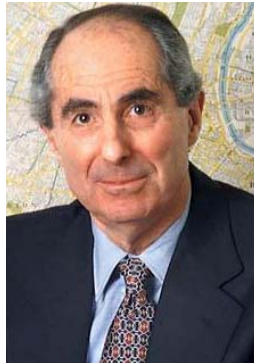


# TWO OF WEEQUAHIC'S BEST

## Newark Honors Philip Roth

by Robert Wiener, NJJN Staff Writer

*"Today, Newark is my Stockholm, and that plaque is my prize. I couldn't be any more thrilled by any recognition accorded to me anywhere on earth"*



The city of Newark paid homage on October 23 to hometown literary hero Philip Roth (WHS 1950), whose upbringing in its largely Jewish Weequahic section in the 1930s and 1940s has been central to his novels for nearly six decades.

Honored by an entourage led by Newark Mayor Sharpe James and Elizabeth Del Tufo, a Newark resident who chairs the city's Preservation and Landmarks Committee, Roth joined the mayor in removing the plastic cover from a plaque at his boyhood home on Summit Avenue.

Then, moments later, he and James crossed the street to unveil a white-on-green street sign proclaiming the corner of Summit and Keer avenues "*Philip Roth Plaza*." James presented the writer with a duplicate copy, and he joked, "*It's wonderful. I'll take it wherever I go.*"

*"How does it feel to be back here? Terrific,"* Roth told NJ Jewish News as he emerged from a motorcade in front of the house on a quiet suburban-like neighborhood.

Continued on page 3

## Newark Athletic Hall of Fame Honors Alvin Attles



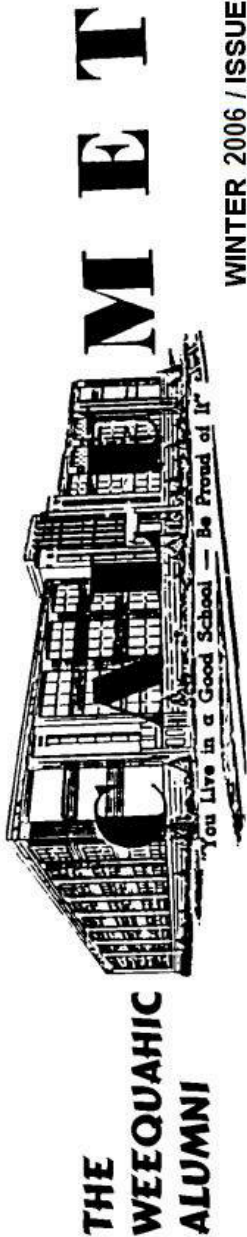
Al Attles (WHS 1955) has witnessed it all during his lengthy NBA legacy with the Warriors (now Golden State) as a player, coach and executive - the exciting wins, the disappointing losses and the magical 1974-75 World Championship season.

He has personal, first-hand accounts of Wilt Chamberlain's intimidating presence, Nate Thurmond's defensive prowess, Rick Barry's offensive explosions, the exciting days of "Run-TMC" and the high-flying antics of two-time NBA Slam Dunk Champion Jason Richardson. Attles is one of only 5 players in Warriors history to have his jersey retired (#16) - joining Barry (#24), Chamberlain (#13), Thurmond (#42) and Tom Meschery (#14) - and remains one of the most publicly recognizable sports figures in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Beginning his 45th year with the Warriors organization in 2004-05, Attles' current stint with the same team represents the second-longest active streak in the NBA, trailing only Boston's Red Auerbach, who has been a member of the Celtics' organization since 1950.

The 68-year-old Attles joined the Warriors in 1960 (a fifth-round draft choice) and has since been affiliated with the club in one capacity or another, building a unique relationship based on commitment, loyalty and dedication.

Continued on page 2



## Scholarship Fund Raising Dinner IN HONOR OF ALVIN ATTLES at the Robert Treat Hotel in Newark

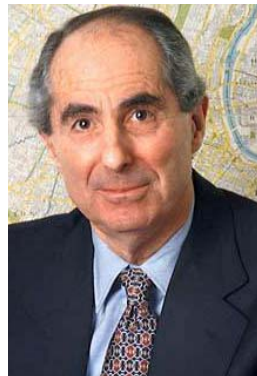
*save this date* **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2006**

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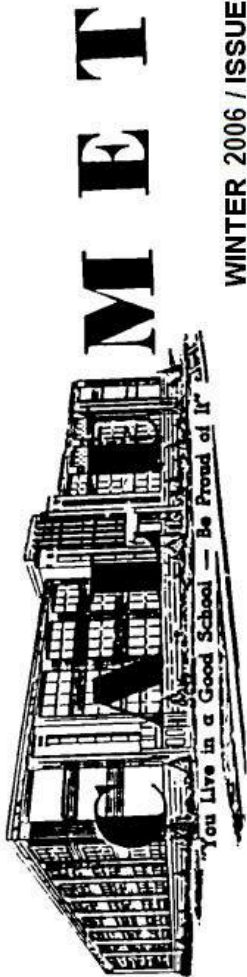
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Continued on page 2

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*save this date* **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2006**



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# ATTLES

*continued*

He has spent the last 16 years - since 1987 - as assistant general manager with the Warriors, assisting the front office in a variety of ways, ranging from player personnel input to numerous speaking engagements (he spent a brief stint in 1997 as interim general manager prior to the hiring of Gary St. Jean).

*"The Legend,"* as he is known among members of the Warriors' organization, continues to visit numerous schools each year and is extremely active in the Northern California community. His endless contributions locally as a player, executive and civic leader resulted in his much-deserved induction into the Bay Area Sports Hall of Fame in 1993.

In the latter stages of the 1969-70 NBA campaign, Attles was named head coach of the Warriors, replacing George Lee after 52 games (spent the final two years of his playing career in 1969-70 and 1970-71 as a player/coach). His 30-game stint as head coach to end that season proved to be the start of the longest head coaching run in Warriors franchise history, a 13-plus-year tenure which produced, among other highlights, the lone NBA Championship in the club's West Coast history (1974-75). Under Attles' tutelage, Golden State captured the Pacific Division title during the 1974-75 championship season and defeated Seattle (4-2) and Chicago (4-3) en route to the NBA Finals, where the Warriors swept the Washington Bullets (4-0).

During his 13-year coaching run, Attles guided the Warriors to six playoff berths, two division titles and amassed an overall 557-518 record, which ranks 18th on the NBA's all-time coaches' winning list. One season after leading Golden State to the NBA title, he led the Warriors to a sparkling 59-23



L-R: Myrna Jelling Weissman, 1953, Sheldon Ross, 1955, Lois Attles Wyatt, Al Attles, 1955 and Arnold Keller, 1952

record in 1975-76, the best mark in franchise history and the top record in the NBA that season.

Additionally, Golden State posted an all-time franchise record 11 consecutive wins during the 1971-72 campaign, Attles second full season at the helm. He also was named head coach of the Western Conference All-Star Team in both 1975 and 1976 and guided the Warriors to eight consecutive winning seasons during his first eight full seasons as head coach. Attles completed his coaching career in 1982-83 to become the Warriors GM, heading the team's basketball operations for three years (1983-84 through 1985-86).

Attles originally joined the Warriors as a player when the franchise was located in Philadelphia, where he spent his rookie season with the team (1960-61) and one additional campaign before the team moved to San Francisco in 1962. One of the most aggressive and hard-nosed players in the league, Attles earned the unique nickname of *"The Destroyer,"* which appropriately described his mentality on the floor. During his 11-year NBA career, he averaged 8.9 points, 3.5 rebounds and 3.5 assists in 711 regular-season games and currently ranks fifth on the Warriors all-time games played list.

Furthermore, he was involved in one of the most memorable games in NBA history on May 2, 1962, when he and Wilt Chamberlain combined for 117 points against the New York Knicks, the most ever by a pair of players in league annals. In that game, Attles tallied 17 points (8-8 FG, 1-1 FT), while Chamberlain netted an all-time NBA record 100 points.

Al and his wife, Wilhelmina, reside in Oakland and have two adult children, Alvin III and Erica.

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## CONTACT US

Weequahic High School  
Alumni Association

P.O. Box 494  
Newark, NJ 07101

(973) 923-3133

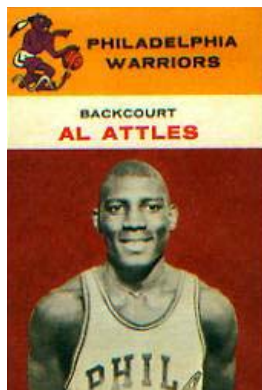
WHS@weequahicalumni.org  
www.weequahicalumni.org

## HELP WRITE THE NEXT ISSUE

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

## SEND US YOUR WEEQUAHIC / NEWARK 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.





# ROTH *continued*

*"The street looks wonderful. A few trees are missing here and there and a few of the girls are missing, I think," he said. "Do you feel like a historical figure at this point?" asked a reporter. "You mean, like George Washington?" he replied. "It's wonderful. There's an expression for this: 'Who'd have thunk it?' When I made my way from here down to Chancellor Avenue School every morning, I didn't imagine there would be a plaque with my name. It's quite amazing and wonderful really."*

Noting that times have changed at Weequahic High School since Roth graduated in 1950, James joked that the school's football team of 55 years ago, perennial losers, had been replaced by one that had defeated Parsippany High School one day earlier by a score of 52-0. *"In my four years at Weequahic High School, they didn't score 52 points altogether,"* Roth responded.

*"I feel honored that he lived here,"* said Roberta Harrington, who has owned the home since 1980 and stood on its stoop eagerly awaiting the author's arrival. *"He'll get me to read books about a lot of things that went on in the neighborhood."*

The house is featured prominently in Roth's latest novel, The Plot Against America, which combines a thinly fictionalized memoir of the Roth family household with an alternative history in which Nazi sympathizer Charles Lindbergh is elected president. The author said he had last visited the neighborhood while he was doing research for the book, and Harrington *"kindly let me in to see the flat I grew up in on the second floor."*

The day's festivities also coincided with the publication of the Library of America editions of Roth's early short stories and novels. Roth is only the third living author to be included in the Library of America. The two-volume set will eventually expand to include all of his works, tracing a body of work from a time when Roth's characters appear eager to break away from their hermetic Jewish neighborhoods, to later novels that look back on a lost Jewish Newark with a tone of wistfulness.



For Del Tufo, Sunday's honor was appropriate for both Roth and his hometown. *"Philip Roth was born in Newark and as long as there are great books, Philip Roth's Newark will endure,"* she told NJN. *"He never turned his back on Newark. He never made funny comments on late-night TV about Newark. He has always been proud to have grown up in Newark, and this is the least we can do to honor that genius."*

Joining the dignitaries were 75 fans of his work. For two hours prior to the dedication, they had traveled through city streets on two chartered buses, pausing along the way to hear volunteers read relevant passages at the site of places mentioned in many of his works. Some of those on board were childhood Newark residents and fellow Weequahic alumni, but others came from as far away as the Midwest to pay tribute to their literary idol.

