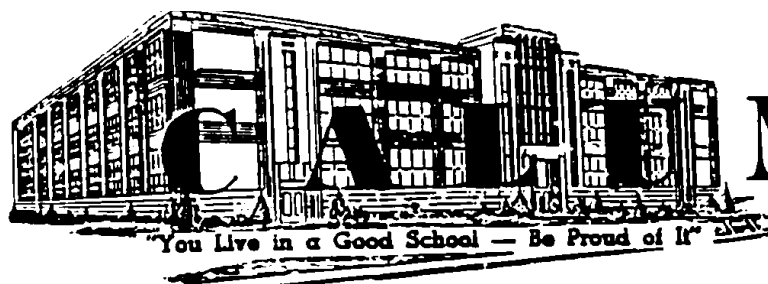


# THE WEEQUAHIC ALUMNI



# CALENDAR

Spring / Summer 2002  
Issue # 6

**WHS ALUMNI  
ASSOCIATION**  
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www.weequahicalumni.org

**Executive Director:**

Phil Yourish, 1964

**Co-Presidents:**

Harold Braff, 1952  
Faith Howard, 1982

**Treasurer:**

Sheldon Bross, 1955

**Secretary:**

Adilah Quddus, 1971

**Committee Chairs:**

**Events:**

Faith Howard, 1982

**Membership:**

Adilah Quddus, 1971

**Scholarships/Grants:**

Sheldon Bross, 1955

**Tutoring / Mentoring:**

David Lieberfarb, 1965

**WHS Liaison:**

Loraine White, 1964

**Committee Members:**

Velma Adams, 1975  
Sylvester Allen, 1971  
Lawrence Bridget, 1980  
Yvonne Causbey, 1977  
Marshall Cooper, 1969  
Mary Dawkins, 1971  
Harold Edwards, 1966  
Lois Blumenfeld Gilbert, 1960  
Dale Gordon, 1968  
Beverlee Kanengiser, 1944  
Beverly Kass, 1953  
Arthur Lutzke, 1963  
Bert Manhoff, 1938  
Linda Reaves, 1972  
Harry Reavis, 1982  
Gerald Russell, 1974  
Dave Schechner, 1946  
Charles Talley, 1966  
Sam Weinstock, 1955  
Myrna Weissman, 1953

## *A Meaningful Way To Say Thanks*

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

There was no way I could have imagined, receiving my diploma from Michael Conover, Principal of Weequahic High School fifty years ago, that my experience there would be so impactful. My life then was still being shaped. I was unformed - naive. I took for granted loving, caring parents and an excellent education system as I did the safety and security of reliable friends and a community of families much like mine.

Now at 67, grateful for the wonderful life I've been so privileged to lead, it is far clearer to me how very fortunate it was for me to have grown up in Newark and to have attended such a remarkable high school. Memories are vivid of singing our unique song in Untermann Field and screaming support for our basketball team in our little gym. They intermingle with pictures of special relationships with teachers who were kindred spirits and treasured events - Sundays at the movies - seders - and car trips down the shore with my sister and parents.

I am clear that no matter what paths we've taken or where we now live, we are still Newarkers - still a part of the history of Weequahic as it continues to have its role in the lives of the thousands of us who attend reunions each year and visit our web site each day.

The principal goal of your Weequahic High School Alumni Association is to garner the interest and the energy which pulls each of us to the memories of our years on Chancellor Avenue and channel them to support us in providing opportunity for today's Weequahic graduates to go on to college or a professional

training school. Many of these kids come from impoverished homes. Many have little or no emotional support from anyone. Although they qualify to be accepted, many cannot afford the books, no less the tuition.

So this is a two-pronged appeal. If you are organizing a reunion, build enough into the charge so that you can offer the Alumni Association a scholarship in your class' name. What greater tribute could there be than to give some worthy youngsters a chance for a brighter future in the name of your class.

If your memories of growing up honor your parents or teachers or friends who made significant contributions to your development, consider paying tribute to them by establishing a scholarship fund in their name through the Alumni Association.

In doing so a youngster will get an otherwise unavailable opportunity and you can enjoy the satisfaction of knowing that your tax-free gift will assure that the name of someone meaningful to you will live on. Your gift will be greatly appreciated irrespective of the size of the scholarship. Give what you can afford. Each of us can make a world of difference!

This year the Alumni Association is 5 years old. This year, as well, Weequahic High School celebrates its 70th birthday. We will commemorate the occasion with a *Weequahic Homecoming Weekend, October 12 and 13, 2002.*

On Saturday we will cheer our football team under new coach Altarik White as it takes on Mendham High School at Untermann Field - accompanied by our award winning band - and then take a nostalgic tour of the school. Bring your family. Show them your school and introduce them to old friends.

On Sunday afternoon and evening we gather for an all-alumni gala at *Congregation Oheb Shalom* in South Orange. Join us. You will have a wonderful time.

# Visit The Old Neighborhood At WWW.WEEQUAHICALUMNI.ORG

**Look for our  
new interactive  
WEB SITE in  
June 2002**



**70 Years  
of WEEQUAHIC  
on the Internet**

✪ sign-up now ✪ get your password ✪ bookmark this site ✪ view lists of classes ✪ tour the photo gallery ✪ e-mail your classmates ✪ share your favorite memories ✪ check out the calendar of events ✪ look for the latest reunion information ✪ find out what's happening at Weequahic ✪ learn about the work of the WHS Alumni Association



## Weequahic HS Marching Band Wins 3rd Consecutive National Title

Looking spectacular with new uniforms and instruments contributed by the Jaqua Foundation whose President, Eli Hoffman is a 1956 graduate, the Weequahic High School Marching Band took top honor at the All-Star Music Festival, a national band competition in Orlando, Florida for the third year in a row. What a triumph! And to add to the school's glory - Weequahic captured another first place trophy in the Jazz Band competition. The WHS Alumni Association together with the Newark Public Schools and community leaders helped fund the journey. Leading the band is Weequahic music teacher, Michael Page. The assistant band director is Darryl Taylor, a 1987 alumnus. We are so proud of the students in the marching band!



**Weequahic** refers to the "head of the creek," the high ground that served as the boundary between lands of the Hackensacks and Raritans and later as the partition between the cities of Newark and Elizabeth. Where a river once flowed, a park and lake now play host to native wildlife, flowers and recreational activities.

**Sagamore** means "tribal chief." At Weequahic the word sagamore applied to a student who served as hall monitor and was authorized to give out a summons to a student who was in the hallway without a pass. The guilty student was then brought before three judges who made up the Sagamore Court to hand out punishments.

**Calumet** originally symbolized masculinity and femininity. The legendary Calumet functioned in ceremonies as a pipe of peace and one of war.

**Ergo** was the name given to the literary magazine that was published in the early 1960's at Weequahic.

## ALUMNI STATS

**Mailing List  
4,051**

### By States

2,453 - New Jersey - 61%  
420 - Florida  
292 - California  
216 - New York  
73 - Pennsylvania  
68 - Maryland  
47 - Massachusetts  
36 - Texas  
36 - North Carolina  
36 - Georgia  
33 - Virginia

### By Counties in NJ

997 - Essex  
481 - Union  
249 - Middlesex  
164 - Morris  
136 - Monmouth  
87 - Ocean

### By Cities/Towns in NJ

323 - Newark  
140 - West Orange  
134 - Livingston  
111 - Springfield  
72 - Edison  
66 - Millburn/Short Hills  
47 - South Orange  
46 - Maplewood  
47 - New York City

### By Countries

14 - Israel  
4 - Canada  
3 - England  
2 - Spain  
1 - Germany  
1 - Holland  
1 - France  
1 - Switzerland  
1 - Denmark  
1 - Ecuador  
1 - Costa Rica  
1 - Virgin Islands

### By Class Years

1963 - 382	1964 - 362
1945 - 337	1960 - 268
1966 - 220	1940 - 214
1961 - 201	1959 - 184
1953 - 174	1948 - 169
1951 - 160	1991 - 136

**WHS Alumni Married  
to WHS Alumni 209**

### **WHS Alumni Association Planning Meetings**

**1st Tuesday Of Every Month  
6 PM, Board Room, Beth Israel  
Medical Center, Free Parking,  
Sandwich Platter & Soft Drinks  
All Are Invited To Participate**

## HISANI DUBOSE CREATES NEW TV DRAMA Class of 1971

By Barbara Kukla, Star-Ledger



A good idea can come from anywhere, even when you're being insulted by "a guy who had a little too much to drink" while heading downtown on the No. 24 bus. Rather than being insulted by the Hispanic man's

comment that blacks were responsible for most of the crime in Newark, Hisani DuBose (formerly Johnnette Porter) thought about his remarks, then decided to act on them. She shot videotape - enough of it to make 13 episodes of a cable TV drama that's getting a look-see from two major cable TV stations.

The premise of the show, called *"Beads on String,"* is the richness of Newark's cultural diversity and the need for people to better understand each other in their daily lives. "Strung together, the beads represent people from many backgrounds who make up humanity," said DuBose, who has spent the

better part of the past two decades as a singer, dancer and writer.

"It's not preachy," said DuBose. "Basically, it follows folks through their everyday lives." The plot for the TV drama, which was shot in a variety of locations, including La Casa de Don Pedro, follows two security guards who work at the Robert Treat Hotel. Kwame, played by Niles Weston, is Jamaican- American. Juan, played by Mario Corrales, is Puerto Rican. While most of the actors use fictitious names, the hotel is the real thing. "Miles Berger, who owns the Robert Treat, kindly let me use the name," said DuBose. "That is important because it's our major downtown hotel and because it was named for the founder of our city."

People of all ethnic backgrounds wander in and out of the 13 episodes DuBose has developed so far. A third character who appears regularly, Kwame's sister Hakika, is played by DuBose's real-life daughter. The first episode focuses on a young man named Luis who arrives in Newark with the attitude - just like the man on the bus - that most black youths are criminals. Kwame and Juan deal with the situation after the young Peruvian is mugged, reinforcing his negative image of African-Americans.

Working on a tight budget, DuBose used her own house in Bloomfield for part of the filming. Other scenes were shot in a friend's house in

East Orange and at La Casa de Don Pedro in Newark, where the pre-school center was turned into a nightclub. DuBose's interest in theater developed at Seton Hall University, where she earned a degree in political science and biology after graduating from Weequahic High School. She has been a programming associate at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center for nearly five years, assisting with community and World Festival programs.

As a child, she said, she was always interested in singing and dancing, partly because her father Harry Porter, was a well-known musician on the Newark jazz scene. "My interest in writing took shape at Seton Hall, where I wrote a musical," she said. After that, she began participating in writing workshops, including one run by well-known writing coach Frank Silvera in Harlem.

DuBose's financial partners in "Beads on a String" are Frances and Donald Sykes, friends from the days when she worked for a Newark nonprofit group, and Rudy Walker, a jazz drummer from East Orange. "We liked the idea of the concept behind the series," said Frances Sykes, "and we also have great respect for Hisani as a person who gets things done." Walker said he lent his support because he's an artist who believes in supporting other artists. "Hisani's not only an old friend, she's a talented lady, so I was glad to do it."



## Max J. Herzberg Weequahic's First Principal From the 1958 Calumet

Max John Herzberg, who passed away in 1958, was the first principal of Weequahic High School and a noted educator, editor and author. A graduate of Newton Street School and the old Newark High School, now Barringer, Mr. Herzberg went on to Columbia University. He did graduate work in literary history and drama at Columbia and in school administration at New York University.

