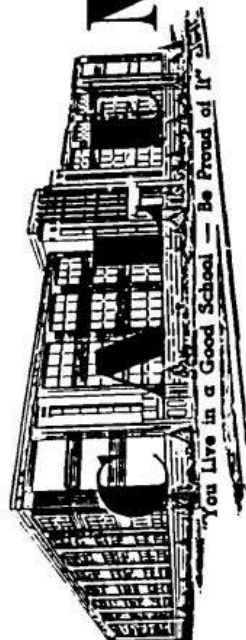


M E T

FALL 2005 / ISSUE #16



**THE
WEEQUAHIC
ALUMNI**



Alumni Association Awards 27 College Scholarships to Weequahic Class of 2005

- More on pages 2 & 3 -



NADIYAH DUHART

*Ronald Griffin
Memorial Fund*

Bloomfield College



FATIMAH THOMAS

*Class of 1945 Academic &
Performing Arts Fund*

North Carolina A&T University



DELISA RAWLS

Reada & Harry Jellinek Fund

College of Saint Elizabeth



SHAQUANA MOULTRIE

Class of 1963 Fund

New Jersey City University



OYINDAMOLA SULAIMAN

Maxine Boatwright Memorial Fund

Kean University



SHANTAY WHITE

Leo Pearl Memorial Fund

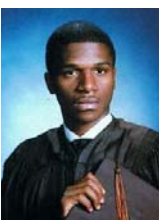
Montclair State University



ARMEENA ADDISON

Morey Bobrow Memorial Fund

Fairleigh Dickinson University



JESSIE HECTOR

Edwin McLucas Fund

Bergen Community College



DESCIA WHITE

Phyllis & Donald Kalfus Fund

Montclair State University



JUMAANA KING

John Floegel Fund

Essex County College



MARISHA KENNEDY

Class of 1964 Fund

Fairleigh Dickinson University

ALUMNI HOMECOMING AT WEEQUAHIC HIGH SCHOOL

SATURDAY, 10 AM, OCTOBER 22, 2005

*Brunch, Guided Tours, Slide Show, Alumni Merchandise Sale
Neighborhood Parade with Marching Band at Noon
Football Game at Untermann Field at 1:30 PM*

...the voices of some of our scholarship students

Armeena Addison: I am a young African American female with the desire, determination, potential and ability to succeed in life and graduate from college. Going to college is an important choice for me because I have younger siblings that look up to me. I want them to have a positive role model to look up to. I realize that every little thing that I do has impact on their everyday life. As the oldest sister, I feel that my responsibility is to be their role model.

Nadiyah Duhart: My inspiration is from my teacher. She played a major part in my decisions. My teacher always told me to live by choice not by chance...I've always wanted to be a nurse. Ms. Brown and I believe that it's the best choice for me...My teacher provided me with job opportunities, internships, and other helpful programs ...Throughout my life others have helped me to accomplish my goals. Therefore helping others is my main objective in life. I believe in giving back to humanity. I'm a very compassionate person. It makes me proud to see that I've made a difference in someone's life.

Dawn Evans: I have always known that in order to succeed in life you need determination, persistence, and a goal...My mother and father died when I was very young and I really did not get the opportunity to know them. Their deaths gave me the determination to perform at the highest level possible...I plan to attend college which would be a first for my family. I want to make a difference.

Even though I had a difficult life, with many hardships and obstacles that I had to face at a very early age, unlike others, I have never used that as an excuse to fail. Instead, I used it to build up my confidence. I used it as an excuse to succeed. Instead of letting my difficult life hold me down, I let it strengthen me.

Jessie Hector: Growing up in a household of three (children) my parents drilled my brother, sister, and me about the importance of an education. I must admit that it did not register in our heads right away, especially me. As I grew

older I began to understand what it was that I wanted in life and that my achievements academically would help me get what I want. I want to go to college, major in Computer Science and get my bachelor's, masters and doctorate. ...I also want to continue to play basketball in college. Basketball has been something I use to keep myself disciplined, focused and athletically fit. Without basketball I do not know how I could keep myself balanced academically.

Marisha Kennedy: My mother was my role model. I idolized her and wanted to be just like her...When I was nine years old, I became aware of the fact that my mother was dying. Living became a battle I thought I was surely losing after that.

My mother's last wish was that at least one if not all of her children do something she never did - receive a college education. Since my two older siblings didn't have college on their agenda, fulfilling my mother's last wish became a goal of mine as well.

Shaquanah Moultrie: Many of my achievements come from the support of my family...The one who really gets me going is my single parent mother. She has faith in me and believes in me. ...For me to see how strong she is and how she gets back up whenever she gets knocked down, really inspires me to keep going and never give up.

Fatimah Thomas: Throughout my life I always wanted to be involved with the arts, whether it was dancing, singing or playing an instrument. My love and appreciation for music began at an early age when I would sit in front of a radio listening with my headphones turned up very loudly.

I believed that I could sing just as well as the artist I was listening to. When my mother observed me, she would tell me that I could run a one-woman show. She would also encourage me by telling me that I was capable of doing anything I chose to do.

My musical interest has continued through my high school career. Therefore, after

graduating from high school, I will enroll in a college that has an outstanding music curriculum. After four years I will earn a BA degree in music education. With this degree I will return back to my hometown where I will teach music.

Shantay White: At a very young age my younger sister was killed under suspicious circumstances. There was never a definite answer to the cause of her death. Growing up I realized that someone should have pursued the issue to search for details to discover the cause of her death. I did not realize that she would be the reason for me wanting to pursue a career as a crime scene investigator for the F.B.I.

Once I decided on making this area my goal for a career, I knew I would need to maintain excellent grades throughout my school years...[By] keeping my eye on the prize and staying focused, I will continue to succeed. Unlike many others who have fallen victim to peer pressure and lost their dreams, I hold on to mine and grasp them with both hands because I have witnessed the effects of what can happen if you do not. I am just grateful that I had people around me to help me stay focused because everyone needs help and no one can do everything on their own.

Toure Williamson: I live in the city of Newark. In Newark you don't really hear a lot of success stories. I'm here to make that statement change. I have a lot of aspirations in life. One of them is to find and own a successful business. I would like to show the young people of Newark that, yes, you can be successful even if you live in an urban setting.

Descia White: Observing Dr. Toki, my pediatrician, convinced me at an early age that her profession was the one I wanted to pursue. As I grew older and continued my appointments with Dr. Toki, and observed her interaction with children and with parents, I needed to consider no other career choice. I was going to be a pediatrician!

I would like to thank the Weequahic High School Alumni Association for getting me this scholarship. It is a great honor and is greatly appreciated. This scholarship will help give me the tools I need to succeed in higher education.

More 2005 Alumni Scholarship Recipients



MEGAN PITT

*Carolyn Parm Memorial Fund
Montclair State University*



ATTELUS MENSAHN

*Weequahic HS Alumni Fund
Bloomfield College*



DAWN EVANS

*Weequahic HS Alumni Fund
Fairleigh Dickinson University*



DOREENA ASIAMA

*Class of 1945 Academic &
Performing Arts Fund
Montclair State University*



DANIELLE LEWIS

*WHS General Fund
Essex County College*



JESSICA BERGER

*College Women's Club Fund
Bloomfield College*



KIANA GOINES

*Hannah Litzky Memorial Fund
Fairleigh Dickinson University*



LAYTESSE CANTY

*WHS General Fund
Kean University*



KHADIJAH MUHAMMAD

*Weequahic HS Alumni Fund
Felician College*



KORIDIAN HOLTON

*Weequahic HS Alumni Fund
Essex County College*



LISA CONLEY

*Marie O'Connor Fund
Fairleigh Dickinson University*



KEONAH WILLIAMS

*Miriam Hamble Memorial Fund
College of St. Elizabeth*



NASEEB WASHINGTON

*John Floegel Fund
Bloomfield College*



TOURE WILLIAMSON

*Sadie Rous Memorial Fund
Virginia State University*



AMOS CRUDUP

*WHS General Fund
Am. International University*



TOLULOPE BAJOMO

*Weequahic HS Alumni Fund
Felician College*

***Invest in Weequahic's future
by contributing to our scholarship funds***

\$30,500 given out for alumni scholarships

This past year, the WHS Alumni Association awarded 27 scholarships totaling \$30,500. Since 1998 when we first began the scholarship project, we have awarded \$111,000 in first-year college scholarships to 108 students. In addition, we have also given out 23 second, third and fourth-year scholarships.

The alumni association now administers 20 scholarship funds in honor or in memory of

faculty, alumni, and classes. Why not establish a scholarship fund in the name of a family member, a favorite teacher, coach, administrator, classmate or friend?

We now accept gifts of appreciated securities. These donations would qualify for a charitable tax deduction if the shares have been held for more than a year. One advantage to gifting appreciated securities is that the donor is not subject to capital gains taxes on the shares. Before donating, it is recommended that you consult with your tax advisor. To make a gift of appreciated securities, please call the office

of Jim Schwarz, a 1958 grad, at Smith Barney (800) 526-4931 and ask for Karen Parker-Davis or Robyn Schlossberg.

Art Lutzke, 1963, is the Chairperson of the alumni scholarship committee and Les Fein is the Honorary Chairperson.

You can make scholarship contributions through the Alumni Calumet newsletter on page 18 or at our interactive web site at www.weequahicalumni.org using Mastercard or Visa. Make your contributions now to support the graduates of 2006.

