

WINTER 2009 / ISSUE 26

# ALUMNI CALLUINIET



## Weequahic At 75



**Honoree Hilda Lutzke with son Arthur**

It was September 11, 1933 when Weequahic High School opened its doors to students and faculty for the first time.

It was also the year...when Pulitzer Prize winning author Philip Roth was born; Franklin Roosevelt became the President of the United States; the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco began construction; our 30th President Calvin Coolidge passed away; Prohibition was repealed; Adolf Hitler was appointed Chancellor of Germany; King Kong premiered in New York City; the Mt. Rushmore National Memorial was dedicated; the first alleged modern sighting of the Loch Ness Monster occurred; Mohandas Gandhi began a 3-week hunger strike because of the mistreatment of the lower castes in India; the first drive-in theater opened in Camden, New Jersey; and the chocolate chip cookie was invented by Ruth Wakefield.

### 75 Years Later

On Sunday, November 2, 2008, more than 350 people celebrated the 75th birthday of Weequahic High School and the induction of 12 distinguished alumni and faculty into the first class of the Weequahic Alumni Hall of Fame at Temple B'nai Abraham in Livingston. The event was organized by the Alumni Association with Board officers, Sam Weinstock and Mary Dawkins, serving as co-chairpersons.

Inducted into the Alumni Hall of Fame were *sportsman* **Alvin Attles**; *journalist* **Sid Dorfman**; *basketball coach* **Les Fein**; *1st principal* **Max Herzberg**; *news show host* **Sandra King**; *author* **Benilde Little**; *foreign language department chair* **Robert Lowenstein**; *English teacher* **Hilda Lutzke**; *athlete* **Seymour "Swede" Masin**; *cardiologist* **Victor Parsonnet**; *writer* **Philip Roth**; and *principal* **Ron Stone**.

## Alumni Broadcast INAUGURATION At High School

*On Tuesday, January 20th, 2009, Barack Obama became the first African-American president and all of Weequahic High School was watching*

From the Star-Ledger at NJ.com



Schools across the state incorporated the inauguration into their class schedules. Newark's Weequahic High School was prepped to stop classes for a presentation of the inauguration on four video screens set up in the auditorium, library/media center, and north and south cafeterias.

Members of the school's alumni association, which paid more than \$3,000 to have the ceremony broadcast in the school, began showing up around 9:30 a.m. to join about 1,000 students and faculty members who were braced to watch the ceremony.

**Arnold Keller**, a graduate of the class of 1952, peeked into the auditorium where he spotted a 10 foot screen, already showing scenes from Washington. The 74-year-old stockbroker from Edison was giddy, a far contrast of the quiet student he was when he attended the school. Keller admitted he couldn't help the nervous excitement, especially after he began walking the crowded hall. *"This is hope for a new era, and for these kids,"* he said. *"They need somebody to look up to."*

**Corey Rogers**, a senior, said there was a bringing-down-the house excitement leading up to the inauguration. *"I'm just overwhelmed. I'm able to see, at only 17, the first African-American sworn in as president."*

**Beverly Russell-Pasley**, a teacher, watched the inauguration with about 100 students and faculty members inside the school's library/media center.

*continued on next page*

*continued from page 1*

**Russell-Pasley**, 53, is a former lawyer and New York City prosecutor, who started teaching in Newark last September. She said she shared Obama's call to service, and believed she could do her part as an educator, after years of seeing children languish in the criminal justice system.

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*"On this historic day, this was the greatest gift we could have given the high school, stated alumni director, **Phil Yourish**. "The staff and students were very appreciative and **Principal John Tonero** worked closely with us to make it happen. I was moved by the number of people who thanked me and the alumni association for doing this."*

Other alumni who attended were: **Alain Bourdeau de Fontenay**, 1960; **Sheldon Bross**, 1955; **Mel Jacobs**, 1964; **Dave Lieberfarb**, 1965; **Gerald Russell**, 1974; **Vivian Ellis Simons**, 1959; and **Myrna Jelling Weissman**, 1953. In addition, Weequahic faculty who graduated WHS were also present. They were: **Yolanda Cassidy-Bogan**, 1988; **Cheryl Howard**, 1978; **Rosalind Nixon Robinson**, 1977; **Bernard Rybnick**, 1964; **Waunita Scott**, 1991; and **Loraine White**, 1964.

## Weequahic and Obama

By Dr. Lewis Kampel, 1960

The recent election of Barack Obama as the first African-American President, just a few days after Weequahic High School's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration has me thinking about race, past and present.

While I was at Weequahic (1956-1960) we elected the first African-American student to be president of the OBA. Oh, how proud we were of ourselves! But few of us had black friends and most of us were totally oblivious to the problems that kids our age were having in neighborhoods just next to our own, much less elsewhere in the country. How many black teachers were there at Weequahic? Why were so many black kids at Weequahic in non-academic programs and so few in "college prep"?