Alexander Rothschild, a Westfield resident who is a senior at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, is currently engaged in an independent study on Roth. *"The first book of his I ever read was Portnoy's Complaint, and it spoke to me,"* he said. *"I enjoyed it more than any book I had read before, and one of my professors encouraged me to continue reading Roth's works."*

Jane Davis traveled from her home in Des Moines, where she teaches Roth's writings to students in her American literature classes at Iowa State University. *"I grew up in the Weequahic section of*

*Newark on Watson Avenue in the 1960s,"* she said. *"On Bergen Street, there were still blacks and Jews together. When I was in grammar school I thought that's what the world was like - blacks and whites together. Harry's grocery store was right across the street from where I lived. He was Jewish. The people who owned the dime store where we went every week, they were Jewish."*

*"In my family we just valued the idea that everybody was together. For me Philip Roth, unlike any other American author, shows the importance of place and of home, even after it has changed to the point where you feel it doesn't exist,"* Davis continued. *"He shows that what you knew, it still lives."*

The travelers stopped frequently, pausing to gaze out bus windows at the city parks and a movie theater that shows X-rated films, as well as the schools and synagogues that all served as backdrops for his work.

Roth noted that *"his temple"* was the city's public library and appropriately, the homage ended in the meeting room of its Weequahic branch. There, James read an excerpt from Roth's 1986 work The Counterlife, quoting its protagonist, the Roth doppelganger Nathan Zuckerman:

*"If you're from New Jersey," Nathan had said, "and you wrote 30 books and you win the Nobel Prize, and you live to be white-haired and 95, it's highly unlikely but not impossible that after your death they'll decide to name a rest stop for you on the Jersey Turnpike. And so, long after you're gone, you may indeed be remembered, but mostly by small children, in the backs of cars, when they lean forward and tell their parents, 'Stop please - I have to pee.' For a New Jersey novelist, that's as much immortality as it's realistic to hope for."*

The author rose as the mayor and audience members stopped laughing. *"I can't follow that,"* said Roth as he rose to speak. *"I wish I could write that good. I am honored and delighted by this occasion."* Comparing his birthplace to the city where winners receive the Nobel Prize, the writer said, *"Today, Newark is my Stockholm, and that plaque is my prize. I couldn't be any more thrilled by any recognition accorded to me anywhere on earth. That's all there is to say."*

## WEEQUAHIC HIGH SCHOOL NEEDS YOUR HELP!

### *An Urgent Appeal and Opportunity To Assist*

*Dear Weequahic Alumni,*

If you've been following the news at Weequahic, you know there are some wonderful things going on at the school - gifted seniors going on to great colleges, dedicated teachers making a real difference in academics and in the community. Still, it's not the easiest neighborhood to go to school in. Now, the streets aren't so safe for Weequahic's teens.

They can't always enjoy the freedom we took for granted - even inside the school. Do you know that if there's an emergency in a classroom, there's no way to communicate with the office? And vice versa - the office cannot "speak" to a teacher. The sad truth is that the security system at WHS has been broken for several years, and it has become a dangerous situation for both students and faculty. There has already been a fatality outside of the school; the thought of violence indoors is unthinkable.

And let's not forget that we want these kids to learn and create a better life - to have all the opportunities we did. Since the office cannot call a classroom, the public address system has to be used for every issue. And that creates constant havoc. The principal estimates classes are interrupted by announcements at least once every five minutes. That means trying to concentrate when taking a test or writing a paper is that much harder.

When I heard about this from a member of the Alumni Association Board, it seemed impossible. But, it's unfortunately true. It seems there is no funding available for a security project.

My brother Marc and I are so concerned about the safety of WHS students and faculty, that we met with the principal and Phil Yourish (the director of the alumni association) in October to discuss the situation. The cost of a new system is significant due to the age, architecture and size of the building - most of the money is in the wiring.

To solve the problem, Marc has obtained the equipment at cost, will oversee the

project gratis, and I have volunteered to raise the funds. It will cost \$36,000 + a 20% contingency (in a building this old, you don't know what you're going to run into), which totals \$43,200. If we really get lucky and receive more money than is needed, the excess will be donated to the alumni association's general scholarship fund.

Raising such a large amount of money may seem like a daunting task. But, our alumni have proven that when it comes to Weequahic, everything is possible. For example, under the auspices of our alumni association, more than \$150,000 has been raised for scholarships, a gift of \$75,000 provided new band instruments and uniforms, and just last year, alumni raised \$23,000 for the French class trip to Paris. So we know that a new intercom security system is certainly within our capabilities.

Marc and I have both pledged \$100 and so have our six closest friends - all alumni - to kick off the campaign. We are asking you all to join us in this critical need, as we're hoping to begin installation of the system by spring break. So let's get going and get this done!

Make your checks payable to **WHS Alumni Association, P.O. Box 494, Newark, NJ, 07101**. In the memo line, please write in "Security." If you want to pay by credit card, call the alumni association at **(973) 923-3133**. If you have questions, please feel free to e-mail us at:

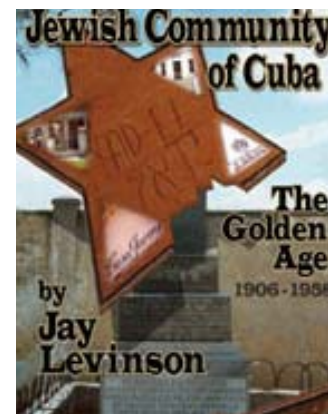
**Brookeellen731@aol.com**  
**Marc@Tarabour.com.**

It's so great to share wonderful memories. Maybe together, we can help today's WHS students enjoy a basic right of being safe in their school. And wouldn't it be perfect if they could remember loving high school as much as we do.

Thank you all so much for your generosity and loyalty to WHS. Wishing you a joyous new year.

**Brooke Tarabour, 1965**  
**Marc Tarabour, 1963**

## Jay Levinson, WHS 1966, authors book on the Jewish Community of Cuba



### Jewish Community of Cuba

tells the story of Ashkenazim and Sephardim fleeing from persecution abroad and finding refuge in Cuba, their trials and tribulations of adjusting to a new country, and the building of a vibrant Jewish Community. The Cuban Jewish Community grew from a parlor meeting of eleven Jews in 1906 to a network of schools and synagogues throughout the country.



This is a story of peddlers going from rags to riches, Belgian refugees setting up a wartime diamond industry, and an American Mafioso in search of respectability. While reading this book, you will experience the Cuban Jewish Community in its Golden Age. This all came to an abrupt end in 1959, after the Revolution.

Jay Levinson, a retired civil servant and freelance writer, has published many books and articles about his numerous travels in over 50 countries. He has written extensively about Jewish sites and history.

Levinson holds a Ph.D. from New York University and is currently an adjunct professor at John Jay College. In writing this book, Dr. Levinson conducted copious interviews, reviewed documents in archives, referred to period newspapers, visited sites, and traipsed through Cuban graveyards to search for information - even on tombstones



## SHE'S CRAZY FOR CORZINE

By Josh Margolin, Star-Ledger

**Sharon (Levine) Elghanayan (WHS 1963)** is two years older than the tall, bearded guy squeezed in beside her at a Hoboken bistro, but she looks much younger than her man. She's a psychotherapist from Manhattan's Upper East Side. He's a businessman- turned politician from Jersey. She runs and kickboxes for exercise. He just spent a year getting punched and kicked in a bruising campaign for governor. She still cooks and cleans and sews the way she learned growing up in Newark even though she doesn't have to. And she is somebody you probably will be seeing a lot more of. She is Sharon Elghanayan, Jon Corzine's significant other.

A stranger to most, Elghanayan (*pronounced: el-ga-na-yen*) has dated Corzine for more than a year, since before he announced his candidacy. Spend an evening with the couple and it's clear this self-proclaimed *"ultimate Jewish mother"* has captured the attention of the 58-year-old governor-elect. *"We're not hiding and we're not trying to flaunt,"* Corzine said during one of the couple's quiet, late dinners last week. *"Look, I think he's the greatest thing since sliced bread,"* Elghanayan said.

She is, she says, *"somebody who's crazy about him."* She also is someone who stayed by Corzine's side throughout the rough patches in the campaign, when his ex-wife criticized him and the details of his romance with a state union leader spilled into the public. His steadying force, he says. She is one of the most stable human beings I've ever met," Corzine said. *"She's got an equilibrium."*

A former chief executive of financial giant Goldman Sachs, Corzine separated from his wife of 33 years in 2002. When inaugurated on Jan. 17, he will become the State's first unmarried governor since Robert Meyner in 1954 (Meyner married in 1957). Elghanayan has been married twice: first, for less than five years, to Essex County Attorney Richard Roberts (WHS 1956), who was her high school sweetheart; and then, for most of her adult life, to real estate developer K. Thomas Elghanayan. They split up in May 2004. Long before that, the Elghanayans and Corzines had been



casual acquaintances introduced by mutual friends. With both divorced, their friends went to work. *"There was a lot of matchmaking out there,"* he said.

The pair ran into each other at a party in August 2004. Corzine asked if he could buy her a cup of coffee some time. She said of course. He called. And they've been an item since last November. Elghanayan grew up as Sharon Levine from Keer Avenue in the Weequahic section of Newark. She was the youngest of two daughters of European immigrants - her mother from Russia, her father from Poland, where the rest of his family was killed in the Holocaust. From the earliest of ages, Elghanayan and her sister were steeped in Zionism, Jewish culture, socialism and a working-class labor ethic.

Among her acquaintances were famed author Philip Roth (WHS 1950), who was a friend of Elghanayan's older sister Lorelei; and Harold Hodes (WHS 1960) who was two years ahead of her at Weequahic High and went on to become one of New Jersey's top strategists and lobbyists. Her parents were socially active but not religious and sent her to camp like many other parents from working-class Jewish neighborhoods in Newark then.

Friends from Elghanayan's youth also say she has remained remarkably grounded despite a 30-year marriage that put her in an elite class of wealth and power in New York City. *"This is a Jersey girl,"* said Sherri Trugman (WHS 1963) of Montville, a friend of Elghanayan since eighth grade. *"She never lost that kind of humble grounding. I have seen women who have, and you can really tell the difference. This is not a lady who lunched."*

Elghanayan went to Rutgers in Newark where she earned a history degree. From there she went to work in Manhattan. *"I couldn't afford to go to grad school and*

*didn't know what to do and went to work for Bloomingdale's"* after being accepted to a competitive executive-training program, she said. *"Then I went into the other end of the business as a clothing designer for 16 years - totally by happenstance, no training, nothing. I just used to make my own clothes and could draw."*

At the time, Elghanayan was married to Roberts, then an investigator with the Essex County Prosecutor's office going to law school at night. They divorced after a short marriage but remain on good terms. Elghanayan met her second husband while on vacation. They have two grown children. After staying home to raise her kids, she went back to school in the mid-1990's, earning a master's from New York University and beginning a new career as an adult psychotherapist.

With little notice, Elghanayan attended a handful of campaign events during the fall, including two televised debates and a visit with Hilary Rodham Clinton. When she saw Corzine, it was often at the end of long days that frequently featured hectic campaign stops throughout New Jersey down to Washington for U.S. Senate votes and then a late-night or early-morning dash back to Jersey for a few hours sleep.