After being a teacher and department chairman in Newark high schools, he was appointed principal of Weequahic when it opened in 1933. Upon his

retirement in 1951, Mr. Herzberg was honored by the entire student body of Weequahic, alumni, and members of the community. It was at that time that the Max J. Herzberg Scholarship Fund was instituted.

As an author and editor he wrote or edited fifty-seven books and pamphlets. In 1920 he became literary editor of the Newark Evening News, and from its inception in 1947 until his death, he edited the Sunday Book Page.

For many years, Mr. Herzberg belonged to, and was a former president of the National Council of Teachers of English. Only as recently as last November he retired as director of publications for the National Council and at that time was awarded the W. Wilbur Hatfield Award.

Mr. Herzberg was also a former president of the Stephen Crane Association. He was a member of the dictionary staff of the G. & C. Merriam-Webster Company and editor of its leaflet entitled Word Study, which is sent several times a year to teachers of English throughout the country.

## OLD-TIME RECREATION IN NEWARK

Boxing & wrestling at Laurel Gardens

Harness racing at Weequahic Park

Cycling at the Velodrome

Baseball at Ruppert Stadium

Boating at Weequahic & Branch Brook Parks

Ice-Skating at Branch Brook Park

Football at Schools Stadium

Roller Skating at Dreamland & Twin City

Swimming at Rotunda, Boylan Street and Hayes pools



# WEEQUAHIC HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

## New Look For The High School On The Hill

In September 2002, the programming and curriculum at Weequahic and all of the other high schools in Newark will begin a new era. Last year, the faculty at Weequahic adopted *Talent Development High Schools* as its whole school reform model and now after more than a year of intensive planning, four academies have been established.

They are: *The Academy of Allied Health Science Careers*, *The Academy of Fine Arts and Business*, *The Academy of Political Urban Leadership Studies* and the *9th Grade Success Academy*. In addition, Twilight, an afterschool - early evening program for students who encounter difficulty adjusting to the regular school program, will continue.

The features of the Academy format are as follows: student centered with smaller learning environments; a career oriented curriculum; a larger number of choices; a collective approach to teaching; more relevant subject matter; self-directed learning activities and work internships; more opportunities for creativity and innovation; more individual attention and positive reinforcement; increased parent participation; and greater overall accountability.

The goal of the Academy model is to have students achieve academic success by providing them with the knowledge, skills, behaviors and experiences necessary for entry into post-secondary programs in their chosen career areas.

Each Academy, made up of approximately 300 students, will have its own set of courses and activities, administrative personnel, and team of teachers. Students from any part of Newark may sign up for the Academy of their choice at any of the high schools in the city.

## Calumet Editor Wins Journalism Scholarship

LaToya Harris, the editor of the 2001-2002 Calumet, received a scholarship from the Garden State Association of Black Journalists in this year's annual scholarship competition. Following graduation, LaToya plans to attend Montclair State University where she will major in English. Hereunder, are some excerpts from an essay that she wrote for the competition:

*I was just four years old when I was bitten. The bite caused me to have a severe tremor in my*

*right hand and to scribble lines on paper like a polygraph. I wrote about events that I saw, whether it was about a yellow ladybug walking across the pavement or playing in my sandbox. I would run and show my grandmother. However, to her, it was scribble, because I had not learned to write yet. But I knew, that those wavy and curvy lines were things that I had seen and imagined in my young life. However, I had no idea that I had just been bitten by the journalistic bug.*

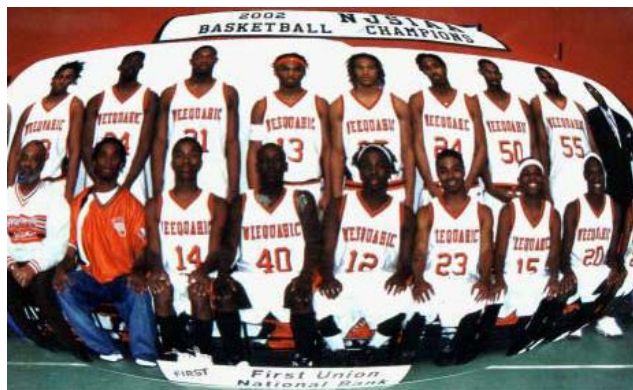
*...My freshman year I joined the school newspaper. I wrote poems and stories. By my junior year, I was the Co-Editor. I joined a program called Studioworks Youth and Art Development. There, I took a Creative Writing course and received a certificate of completion. Now I am finishing up my senior year as the Editor. Looking back on my young journalistic career makes me smile. As my ability as a writer grew, the paper did too. This year I have taken on challenging topics and my work is much more involved. Although this is my last year as a member of the high school newspaper staff, I can look forward to joining my college newspaper and the endless possibilities as a writer.*

## Track Team Wins City Championship

Going into the meet as underdogs to more experienced teams, nobody would have believed that a team loaded with so many rookies could be victorious. But on May 15th, the Weequahic outdoor track team came in first in the Newark City Track & Field Championship at Shabazz Field. Sanjay Spence won two events in the High Jump and 110 meter high hurdles; Todd Williams came in 1st in the 100 meter dash; and Yusef Ellis won the discus throw. It was the track team's 2nd championship in the past three years under head coach James Carter.

## 1st Year for Debating Team

Good News! Weequahic's debating team, guided by Social Studies teacher Carlton Woodward, did well in this year's Jersey's Urban Debate League competition. Led by Gary Tillery and Terrence Manderville, the debating team came in 6th and received a plaque for its performance. No championship this year, but we are on our way.



## Hoopsters Reach State Finals For 2nd Consecutive Year

Though losing to Neptune in the Group 3 State finals at the Rutgers Athletic Center, Weequahic's varsity basketball squad completed a remarkable year under outstanding coach, Frank Gavin.

Finishing with a 22-6 record, Coach Gavin took his team - led by the superb play of seniors Nagee Johnson and Hakeem Hall - to the finals for the second consecutive year. In 2001, the team brought home the Group 2 trophy adding more glory to Weequahic's legendary basketball history.

## Golf Team Wins City Title

Congratulations to the golf team for its impressive victory in the Newark Public Schools Tournament. Weequahic defeated 9 competing schools at the event held at the beautiful 18 hole Weequahic Park Golf Course. The team set a tournament record with a score of 202 shattering the previous record by a whopping 26 shots.

Weequahic placed 4 golfers in the top 8 out of 35 golfers. Ebenezer Hippolyte led the team with a tournament low score of 40. He is the individual city champion. Tim Harris, Kingsly Kordi and Eban Frederick were also vital contributors to the victory. Nelson Tejada, an attendance counselor at the high school, is coach of the team.





In the 1940's, 1950's and 1960's, Newark had a substantial Jewish population that after World War II edged up to about 58,000, and at one time represented 12 percent of the city's population and 1.1% of American Jewry. In those decades, a vital landmark that had become the heart and soul of Newark's bustling and upwardly-mobile Jewish community was the **Weequahic Diner**. It occupied a triangular strip of land at 306-308 Elizabeth Avenue bounded by Hawthorne Avenue on the south and E. Peddie Street on the north. The Denberg Bakery was directly behind the diner.

#### Diner's Origin

The Diner had been erected at that site in 1938 by the two Bauman brothers, Leo and Morris. Earlier in the 1930s, they had jointly operated a modest eating establishment on Broadway in North Newark. The Baumans had realized that as Clinton Hill was now heavily populated as a Jewish residential area, and was rapidly spilling over into the more prosperous Weequahic section that an eating establishment straddling those two neighborhoods and appealing to first-generation Jews who lived there would fill a need. They commissioned the Kullman Dining Car Company of Harrison, one of the leading diner builders to build and install what was quickly destined to become a Newark landmark, and a gathering place where two generations of Jewish Newarkers subsequently met, ate, and socialized.

#### A Diner Untypical of the 1930s

The Weequahic Diner, when it opened for business in 1938, was untypical of neighborhood diners of the 1930s. It was much larger, more nicely decorated in its interior, and served a vast variety of high-quality food -- both in its American menu, and with a wide selection of Jewish food favorites, as might be found in a traditional Jewish home. Its flaky-crustured cream pies, baked goods and tasty little hot rolls were without equal, and a popular discussion of the era was whether the Weequahic Diner pies were better than those of the classier and pricier Tavern Restaurant

## The Weequahic Diner: A Newark Landmark & Tradition

Excerpts from an article by  
Nat Bodian on the  
Virtual Newark NJ Web Site

at 444 Elizabeth Avenue, just two blocks up on the corner of Meeker and Elizabeth.

#### My Diner Recollections

I fondly recall my visits to the Weequahic Diner in the post-World War II years, usually after Saturday night dates and later as a young newlywed. Whenever we went to a show, concert, or any social event, we'd often wind up the night with a stop at the Weequahic Diner for "coffee and." (I had a passion for the diner's nesselrode pie). During the wait to get in - and there was always a wait - we would meet friends, neighbors, former schoolmates, perhaps our doctor or dentist - people we knew and with whom we could chat. It seemed to me at that time that the warm friendly atmosphere around the diner made it as much of an attraction as its good food. Several Newark old-timers from whom I invited Weequahic Diner recollections for this "Newark Memory" summarized their diner recollections with words similar to these; "It was the place you went to be seen."

#### Diner Location Spells Success

At the time the Baumans opened the Weequahic Diner in 1938, Newark's large Jewish population concentration had largely shifted out of the old Third Ward and into the Clinton Hill/Weequahic neighborhoods, and with its location at the foot of Hawthorne Avenue, the diner more or less straddled both neighborhoods and quickly became a landmark.

Its location...gave it yet another advantage. While a virtual Jewish-peopled gathering place during the dinnertime and into the early morning hours, for its breakfast and luncheon business, it was also the best and most conveniently located quality food eatery in the area, and catered to the nearby industrial plants between Elizabeth and Frelinghuysen Avenues, and to the offices and storefront Elizabeth Avenue business establishments that took advantage of its expansive



American menu for both eating in and take-out food orders.

#### A Sunday Breakfast Recollection

One former Diner habitué, with whom I spoke, recalled that in her growing-up years through World War II, her father would take her to the Weequahic Diner every Sunday morning for breakfast - a custom that lasted through many postwar years up to the week of her marriage. Her father's favorite breakfast order was matzo brei (matzo soaked in pieces, mixed with eggs, and fried). She said, "I was crazy about their bread, hot rolls, and Danish." The waitresses, she recalled, were courteous and friendly. They were mostly blondes and wore their hair in an upsweep. In the 1940s when salaries were modest, she added, she'd heard that the waitresses made over \$200 a week in tips.

#### Jewish Specialties

Some of the Diner's Jewish specialties were longtime favorites and included kishka, chopped chicken liver, stuffed cabbage, and fried kreplach. They also served a variety of smoked fishes, and their generously-stacked cream cheese and lox platter (with bagels) had an aerated cream cheese as light as whipped cream.

#### Diner Population Shifts

While the Weequahic Diner was thriving and bustling around the clock during the 1940s and 1950s, the Jewish population in the Clinton Hill/Weequahic area was moving out of Newark to Hillside, Union, and the West Essex suburbs. And as Newark's Jewish population diminished, so did business at the Weequahic Diner.

The 1967 riots in Newark marked the end of virtually all Jewish life in Newark with the departure of nearly all of Newark's Jewish population, synagogues and institutions by the end of that decade. The riots also signaled the death knell for the Weequahic Diner, which the Baumans sold to others, and was eventually closed down.



