie**, a WHS 2014 scholarship recipient, received an award from the Newark Public Schools for her poster on school attendance.



Throughout its entire history, *Palisades Amusement Park* overlooked the Hudson River: thirty acres of New Jersey river-front land straddling what is now Cliffside Park and Fort Lee, and facing the northern end of Manhattan.

Opened in 1898 - Trolley Park Era

In 1898, before the onset of highways and automobiles, the Bergen County Traction Company conceived it as a trolley park to attract evening and weekend riders. It was originally known as "*The Park on the Palisades.*"

In 1908, the trolley company sold the park to August Neumann and Frank Knox, who hired Alven H. Dexter to manage it. Dexter imported a crude assortment of attractions which included a Ferris Wheel, a baby parade, and diving horses. By 1908, the park was renamed *Palisades Amusement Park*, and the new owners began adding amusement rides and attractions.

Sold in 1910

In 1910, Nicholas and Joseph Schenck and their Realty Trust Company purchased the property, promising that the park would be "*devoted to families, ladies and children ... a perfectly safe and sane place to visit.*"

The Schencks were brothers who were active in the nascent motion picture industry in nearby Fort Lee. To lure New Yorkers, the company built a scenic railroad that ran from the ferry slip in Edgewater up to the park.

Salt Water Swimming Pool

The famed saltwater pool was opened in 1912 and was equipped with a wave-making machine. It was filled by pumping water from the saline Hudson River, 200 feet below. This pool, 400 by 600 feet in surface area, was billed as the

largest salt-water wave pool in the nation. Behind the waterfalls were huge pontoons that rose up and down as they rotated, creating a one-foot wave in the pool.

As the park added more and more attractions, it became so famous by the 1920s that the Borough of Palisades Park, located just west of the amusement park, actually considered changing its name to avoid visitors' confusion.

Sold Again in 1935

In 1935, the Schenk brothers sold the site for \$450,000 to Jack and Irving Rosenthal. The Brooklyn brothers and entrepreneurs had built a fortune as concessionaires at Coney Island.



They also owned some concessions and a carousel at Savin Rock Park in Connecticut. They built the Coney Island Cyclone roller coaster in 1927. By 1960, they had turned the playland into one of the cleanest and most respected family parks in the East.

In 1935 the park was partially destroyed in a fire, and in 1944 a second fire erupted. The fire closed the park until the start of the 1945 season.

One of the many attractions, rebuilt and redesigned by construction superintendent

REMEMBERING PALISADES AMUSEMENT PARK

Joe McKee, included the Skyrocket roller coaster. The Rosenthals named the newly repaired coaster the *Cyclone* after their beloved Coney Island coaster. Later, Joe with his construction foreman Bert Whitworth, went on to build the *Wild Mouse* roller coaster in 1958.

The park's reputation and attendance continued to grow throughout the 1950s and 1960s, largely due to saturation advertising and the continued success of the park's music pavilion.

In the mid-1950s the park started featuring rock and roll shows hosted by local disc jockeys Clay Cole and Bruce Morrow, also known as *Cousin Brucie*. Starting in the 1960s, Motown musical acts also performed.

The park's renown extended far beyond the New York City metropolitan area, as advertisements for it were frequently run in the back pages of 1950s and 1960s comic books.

Racial Issues

In the summer of 1946, several African-Americans began to challenge Palisades Amusement Park pool's restrictive Jim Crow policies. Protesters showed up at the Palisade Avenue entrance to the park with signs in hand. After subsequent incidents, Rosenthal ended the policy in 1950.

The Palisades Park Song



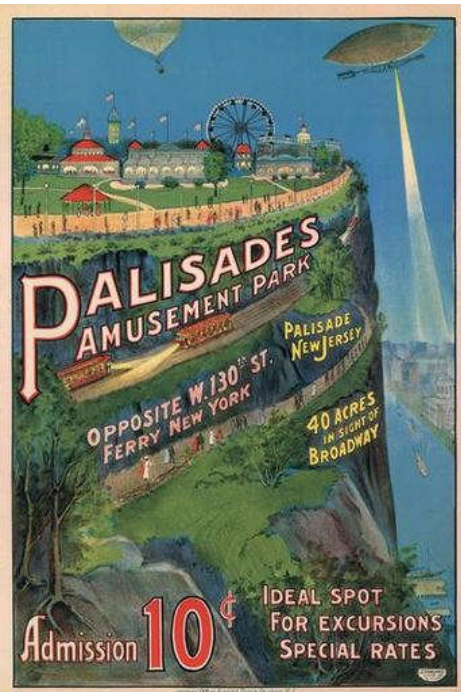
Chuck Barris wrote and Freddy Cannon recorded a song about the park, *Palisades Park* in 1962. The song was an up-tempo rock and roll tune led by a distinctive organ part. The track also incorporated amusement park sound effects.

(Continued on page 9)

PALISADES PARK (Continued from page 8)

The song, *Palisades Park*, received nationwide airplay and boosted the park's fame even further, with radio and TV commercials in the New York metropolitan area encouraging the public to "Come on over!"

Released by Swan Records as a B-side to *June, July and August*, *Palisades Park* became popular when a Flint, Michigan radio DJ played it by mistake. It peaked at #3 on the Billboard Hot 100 in June 1962, the biggest hit of Cannon's career.



The Park's Demise

Two key factors contributed to the eventual closing of *Palisades Amusement Park*: near-gridlock traffic conditions in its vicinity due to inadequate parking facilities, and growing uncertainty over its future.

By 1967, Jack Rosenthal had died of Parkinson's disease, leaving his brother Irving as sole owner. Irving, in his 70s by then, was not expected to run the park for much longer and with no family heirs, it was unclear as to who would eventually assume ownership. Meanwhile the park had become so popular that the towns of Cliffside Park and Fort Lee were being overwhelmed by the hordes of people who were "coming on over" in response to the park's ads, and the traffic situation had become intolerable.

Local residents, tired of the traffic jams, litter and other problems caused by the park's immense popularity, demanded action from local elected officials. Developers saw an opportunity to cash in on the Palisades' spectacular view of Manhattan, and they successfully pressured the local government to re-zone the amusement park site for high-rise apartment housing and condemn it under eminent domain. Thus the fate of *Palisades Amusement Park* was sealed.

Over the next few years, the land was surveyed by a number of builders who made lucrative offers, but Rosenthal tried to postpone the park's inevitable closing and refused to sell. The right offer finally came in January 1971.



A Texas developer, Winston-Centex Corporation, acquired the property for \$12.5 million and agreed to lease it back to Irving Rosenthal so that *Palisades Amusement Park* could operate for one final season. The park closed its gates for the last time on Sunday, September 12, 1971.

Condos Replace Amusements

The buildings were subsequently demolished; the rides sold, dismantled and transported to other amusement operators in the United States and Canada. Three high-rise luxury apartment buildings stand on the old park site today. The first one built was Winston Towers, followed by Carlyle Towers in Cliffside Park and a then a third building, the Buckingham, in Fort Lee.

In 1998, on the centennial of the opening of the original *Park on the Palisades*, Winston Towers management dedicated a monument to *Palisades Amusement Park* on its property.

The monument is a pocket park, with the names of the rides inscribed on its bricks. The park is called "*The Little Park of Memories*."



2014 ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP STUDENTS

Larry Bemby, 1966 Weequahic Basketball Star, Led Student Protest 45 Years Ago Seeking Change At



BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE

THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED

FOUNDED 1876

By Matthew Memrick, Gaston Gazette, NC

Seven African-American students, all studying on a predominantly white North Carolina college campus in 1969, took to the roof of a classroom building. They called for equal treatment. Instead, a call went out for the police. And in the end the protest changed lives, though in ways its organizers never imagined.

The decision to take over a Belmont Abbey campus building came amid unrest at home over the Vietnam War and the Civil Rights movement. The attempt to drive change led Belmont Abbey College to dismiss the students 45 years ago and to leave the protest largely forgotten except in the minds of those for whom it was a seminal event in tumultuous times.

Life away from home

Larry Bemby was a basketball player from Newark, N.J., but the grandson of Southerners. Accepted at Boston University and Davidson College, he chose Belmont Abbey instead. His family had reservations about his decision to go south. But he wanted to play basketball at an all-male college and escape the city life.

The junior was one of three basketball players in the group that would take to the Science Building roof. Theirs was a successful team poised for a playoff run that year, and they were pleased to represent a respected school. *"It had a good reputation,"* Bemby said. *"They called it the 'Notre Dame of the South.' There was a*

good business school, and we had a lot of pride attending."

LaHuse McFadden attended a Catholic high school in Sumter, S.C. With help from the school's nuns, he was accepted to Belmont Abbey in 1967 as the only black student in a class of 122. He was an accounting major in his sophomore year on a partial academic scholarship. *"We were pretty good students,"* Bemby said. *"Overall, we didn't cause problems. We were gentlemen."*

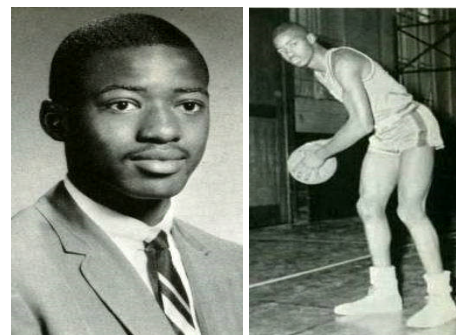
Bemby and McFadden said they had the typical, fun college experience. The student body was a mix of young men from the north and south. But the Abbey, like many schools, was mostly white - professors included.

The students missed out on things like having a black mentor to confide in. They said they were excluded from fraternities and would often go down the road to Johnson C. Smith to hang out at the historically black university in Charlotte.

The students wanted change. They put together a list of demands for the administration, including the need for current black literature, a black adviser, recruiting more black students, financial assistance for students coming from the Gaston County community, and recognizing the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday. The administration received the demands in March and promised increased recruiting of black students and teachers.

'There needed to be change'

On a Monday night in late April, Bemby and McFadden attended an informal talk by Howard Fuller, a civil rights activist from Durham, at the Haid Gym. Fuller worked with Operation Breakthrough and was a founder of the Malcolm X Liberation University, an experimental educational institution. Students invited him, and



Larry Bemby at WHS in 1966

Fuller encouraged the black and white students to think about their college situation.

John Farrell, the Abbey's student body president, and Michael Fitzsimmons were two white students who attended. *"The thing I remember from it - Fuller didn't seem to be much of a rabble-rouser,"* Farrell said. *"He looked the part with the afro and the beard, but it didn't sound like anything he was talking about was too drastic."*

After Fuller left that night, McFadden remembers a group talking about improving campus conditions. Bemby, McFadden, Willis Dargon (a 1965 WHS grad), Jerry Hines, Charlie Landrum, Ron McDaniel and Bob Shade all decided something had to be done.

The Abbey had 10 black students. All but three were on board. *"We knew there needed to be change,"* McFadden said. *"There was no malicious intent. Our intent was to get the administration's attention, get them to listen and get a response."*

'They never threatened us'

Around 4:30 a.m. on April 29, 1969, the group managed to take over the William S. Gaston Science Building in what would become a 14-hour event, broadcast on the nightly national news and reported by local newspapers for days.

Students showed up for classes later that day and were met with locked doors. Belmont resident and Gaston County Sheriff's officer James Warren was dispatched to the campus with fellow officer Charlie Sherrill at the request of Gaston County Sheriff Dwight Beam. Warren said the sheriff was with Abbot Walter Coggin when he arrived on campus that morning.



Belmont Abbey Basketball Team
Bemby is #42 and Co-Captain

(Continued on page 11)

BEMBRY (Continued from page 10)

Fuller, who had left campus after leading talks with students the night before, said he came back to the campus when he learned of the protest. But school officials had the civil rights figure in their sights. *"The abbot told the sheriff that (Fuller) was on Belmont Abbey property and that he wanted him removed,"* said Warren, who later served as the Belmont Abbey campus police chief for 20 years. Warren estimated there were 150 to 200 students outside the building.

"Fuller was on top of the building," Warren said. *"We could see him. Fuller was telling the sheriff where he was and what he was doing. The students were not, under any circumstances, out of control. They were moaning and groaning, asking us not to do anything. But they never, ever threatened us."*

Student body president Farrell spent the day carrying messages between protestors and the college president, Father Jude Cleary. Warren said he and Sherrill asked Fuller to come down from the roof. They took him into custody, but brought him back after the protesting students asked for him to negotiate.

They had a walkie-talkie and were able to listen to police chatter from their post atop the building. They knew a law enforcement response was imminent. *"We heard the (police) conversation and we knew we were in danger,"* Bembry said.