Marveling at his stamina, Elghanayan allowed that *"the man works seven days a week. There is no concept of the week-end versus the weekdays. Every day is the same."* So she said, *"I never call him. I think about him all the time but I don't call him."* And while she said she looks forward to the moments with him (once that meant an 18-hour date in Paris sandwiched between Corzine's trips to Africa and Iraq), Elghanayan said his schedule doesn't bother her. *"I'm not a kid. I don't need to have a date on Friday night,"* she said. *"When he's with you, he's really with you."*

With the craziness of the campaign in the past, Elghanayan said she is looking forward to the Jan. 17 inaugural ball, which will be something of a public coming-out for the couple... Elghanayan and Corzine also said they are not concerned about trying to conduct a private relationship in the fishbowl of New Jersey's governorship.

## WHS Alumni Honored by The Newark Athletic Hall of Fame in 2005

### Alvin Lubetkin 1952



Alvin Lubetkin was born in 1933, in Newark, loving sports. He has been involved in sports for business and pleasure all of his life. Al was an All State football player in 1951, the year Weequahic won its first city championship. He set a school record, scoring 12 touchdowns in an eight-game season. Although only 5'8 and 150 pounds, he played on both offense and defense.

In addition to football, Al also excelled in basketball, earning All City and All Essex County honors in that sport while setting a single game record, scoring 30 points in less than 20 minutes of court time. In January of 1952, he was voted the outstanding athlete in his graduating class.

After graduation, Al attended Harvard University where he graduated in 1957 with a BS degree in economics. He realized his and every athlete's dream when he fell in love and married a girl whose father owned a sporting goods store, actually several sporting good stores. Al and Marilyn Oshman moved to Houston from New York in 1961 and he was once again involved in sports.

After being elected President and CEO in 1970, he raised the store count from 10 to 200 by 1985. During this period sales grew from \$10 million to over \$300 million. In 2000 Al merged the company with Gart Sports of Denver. Eventually that merger rolled into The Sports Authority, which is one of the largest operators of sporting goods in the U. S.

In 1966, Al was named a bronze award winner in Financial World magazine's Chief Executive Officer of the Year competition. In 2003, he received the Distinguished American Award from The Essex County Chapter of The National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame. Al has always been active in community, business and civic organizations. He has served on the Boards of The March of Dimes and the

National Sporting Goods Association, and has been a frequent speaker and panel member at real estate and sporting goods conferences.

Today one might find him at the baseball or soccer field coaching Ryder or Little Alvin or Daily or Ava, four of his six grandchildren, sharing with them his secrets of success on or off the field. On other days he may be found playing and loving Hope and Marilyn his older grandchildren and telling them how fantastic the old days were in Newark, NJ.



### Dennis Mosely 1968

Dennis was born and raised in Newark and began his athletic career at the age of

five at Robert Treat elementary school, then at Hawthorne Avenue School, playing football with the Pop Warner Newark Bears. He also played basketball and baseball with the Police Athletic League.

In 1964, he entered Weequahic and starred in all three sports. In football, he was selected to the All City, All County, and All State Teams as an End. In basketball, he played on the 1966 State Championship team and the 1967 "Dream Team," the number one basketball team in America. And in baseball, he earned All City honors as a center fielder.

Upon graduation, he received football scholarship offers from Howard University, Montclair State College, Texas Southern University and West Point. He decided to attend Howard where he was a Business Administration student, majoring in marketing with a minor in economics. He stayed at Howard for three years and

was a wide receiver for the football team and spent one year at Rutgers University studying economics. For many years, Dennis has worked in the retail sales and management industry and is presently an entrepreneur with three trademarks and one copywrite.



### Herbert Jacobson 1941

Born in Newark, Herb attended Peshine Avenue School and Weequahic High

School. At the Peshine playground, he learned all the rudiments of sports. While at Weequahic he lettered in baseball, basketball and football. He was a recipient of a season pass to the Newark Bears baseball games as a reward for being chosen MVP of the team and taking part in the state tournament. He also was selected to the All City football and baseball teams and the All County basketball team. Moreover, he was awarded the B. Fred Maeller trophy for sportsmanship and best athlete in the school.

Following high school, Herb enrolled at Upsala College where he lettered in baseball, basketball and football. After just a year-and-a-half at school, he was drafted in 1943 and served 2 1/2 years in the Army Air Force. On his return from service, he entered Rider College where he lettered in basketball and tennis. After the 1948 season, he received the MVP trophy in basketball.

Herb worked at Victory Optical Manufacture Company as the Controller and the Mack Furniture Galleries as a retail furniture salesman. His hobby is golf. He is married and the father of two daughters.



### Bobby Curry, 2005, Scholarship Recipient

Bobby Curry is an outstanding individual in terms of his ability to impact and motivate other young people. He demonstrated leadership in the classroom, on the football field, on the basketball court, and in his community. Bobby was selected as the team captain for both the basketball and football teams in his junior and senior year and enjoyed very successful basketball and football careers at Weequahic.

*continued on page 7*

# WHS Alumni Honored by The Newark Athletic Hall of Fame in 2005

## Dwain Talley 1970



Dwain Talley was born on October 25, 1952 in St Augustine, Florida.

His family moved to New Jersey in 1960 and he attended Bergen Street School. Upon graduating he went on to Clinton Place Jr. High where he began to develop his interest and skills in basketball. He made the Clinton Place Jr. High School basketball team in the eighth grade and became a starter in the ninth grade.

Dwain decided to follow in his brother's (*Charles Talley, 2004 Hall of Fame & WHS Alumni Board member*) footsteps and attended Weequahic, where he further developed his skills and became known as a complete basketball player. He was an outstanding performer with fast hands, speed, agility, quickness, a great jump shot, and the exceptional ability to shoot with either hand. Dwain earned the name "*MONEY*" for his unstoppable jump shot. In one game he made 15 of 17 baskets. His greatest asset was his unselfishness on the court. He was selected 1st Team, All-City, All County and 3rd Team All State / Grp. 4.

Following Weequahic, Dwain received a scholarship to Arizona Western Junior College in Yuma, where he continued to display his outstanding talent on the basketball court leading the number three team in the country. He was selected 1st Team Christmas Tournament, 1st Team Southwestern Conference, 1st Team All J.U.C.O. National Tournament and 2nd Team All-American.

Dwain returned to New Jersey and accepted a scholarship to Monmouth University where he played for his cousin, head coach, Ron Kornegay. He was selected 1st Team All NJ College/ University in 1975-76. Dwain often said, "*that his mother, Blanche Talley, was his inspiration.*"

After graduating with a business degree, he married his high school sweetheart Sandra Baskerville, and to their union

was born three wonderful children, Aisha, Faheem and Jamal. His children were his joy. On June 27, 1990, God called Dwain to rest. He was a loving father and husband with a great sense of humor. His extension of friendship and warmth left a glow in the hearts of his family and gained him many caring friends.

## Barry Gimelstob 1961



Barry Gimelstob was born in Newark and graduated from Weequahic where he was the captain of the

1960-61 basketball team and was selected as a member of the All City and the All Metropolitan teams. Twice Barry's team won the City title and made it to the final round of the State Group 4 championship.

Upon graduation from Seton Hall University in 1967, Barry returned to Newark to begin his coaching career at South Side. He coached there until 1971, winning several county and state titles and was selected as "*Coach of the Year*" by The Star- Ledger.

After leaving coaching, Barry continued to assist various players at South Side (now Malcolm X Shabazz), such as Wendy McGriff, Greg Latta, Ray Clark, Mike Smith, Larry Foster, Chet Davis and Tony Hodge, helping them to receive scholarships from various universities.

Barry currently owns and operates a financial insurance and investment business. He resides in Harding

Township, NJ with his wife, and they have three sons Joshua 29, Justin 28 and Russell 26.

## Gerry Gimelstob 1967



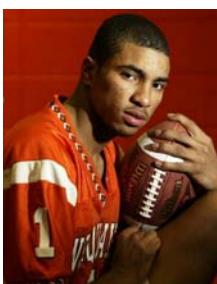
Gerry Gimelstob was born in Newark and attended Chancellor Avenue School, WHS and Newark Academy.

At the Chancellor playground, he was coached by Billy Drechsel, Phil Barone and Bucky Harris and at the Cleveland playground by Charlie Johnson. His high school coaches at Weequahic were Hal Ginsburg and Les Fein. In 1967, Gerry was on the undefeated, number one ranked high school team in the country.

While attending Newark Academy, Gerry earned honors as the leading scorer in Essex County in 1969. At college, he played for the University of Rhode Island with fellow Weequahic grad Phil Hickson, and graduated with honors. He later joined the college coaching staffs at the universities of Indiana and Utah where the teams won numerous championships. In 1981, Gerry was named head coach at George Washington University. In 1985, he coached the U.S. Maccabiah team to a Gold medal win in Israel.

After leaving coaching, Gerry moved to Annapolis, Maryland where he currently owns and operates seven McDonald's franchises in Annapolis and Baltimore. He is married and has two teenage children, a daughter Rikki, a high school senior and a thirteen year old son, Ross.

## Curry continued



In each of his four years, his basketball team won more than 20 games and made the State basketball playoffs. Last year he led the football team to its first winning record in 20 years. Bobby will continue the fine legacy of Weequahic High School Student-Athletes when he starts college in the spring of 2006.

*Some of his accomplishments are as follows:* **Football** - 1st Team All Newark Public Schools - Defensive Player of the Year; 1st Team All Iron Hills Conference - Offensive Player of the Year; 1st Team All Essex County - Defensive Player of the Year; 1st Team All Group 2 - Defensive Player of the Year; 5th Team All State - Defense; All Star Game - North/South. **Basketball** - 1st Team All Newark Public Schools; 1st Team All Iron Hills Conference; 2nd Team All Essex County; 2nd Team All Group 2.



## ALUMNI VOICES

Arthur Lipton, Jan. 1960  
Cleveland Heights, Ohio

*Dearest Ms. Marie O'Connor,*

Recently my brother, Harold, and I attended the Weequahic High School Alumni festivities where I encountered Hal Braff. We engaged in revisiting fond memories of our beloved school. Hal asked, "*Who was your favorite teacher?*"

Without hesitation I replied, "Miss O'Connor!!" Well, he lost it. He couldn't have become more energized. For the next half hour we exchanged favorite memories of the MAGNIFICENT MISS O'CONNOR, and how she impacted our thinking and our lives.

You were the gracious presence in purple who "SPARKLED," the essence of the ideal teacher. I was not a committed student, but in your class, I was inspired by you. You made me THINK. You challenged me to become a better student and a better person. I had a crush on you and your sweet smiling face. What an inspiration! Your classes were eagerly anticipated, and they concluded all too soon.

Today, Christmas Day, my fingertips tremble in fear of making a grammatical error. This letter has been started a long time ago, and, like many of my assignments, is overdue. I am bound and determined to finish it without a cliché.

You simply are my favorite and most memorable teacher. I wish you a New Year filled with the best that life has to offer. Please accept this letter as both a THANK YOU and an affirmation of a job well done.