## **BORN AT THE BETH, GRADUATED FROM WEEQUAHIC**

**By Murray Belsky, MD, Vice President, Medical Affairs, Newark Beth Israel Medical Center; WHS Class of 1949**

Many of us belong to two overlapping fraternities, or sororities as the case may be. We are both Born At The Beth (Newark Beth Israel Medical Center / NBIMC) and are graduates of Weequahic. The Beth and Weequahic are two of the proudest institutions in Newark's South Ward.

Weequahic graduates have gone on to success throughout New Jersey and the country, and patients and professionals from around New Jersey and the nation have come to the NBIMC for world-class health care. 2001 was The Beth's Centennial and the celebrations were grand.

One of the highlights of the year was the dedication of the spectacular Wall of History, a 30-foot long, three-dimensional mural that describes the history of the hospital and Newark, and the famous people who were born or worked here.

To those reminiscing about growing up in greater Newark years ago, remembering The Beth as one's birthplace is to acknowledge both its extraordinary tradition of medical achievements and its pivotal role in the community as a sheltering beacon of warmth, healing and social service. To those born more recently, beginning life at The Beth is a further example of the dedicated pledge of the hospital's founders as a place of medical excellence that embraces

diversity and provides innovative outreach health services for everyone from school children to senior citizens.

To the entire Beth family, *Born At The Beth* means even more than the birth of new life. It represents the celebration of *all* life - apparent in The Beth's every history-making achievement and accomplishment from the first successful gall bladder removal in New Jersey in 1904 to the first implantation on the East Coast of the DeBaake Ventricular Assist Device (VAD) in 2001.

The Beth offers the most advanced cardiac services in New Jersey, including heart transplantation and sophisticated heart surgery for both

children and adults. The renowned kidney program provides dialysis and one of the largest kidney transplant programs in the country.

As we look back with pride at past achievements and move into a new era of increasing challenges, we invite those born at Newark Beth Israel to become part of a new tradition -- our *Born at The Beth Wall of Recognition*.

Were you or any of your family members or friends born at The Beth? We hope you will consider taking a permanent place in our family

by inscribing your name or the names of any family members or friends you wish to honor or remember on our new *Born at The Beth Wall of Recognition*. A special plaque is being created that will be located on the bridge that crosses Osborne Terrace, next to the Wall of History.

All proceeds from this recognition wall will benefit and enhance our superior medical services. For more information about the *Born at The Beth* recognition wall, please contact **The Beth Health Care Foundation at (973) 926-7018**.



## **Jac Toporek, Class of 1963, Selected By Governor To Chair NJ Victims of Crime Compensation Board**



Jacob C. Toporek Esq., was recently appointed by Governor James E. McGreevey to serve as Chairman of the N.J. Victims of Crime Compensation Board (VCCB). The Board is authorized to compensate victims of crime for out of pocket expenses incurred as a result of being victimized.

A Commissioner of the VCCB since 1982, this is Mr. Toporek's second tenure as Board Chairman. He served in that capacity between 1990-1996 after designation as Chairman by Governor Jim Florio. He was initially appointed to the agency by Governor Brendan Byrne and re-appointed by Governor Tom Kean. Mr. Toporek was Governor Byrne's Appointment Counsel from 1975-1982 before joining the VCCB.

Commissioner Toporek currently serves as President of the National Association of Crime Victims Compensation Boards. The National Association is an umbrella group for the 50 state crime victim compensation programs throughout the country. He has been on the Executive Committee of the National Association since 1994.

According to Chairman Toporek, "The goal of the VCCB is to maximize and increase the benefits awarded to crime victims especially in the areas of domestic violence, child abuse and sexual assault." The VCCB has also played a significant role in assisting the families of the victims of September 11th's terrorism who were New Jersey residents. "We also want to increase awareness of the program and expand outreach to all citizens about the state program," Toporek continued.

*Jac was the organizer of the class of 1963's 35th Reunion and is currently organizing their 40th to be held in October 2003. In addition, he started the WHS Class of 1963 Association which plans the reunions and keeps the connection strong among class alumni. On a weekly basis, he sends out a popular e-mail newsletter on behalf of the class association. Jac is also a wonderful cheerleader for our alumni association.*

### **WANTED FOR THE ALUMNI CALUMET**

**send us articles, stories, memories, poems, photos,  
trivia, reunion information - and also give us your feedback**

## PAULA LEHRHOFF ROSS Class of 1956



I don't really think of myself as a photographer but rather as a lifelong jazz fanatic whose art process begins with a black and white picture. Some force within takes these shots and responds to the music while filtering through my head and merging with color postcard images from

the Jersey shore in the forties. This mind salad makes up my emotional palate.

Jazz has been an important part of life since I was an eight year old night owl discovering Symphony Sid - the jazz radio host in New York who broadcast from Birdland. Later on I had the good fortune to see *Billie Holiday* at a tiny club in Newark called the Sugar Hill...it was a transformational experience. Billie became my muse, and jazz has remained my all consuming passion. I could rely on it to be there like a friend, to soothe, comfort, and inspire me.

I started haunting the New York club scene to see the greats -- *Clifford Brown* and *Max Roach*, *Miles Davis*, *Dizzy Gillespie*, *Ella Fitzgerald*, *Sarah Vaughan*...to name a few. I looked older but was only fourteen. I still get goose bumps to think that my idols from long ago are now my friends.

Traditionally, jazz was depicted in black and white, so were mine, but in time I chose to include the colorful auras which I sensed emanating from the players and their instruments. The color process involved is more staining than painting. I rub transparent photo oils onto the print, and work late into the night while I listen to the music of the



musician whose portrait I'm working on at the time. No two are ever the same.

Memories and emotions of the past are in the air there -- hot summer nights in Central Park watching Billie while I held hands with *Gary Weinstein* at "Jazz Under the Stars". I close my eyes and I see a young, handsome *Chet Baker* (whom I had just met), gazing at me straight from the stage singing "You Don't Know What Love Is"...I almost passed out. I conjure up *Chris Connor*, her rich, raspy voice singing "All About Ronnie" on the radio of my hipster boyfriend's pastel blue and yellow Studebaker while we headed for Asbury Park at 3 am.

Sitting in the audience in 1957 at the Randall's Island Jazz Festival I hadn't a clue I was witnessing one musician after another transcribing their indelible page into jazz history...the Friday night line up included *Count Basie*, *Joe Williams*, *Sarah Vaughan*, *Jimmy Smith*, *Randy Weston* with *Cecil Payne*, *Horace Silver*, *Carmen McRae*, *Coleman Hawkins*, *Miles Davis*, *Stan Getz*, *Dave Brubeck* and *Maynard Ferguson*. Saturday night: *Bud Powell*, *Ruby Braff*, *Billie Holiday*, *The Max Roach Quintet*, *Anita O'Day*, *The Gerry Mulligan Quartet*, and *The Dizzy Gillespie Orchestra!!*

My one regret is that I never took a picture of any of the musicians I

saw at that time. The images are forever etched in my soul. It took more than half a lifetime to blend art and music. Better late than never. Thankfully, the musical tradition lives on. New sounds, new faces, new venues...but always the essence remains. The elder mentors pass on their experience and expertise to the next generation as I have passed on whatever I witnessed and heard to my daughter Pam, as she has passed it on to the next generation, her first child...her name is Eliza Jazz.

I just had a one-woman show at my alma mater Montclair State University in spring of 2000 -and the University purchased two pieces of my work for their permanent collection. My present exhibition begins May 31 at Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at St. Francis University in Loretto, Pennsylvania.

## Some Famous People Who Were Born or Lived in Newark

Jason Alexander  
Marty Ames  
William Ashby  
Alvin Attles  
Louis Bamberger  
Amiri Baraka  
Paula Ben-Gurion  
Moe Berg  
Vivian Blaine  
Seth Boyden  
Fanny Brice  
Claude Brown  
Aaron Burr  
Stephen Crane  
John Cotton Dana  
Mary Mapes Dodge  
Felix Fuld  
Connie Francis  
Gloria Gaynor  
Allen Ginsburg  
Marvin Hagler  
Whitney Houston  
Jerome Kern  
Edward Koch  
Gottfried Krueger  
Donald Lambert  
Jerry Lewis  
Wynona Lipman  
Judy Lynn  
Shaquille O'Neal  
Donald Payne  
Drew Pearson  
Rabbi Joachim Prinz  
Peter Rodino  
Phillip Roth  
Dick Savitt  
Dore Shary  
Wayne Shorter  
Burton Shreve Love  
Paul Simon  
Willie "The Lion" Smith  
Allie Stoltz  
Robert Treat  
Sarah Vaughn  
Fats Waller  
Jack Warden  
Edwin Weston  
Longy Zwillman

You know of  
many others.  
Let's hear from you.

Ziggy by Tom Wilson



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## From The Voices Of Our Alumni

### Some Responses to the Indian Name & Logo Issue

#### From Herman Rosenfeld, class of 1967, Toronto, Canada

I really enjoyed the last Calumet. You touched a lot of great sweet spots in this issue. I would like to weigh-in on the question of the head of a native person as the symbol of Weequahic. I find it extremely out of place and distasteful to see the head of a man from a people who have been the target of genocide, used as a symbol - any kind of symbol. Given the very important theme of opposing racism that seems to underlie the articles in the Calumet and the work of the alumni association, it seems obvious that it is time to eliminate this embarrassing vestige of the era of "cowboy and Indian" movies. I just want to add my support to the efforts of the association to build bridges between the Jewish community that once lived in the Weequahic area and the African-American community that lives there now..

#### From Beatrice Kaplan Brown, Class of 1937, Florida

It was September 1933. I was a member of the first four year class to enter Weequahic. A thirteen year old, exhilarated by the fresh smell of a new building, the unblemished lockers, bright painted wide corridors, smiling teachers - those wonderful men and woman who were to nourish our minds and bodies for the next four years. Best of all: the logo - the Indian profile of a Native American who matched the head on the five-cent piece. Imagine a first generation Jewish girl in Newark - a Girl Scout - embracing the first people of Weequahic.

*Where the Red man sped the arrow, Where the hunter tracked the deer*

I can still remember the quiver of delight and a bonding with the people we replaced when we sang those words. Take away the logo! Oh no! Who else remembers or sings songs about the Weequahic tribe. We can never repay the American Indian for what we have taken away from them, but we can keep their memory alive - albeit a small logo.

#### From Jack Nusbaum, Class of 1945, Malaga, Spain

...In addition to offering appreciation for the copy of the Calumet, I wish to respond to Ms. Suzanne Wallis who seems to be upset that the Weequahic logo is a "caricature" (as she sees it) of the Native Americans. I disagree. Here is another point of view. The name Weequahic (to the best of my recollection) was of an indigenous tribe making the area their home. The school, in choosing their name, paid tribute, recognition, great respect and will never allow the name to be forgotten or overlooked. As for the logo, it is perfectly in good taste...Just check out all the world wide name brands. Can anyone possibly estimate the vast number of paintings, statues, sculptures, illustrations, even our coins, and more, depicting an image of a Native American? Nothing out of line here. Sure, anything that appears denigrating or caricaturing, regardless of ethnic denomination, should by all means be eliminated immediately from any exposure. Quicker the better. I'm open for any argument, for or against. Never too old to learn, right?