'No telling what could've happened'

The situation was tense and fast-moving. Bembry said he and his fellow black students thought there were sharpshooters. Students and members of the media reported seeing a protestor with a gun, though no weapon was ever recovered. Bembry and McFadden say they never had a gun and sought a peaceful protest.

On the ground, Charlie Martin was with a group of fellow military veterans in the crowd. They were unhappy the college building was occupied. Others throughout the rural community shared that sentiment.

"A lot of the local folks were out there too," said Martin, now Belmont's mayor and an Abbey graduate. *"They didn't like the fact that the students had taken over that building. There were some boys from North Belmont. They didn't like that too. It was a pretty divisive thing. It could've*



Students on roof of college building

been a lot worse than it did but the situation finally got settled and those kids were kicked out of school. It happened, but they did wrong."

Fuller recalls an increased presence of law enforcement off campus. One newspaper article described 50 helmeted policemen stationed at the Interstate 85 ramp off campus. The Durham activist wanted a resolution as quickly as possible. *"I was trying to get something done before the mill workers came out,"* Fuller said. *"We had to figure something out because there was no telling what could've happened."*

False resolution?

By 2 p.m., the students agreed to end the protest and meet with Cleary. The group went over their demands with Cleary addressing each. Reasonable demands got reasonable answers, Farrell said. The college president explained that others were out of his control. Farrell described the meeting as productive, but said it created a false sense of resolution.



Current pic of Larry Bembry, a former WHS Alumni Association board member

"Those guys came down because they were made a series of promises (by the administration) which were probably broken," Farrell said. *"(The feeling was that) all was well. We were glad they were down. That we were one big family. There was much joy and everyone was shaking hands in Cleary's office. So we go back to exams and two weeks after that, the seven of them are dismissed."*

'Indefinite suspension'

The students had legal representation as they met with administration over the next week. The college's board of trustees ultimately decided the protestors had disrupted school operations and should be put on an *'indefinite suspension.'* The students were not expelled (*asked to voluntarily withdraw*), so their names did not go to a military draft board. But their status for reapplication was uncertain.

"I didn't have an understanding that we could reapply to school because the suspension was indefinite," McFadden said. *"... I left it there so I could go to another school."* Bembry and McFadden said the group thought demands would be met and they could take exams and be punished with suspension. The ruling was a surprise. *"We were at the mercy of the administration,"* Bembry said.

Life after Abbey

The Abbey takeover changed the lives of the students involved. *"When I came home, I had a heart-to-heart talk with my mom,"* McFadden said. *"She said, 'I can't afford to send you to school now.'"* That drove McFadden to work hard to finish his degree. He enrolled in Coppin State University in Maryland the next year and graduated in 1974. He went on to a 35-year career in the pharmaceutical industry and worked as a district service manager in several Eastern states.

Bembry completed his undergraduate degree at Rutgers University in 1972 and went on to earn a master's in sociology and a law degree at Seton Hall. He is the drug court program director and deputy of the intensive supervision program in the Office of the Public Defender in his home state. He works with drug offenders seeking probation over substance abuse issues and is involved with post-conviction supervision. He is also a New Jersey City University adjunct professor.

(Continued on page 12)

BEMBRY (Continued from page 11)

Fuller appeared in court weeks after the protest on the trespassing charge. The judge threw out that charge after Belmont Abbey officials said he was invited onto campus. Fuller went on to become a Milwaukee Public Schools superintendent and education leader at Marquette University. Forbes Magazine named him one of the top seven educators in the world in 2011.

Bucket lists

Forty-five years later, Bembry and McFadden talk about visiting the Abbey as part of their "bucket lists." It took Bembry some time to warm up to any idea of returning to Belmont Abbey. "I had to change my attitude," he said. "I didn't know if we'd be received."

Abbey spokespeople won't talk about the 1969 protest that made national headlines. But Director of Marketing Rolando Rivas said the former protestors would be welcome. "We would love to have them back," he said. "There's no issue at this time."

McFadden came close last year during a visit to North Carolina but ran out of time. Bembry, who has talked to others from the protesting group, said he would like to visit with his college friends and also talk with minority students about his

Abbey experiences. Bembry's former teammate, Dargon, died in 2013. He said Dargon attended school at J.C. Smith, but eventually finished his degree at Upsala College in New Jersey.

Farrell, now a retired Episcopal priest, and Fitzsimmons, a history professor at the University of Auburn at Montgomery, said alumni talk about the event online and still express regret and wonderment.

"This is a big deal to the alumni," Farrell said. "This is a living thing in a lot of people's lives. It really shaped them. It changed them. It made them think about things. It brought a lot of things home to Belmont Abbey College, which at the time was an oasis of arbitrary rules, good education and great camaraderie. (The way this was handled) put a big cloud around the 800 acres of the school."

Fitzsimmons believes the school could do something to acknowledge what happened on April 29, 1969. "(The handling) is a scar," he said. "That's why I truly wish the college would do something to close the wound. I think there should be some sort of reconciliation ..."

Editor's Note: And there was. After 45 years, Larry Bembry met with John Farrell this past summer in Newark and Farrell made amends regarding the protest.

In Loving Memory

Arthur Ortenberg, WHS 1943

Liz Claiborne Co-Founder



Arthur Ortenberg, who teamed up with his wife, the designer Liz Claiborne, and a third partner to build a billion-dollar enterprise clothing career women in stylish but casual outfits at moderate prices, died in Manhattan at age 87 in February 2014.

Mr. Ortenberg was born on Aug. 13, 1926, in Newark, where he grew up and graduated from Weequahic High School in 1943. Subsequently, he graduated from the University of Wisconsin.

Known as "Liz and Art" in the industry they helped revolutionize, the couple responded to women streaming into the work force in the 1970s by creating a line of colorful, imaginatively styled tops and bottoms that could be mixed and matched. Liz Claiborne Inc. came to occupy a lucrative niche between pantsuits and high fashion.

1952 City Swim Champs



1st Row L-R: Sandy Fishkin, Don Herman, Ralph Rothstein, Albert Mahr, Jack Pivnick 2nd Row L-R: Ed Sonnabend, Ray Sheppard, Gary Barr, Marty Lavore, Ian Rosenstrauch, George Mahr, Carl Prince, Barry Cohn 3rd Row L-R: Coach Bill Lauro in insert, Martin Claire, Fred Gardner, Herb Sabin, Barry Herman, Larry Mandell, Richard Larkey, Ziggy Haberman, Gary Appel. Above picture sent in by Larry Mandell, 1954.

College Grads (Continued from page 3)

Ernisa McClendon, WHS 2009 Virginia Union University

College has been my most memorable school encounter. It is where I have learned and gained the most experience about life.

During my high school days, things were beyond easy, for me anyway, due to my mom taking the absolute most care of me. My teachers were amazing and extremely helpful.

Without the Weequahic High School Alumni Association and the scholarships I received, I may not be a Virginia Union University graduate with a bachelor's degree in Chemistry, or working in a laboratory of a well-known tobacco company along with plans to return to college to become a Pathologist.

"There is no doubt that graduating from Weequahic High School was a great start for a great future."



A Tribute to Newark's Movie Houses

By Barbara L. Rothschild, WHS 1962

The Ten Commandments

September 28, 1956, a date which stands out in my memory, is the date of the grand Newark premiere at the Adams Theatre, of Cecile B. DeMille's long-awaited biblical epic "*The Ten Commandments*." There I stand, in my mind's eye, a twelve year old child, patiently waiting in line with my mother, eagerly waiting to see what was billed at the time, as one of the greatest of spectacles in the motion picture industry.

THE GREATEST EVENT IN MOTION PICTURE HISTORY!



At the curbside entrance to the theatre, stood many yellow school buses from all parts of Newark and vicinity, emanating from public and parochial schools - the Yeshiva (The Hebrew Academy of Essex County) from the Old Clinton Hill area located then at the corner of Seymour and Clinton Avenues, next to the post office; Blessed Sacrament Catholic School, St. Lucy's, and St. Rose. Everyone was there to witness this grand event.

In the lobby and outside the theatre, under the marquee, ushers were hawking and promoting the sale of the program, which today, has become an actual collectible item, should any person be lucky enough not to have tossed it out over the years.



Charleston Heston as Moses

I recall how mighty and noble Charlton Heston was in his role as Moses, and how evil and resolute in his ways was Yul Brynner, as the Pharaoh, Ramses II. Sir Cedric Hardwick was magnificent as the Pharaoh, Seti I, father of Ramses II. For years thereafter, I always imagined in my child's mind that this is how Pharaoh must have appeared, as well as Moses, and the beautiful Nefretiri, as portrayed by the equally beautiful Anne Baxter, who passed away at too young an age.

Adams Movie Theatre

The Adams Theatre played host to most all of the biblical spectacles and extravaganzas of the day in the late 1950's, when such films were very much in vogue: "*The King of Kings*," starring the late Jeffrey Hunter, in the role of Jesus of Nazareth; John Huston's "*The Bible*," with Ava Gardner and a host of other equally famous celebrities in this, the story of the first five books of the Bible (the Old Testament). John Huston appeared as Noah in the flood.

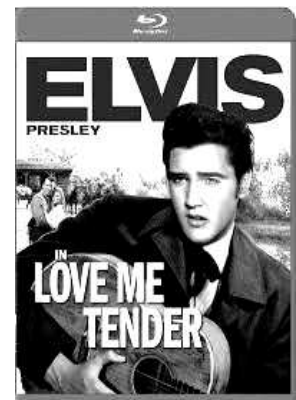
In 1959, mother took me to see the second spectacle at the Adams Theatre: "*Ben Hur*," once again starring Charlton Heston, the late John Derek (of Bo Derek "10" fame), Debra Paget (one of Elvis's loves), and the late "*Little Caesar*," himself, the fine actor Edward G. Robinson, as the dreaded Dathan - Pharaoh's wicked and conniving overseer of the Hebrew slaves, rapist and seducer of women. The late Stephen Boyd was the evil Roman soldier, Messala.

Although I can recall disliking Robinson (and Boyd, too), he was so fine portraying Dathan, which may or may not have been an outgrowth of his "*public enemy*" image of the 1930's gangster films, so popular in their day and time.

Loew's Movie Theatre



In July of 1956, mother took me to see Elvis Presley in his debut role at the magnificent Loew's Theatre on Broad Street. Elvis starred as Clint, the returning Confederate soldier from the Civil War who returns home to find his sweetheart, Debra Paget, married to his older brother, and the hostility begins. The film, "*Love Me Tender*," was a real teenage tear-jerker.



Elvis dies at the end of the movie, leaving all the teenagers distressed and very weepy (me, too, of course). Poor mother, she had to sit through all those screaming teenaged girls, myself included! Mother was at least more rational about Elvis than dad was, because dad thought Elvis was the most vulgar and lousy singer this side of creation! Daddy hit the ceiling one day, because I slept with Elvis' picture under my pillow. Elvis had made a "*fallen woman*" of me!

(Continued on page 14)

MOVIES HOUSES (Continued from page 13)

I recall the grandeur of the Loew's Theatre, located directly under the *Freida and June Lippel School of Dance* (which I also attended). The theatre was at the corner of Broad and New Streets, directly across from *Hahne's* wonderful department store, at which we frequently shopped, unless we were looking for "bargains" at *S. Klein on the Square* or *Ohrbach's Department Store* on Market Street.

As a child, I was greatly impressed by the beauty of the Loew's Theatre: the twinkling lights (stars) in the lofty ceiling, featuring and centered by the huge and sparkling crystal chandelier, the centerpiece of the ceiling. The seats in the theatre were a comfortable and plush crimson-maroon velvet color.



I always thought that the "loge" seating, which surrounded the stage, would be reserved only "for royalty," such as the King or Queen of a country, or maybe even for the President of the United States. Since it was more "expensive" to sit there, we never did, and I think at that time, it cost all of \$2.00 or \$2.50 to be seated there for the movie. At any rate, the loges were not for us "poor plain folk," so this is where I probably got the child's notion of royalty being seated up and above the rest of us.

A trip to the "lady's room" at the Loew's made another fantastic impression on this child's mind. Up the curving golden-hued staircase we went, our feet sinking into the heavy, plush, crimson-maroon carpeting, with the golden crescent-like design pattern in it, (to match the grand and golden painted staircase, I guess). On the second floor, amid golden hued ersatz Louis XV French furniture and lounging sofas, we spent our intermission "freshening up."

There were always coming attractions, cartoons, and maybe even a newsreel before the feature presentation. In addition, you could also stay as long as you wished to see the movies over again.