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**A HAPPY 96th  
BIRTHDAY TO  
MARIE O'CONNOR**

**- one of Weequahic's  
favorite English teachers -**

## Erotic art stash finds a new home

by Carrie Stetler, Star-Ledger

It may not be the only erotic art museum in the world, but it's the only one founded by a 70-year-old Jewish grandmother from Weequahic. For the past fifteen years, Newark native **Naomi Sisselman Wilzig (WHS 1952)** has collected everything from ancient Greek pornography to modern-day fetish art, amassing more than 4,000 pieces. Now she wants to share them with the public. This month she opened the World Erotic Art Museum in Miami Beach, a project she funded herself.

*"What purpose is there in all of this staying in my home where no one could see it?"* says Wilzig, widow of New Jersey's banking mogul Siggi Wilzig. *"Nothing's more real than that we're all humans, we all have the same plumbing, we all have the same aspirations and desires,"* she explains. *"From the moment we're born, we react to a kiss, a touch, a smile. We're all sexual beings."*

Wilzig's liberated attitude came late in life. She was raised an Orthodox Jew in a prominent Jersey real estate family. Her dad, developer Jerome Sisselman, who owned some of the property where Giants Stadium now stands, was known as *"King of the Meadowlands."* He and Mrs. Sisselman didn't talk about sex - at least around the kids, she says. *"I had a totally inhibited upbringing,"* she says.

That apparently wasn't the case for her son, Ivan, a techno-pop singer who felt comfortable enough 15 years ago asking mom to buy some sexy artwork for his bachelor pad. Mrs. Wilzig didn't know what to look for, but when she hinted around to antique dealers, many unveiled their secret stashes of erotic art, much of it found hidden in estates.

*"They'd find one piece in a drawer or under a bed,"* she says. *"For me, getting them was an absolute coup. Since I was an antiquer by nature, I continued to ask for it. I had room in my home and I got one piece, and another and another."*

It's not like she was collecting Hummel figures, however. And her husband



wasn't thrilled. When she displayed a nude statuette on a table in their home, he placed it on the floor while she was out. Siggi, founder of Trust Company of NJ, one of the State's largest

banks, had an image to uphold, said Naomi. And until he died, she helped him uphold it. After his death two years ago, Naomi, under her full name, made plans to display her collections. Her initial application, which emphasized sex more than art, was rejected in both New York and Las Vegas. When she pitched the aesthetics, however, she won approval in Miami Beach.

*"It's beautiful and had been made by an artist with talent, that separates it from porn,"* she says. *"She showed us that she had museum-quality pieces,"* said George Gomez, head of Miami Beach's planning board.

Wilzig's museum is one of several erotic art and sex museums around the globe, including the Erotisch in Amsterdam, the Musée de l'erotisme in Paris and the Museo de la Erotica in Barcelona. The World Erotic Art Museum, however, offers a global tour of sex through different ages and cultures. There are centuries-old Japanese *"pillow books,"* used to teach newlyweds about sex, and ancient fertility figures from Africa and Indonesia.

The older stuff can be just as kinky as the giant phallus sculpture from the film *A Clockwork Orange* and the paintings of dominatrices (that's plural for 'dominatrix.')

*"I have things that are pre-Christianity and you have menage a trois, gay art, showing all sexual acts,"* says Wilzig. *"It's a revelation to find out these cultures have enjoyed sex in all its variations for hundreds and hundreds of years."*

Since the museum opened last week, Wilzig has no plans to retire from her role as the Dr. Ruth of dirty art. *"The collection has kept me young and vibrant,"* she says. *"I've never worked harder in my life than these past few years. Who has time to be old?"*



## WALDO WINCHESTER

*This popular column from the Calumet first appeared in 1950.*

### MILESTONES:

**Jacob (Jack) Frieder, 1935**, and his wife Lenore Fendrich Frieder celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. They are the parents of **WHS grads, Kenneth and Joan**. Both Jack and Lenore were raised in Newark, but Lenore graduated from Central High School. In 1932, they met at Olympic Park in Irvington and were married in 1940 at the Avon Mansion in Newark.



During his high school years, Jack played football and had the distinction of scoring the first touchdown in the history of Weequahic High School against Bayonne High School during the 1935 football season. He also scored a touchdown during the annual Thanksgiving Day game against Hillside High School, leading Weequahic to its first victory in the series. Jack served in the Army during World War II and retired as a supervisor for the Newark Post Office and was also as a bookkeeper for the Newark Housing Authority. He was past president of the Newark Civil Service Fellowship and Lenore was past president of the their women's auxiliary.

In 1979, they relocated to Florida, but after 27 years, they recently returned to NJ to settle in Lakewood to be closer to their family.

**Jack Soroka, Jan. 1945**, and his wife Claire, celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary at a surprise party hosted by their children Joan and Howard Waxman of Livingston and Fran and David Gewirtz of Richmond, VA at the Breakers in West Palm Beach, FL. Their



grandchildren presented them with a weekend at the Nevele Grande Resort & Country Club where they spent their honeymoon in 1949. Jack was an educator in Newark for many years.

### HONORS:

**Paul Goodman, 1945**, was nominated for 22 Grammy Awards in the Engineering category and was the winner three times. In 1950, he married Weequahic grad **Rebecca Chase Goodman, 1947**. Paul began his apprenticeship in sound engineering while stationed in Germany with the American Forces Network from 1946 to 1948. After his return home, he worked for the RCA Institute for 36 years as an Audio Engineer, doing orchestral recordings, Broadway shows, and classical and jazz music recordings. Paul and Roz now reside in the Platina community in Boynton Beach, have been married for 55 years and have two daughters and four grandchildren. At Platina, Paul is involved with their entertainment programs and has put together a professional sound system and an updated lighting system.



### GREAT NEWS:

*"This is my Chanukah miracle," states Judith Nusbaum, Jan. 1956. Six years ago Judith discovered that she was suffering from renal failure. According to her, she tried to find a kidney donor anyway that was possible to save her life. "I almost gave up" she said. "I looked everywhere possible until he found me. It is just a miracle. He came here and saved my life."*



An international Christian organization, which has made its objective *"bringing light and happiness into the world,"* decided to achieve its goal by donating kidneys to patients requiring transplants. One of their members, Martin Filla, 35, from Australia, arrived in Israel in order to donate one of his kidneys to Judith who had a successful kidney transplant in Beilinson Hospital in Petach Tikva.

*"Finally hope has returned to my life," Judith says, "I am a very active woman, and couldn't stand the fact that I was sick and needed to hook up to the dialysis machine. Now that he has saved my life, I can get back to myself and resume my life."*

**ALUMNI VISITS:** Alumni Association Director **Phil Yourish, 1964**, recently saddled up his RV again traveling to Florida and Georgia. At the Jewish Museum of Florida in Miami Beach, he met docent **Judith Redlus Greenspan**, a WHS grad, whose mother was his 3rd grade teacher at Peshine.

In Del Ray, he visited with **Abby Weinberg, 1936**, who donated Calumets, newspaper articles and pictures from the beginning years of the high school. Abby owned two bookbinding companies in Newark. In Boca Raton, he lunched with legendary basketball coach **Les Fein**.

And in Savannah, he toured the historic city with Weequahic grads **Jeff Ignatoff, 1960**, and **Arnie Ram, 1948**, who both live on Skidaway Island. Arnie is also a docent for Congregation Mickve Israel, the 3rd oldest Jewish congregation in the U.S.

**REUNIONS:** Congratulations to the classes of **1945, January 1950, June 1950, June 1955, June 1960, 1965, 1978, and 1985** who had class reunions this past September and October. The class of 1965 made a \$2,000 contribution to the **Miriam Hample Memorial Scholarship Fund**. Miss Hample, who passed away a few years ago, was their class advisor. The class of 1945 honored **Clive Cummis** for his generous contributions to the Class of 1945 Academic and Performing Arts Scholarship Fund.

**CORRECTION:** In our last issue, there was an article about **Marilyn Newman Schneider, Jan. 1943**, mentoring

students in Delray Beach, Florida. Unfortunately, the picture that went with the article was not Marilyn. We apologize and hope that this does not happen again. The picture included in this correction is the real Marilyn. How do I know for sure? She sent it to me.



# From the Voices of our Alumni, Faculty and Friends...

**Martin Reisberg, Jan. 1960,  
Santa Rosa, California**



As I reflect on the life I have and on each one of those who have given their love to me in whatever form.. as family, mentors, or colleagues, and fellow-humans, I am endeavoring to send my

whole - hearted thanks to you and the board, as well as to each supporter of WHS Alumni's aims. As I was growing up in Newark, I'd hoped to be able to 'pay-back' in one form or another.

As I reflect on my life and begin to sort out 'what is really important', it has become clearer to me that I was nourished by my elders and compadres to seek...Thus I continue seeking...truth, beauty and, that ephemeral state of being - expressed by our native former tribespeople such as the Weequahicans, or the Leni Lenapis or - known as "the happy hunting grounds."

Please accept my appreciation for all you are doing in granting aid to (each young, fellow-seeker-) those living and seeking happiness and education in the WHS umbrella community...Thanks, in large part, to WHS (educators and fellow students) and the educational process I engaged in, I earned the blessings of a full tuition scholarship for my undergraduate degree at the University of Chicago.

Then while in graduate school there (on a Ford Foundation Fellowship while preparing for an MAT- in History) I began to learn of the experimentation being done in "Laboratory Schools." At the U of C Lab School, where I student-taught, and I saw that what John Dewey and his successors were up to wasn't too far different from what Mr. Bernstein and his staff were about during the time I was receiving my education @ WHS.

John Dewey had many visions of the role community schools might have in regenerating civic life in America... and, I am glad to see, so do you and those supporting the WHS Alumni Board's efforts.

From my involvement in the day-to-day operations of the schools in Sonoma County, as a substitute teacher, there is much to be thankful for in the efforts of educators and aides and mentors, including parents. It is so fashionable to criticize, and denigrate, or look for the bad news in public education. The positives are clearly occurring in the world of affirmers like you. Keep up the fight...Wish well to one and all @ WHS.

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**Barry Adler, Jan. 1959,  
Cherry Hill, NJ**



Forty-seven years after graduating Weequahic High School and after forty-two years in education (13 years as a social studies teacher, 28 years as a principal), a colleague asked recently what was the motivating factor of my decision to become a social studies teacher. Without hesitation, but with a great deal of prior thought, the answer was the social studies department at Weequahic High School.

My recollections are vivid and clear. There are visions of Chairperson Joseph Bruder exhorting his students to "think analytically"; Mr. Solomon Ostrin introducing the New York Times; Mrs. Jeanette Lappe describing "a rare piece of propaganda;" Mr. Martin Green presenting a different perspective; and Mr. Lawrence Shulman kindling student interest in our country's history. Friends tell me that Mrs. Sadie Rous was equally as stimulating, but unfortunately I was never assigned to her class.

The aforementioned professionals clearly brought content knowledge and instructional expertise to their classrooms. However, their uniqueness and great impact were more related to the personal connections they established with students in motivating their future learning. Mr. Ostrin made the U.N. real as did Mrs. Lappe for Max Lerner's *America as a Civilization*. Mr. Shulman helped us live the Civil War. "Isms" became part of our vocabulary after Mr. Green. Most important for me was Mr.