While we were so busy patting ourselves on the back, race relations in Newark were

beginning to spiral downward, culminating in the riots of 1967. Many Weequahic graduates were on the front lines of the battle for racial justice in the 60's, but I suspect that most, myself included, were passive observers at best. Americans have been in a similar self-congratulatory state since the election.

But before we become too complacent, we should not forget that serious racial inequities remain. I see it every day in my practice. I am privileged to care for patients who span the entire socioeconomic spectrum, from titans of industry to the homeless. Blacks are disproportionately poor and consequently suffer more from the diseases of poverty; among them: hypertension, diabetes, and obesity. When I take family histories, blacks and other poor patients are much more likely to report a loved one lost to drugs, violence or AIDS than those who are white and generally better off.

That brings me back to the WHS 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration and the WHS Alumni Association. Now, I am no flaming liberal, and although I voted for Obama, some of my friends accuse me of being a closet conservative (I'm not). But, the atmosphere of cooperation between the older (predominantly white and Jewish) and more recent (largely African American) alumni and staff that was so apparent at the celebration was truly moving. And, the commitment of the WHS Alumni Association to actually do something to help the kids who are currently at Weequahic is truly amazing and worthy of our support.

In between the speeches and presentations, we were entertained by a Weequahic student (Aliah Sheffield, 2007) who sang beautifully. I hope and pray that she has the kind of advantages we had; supportive parents, good friends and no worries about safety. But, I could not help wondering what unique challenges she and her classmates face each day, challenges that those of us who grew up in the earlier days of Weequahic can not even begin to understand.

The connection between the old and new Weequahic gives us an excellent opportunity to help. Join the WHS Alumni Association. Contribute to any one of the numerous scholarship funds. There was even some talk about a mentoring program. What better way to honor the traditions and values we were taught than to actively participate?

## The ALUMNI CALUMET is a publication of the WHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

*Editor, Layout & Design:*

**Phil Yourish, 1964**

*Proofreading:*

**Dave Lieberfarb; Hal Braff;  
Myrna Jelling Weissman;  
Vasco Jardim.**

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## HELP WRITE THE NEXT ISSUE

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

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## SEND US YOUR WEEQUAHIC / NEWARK MEMORABILIA

We are creating an archive of all items relating to Weequahic and Newark for exhibitions at our events. 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.

*Recent donations to our archives  
were from:*

**Elsie Steiner Selikoff, 1936;  
Ruth Greenstein Blumer, 1948;  
Bernard Freedman, 1952;  
Carolisa Pomerantz, 1965;  
Principal John Tonero.**

## Weequahic documentary *Heart of Stone* wins film festival awards

*Giving inner city kids something they haven't had for generations...a future*

An Update By Director Beth Kruvant:



**Beth with Crips and Bloods gang leaders Rayvon and Sharif**

We are thrilled to let you know that *Heart of Stone* won the "Audience Award" for Best Documentary at the Slamdance Film Festival Premiere in Park City, Utah. It also won the Kaiser Permanente "Thrive" Award at the Cinequest Film Festival in San Jose, CA for a film that tells a story of "thriving in the face of adversity."

Upcoming screenings are as follows: March 16, IFC Theatre in New York City; March 29, a private screening in Montclair; April 2, the Philadelphia Film Festival; and also in April, the Atlanta Film Festival. Please visit our web site at [www.heartofstonethemovie.com](http://www.heartofstonethemovie.com) for clips, press reports, and screening information.

### The Story Behind The Documentary:

Before 1960, the Weequahic section of Newark, NJ, was largely an enclave of first-generation working-class Jewish families. During this era, Weequahic High School graduated more Ph.D's than any other school in the United States. One of its more famous graduates is Philip Roth, who has made his career using the Weequahic environs as the backdrop to many of his novels.

Life in Weequahic changed in the early 60's and after the 1967 Newark riots. The Jewish families moved out and were replaced by African-Americans. For the

next 30 years, a culture of discipline was replaced by a culture of challenges as academic performance plummeted and the Bloods and Crips ruled the campus and the streets. It was not until 2002 that Weequahic High School saw a glimmer of hope with the arrival of a new principal, Ron Stone, who vowed to return the school to its former glory.

Principal Stone created an unconventional conflict resolution program in order to work with the school's gang members who the local police considered fated criminals. Stone, who watched students engage in a mass brawl upon his arrival to the school, was able to make a truce with the gangs and even establish the school as a "non-violence" zone.

The principal partnered with the Jewish and African American alumni to raise funds for college scholarships and adopted familial relationships with students, inspiring gang members to leave the comfort of the streets and attend college. This is an unusual tale where past meets present and adolescents strive to overcome adversity.