Sid Dorfman: This Ledger legend is still going strong at 85

By Steve Politi, Star-Ledger Staff

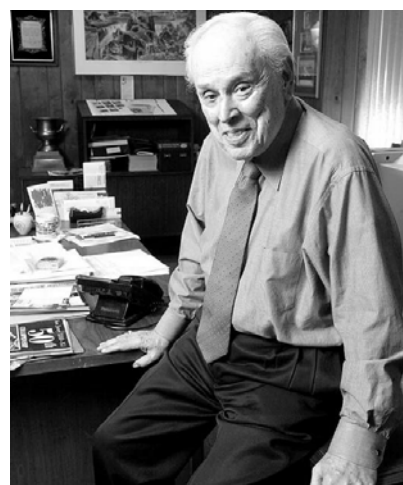
Sid Dorfman left his house in the spring of 1935 with three nickels in his pocket - two for the round-trip ride on the No. 14 bus and one "just in case" - and set out looking for a job. He showed up at the downtown Newark offices of a struggling newspaper called The Morning Ledger and was hired to write high school results at 10 cents a column inch. He was 15.

Seventy years later, Dorfman is still a vital part of The Star-Ledger, and along the way his contributions have helped this newspaper grow into the biggest in New Jersey. Think about that number: 70 years. Most companies give a pension and a gold watch in less than half that time. Most people are eager to retire well before they hit their 70th birthday, much less 70 years with the same company. But not Sid Dorfman.

And this is not a story to announce his retirement. He will begin working on year No. 71 next month and, at 85, he has no plans to step aside from the job he loves. He still runs Dorf Feature Service in Mountainside, which supplies The Star-Ledger with high school and college sports coverage and town news. He also writes a weekly sports column.

"It's mind-boggling," said acting Gov. Richard Codey, who covered town hall meetings for Dorfman as a college student in the 1960s. "And when he calls me about a story even now, he still has enthusiasm about what he's doing. There's no burnout there."

No one has worn more hats. Dorfman has covered golf, midget bike races, boxing and virtually every other sport as a reporter. He has designed the front page and the sports pages, lobbied to get more funeral homes to post obituaries in the newspaper and set up a system of bureaus that puts reporters closer to the suburban towns they cover.



"No single person in the history of this paper meant as much to its success as Sid Dorfman," said Jerry Izenberg, whom Dorfman helped hire as a sports columnist in 1962. "In a lot of ways, there would not be a Star-Ledger without him."

1935: START OF AN ERA

The editor Dorfman met that day in 1935 was Willie Klein, who was beginning a career at the newspaper that would last more than six decades. "Do you have experience?" Klein asked. Dorfman said he did, working for the school newspaper at Weequahic High. "Can you type?" Klein asked. Dorfman said he could. He got the job.

"You're led by the hand of fate. You can't plan these things," Dorfman said. "Willie Klein was there that day, and if he wasn't, I don't know, I might have been working in a dockyard or something."

Dorfman had never heard of the Ledger until that day, and in fairness to him, plenty of Newark residents had not, either. It was a distant third in the circulation race, well behind the established leader and well-respected Newark Evening News. But this was the Depression, and Dorfman was happy to have a job - especially as a writer, something he had wanted to do since submitting a story to the Saturday Evening Post as a 9-year-old. That story was turned down, and Dorfman still has the neatly typed rejection letter in a binder filled with other mementos from his career.

"We have been very glad to read your story, Lucky Boy, and are sorry that we can't use it in the Saturday Evening Post," the letter reads. "Nine is very young to begin work for the Post."

Suppose you wait a few years and try us again."

Just six years later, Dorfman was beginning a newspaper career. This was a different era in journalism. Deadlines, Klein said before he died in 2001, were "when you finished." The Ledger was sinking into bankruptcy. Dorfman showed up for his first day at work and was handed a picket sign. The workers were on strike. "I never worked a day in my life!" Dorfman said. "I told my father, 'I can't catch a break'."

Soon, he caught two big ones. Samuel I. Newhouse purchased the Ledger with plans to make it into a much better and financially sound newspaper. Then, a man named H. Stuart Morrison opened the Metropolitan News Service as an independent contractor to provide the Ledger and several New York newspapers with local news coverage. He hired Dorfman to handle sports.

A few months later, Morrison mysteriously disappeared, leaving the news service without a boss. Dorfman struck a deal with Newhouse to take over, and changed the name to Dorf Feature Service in 1938. Morrison reappeared in a few weeks. "I was on vacation," he said. "Well, you still are," Dorfman replied. "Get out."

In 1939, Newhouse purchased The Star-Eagle and merged the two newspapers into The Newark Star-Ledger. The newspaper was still just a nuisance to the powerful News, known for its gossip columns and expansive comics. Dorfman helped change that over the next three decades

DORFMAN Continued

VERSATILE, INDISPENSABLE

He did everything in the early years. He was the first golf writer at the newspaper, even though he had never played or even watched the sport. He first worked under the pseudonym Pat Ryan because an editor was convinced the country clubs would not allow a Jewish writer onto their courses. He soon dropped that name and covered several legends - from Bobby Jones to Ben Hogan to Arnold Palmer. But that was hardly his most colorful assignment.

He covered midget motorized bike races at the Velodrome in Nutley, a popular event that was canceled when one of the racers was decapitated under a metal fence. *"I can still picture the head rolling down the embankment,"* Dorfman said. *"That was the end of midget races in Nutley."* He was the *"Masked Lady,"* picking horse races at the local tracks. He covered amateur boxing at the Newark Athletic Club. He worked as a copy editor on the sports desk, and there were nights when he not only put out the sports

"No single person in the history of this paper meant as much to its success as Sid Dorfman," ...In a lot of ways, there would not be a Star-Ledger without him."

section but filled in on the news side, laying out the front page as well.

He was, in a word, indispensable. *"They didn't let me go on vacation for five years,"* Dorfman said with a laugh. But he is best known for his bureau's expansive coverage of high school sports. Few newspapers provide more scores, results and features about school athletes than The Star-Ledger. *"There is no question in my mind that The Star-Ledger covers high school sports better than any other state,"* said Boyd Sands, executive director of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association. *"Sid is behind it all. It's thanks to Sid that so many of our student athletes are showcased around the state and across the country."*

Dorfman introduced some features that are still among the most popular in the newspaper today. He started the Top 20

ranking for high school sports around the state, and started All-State teams, not just for football and boys basketball, but for girls sports as well - the first newspaper in the metropolitan area to do so. *"When nobody paid attention to women's athletics, Sid was on the case,"* said Donald Newhouse, president of The Star-Ledger. *"History has proven his instincts infallible."*

His biggest contribution may have come in another unfamiliar area: death notices. The Star-Ledger still lagged behind the Newark News when Mort Pye, the newspaper's longtime editor, approached Dorfman in the early '60s with a dilemma: How could the newspaper break the stranglehold the News had on the obituary listings in the area? Pye had brought in several experts to take on the job, but they failed. Dorfman relied on his knowledge of the state and, slowly, one funeral director at a time, brought the newspaper some much-needed business.

"I knew them all from sports. I might have put them on an all-county team," Dorfman said. *"They were easy to get. Now, we're probably tops in the country for volume. People want their obits - and*

we give them their obits. It made a major contribution to the well being of the paper."

"Together," said Pearl Pye, Mort's 83-year-old widow, *"they broke the monopoly of the Newark News for death notices, a major achievement in those days. We celebrated all the first columns with great joy."*

In August 1972, the Newark Evening News ceased publication. The Star-Ledger, the underdog for most of its existence, had won the circulation war.

A 'NEW JERSEY TREASURE'

The true measure of Dorfman's success, however, might be the numerous journalists he has trained throughout the years. The list of alumni from Dorf Feature Service includes national sports columnists and editors at major newspapers. Izenberg was working at the New York Herald Tribune when Dorfman called him during a road trip with the Yankees and told him about the open

sports columnist job at The Star-Ledger. Izenberg was unsure, but he said Dorfman *"convinced me it was the right place for me, and he had never given me bad advice. He was my first boss in this business,"* said Izenberg, who has been with the newspaper since that day in 1962. *"He really encouraged you to want to stay in this business — and in those days, it took a lot of encouraging, because you were making no money."*

Len Fisher, who went on to become an associate editor at the newspaper, remembers handing in his raw copy and seeing Dorfman, through the glass window in his office, looking over his glasses and shaking his head. *"Sid was a great writing teacher in the old fashioned way - let the story tell itself,"* Fisher said. *"Get the reader the story, and get the reader the story fast. Sid could take a raw kid right out of college and make him a writer."*

Dorfman also had an impact on the athletes he covered. Len Coleman, a Montclair native, was given a 1966 All-State trophy by Dorfman before he became president of the National League and a senior adviser to Major League Baseball. The two became friends. *"Sid is like the New York Yankees - a man of many championship seasons,"* Coleman said. *"The Star-Ledger is on the masthead, but on Wednesdays when he writes, you'd sell just as many newspapers if Sid Dorfman was on the masthead. He's been a bridge from the 20th century into the 21st century, not just for sports but for the state."*

Codey is quick to point out that only one Dorfman alumnus has gone on to become a governor. He remembers pumping quarters into a pay phone in the late '60s, calling in reports from town meetings - an early exposure to New Jersey politics. *"I made \$22 a meeting,"* Codey said. *"This was back in the late '60s, so that was pretty good money. What Sid has done over his career has been amazing."*

And it's not over. Not by a long shot. *"Sid is a special New Jersey treasure,"* said Jim Willse, editor of The Star-Ledger. *"In addition to being a great columnist, he is a terrific editor, mentor and friend, and the best thing of all - he's just warming up."*

Judith Nusbaum, Jan. 1956 Grad, Seeks Kidney Donor



Before I ask you for your kidney, let me introduce myself.