Newsreel Theatre



On the days of my Lippel School dancing lessons, daddy would wait it out at the "Newsreel Theatre" on Broad Street, directly next door to the palm trees, which stood in front of the *American Mens' Clothing Store*. Afterward, we would regroup for a meal at the *Belmore Cafeteria*, which was not far from the Newsreel Theatre.

Paramount Theatre

For my birthday in July of 1957, mother once again suffered in silence, while I reveled in watching Elvis, this time at the Paramount Theatre on Market Street. This was close to where the *Newark Evening News* building stood. This time, the film was "Loving You," with a much larger-than-life cutout of a very young, sexy, and hip-swinging Elvis, mounted on the face of the theatre building.



Many of the teenaged girls, including myself, brought their Brownie box cameras, in order to memorialize this grand event. One could become deaf from all the screaming and din that went on; mother was wise enough to bring cotton for her ears! You never heard the dialogue of the film, but who cared.

Listing of Newark's Old Movie Theaters (may not be a complete list)

Downtown:

Adams - 28 Branford Place / 1912-1980 / 2,037 seats.

Branford - 11-13 Branford Place / 1920 - 1985 / 2,823 seats.

Broad - 568 Broad Street / 1911-1950 / 1,383 seats.

Empire - 265 Washington Street / 1912-1957 / 1,000 seats.

Little - 562 Broad St. / 1941 / 299 seats.

Loew's - 635 Broad Street / 1921-1977 / 2,589 seats.

Lyric - 211 Market Street / 1,200 seats / demolished in early 1960's.

Newsreel - 800 Broad Street / 1938-1967 / 425 seats.

Paramount - 195 Market Street / 1886-1986 / 1,996 seats.

Rialto - 915 Broad Street / 1,762 seats / opened in 1920.

RKO Proctors - 116 Market Street / 3,200 seats / opened in 1915

Neighborhood:

Avon - Clinton Ave. / below Bergen St.

Cameo - Elizabeth Ave. / Hayes Circle

Cameo - 68 Orange Street

Elving's Metropolitan Yiddish Theatre - 117 Montgomery Street / 1922.

Elwood - Broadway / North Ward.

Essex - 100 Springfield Avenue.

Hawthorne - 396 Hawthorne Avenue.

Ironbound - 172 Ferry Street.

National - 182 Belmont Avenue.

Newark Drive-In - 170 Foundry Street.

Park - 1025 Bergen Street.

Plaza - 120 North 7th Street.

Regent - 8 Bloomfield Ave. / Broadway.

Ronson - S. Orange Ave. / Littleton Ave.

Roosevelt - 796 Clinton Avenue.

Savoy - 101 Springfield Avenue.

Stanley - 985 South Orange Avenue.

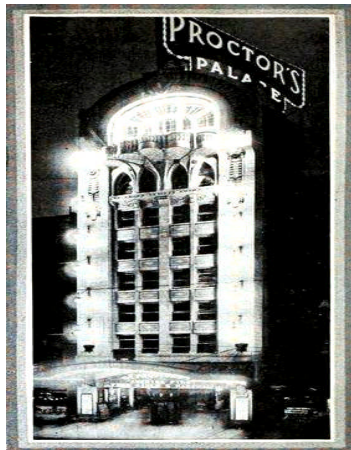
Strand - South Orange Ave. / 12th St.

Tivoli - 545 Orange Street.

West End - 16th Avenue/18th Street.

(Continued on page 15)

RKO Proctor's Theatre



At times, we also went to the RKO Proctor's Theatre farther down on Market Street. The eight-story complex had a large 2,300-seat theatre at ground level and a smaller theatre of about 900 seats occupying the top four floors beneath the roof. To the rear of the cashier's cage (ticket window) at the entrance to the Proctor's Theatre, stood a white, marble type staircase, with what looked like "portholes," which led you to an elevator leading up into the Proctor building itself. I once worked briefly in this building as a telemarketer (during my high school days) for the *Newark Star-Ledger*, hopefully garnering subscriptions to the newspaper.

Branford Theatre



Then there was the Branford Theatre with the long cobblestoned alley whose entrance was on Branford Place. Built in 1920 with Fred Wentworth as the architect, the Branford was for a long time one of the top movie theatres in downtown Newark due to its link to the Stanley-Warner circuit.

Farther up Broad Street, almost across City Hall, was the **Rialto Theatre**,

although I never went into it. At the lower end of Broad Street, near the *Newark Public Library* and across from the *Robert Treat/Indian* statue in Washington Park, stood the **Little Theatre**. There, art and foreign films could be seen. I believe I saw "*Hiroshima, Mon Amour*," there first, at the start of the "nuclear age" scares of the late 1950's. The Little Theatre later became an XXX rated movie house.

Neighborhood Movie Theaters

When a trip "downtown" was not in our plans, there were always the more "affordable" neighborhood movie theatres. They did not always show first-run features, but still a very enjoyable pastime for a Saturday or Sunday matinee.

For about 25 cents or less, mothers would drop off their children for a cartoon or western matinee at the **Avon Theatre**, on Clinton Avenue just up the street from *Lustig's Tavern* and near *Food Fair*, which was one of the early supermarkets,

My very first date (and kiss) was at the **Roosevelt Theatre** on Clinton Avenue, in the upper Clinton Hill section. It was 1959, and I was 14 going out with an "older man" of 17, and we saw a movie with Harry Belafonte and Inger Stevens, based on the nuclear theme called, "*The World, the Flesh and the Devil*."

It was a very sensational and controversial movie at the time dealing with inter-racial issues, since Harry Belafonte and Inger Stevens were the only people left alive, after a nuclear blast destroyed most of New York City.

I can also recall seeing most of the Disney films at the Roosevelt, at a younger age: "*Snow White*" and "*Bambi*," just to name two of them.

In 7th or 8th grade, Friday nights were at the **Park Theatre** on Bergen Street, in the Weequahic section. Many of the boys at that age enjoyed tormenting the girls by throwing down candy wrappers from the balcony. Afterwards, we would go to *Henry's Sweet Shop* for malteds, etc.

On Elizabeth Avenue near Milford Avenue and Schleifer Park, stood the **Cameo Theatre**. By the late 1950's to early 1960's, the Cameo Theatre became a Spanish language theatre, as Puerto Rican natives moved into the area.

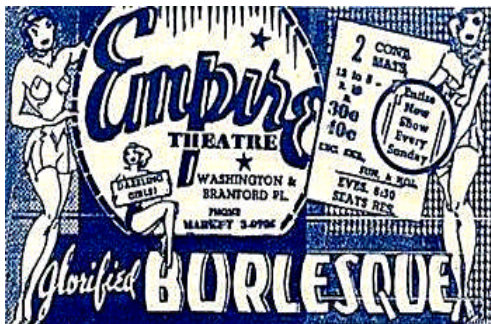


MOVIE HOUSES (Continued from page 15)

My mother spoke of the **National Theatre**, which was on Belmont Avenue, not far from *Fischer's Baking Company*. It had been a popular movie house in the 1920's and 1930's. By the late 1940's and thereafter, it became a movie theatre catering to African-Americans, who were moving into Newark from the rural South into the Third Ward.

On Springfield Avenue, near where the bridal shops and musical instrument stores were located, and not too far away from *St. Benedict's Prep School* on High Street, were two movie theatres, the **Essex** and **Savoy**. When I was a child in the 1940's, they had already closed their doors.

My mother related many anecdotes about Newark's movie houses, especially in the 1920's and 1930's. I can recall her speaking of the **Adams Theatre** as being one of the theatres in which "live" vaudeville shows were presented. She told me of seeing Ozzie and Harriet Nelson there on occasion, since Ozzie was a band leader, and his wife, Harriet, was the singer. Jerry Lewis's parents were also vaudeville entertainers who appeared there as well, from time to time.



There was also **Minsky's Burlesque** at the **Empire Theatre**. Of course, this theatre catered largely to the gents, because it certainly was not considered family fare!

Earlier in the 20th century, there was even a Yiddish Theatre in which live Yiddish plays were presented. It was called **Elving's Metropolitan Theatre** and located on Montgomery and Charlton streets.

My Mother's Hungarian Tale

My favorite anecdote is one my mother related to me many years ago. It took place at one of the two theatres previously mentioned, either the Savoy or the Essex on Springfield Avenue.



In 1931, the country was taken by storm and rushed to see a horror film, which still is one of the most popular genres of moviedom. The movie "Dracula" had come to

Newark. As part of a nationwide publicity campaign for the film, Bela Lugosi, the star of "Dracula," was visiting cities across the country.

Lugosi was a Hungarian national, and what was not known, was that he had learned the role of Count Dracula phonetically, since his command of the English language was very poor. My mother and grandmother attended the premiere Newark showing of "Dracula." At the close of the film, when the audience was quite sufficiently frightened, who walks out on the stage, but the "Master" himself, black and red silk lined cape flowing, chalk white makeup, Count Dracula, Bela Lugosi, live (or should I say, undead?)

My mother and grandmother were also Hungarian nationals by birth, so when Lugosi came out on stage, mother, who, I guess, was seated in one of the first few rows, called out to him in Hungarian. Happy to hear his native language, Lugosi invited my mother and grandmother backstage, and together they shared cups of tea, Tokay wine, and some delicious Hungarian apple strudel, which he had brought from New York City.

For many years thereafter, my late mother communicated with Bela Lugosi, until he fell into alcohol/drug addiction in the late 1940's-1950's. Unfortunately, Lugosi had become forever typecast in the role of monsters and vampires, which, to his dismay, led to his downfall and eventual death from addictions in 1956.

Such are my memories of Newark's movie houses. However, you might also recall two theatres on the outskirts of our Weequahic neighborhood - the Mayfair in Hillside and the Chancellor in Irvington.

I am sure you have your own reveries as well! Perhaps you were also a patron of these very same movie houses of a past so long ago, in our beloved city of Newark. Who knows? You might have sat in that plush velvet chair right next to me enjoying the show! I certainly hope you did!

WEEQUAHIC SWEETHEARTS



Herb & Myra Retsky Class of Jan. 1950

Herb and I met in the Dark Ages (1948 after we left the Hawthorne Avenue Annex) and went to classes at Weequahic for the next 3 years. Herb was really cute, but every time I saw him in the halls, and thought I might be interested in him, he had his arms around two girls.



When he was free of his female companions and was ready to ask out the cute girl with the great walk (me), I was going steady with someone else. We did go to some of the same parties. He was a really good dancer and I enjoyed dancing with him. He even, after one party, carried me from the bus stop two blocks to my home.

We graduated, went our own ways for a couple of years. I went to teacher's college, Herb to the Navy, and life went on. Then one day out of the blue he called and asked me out. My reaction: I was scared to death to go anywhere with that "wolf" from high school!

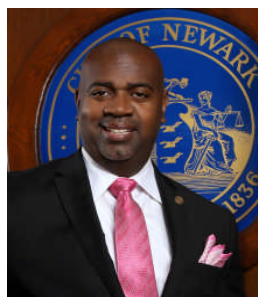
But he was cute in his sailor suit, so I said all right if it was at least a double date. Things went on from there as they do in every relation-

(Continued on page 18)

NEWARK NEWS

The following excerpts come from the *Star-Ledger*, *NJ.com*, *Montclair Times*, and the *NJ Jewish News*.

Ras Baraka Elected Mayor



Ras Baraka, the councilman of the South Ward, Principal of Central High School, and fiery community activist who campaigned on the vow to “take back Newark from outsiders,” was elected mayor of New Jersey’s largest city in decisive fashion.

Baraka was swept into office, capturing 54 percent of the vote in the nonpartisan election - the first since Cory Booker decamped the city and set off for Washington as a U.S. Senator.

His opponent, Shavar Jeffries, 39, who grew up in Newark, followed with 46 percent. An attorney, law professor, former NJ assistant attorney general, and former Newark school board president, he helped found a charter school and was backed by charter school interests, along with the Essex County Democratic machine.

Baraka, 45, a single father of three, a poet, and a former vice-principal at Weequahic High School, was a sharp critic of State Superintendent of Schools Cami Anderson’s controversial One Newark plan. He was supported by the teachers’ unions.

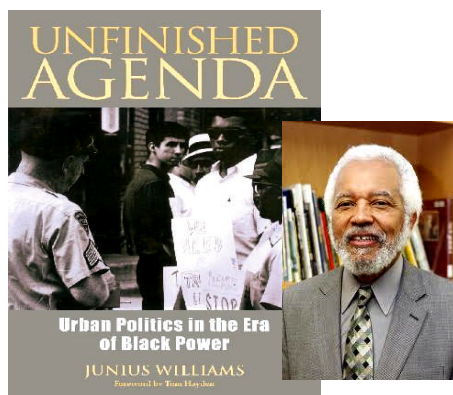
“We are the mayor!” he proclaimed, echoing his own campaign slogan. “When everybody didn’t believe, you believed,” he said to the crowd. “Today is the day we say goodbye to the bosses.” He also gave tribute to his father, the late poet Amiri Baraka (who passed away a few months before the election).