#### From Lois Blumenfeld Gilbert, Class of 1960, New Jersey

1) We lived in the Weequahic section of Newark - obviously named to honor a local Indian tribe. 2) The school is called Weequahic HS - obviously after the section of Newark where the school is located. 3) The school is known as the teepee on the hill - *teepee/tepee/tipi* from Dakota, *ti* to dwell and *pi* to use for. 4) The students were known as the Weequahic Indians - not the Weequahic Redskins which is politically incorrect and derogatory.

Those who named the area Weequahic seemed to be honoring Indians and those that named the school Weequahic seemed to be following suit - being politically correct way before the phrase was coined. Are we going to change the name of the school?

#### Doris Chinsky Werner, Class of 1951, North Carolina

I vote AGAINST changing the Weequahic Indians and Chief Sagamore's name just to be "politically correct." Recently in Asheville, NC, the student body voted against the change of the name for the girls (teams) - Erwin High School Squaws. They also had pressure on them by ignorant (but well meaning) groups, but didn't cave in. I hope our Alumni Association doesn't vote for a change. An Indian is brave, honest and true, and a great friend and neighbor. Save our INDIANS - save our LOGO.

#### From Annette Farerh Nadler, Class of 1940, California

I so enjoyed reading the first copy of the Calumet I received. I was wondering if it would be possible to obtain copies of the first 4 issues. I did take exception to the alumni letter from Suzanne Wallis, class of 1960. I do not believe we ever made a caricature of our Indian logo. I would also like to remind her the name Weequahic is Indian. I always took it as an homage rather than anything else.

#### Article sent in by Norma Mark, Class of 1964, California

California may become the first state to force nearly all public schools to drop American Indian team names and mascots such as Redskins, Chiefs and Apaches. Indians have taken their fight to the Legislature, where a bill to outlaw such names was approved in its last committee test before going to a vote in the Assembly. The bill would force name changes at elementary, middle and high schools as well as community colleges and the University of California and California State University systems.

Outlawed would be Redskins, Indians, Braves, Chiefs, Apaches, and Comanches, as well as any other American Indian tribal name. Under the legislation, a state commission would then add to the banned list any other names it decides are "derogatory or discriminatory against any race, ethnicity, nationality or tribal group," and schools would be forced to comply. Schools across the country have been reviewing and often dropping mascot names amid increasing sensitivity about racial stereotypes. But such decisions are usually made by individual schools or school boards.

Supporters of California's bill said it is a question better resolved at the state level. "When it's decided locally, it can be really divisive, it can be incredibly time-consuming," said Lori Nelson of the Alliance Against Racial Mascots, a coalition of civil rights groups in California....As the bill now stands, about 100 California schools would be forced to change names, including 26 Braves, 11 Chiefs, 55 Indians and 4 Redskins. California also has 85 Warriors, which would be barred if a school combines the name with an identifiably Indian mascot.

A \$1 million state fund would help schools pay for changes. Over the past 30 years, more than half of the nation's 3,000 schools with Indian mascots or nicknames have changed them, according to the Morning Star Institute, a nonprofit American Indian civil rights organization.



# FROM THE VOICES OF OUR ALUMNI

**From Cheryl Alterman Elblonk, Class of 1964, Florida**

## A VISIT TO WEEQUAHIC IN 2001

Just a note to tell all that my husband and I went and paid a visit to Weequahic. We had been up north (from Florida) visiting family and friends and we drove by the school. Ira (1961) says, "let's go in." I thought he was crazy, but in we went - and thru the front door no less. The only time I ever went in the front doors was with my parents when we had a meeting with the principal and Mr. Tumin, my nemesis.

Well, the paintings on the wall are still there, but everything seemed so much smaller. We were greeted by a woman who asked us what we wanted and we explained that we were former students and wanted to walk the halls. She said sure and called Phil Yourish, whom I graduated with, and he came down to greet us. He took us all over the school and we had a great time. I met up with Loraine White, another fellow graduate, and then they had a fire drill. We went outside and then back to the gym where we were talking with some of the gym teachers, and lo and behold, one of the teachers was Mrs. McCloud, I believe. She has been there since 1963. Her name was Miss Christmas and I realized that I had her in my senior year. She kept looking at me and then she screamed, "oh my G-d, Cheryl Alterman. You haven't changed a bit." We both laughed at that one.

All and all, it was such a fun experience. Students kept asking us what it was like when we went there. I must admit the school looks so much smaller, and the classrooms, too. But I guess that is because we are much older. The lockers are the same ones we used. It was nice to go back, although the cafeteria is no longer there. It is a (library) media center now, and the cafeteria is a new addition near the area between Weequahic and Chancellor, where the cheerleaders used to practice..

**From Ivan Wyden, Class of January 1955, Florida**

I received my copy of the Calumet several weeks ago and spent considerable time reading it from cover to cover. In September of 2000, I started my third career. The first being Director of Operations for a market research firm in Princeton. The second was owning and operating a printing company for 25 years in Hollywood, Florida. After selling the company, I became a substitute teacher in Broward County, Florida. This latter information is important because of the articles on Marie O'Connor who was my homeroom and English teacher.

...The first thing I do when taking over a class is to write my name and date on the board. In addition, I present the "Word for the Day" and request its definition and use in a sentence in writing by the end of the hour. The majority of my classes are English, American History and Algebra.

It is apparent that what goes around comes around. Until that time, I never realized the profound impact Marie O'Connor has had on my life.

**From Judy Herr, Class of 1964, Maryland**

I loved reading the Fall 2001 issue of the Calumet. I appreciated the reprinted obituary of Stanley and his high school graduation picture. I showed it to his children and wife; his kids never knew him without a beard!

Stan and I had such wonderful memories of Weequahic. It was an amazing community - the hipsters (A.K.A. "Beats"), the cheerleaders, slide rule group, the "doowop" boys, the integrationist movement, the "cold war," - so many ways to grow, to discover, to experience differences in a very safe environment.

Reading about the Peshine Avenue guys reminded me of watching the Chancellor Avenue men who in their 40's were still meeting on the street corner with their buddies. Among the teachers who most moved and shaped us was Sadie Rous. Stan and I thought she was wonderful.

**From Babette Stuts Walsky, Class of 1943, Florida**

## REMEMBERING THE CHANCELLOR PLAYGROUND

To the readers of the Calumet: How many of you remember the days and nights of fun at the Weequahic/Chancellor playground? The Chancellor playground was like home to many of us and the staff consisted of Bucky Harris, Billy Drechsel, Stan Levy and myself. For some it was the first time you held a bat and played baseball or for others it was the first time you played kickball or joined a league. Any afternoon after school you could join in playing basketball, volleyball, etc. Trophys were given at the end of the season and many treasured them to this day.

For latch-key kids whose parents worked it was a place to go in a safe environment. If sports was not your thing, you could join arts and crafts or be in a musical production such as the King and I, Damn Yankees, Funny Girl, Sweet Charity, etc. On Friday nights you could join the dance party - and remember when the boys lined up on one side of the gym and the girls on the other? I am sure you are not that shy today.

Any afternoon after school you could play knock-hockey, checkers or table games. We had adult classes in ballroom dancing, cooking and many other programs. Holiday parties were fun but the most important thing was the friendships you made which lasted perhaps to this day.

Many of us went to the football games where we announced the play by play at Untermann Field. The big game was of course playing Hillside at Thanksgiving. We remember the good old times at the playground and a time in life when friendships and sports were number one in our minds. If you have a memory of the playground, e-mail me at [babette1119@cs.com](mailto:babette1119@cs.com).

**BE AN**



**MEMBER**

## 1932 or 1933 ???

Although Weequahic High School officially opened to students in 1933, the year on the front of the school is 1932 when construction was completed. The upcoming birthday celebration celebrates Weequahic 's 70 years from 1932.

# FROM THE VOICES OF OUR ALUMNI

## From Dr. Steven Epstein, Class of 1963, Illinois

My first reaction to my first issue of the Calumet was one of surprise, then sadness, when I read that my senior class president, Stanley Herr, had passed away. My recollection of Stanley was that he was an astute, very classy young man. My next emotion was that of happiness to see that a gentleman I had come to admire greatly and, unbeknown to him, had a big influence in my life, was still with us. Having been head manager for the 1962 Weequahic High School state champions in basketball, I had come to know Mr. Les Fein very well. Mr. Fein started the dynasty of basketball championships at Weequahic and put us on the road to athletic recognition. As well as an outstanding coach, he was an excellent teacher and role model. To you Mr. Fein I say, "thank you." To the people who started this publication I also say "thank you."

## Get Well Wishes

*Steve Duchon, Class of 1964*

*Marie Farese Rendine, Class of 1963*

*Theresa Farese Kraemer, Class of 1967*

## From Helen Yeager Gottlieb, Class of 1939, New Jersey

When I saw the band picture on page 19 of the current Calumet, I was reminded again of the wonderful days under Henry Melnick's tutelage. I still have a picture of the 1939 band and I recently found my treasured band pin! I played the mellophone, the french horn, and the violin in the orchestra. Can't play a note on the horn, but I still fiddle.

This #5 issue deserves an accolade - awesome!

## From Sidney Bernstein, Class of 1955, New Jersey

Keep Up The Great Work! Your good deeds and the well written Calumet are very commendable. Thanks for bringing back such fond old memories.

## From Steve Bogner, Class of 1966, New Jersey

Many thanks for putting together a good version of our old paper. As a student I looked forward to each Calumet issue. Receiving the Alumni Calumet has brought back some of those memories.

...In addition, it was no surprise to read that the Chancellor Foundation had given a grant to the Alumni Association. Steve Dinetz, their president, was always quite a character. He is also a great guy and deserves the success he has achieved as much as anyone. Steve possessed the greatest sense of humor in the entire neighborhood. He is a born salesperson! Thanks again and keep up your great work.

## From Martin Fischer, Class of June 1937, California

...I graduated in June 1937. We had reunions until 6 years ago in Livingston, NJ - or thereabouts. I am 82 years old - long in the tooth - and longer in my esteem for the school. I would be the oldest on your roster. However, I am in good health, travel quite a bit and will call the next time I visit my daughter in Livingston. Oh, yes. I was president of the June 1937 graduating class. With all of the geniuses in that class, it was no small accomplishment.

## From Richard Kuperman, Class of 1966, New Jersey

I recently received the Fall 2001 issue (my first) and was quite enthused and impressed. I had forgotten how many other people remember the same fond memories I have. I look forward to reading future issues. Did you know that there is a grass roots volunteer organization working within Essex and Union Counties actively promoting brotherhood and understanding between African Americans and Jewish Americans? We are called the African American Jewish Coalition and we produce three or four community programs annually. We bring together men, women and children to learn tolerance through active involvement in programs of diversity. We purposely are not accountable to any larger organizations and we annually raise just enough money to run our events. If you need more information, please call me at (973) 762-2896.

## Stanley "Tim" Lesnik, Class of 1935, Florida

I was a member of the January class of 1935. I served as President of the Senior Class, as well as its Valedictorian. After high school, I went on to college and graduated from Cornell University in 1939. A brief spell in the business world, and then I was called upon to serve in the U.S. Army for 3 years from 1942 to 1945. In 1946, I married Bobby Roth who was a graduate from Weequahic in 1938 and a graduate of Smith in 1942. Bobby and I had 2 wonderful sons, but unfortunately she was an early victim of cancer and died in November 1967. Our grandchildren are a reflection of her beauty and intelligence. My business was in Newark. My oldest brother and I started a plastics company which did well. I also served on the Board of Broad National Bank and was its Chairman for many years. Today I am retired in Florida and happily married to Elaine.