I was born in Newark, N.J., 67 years ago. I attended Maple

Avenue Grammar School, graduated from Weequahic H.S., and earned a B.A. from Rutgers in 1959. Following graduation, I worked as a resident buyer, and later as an editor for a trade publication in Manhattan. In 1961, I married, had three children, and became active in the Edison / Metuchen community.

My parents, ardent Zionists, and I had been actively involved in the establishment of the State of Israel. Therefore it was not a surprise to anyone when, as a young married, I became involved in Israel related organizations. Slowly, I began to feel the "pull" to make aliya, and in 1976, after two extended trips to Israel, I moved, with the children, to Jerusalem. Today, my daughters, Deborah (and my three grandchildren), and Susan live in Israel, but my son, Jonathan, (and my granddaughter) decided to return to America.

During the past three decades I have had several careers. After completing the Israel Ministry of Tourism's course for tour guides in 1979, I guided for the Foreign Ministry, the American Jewish Congress and several other organizations. In the mid 1980s I was sent to NY for two years to work as the director of "Volunteers for Israel." Upon my return I joined the staff of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem as the director of the Department of Special Academic Programs in the School for Overseas Students.

In 1996, I was appointed as an assistant to the Israeli Ambassador in Washington. When I returned to Israel in 1998, I became the Director

of Research and Development for a local incomeing tour company in Jerusalem.

Today, I direct the Jerusalem Office of the Unity Coalition for Israel, a joint Jewish and Christian Israeli advocacy organization based in America.

In 2000, I was diagnosed with renal failure. For five years I managed with careful medical treatment, but four months ago my condition deteriorated and I was advised to begin dialysis. Since my veins are very narrow I've had to have two fistula procedures to enable the dialysis to work. For me, dialysis has been and remains very emotionally and physically painful. I've completed all the tests required by Israeli Medical Association, and am on the National Kidney Transplantation List in Israel, but the wait for a compatible cadaver kidney could take five years. At 67 I don't have the years to wait.

Hence this appeal. Perhaps you might consider donating one of your kidneys to me? The testing and transplant could either be done in Israel or in America, since I have insurance in both countries. I would, however, prefer if you would agree to have the testing and procedure in Israel.

You might want to come a week early, tour the country as my guest, then as the apex of your trip, experience Israeli health care at its best! All your expenses would be covered totally, including flights to and from Israel, tests, operation, hotel and touring.

I may be reached via e-mail at: etzion76@netvision.net.il or by regular mail at: Judith Nusbaum, Mivtza Harel 46, Rishon Letzion 75443. Israel.



Newarkers of the world unite

In June representatives from the *Newarks* in the United States and around the world gathered at the Hilton Gateway in Newark, NJ for a celebration. Among the attendees was tiny Newark, Vermont, a town of 450 people; Newark, California, the youngest Newark in the country; and Newark-On-Trent, England - the originator of the name. The idea for a Newark gala originated when current Newark, NJ Mayor Sharpe James visited Newark, California in 1987.

Newark, NJ city historian Charles Cummings has found 30 *Newarks* covering four continents. The populations of all the towns that have Newark as a name total about 453,000. Newark, NJ has most of them with 277,000.

Newarks in the United States:

Arkansas, California, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, South Dakota, Texas, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin.

Newarks in the World:

Australia, Canada, England, South Africa.

Upsala College transformed

Upsala College in East Orange, which closed its doors in 1995 after 71 years, will be turned into a semi-gated residential community by December 2006. The residential development, which is called Woodlands at Upsala, will have 51 three and four-bedroom homes and 16 three-bedroom attached townhouses. A small portion of the campus was previously used for the new East Orange Campus High School. Upsala flourished as a private liberal arts college until the early 1980's when the school experienced a significant reduction in enrollment. Although it eased its standards and accepted many at-risk students, the school encountered serious cash-flow problems. Officials borrowed funds to stay open, but eventually had to declare bankruptcy.

Jewish Museum of NJ Event

On Sunday, November 6th at Congregation Ahavas Sholom in Newark, the Jewish Museum of NJ will present *Roosevelt: A Utopian Experiment in NJ* - a lecture with slides by Dr. Arthur Shapiro, the Town Historian. He will relate the fascinating story of this cooperative community established for Jewish garment workers by the United States' government in 1936 that later became an enclave for artists. The *United Synagogue of Hoboken Choir* will also perform. Admission is \$5, but free to members. For more information and reservations, call (973) 227-8854 or e-mail at info@jewishmuseumnj.org.

ALUMNI PROFILE, JUNE 1960

MIRIAM NUSBAUM SPAN Superior Court Judge Retires

By Judith Lucas, Star-Ledger Staff

On the bench, Superior Court Judge Miriam Span is the soul of reason: calm, measured, deliberate. Her supporters say she is brilliant. The mother, wife and Union County judge for 21 years said she stumbled into law as an undergraduate at Rutgers University in 1963. It became her passion. The judiciary was enough for Span, 63, until cancer claimed her only son, Henry. She took time off to care for the 36-year-old who was too ill to carry on as a law professor at George Mason University in Virginia. He died in January,

She returned to work in March, desperate for a diversion, but found she could not carry on. Span decided to retire on June 30, turning instead to volunteer work. *"I am too emotional to be working,"* said Span, who sits in Elizabeth. *"I thought I would be diverted by work. My heart is not in it."*

So many of Span's supporters said the Newark native has been all heart in the years she has served as a public defender, family lawyer and judge. *"She knows her stuff,"* said her boss, Assignment Judge Walter Barisonek, pointing out that since Span was elevated to the bench in 1984, she has served in every division, moving from family to civil and criminal chancery, and back to criminal. *"She is a good judge,"* Barisonek said. *"She knows the law."*

State Supreme Court Justice Virginia Long praised her longtime friend. The pair met on the first day of law school. *"She is hard-working and compassionate,"* Long said, *"For a judge, that is essential."* But Span can be tough. Even when her tone is mild, she lays down the law. She can dress down a lawyer or defendant in such a mellow manner, they leave feeling that at least she was fair.

"She is soothing to people" said another Rutgers Law School colleague and friend, Kenneth Javerbaum. *"Yet you know she is in charge. Nobody leaves her courtroom, even when they did not prevail, thinking her decisions were unfair. She makes the job look easy. This is an enormous loss for the bench."*

Her high school friend, Leonard Wolkstein, said Span is the way she is because of her mother, Frances Nusbaum, who was a liberated



Board of Education in the 1950s. She died in 1994.

Span's former law partner Gerri Gomperts said her friend was tailor-made for the judiciary because of her *"extraordinary sense of character, strength and compassion."* *"I learned from her the importance of being thorough, being fair and caring,"* said Span's first law clerk, Paul Endler, a civil litigator with a practice in Westfield. *"She never loses her cool. She communicates such a presence without screaming and yelling. She has such control over the courtroom."*

Union County Prosecutor Theodore Romankow, who went to law school with Span, described her as *"a breath of fresh air. Her decisions are well-thought-out and she is fair. She has been a major part of the success of the judiciary. There is nothing but good to say about her."*

Span is married to real estate lawyer Gerald Span. They have a daughter, Jenny, 33.

Span said the pinnacle of her legal career came not when she oversaw major criminal or civil cases, but as a defense lawyer. She defended a Plainfield woman in 1982 who killed her husband after years of abuse. The woman was acquitted in one of the first cases in which a battered woman defense was used. *"It was my proudest moment,"* Span said.

Still Span recalls a heartbreaking case of a mother who contracted AIDS after a blood transfusion while giving birth in 1984 just before the time when blood was tested for the deadly virus. Her husband wound up contracting the virus and the woman managed to get a hefty settlement for her children following her civil claim against a blood bank that was involved.

Span said she did it all for her mother - who wanted to be a lawyer. *"It was a fulfillment of her dream."*

woman before it was fashionable to be so. Span said her mother never finished college but she was always looking to improve herself. Nusbaum was involved in Hadassah and the Zionist Organization of America and served on the Newark

SLOPPY JOE'S RECIPE

From Sandy,
Peterman's Deli,
Clinton Avenue
in Newark

*Now this is
a sandwich!*

1. Start with 3 slices (thin sliced) Jewish Rye (Arnold's Melba thin works great)
2. First slice - layer of corned beef, coleslaw (drained, dry coleslaw), Russian dressing, top with layer of roast beef.
3. Second slice - pastrami, layer of drained coleslaw, Russian dressing, layer of turkey. Place second slice on top of first slice.
4. Third slice - put light coat of Russian on top of last slice, close sandwich. Put toothpicks in, cut and serve.
5. You need approx. 2 oz. of meat per layer, so each sandwich has a total of ½ lb. meat.
6. The secret of a Sloppy Joe is good Russian dressing. Make your own (it's simple). 3 parts mayonnaise, 2 parts ketchup, 1 part sweet relish. Be generous with the Russian dressing.

Harold Cohen Herb Krautblatt Gerry Greenspan Charlie Schneider

Inducted into JCC Sports Hall of Fame

by Ron Kaplan, NJ Jewish News

Four athletes from the heyday of Newark's Weequahic High School were among the six sports legends inducted into the Jewish Community Center of MetroWest Sports Hall of Fame at a dinner ceremony held June 22 at the Crystal Plaza in Livingston.