Junius Williams Writes His Newark Memoirs

Unfinished Agenda offers an inside look at the Black Power Movement that emerged during the Civil Rights Movement of the

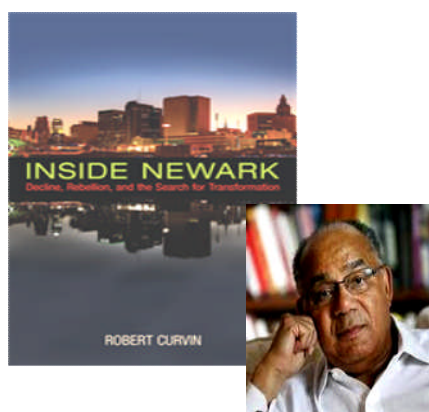
sixties. A political memoir that teaches grass-roots politics and inspires organizing for real change in the Age of Obama, this book will appeal to readers of black history, Occupy Wall Street organizers, and armchair political advocates.

Based on notes, interviews, and articles from the 1950s to present day, Junius Williams’ inspiring memoir describes his journey from young a black boy facing prejudice in the 1950s segregated South to his climb to community and political power as a black lawyer in the 1970s and 1980s in Newark.



Accompanied by twenty-two compelling photographs highlighting key life events, *Unfinished Agenda* chronicles the turbulent times during the Civil Rights Movement and Williams’s participation every step of the way including his experiences on the front lines of racial riots in Newark and the historic march in Montgomery, Alabama, with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Robert Curvin’s *Inside Newark*



For decades, leaders in Newark, have claimed their city is about to return to its vibrant past. How accurate is this prediction? Is Newark on the verge of revitalization? Robert Curvin, who was one of New

Jersey’s outstanding civil rights leaders, examines the city, chronicling its history, politics, and culture.

Throughout the pages of *INSIDE NEWARK, Decline, Rebellion, and the Search for Transformation* Curvin approaches his story both as an insider who is rooting for Newark and as an objective social scientist illuminating the causes and effects of sweeping changes in the city.

Based on historical records and revealing interviews with over one hundred residents and officials, *Inside Newark* traces Newark’s history from the 1950s, when the city was a thriving industrial center, to the era of Mayor Cory Booker.

Along the way, Curvin covers the disturbances of July 1967, called a riot by the media and a rebellion by residents; the administration of Kenneth Gibson, the first black mayor of a large northeastern city; and the era of Sharpe James, who was found guilty of corruption.

Curvin examines damaging housing and mortgage policies, the state takeover of the failing school system, the persistence of corruption and patronage, Newark’s shifting ethnic and racial composition, positive developments in housing and business complexes, and the reign of ambitious Mayor Cory Booker.

Inside Newark reveals a central weakness that continues to plague Newark - that throughout this history, elected officials have not risen to the challenges they have faced. Curvin calls on those in positions of influence to work for the social and economic improvement of all groups and concludes with suggestions for change, focusing on education reform, civic participation, financial management, partnerships with agencies and business, improving Newark’s City Council, and limiting the term of the mayor. If Newark’s leadership can encompass these changes, Newark will have a chance at a true turnaround.

NJ Devils’ New Owners

David Blitzer and Josh Harris, the co-owners of the NBA basketball team the Philadelphia 76ers, became the new owners of the NJ Devils professional hockey team in Newark last year.

(Continued on page 18)



The Star-Ledger named them not just No. 1 on the Juice List, its annual ranking of the most influential people in NJ sports, for turning around the Devils' financial situation and investing back into the struggling NHL franchise.

They top the list because of what they're planning to do with the team, from transforming the fan experience to investing in new ways to improve hockey operations, and how they hope that their investment has a lasting impact on the growth of the franchise's home city itself.

So far, they have hired 80 new employees, boosted season tickets to 9,000, made changes in the Prudential Center experience, and invested in the city, providing capital to finish the Indigo Hotel project on Broad Street.

"You don't build or develop Newark in a day," Blitzer said. "We're starting at the ground level, and I can only hope you'll see progress in that over the years. It's hugely important to the team, the arena and the city itself."

Volunteers spruce up historic synagogue

John Scott picked up a paint brush and put the finishing touches on a newly repainted doorway of the social hall at Congregation Ahavas Sholom in Newark, then stood back to admire his handiwork..

For more than 10 years Scott and other volunteers have been donating their labors to build low-cost housing as a part of *Habitat for Humanity*. Now they have re-formed as the *Carpenter's Club*, and have spent three days a week scraping, peeling, plastering, and painting at the shul at 145 Broadway, making badly needed upgrades to the 90-year-old building.

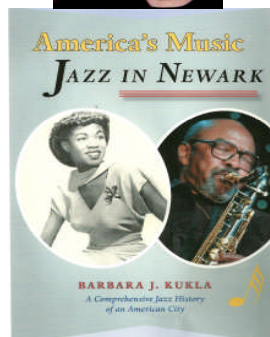
Ahavas Sholom was founded at the turn of the 20th century and built its current shul in 1922-23. The synagogue has been named to the New Jersey Register of Historic Places and the National Register of Historic Places. For the past 11 years, it's been housing the Jewish Museum of New Jersey.



The group's efforts are greatly appreciated, said Eric Freedman, the president of the congregation, as he spoke with the NJ Jewish News. *"They saved the synagogue a lot of money...It was significant."*

To Freedman, the volunteer effort by a group made up of predominantly Christians *"have been a great lesson in tikun olam and tzedaka (social justice and charity)."*

Barbara Kukla - American Music: Jazz in Newark



People often assume Barbara Kukla writes about jazz in Newark because she's a musician herself. In fact, Kukla told The Montclair Times, it all began because of an encounter at a party when she met Viola Wells, known as Miss Rhapsody.

SWEETHEARTS (Continued from page 16)

ship and now here we are - 58 years of marriage later.

We both received degrees from Johns Hopkins University (I a Master's in Education, Herb a Bachelor's in Business Management). I retired after 28 years of teaching in both the Newark School System and the Baltimore County School System. Herb retired as a Senior Engineer after 35 years with Westinghouse Electric Corporation.

We have done a lot of traveling - 37 of the 50 states, almost all of the countries in Eastern and Western Europe, some of the exotic cities in Asia, Israel, Australia, New Zealand, Iceland, above the Arctic Circle and close to the Antarctic Circle, and over 30 cruises throughout the world.

We live in the Baltimore area, have raised two beautiful children, and spoil three gorgeous granddaughters. We are now happily retired in Charlestown, an Erickson Living Retirement Community.

Enchanted, Kukla began driving her and some older musicians around. *"I was almost like a groupie,"* Kukla said with a laugh.

Wells, said Kukla, is *"the mother of all the jazz people in Newark. I met her when I was a kid reporter at the Ledger. She was well known in the '20s and '30s. Without her, I'd know nothing. Through her I met all the major musicians of the '60s, '70s, '80s and the guys that preceded them during the swing era."*

A former editor of The Star-Ledger, Kukla created *"Newark This Week"* in 1979, a section of the paper focused on news of interest to residents of Newark. After nearly 40 years she retired in 2004.

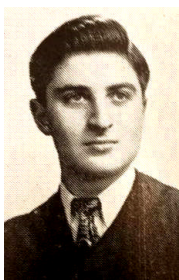
She said she doesn't live in Newark, but that *"I do everything there but sleep."*

One of her activities is heading the Friends of Barbara J. Kukla Scholarship Fund, a nonprofit organization that has provided \$50,000 in scholarship money to Newark public school students.

(Continued on page 20)

ALUMNI VOICES

Sheldon Schiffman, 1947, FL



Dear Phil,

First, I want to congratulate you on the latest edition of the Alumni Calumet.

I found it to be most professional, interesting and absorbing. When I compare it to my two university alumni magazines, they shrink by comparison. To me the Calumet has more informative and interesting articles that I truly relate to. *(Please don't flunk me for ending a sentence with a preposition.)*

In addition, my wife Evelyn read this issue and was totally amazed and marveled at its content. She told me she has never come across a publication such as ours. Incidentally, she is a retired educator and, during her working years, was selected as one of the most outstanding teachers in New Jersey.

Secondly, I want to wish you all the best on your leaving the Calumet. It would not be the high quality publication, without your efforts and contributions. I wish you good health and happiness in whatever endeavor you may embark upon, whether it be an another professional position or in your retirement. I thank you for all you have done for the Association and for all you have done for the Calumet. I can only state that you will be missed by all.

Larry Geller, 1960, TX



Dear Phil,

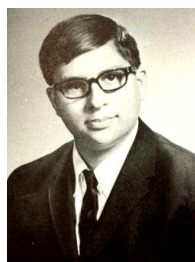
First, thank you for the years you graciously and selflessly invested in this publication. It has brought me closer to my family's roots and my life in Newark.

Next, I just received the Fall 2013 issue and to my mind it is the most definitive example of an alumni magazine. Most of the articles moved me to feelings of pure elation and then through deep, dark sorrow.

The college grads, the obits, the generosity of former alumni, Ming's (1 block from my family home), the renaissance that's transforming downtown Newarkall of the diversity.

The best of luck. Continue to enjoy your life.

David Levine, 1967, NJ



Your mention of the late, lamented Newark Evening News in the last bulletin reminded me of the attached front page that I have in my collection, which I've shared with my students (Professor, Kean University) this week and over the years.

I told them how I remembered that horrible day. I was coming back from lunch, when a fellow student excitedly told me as we walked to our homeroom that they just heard on the radio that the president was shot.



Principal Benjamin Epstein got on the intercom to confirm the report. Some students were crying, others (like me) were feeling numb. I think someone turned on a television in the auditorium and we watched Walter Cronkite weep as he reported that the president had died.



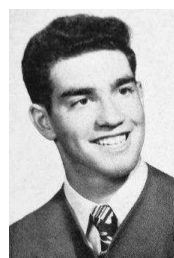
President Kennedy visiting Newark on Columbus Day, October 12, 1962

Interestingly, all of this was reported in time for delivery of the Sports Final edition of The Newark Evening News on the streets of Newark, usually around 5 p.m. I don't think newspapers nowadays could repeat that production epic despite vast computerization.

What a day. It changed the course of history right before us at Weequahic High.

Jack Rudowsky, 1949, FL

Life's Challenges - A Sixty-Four Year Update



After graduating in 1949, I wondered what my future would have in store for me. We can only hope that our future would be one of promise, happiness and blessings. Sometimes, life can be fulfilling or also throw us

some unexpected curves. It's up to us to adjust to all circumstances.

My first full-time job after high school was working in the advertising department at Bamberger's department store, but I wanted to reach a boyhood goal, to be a professional baseball player.

So I decided to join a semi-pro team in Somerville. At 18 years old, I was competing with men as old as 35. It was very challenging.

I became the starting catcher and then was invited to try out with the Pittsburgh Pirates, the Philadelphia Phillies, and the St. Louis Browns. My dream came true and I was signed by the Browns to play professional baseball in Davenport, Iowa.

My most exciting moment was on my first day. After putting on my uniform, #12, the kids in the stands wanted my autograph. I enjoyed their requests more than they did.

After playing just a year and a half, I was drafted into the Army during the Korean War. Part of my time in service was playing baseball in different Army camps all over the country.



(Continued on page 22)

THE ART OF MANSA K. MUSSA, WHS 1974

"I grew up in Newark and my life has been shaped by the city's fiery cauldron of art, politics, music, personalities and fashion."

Mansa K. Mussa is a visual and performing artist, arts educator and arts consultant. A Newark native, Mussa earned a BA in Media Arts/Television Production from New Jersey City University. He has studied visual arts with Ben Jones, dance with Rhonda Morman, and photography with the late Tim Reiss.

A lifelong artist, he has worked professionally as a photographer, dancer, percussionist, writer, graphic designer, and fabric artist. Traveling extensively in the United States, Cuba, West Africa, South Africa, Paris and the Caribbean, Mussa has had the opportunity to document human movement and events.



Some of his work includes: *The Art of Dance*; *Cuba Diary: A Glimpse Inside the Hidden Republic*; *Eyewitness: The New South Africa*; *Ghana: An African Portrait*; *Pieces of a Dream/Nu Collage*; and the historic Newark, *A Day In the City Photo-Documentary*. His art, photography and collage work have been featured in exhibits, print media, calendars, brochures and more.