## From Ruth Schreiber, Class of 1942, New Jersey

The CALUMET newsletter is terrific! I read it cover-to-cover in one sitting. Can hardly wait for the next issue.

## From Gail Meyer Dunbar, Class of 1960, Florida

It is my pleasure supporting my dear alma mater. I have so many wonderful memories of my years at WHS, not to mention the Annex. Your piece on Bragman's Deli made me go right out and eat a corned beef sandwich (no comparison). It is my turn to thank you for all your hard work on behalf of our alumni association. Keep up the great work.



## WALDO WINCHESTER

*This popular column from the Calumet, which first appeared in 1950, will now appear in each issue of the Alumni Calumet*

- ✪ **Dr. Komozi Woodward (1967)**, a professor of American History at Sarah Lawrence College, is the editor of *Freedom North* and the compiler and editor of *The Black Power Movement, Part 1, Amiri Baraka from the Black Arts to Black Radicalism*.
- ✪ **Hal Braff's (1952)** son Zach is the star of the new TV hit series *SCRUBS* on NBC and will appear in 12th Night in Central Park in NYC this summer.
- ✪ **Donald "Pinky" Johnson (1972)** is the defensive line coach for the UCLA football team.
- ✪ **Marshall Cooper (1969)** is the Director of Neighborhoods and Parks for the City of Newark.
- ✪ **Barry Gimelstob's (1961)** son Justin is a nationally ranked tennis player.
- ✪ **Marjory Barnes (1985)** was the keynote speaker at the Weequahic HS National Honors Society ceremony and also read some of her poems.
- ✪ **Edwin Marshall (1964)** is a full professor of optometry and the academic dean in the Indiana University School of Optometry.
- ✪ **Tajalli Hannibal (2001)** completed Marine Corps boot camp and will be located at the naval base in Pensacola, Florida where he will specialize in Aviation Electronics.
- ✪ **Dave Lieberfarb (1965)**, a copy editor for the Star-Ledger, recently interviewed Roger Kahn, the author of *The Boys of Summer*, the baseball classic about the Brooklyn Dodgers.
- ✪ **Burney Adams**, head football coach at Weequahic for more than 30 years, recently retired.
- ✪ **Ahavas Sholom**, located on Broadway and one of the two remaining synagogues in Newark, was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.
- ✪ Newark **Mayor Sharpe James** was re-elected to a fifth term in a close election against Councilman Corey Booker.
- ✪ **Claude Brown**, author of the best selling book *Manchild In The Promised Land* and a Newark resident, recently passed away at age 64.
- ✪ **J. Harry Smith**, NJ's first African-American college president at Essex County College and Maplewood's first black councilman, passed away at age 79. He grew up in Newark and graduated from Barringer HS.
- ✪ **Amiri Baraka**, famous poet and playwright and resident of Newark, became a visiting professor on black art at Columbia University.
- ✪ **Eric Williams**, the starting forward for the Boston Celtics, graduated from Shabazz High School (formerly South Side).
- ✪ Saxophonist **Wayne Shorter**, now 68, returned home to Newark for the first time since 1959 to perform at the NJ Performing Arts Center.
- ✪ **Frederick Marx**, well known for his documentary "Hoop Dreams," has spent the last two years in Newark making his new film, "Boys to Men."

*For future issues, please send us information that you would like to share in the Waldo Winchester column*



Lucius Williams, Chris Pervall, Dave Lieberfarb, Marie Galeota, Marshall Cooper

## "Like It Is Day" at Weequahic

The WHS Alumni Association and the Weequahic High School Junior Class sponsored a "Like It Is Day" in late February with the purpose of having alumni share with students their life stories. Alumni and other volunteers were recruited to speak to students in each homeroom. 37 alumni and 3 community persons made enthusiastic classroom presentations. The alumni group represented 6 decades - starting with Bert Manhoff from the class of 1938 to Ericka Wallace, class of 1991. Ericka drove from Maryland to be with us. In addition, 3 alumni were from the 50's, 21 alumni from the 60's, 2 alumni from the 70's, 8 alumni from the 80's and 1 alumni from the 90's. Judge Irvin Booker, Roz Samuels (Newark Teachers Union) and Wilbur McNeil (Weequahic Park Association) represented the Weequahic community.

Other alumni who participated were as follows: **1952:** Hal Braff **1959:** Marie Piacente Galeota, Irene Daniels **1960:** Lois Blumenfeld Gilbert **1962:** Christopher Pervall **1963:** Arthur Lutzke, Ron Arbuckle **1964:** Lucius Williams, Loraine White, Zaundria Mapson May, Phil Yourish, Harvey Ritter, Lou Bodian **1965:** Dave Lieberfarb, James Lowenstein, Sharon Pogash **1966:** Charles Talley, Diana Talley **1967:** Dr. Glenda Johnson-Green, Regina Marshall Adasanya **1968:** Dale Kundin Gordon **1969:** Cherry White Bellamy, Joseph Brown, Marshall Cooper **1970:** Arthur Cartwright **1971:** Abdur-Rahman A. Wadud **1980:** James Dadds, Lawrence Bridget, Eric Bryant **1981:** Lucinda Simmons **1982:** Harry Reavis, Audrey Williams-Holmes **1983:** Nadine Walker Herran **1989:** Jamilah Muhammed-Wiggins, Tamika Shantea Lynch-Shade.



Sharon Pogash, Regina Marshall Adasanya, Glenda Johnson-Greene, Joseph Brown



Lou Bodian, James Lowenstein, Bert Manhoff



# REUNIONS

## 63rd - Class of January and June 1939

June 2, 2002, Essex House, West Orange, NJ  
1-5 PM. Contact Mickee Lublang at  
(973) 857-0353 or Irv Lieberman at  
(908) 852-9591.

## 20th - Class of 1982

Weekend of Events: August 9, 10, 11, 2002,  
Newark Airport Sheraton Hotel in Newark, NJ.  
Contact Corona Gordon-Williams at (973)  
371-2338, Audrey Williams-Holmes at (973)  
367-3093, Faith Howard at (973) 474-9948,  
Harry Reavis at (201) 418-6207.

## 50th - Class of June 1952

September 29, 2002, Newark Airport Marriot  
Hotel, Newark, NJ, 12-5:00 PM - Contact Lois  
Berg Jacobs at (973) 731-7402, Joan Lang  
Fox (908) 647-2688, Don Shachat (201)  
795-0819 / hobodononbil@aol.com.

## 50th - Class of January 1953

May 3, 2003, 7 PM, Cedar Hill Country Club,  
Contact Beverly Schulman Kass at (973)  
467-0582 / bevkass@aol.com, Stanley Levine  
at (908) 687-2618 / majorstan1@aol.com.

## Classes of 1941-42 Planning Reunion Lunch,

Contact Thelma Samuels at (973) 921-1728,  
Beverlee Kanegiser at (973) 379-6760.

## Class of June 1953 Planning 50th Reunion

For Spring 2003. Contact Beverly Levine at  
b.levine@fordfound.org

## Class of 1963 Planning 40th Reunion

For October 11, 2003. Contact Jac Toporek at  
(732) 388-8699 / Whsalum63@aol.com

## Class of 1964 Planning 40th Reunion

For 2004. Contact Cheryl Alterman Elblonk at  
(561) 795-4443 / irataxman@aol.com

## Classes of 1985 to 1995 Planning One Reunion

Contact Roz Samuels at (973) 744-8001  
/ crs@ntuaft.com

To the classes of 1962 and 1972: Is  
anybody organizing a reunion for the  
upcoming year? Please let us know.

Send Reunion Information to:  
(973) 923-3133 / weequahic3@aol.com

## THE WEST COAST REUNION

By Gene Lieberman, Class of June 1952



I have relived that day in November a thousand times trying to remember all the wonderful moments that presented itself to all that attended...for me the anxiety of that day coming to fruition was unbelievable...the anticipation after gathering all the names and receiving the responses... many came late...I think with 2 months to go we were at 75 and then it grew to 210...it was marvelous being in a room with people that had also fallen asleep on the 107 NYC bus and had been told that "hey, this is Irvington Center."

...even though many people did not know each other, the warmth in that room that day was a blessing ...we all appreciated the fact that we all had lived in a remarkable neighborhood and had gone to a great school... having Phil Yourish and Hal Braff there was also a treat for me...the responses I received were truly wonderful and 98% want to see us do it again which we will do most likely in 2004....there isn't any doubt that there is a magical atmosphere that encompasses all of us when we put Weequahic people together in the same room...My best to all.

By Phil Yourish, Class of 1964



The West Coast Reunion on November 11th was a fantastic event. Over 200 alumni showed up at the Skirball Cultural Center in Los Angeles for a Sunday buffet brunch. Skirball, a Jewish-American museum, was a very appropriate setting. Most of the alumni were from the 40's and 50's, with a small contingent from the early 60's. As a 1964 graduate, I was one of the youngest persons

there. It was great to visit with some of my classmates, old neighbors, and the parents of kids that I went to school with.

Kudos to Gene Lieberman from the class of 1952 who organized the event and to Sam Wasserson, Rita Bromberg Friedman, Buddy & Tina Freedman, Sis Levine Gold, M. Pinky Gamble, Rona Mink Smith, and Sandi & Bobbi Hall Kaye who served on the planning committee. They all did a tremendous job!

Hal Braff, the founder and Co-President of the WHS Alumni Association, led the gathering in the singing of the school song and also spoke about the important work that the Association is doing with current Weequahic students. A video of a recent interview with former English teacher Marie O'Connor was shown on the big screen. There was also a slide presentation with some memorable pics from the past. Mugs with a picture of the high school on them were given out as souvenirs as well as a directory of those attending.

The WHS Alumni Association delivered the latest Alumni Calumet newsletters and sold hats, T-shirts and sweatshirts. It was a day of good memories, plenty of nostalgia, and lots of conversation among alumni representing different generations with a city, neighborhood and high school in common. And for a few hours, it was a special time to once again experience the magic of Weequahic, 3,000 miles away from Chancellor Avenue.



(Left) Howard Goldberg, Murry Rosansky, Helen Rosen Schreider, Annette Rosen, Alan Baskin  
(Right) Bob Marger, Ellen Karasik Rowland, Steve Novom

# REFLECTIONS ON OUR 40th REUNION

By Anne Kramer, Class of 1961



I arrived home yesterday afternoon from our 40th Reunion weekend with my feet still two inches off the ground and my Cheshire Cat grin still glowing. I suppose if I didn't have ears to stop

it, my smile would go completely around my head!! I still feel radiant and full and expansively alive!

Reunions are jam-packed with a myriad of unique individual and group experiences. I am sure all of you have yours to remember or share. Today I feel a strong desire to share some of my thoughts and feelings about my Reunion experience with all of you: When I was part way into locating and contacting our former

discovering new connections. BLISS. Present were the wisdom and experiences of our current years so beautifully dancing with the open child and adolescent we used to be and still carry lovingly within us.

This particular dance of intertwined then/nor filled with so much joy and recognition and love and grace is rarely experienced anywhere but at a High School Reunion. The unique dance WE beautifully co-created on Saturday was fun-filled, loving and exquisite....and I thank each and every one of you for this current wonderful expanded experience that will now live in our Hearts forever.

I appreciate and thank all the members of the Reunion Committees for your months of dedication, passion and caring that unfolded a Reunion that appeared to flow seamlessly and effortlessly. We all know what it takes to make that happen!