In addition to the Weequahic quartet - **Harold "Hesh" Cohen, Gerry Greenspan, Herb Kay, and Charlie Schneider** - the Hall of Fame, now in its second year, also recognized Jerry Izenberg, the award-winning sportswriter with *The Star-Ledger* in Newark, and Moe Berg, whom Casey Stengel, one of the national pastime's legendary characters, called "the strangest man ever to play baseball."

The evening was full of the type of good humor brought on by reunions, with the accents and anecdotes making many of the 185 attendees sound like characters from the pen of Damon Runyon.

Harold Cohen, WHS June 1942



"This is quite an honor," Cohen, 81, told *NJ Jewish News* prior to the festivities. "At this age, to get awarded, to be recognized as a Jewish athlete in the area, is fantastic." Cohen was a

basketball and baseball star for Weequahic in the early 1940s, leading the hoops team to a 30-3 record and named All-State. At the same time, he earned All-Essex County honors as a third baseman and helped his team reach the 1942 state tournament. He continued amassing athletic achievements at Newark University, now Rutgers Newark, and Rider University, then Rider College.



L-R: Hesh Cohen, Herb Krautblatt Kay, Gerry Greenspan, Charlie Schneider

The Springfield resident said he was especially grateful for "the friends I was able to make playing ball, that we've been friends for 70 years. We've been lucky; we're still around - most of us are around - and it's a rewarding experience."

Cohen still works as an accountant and still plays "a little golf, as best as I can." With the NBA pro-basketball finals winding down, he said, "I watch it. It gets a little late - I read about it the next morning. But it's a different game than what we played. I was considered a big kid at six feet. [Today's players] are six-eight, they run like deer, and they can shoot the ball." "We were lucky," he repeated. "We had a good era - we went through the war, came back, went to college.... No regrets."

Cohen's joy, however, has been tempered by a recent tragedy: His son Bruce died suddenly two months ago at 49. Cohen's daughter-in-law and three grandchildren arrived well into the Hall of Fame induction ceremony, coming from his granddaughter's middle-school graduation.

Charles Schneider, 'Sweet Inside'

Charles 'Charlie' Schneider was known more for his work behind the scenes than on the field. Although he was a standout school player in football and basketball in the early part of the 20th century, he earned his reputation as an educator and coach.

After a stint as a sports reporter for the *Newark Star-Eagle* from 1918 to 1919, Schneider became recreation and playground director in the Essex County Park System and the Newark public schools, supervisor of physical education and recreation for North Plainfield public schools, and supervisor of student teaching

for then Jersey City State College in the health and science department. He was also a teacher and director of athletics for 45 years at Central and Weequahic high schools in Newark, retiring in 1963. Steve Reichman was on hand to accept the award for his grandfather. "I was thrilled," he told *NJJN*, when he heard about his grandfather's selection to the Hall. "He probably had the biggest affect on my life." Schneider passed away in 1988. Reichman, 53, and a resident of Edison, has a prized possession from his grandfather.

"There is this little felt derby hat that I wear every day in the winter, and I always feel like I have a piece of [him] with me. It's something that is very special, to the point where it's falling apart and I'm afraid that it's going to go bad and I have to figure some way to save it." While he knows there are specialists that can restore old hats, Reichman said, "I also don't want to give it up."

Reichman spoke of the lasting impression his grandfather had made as a role model for generations of students. "Not only is it something special.... In my acceptance speech, I'm going to refer to my grandfather as a sabra, which is an Israeli fruit, because on the outside he was one tough son of a bitch, but when push came to shove, he would give you the shirt off his back because he was so sweet inside. That's just something that everyone remembers about him."

Les Fein, an inductee last year in the inaugural class of the MetroWest Jewish Sports Hall of Fame, presented Reichman with Schneider's plaque. Fein spoke of his own relationship with Schneider, which began in 1955. "I'm here today," he said, "because Charlie took a shot and made me a coach at Weequahic."

JCC JEWISH HALL OF FAME

continued from previous page

In his introductory remarks, Hall of Fame chair Jay Blumenfeld remarked how gratifying it was to notify the inductees, or their families in the case of Berg, Kay, and Schneider - who were inducted posthumously - of the honor. WNBC-TV sportscaster Bruce Beck, a native of Livingston, served as master of ceremonies.

Gerry Greenspan

WHS 1959, 'Old Friends'



Gerald "Gerry" Greenspan was another basketball powerhouse for Weequahic, winning All-Newark, All-Essex County, and All-State honors before his graduation in 1959.

He played for the University of Maryland Terrapins, leading the team in scoring and rebounding to win All-Conference honors, and was drafted by the Syracuse Nationals, now known as the Philadelphia 76ers.

Greenspan played alongside some of the game's greatest players, including Wilt Chamberlain, Dolph Schayes, and Hal Greer, a fact that he admits hastened his departure from the NBA. He stayed in the game, though, playing in the Eastern League for several more years before finally retiring and going into the real estate business.

"This is great," Greenspan told NJJN, scanning the room, still looking trim and fit and, at nearly six-and-a-half feet, towering over everyone in the room. The 63-year-old, who resides in New York City and Roseland, admitted, "I don't think I was excited till I got here." It was good seeing all the old friends, he said. "I know them all, even though they're not here just for me."

After listening to the flattering introduction by Fein, who was his coach at Weequahic, Greenspan told the audience that time enhances a player's greatness. *"The older you get, the better you were."* He demurred at the

notion that he was "a nice Jewish boy." *"I was the meanest, nastiest basketball player on the college scene,"* he recalled. He cited a few incidents of anti-Semitism he faced while on the college hardwood, remembering how it made him all the more determined to do well.

Greenspan's mother had been born a Christian but converted to Judaism. *"Thank God,"* he said. *"I never would have made it into the Christian Sports Hall of Fame."*

Herb Krautblatt Kay

WHS 1944, 'A Mensch'



The late Herb Kay, born Hebert Krautblatt, was best known as a basketball star for Weequahic from 1940 to 1944, but was also named All-City and All-County in football.

He was a graceful left-handed shooter with great leaping ability. As captain of his Rider College squad, he set the team record for scoring and became the only player in the school's history to reach the professional ranks as a member of the NBA Baltimore Bullets in 1948 and 1950-51 and the ABL Trenton Tigers-Paterson Crescents from 1950 to 1960.

Kay, who lived in Springfield and South Orange, died in 1999. Bruce Beck's father, Felix, offered introductory remarks about his friend. *"As a gentleman, he was gracious and he was kind. Herbie was a mensch, and that's the nicest thing you can say about anyone."*

Kay's grandson, Robert Streit of Hoboken, accepted the award on his behalf. *"My grandfather would be more than grateful,"* he told the audience, recalling how, even in the throes of advanced Parkinson's disease, Kay was still able to toss in a few baskets in the driveway. *"His presence was truly admirable. If you didn't know him, you wanted to. He never asked to be in the spotlight; the spotlight found him."*

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WALDO WINCHESTER

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

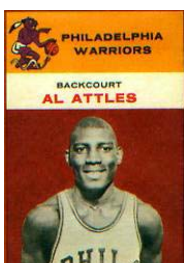
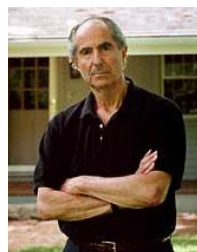
Marty Edelston, 1946, the publisher of *Boardroom, Inc.* will be inducted into The Direct Marketing Association Hall of Fame. From a business in his basement 30 years ago, Marty built *Boardroom, Inc.* into a multimillion-dollar publishing empire.



Lester Lieberman, Jan. 1948, received his second honorary degree from the University of Medicine and Dentistry-NJ this year. He previously received an honorary degree from Clarkson University in 1991. In addition to a long career as a business executive and engineer, Les served as Chair of both Irvington General Hospital and Newark Beth Israel Hospital and is presently Chair of the HealthCare Foundation of NJ.



Philip Roth, Jan. 1950, at 72 years old, has been admitted to this country's most exclusive literary club: the *Library of America*. Only two other living writers have been awarded membership: Eudora Welty in 1998 and Saul Bellow in 2003. The first two volumes are just out, *Novels and Stories 1959-1962* ("Goodbye, Columbus & Five Short Stories" & *Letting Go*) and *Novels 1967-1972* (*When She Was Good*, *Portnoy's Complaint*, *Our Gang* & *The Breast*), and the plan calls for six more to be issued, one every year or so, for a total of eight.



Alvin Attles, 1955, will be honored on Thursday evening, October 20 at the annual Newark Athletic Hall of Fame affair. Al is vice-president of the Golden State Warriors basketball team and was the one of the starting guards for the Philadelphia Warriors when Wilt Chamberlain scored 100 points against the NY Knicks in 1962.

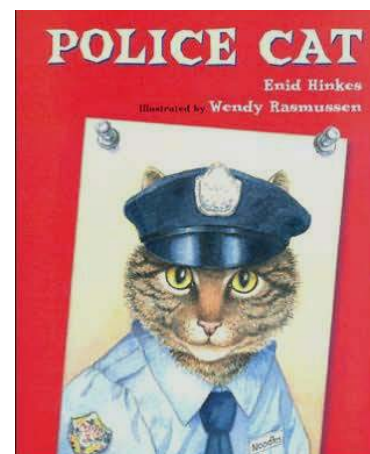
Judi Ayre, Jan. 1962, of Springfield was selected to attend the Star-Ledger's Munch University as a "student taster" for their weekly Munchmobile project which visits and evaluates food establishments throughout NJ. Judi refers to herself as a "retired bureaucrat" with hobbies that include pottery, diner

Enid Hinkes, 1960, published her first book for children, *Police Cat*, which was released in March 2005. *Police Cat* is a picture book for children from 4 to 7 years old. The illustrations are by Wendy Rasmussen and the book is published by Albert Whitman.