Bruder's personal counseling and encouragement that becoming a social studies teacher was an attainable goal for this uncertain, lacking-in-confidence high school senior, who sought out his advice. Individually and collectively, the work of the members of the Weequahic Social Studies Department left an important legacy, the impact they had on Weequahic graduates. This is a long overdue thank you.

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**Serena Friedman, 1964,  
Aguero, California**



When I am not doing General Practice, Medicine, solo practice in West Hills, California (LA County), my husband Michael and I are growing grapes for wine at the Four Sisters Ranch (I

have four daughters) and Oak Creek Vineyard in San Luis Obispo County, Paso Robles, Central Coast of California. We sell grapes (i.e. to Royal Winery and Herzog wine cellars) and you can taste our grapes in the Baron Herzog Cabernet Sauvignon wine out there in the stores.

In 2004 it was voted second best in the world by the NY Times wine reviewers evaluating 25 red kosher wines worldwide. We also grow other Cabernet grapes and Syrah grapes and sell these for bulk wine sales to wineries throughout California, including Napa and Sonoma. On one end of the wine scale is Red Truck Syrah 2005 (yet to come out) with our Syrah grapes.

For this harvest, we have also put over 20 tons of grapes into barrels to be made into our own labeled wine (premium reserve) but we need a name for our wine. The label we are designing is fantastic - with colors both women and men will love. I'll keep you posted but if anyone comes out to California perhaps you can come and visit.

Wine tasting is a magnificent experience in Paso Robles and the annual Central Coast Paso Robles Wine Tasting Festival which attracts 15,000 people occurs the third weekend each May. You are all invited.



## More Voices from our Alumni, Faculty and Friends ....

### Howard Klein, 1966, Hackensack, NJ



Herman Rosenfeld's fond recollection of Mrs. Lappe brought back a flood of memories of being her student, and more broadly, the wonderful world she and Mrs. Weinstein opened for the kids in their class.

While Mrs. Lappe was the inspirational and challenging educator Herman described, there was a larger context for the wonders she and Mrs. Weinstein worked in that Humanities class. I too was part of that class, although a year before Herman in 1966. What should be recalled is that classroom structures and formats like that were an experiment in those days, history was history, English was English.

They were separate curriculums and taught in isolation, one from the other. Having a combined class where the teachers changed but the students remained the same was an innovative educational approach in 1966. Integrating and cross-teaching subjects was unheard of...In Humanities, the two were melded together and considered in the context of their times, the culture, art, theater, music, dress, the conventions, the mores all presented as a whole to broaden our understanding. So the two women brought in slide shows of artwork and recordings of music, among other examples of the culture and tenor of the times we were learning about. It wasn't just history, it wasn't just literature...

More than that, Mrs. Lappe and Mrs. Weinstein stretched us to learn far beyond what was commonly taught to seniors in the general history and English courses in Weequahic. When we studied the New Deal and Roosevelt, we used the standard issue texts, but we also read books by scholars such as William Leuchtenberg; when we covered the Industrial Revolution and exploitation in America, Upton Sinclair, and other muckrakers were required reading.

It was not enough for either woman that we simply learn of the Depression and the Dust Bowl; they borrowed performance films of Woody Guthrie and Leadbelly from the Library of Congress, showed us the movie version of *The Grapes of Wrath* in class, in addition to the Steinbeck we read, and generally made us

experience to the extent possible, those terrible times in the US. Similarly, it wasn't enough for us to read the *Wasteland*; no, these teachers, both marvelous educators, borrowed a film of T.S. Eliot reading the *Wasteland* and the *Lovesong of J. Alfred Prufrock* for us to understand the nuance and cadence of these works from the author's perspective.

Herman's right, they challenged us to question everything all the time...and the prevailing political order was no exception. One of the more memorable events of my high school years was the class trip Mrs. Lappe encouraged, I don't think the school would officially sanction the activity, to hear Norman Thomas speak at Temple B'nai Abraham. Not because she agreed or disagreed with his positions, she never said and that wasn't the important factor to her. What was key was here was a prominent national figure in our midst and we, as students, should take the opportunity to hear this man and his ideas and form our own opinions about his controversial positions.

That was the sort of experience Mrs. Lappe and Mrs. Weinstein provided in that classroom for two hours every day. I often think of those two women and the learning they offered on a daily basis. I went back to the school after my college freshman year to see and thank them for what they'd given me. They were glad to see me and thanked me for my expression of gratitude...but I don't think either one really appreciated the impact they had on so many of us who passed through their class. It was just what they did and the only way they knew how to do it.

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### Bernard Sabin, 1956, S. Orange, NJ



In walking to Weequahic High School in the morning, I always seemed to be late to meet my friend Norm. Possibly it had something to do with my two brothers and parents converging on the one bathroom in our apartment. We lived on

Goodwin Avenue, a blue collar neighborhood. Norm Goldberg (now deceased) used to come to our 2nd floor apt. (my father owned the four family house in which we lived) to pick me up, seeming always annoyed. I was supposed to

meet him on Clinton Place at 8 AM, which didn't seem to happen very often.

When Norm more or less gave up on me because of my lateness, there were other friends who I used to meet who were as late as myself getting to school. Unbeknown to me at that time, we walked past several buildings that I would, someday in my later years, be the proud owner. We walked the sidewalks of a comfortable, mostly Jewish neighborhood to get to school.

To me this was not a ghetto, as I have read in some other former student stories. It was not an area that I desperately wanted to escape. To me it was a comfort(able) zone. Most of my classmates were, of course, Jewish and even though I attended a Jewish parochial school out of the area in my grammar school years, it seemed that my Jewishness facilitated my making many new friends easily when I started the '*Annex*'.

I always planned to go into my father's business, owning Real Estate after I finished college. In the beginning of my '*career*' my dad did not have much property in the Weequahic area. But as time passed, I decided, personally to invest in the community I grew up in. Most of the buildings I purchased were in the Weequahic area, and were some of the buildings I had walked past so many times in my youth. For over 25 years, daily, I walked in the areas that, as a teenager, were Jewish. There were, of course, many changes.

To me the community and buildings seemed to get older and did not have the great warmth that it had so many years ago. During the later years, mainly in the new millennium, the Weequahic section and all of Newark enjoyed a rebirth. Dilapidated buildings and empty lots were fast disappearing and a better community seemed to be appearing.

Sure the Weequahic area and all the urban areas seemed to draw the teenage groups on the street corners by the local candy store, etc., but we as teenagers also hung out in the same way: Halem's on Chancellor Avenue, Henry's on Bergen Street, Dairy Queen on Clinton Place, and of course the 'Y' - by Fairview Terrace. Since there is a different ethnic group that now calls the Weequahic section their turf and home, most likely in 50 years from now they also will remember the Weequahic area with the fond emotions and memories that we do in our later years.

## Philip Roth Is Leaving the Valley

By Ted Slate, 1953

Late one night, about 17 years ago, I was jolted from a deep sleep by the loud ringing of the phone in my New York City apartment. I picked up the phone, still in a half stupor, and heard a voice on the other end screaming a hateful and vicious diatribe against me, the press in general, and against my employer in particular - ending his invective with threats against me and my family. It seemed I had become an easy mark for lunatics.

At the time, I worked for a prominent news publication and my name was listed high on the masthead. It was obvious how this hatemonger had located me. This was not the first such call I had received but I was determined that it would be the last. When I spoke with colleagues, I found that most of them had also had their nighttime reveries interrupted by these mindless twits. How did my co-workers handle this? To a man, each had taken the same action: they delisted their phone numbers from the directory. Great idea - and I would do the same.

I called the New York Telephone Company and told them to remove me from their next directory. No problem. They would gladly do it - and \$2.50 would be added to my monthly bill for this service. "\$2.50 for what? What service? I DON'T WANT YOUR SERVICE! Don't bother typing my name, printing and alphabetizing me. Just leave me out of your listing."

*"Sorry, it will still be \$2.50 per month."*

I then launched into a long, heated conversation with the woman from NYNEX's business office about the unfairness of the charge, a pursuit akin to banging my head against the wall. After eight minutes, during which I provided her with irrefutable logic bolstering my case, she was unmoved and replied that the company's policy was to



charge \$2.50 additional per month for this service.

*"Could I please speak to your supervisor?"* On came Sylvia, and another eight minutes of head banging ensued,

also to no avail. While I knew, intuitively, that this conversation would not end in my favor, I couldn't stop myself. I had reached the stage in our conversation where the head banging began to feel good.

Finally, I asked to speak with the Supervisor's Supervisor, the Capo da Capo. *"No, sir, I am the final authority and our policy stands. You'll have to pay the \$2.50."* Feeling myself slowly sliding into a mental sinkhole, out of desperation I dug deep and was rewarded by a stroke of genius. *"How about if I put someone else's name in the book in place of mine. Could you still send the bill to me, Ted Slate, at my present address and not charge me extra?"* Yes, Mr. Slate. No problem."

I knew I had to come up with a pseudonymous name for myself right then and there, since I had the person on the line who could effect the change. I also knew that if I didn't take care of the matter at that moment and had to re-enter the telephone company's communications labyrinth at a later time, I might never find Sylvia again or, even worse, I might not get the same answer from someone else.

So whose name should I choose? What immediately came to mind was a book I was reading, written by one of my favorite authors. *"Philip Roth," I blurted out.*

Months later, when the new phone book appeared, I hurriedly paged through it, looking for "Slate, Ted" and HE WAS NOT THERE. However, when I turned to "Roth, Philip," there he was, living at 105 Fifth Avenue, IN MY APARTMENT, WITH MY PHONE NUMBER! And so, in this way, my permanent cover was established. After the new listing appeared,

and during the next few years while I remained in New York, I never received another middle-of-the-night hate call. Nor, might I add, did *"Philip Roth"* at 105 Fifth Avenue.

In 1999, I relocated to Panther Valley, a middle-class community in western New Jersey. I moved there with my wife, JoAnn; Philip, of course, moved with us. In the six years that he has lived here, Philip has built a rock-solid reputation for himself in the Hackettstown area. Savings banks write him begging for his account; mortgage companies tell him that this is a good time to refinance. I continually get telephone solicitations asking for him, but always, it seems, when Phil is out on an errand.

All of which brings me to a letter marked *"Expiration Notice"* which Philip received on Monday, September 19 from the AAA Mid-Atlantic office. In it was an AAA sticker for Philip's car and a letter informing him that since he was not presently an AAA member, he could not receive free roadside assistance in the event of car trouble, which might place him in some difficulty. And even though Philip had *"not needed roadside assistance in the past year, this does NOT mean your luck will continue to hold."*

My Philip was shaken by this news, and when I spoke with him about it, what surfaced was that the frequent telephone and mail solicitations, the new construction in the Valley, and the pace of his life in general had increased to a point where he felt he had no recourse but to leave. I tried to get him to change his mind, pointing out that what he was experiencing was the normal travail of community life, but he was determined to leave.