The mission of this film is to use the Weequahic experience as a model for other inner city neighborhoods in America to rebuild and rejuvenate by reaching into their own past. Like so many other cities still recovering from the 1967 riots, Weequahic saw what was once a thriving area turned into gang ruled streets. *Heart of Stone* shows how disparate groups can join together to give their old communities something they haven't had for generations...a future.

I thank the Alumni Association, Ron Stone, and all the staff and students at Weequahic for generously sharing their time, thoughts and memories with me.

*Note: two children of WHS grads figure prominently in the documentary* - The original music in the film (and trailer) is composed by **Ben Decter**, the Emmy Award winning son of **Julian Decter, 1958**, an

oncologist in Montclair. **Blair Casdin**, whose rendition of "Cheek to Cheek" is included in the documentary, is the daughter of **Hedy Spiegel Mark, 1963**, and **Sherman Mark, 1958**.

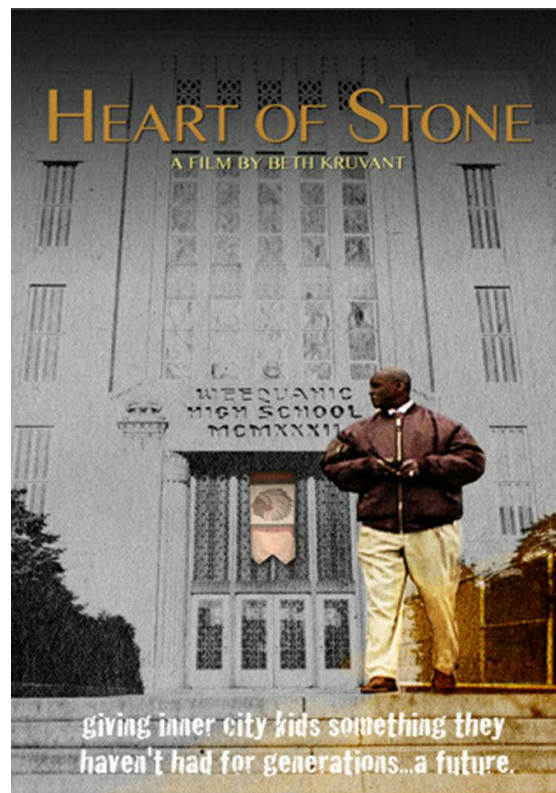
### Two Reviews:

**Robert Koehler, Variety**

*A gutsy Newark high school principal's efforts to stave off gang violence and boost student morale. The setting is the city's once famed Weequahic High, known for fostering more Ph.D.'s than any other American high school from the 1930's -60's, which makes the chronicle poignant and illustrates how African-Americans and Jewish alumni help each other turn the school in a new, safer direction. A fine-tuned cut should attract tube buyers worldwide, with doc-based fests beckoning. Pic won the Audience Award in Slamdance's documentary competition.*

**Kenneth Turan, L.A. Times**

*The most promising Slamdance films are the documentaries, especially involving is Heart of Stone, about the battle to bring a Newark, NJ high school back to its former glory.*







**Executive Director Phil Yourish, 1964,  
with Treasurer Sam Weinstock, 1955**

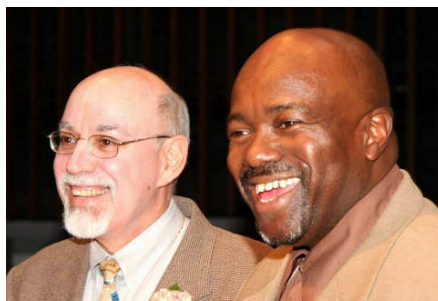


**Mary Dawkins, 1971, & Hal Braff, 1952,  
Alumni Co-Presidents**

## Some *Candid Snaps*



**Elaine Braff, Sandy Morris Strulowitz, 1954,  
Len Strulowitz, 1950, Thelma Portnoff,  
and Marlene Oser**



**Dave Lieberfarb, 1965, Gerald Russell, 1974,  
Alumni Hall of Fame Committee**



**Bob Kerner, 1955, Eli Hoffman, Ray Mark, 1956**



**Aliah Sheffield,  
2007 scholarship  
recipient, singing  
at the 75th event**



**Sandy King, 1965 and  
Vivian Ellis Simons, 1959**

## The new plaque is permanently on the **ROCK** at Untermann Field



**Dave Lieberfarb, 1965; Calvin Schwartz, 1963;  
Sandy Scheps, 1963**



**Journalist Nat Bodian  
with nephew Lou Bodian, 1964**



**Wilma Edwards, 1968, Eugene Campbell,  
former Newark Superintendent of Schools,  
and Lois Gilbert, 1960**







Principal John Tonero and Dr. Milton Luria, 1939, speak on behalf of the late Principal Max Herzberg