Every loving choice made provided us with an abundance of nurturing activities, food, music and community in a beautiful space filled with joyous color, light and energy. Thank you for turning the idea and dream into a meaningful

There were moments throughout the day when I would stand back by myself and just breathe in all of you. I experienced those moments as organic weavings of exotic yet movingly familiar threads of your uniqueness and beauty. I saw continuous smiles as the joyous loving threads of laughter, remembering, embracing wove in and out and around my Heart.

My Soul rejoiced.....my mouth smiled.....my eyes overran with tears of peaceful joy. I felt so amazingly full. I felt so blessed to be a flowing part of my and each others' friendships.....so blessed to feel and see so much delight and pleasure and sharing.....so blessed to participate in and witness the innumerable ways of expressing Spirit and Love. Thank you, thank you all for that!

Reunions like this with hundreds of people often don't provide enough time or opportunity for everyone to connect with everyone....or to have full conversations with those we do connect with. There were times I was in mid-sentence when I was joyfully touched and twirled to embrace another.....and then another.....and another. I long ago accepted that reunions are usually not the place for long, intimate one-on-one



classmates, I quickly realized, due to everyone's heartfelt enthusiasm and clear intention to fully participate, that this had the potential to be "The Reunion of All Reunions." I am so delighted that my intuition turned out to be correct - this was, my dear dear friends, an AWESOME Reunion!!!!

The abundance of affection, sharing, fun and laughter was delicious and contagious. Sweet recognition and overflowing delight ....memories brought forth to be revisited and gently played with or hilariously laughed about .... memorabilia, old photos and yearbooks bringing forth smiles and glee and triggering more memories and more laughter.....updates and catching up on the decades gone by.....hugs so big they often needed no words to express the depth of love and affection initiating them.....loved then/loved now without a moment's hesitation blurring the passage of time.....reminiscences of old connections swirling amidst re-connections and the delight of

and beautiful reality! I honor and thank all the classmates who flew in from other states during challenging times for air travel. Your choosing love instead of fear.... connection instead of separation, was inspiring and warmly appreciated.

I especially thank Barry and Marcia Nover Cohen for finding the courage to attend this Reunion. You brought the gift of your humanity to all of us, and I hope our love for you found its way to embrace and touch your grieving and broken hearts.....if only for a few moments at a time. Thank you for publicly risking your pain.....and for trusting the rest of us with it.

I honor and thank each and every classmate and guest for being who you are and for bringing the BEST of who you are to this Reunion. Each one of us made the event blissfully special and magical!

conversations. I thank so many of you for also recognizing this and for your understanding smiles, winks, kisses, touches, teases, dances, applause, etc., that spoke volumes of mutual caring, connection and appreciation.

For those who did attend the 40th, please please don't wait five or ten years for the next Reunion to re-connect again. Please choose to stay in touch with the friendships you cherish by e-mail or phone.....and get together periodically to honor and nurture the camaraderie and love you feel for each other. Life is swift and ever-changing - please enjoy the nectar of your lives as often as possible.

And thank you all AGAIN and AGAIN for touching my life in such generous and loving ways and for allowing my Heart to touch yours.

## Ralph Stein *Lived For Art & Music*

By Amy Ellis Nutt, Star-Ledger



Ralph Stein thought he played a heckuva tuba. However, his next-door neighbor, Mrs. Goldfield, heard the oom-pah-pahs differently and was willing to pay good money for him to. . . well, stop. So they made a deal: If the

student from Newark's Weequahic High School would give up the tuba - immediately - he could begin piano lessons at Mrs. Goldfield's expense. And that's how a switch spurred by aural anguish in the 1930s became a musical love match that lasted for more than half a century.

When Mr. Stein died in February 2002 at the age of 82, he left behind an enviable legacy as a pianist, composer, arranger, innovative record executive, sculptor and jewelry maker. "He couldn't keep his hands still," said son Howard Stein. "He absolutely loved music. There was always a piano and an organ in the house ... and sometimes he even played the organ with his right hand and the piano with his left."

Though Mr. Stein may or may not have graduated from high school ("We're still not sure," said his son), somewhere along the way he studied jazz and contemporary symphonic music, and soon mastered enough technique to become an arranger for the likes of big band leaders Benny Goodman and Louis Prima.

In the late 1940s, Mr. Stein toured with the Hal Rose Orchestra, and when he wasn't touring, he played piano in New Jersey nightclubs. In the 1960s, Mr. Stein decided to branch out into the record business and produced more than three dozen children's albums for Connoisseur and Panda Records, both in Kearny, at Pickwick International in Long Island City, N.Y., and at Golden/Wonderland Records in Mountainside and Manhattan.

"His idea was pretty unique. It was to use famous people to do children's records," said his son, a long-time Maplewood resident. Some of those famous people were actors William Bendix, who read pirate tales; Boris Karloff, who recited "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow"; and Joseph Cotton, who told stories from the Bible. When he wasn't working, Mr. Stein was still busy - either composing a musical stage adaptation of the

## - IN LOVING MEMORY -

"Wizard of Oz" or creating stone and wood sculptures, a hobby he developed while recuperating from an auto accident. Using mostly found wood or scraps from local lumber yards, Mr. Stein sculpted human figures, animals and an occasional religious scene. The pieces were as small as one's palm and as large as the 5-foot marble swan he carved for his daughter, Naomi Beinart, when she was living in Israel. By the mid-1990s, Mr. Stein had produced some 250 pieces of stone and wood sculpture and about 150 pieces of jewelry constructed out of mostly scrap metal.

He is survived by his wife Judith, his son and his daughter; a sister, Miriam Braun, and seven grandchildren.

## Charles E. Conrad, 1963 *Founded House of Music*

By Kevin C. Dilworth, Star-Ledger



Charles E. Conrad grew up in a Newark household where his parents' love for classical music and opera filled the air, as did the sounds of his father's clarinet. Their love for music fueled Mr. Conrad's desire to create a

recording studio. Later, some of the biggest names in pop, rock, soul and hip-hop flocked to his *House of Music* in West Orange.

"Charlie had a great ear for talent and would give studio time to local bands trying to make it," said George Goldberg, Mr. Conrad's friend for nearly 30 years. "One of those local bands was a local rap group called the *Translators*, out of the Oranges. And after their demo tape got them a deal, they changed their name to the *Fugees*, two of whose members -- Wyclef Jean and Lauren Hill -- went on to even bigger solo fame."

In 1971, Mr. Conrad created his *House of Music* in the basement of the Crystal Avenue home he and his wife, Irene, shared. Later, Mr. Conrad built a complex of studios on seven acres at 1400 Pleasant Valley Way. At that point, the *House of Music* had 75 employees. Mr. Conrad served as president until he became ill. He sold the property in 1995 and moved to Summit. Mr. Conrad died March 13th at age 56. The *House of Music* will be remembered as the place where *Kool and the Gang* churned out their

late 1970s and early 1980s smash hits -- including "Celebration," "Joanna," "Too Hot" and "Lady's Night" -- where *Buzzard's Original Savannah Band* created the 1977 hit "Cherchez La Femme," and where Savannah Band member August Darnell later recorded as *Kid Creole and the Coconuts*. *Meat Loaf* recorded its 1978 album "Bat Out of Hell" there. Musicians and singers - including George Benson, Joe Cocker, Deodato, Rickie Lee Jones and John Tropea - called *House of Music* home. The New York City group *Odyssey* recorded their 1977 hit "Native New Yorker" there.

"The studio had up-to-date technology. It was truly a home where creative people could thrive, said Goldberg. "Charlie was responsible for getting a lot of people started in the entertainment business." According to Walter Gollendar, a NJ Talent Scout, "the place was the hottest studio in the area. Everyone went there for hits. Anyone who was anybody could be seen recording there, because of its respected reputation. It was the place to go."

"He was a devoted husband and a loyal friend to countless people," said Irene Conrad (1965), who met her husband when the two were students at Weequahic High School. "Every person who ever worked with us, remained in our lives." Mr. Conrad, a U.S. Army veteran, served in Vietnam. In addition to his wife, Mr. Conrad is survived by his parents, Esther and Sherman Conrad.

**Stuart Goldberg, 1958**, passed away in October 2001 at age 61. He was very active in the Kosher food business. For more than 30 years, he was with B. Manischewitz and then moved to Chicago to work for a large food distributor as Executive Director of their Kosher Food department. Just prior to his death, he was honored as man of the year in the kosher food business. He was married for 25 years to his wife Jean and left two sons, ages 23 and 20.

**Rona Wichinsky Springer, 1961**, died in March 2002 at age 58 following a long illness. Rona Springer was born and raised in Newark, NJ and lived in Montville, NJ for many years before moving to Florida. She was a 1961 graduate of Weequahic High School and also graduated from Berkeley Secretarial School. Prior to raising her family, she was a legal secretary. She is survived by her daughters Ellen Springer and Pamela Springer, her son and daughter-in-law, Adam and Bronwyn Springer, a granddaughter Arianna, her mother Majorie Wichinsky, and two brothers Jerome Wichinsky and Alan Paul Wichinsky. Mrs. Springer was pre-deceased by her husband Howard Springer.



- IN LOVING MEMORY -

## Robert S. Marcus, 1964

By Ina Marcus Gelfound, Class of 1961



Bob possessed a gregarious, engaging personality. He always had a twinkle in his eyes, some used



the expression "vill-de-chaiah" to describe him - translation, a little devil. Almost everyone, with whom he came in contact throughout his life, would characterize Bob as one who was passionate about family, friends and his profession as a lawyer. Most all that knew Bob, would tell you that they loved and admired him because he was so caring. That he was a fabulous husband and outstanding Dad, should not be left unsaid. Not a bad legacy to leave in a short 53 years.

Kindergarten through fifth grade, Bob attended Hawthorne Avenue School. In 1956, our family suffered the tragic loss of our 36-year-old father. This left our 36-year-old mother; a widow with a daughter 13, me, and two sons, Bob 9 and a baby brother, Ira, only 7. All three of us felt a tremendous loss; of course our mother did, too. Bob tried to become the "Man of the House"; can you imagine he was only 9 years old?

...A few years after the loss of our Dad, Mom moved us to Wainwright Street near Chancellor Avenue. This allowed Robbie and Ira to attend Chancellor Elementary School and I was now at Weequahic. These are the years that Robbie's passion and competitive nature began to develop.

He joined many sport teams and was always the loudest team cheerleader on any squad for which he played. There was a sense of pride and a legitimate feeling of belonging to the

Chancellor/Weequahic neighborhood. The neighborhood became our extended family. Bucky Harris, coach and Athletic Director at the Chancellor Avenue School Playground, had a big influence in Bob's adolescent years. Mom used sports and after-school activities to keep tabs on us each day, as she now worked full-time. Our Mom made sure that after-school activities, religious school and our Grandparents, filled the void created by one less parent. Bob reacted well and matured into a responsible, successful adult.

...Then came the GLORIOUS WEEQUAHIC YEARS. Bob became the "Leader of the Pack". He organized a group of close friends that were the "in group" at Weequahic for four years. Mr. McLucas, was Bob's Weequahic Football Coach. Number 46 could be seen all over the field, as both an offensive and defensive tackle and guard. Bob wore that number with unmatched pride. Weequahic football was the focus of Bob's teenage years. It was more of an influence than any of our family could have imagined. Bob made the freshman team and then moved up to the varsity team, all in his freshman year. You see, through football, Bob became somewhat of a celeb and he received a 4-year scholarship to play football for Boston University.