So next month will be a sad one for me. My good friend Philip Roth is leaving the Valley. He's already begun taking steps to remove his name from the Hackettstown and Warren County telephone books. And he emphatically told me that he doesn't want me to forward any of his mail or phone calls.



**The Calumet,  
October 10, 1935 -  
one of many donated  
to WHSAA by Abby  
Weinberg, 1936**

<b>CHEER YOUR TEAM!</b>		<b>The Calumet</b>		<b>BACK YOUR O. B. A.!</b>	
Weequahic High School, Newark, N. J.					
Vol. III		OCTOBER 10, 1935		No. 1	
<b>New Members Added to Faculty This Year</b>	<b>Coupons to Compute Extra-Curricular Credits</b>	<b>P. T. A. to Take Up Student Problems At Forum</b>	<b>Sinking Fund Prompts Combination Ticket</b>		
<small>From throughout Newark and various places in the East fifteen new teachers</small>	<small>Detachable Tickets in O. B. A.</small>	<small>Social Welfare, Milk Fund for students, books for the library, amusements for the</small>	<small>New Plan Includes All Activities— "Calumet" Also Affected</small>		

## Reflections of Life in Newark

By Josephine Katz Nost, June 1954



My twin sister Frances and I were born in the *Beth Israel Hospital* on Lyons Avenue as were most of our Weequahic contemporaries. Although we were born prematurely on April 17<sup>th</sup>, 1936 and weighing

just above 2 pounds, after ten weeks of excellent pediatric incubator care, we advanced as well as any full term baby. As an afterthought, I wish we had been full term as I would be slightly younger now.

Before long, we began kindergarten at *Bergen Street School*. Fran and I were so mischievous that Miss Romer, our teacher, decided to have us separated into different classrooms upon entering the first grade.

After a few years, our family moved to a new Bergen Street address and we transferred to *Peshine Avenue School* from Bergen Street School where we remained until eighth grade. Upon graduation, we attended *Hawthorne Avenue School* which served as the *Weequahic High School Annex* for our 9<sup>th</sup> grade of high school. We both made a lot of friends there; some of which we still hold dear to our hearts today. In June of 1954, we graduated *Weequahic High School*.

Over the years, I participated in several after-school activities. I studied Hebrew at the *Talmud Torah Hebrew School* on 182 Osborne Terrace and Conklin Avenue, and took Yiddish classes at the *Workman's Circle School* at Hawthorne Avenue near Girard Place. I also studied piano with Jean Fox and voice lessons with Mark Silver. Mark Silver selected me to join the *Hazomer Choir* at the YM-YWHA at 652 High Street and West Kinney Street. I studied Hebrew for three years with Mr. Simon Chasen at Weequahic. Upon graduation, I received several academic awards including The B'rith Abraham Award in Hebrew.

During my dating years, I can remember roller skating at *Twin City* and *Dreamland* in Elizabeth and swimming at the Y on

High Street and the *Olympic Park Pool*. I enjoyed going to *The Rustic Cabin* to see Joni James, *Bill Miller's Riviera*, *Ivanhoe*, *Meadowbrook*, *Friar Tuck Inn*, *Phil's Milk Bar* and *The Cave*, the drive-in theater on Route 22, *Palisades Park*, *Copa Cabana*, *Basin Street*, on a hay ride sponsored by the *Irvington BBG* to *Farcher's Grove* in Union for barn dancing. I also attended all the local movie theaters including the *Park*, *Hawthorne*, *Roosevelt*, *Avon*, *Loews*, *RKO Proctors*, *Paramount*, *Branford*, *News Reel Theater* and the *Adams* when they had stage shows until Minsky's brought in burlesque.

How well I remember the *Tavern*, *Weequahic Diner*, the *Ideal Dairy Restaurant*, the *Biltmore Cafeteria* on Broad Street, *Kartzman's*, *Peterman's* and *Bragman's Delis*, *Stash's Bar*, *Cohen's Knishes*, *Hot Dog Haven*, *Syd's*, *Sabins*, *Millman's*, *Henry's Sweet Shoppe*, the *Bunny Hop*, *Dairyland* and *Dairy Queen* for ice cream.

Bread and pastries were bought at either *Silvers* or *Keil's* on Hawthorne Avenue or *Wigler's* or *Lehroff's* on Prince Street. In those days we bought our kosher chickens live at *Brownstein's* on Prince Street where you watched the boy flick the feathers with the chicken tied by the feet upside down flapping and crowing to beat the band. I also remember vividly *Sidney Fruchter's*, *Jack Stein's* and *Mr. Strulowitz's Kosher Meat Markets* and *The Big Bear* market on the corner of Peshine and Clinton Avenues across the street from *Schwartz's Drug Store* and the *Avon* movie theater.

I attended Union Junior College in Cranford until I met my first husband, Herman Krasner. We had four children from this union, two daughters and two sons and lived in West Caldwell for many years. After divorcing Herman, I moved to California in 1983 where Fran joined me with her husband in 1989.

In 2002, I received an e-mail from my first sweetheart, Sandy Rachmiel, a Barringer 1952 grad, who I hadn't seen or heard from in fifty or so years. He lives in Florida so I decided to fly cross country to visit him over the Christmas holidays. That visit prompted me to pack up my things and move to the Sunshine State with him.

"..... they lived happily ever after"

## ALUMNI VOICES

Aron Wallad, 1965

### What A Great Night



The Time Machine brings me back to Chancellor Avenue, Newark, NJ, circa 1964. Vintage cars like the 1962 Oldsmobile Spitfire, 1957 and 1958 Chevy's roamed up and down the street passing

The Bunny Hop, The Burgerama and Dave's Hot Dog Haven. Did we only eat French fries, hot dogs and hamburgers? I think so.

On May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2005 I had the pleasure of attending the Sunday morning group of boys that used to frequent Chancellor Avenue. This event perpetuates the camaraderie that existed amongst us boys. For some old boys the time machine went back to the 1920's. There were some guys there that were 90 years old. I felt great. I was one of the youngest guys to attend. And I am 57.

Wow what a group. There must have been over 200 boys of Chancellor there. All of us used to hang out in the neighborhood. Most of us went to Weequahic High School. Some went to South Side High School, and some guys were from Hillside. And most of us played baseball, basketball, softball, or football in our day.

The joyousness of the evening created a very loud room. I could not hear myself think at times. I found myself leaning over and placing my ear near someone's mouth to hear what they were saying. I saw a lot of this going on. Yes, there was a lot of ear to mouth.

What made the evening special for me was seeing some of my old buddies that I had not seen in quite some time. In some cases over 20 years. Being able to hug some great guys like Mr. Barone, Stanley Levy, Big Jeff Schulman, Joe Margulies, Sandy Markowitz and Jake Davis made the evening a great night. I felt special because of the special people I was with. This was a great night!

Please send us  
your "memories"  
for publication



## Newark Passings

### Donald Tucker, Councilman



In November 2005, long-term Newark Councilman and state Assemblyman, Donald Kofi Tucker, passed away at age 67. Elected in 1974 after an earlier, unsuccessful

attempt, Tucker eventually became the longest-serving city councilman since Newark switched to the mayor and council form of government, serving 31 continuous years. In 1991 to 1992, he served as Council President.

As a member of the state Assembly since 1997, he represented the 29th District, which included Newark and Hillside, served as speaker pro tempore, the third-highest leadership position in the Assembly. In 1985, he was appointed to the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission by Governor Thomas Kean. Tucker served as President of the National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials from 1980 to 1984, and on the Executive Board of the National League of Cities. He is founder and State Chairman of the highly successful Black Issues Convention, and the prime mover of the annual "Newark Day" observances in Atlantic City during the State League of Municipalities Convention.

Born and raised in Newark, Tucker graduated from Goddard College in Vermont, and did graduate study in public administration and urban planning at Rutgers University. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1955 to 1960 and received an honorable discharge. At his funeral, speakers reminisced about how he was a "soldier" and a "warrior" in the movement to politically empower African-Americans.

### Charles Cummings, Historian

City historian Charles Cummings, the Assistant Director for Special Collections and Statewide Research at The Newark Public Library, passed away in late 2005 at age 68. He also wrote a weekly column in the "Newark This Week" section of The Star-Ledger and was the author of

"Remembering Essex." He worked at the Library for more than 40 years. One of his good friends was author and WHS grad, Philip Roth, who pens the following:

#### 'A great Newark hero'



Charles Cummings, the most generous of men, wanted the people of Newark to know all they could about where they lived. That's why he was their librarian, archivist, historian, recording journalist, teacher, lecturer and impassioned tour guide par excellence. He was my devoted friend for nearly 20 years, and I reaped the benefit of his enthusiasm for the specific data of the city's history that he tirelessly unearthed and recorded in his Star-Ledger column, "Knowing Newark."

The density of my books about the lives of Newarkers was all the richer because of the many questions Charles answered for me and the many places in Newark that he alone knew of and took me to see. One winter day in the mid-'90s, we looked for hours for the proper building to serve as the setting for the Levov glove factory in "American Pastoral." When eventually we found it on Central Avenue, Charles set out to photograph the abandoned old building for me from 10 different angles - fewer than 10 perspectives on anything in Newark would not do.

We walked all over the city together while I was writing "American Pastoral," and when that novel received a Pulitzer Prize for fiction, I knew - and told Charles - that the prize was as much his as mine. He was indispensable, he is irreplaceable, and not merely to me, but to the adopted city of whose past and present he was a most meticulous guardian. He was an encyclopedia of Newark and himself a great Newark hero, worthy of a lengthy entry in any future history written about the city.

I doubt that Charles knew or would believe that he has earned heroic stature by the seemingly workaday labors of librarian and city historian, but I want to take this opportunity to declare that he was indeed nothing less, that he will be remembered as nothing less, and not just by one who loved him as I did.

## Newark News

### Newark's Downtown Arena



After eight years of lobbying, on-and-off negotiations, and deals that looked completed only to fall apart,

Mayor Sharpe James finally got to preside over the groundbreaking for an arena for the NJ Devils hockey team in the heart of the state's largest city. The 18,000-seat building, which is expected to be ready by 2007, will be a glass-and-brick structure which will cost at least \$310 million and feature a gigantic outdoor video screen. It is the largest and most expensive single public works project in Newark's history and is being promoted as the centerpiece of a downtown redevelopment plan that will see a new hotel, office space and an economic resurgence.



### comes to Newark with a Weequahic connection

Moments after the automatic doors of the mammoth 145,000-square-foot Home Depot slid open for the first time, Gilbert Barker was strolling the aisles of Newark's first big-box retailer. For the hundred or so residents and politicians attending the grand opening on Springfield Avenue and Bergen Street, a \$9 million Home Depot on 11 acres of a main corridor that was destroyed during the 1967 riots is a sure sign of a resurgent city. A movie theater, a drugstore, automotive store, a Social Security Administration building, and a large post office all have appeared in recent years. 100 new people are employed at the store, along with 60 transfers. Ninety-five percent of the 160 jobs are held by Newark residents including managerial positions.

The Home Depot is the world's largest home improvement retailer and second largest retailer in the United States. It went from 3 stores to over 1,900 in just over 25 years. The Newark store is the 62nd in New Jersey.