The story is about a cat named Noodles that wants to become a police officer, but there is no place on the force for cats, even the best rat-chaser in the city. Still, he goes out every night on patrol. Early one morning, he discovers a fire in a house and rescues the family, but the police dog gets the credit. The family sets the record straight, and Noodles becomes a hero and an official member of the police department.

The book has been reviewed by Booklist of the American Library Association, School Library Journal, and an English on line review, Through the Looking Glass. Booklist described it as a "lively engaging story about a heroically tabby, handsomely rendered in appealing, realistic illustrations." School Library Journal called the story "above the general stock group of books about animals saving lives." Through the Looking Glass wrote that "Gentle humor and wonderful illustrations make this a picture book which children want to look at again and again."



Enid Hinkes graduated from Barnard College and Ohio State University of Law. She practiced law in Washington, DC before moving to Cooperstown, NY where she is the Village Justice. She lives with her husband and their three cats.

books, photography and travel. Her favorite food is Thai, and favorite place is Iceland.

Judy declares: *When I decided to retire, I started a list of things I might want to do, in an effort to ensure that my retirement would be all that I hoped for. First on my list was to compete for the Munchmobile crew the first summer of my retirement. So please indulge me in my retirement wish. I'm Martha Stewart without the baggage, Ruth Reichl without the literary ability and Julia Child without the skill. My enthusiasm, zest for life and many years experience with eating and cooking all kinds of food will certainly add to the Munchmobile pool - and I'm only getting older and hungrier.*



From the Voices of our Alumni, Faculty and Friends

**Herman Rosenfeld,
Class of 1967, Toronto, Canada**

Remembering Mrs. Lappe



It was with great sadness that I read about the death of Marc Lappe, the son of Weequahic High School social science teacher, Jeanette Lappe. I was blown away by this man's

dedication to the struggle against environmental degradation and the amount of books, articles and research he contributed. On the other hand, thinking about the effect his mother had on my own life, it really came as no surprise.

I was in Mrs. Lappe's class in my senior year at Weequahic. She taught in a two-teacher program with an English teacher, Mrs. Weinstein, called "Humanities." What I remember most about that experience was Mrs. Lappe's relentless pursuit of critical thinking. She never wavered in her call to "question everything."

Whenever students uncritically accepted government propaganda about the war in Vietnam - or the supposed necessity of the nuclear arms race (as I invariably did in both instances) - she would plant the seeds of doubt by raising the need to be ruthlessly honest about the underlying assumptions and facts.

Mrs. Lappe did this for every issue, as we plowed through the post-Civil War history of the United States. For every "establishment" view of a historical issue, Mrs. Lappe provided us with a critical alternative, be it Reconstruction, World War I, or the Cold War.

She always emphasized the critical role that intellectuals should play in acting as a conscience for social justice. She was the first teacher I ever had to propose that the entire framework of thinking I had been brought up to believe, might have holes in it.

At the time, all of this seemed to be wasted on me. Lost in a fog of TV watching, day dreaming, laziness and a naïve belief in the promise of the post-war liberal ideal (and my place in it), I resisted all of Mrs. Lappe's efforts. I must have seemed to her as something of a lost cause.

It wasn't until I went to university, learned about alternative ways of understanding society and tried to make sense out of the turmoil of the 1960's that Mrs. Lappe's approach began to ring true to me. It was like a seed, waiting for an appropriate time to flower. Over the years, as I have faced intellectual and political challenges, or have found myself becoming a little too complacent in my thinking, I remember some of the things she said in class and acted accordingly.

I never spoke to her after we graduated. I read about some of the wonderful experiences other students had in her classes over the years and her work in the teacher's strike through the Weequahic Alumni Calumet. Sadly, I read about her passing there, as well. I pass on my condolences to Marc's father, Mrs. Lappe's husband.

**Marilyn Newman Schneider,
Class of Jan. 1943, Florida**

Mentoring Children



I have just finished reading the Calumet from cover to cover. It was most enjoyable reading about the alumni and present day students. I was especially inspired by Lavinia

Rogers, the French teacher who made her dream come true with the French students traveling to Paris.

A small idea can definitely turn into something big. I am a volunteer mentor and listener to 45 boys and girls in Delray Beach, Florida. One of my girls came to me with the idea that she would like to raise moneys to help her fellow students

go to Washington, D.C. on their yearly trip. Could we have a talent show, and would I help?

Of course, word spread and before I knew it we had 80 kids signed up with 32 acts. It was a challenge to say the least. It was the biggest excitement around school. The school faculty became involved with the selling of hot dogs, candy and cookies.

The show drew the largest attendance of any previous event at the school with over 300 people. We made a profit of \$800. We are already planning our next talent show but this time with faculty and students.

One idea can inspire so many people as Lavinia Rogers has proved. I originally wanted to touch the life of one child and seven years later I have had the privilege of mentoring hundreds of boys and girls in my community. Last year I was honored by the Governor of Florida to be selected as the Senior Volunteer of Palm Beach County. Volunteering for me gives me a love of children and a zest for living. Life can still be exciting at 80.

**Dorothy Crawford Barnes,
Class of June 1959, Nevada**

Remembering Mr. Schulman



I know I'm tardy, but I would like to send my sincere condolences to Mr. Lawrence Schulman's family. I am a proud product of Mr. Schulman's teachings.

He was one of the few history teachers who held a rapt audience. It was during this classroom period that we students came alive. Mr. Schulman was quite witty and often wove a humorous anecdote in his history teachings. I am happy to have known such a wonderful person.

GROWING UP AND OUT OF NEWARK

By Daniel J. Fink, class of 1966

This article appeared in the
NJ Jewish News on 05/26/05



When I was growing up in Newark, first at 169 Elizabeth Ave., then at 27 Edmonds Place (both small apartment houses torn down when I-78 was built), and finally at 85 Summit Ave;

I had no idea that I was living a life that would be chronicled almost a half century later by America's leading novelist and a MacArthur Fellowship winner. I was just trying to grow up.

The Weequahic neighborhood, Bragaw Avenue School, Chancellor Avenue School and Weequahic High School, my Newark alma maters, are featured prominently in Philip Roth's *The Plot Against America* and in Sherry Ortner's nonfiction study *New Jersey Dreaming*. Even though Roth was Weequahic '52 [actually Jan. 1950], Ortner '58, and I was '66, the Jewish Newark that I lived in was not very different from what they describe.

And the location was certainly the same. The Ortner family lived across Keer Avenue from us in a rare single-family home in the immediate neighborhood (she was away at college when we moved in, but my father played paddleball with her father at our synagogue), and Roth's family had lived briefly next door at 83

Summit Avenue 20 years before we moved in.

Like many of the families described by Ortner and the quasi-autobiographical family created by Roth, all my grandparents were immigrants from Russia and Poland, and my parents went to public colleges in New York City before moving to Newark after the war. Dad became a social worker on the GI bill; Mom had learned to be a physical therapist in the Army. Intellectually, we were always culturally engaged, with books and magazines at home, frequent trips to the library and museums, and attendance at concerts, especially those that were free. Rabbi Joachim Prinz and Temple B'nai Abraham supplied a Jewish anchor to our lives. Like Roth's protagonist, I even collected stamps.

Economically, though, we were solidly lower middle class. My two brothers and I shared a bedroom and we each had three or four pairs of pants and shirts, about the same amount of underwear and socks, one pair of leather shoes and sneakers, and hand-me-down outerwear from older cousins.

Failure was not an option. We had to get out of the ghetto. Taught well by predominantly Jewish teachers who had somehow survived the Depression and were glad to have "good civil service jobs," we worked hard in school, learned our lessons, and each of us went on to Yale and medical school. My twin brother and I were in college when the riots occurred, and the family moved to Millburn in 1968, where my younger brother went to high school.

Reading the Ortner book provides a sociological and anthropological explanation for what we lived through: the opening of academic and economic society to Jews, the return of women like my mother to the workplace, the

socioeconomic escalator effect of education so that the grandchildren of people who preferred Yiddish to English could make their way to a better life. But the divides that she describes certainly circumscribed our lives. My parents did own their own home, but it was an apartment house and we lived in one of the apartments because they could not afford a single-family residence. My brother and I were not athletes, not "cool," but intellectuals. And the world had already begun to change before the riots of 1967, which destroyed the Jewish ghetto. Weequahic High School of 1966 was approximately half African-American, but the white half was still 90 percent Jewish.

The Roth story also rang true. We didn't want to be different from the goyim, although we somehow knew that we were. We didn't want to stand out - even though everyone we knew was Jewish - but we knew we did. And we were somehow afraid. Until Eichmann was captured, even those who had survived the Holocaust spoke only in infrequent whispers about the "camps."

That world is unfortunately now only history. The last time we celebrated Pesach as a family in Millburn, I took my teenage children and my niece on a tour of the old neighborhood. I told them, "*If they were to illustrate the phrase 'gritty urban neighborhood' in a dictionary, it would be Newark's Weequahic section.*" But to us, 40 to 50 years ago, it was home, simultaneously and paradoxically, a ghetto and a paradise. A good place to grow up in, a good place to leave.