As an educator, he has worked with numerous students in a variety of different projects. "I've said it before and I'll say it again, 'I love to teach because I love to learn,'" said Mansa. He continues, "Each opportunity gives me the chance to explore, to grow and to experience something a little different." During a summer residency at the Englewood Public Library, Mansa and his students worked on a

combination of portrait photography, mask-making, and collage.

On his website, Mussa exclaims, "In the tradition of James Baldwin I am an eyewitness. An eyewitness to things seen and unseen. I am a Newark artist, and citizen of the world, who has been living, working, teaching, and making art for over a half-century.

"As a collage artist I manipulate the image, giving it additional meaning and purpose. This act of creating art from photography is an act of liberation. The liberation of the creative process as it passes from the mind, to the reality of the print, the stage, or the moving picture. This process is about power and healing. It's about power because art can be used as an instrument for change. It's about healing because the act of creating art can be a form of enlightenment for the artist and the viewer.

"Making and sharing art also requires a certain amount of courage because it exposes the artist to appreciation, reverence and, ultimately, criticism. My focus in this act is to use art to challenge and uplift the human spirit, to serve the community as an organizer and teacher, and to search for the common threads that bind us as human beings."

Mr. Mussa is also an exhibition curator who had a group exhibit, "*Hispanic Heritage*," on display at WBGO Radio Station in Newark in September. In addition, he curated the 2 Generations exhibit at 1978 Maplewood Arts Center in October.

A solo exhibit, "*Precious Memories /A Retrospective*" will feature thirty-seven years of the artist's photography, shadow boxes, collages, and iPadology at the Herb and Milly Iris Gallery in the South Orange Performing Arts Center from October, 2014 through February, 2015. The exhibit will showcase images from his recently completed seventh trip to Cuba.

NEWARK NEWS (Continued from page 18)

Jerry Izenberg named to Jewish Sports Hall Of Fame



Jerry Izenberg, the long-time sports columnist for the Newark Star-Ledger, was inducted into the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame in 2014. Izenberg, a

Central High grad (his sister graduated from Weequahic) began his career with the Ledger in 1951 and retired in 2007, but still writes special features on occasion.

He received the Associated Press Red Smith Award in 2000 for "outstanding contributions to sports journalism" and is one of only three daily newspaper journalists to have covered every Super Bowl since its inception in 1967. He is the author of seven books, including his memoir, *Through My Eyes: A Sports Writer's 50-Year Journey*.

Izenberg founded *Project Pride 25* years ago. He wanted to create hope and opportunity for Newark's kids. The organization has helped send students to college and has funded numerous community and athletic programs.

Nasto's Ice Cream 75th Year



There's something in the water in Newark, and that something has made Nasto's ice cream sweet and delicious for 75 years. Frank Nasto Sr., an Italian immigrant, bought the store on Jefferson Street in the Ironbound section in 1939. The store is now in its third generation, owned and operated by Frank Nasto III.

(Continued on page 22)

WHS 1965 grad Brooke Tarabour bids farewell to her *"Taste of New Jersey"* column in The Star-Ledger

Over the past 18 years, I've been lucky enough to eat my way through New Jersey and get paid for it. What I've learned is that, from High Point to Cape May, our state is a treasure trove of exceptional food finds. I developed a *"think globally, shop locally"* mantra almost from the beginning, because our diverse cultures led to so many good stories - and because it's fun to discover the proverbial hole-in-the-wall with homemade food.

As a fourth-generation Newarker who grew up reading The Star-Ledger every morning, the idea of writing for the paper intrigued me back in 1996. So I pitched a column idea to the food editor at the time, she asked for a writing sample and must have liked it, because here we are 18 years later.

I never expected the loyalty and kindness of readers and the extraordinary people I would meet along the way. So, it is with true, bittersweet feelings I tell you today's column is my last. My family and I are moving to Maryland, and searching for stories takes more time than I will have. It's not that I've run out of quirky food-finds to share with you - there's so much happening that's worth a column, it would take me a few more years just to catch up. Lucky for us, unique restaurants and markets still are opening all across the state, and many are courtesy of people from all around the world.

That's fine with me. In a never-ending quest to sample every cuisine, I've dipped, picked, pinched and sipped things I'd



rather not completely comprehend. I followed gestures in non-English-speaking enclaves, and I once even tried blowfish, admitting afterward that if it had killed me, at least I'd go out smiling.

In New Jersey, the food scene flows with changing neighborhoods. Once I wrote about an Italian butcher on Belleville Avenue in Bloomfield, and years later, I went to the same store, now serving Filipino food. The Iselin section of Woodbridge has so many Indian businesses, the neighborhood known as Little India has expanded into Edison, making naan the best thing since sliced white bread.

Whether it's sweet-and-sour or sriracha, we take it for granted we'll be able to find the ethnic foods of our ancestors on multiple menus, but it wasn't always so. For example, when Jimmy *"Buff"* Racioppi was at an Italian street festival in Newark in 1929, he got in line for a sausage and peppers sandwich. Tired of waiting, he counted the people in front of him and behind. If so many people are willing to wait for these little meals in a pizza roll, he thought he could open a restaurant doing the same thing. The Italian immigrant

couldn't have imagined that almost a century later, Jimmy Buff's would be a household name.

Or, picture this: a team of white-aproned women mixing, pounding, rolling, cutting, filling, sealing, boiling and bagging more than 25,000 Korean dumplings per day - by hand. I've never seen anything like *Best Dumplings* in Englewood. It's precision without machinery.

I admit the subject of food makes me a little goofy. One year, I was writing about Stewart's Scottish Market in Kearny and it was Christmas week, inspiring this rhyme: *"Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house, all the creatures were feasting on roast beef and grouse."*

After a trip to Ashley Turkey Farm in Flanders, I started thinking about the birds: *"People say you're dumb, then try to butter you up. Children paint your portrait by tracing their hands on paper, and just when everyone else is gathering to enjoy Thanksgiving, you're the browned and fragrant guest of honor."* Or on waxing rhapsodic over my favorite cheap thrill, a wonderful Wind Mill hot dog in Long Branch: *"It's not easy being a hot dog. Who likes being called a weenie?"*

Still, it was always about the food. I've written about everything Jersey, including pork roll, of course. I had a blast making sausage using a 75-year-old grinder in Nutley and got to toss a pizza (sort of) at the legendary DeLorenzo's Tomato Pies in Trenton (now in Robbinsville). Some beloved places have closed, and others seem lost in time, like Church's Kitchen in Vauxhall.

Fishermen and farmers have always been passions, so I deservedly plugged as many



(Continued on page 22)

TARABOUR (Continued from page 21)

farms and seafood markets as possible to help sustain the unique character of our culture.

I've eaten Ethiopian food with my hands at *Mesob* in Montclair, picked peaches in a moving car (*Tree Licious Orchards* in Port Murray), learned to love monkfish liver at *Kanji* in Tinton Falls, rode Amtrak to see how food is prepared in dining cars, shucked scallops right off the boats at the fisherman's co-op in Point Pleasant, got "juiced" at *Green Nectar* in Millburn, and went to a lot of chocolate shops (If Adam and Eve had taken a bite of chocolate instead of that pesky apple, would things have turned out differently?).

At each stop, the people behind the food were fascinating. I met Carl Wolf, who created *Alpine Lace* cheese, the product that actually started the low-fat revolution. Food shopping with chefs David Burke and David Drake turned ordinary days at the grocery into lessons in haute cuisine.

I've eaten junk and loved it at minor league stadiums, and I've driven to Paterson at 4 a.m. so I could taste pita bread right out of the ovens at *Taskin Bakery*. We delighted in the "other" Atlantic City, where pizza is still called pie.

Along with you, I celebrated the millennium and grieved on 9/11. You've "watched" my children grow up and we've shared holidays. You met my friends Sandy, Jan and Lenny, who found so many great places for me, and I joined remarkable readers for meals at their own food finds. You've put up with my endless alliterations ("*topsy about tomatoes*") and my silly side, "*If Jack Sprat could eat no fat and his wife could eat no lean, can you imagine the dilemma of deciding what to make for dinner?*"

And more than a few of you have asked how eating all this food affects me. Let's just say it was really good timing to find delicious diet food at *Chow For Now* in Fairfield a few weeks ago.

*What a remarkable ride it has been.
Thank you all for coming along.*

VOICES (Continued from page 19)



Upon my discharge in 1954, I married Shirley Adler from Elizabeth. We had three daughters during the next six years. Unfortunately, during a period of 23 years, they all passed away due to a genetic disease called Dysautonomia. It was a devastating blow to my wife and me to have lost all of our children.

We decided to change our luck by moving to Florida in 1989. I had spent 36 years in the life insurance business and managed two luggage stores for three years. In 2000, without any prior warning, Shirley passed away due to an aneurysm. Now I was alone after 46 years of marriage.

For 10 years, I was head of security for Continental Airlines at Tampa Airport and it was there that I met my current wife, Rochelle, through an introduction from an old friend from Newark. We have been married for 10 years and she has 5 children and 11 grandchildren.

I am now "*Grandpa Jack*." Currently, I am still doing security work at baseball and football games, concerts, golf tournaments, State Fairs, and many activities at our Convention Center.

There are those who look to us to show courage and strength despite all we have endured. I felt that I owed it to my former wife and children to show everyone that I could survive, flourish, and be a beacon of light and hope for all who surround me.



NEWARK NEWS (Continued from page 20)

All the desserts and ice cream are made on the premises, and Nasto isn't even sure how many flavors his store sells because the flavors are changed so often. Nasto estimates that his store makes thousands of gallons of ice cream a day during the peak months of May and June.

To make all that ice cream, Nasto's has two mixers - one that holds 150 gallons of ice cream and one that holds 300 gallons. The ice cream is stored in Nasto's 10,000-square-foot freezer, which is kept at a cool minus-20 degrees.

The company's ice cream, Italian ice and other treats are served at more than 700 restaurants across New Jersey.

The Green Chicpea - Kosher Restaurant Opens in Newark



Ben Bernstein, 27, came into The Green Chicpea mid-morning on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving last year. Although he usually gets a chicken "*bowl*" (two Middle Eastern-style salads topped with grilled or fried

chicken), the day's frigid weather convinced him to choose one of the homemade soups (lentil or split pea, both vegan).

"*This place is a rare find. It's got fast service and a warm vibe - that's a difficult balance,*" said Bernstein, "*This place has made my life so much better. It's nice to have something kosher in the area.*"

"*This place*" is a kosher Middle Eastern restaurant catering to Jews and non-Jews, vegetarians, and meat eaters, on Halsey Street in Newark. While kosher options in Newark are few, owner Martin Weber doesn't want to limit his customer base. Instead, he wants people to come to Green Chicpea because the food is good.

Weber also offers a passionate embrace of the oft-touted but so-far-unrealized Newark renaissance. His version centers on his location at 59 Halsey Street, where new bars and restaurants are catering to office workers and college students, where Prudential is building a corporate tower, where Military Park has undergone a renovation, and Whole Foods is expected to move into the old Hahne's department store.

(Continued on page 23)



Rabbi Joachim Prinz documentary

By Elaine Durbach, NJJN Staff Writer

Film Producer Rachel Pasternak is the daughter of WHS 1958 graduate, Claire Mayers Nierenberg

For “the two Rachels” - as Rachel Fisher and Rachel Pasternak are known by friends and colleagues - the screening of their new documentary about legendary Newark rabbi Joachim Prinz was a homecoming of sorts.

A capacity crowd of around 500 gathered at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark last November for the official American premiere of their film, *Joachim Prinz: I Shall Not Be Silent*.

The audience included not just four of Prinz’s children but dozens of congregants who remembered the anti-Nazi activist, civil rights icon, and fiery leader of Temple B’nai Abraham in both its Newark and Livingston incarnations.

“That’s just how he was,” said one woman in response to the film. “I remember listening to his sermons as a child and being absolutely riveted by his words. He was so powerful.”

The production was six years in the making. “When you feel this passionate about a subject, time isn’t an issue,” said Pasternak. “You keep going until it’s done.”

The screening was presented by NJPAC and the NJ Jewish Film Festival. The film was shown again in April as part of the festival’s regular schedule. Other partners in the event included the NJ Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Commission, the Newark Museum’s Newark Black Film Festival, and the



L-R: Deborah Prinz, Rachel Pasternak and Rachel Fisher

Rutgers Institute of Ethnicity, Culture, and the Modern Experience.