So what is the Weequahic connection? Home Depot is owned by Bernie Marcus and Arthur Blank. Bernie grew up in Newark and his wife Billi is a Weequahic graduate

# Newark News

## Weequahic VP Appointed Councilman-at-large



The Newark city council appointed Deputy Mayor Ras Baraka to fill the eight months remaining on the term of the late Councilman-at-large Donald K. Tucker. For the past three years,

he has also served as one of the vice principals at Weequahic High School. Baraka, who had previously run for Mayor, had received the next highest number of votes among losing candidates for the at-large seat in the 2002 municipal election. He is well-known for his work with youth and for developing strategies for ending gang violence in the City of Newark.

## An Award for the Essex County Courthouse



The National Trust for Historic Preservation presented the recently restored Essex County Courthouse with its prestigious National Preservation

Honor Award. The courthouse, which is located on Dr. Martin Luther King Boulevard (formerly High Street), was designed by renowned architect Cass Gilbert and completed in 1905. One of the state's most significant public buildings, the five-story, marble structure is graced by artwork from some of the best-known artists of the American Renaissance. At the front of the courthouse is the statue of President Abraham Lincoln created by famous Mt. Rushmore sculptor Gutzon Borglum.

## Wells Cathedral is 80 years old

Wells Cathedral, named after its founder Elder James A. Wells and located on Dr. Martin Luther King Boulevard (formerly High Street) for the past 47 years, celebrated its 80th anniversary. The church was



church as pastor for 33 years, was the keynote speaker at the anniversary affair.

Throughout the years, Wells Cathedral has stayed close to its roots. The musical legacy left by its guitar-playing founder continues through seven choirs. The church regularly hosts gospel concerts. It also reaches out to those most in need and provides for the homeless, alcoholics, drug addicts, and most recently aid to families affected by Hurricane Katrina.

## An Invitation to Renew your Wedding Vows



Eric Freedman, the President of historic Congregation Ahavas Sholom on Broadway, is encouraging couples who will be celebrating

their 50th anniversary (or any other milestone number) to renew their wedding vows with family and friends at the oldest remaining active synagogue in Newark - a city that once had the largest Jewish population in New Jersey.

In recent years the synagogue has experienced a rebirth and now has more than 300 members, mostly from Suburban Essex County. Ahavas Sholom, a state and national historical landmark, is celebrating its own 100th birthday this year. Its beautiful wooden carved Holy Ark is the oldest in the state. Recently, restoration work on the outside of the building was completed and the synagogue is now handicapped-accessible. It is also the home of The Jewish Museum of New Jersey.

*So recapture the wonderful memories of the past with a ceremony of renewal in a historic setting for your very special occasion. For more information, call Eric (Elegant Stucco) at (201) 988-3799 or (973) 485-2609.*

purchased in 1958 from the Jewish synagogue, Temple Oheb Shalom. Bishop Chandler David Owens, who came from Detroit to Newark in 1961 and served the

## ALUMNI VOICES

**Sam Wasserson 1952, Upland, CA**

### On Bert Manhoff



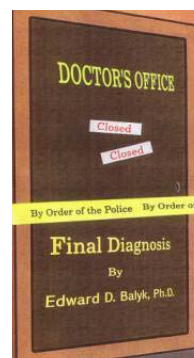
The recent article about Bert Manhoff brought back memories to me. I remember Bert as an assistant football coach for the Indians in 1946 or 1947. As a student at Chancellor (before Untermann Field became a stadium), I would watch the football team practice and watch this man screaming at the

linemen which made me terrified of him.

Years later, I met Bert again as a Freshman at Newark Rutgers when he was the fencing coach for a short lived team. Somehow, he induced me to become Manager of the JV basketball team which wound up with one of the best records in the school's history. He was also the advisor for Tau Delta Phi Fraternity, of which he was a member.

The man who terrified me as a grammar school student was really just a big teddy bear who evoked a great deal of affection from those who knew him.

## Ed Balyk, WHS 1963, writes Final Diagnosis



Dr. Edward D. Balyk spins a bizarre, spine tingling tale of manipulation, deception and sexual perversion. A Big Apple surgeon succumbs to sexual urges and becomes sexually obsessed with a pretty, young, wealthy society diva whom he gallantly rescues from an attempted attack in Central Park.

Within hours of his heroics, an uncontrollable, tormenting sexual obsession usurps his logic and reason and leads to sexual assault and murder; tormented by guilt and paralyzing depression, he becomes hooked on drugs and alcohol and self destructs in a grizzly finale.

Dr. Balyk calls upon many years of clinical experience in one of the world's largest sex offender prisons to weave this bizarre tale of self-destruction, manipulation; and the destructive power of sexual obsession.



## *In Loving Memory*

### **Seymour 'Swede' Masin, 85, humble Newark sports icon, WHS 1938 grad**

By Matthew J. Dowling, Star-Ledger



The athletic accomplishments of Seymour "Swede" Masin have long been elevated to legendary status in Newark sports lore and led novelist Philip Roth to base a character in a Pulitzer Prize-winning book on "The Swede." The two Weequahic High School graduates never met before "American Pastoral" was published in 1997 since they attended the Newark school more than a decade apart. "Until he got the book, he didn't believe it," Mr. Masin's daughter, Patty, said. "It was very exciting for him and for all of us."

Still, Mr. Masin, who died in Atlantic Highlands at 85, took the unexpected fame with the same humility that marked his outstanding sports career as a young man some six decades earlier at Weequahic, where he starred in basketball, track and football.

"He was a truly great high school and college athlete," said Sid Dorfman, a Star-Ledger columnist who met regularly with Mr. Masin to talk sports. "You had to tell him how good he was because he wouldn't. We had to drag it out of him." Mr. Masin was named to The Star-Ledger's All Decade Team for the 1930s

and is widely considered one of the greatest athletes in Newark history. With little training in track and field at age 15, Mr. Masin

threw the 8-pound shot put 57 feet, 6 inches - a record that stood for 45 years. As he matured, he became an imposing figure by the sports standards of the 1930s and 1940s at 6 feet, 1 inch tall and 200 pounds.



He continued to build his legacy when he attended Panzer College, which is now a part of Montclair State University. He captained the basketball, soccer and track teams at Panzer. Mr. Masin led the basketball team to a 44-victory streak including wins over powerhouse teams like New York University and Long Island University.

Jerry Izenberg, longtime Star-Ledger sports columnist, said New York teams suddenly began refusing to schedule games against the upstart Panzers. And Mr. Masin's prowess in track and field earned him a state shot put championship and a silver medal at the Penn Relays. "For him to dominate in everything was amazing," Izenberg said. "He was the guy that the entire city of Newark knew. He was so complete, he had the physical strength to match his talent."

Mr. Masin served as a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy during World War II, stationed on a minesweeper in the Mediterranean. When he returned from the war, he resumed his sports career by playing professional basketball for the Newark Bobcats in the American Basketball League, a precursor to the NBA.

His love of sports never waned during the 49 years he spent as a liquor salesman, primarily working for Gordon Bass and Co. in Union. Mr. Masin attended any community sporting event he could find and transferred his passion for athletics to his children. "Our whole social life was going to sporting events," said Patty Masin, who is a physical education teacher at Elizabeth High School. "He just loved sports and loved kids."

It wasn't until Patty Masin uncovered a scrapbook documenting Mr. Masin's achievements in high school and college that she understood the acclaim that

followed his sports career.

"He was just a powerful person, so loved and respected by everyone," Patty Masin said.

"I really treasured his friendship," said Les Fein, who got to know Mr. Masin through their regular lunch meetings with Dorfman to talk sports. "He was an incredibly warm, soft and wonderful individual for his legendary prowess as a big strong man. He was like a gentle giant." Fein, one of New Jersey's most accomplished high school basketball coaches, said he recalls asking Mr. Masin about his revived notoriety eight years ago when Roth published "American Pastoral." "He laughed about it," Fein said. "It meant a great deal to him."

Mr. Masin had the opportunity to meet Roth when the author was a featured speaker at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center two years after "The Swede" character won Roth so much acclaim. "You put me on the map," Masin told Roth, according to an account published in The Star-Ledger at the time. "You put me on the map," Roth replied.

In addition to his daughter, Mr. Masin is survived by his sons Dale Raugas, Bob Masin and Doug Masin, and six grandchildren.

*In memory of Seymour Swede Masin, the WHS Alumni Association will establish a new Scholarship Fund.*



## *In Loving Memory*

Harry Laufer, 1939  
Rita Rubin Matlin, Jan. 1951  
Gary Scher, 1952  
Judy Greenblatt Moskowitz, 1959  
Manuel Lylerly, 1963  
Jerry Karpf, 1966

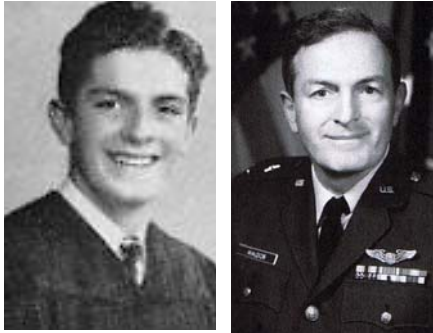




## *In Loving Memory*

### **Jerry Waldor, WHS Jan. 1945 grad, known to many as 'Mr. UJA'**

by Robert Wiener, NJ Jewish News



Jerome Waldor, a leading benefactor of the MetroWest Jewish community who served on myriad boards and committees and was president of United Jewish Communities of Metro- West NJ from 1990 to 1993, passed away at age 77 after a long illness.

A long-term resident of South Orange, he was a member of Congregation B'nai Jeshurun in Short Hills, where his funeral was held, and hundreds of people came to pay their respects. A long line formed outside the synagogue; inside, by the time the service began, the sanctuary was nearly full.

There were childhood friends, business associates, military personnel, and those who knew him through his charitable work for the Jewish community. The signature books had to be closed before the service due to the large number of people; when they were reopened after the service, the pages ran out before all the people who wished to offer their condolences had had a chance to sign.

Waldor's wife, Rita, commented in her eulogy on the idea in Jewish folklore that there are, at any time, 36 righteous people on earth. "I am sure I am married to one of them," she said.

A Newark native and graduate of Weequahic High School (Jan. 1945), Waldor received an appointment to the

United States Military Academy at West Point and a commission in the Air Force, retiring from the reserves in 1987 as a major general. Since 1959, he was chief executive officer of what is now the Waldor Insurance Agency in Florham Park.

*"To me, Jerry has always been Mr. UJA,"* said Kenneth R. Heyman of Short Hills, the current president of UJC MetroWest. *"I always considered him a role model, not just for his [financial] commitment to the community but for the time he committed. He was there at all the meetings and always the person we would go to get feedback from. When I was rising up in the federation, I could always say, 'This is somebody we should all aspire to be like.'"*

In addition to UJC MetroWest, Waldor was active as a board member at a host of institutions, including the Jewish Community Housing Corporation, the Joseph Kushner Hebrew Academy, the New Jersey Y Camps, and the American Jewish Committee. He was founding chair of the William and Betty Lester Society, whose members have helped endow the Jewish Community Foundation of MetroWest. His family name adorns the Waldor Memorial Library on the Alex Aidekman Family Jewish Community Campus in Whippany.