Dan Fink is a physician at Cedars Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. He would love to hear from people from the old neighborhood or people with Newark memories they'd like to share. You can contact him at danielfink@earthlink.net



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ALUMNI PROFILE, JUNE 1954

Frances Katz Sekela *Coming of Age*

On June 18, Frances Katz Sekela was called to the Torah for her Bat Mitzvah at age 68. She shares her words from that special day with us.



I was born on April 17, 1936, a miracle baby girl, one of a pair of identical twins, reared in a very traditional loving Jewish home in which no one ever dreamed of eating a ham

sandwich with mayo on white bread.

My mother, Dora Katz, was a typical doting Jewish mother who would go to any extreme to provide her children with the spiritual, educational and material well-being for a lifetime. However, Bat Mitzvah was unheard of in our days. My family instilled in me the essential, indelible impressions of Jewish culture though everyday experiences. I was taught to play the piano, speak Yiddish and Hebrew and to love the arts. I also took voice lessons and enjoyed music.

I adored my folks and particularly the fondness for mama's old world Jewish cooking. I always felt safe and did not want for anything. My parents put us through the best available, mostly Jewish populated, schools. I went to college and was about to fulfill my dream of becoming a social worker. I wasn't ambitious enough to dream about being the mayor somewhere in New Jersey. However, today, many of my friends believe that I would have no trouble becoming mayor of Carlsbad, California, where I now reside.

I took the wrong road when I married my first husband, the biological father of my two precious children, Cheryl and Seth, and dropped out of school. People of importance that lived in my old community were the classical American



author, Philip Roth, Connie Francis, Jason Alexander, Rabbi Joachim Prinz, Jerry Lewis and Paul Simon. Some friends remained in touch with me through the tumultuous years and we still share a genuine back and forth today.

I led a very pampered lifestyle until the time of my thirteen year chaotic marriage. My father passed away at 54 years of age, this and my poor choice of my lifetime partner made me ambivalent about my Judaism. "Why me, poor me, and where is my G-d???" ran through my head. But much of the darkness and struggle of being alone for the first time in my life produced a bit of enlightenment. I found that life was a lesson in trial and error, struggle and just plain old growing up!!

I met the man of my dreams, Len, who instilled in me true love, stability, security and a purpose in life. My children and my mother knew from the get-go that although Len wasn't Jewish, our relationship was "bashert" and he was the ideal mate and father figure - the answer to all of my dreams. After 28 years of connubial bliss and recuperation from a major stroke, my arthroscopic knee surgery and problems with my lower lumbar spine, Len is still and will always be the love of my life. Through the fat and the skinny we are always here for each other.

While my journey is a pale comparison to the Hebrews' forty year odyssey

through the wilderness from Egypt to the Promised Land, I have learned that one should never lose hope, that it is never too late to challenge personal growth and to tie up the loose ends. Prior to my Bat Mitzvah, I felt spiritually incomplete. As an adult, the prayers, history and affiliation with my heritage took on a deeper meaning than if I had become a Bat Mitzvah at age 13. I'm the first female from my generation and family to reach this goal. However, it took my grandchildren and my daughter Cheryl's inspiration to move me onto my destined spiritual track and to progress on my sacred journey.

Not only did I find my shalom (peace) at Temple Solel, hopefully, my lessons will never end. I will do whatever it takes to make my parents who are in heaven as well as my husband, children and my grandchildren to be proud of me for participating and learning about my rich Jewish heritage and integrating it with our common immortal enduring Jewish spirit.

Thank you my darlings - Len, Cheryl, Seth and my grandchildren - Danielle, Eric, Marisa and Michael.

Although they are away at summer camp, they remain very close to my heart, my devoted niece Susan, family, friends, Gabrielle and Temple Solel staff for nurturing me, helping me to cultivate new and meaningful friendships and a lifetime of wonderful memories. Genie, thanks for being my bester shvester during the highs and lows of the past two years and making the difference. Lenmeister and I love you more than we can ever put into words. Hopefully, we will ALWAYS be there for each other.

A special *TODAH RABAH* to my son-in-law Joseph for being such a wonderful role model and an important cog in the Production and Direction of our beautiful family. I am so Blessed!! Refuah shlaymah for my twin-sister Jo, may G-d be with her for a full recovery.

Shabbat Shalom

Take a magical tour of Weequahic at www.weequahicalumni.org

Jerome Fleischer and Ronald Minzer, 1957

Growing Up at the Hebrew Orphanage and Sheltering Home

Some of Jerry's Memories:



Before Weequahic High School. Before Madison Junior High School. Even before Avon Avenue School. There was the *HOME! The Hebrew Orphanage and Sheltering Home*, 141

Lincoln Avenue, known to everyone associated with it as the *HOME*, came into my life when I was six going on seven years old and stayed until I was nine.

My mother Mildred Fleischer died when I was six, and my father, Irving Fleischer, who had the responsibility of taking care of my grandmother, placed me in the orphanage. The *HOME* became my *actual* home for the next few years. Some memories of the orphanage are quite vivid while others are vague. I remember Mrs. Siegel, whom we affectionately called *Mama Siegel*. She was overall director of the institution. Len was our faithful chauffeur or driver who drove us in a station wagon wherever we needed to go.

I had a number of friends. All of the children in the *HOME* were orphans like me. Two of them entered my life again a number of years later. Ronald Minzer, whom I liked especially due to his mom being pretty, popped up at Weequahic High School. Seymour Braunstein, who liked calling me *Jerry Jerome* while I called him *Dagwood Bumstead*, popped up at Panzer College in East Orange where I was a Freshman and he was a senior. Through the grapevine, I have heard that some of the residents of the orphanage have held reunions in the years after they left the *HOME*.

One of my most *painful* memories was going off to school every day wearing knickers, a tie and suspenders. Despite

this wardrobe, the neighborhood children were quite nice to us in school, though there was an occasional dispute or fight.

My religious education began at the orphanage. We ate kosher meals and attended Hebrew school classes every day after we came from public school. We played all kinds of sports. I liked baseball and boxing the best. Being quite small in stature compared to the other children, I instigated fights and usually ended up on the ground with someone beating me up. No doubt, I was the victim of nose bleeds, bruises and black eyes.

Sleeping in a large room with a bunch of guys probably prepared me for my stint in the Marine Corps Boot Camp at Parris Island, South Carolina. I will never forget *Mischief Night* on *Halloween* when the local gang would throw rocks through our dormitory windows while the other kids would hide under their beds. I would panic and run through the dormitory to the bathroom for safe-keeping. Luckily, I never got struck by a rock. On Saturdays, we would go to the *Elmwood* movie theater. In the winter, we would go sledding at Branch Brook Park. Summers were my favorite time because we would go to the *YMHA* Camp in Milford, PA.

I look back to when tragedy came into my life, but every cloud has its silver lining. Mine was the *HOME*. When I see my mother in the future, I will tell her that I was well taken care of.

Jerry graduated from the Panzer School at Montclair State College with a BA degree in Physical and Health Education. He has an MA in Counseling and Guidance from Spalding University in Louisville, KY where he presently resides with his wife Babette of 36 years. For 36 years, Jerry was a teacher and a guidance counselor. He has a 34-year-old son who works for the federal government in NYC.

Some of Ron's Memories:

I was five years old and my mother brought me to a new place on a fall day in mid afternoon. I was introduced to Mrs. Betty Siegel, a very large woman. I am not sure nor do I remember if I liked



L-R: Ron and Jerry

her. I eventually did. There were no other children around. My mother left and I started to cry. I think the big yard and no one being around scared me and I cried till the kids started coming into the yard. They were returning from camp. I don't remember too many of them.

The orphanage was run by a very matter of fact nurse. I believe her name was Mrs. Pram, not sure about that either. Maybe it was Mrs. Prim. Anyway, I did not enjoy my first afternoon and evening there. I soon started school and walked the few blocks with lots of other kids from the *HOME* as we called it. After school we went to Hebrew School down stairs, had dinner, did our homework, and then went to bed.

Friday came and my Uncle took me to my mother and I returned to my neighborhood to once again be reunited with my real friends. On Sunday afternoon my mother and I got on the bus, the number 27, for downtown, got off and changed to the number 13, and continued back to the *HOME*. This routine continued until the summer I was nine and I returned home permanently. My summers were spent, partly, at the *Y*. I say partly because first I went for the last 3 weeks of August, then the first 5 weeks of July and then the full 8 weeks from July through August. I liked camp.

I eventually made acquaintances and some friends. I remember Harry Lauer who was a big kid and was the room monitor. He made sure we all made our bed, brushed our teeth and generally kept the room clean and neat.

Continued on next page

More Voices From our Alumni, Faculty and Friends

Barry K. Gold,
Class of Jan. 1958, Del Ray, Florida

Understanding Memorial Day



The arrival of Memorial Day weekend is the signal of the start of summer. This year was no different, other than the fact my wife and I are now living in South Florida. We were

invited to a friend's house for the obligatory barbecue to celebrate the start of the summer and the Memorial Day holiday. Lots of people who are Weequahic alumni were at the party.

During the get-together, we were talking about what Memorial Day really means. Several people asked if any of us knew someone who had made the ultimate sacrifice for his country. At that very moment a long ago and forgotten memory popped into my head. Mind you, that it was there for only a few seconds, but was as real as anything I have ever felt or seen.