Pasternak and Fisher, her partner in the R Squared production company, live in Maplewood. A former *NJ Jewish News* writer, Pasternak began her research on Prinz long before the film idea coalesced. She chose to write about him as part of her master’s degree in Jewish studies at the Jewish Theological Seminary, compiling one of the first academic studies ever done on his life and career.

The film was hailed by audiences at screenings in Berlin and Washington, DC. In the Newark audience were people who recalled how Prinz had faced down the Gestapo as a young rabbi in Berlin and when he invited Dr. Martin Luther King, his close ally, to speak from his pulpit.

“This really was my father,” said his daughter Deborah, who lives in South Orange. Though initially wary when approached with the idea of a work based on his life, she said she’s impressed by the documentary, and hopes it will lead to a broader awareness of her father’s legacy.

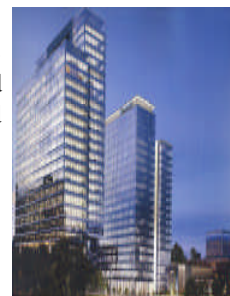
Prinz’s son Jonathan, who shared the B’nai Abraham pulpit with him for 10 years before switching careers and going into marketing, said he still misses his father, who died in 1988 at the age of 86. Watching the film “was like having him here,” he said. “He was such an extraordinary person, as a parent as well as in so many other ways.”



NEWARK NEWS (Continued from page 22)

Prudential’s New Office Tower

Bearing signatures of iron workers, construction crew members and Prudential officials and with an American flag attached, the final steel beam for the insurance giant’s new 20-story office building in downtown Newark was hoisted into position last spring.



Richard Hummers, Prudential vice president, called it “an incredible milestone” moments before a crane raised the girder to the top floor. Noting the harsh winter, Hummers said it was “a pretty incredible feat to be where we are today. It’s an exciting time for Newark, and an exciting time for Prudential.”

Work began on the site about a year ago with the demolition of abandoned stores - including landmarks such as S. Klein on the Square and Schraft’s. Construction began shortly after on the \$444 million office tower. Before the bitter cold weather arrived, crews worked double shifts into the night to build the skeleton.

The view overlooks the recently rehabilitated Military Park, the Passaic River, and is unobstructed all the way to the Manhattan skyline.

The insurance giant, Newark’s largest and oldest corporation, has plans for another office tower adjacent to the new one.

Audible’s Vision for Newark



Don Katz, the founder and CEO of Audible, the audiobook company, moved his headquarters from Wayne to 1 Washington Park in Newark in 2007.

He wasn’t lured by tax incentives. Katz wants to be part of a renaissance he believes will pull a once-great

American city out of its black hole of dysfunction and deprivation.

(Continued on page 24)

Seymour: An Introduction

*A documentary on piano legend
Seymour Bernstein, WHS 1945*

By Alex Billington, Firstshowing.net



When we look back on our lives, there are always key individuals who have an immeasurable influence on us. Not just our family (and relatives), but friends, mentors, teachers, those with learned wisdom to impart and lessons to teach. If they say the right things, they can alter our destiny forever, or remind us why/how life is worth living in the midst of the constant stress and chaos of this world.

Seymour: An Introduction is a documentary by actor Ethan Hawke introducing us to his inspiration - the piano legend Seymour Bernstein, who is such a humble, charming, considerate man. This wonderful doc spends intimate time with him, showing us his own history, who he is, and how much the emotion of music is important to life.

Seymour is lovable, but stern, as we watch him teach master classes and scold (with care) the students on how to play the piano better. But I think it's his charm deep down, and his love for music and what it does for the soul, that makes him, and this doc, so unique and special. Let me tell you - you want to get to know Seymour Bernstein. Now I really want to take piano lessons from him, too. Mostly to see what kind of wisdom he can impart upon me and my own life.

What makes Seymour so unique is his rejection of the public spotlight of talent and success. During his younger years he performed in the military and later at shows all over the world, receiving rave

reviews. But he eventually gave that up to stick with teaching students and mentoring many of his friends.

It's that choice that makes the film even more fascinating to delve into, exploring the struggle of artists/creative people, and the idea of giving in to the demand of public performance and consumerism. Instead, he chooses to ignore all of that and rather focus on the purity of music and its ability to affect and define us as human beings.

As for the film itself, Ethan Hawke presents the story of Seymour beautifully, spending time exploring his past and present so that we can understand him and all his quirks. However, it's a fairly light documentary that doesn't include any explanation behind the bigger picture, or flashy graphics or sleek cinematography or embellishments that take away from its subject. It's straightforward, perhaps occasionally to a fault, and unfortunately Hawke cuts out the actual lessons he learned.

After watching *Seymour* at Telluride, it left me in a rather euphoric mood. Music is love, love is music. All I wanted to do is put on some Schubert, Bach and/or Beethoven and stare up at the stars the rest of the night listening. I took piano lessons growing up, and that certainly had an effect on my own character, which led me to be emotional watching some of these scenes with Seymour working with talented young individuals.

Please get to know him, you'll be thankful you did. And we owe it all to Ethan Hawke for presenting us with a wonderful introduction to an affectionate, inspiring, unforgettable person. Now it's time for Schubert.



NEWARK NEWS *(Continued from page 23)*

The company that moved to Newark with 125 employees is on track to employ 600 people in the city by the end of the year. Its audio library has grown to include more than 150,000 titles that can be played on Amazon Kindles as well as computers, tablets and phones that use Apple and Microsoft Windows operating systems.

Since his early days in the city, Katz has championed the idea that a strong technology infrastructure will draw businesses to Newark.

Frankie Valli's 'Rich' Newark Childhood



It's hard to imagine Four Seasons front man Frankie Valli living in a low-income housing project in Newark - after "Sherry" hit No. 1 on the charts. But that was the case for the humble singer immortalized in "Jersey Boys" on Broadway and the Clint Eastwood-directed movie.

In a recent interview in the Wall Street Journal, Valli gives a beautifully detailed account of his upbringing, and how he felt "rich" when his family relocated to the diverse Stephen Crane Village off South Franklin Avenue in the city's North Ward.

"In the front, you entered into the living room, and upstairs were two bedrooms - one for my parents and one for the three of us. I slept on a twin bed while my brothers shared the full. There was only one bathroom, but the apartment had real hardwood floors, steam heat, and hot and cold running water. I couldn't believe it."

After forming the Four Seasons and hitting it big, Valli says he still stuck around Stephen Crane, calling it a "safe haven."

"I didn't move out until 1964 - two years after 'Sherry' became our No. 1 hit. I was always afraid my success could disappear overnight and I wouldn't have a place to live."

INVEST IN WEEQUAHIC'S FUTURE

In Loving Memory Pages

Sid Dorfman, WHS 1937

Acclaimed Star-Ledger Sports Journalist and a Weequahic High School Hall of Famer

By Steve Politi - Star-Ledger

Sid Dorfman began a career in journalism that would span nearly eight decades - and no, that is not a typo - when a struggling newspaper called The Morning Ledger offered him 10 cents a column-inch to compile high school sports results.

It was 1935. He was 15. In the years that followed, that newspaper would become the biggest in New Jersey, and no one had more to do with its growth than Dorfman, who died in February at age 94.

To new readers, Dorfman was most recognizable as a weekly fixture on the second page of the sports section. But Dorfman wore many hats during a lifetime at the newspaper. He covered golf, midget bike races, boxing and even picked horse races at the local tracks under the pseudonym "The Masked Lady." His Mountainside-based Dorf Feature Service established blanket coverage of high school sports for the newspaper's circulation area. "He was one of the last, great newspaper people," said former governor Richard Codey.

Dorfman set up a system of bureaus that put reporters closer to the suburban towns they covered, and that decision, along with his efforts to get more funeral homes to post obituaries in the newspaper, helped The Star-Ledger to eclipse the once-dominant Newark News in the circulation wars. "Sid Dorfman was an institution all his own in New Jersey sports coverage," Gov. Chris Christie said in a statement.

That career started when Dorfman took the No. 14 bus to the offices of The Morning Ledger - carrying three nickels, two for the round-trip fare and one just in case - and met with then-sports editor Willie Klein. Klein asked if Dorfman, whose father came to the U.S. from the Ukraine in 1903, had any experience, and Dorfman told him he worked at the Weequahic High School paper. "Can you type?" Klein asked. "Yes, I can," Dorfman replied. He got the job.

"You're led by the hand of fate," Dorfman said in a 2005 interview to mark his 70th

The Star-Ledger



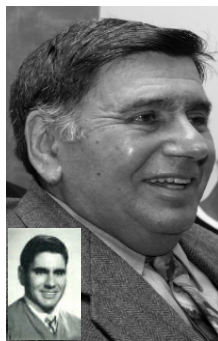
anniversary at the newspaper. "You can't plan these things. Willie Klein was there that day, and if he wasn't, I don't know, I might have been working in a dockyard or something."

Gradually, Dorfman introduced features that are still among the most popular in the newspaper today. He started the Top 20 ranking for high school sports around the state, and All-State teams, not just for football and boys basketball, but for girls sports as well - the first newspaper in the metropolitan area to do so.

"Sid was an amazing journalist with a profound love of sports and a passion for good stories," said Donald Newhouse, president of Advance Publications, which has owned the newspaper since 1935. "And Sid was incredibly loyal to his colleagues, his family and our family."



Monroe Krichman 1937 - 2014



Class of 1955

A dedicated Weequahic High School Alumni Association Board member. A scholarship fund has been established in his memory. See page 30 to donate.

The Star-Ledger still trailed The Newark Evening News in circulation when Mort Pye, the newspaper's longtime editor, approached Dorfman in the early '60s with a problem: How could the newspaper break the stranglehold the News had on the obituary listings in the area?

Dorfman relied on his knowledge of the state, and slowly, with one funeral director at a time, brought the newspaper some much-needed business. "I knew them all from sports. I might have put them on an All-County team," Dorfman said in 2005. "They were easy to get. Now, we're probably tops in the country for volume. People want their obits - and we give them their obits. It made a major contribution to the well-being of the paper."

In August 1972, the Newark News ceased publication. The Star-Ledger, the underdog for most of its existence, had won the circulation war, thanks in large part to Sid.

But his true passion was sports. Dorfman, a longtime member at Maplewood Country Club, covered some of the greatest in golf history, from Ben Hogan to Arnold Palmer to Jack Nicklaus. A 2004 inductee into the MetroWest Jewish Hall of Fame, he would use the pseudonym Paul Ryan when he covered golf because an editor was convinced the country clubs wouldn't allow a Jewish writer onto their courses.

His alumni from Dorf Feature Service include several writers who went on to become columnists and sports editors at major newspapers. Jerry Izenberg was working at the New York Herald Tribune when Dorfman called to talk him into taking the open sports columnist job at The Star-Ledger. It was 1962, and Izenberg continues to write for the newspaper to this day.

Dorfman, who was inducted into the New Jersey Sports Hall of Fame in 1998, also had an impact on the athletes he covered. Len Coleman, a Montclair native, was given a 1966 All-State trophy by Dorfman and later became president of the National League and a senior adviser to Major League Baseball. The two men became friends. "Sid is like the New York Yankees - a man of many championship seasons," Coleman said in 2005.

Surviving are his wife, Marianne; daughter, Rhoda; son, Gary; grandson, Scott (Elana); and grandchildren, Jessica and Lael Dorfman. Sid was predeceased by his loving grandson, Jason.

Lester Z. Lieberman, WHS 1948

Founder of the Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey

From the NJ Jewish News



Lester Z. Lieberman, the visionary behind the creation of the Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey and its chairman for the last 17 years, died last November at 83.

"This is a tremendous loss for the community. Lester was a man of incredible vision and tenacity," said Healthcare Foundation executive director Marsha Atkind. *"He was the driving force behind the establishing of the foundation and played a role in many philanthropies across the community."*

Gary O. Aidekman, immediate past president of the Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest NJ stated that *"Lester was tough, usually right, action-oriented, driven, and incredibly caring for the ill and needy,"*

Lieberman was chair of the board of Newark Beth Israel Hospital in 1996 when he orchestrated the sale of the facility to Saint Barnabas Healthcare System. The Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey was created with the assets derived from the sale.

The foundation has awarded over \$100 million in grants since its inception, focusing its efforts on improving access to quality health care for the vulnerable populations in greater Newark and the Jewish community of Greater MetroWest.

As a tribute to Lieberman's commitment, the Lester Z. Lieberman Humanism in Healthcare Awards are given annually to employees, students, and faculty in health care who demonstrate extraordinary com-

passion and kindness in their treatment of patients and families.

Lieberman served on the board of Beth Israel for 27 years, including nine as chair. He became devoted to Newark Beth Israel Hospital in 1964 after his youngest daughter, Jane, was treated there and survived a severe case of spinal meningitis.