Waldor was also an accomplished tennis player who won a silver medal in Israel's Maccabiah Games and, well past his prime, ranked fifth place in the Eastern Tennis Association.

Waldor was *"one of the most extraordinary individuals I've ever met, a renaissance man and great philanthropist and leader and motivator,"* said Max Kleinman, executive vice president of UJC MetroWest. *"He was the best fund-raiser I've ever met. He raised more money for UJA than anyone else I can think of and he was an ardent champion of our agencies and Israel. He was a problem-solver and a diplomat extraordinaire. He had an incalculable impact on our life here in MetroWest."*

Steven Klinghoffer, a Short Hills resident and another past president of MetroWest, said, *"I've known Jerry just about all my life. I was always aware of him, and*

*when I became involved with the community 25 years ago, I got to work with him."* According to Klinghoffer, Waldor's style was embodied in an all-purpose expression he learned in Israel.

*"Jerry was challenged when it came to foreign languages, but he did pick up one word of Hebrew: 'mitzuyan.' It means 'excellent.' Whenever anybody asked Jerry how things were, he said 'mitzuyan,' and that reflected his outlook on life. Whether things were good or not so good, it was always 'mitzuyan.' He was not a guy to complain. He was always very up, very up, and because of who he was, he caused that kind of positive imprint in the entire community,"* said Klinghoffer.

Lori Klinghoffer, current chair of the UJA Campaign, said their association *"dates back to when I was a little girl and he lived two doors down in West Orange. It is a long history. In my adult life he has been, not only for myself but for so many, a remarkable presence with his caring, his leadership, and his warmth. The void we have all suffered with his illness, which began last spring, has now come full circle, and it's devastating."*

Judy May of Tewksbury, a close friend of Waldor and his wife, served as president of the UJF of Morris and Sussex in 1983 and met him when her federation merged with others, forming what is now UJC MetroWest.

*"Jerry totally and thoroughly believed in the Jewish people and the Jewish community,"* she said. *"He loved it, and he loved everyone. He was just a joyous man who loved what he was doing. He worked tirelessly. There was nobody like him. You couldn't help but want to follow him. He was an amazing man. What a sad thing. He needed no accolades. He did this because he loved this community. He wasn't looking for a pat on the back. He was a modest, wonderful guy. What a loss!"*

Waldor is survived by his wife, Rita; his sons and their wives, Matthew Waldor and Lori Olans, Marc Waldor and Nancy Long, and Peter Waldor and Jody Miller; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

# **MEMBERSHIP / MERCHANDISE / SCHOLARSHIP Form**

**Send to: WHS Alumni Association, P.O. Box 494, Newark, NJ 07101  
or make your purchases with a credit card at [www.weequahicalumni.org](http://www.weequahicalumni.org)**

- Please Print Clearly -

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

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3.      \$12.00 TOTE BAG (ivory bag with Weequahic logo)
4.      \$12.00 T-SHIRT (sizes S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL - white or khaki with big W in orange & brown)
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7.      \$3.00 each / 16 for \$45.00 BACK ISSUES OF THE ALUMNI CALUMET (issues 1 through 16)

## **21 Scholarship Choices:**

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| 3. \$ _____ MOREY BOBROW Memorial Fund                      | 13. \$ _____ PHYLLIS & DONALD KALFUS Fund          |
| 4. \$ _____ CLASS OF JUNE 1940 SCHOLARSHIP Fund             | 14. \$ _____ HANNAH LITZKY Memorial Fund           |
| 5. \$ _____ CLASS OF 1945 - Academic / Performing Arts Fund | 15. \$ _____ BERT MANHOFF Memorial Fund            |
| 6. \$ _____ CLASS OF 1963 SCHOLARSHIP Fund                  | 16. \$ _____ SEYMOUR 'SWEDE' MASIN Memorial Fund   |
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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name at Weequahic: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

## Newark-born doctor, WHS grad, gives \$27 million to Israeli science institute

by Robert Wiener, NJJN Staff Writer



Ask Albert Willner (a Jan. 1936 graduate) why his family foundation supports Israel's Weizmann Institute for Science in Rehovot, and he'll tell you that it was because he was such a bad student when he was growing up in Newark.

*"My father was very unhappy with me as a kid," the philanthropist and orthopedic surgeon told NJ Jewish News. "When I was about 13, I got a bad report card. My father took me over to the Lower East Side of New York on a Sunday morning and took me to a building. He said, 'Get out of the car, I want you to see where I lived.' He brought me to the fourth-floor of a tenement, and I didn't like that at all. Then he brought me to the sweatshop and showed me these people who were working on the sewing machines. When we came back to the car, he said, 'What do you think?' and I said, 'Hey, that's awful. I think it's terrible,' and my father said to me, 'Hey look, you little punk, if you don't study, this is where you're going to end up.' So I studied more than any other kid in the class. I was terrorized by the thought of ending up there."*

That terror followed Willner through his years at Weequahic High School, New York University, and then New York Medical College, where he learned his craft as an orthopedic surgeon. Before retiring and moving to Florida, Willner was professor of orthopedics at the New Jersey College of Medicine and Dentistry and president of the now defunct Crippled Children's Hospital in his hometown.

Last month the "little punk" electrified the philanthropic world by making a \$27 million donation to the American Committee for the Weizmann Institute of Science, which supports the famed research center. The gift will support the institute's research and education efforts, including grants to recruit and equip gifted young scientists.

*"When I retired in 1987, I learned about Weizmann from a scholar there," Willner said. "I found that this was the best place for me to engage my family with. It was an outstanding institute with a small group of people who were brilliant, and they were building a whole complex in Israel."*

*"We decided we would establish scholarships over there in basic sciences - biology, physics, chemistry, everything - to support the young people graduating from high school to go into college in the sciences."*

His goal is to *"bring more scholars and more intellectuals into the place. I want to support these people, who don't have money. And equipment is so expensive today."*

For most of his 87 years, education - not riches - has been a prime motivator for Willner, who invested wisely on Wall Street and was determined to share much of his wealth. *"I told my children we had too much money lying around, and there were people in need. We felt the most important thing to do was educate other people and to work with hospitals and institutes to provide scholarships for people who didn't have money,"* he told NJJN in a telephone call from his home in Delray Beach, Fla.

Through a foundation called the Willner Family Leadership Institute, the doctor, his son, Joseph, and daughter, Jane - both physicians - endowed perpetual scholarships at eight American colleges and medical schools before turning their attention to the Israeli institute. As enthusiastic as he is about the practice of

science and medicine in Israel, Willner finds much to criticize in his native land. *"There is an anti-science attitude in this government,"* he said. *"I think it's terrible. It is a very bad thing they are doing in not supporting the stem cell research they should be supporting. It is not the same thing as the way they have it in Israel,"* he said.

In terms of medical care, in America *"there is always a feeling that many doctors are more interested in their own welfare"* than in that of their patients, he said. That's not the field he entered when, after a stint in the Army Medical Corps, he opened a practice in Kearny. In those post-World War II years, polio was rampant in America, and the young doctor devoted much time and effort to surgery that enabled paralyzed young people to walk again. *"We didn't make money on these kids. We didn't look for money in medicine,"* he said. *"We looked for a result, and getting a result was a wonderful feeling."*

After the death of his wife and philanthropic partner, Blanche, three years ago, Willner said, he *"got involved with multiple charities"* in southern Florida, including cancer societies and the Anti-Defamation League. *"I like giving away my money. I get a thrill out of it. It's a good investment to invest in Jewish things."*

Willner described himself as a *"religious man who only goes to services on Jewish holidays."* As he looks back over his years in practice and his time in retirement, Willner said, *"I've had a good life and a good family. I like people and I like what I'm doing."*

*"When friends of mine down here go into the hospital, I go out of my way to see them. To be helpful to others is all I want to be. I don't need any money. I don't need a big car or a bigger house. I don't want to do anything that isn't right. It's good to be good to other people."*

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## Reunions 2006:

**April 30**

**JUNE 1956 - 50th**

Sunday, 12 PM, The Westminster in Livingston, NJ. Tour of Newark and high school included. *Contact Ed Croman at [ecroman@comcast.net](mailto:ecroman@comcast.net) or (973) 239-8833.*

**October 7**

**JAN. & JUNE 1961 - 45th**

Saturday, 12 PM, Ocean Place Resort and Spa in Long Branch, NJ. *Contact Anne Kramer at (505) 984-8380 or [weequahic1961@comcast.net](mailto:weequahic1961@comcast.net).*

## Planning Reunions:

**JUNE 1957 - 50th**

The class of June 1957 is organizing a 50th Reunion in 2007. Many classmates have already responded. If you would like to serve on the planning committee or need more information, contact *Bea Austrager Chaiklin* at (973) 992-3650 or [bchaiklin@aol.com](mailto:bchaiklin@aol.com).

**JAN. & JUNE 1962 - 45th**

The classes of January and June 1962 are jointly organizing their 45th reunion for 2007. *Contact Bonnie Zunk Vogel at [Bonniev929@aol.com](mailto:Bonniev929@aol.com) or Cookie Wax Gulkin at [lgulkin@verizon.net](mailto:lgulkin@verizon.net)*

**1966 - 40th**

The class of 1966 is organizing a 40th Reunion in 2006. *Contact Seymour Mullman for more information at (973) 376-5929.*

## Chancellor Get-Together

Alumni from Mrs. Chesney's accelerated class from Chancellor Avenue School graduating in 1961 will be gathering for events on the weekend of June 9, 2006. For more information, contact *Jonathan Krasney* at (973) 543-9101 or *Marv Schlanger* at (609) 320-1159.

## WHS ALUMNI STORE

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**Judy Bennett, 1972**

Treasurer:

**Sheldon Bross, 1955**

Secretary:

**Myrna Jelling Weissman, 1953**

Board of Trustees:

**Larry Bembry, 1966**

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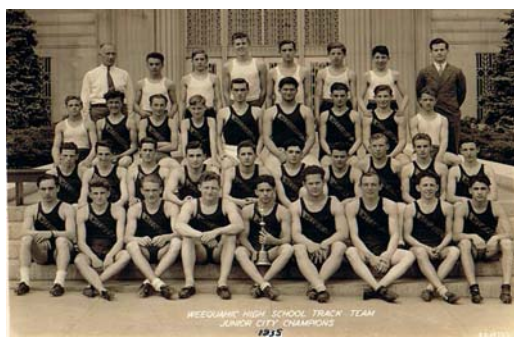
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## Chancellor Get-Together

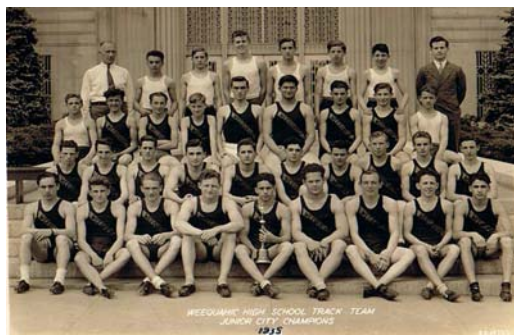
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