When I was attending Bragaw Avenue School, and I guess I was about 9 or 10 years old, I remember there was a rumor going around the neighborhood about a guy named Jerry Feinstein, who at the age of 18 was killed in combat in Korea. For those few seconds, I remembered where he lived on Leslie Street, what his house looked like next to the playground of the school. I remembered also that he had a sister, Roz Feinstein and how at that age I didn't quite understand what dying for your country really meant. Again, that thought was in my mind for a few seconds. I went on and enjoyed the rest of the day.

The following day, my wife and I were going to attend another Memorial Day party at the pool area of our community clubhouse. When we got there, many people were out and about, having a drink, a snack, and generally enjoying the beautiful South Florida weather. I was wearing a Weequahic HS T-shirt as I often do and several people came over to me to say that they had gone to Weequahic HS

also. We laughed and talked about the good old days at WHS and Newark in general.

About an hour had gone by and a woman who was seated at the table next to me, leaned over and said "*Hey. I went to Weequahic and graduated in 1955.*" She asked me my name but said she really didn't remember me. I asked for her name and she said Roz Feinstein! As you can imagine, I could not believe what she said and asked her again. Again she said, Roz Feinstein. For the moment I was stunned and told her what had happened to me the day before when I thought about her and her brother. She was astonished that I remembered all that had happened so long ago. We talked for awhile and then an announcement asked us all to quiet down because the memorial service for the vets who gave their lives for this country was about to start.

The ceremony began with a color guard bearing Old Glory and all the services' banners provided by an ROTC unit from a local college. They marched to the center of the area and we saluted, and sang the national anthem, and God Bless America. The ceremony concluded with a bugler sounding taps and you could hear a pin drop and the poignant notes of that tribute to the heroes of America. At that moment I realized that Roz and I were standing next to each other and when our eyes met she looked at me and said "*thank you for remembering my brother.*" At that moment with tears in my eyes, I realized I now knew what it meant to die for your country and what Memorial Day is really about.

Vickie and Peter Rogers - *parents of French teacher, Lavinia Rogers, who organized a trip to Paris for 13 students.*

Our daughter brought home the Alumni Calumet for us to read. This is an overdue thank you for all of your support, financial and otherwise, for her students. You made the trip to France possible. This was an experience of a lifetime for all involved ...from the idea to the fundraising, to the going and returning - to the reflection. Lavinia's extended family all thank you. You have helped her prove to her students and herself that all things are possible.

Fleischer & Minzer *continued*

There were guys I played games with outside and in. Robert Cohen and Jackie Zuckerman are two who come to mind. I remember a girl named Dee Dee but not her last name. The yard was big, I would guess maybe 5 acres. There were swings, a sand box, sliding board, a see-saw and lots of open area to run and play tag or any other running games.

The building was in the shape of a U with the offices, kitchen and dining room on one side and the sleeping quarters on the other side. There was a downstairs area for Hebrew classes and a large area to play when it rained. I remember a group of harmonica players coming to entertain us downstairs. They were good, as I recall.

Things there were pretty good. I got enough to eat and I had some funny looking clothes, like knickers and high top shoes. But, all in all, things were pretty good. I guess I made a lot of friends, but after I returned to my real home I lost contact with all of them. I wanted to forget the place entirely. I returned many years later to visit with Mrs. Siegel. When she passed away, I never went back.

Ron currently lives in Arizona. He was married and has a daughter. He spends a lot of his time traveling.

In Loving Memory

Phyllis Stern, January 1955



Phyllis Stern, 68, of Summit, formerly of Hillside, died June 29. Born in Newark, Miss Stern lived in Hillside, Safety Harbor, Fla., Berkeley Heights, Lakewood and Bradley Beach before moving to Summit three months ago. She was a self-employed investment counselor in Lakewood for 20 years before retiring in 2000. Miss Stern was a graduate of Kean University, Union, where she received a BA in education. Surviving are a son, David Forgash; a daughter, Kelly Bunting; a brother, Lawrence Stern, and three grandchildren.

'Born at the Beth' Exhibit

by Robert Wiener, NJ Jewish News
Excerpts from this article follow:



As she looks back on the two-year gestation of a project that will detail the unique life and times of Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, Linda Forgosh, curator at the Jewish Historical Society of MetroWest, likens her work to *"the longest pregnancy anybody could ever imagine."* Her offspring is an exhibit called **"Born at the Beth,"** which will present the rise of one of America's leading hospitals from a 21-bed facility at the turn of the 20th century to a state-of-the-art facility created through the generosity of Newark's Jewish community.

Its story will be told in words, photographs, artifacts, and audio and video recordings when the exhibit makes its debut Thursday, September 15, in the Weill Atrium of the Alex Aidekman Family Jewish Community Campus in Whippany. The Beth's story, spanning more than 100 years of local history, will be on display until November 18, when it will become the newest of the JHS' traveling exhibits.

At the heart of this exhibit will be hundreds of individual photographs submitted by those born at the hospital. Forgosh started collecting source material by asking NJ Jewish News readers, Weequahic High School Alumni Association members, and subscribers to Beth Israel's electronic newsletter for their photographs - if they happened to be born at the Beth.

The hospital was founded in 1901, *"somewhat as an act of desperation for first-generation Jewish immigrants looking for a hospital where Jews were*

welcome" as both patients and staff, she said. At the time, some 45,000 Jews lived in Newark, then a city of 246,000. Although Newark had five major hospitals, all imposed strict limitations on black and Jewish patients and doctors alike. While Beth Israel's founders were seeking donations large and small, Community Hospital was being built by African-Americans across the street from the Beth's first location on Kinney and High streets.

Throughout the decades, outside events would threaten the hospital's existence. During the Depression of the 1930s, Beth Israel managed to escape bankruptcy. In the 1960s, even as most whites fled Newark's violent racial tensions for the presumed safety of suburbia, the board of trustees voted to keep the hospital in place.

"I never respected the Jewish community more," said Forgosh. *"The board understood it was not the Jewish hospital of their mothers and fathers, that there was no longer a Jewish community surrounding it. Everybody had long since moved. Even the funding was no longer primarily from the Jewish community. But they decided not to leave Newark and to keep the commitment to maintain the wellness of that community."*

Then, in 1996, faced with the trend toward mergers and acquisitions in the medical care industry, the board sold Beth Israel to a conglomerate, the Saint Barnabas Healthcare System, for \$125 million.

The proceeds helped create the Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey, which finances major medical initiatives in both inner-city Newark and the suburban areas of MetroWest. *"I believe Beth Israel was the greatest collective accomplishment this Jewish community ever sponsored,"* said Forgosh, *"and it still is perpetuated in a living legacy every time a grant is administered by the Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey."*

Alongside its medical achievements, the Beth has a celebrity "A-list" of sorts as the birthplace of such noted Americans as novelist Philip Roth, poet Allen Ginsberg, comedian Jerry Lewis, and activist Rabbi Michael Lerner.

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

OUR BEST WISHES

At the end of the 2005 school year, the following Weequahic teachers retired. They are:



Marshana Chapman,
Librarian



Annie Williams, English



Sharon Northcutt, English



Frank Gavin, History,
Basketball Coach

WELCOME

The new librarian and director of the media center is **Waunita Scott**, a 1991 WHS grad and the new varsity boys basketball coach is **Derrick Butler**.

CONGRATULATIONS

Megan Pitt, 2005, a Weequahic HS Alumni Scholarship recipient was one of three Newark students who participated in an internship program at the Newark office of Merrill Lynch this summer.

Keon Lawrence, 2006, Weequahic's highly touted basketball star, has made a verbal commitment to attend the University of Missouri in 2006-07. The 6-1 scoring guard averaged 27 points a game last season for a 21-4 WHS basketball team.

WEEQUAHIC'S FOOTBALL TEAM

Last year Weequahic was 7-4 and won its first NJSIAA playoff game. This year Weequahic is picked to finish 3rd in the 10-team Iron Hills Conference behind West Essex and Mendham. Players to watch are Jamaal Perry, Mark Ingram, Terrence Banks, Eddie Pantoja, Djuan Jenkins, Al-Quan Greene, Al-Tarik Harris, and Demetrius Cunningham.

In Loving Memory

Three WHS alumni recently passed away: **Swede Masin**, 84, 1938; **Jerome Waldor**, 77, Jan. 1945; and **Manuel Lylerly**, 1963. The obituaries will be in the next newsletter.

In Loving Memory

Bert R. Manhoff, 1938

By Suleman Din, Star-Ledger Staff



(Ed. Note: Bert R. Manhoff of Livingston died at age 84 in July 2005. He was a member of the Weequahic High School Alumni Association Board of Trustees and in 2002 received our "Distinguished

Alumni Award." In his memory, the alumni association has established a scholarship fund in his name.)

Few gave like Bert R. Manhoff did. There are hundreds indebted for the guidance and encouragement he offered freely as a teacher, football coach and counselor. And they never forgot him for it. Brian Crockett recalled how Mr. Manhoff followed his high school football career in Verona and inspired him with an unwavering dedication to Rutgers University. *"He let me know in his own special way that he kept an eye out for me,"* said Crockett, who became a star player for the Scarlet Knights in the 1980s and now is an executive with the Rutgers University Foundation.

Mr. Manhoff's friends, such as longtime Star-Ledger sportswriter and columnist Sid Dorfman, said he was a volunteer who never said no, with a seat on just about every committee *"except a congressional one."*

His work didn't make them wealthy, said Florence Manhoff, his wife of 55 years. Still, he would send money to athletes he had helped when they found things were tight. *"He wanted to be there for everybody, though there were not many there for him,"* she said. *"He lived his whole life like that."*

Born in Newark, Mr. Manhoff compiled a wide list of accomplishments. He was a founding member of the Newark Athletic Hall of Fame, and recognized by the

Essex County chapter of the National Football Foundation Hall of Fame with the Distinguished Coaching Award in 2000. Mr. Manhoff was a member of the board of trustees of Rutgers University from 1979 to 1984, and was the 1977-78 president of the Rutgers Alumni Association, which honored him with an award for lifetime service.