Born and raised in Newark, Lieberman graduated from Weequahic High School and received a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Newark College of Engineering (now New Jersey Institute of Technology). He worked several jobs to make his way through college, including stints as a janitor and shoe salesman. In 1960, he founded Atmos Engineering, designing air conditioning and heating systems for commercial properties.

He subsequently sold Atmos to Clarkson Industries, a multinational engineering firm owned by the British conglomerate BTR, Inc. Lieberman became a director of BTR and president and CEO of Clarkson Industries, based in New York City and responsible for engineering work in 65 countries. He was also a founder of Dowel Realty, a commercial real estate company in Morristown.

Max Kleinman, executive vice president/CEO of the Greater MetroWest Federation, said Lieberman *"was one of the most fascinating individuals I ever met. He and his beloved boyhood friend, Herb Iris, regaled me with stories about growing up in Newark during tough times."*

Lieberman was among the community leaders instrumental in designing the master plan for the Alex Aidekman Family Jewish Community Campus in Whippany, which includes the federation's headquarters and the Lester Senior Housing Community.

In 2006, Lieberman looked back with pride on the Healthcare Foundation's \$3.25 million grant to UMDNJ to establish a Center for Humanism, which trains doctors in compassionate care.

Lieberman is survived by his wife, Judith; his daughters, Jane Lieberman Rubin and her husband Michael D'Amato and Susan Lieberman Smotrich and her husband Gary Smotrich; and four grandchildren, Tye, Zachary, Daniel, and Jonathan.

Judge Morris Stern, WHS 1958

US Bankruptcy Judge

By Naomi Nix, The Star-Ledger



As a New Jersey bankruptcy judge, Morris Stern developed a reputation for dispensing justice and comedy in the same breath.

"He had a unique combination of supreme intellect and humor," said attorney Michael Sirota, who appeared before him multiple times, and chairs the restructuring group at law firm Cole Schotz. Sirota said Stern would often say, *"'Thank you for your argument, which was very well done,' and then he would rule against you."*

Stern died at his Millburn home after battling cancer. He was 72.

Born in Newark on March 31, 1941, to Regina and Irving Stern, he attended Weequahic High School. In 1962, Stern earned a bachelor's degree in Industrial Engineering from Lafayette College. In 1965 he graduated with honors from Rutgers University School of Law in Newark, where he was an editor of the Law Review.

For 30 years, Stern was a partner at Stern, Dubrow and Marcus, where he specialized in commercial law. As an adjunct professor at his law school alma mater, Stern taught bankruptcy and commercial law.

In 2001, Stern was appointed by the Third Circuit Judicial Council as a judge in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Jersey.

On the bench, Stern was known for mastering complex legal issues and delivering thoroughly researched opinions, said Judge Michael Kaplan, one of his colleagues in bankruptcy court.

He is survived by his wife Ronnie, a son Matthew; daughter Ilene Bunis; three grandchildren, Sydney Stern, and Alex and Noah Bunis. A son, Benjamin, died in 2005.

Robert Rickel, WHS 1942



Co-founder of Rickel Home Centers

By Katie Thomas, NY Times



Robert Rickel, who along with two brothers, founded one of the first chains of home improvement stores, died in March in Boca Raton, Fla. He was 90.

Mr. Rickel and his two brothers, Alvin and Morty, opened their first stores in the 1950s. The Rickel Brothers stores, which were later known as Rickel Home Centers, aimed to offer suburban customers a supermarket-style shopping experience along with salespeople who could offer detailed home improvement advice.

At its peak in the 1970s, the chain operated about 100 stores across New Jersey, New York, Connecticut and Pennsylvania, and its advertising jingle was a fixture on local television and radio: "*Rickel helps you do it better - do it better with Rickel.*"

Mr. Rickel was born on July 13, 1923, in Toledo, Ohio, shortly before his family moved to Newark, where he grew up. After graduating from Weequahic High School in 1942, he enlisted in the Army Air Forces and became a gunner on a B-17, earning the Distinguished Flying Cross, his family said.

After returning home, he and his brothers, who also served in World War II, followed their father into the heating business. But they soon grew interested in the retail market, and in 1953 opened their first store, in Union.

The Rickels sold the chain in 1969 to the Supermarkets General Corporation, then the parent of Pathmark grocery stores.

Mr. Rickel ran the company for 10 more years. The Rickel stores struggled to compete against the rapidly expanding Home Depot chain, and the last of them eventually closed after a merger with Channel in the early '90s.

In addition to his daughter and son, Mr. Rickel is survived by his wife, the former Evelyn Boxer; a sister, Miriam Aptekar; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Morty Rickel died in 1980 and Alvin Rickel in 2008.

Ciel Arons, 103

Community leader and mother of two WHS grads



Ciel Negin Arons, 103, an almost lifelong Newark resident passed away in May. Born in Manhattan, she moved to Badger Avenue in Newark in 1911 and also resided on Mapes Ave., Stengel Ave., and Mt. Prospect Ave.

A talented pianist and top student, Ciel graduated at age 16 from South Side High School and received her teaching certificate from Newark Normal School at age 18. She taught in Union for many years.

Ciel began her involvement in community affairs as president of the Peshine Avenue School PTA. At the same time, she was president of the Osborne chapter of Hadassah, and subsequently was elected regional president. She was also active in the Women's Division of the United Jewish Federation of MetroWest, serving as secretary and chairing the division's speakers bureau.

She was appointed to the Newark Board of Education in the 1960's and she helped found the Newark School for the Arts. As an active member of the American Association for the United Nations, she organized the annual UN Day celebration, which featured former first lady Eleanor Roosevelt as a speaker one year.

Ciel and her husband, attorney Benjamin Arons, were responsible for maintaining and keeping open Congregation Ahavas Sholom, the last active synagogue in Newark. She continued to prepare the Kiddush every Saturday through her 90's.

Predeceased by her husband, Benjamin, she is survived by two daughters, Harriet, WHS 1959 (Robert) Baker and Susan Sullivan, WHS 1961; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Herb Schon(wetter) Jan. 1950

Cyclist, Skier and Baker



Herbert Mayer Schon(wetter), 1931-2014, avid cyclist, skier and baker of rugelach, died on June 30 after a massive stroke. Herb was born in Newark, and lived for many years in New York City, where after a career in advertising he founded Grandma's Recipe Rugelach, a specialty bakery.

He retired to Santa Fe, NM, in 1997, and within a few years had revived the Grandma's brand. At age 75, Herb indulged his passion for cycling by riding from California to New Hampshire, and from Oregon to Southern California at 80.

At 77 he was struck by a car while cycling in Albuquerque, and a year later he suffered multiple broken bones and skull fractures after a high-speed bike crash in Los Alamos.

But nothing could stop Herb, and in both cases he was back in the saddle within months, even riding a century with the helicopter crew who had saved his life. When he wasn't on his bike he could be found skiing, working out at the gym or making rugelach deliveries to his many customers.

Herb was known for his integrity and humor, but it was his fierce tenacity and love for life that will continue to serve as an inspiration to his friends. He is survived by his wife, Irene; his son, Peter; daughter-in-law, Amanda; and granddaughter, Greta.

Wesley Boodish, WHS 1950

Healing across generations

Jordana Horn wrote this appreciation of Dr. Boodish in the NJ Jewish News



Dr. Wesley Boodish, a graduate of Weequahic High School who practiced pediatrics in Millburn for over 50 years, died April 19 in Livingston. Born in 1932, Boodish interned at Beth Israel Hospital in Newark before completing his residency at Children's Hospital in Philadelphia. He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Lynn Boodish; sister and brother-in-law, Barbara (Ben) Azzatti; and nephew, David (Nicole).

He picked up my newborn daughter from her plastic hospital bassinet carefully, with nothing short of love. "Did you know," he told the nurse checking my vitals as he checked my baby, "that I'm not only this little baby's pediatrician, but was also her mother's? And I was the obstetrician's pediatrician too!" "That's really something!" the nurse said, smiling.

...my pediatrician, Dr. Wesley Boodish, hearkened back to another time in so many ways. He was a practicing pediatrician for two generations. Often, his waiting room would be full of his patients and his old patients who were now the parents, chauffeurs to the patients. I can't even tell you how many times I asked him just to take a quick peek into my throat as well, and he'd say, "Well, you still are a patient, no matter how old you are."

Going to his office as an adult with my children made me feel comforted and safe. I knew that however worried I was about my child, he would handle the problem with kindness, experience and immediacy. In so many ways, then, the relationship was almost parental in that

long-forgotten way where you could go to your parents crying and they would fix the problem and make everything all better. Dr. Boodish's loving smile made you feel, no matter how rashy or vomity or unhappy your kid was, that everything would be okay. He made the kids feel that way too. It wasn't about the lollipops with him, though those were available: it was about his genuine caring and kindness.

He saw hundreds of patients, yet never once gave the impression that he was rushed or stressed out. In fact, the thing that has been most surprising to me since his death this weekend has been just how many people were under the impression that it was only their family, and only their children, whom he loved and cared for like grandchildren - when, in fact, it was all of us.

Dr. Boodish's funeral was held on April 23 at Congregation B'nai Jeshurun. The room was full of us, all of us who loved this man so deeply and so deeply mourn his loss. And even more people who loved him fill nursery school or elementary school classrooms, perhaps too young to deal with death face to face, yet sad somehow knowing that a person who loved them is gone.

I'm so sad he is gone, and so thankful he was in my life and the lives of my children. On the one hand, his death catapults all of us into a strange new frontier of adulthood. It's inevitable, we all know, that people you knew and loved when you were a child will slowly vanish one by one, leaving you alone to figure out the world on your own. And when one of them dies, you mourn them and at the same time mourn that bit of yourself that is lost with them.

But on the other hand, I am so, so grateful to have had him in my life, because the breadth and depth of his impact reminds me of the world that is possible: a world where we take the time to show that we truly care for one another, and where doing so is an act of love and an act of truly being alive.

May his memory be for a blessing.

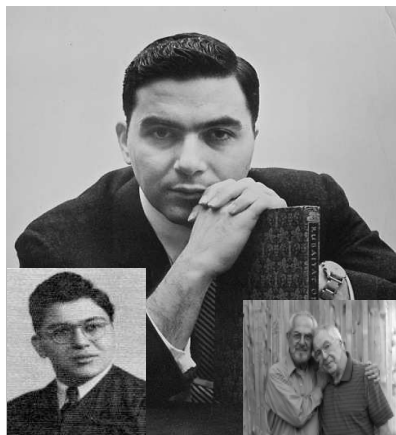
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In Loving Memory

**Pat A. Restaino, Former Principal
Sandra Allen Johnson, 1964
Harold Ashby, Jr. 1966**

**Linda Benoun Davenport, 1963
Laure Brock, 1971
Florence Brockman Seglin, 1938
Leonard Busch, 1955
Marvin Chaimovich, 1952
Aaron Chernus, 1946
Lynn Chopin Stein, 1958
Frances Cohen, 1942
Zelda Duchin Cohen, 1945
Sol Eisner, 1940
Leah Freedman Pariser, 1949
Beatrice Friedman Fisher, 1936
Wilbur Friedman, 1947
Sidney Friedenberg, 1959
Seymour Frieland, 1946
Elsa Fruchter Kaplan, 1941
Gerald Gelfand, 1963
Midred Geffner Lublang, 1939
Basil Goldman, 1948
Phyllis Goldner Layne, 1944
Miriam Greenberg, 1941
David Harrison, 1939
Donald Hersh, 1945
Barbara Julian Friedman, 1958
Natalie Kammerman Herman, 1944
Alan Kampf, 1948
Barbara Kaplowitz Cohen, 1955
Saul Karlin, 1945
Leonard Karp, 1949
Harold Leonard Kaufer, 1940
Irwin Kimmelman, 1948
Olga Kornuta Wasner, 1946
Myles Kransler, 1945
Harold Krusch, 1945
Beverly Lauer Scharago, 1963
Morton "Lefty" Leiwant, 1946
Robert Levy, 1959
Stanley Levy, 1960
Alan Naftalis, 1964
Leslie Novick, 1952
Sara Ontell Martin, 1948
Anita Osman Marcus, 1946
Jack Osofsky, 1948
Bernard Oxfeld, 1948
Melissa Saltman Meyer, 1961
Shirley Schwartz Goldberg, 1937
Richard Schwartz, 1940
Howard Sokolov, 1957
Harry Sommerstein, 1956
Elaine Stavitsky Ratner, 1945
Martin Steele, 1958
Bert Stickler, 1940
Martin Sussman, 1968
William Sussman, 1948
Elaine Reinfeld Bratter Steisel, 1940
Jerome Rothstein, 1943
Molly Taner Jay, 1942
Charles Turner, 1952
Lawrence Wasserman, 1957
Bette Weinstock Glass, 1942
Robert Weisman, 1949
Norma Wenig Thomas, 1950**

Phil Lustig, '46, pays tribute to his big brother Ted, '42



Ted Lustig, class of 1942, died on November 10, 2013 at the age of 87.