After completing BU, Bob was accepted at the New England School of Law (NESL), where he became a Doctor of Jurisprudence, a lawyer. Additionally, he and our brother Ira, who attended NESL at the same time as did Bob, each had articles published in the NESL Law Review. Our mother "kvelled". You can just imagine what it meant to have two sons at the same law school and have them both selected to be published in the same issue of the Law Review.

...Bob treasured those achievements and passionately went on to build a solo law practice in the heart of Beantown. He maintained a prestigious office at 143 Newberry Street and accomplished, what some thought, was the impossible. ...Bob's 30 years as a trial lawyer were marked with many successes. He loved the law and truly enjoyed being a lawyer. In fact, he suffered the first symptoms of his brain tumor

while arguing a case before a trial judge in a Boston Court House.

Other defining events in Bob's all too short life include the day he married Shelley Mandel, of Cranston, Rhode Island, and the births of his children. A son Griffin and a daughter Logan, along with their mother Shelley, were the center of his life. Another very sad event was the death of our Mother. Mom died before Bob's children were born. Her passing affected Bob deeply and forever. He admired and loved her so for all the many sacrifices, lessons and values she gave to the three of us, for 22 years as a widow.

...Four years ago Bob suffered the first symptoms of his brain tumor. After what was called successful brain tumor surgery, Bob tried to recover to get back to his old self. He made wonderful strides but he was never able to return to the practice of law. This was one of the most frustrating aspects of his last two years of life. Being a lawyer was who Bob really was. He never felt quite himself after surgery, because he couldn't resume his activities as lawyer.

Bob died May 7, 2000, but his spirit lives on in the memories of his friends, family, business associates and classmates. Bob had a collection of friends till the day he died that went back to his kindergarten days in Newark. The message here is, *"It's not the number or length of the years you live, but what you do with the years you have."*

Sadly however, Bob never lived to see the meaningful fruits of being a parent. His son Griffin would have graduated from USC's Film School but instead, he was at his father's funeral. Today, Griffin is pursuing and nourishing his talent as a filmmaker. Logan, now a student leader and achiever like her Dad, is a junior at Syracuse University.

To me, Bob, was a best friend, the sister I never had. We had an unusual and unconditional deep love for each other. He was my protector to the day he died.

- IN LOVING MEMORY -

### Steven Wax, 1960

**Martin Wallach, 1940**  
**Dr. Walter Schwartz, 1940**  
**Jack Aboff, 1942**  
**Edith Gallup Specht, 1944**  
**Joel Mayer, 1947**  
**Gordon Forgash, 1959**  
**Martin Sunenshine, 1960**

### Ron Barnes, 1963

### Robin Beckom, 1974

Long-term Substitute Teacher at WHS

### Charles Gottlick

Wood Shop Teacher at WHS

### Minnie Zipkin

Teacher at Peshine Ave. School

### Contribute to the

## The New England School of Law Robert S. Marcus Memorial Scholarship Fund

### For More Information, Contact:

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## Self-help guru Ken Dychtwald

### Class of 1967

By Laird Harrison

Years ago, gerontologist Ken Dychtwald found an eerie letter in his mailbox. "Do you feel that you've lost control of your life? Are you struggling to balance your work and family responsibilities? If so, then Dr. Ken Dychtwald can help you."

Accidentally, a company that makes self-help tapes had sent him an ad for a set that he himself had recorded. Dychtwald laughed off the incident. But two years ago, as he prepared for his 50th birthday, Dychtwald realized that he really did need his own advice.

In his 1977 book, *Bodymind*, Dychtwald wrote that seniors could control their health through techniques like yoga. Now a doctor was telling him that his cholesterol level, 440, was more than double the healthy level. In the 1989 best seller *Age Wave*, Dychtwald warned that baby boomers were not investing wisely for retirement. Now he had just lost \$20 million in equity through a failed business venture.

Also in *Age Wave*, Dychtwald predicted boomers would become a "sandwich generation," simultaneously caring for their parents and their kids. Now he found himself leaving his daughter and son behind in California as he flew to Florida, where his mother had become ill with cancer.

"It was a terrible year," he says. "I hit a wall." When he received an invitation to join AARP, he wanted



to burn the letter the way some people burned their draft cards during the Vietnam War.

What finally pulled him out of his gloom was a call from his brother, who is two years older than he. "Your greatest treasure in life are your wife and your kids," Alan Dychtwald (class of 1965) reminded him. And bit by bit, Dychtwald began to remember the ideas that launched him on his career.

After earning a Ph.D. in psychology in his late 20's, Dychtwald had left his native New Jersey (Newark) for California, where he became a leader of the human-potential movement. In those days, he wanted nothing more than to share his ideas about how baby boomers could enjoy a long and healthy life.

The books in which he did so became best sellers, and soon he was being interviewed by Oprah Winfrey and conferring with world leaders. In his 30's, he put his ideas to work as a consultant for companies such as American Express and Chrysler that were trying to redesign their products for aging consumers. But after watching these companies make money on his ideas, he thought he

should be capitalizing on them himself. In his 40's, he launched marketing and publicity ventures. It was just before his 50th birthday, when the most ambitious of these businesses failed, that he realized how the pursuit of fame and fortune was hurting him.

"A few years ago," he says, "I was on the cover *Inc. Magazine*. People who had been on the cover keep in touch with one another as a kind informal club. And I realized that a lot of these people are a mess. They're on their fifth marriage, or their lives are failing, or their kids are drug addicts. And I said, 'You know what? I may not turn out to be a big financial success, but I'm going to go back to what I love.'"

For the past year, Dychtwald has taken his own prescription: attention to family, health, meaningful work and ample play. Now he's careful to exercise almost every day. He has lost weight and, with medication, lowered his cholesterol to a safe 130. His broad shoulders, flat stomach and leonine head of dark hair look like those of a younger man. Recent vacations have included river rafting with his son, 10, and shopping in New York City with his daughter, 13. On one trip, he and his wife Maddy, 49, renewed their marriage vows. The change is remarkable, she says: "When I married him, he was a striver. He saw himself as a star. Now his life is about making a difference."

His most recent book, *Age Power*, takes on such civic-minded tasks as saving Social Security. He expects the next decade to be his best ever. Says Dychtwald: "I'm trying to be a wise man instead of a wise guy."

## OUR VERY SPECIAL THANKS

**Jaqua Foundation  
Chancellor Foundation**

**THANKS FOR  
YOUR EXTRA HELP**

### LEGEND:

**Sheldon Bross, 1955  
Steve Dinetz, 1965  
Eli Hoffman, 1956**

### ERGO:

**Bruce Baumgarten, 1965  
Harold Braff, 1952  
Harold Edwards, Sr., 1966  
Ina & William Gelfound, 1961  
Marc Grodman, 1969  
Stephen Kass, 1964  
David Lieberfarb, 1965  
Lester Z. Lieberman, 1948  
Bryan Morris, 1974  
Linda Reaves, 1972  
Gary Skoloff, 1951  
Pamela Threats, 1966  
Lucious Williams, 1964**

### ORANGE & BROWN:

**Robert Barish, 1964  
Theodore Becker, 1950  
Edward Berman, 1948  
Dwain Darrien, 1968  
Philip Drill, 1945  
Phyllis Dubow, 1957  
Evleyn Epstein, 1934  
Ronald Feiger, 1952  
Lois Blumenfeld Gilbert, 1960  
Beryl Goldberg, 1960  
Martin Greenberg, 1950  
Sharon Jones, 1968  
Susan Kaiser, 1962  
Sandra King, 1965  
Dana Kissner, 1963  
Herbert, Lerner, 1955  
Bert Manhoff, 1938  
Aileen Marcus, 1968  
Neil Markowitz, 1964  
Joseph Menker, 1958  
Daniel Mintz, 1964  
Ronald Rosen, 1960  
Walter Roth, 1965  
Charles Seigel, 1959  
Donald Shachat, 1952  
Jerome Shipman, 1940  
Sondra Slotnick, 1953  
Suzanne Wallis, 1960  
Loraine White, 1964  
David Wildstein, 1962  
Linda Willner, 1958  
Stuart Yourish, 1962**

And our appreciation to the hundreds of ALUMNI members - too many to list.

**Contact a Former Teacher, Counselor, Administrator, Coach or Recreation Supervisor through the WHS Alumni Association. The following persons are on our mailing list:**

✪ **Phil Barone** ✪ **Elizabeth Birnbaum** ✪ **Morey Bobrow** ✪ **Claude Bey**  
✪ **Les Fein** ✪ **Marilyn Feitell** ✪ **Lester Fusco** ✪ **Marie Piacente Galeota**  
✪ **Fran Ginsburg** ✪ **Devator Hooks** ✪ **Laura Isserman** ✪ **Robert Lowenstein**  
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✪ **Sidney Sperber** ✪ **Babette Walsky** ✪ **Loraine White**

**WE ENCOURAGE  
YOU TO SUPPORT THE  
IMPORTANT WORK OF THE  
WHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
BY BECOMING MEMBERS**

## ***A game of SCRABBLE with Dave Lieberfarb, Class of 1965***



Weequahic grad Dave Lieberfarb is looking for a few good Scrabble players. "I'm interested in recruiting competitive players who wish to improve their skills at any of the clubs in the area," he said. Dave has been competing in tournaments for seven years and plans to attend the National Scrabble

Championship in San Diego this summer, where, with a current rating of 1,638, he will play in the third of six divisions. "The top experts are rated around 2,000," he said. "And the difference between their level of play and mine is like the difference between an NBA or NFL all-star and a good college player."

A copy editor at The Star-Ledger, Dave reports he has been on an amazing roll in the tournaments he has attended recently. In January, he won his last three games in a 10-game tourney on a Bahamas cruise to finish 6-4 and place second. The next month, he swept all seven games in a Long Island gathering. And in March, he won 12 out of 15 in a Connecticut tournament to capture the intermediate division (second of four) and boost his rating to an all-time high of 1,681.

Moving up to the expert division, he lost five of seven games in a South Jersey tournament on April 20, but in May he bounced back with a 10-4 record for second place in division 2 in Stamford, Conn. "Scrabble tournaments are a great opportunity to travel and meet people," he said. Dave has attended weekend tournaments in Atlantic City, the Poconos, New England, Pennsylvania Dutch Country, Maryland, Albany and Cherry Hill.

The nationals in San Diego this August will be a 31-game marathon over five days. "If any fellow alums wish to test their Scrabble skills, I can recommend any one of several clubs that meet regularly in the local area," Dave said. These include the Millburn Public Library on Monday nights, either of two Edison community centers on Tuesday nights, and in Manhattan on Thursday nights. A club gathers regularly at Borders Books in Princeton, and a South Jersey Scrabble Club meets two or three times a week in Cherry Hill and Berlin.

Closer to Newark, retired Superior Court Judge Irvin Booker is organizing a group that meets Sundays at 11 a.m. in the Hillside Recreation Center. A book about the tournament Scrabble scene, "Word Freak" by Stefan Fatsis, was published last year and has been optioned by Hollywood for a movie.

## ***Dr. Dan Zipkin At Ground Zero Class of 1966***

**By Steven Reilly, Staff  
Writer Union Leader**

For the past few months, Union residents Dan and Martin Zipkin have been on a mission to bring relief to the men and women involved in the recovery effort at the site of the World Trade Center disaster. The brothers, who are both practicing chiropractors, have volunteered their time and skills for this cause.

"When I heard that they needed volunteers at Ground Zero to help the workers I knew it was something I just had to do," Dan said. Martin felt the same way. "Dan got all of the information, but I knew I had to volunteer. I knew it in my heart."