He was part owner of Camp Roosevelt in Monticello, N.Y., for 19 years, and taught religious school at Congregation B'nai Jeshurun in Short Hills for 25 years. He taught and coached football at East Side High School in Newark from 1957 through 1969, then at Parsippany Hills High School until 1972. He earned a bachelor's degree in English in 1948 from Rutgers University.

Scott Manhoff said his father's accomplishments were always a source of pride, considering his tough upbringing. Mr. Manhoff became an orphan at seven when his father, a worker with PSE&G, was killed in an industrial accident. Despite having to support his family, Mr. Manhoff made sure he got an education. He went into teaching *"to keep busy"* after World War II, Scott said. Mr. Manhoff was a member of an Army reconnaissance team that landed in the second wave of the D-Day invasion at Normandy. He saw things that would weigh on an idle mind. It was Mr. Manhoff's wartime experience that nurtured a desire to help others, Scott explained. *"He made it his business to make people feel good."*

Mr. Manhoff loved coaching, and took special pride in seeing his athletes succeed, said Les Fein, a close friend and one of New Jersey's most accomplished high school basketball coaches. Mr. Manhoff was tough to play for, he said, but inspired absolute loyalty. *"Coaching was the dessert of teaching,"* Fein said. *"It wasn't about getting the touchdown. It was about the work to get a team together and able to play together."*

His commitment to cultivating athletic talent extended to Rutgers University, where he worked for years to attract the best students to the school. *"We have lost a great ambassador,"* said Keri DeMayo, director of alumni relations at Rutgers. *"To many, he was Mr. Rutgers."*

Fein, Mr. Manhoff and Dorfman belonged to the tight-knit Jewish community that once passed through the doors of Newark's Weequahic High School. Years afterward, they would meet, to reminisce about games and glory past. *"It is like the end of an era,"* Dorfman said.

The last years were the hardest on Mr. Manhoff, said Florence. Age and illness got in the way of her husband, who had always done things for himself. People, though, never forgot how he gave. *"Many felt that Bert was an absolute legend,"* Florence said. *"It is comforting, now, to know that."*

Surviving are his wife, Florence; sons, Scott and Rabbi Harry Manhoff, and seven grandchildren.

Neil Markowitz, 1964



Neil Gary Markowitz

Neil Gary Markowitz passed away in September at age 57. Mr. Markowitz was vice president of global real estate with CIT, a financial corporation in Livingston, for the past 10 years. He was a graduate of Jackson University in Florida and

received both an MA degree in business administration and a law degree from Seton Hall University. A native of Newark, Mr. Markowitz lived in Convent Station for many years. Surviving are his wife, Helen; a son, Lucas; his mother, Jean Markowitz; a brother Sanford (WHS 1963), and a sister, Fraida Yavelberg (WHS 1960).

David 'Mickey' Ackerman, 1953



David Alan 'Mickey' Ackerman passed away in July 2005. Born in Newark, he lived in Edison before moving to Monroe Township nine years ago. Mr. Ackerman owned the Comet Pizzeria in Hillside

and NuWay Vending in Pennsauken. Most recently, he was a part-time cook at Monroe Village. He is survived by his wife, Alice, four daughters, Jill Schneiderman, Amy Cuccio, Beth Percely, and Wendy; a son, Steven; two sisters, Leila Sellinger and Mildred Rottenburg of Jersey City; and six grandchildren.

MEMBERSHIP / MERCHANDISE / SCHOLARSHIP Form

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In Loving Memory

Judith Cahn Trisker, June 1955



Judith Cahn Trisker, 67, of Monroe Township passed away June 27, 2004 at Monmouth Medical Center, Long Branch, NJ. Mrs. Trisker was a staffing & budget coordinator at the Palisades Medical Center in North Bergen. She

earned her bachelor's degree in education from Kean University, Union, NJ. Mrs. Trisker was a member of the Brandeis Organization. Surviving are her husband, Eli, sons, Daniel & Steven, daughter, Staci & three grandchildren, Rachel, Aaron & Shayna & her brother, Richard Cahn.

Shirley Pilchman Orlans, 1963

By George Berkin, Star-Ledger Staff



Soccer players routinely get T-shirts and football players get uniforms, but when Matawan school officials didn't want to provide similar outfitting for Special Olympics athletes, Shirley Joy Orlans

school board meeting. Taking three students with mental disabilities with her, Ms. Orlans, an area coordinator for the games, made a direct appeal to the school board members. *"The next day, it was approved,"* Susanne Quine of Middletown, Ms. Orlans' partner, said of the appeal a decade ago. *"What she wanted was for them to get the same treatment as any other athlete."*

Ms. Orlans, a former area coordinator for the New Jersey Special Olympics and a teacher for 25 years in the Matawan schools, died August 21, 2005. She was 60. The Middletown resident had battled cancer for six years. She died at home, on her birthday. *"I think she planned it that way,"* Quine said. *"She wasn't going to die in her 50s. She was going to hang on."*

A teacher for 32 years, Ms. Orlans began teaching in the Florham Park and Howell schools. But she spent the bulk of her career in the Matawan schools, mostly teaching

health and physical education to junior and senior high students. Ms. Orlans spent the last two years in the Matawan schools teaching special-needs children. She retired in June 2000, a year before she had planned, because of her illness. *"Obviously, she loved special-needs kids and adults,"* Quine said. *"It was one of her passions."*

Born in Newark, Ms. Orlans received her bachelor's degree from Montclair State's Panzer School of Health and Physical Education in 1967. She also attended Georgian Court University for certifications in special education and adapted physical education for children with special needs.

In the early 1980s, while working full time as a teacher, Ms. Orlans was an area coordinator for the Special Olympics, helping to organize local competitions, said Pat Stanislawski of Hillsborough, a statewide coordinator. As part of her duties, Ms. Orlans flew to national competitions at Louisiana State University and the University of Notre Dame.

Later on, Ms. Orlans became the Monmouth County Coordinator for the Child Abuse Prevention program, said Stanislawski, who later became the CAP program's international director. Ms. Orlans helped train volunteers to go into schools and perform role-playing skits that would illustrate how to avoid sexual or other abuse. Statewide, the program has been shown to 2 million students and 250,000 parents and teachers in the past 20 years, Stanislawski said.

Ms. Orlans also enjoyed raising vegetables in her garden at home. She prepared a special marinated London broil steak, garnishing it with grilled asparagus, corn and zucchini. She was briefly married. In addition to her companion, Ms. Orlans is survived by two sisters, Roberta Lynn of Florida and Judy Jacobson of Israel.

Community:

Judge Irvin Booker - passed away at age 72. Judge Booker was a South Ward resident for many years and a Newark and Superior Court Judge. He mentored Weequahic High School students and founded the Father's Club at the high school. He also established the Paddle Ball League at Weequahic Park and the Paddle Ball Court is named after him.



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

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WHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION IS COLLECTING MEMORABILIA

We are creating an archive of all items relating to Weequahic and Newark for exhibitions at our events. So if you have old photos; newspaper articles; yearbooks; films, Calumets; Ergo magazines; books; schedules; rosters; certificates; letters; hats; jackets, sweaters; WHS athletic equipment and uniforms; or any other interesting memorabilia, please call us before you discard any of these items.

REUNIONS 2005

October 8 **1965 - 40th**

Saturday, 7 PM, Woodbridge Hilton Hotel, Woodbridge, NJ. Contact Dennis Estis at (732) 549-5600.

October 22 **1955/JUNE - 50th**

Saturday, 7:00 PM, Somerset Marriott, Somerset, NJ. Contact Alvin Barr at (732) 574-2519 or Joel Kampf at (973) 635-2926.

October 22 **1985 - 20th**

Saturday, 7:00 PM, Sheraton Hotel at Newark International Airport, Newark, NJ. Contact Kim Jones at (732) 602-5528 or (201) 349-4523.

October 23 **1950/JAN - 55th**

Sunday, 12:30 PM, Crestmont Country Club, West Orange, N.J. Contact: Eileen Lerner Greenberg at (973) 379-4321. Barry Kolton at (973) 543-6742. Norman Krueger at (973) 992-2893

Planning Reunions:

JUNE 1956 - 50th

Plans for a 50th reunion are under way and we are searching for classmates. Contact Carol Miller at (303) 751-5650 or amawmiller1@msn.com.

JUNE 1957 - 50th

The class of June 1957 is looking for classmates who are interested in organizing and attending a 50th Reunion in 2007. Contact Bea Austrager Chaiklin at (973) 992-3650 or bchaiklin@aol.com.

JAN. & JUNE 1962 - 45th

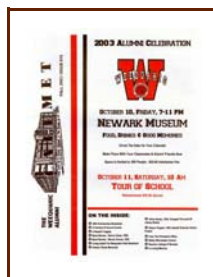
The classes of January and June 1962 are jointly organizing a reunion for 2007. Contact Bonnie Zunk Vogel at Bonniev929@aol.com or Cookie Wax Gulkin at lgulkin@verizon.net

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Dave Schechner, 1946
Vivian Simons, 1959
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1971 Cheerleaders
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