My brother was an inspiration for me with his love of knowledge. He was a voracious reader, with great curiosity and love of learning. He took pride that he had learned to read before he entered kindergarten. When the kindergarten teacher said the class would learn to read, Ted told her he already could. In disbelief, she took him to the principal's office, and he was promoted to first grade.

He graduated from Weequahic at 16 and was admitted to the Army Specialized Education program, and sent to Syracuse University where he studied Journalism and graduated Magna Cum Laude.

During WWII, he spent three years on Guam, and during the Korean War as a reserve officer and a public information officer. Remaining in the reserves, he rapidly advanced in rank, retiring as a Major in 1965, after 23 years of service. I am proud to know that he will be interred at the historic Arlington National Cemetery, appropriately with many of our national heroes, as he was to me.

He was an honor graduate of both the Armed Forces Information School and the U.S. Army's Adjutant General's School, and held a certificate in political science and economics from the Université de Strasbourg in France. He also earned an M.A. degree in mass communication from New York University. Prior to entering the public relations field, he was a magazine editor, a book editor, a foreign correspondent in Europe, and a news service picture editor.

Ted specialized in Public Relations and worked over the years with major corporations, enhancing their corporate image. As a working journalist, he was a former contributing editor to Graphic Arts Monthly magazine, the largest circulation publication serving the printing industry. He was also an author of numerous articles that have appeared in national publications, and in professional journals and encyclopedias. As a member of the Public Relations Society of America, he was elected Fellow, the organization's highest honor.

Following a thirty-year-career in corporate public relations, principally with Fortune 500 companies, he joined the faculty of P.I. Reed School of Journalism at West Virginia University in 1989, retiring in 1998 after almost a decade of service - a very fitting final career of 'giving back' the power of learning. In addition, he was an editor at book publisher McGraw Hill, where he also met and married his wife, Mary Lou (Maresca), recently celebrating their 57th wedding anniversary.

Ted and I were raised by a single mom, a Fashion Designer and highly skilled dressmaker. She was passionate about being a designer who could do miracles with fabric. Her clients called her the woman with the 'Golden Hands.' However, when her income fluctuated greatly, we moved 11 times in ten years, surviving the depression and the war years. Fortunately, Weequahic High was a nucleus. As we grew, we realized and appreciated the very sound foundation we received at Weequahic.

It was hard for me to keep up with this intellectual genius, but he was the inspiration for me to also get a degree (BS from New York University and Parsons School of Design), for which I am grateful.

Ted was truly an intellectual giant. He never lost his stride over the years, where he continued to read a new book almost every day. Besides his great intellectual capacity, he was a jokester who could relate jokes for hours without stopping.

Ted has left a legacy of a devoted wife and three successful children: a son Michael, two daughters, Rachel and Andrea, and nine grandchildren, who will miss his calm, funny demeanor, as will I. It was Weequahic High School that opened the door to learning that helped produce this brilliant mind.

Sanford Grossman WHS 1953

Emmy-winning Sport Director



Sanford "Sandy" Grossman passed away on April 2, 2014 at age 78. He directed television broadcasts of 10 Super Bowls, 18 NBA Finals, 5 Stanley Cup finals and Olympic hockey

matches. He won eight Emmy awards for his directing.

He was born on June 12, 1935 in Newark. After graduating from Weequahic High School, he studied broadcasting at the University of Alabama, called football games for the school radio station, and received his degree in 1957.

In 1963, he became a production assistant for CBS Sports, serving as the chief director of broadcasting NBA games during the early 1970s and soon became the main NFL director. One of his innovations was using music at the break of basketball games.

Grossman began working alongside John Madden and Pat Summerall on CBS in 1981, and their partnership lasted 21 seasons. Madden insisted that Grossman and producer Bob Stenner watch coaches' films of the NFL teams, which helped Grossman choose the best shots to pair with Madden's commentary. Madden credits him for being the first director to widen the camera shot to incorporate footage of outside linebackers.

He created these broadcasts out of a production truck crammed with television monitors that formed a screen shot. During a Giants-Bengals game in 1991, Stenner and Grossman made 1,100 decisions about camera angles and the like.

Summerall and Madden decided to move to Fox Sports after that network acquired broadcasting rights to NFL games in 1994, and Grossman followed suit. He retired in 2012.

He is survived by his wife, Faithe Lurie Grossman, WHS 1958; sons Bobby and Dean; daughters, Jodi Grossman Rose and Bari Grossman Rosenholtz; and eight grandchildren.

MEMBERSHIP / MERCHANDISE / SCHOLARSHIP FORM

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

Please print clearly: Date _____ Total Amount \$ _____

2 PAYMENT CHOICES:

1. CREDIT CARD MC VISA AMEX DISC. - Amount _____

Credit Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____ Security Code: _____

Signature: _____ Zip Code _____

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

5 MEMBERSHIP CHOICES: check if change in postal address

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

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

Name: _____ Last name at WHS: _____

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

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

E-mail address: _____

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

- ◆ \$5.00 ALUMNI PIN: - (in orange & brown in the shape of the WHS logo)
- ◆ \$5.00 TOTE BAG: - (in orange with brown lettering)
- ◆ \$10.00 KNIT CAP: - (one size fits all in orange or tan with "W" on front)
- ◆ \$12.00 T-SHIRT: - (sizes S, M, L, XL, 2XL - (dark brown or orange with WHS logo)
- ◆ \$15.00 ALUMNI HAT: - (one size fits all in khaki with "Alumni" lettering)
- ◆ \$17.00 "W" HAT (dark brown with orange "W" on front))
- ◆ \$20.00 GOLF SHIRT: - (sizes S, M, L, XL, 2XL - orange or tan with Indian Head /WHS alumni lettering)
- ◆ \$25.00 SWEATSHIRT: - (sizes S, M, L, XL, 2XL - (brown or orange with WHS logo)
- ◆ \$40.00 HOODED SWEATSHIRTS: - (sizes M, L, XL, 2XL - dark brown or orange with WHS logo)

24 CONTRIBUTION CHOICES:

1. \$ Alvin Attles Fund
2. \$ Morey Bobrow Fund *
3. \$ Class of 1952 Fund
4. \$ Class of 1963 Fund
5. \$ Class of 1964 Fund
6. \$ Ronald Griffin Fund *
7. \$ Miriam Hample Fund *
8. \$ Walter Hastreiter Fund *

9. \$ General Scholarship Fund
10. \$ Reada & Harry Jellinek Fund *
11. \$ Monroe Krichman Fund *
12. \$ Hannah Litzky Fund *
13. \$ Seymour Swede Masin Fund *
14. \$ Edwin McLucas Fund
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16. \$ Marie O'Connor Fund *
17. \$ Richard Roberts Fund
18. \$ Sadie Rous Fund *

19. \$ Linda Marcia Small Fund *
20. \$ Ronald G. Stone Fund *

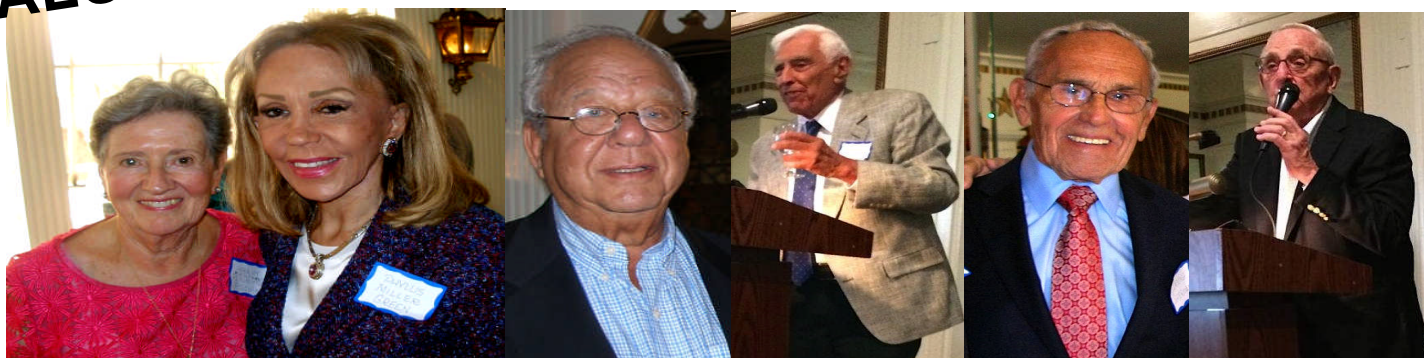
NON-SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

- ◆ \$ Les & Ceil Fein Endowment Fund
- ◆ \$ Class of 1945 Fund
- ◆ \$ Mural Fund
- ◆ \$ General Contribution

* In Memory

ALUMNI GALLERY

Class of 1949 - 65th Reunion



Harriet Krichman Perlmutter & Phyllis Miller Green; Reunion Committee - Art Schechner, Morty Weinstein, Irv Sherman & Al Marcus

WHS End-of-Year and Retirement Dinner



L-R: Mary Dawkins, 1971; Marc Tarabour, 1963; Ruby Baskerville, 1961; Carolyn Vadala; Phil Yourish, 1964, who was honored with a plaque by the WHS faculty; and Myra Lawson, 1970.

At the Weequahic Branch Library where Marc Little presented his new book, After Obama



L-R Front: Ali Rashid, 1970; Dwight West, 1972; and James Sedgwick, Back: Marc Little, 1969; Myra Lawson, 1970; Shirley Johnson, 1970; Ernest Barron, 1968.



Class of June 1951 - 63rd Reunion



80th Birthday for Hal Braff, 1952, holding his Bar Mitzvah Picture

2014 REUNIONS

Saturday, Oct. 11, 2014

Class of 1994

20th Reunion, 7 p.m.
Appian Way, West Orange

Call Kawana Johnson, (973) 454-9833

Friday, Oct. 17, 2014

Class of 1984

30th Reunion, 7 p.m.
Newark Club

Contact Tharien Karim Arnold at
(973) 432-2961 / bayviewwave@aol.com

Sunday, Oct. 19, 2014

Class of June 1959

55th Reunion, 11:30 a.m.
Hamilton Park Conf. Center
Florham Park

Contact Lil Friedman Weinstein at
(732) 922-8528

Saturday, Oct. 25, 2014

Class of 1964

50th Reunion, 6:30 p.m.
Marriott Hotel at Newark Liberty
International Airport

Contact Barbara Bierbaum Schrob
at (732) 257-5114
weequahiclass64@gmail.com

Oct. 26 to Nov. 2, 2014

Class of 1970

44th Reunion Cruise on the
Royal Caribbean

Contact Paquita Wilson Henderson at
(201) 207-7712
whsclass1970@gmail.com

Friday, Nov. 28, 2014

Class of 1969

45th Reunion, 7:00 p.m.
Galloping Hill Inn, Union

Contact Marc Little
at marccurtislittle@gmail.com

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

ALUMNI STORE

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HOODED SWEATSHIRTS

ALUMNI HAT, KNIT HATS

ALUMNI PIN

Order
on page 30

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Budget Print Center - Bloomfield
Dominick's Pizza - Hillside
FYI Food Service - East Rutherford
Hobby's Deli - Newark
MPI Mailing Service - Belleville
Printing Delight - East Orange
Robert L. Horn Accounting - Clark
Schechner Lifson Insurance - Summit

WHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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

Phil Yourish, 1964, *Executive Director*

Board of Trustees:

Mary Brown Dawkins, 1971, *Co-President*

Marc Tarabour, 1963, *Co-President*

Arthur Lutzke, 1963, *Treasurer*

Ruby Baskerville, 1961, *Secretary*

Tharien Karim Arnold, 1984 Adilah Quddus, 1971

Hal Braff, 1952

Gerald Russell, 1974

Vaughn Crowe, 1998

Keith Salter, 1985

Harold Edwards, 1966

David Schechner, 1946

Brian Logan, 1982

Charles Talley, 1966

Lisa McDonald, Principal

Pamela Scott Threats, 1966

High School to Board Liaison

Yolanda Cassidy-Bogan, 1987 - Counselor

Co-Founders

Hal Braff, 1952 & Sheldon Bross, 1955

Visit our new web site at ***weequahicalumni.org***