Dan heard the call for help in October when relief agencies such as the Red Cross began to address the needs for specialized doctors, chiropractors and therapists to help workers at the disaster site. Workers at the site put in eight-to-twelve hour shifts in a two-stage operation.

The first stage involved recovery crews at the actual site removing the tons of debris. Workers in heavy machines suffered lower-back injuries due to the constant bouncing during their 12-hour shifts. Crews at the site also sifted through the debris by hand looking for any sign of victims. Once the first stage is complete, the debris is



trucked to Staten Island where the whole meticulous search process is repeated.

"It is a very solemn place near the pit. Workers have erected a cross and no one takes pictures, everyone preserves the dignity and respect for the victims there," Martin said. "It's a very emotional place. I am just there to do my small part."

Recovery workers were suffering from a long list of ailments that were the direct result of the harsh environment at the site. Podiatrists were needed for the many foot injuries that included twisted ankles, strained ligaments, and burns suffered after their boots were melted away by the intense heat at the site.

"Everyone was very dedicated to what they were doing, there was a sense of camaraderie," Dan said. "The attitude of the workers we were helping was just one of thanks, it made me need to keep going back to help."

Dan recalled one firefighter he treated for lower back and neck pain. The

firefighter had spent his eight-hour shift in a hole eight feet deep and five feet wide. For those eight hours he was holding a jackhammer sideways, looking for victims. "He was in bad shape, his back was in spasms and he could barely move," Dan recalled. "I'm just glad I was there to give him some relief from that ordeal."

Some injuries at the site were out of the expertise of the Union professionals. "There was one EMT who was assigned to take the remains found at the disaster site to the morgue. After several weeks of this duty, she became suicidal," Dan recalled. "Thankfully there were professional therapists at the facility who were able to talk to her."

Some injuries just couldn't be fixed with medicine." Working out of the St. Paul's Chapel building on Vessey Street near Fulton Avenue, the medical professional worked side by side with counselors and clergy who saw to the other needs of the workers.

"Sometime a worker who just got off their shift would come into the Church and just lay down in the pews," Martin said. "They just needed to be around there, around everyone else who was working there."

For the brothers who have lived in the Metropolitan area their entire lives, the towers were a constant. The elder brother, Dan, even remembers watching the towers go up.

### **The Origin of Some Weequahic Street Names**

**Early settlers of Newark are memorialized by having streets named after them: Henry Lyon, William Goldsmith, William Grumman, Henry Meeker, Nancy Nye, the Keer Family and Professor James Mapes. Chancellor Avenue was named in honor of Oliver Spencer Halstead, Chancellor under New Jersey's second constitution.**



***A book on the  
history of American  
Jewish Women***

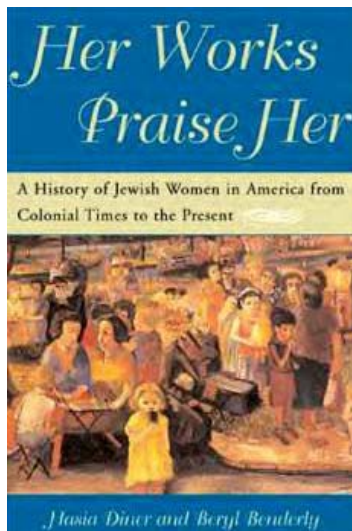
**Beryl Lieff Benderly  
Class of 1960**

Ever since Peter Stuyvesant in 1654 grudgingly admitted a band of twenty-three Jews to colonial New Amsterdam, Jewish women have played a major role in building the distinctive culture of the United States.

From salons in Federal Philadelphia to Gold Rush boarding houses, from frontier homesteads to city settlement houses to 1970s protests, American Jewish women used their distinctive sense of self and community to fashion families, livelihoods and religious practices that fit both American opportunities and ancient Jewish values.

Historian Hasia Diner and writer Beryl Benderly movingly chronicle fifteen generations of women who were mothers, wives and daughters - as well as wage earners, organizers and entrepreneurs. Drawing upon long-neglected public records, private diaries, and letters, Diner and Benderly overturn the widespread notion that Jewish life began at Ellis Island, that it happened in New York, and that Jewish women played a secondary role.

In place of such stereotypes as the Jewish Mother, the reader meets flesh-and-blood characters: Emma Lazarus, Mrs. Wyatt Earp, Ethel Rosenberg, and Betty Friedan, as well as lesser known figures such as Frances Jacobs, who rallied Denver to conquer tuberculosis in the late 19th century; Clara Lemlich, who sparked and led one of the landmark strikes of the American labor movement; Lena Bryant, who freed American women



from the constraints of Victorian pregnancy; and Sadie American, who fought to protect immigrant women from white slavery.

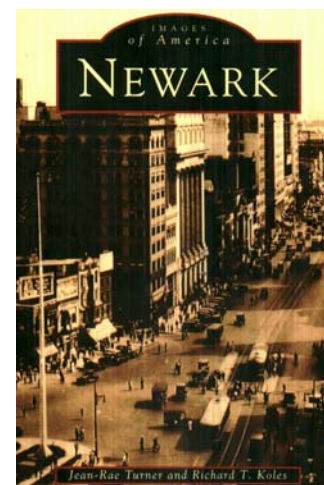
From Ryckle Nounes, who stood up for her rights in colonial New Amsterdam, to Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who won rights for all American women, this is a chronicle of struggle and achievement. *Her Works Praise Her* is a magisterial account of how America transformed generations of Jewish women--and how these women transformed America.

Hasia Diner, Ph.D., is Paul B. and Sylvia Steinberg Professor of American Jewish History at New York University and the author of many books including *A Time for Gathering* and *Lower East Side Memories*. She lives in New York City.

Beryl Lieff Benderly, an award-winning journalist who has contributed to national magazines and newspapers, is the author of 6 books, including the classic *Dancing without Music*, *Deafness in America*, *The Myth of Two Minds*, *What Gender Means* and *Doesn't Mean*, and, with Stanley I. Greenspan, *The Growth of the Mind*. She lives in Washington, D.C.

***A Pictorial  
History of Newark***

**Jean-Rae Turner  
Class of 1939**



In 1997, Jean-Rae Turner in collaboration with Richard T. Koles, published a book on Newark, New Jersey as a part of the *Images of America* series that gives an overview of this remarkable city with many previously unpublished photographs that provide a taste of its diversity.

The authors, born and educated in Newark and veterans of service with the Elizabeth Daily Journal and New Jersey Newsphotos, have collaborated on a new photographic history that shows their affection for Newark, their knowledge of its remarkable past, and their faith in its future.

**Sandra West, Class of 1964**

***To Write Book on Rutgers  
Paul Robeson Center in Newark***

**From the NewarkARTS, a publication of the Newark Arts Council**

The Paul Robeson campus center is the hub of Rutgers University in Newark, New Jersey. The Center is teeming with extraordinary tales, legends, and recollections. What are your special remembrances?

Sandra L. West, a Rutgers University graduate (Newark College of Arts and Sciences), a Virginia Commonwealth University English Professor, and a writer, is looking for scenes and memories of life at the Center, with perhaps a sharper focus on student activism. "I am especially interested in the years 1972-2002, but I am not excluding the late 60's," says Professor West. "I'm not looking for dissertations about your student activist days, just a moment that you can share with me."

Some of the specific events Professor West is interested in are the Ku Klux Klan's visit to the Newark Campus to recruit new members, the late 1960 student takeover of the campus, and the controversial naming of the (now) Paul Robeson Center in 1972. "When Nelson Mandela was in prison on Robbins Island, the world rallied for his release and the demise of apartheid. Did your campus organization rally against divesting? What did your student organization do? What parts did you play in dismantling apartheid?" asks West.

Professor West is soliciting these Campus Center recollections for a book she is writing. Past or present professors, administrators, staff members, and students are encouraged to respond. Send a one-page e-mail to Sandra L. West at lavonne\_07112@yahoo.com. "Light or humorous memories are also welcome."

**OLD PHOTOS WANTED**

**Phil Yourish, Executive Director of the Alumni Association is planning to put together a pictorial history of the Weequahic area and high school in the near future. If you have any old photographs that you can share, please contact Phil at the Alumni Association office.**

**Issues 1 to 5 of the  
ALUMNI CALUMET  
can be purchased for  
\$3.00 each or 5 issues  
for \$12.00 Please  
contact us at the WHS  
Alumni Association**

# IT'S TIME TO JOIN OR RENEW!

It's amazing! We are now mailing Alumni Calumet newsletters to more than 4,000 alumni across the United States and in 12 other countries. *Now let's give back to the high school, neighborhood and city that meant so much to us during our growing up years.*

every Weequahic graduate. Your **MEMBERSHIP** will provide funds for:

**STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS \* SCHOOL EQUIPMENT \* SCHOOL EVENTS \* SCHOOL ACTIVITIES  
CENTRALIZED DIRECTORY OF ALL ALUMNI \* ALUMNI HOMECOMINGS \* ALUMNI NEWSLETTER  
REUNION INFORMATION & PLANNING \* NEW ALUMNI WEB SITE \* ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT**

## **MEMBERSHIP / MERCHANDISE / SCHOLARSHIP Form**

Send to: **WHS Alumni Association, P.O. Box 494, Newark, NJ 07102**

- Please Print Clearly -

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL AMOUNT \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### **2 Payment Options:**

\_\_\_ **CREDIT CARD** (mail or telephone): \_\_\_ MC \_\_\_ VISA - Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_



Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_ \_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ **CHECK:** Make out check to **WHS Alumni Association** - Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### **5 Membership Choices** (receive a Weequahic Alumni decal with your membership):

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

### **4 Merchandise Choices** (circle size of T-shirt and sweatshirt):

\_\_\_ **\$6.00 EXECUTIVE PLANNER FOR 2002** (black with gold lettering and indian head logo)  
\_\_\_ **\$15.00 T-SHIRT** (sizes M, L, XL, 2XL - white with big W in orange & brown)  
\_\_\_ **\$18.00 HAT** (new style - one size fits all - orange with a brown brim and embroidered lettering)  
\_\_\_ **\$30.00 SWEATSHIRT** (sizes M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL - white with big W in orange & brown)

### **5 Scholarships Choices:**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **MAXINE BOATRIGHT Memorial Scholarship Fund**     \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **HANNAH LITZKY Memorial Scholarship Fund**  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **SADIE ROUS Memorial Scholarship Fund**     \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **General Scholarship Fund**  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Musical Performance/Composition Scholarship** (sponsored by Dan Skoler and members of the Class of 1945)

Class (Month/Year): \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name at Weequahic: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_ Business: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

# Come & Celebrate

Weequahic High School's 70th Birthday  
WHS Alumni Association's 5th Birthday

Sunday, October 13, 2002

(Columbus Day & Homecoming Weekend)

Congregation  
Oheb Shalom  
South Orange, NJ



Food, Drinks,  
Music & Plenty  
of Nostalgia

*\$15.00 Admission*

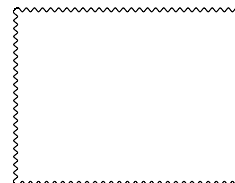
*Circle The Date On Your Calendar*

*Make Plans With Your Classmates And Alumni Friends*

*Invitations To Be Sent Out In Late August*

Weequahic High School Alumni Association  
P.O. Box 494, Newark, NJ 07102

**ALUMNI CALUMET**  
**SPRING/SUMMER 2002**  
**ISSUE # 6**



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