Clive Cummis, 1945, and Len Strulowitz, 1950, represent Philip Roth



Honoree Benilde Little, 1976, and husband Cliff Virgin III



Honoree Sandy King, 1965, and Brooke Tarabour, 1965



Bob and Patty Masin receive award for their Dad, the late Seymour Swede Masin, 1938



Honoree Dr. Robert Lowenstein and daughter Martha Lowenstein Rennie, 1964

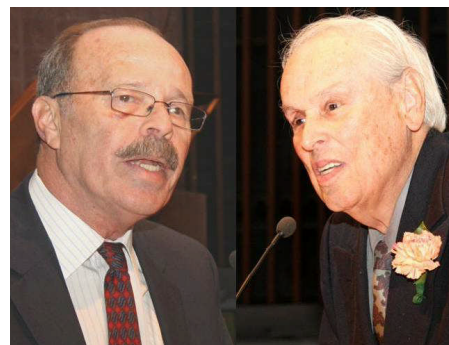
<p><i>The Weequahic High School Alumni Association</i> celebrates the high school's</p> <p>75 Magical Years <b>DIAMOND JUBILEE</b> 1933 - 2008</p> <p>and first Alumni Hall of Fame Ceremony</p>		<p>Sunday, November 2, 2008, 3 p.m.</p> <p>Temple B'nai Abraham 300 East Northfield Road Livingston, New Jersey</p> <p>Scholarship Fund Raiser Buffet / \$75 donation</p> <p>(973) 923-3133 / <a href="mailto:whs@weequahicalumni.org">whs@weequahicalumni.org</a> - a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization -</p>
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Dr. Clement Price and honoree Dr. Victor Parsonnet, 1941



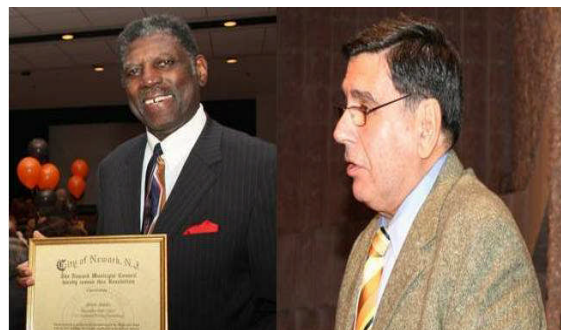
Ceil Fein with son Ken and Larry Bembry, 1966, receive the award for the late Les Fein



Len Fisher with honoree Sid Dorfman, 1937



The Stone Family: Jessie, Theresa, Bobby, Meg and Jarrett are proud of the accomplishments of the late Principal Ron Stone



Honoree Alvin Attles, 1955, and Monroe Krichman, 1955



# The kids are proud of Obama

By Mark Di Ionno, Star-Ledger,  
10/14/08 - Before the Election

Weequahic High School was built in the New Deal days of the Great Depression - days when hope in the working-class community was pretty much all most people had - and the area has voted Democrat ever since. It is the school of Philip Roth, and the compact, suburban neighborhoods of the Weequahic section of Newark were home to prewar Jewish assimilation, safety and, ultimately, success. Later the neighborhoods became a bastion of postwar Jewish liberalism.

Today the neighborhoods are mostly black and largely working-class and middle-class. Still, they are touched by the urban scourges of poverty, drugs, violence and joblessness. The potential for an African-American president has brought measured hope back around, but the students of Weequahic High School realize Barack Obama can't magically solve the problems of the cities.

In this setting - one that has seen so much of both the promise and failure of America - the students were asked what the candidacy of Barack Obama would mean for their personal futures. Could they, too, grow up to be president?

*"It shows that the average middle-class African-American, with a lot of education and hard work, can believe that,"* said **Shaquan Marks**, a straight-A honors student who says he is *"definitely"* headed to college.

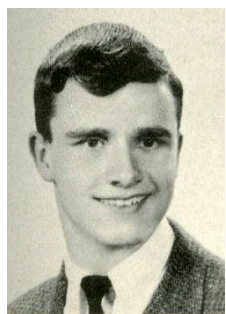
*"I didn't believe that before he got nominated, but now he shows it's possible,"* said **Perry Williams**, an honors student and member of Sigma Beta, the high school version of the national college fraternity Phi Beta Sigma. *"It shows all the small steps we've made in politics have led all the way to the top, and how we've progressed as a race."*

**Kareem Gifford** said Obama's path will *"make it easier for me"* by beating back the *"image of us being out of control and ignorant."* Not that Obama's candidacy, or even his election, means racism is dead.

*"If people are racist, their mentality isn't going to change just because of Obama,"* said Kareem, who is on track to be the school valedictorian in 2010. *"Some people are just racially immature,"* said Perry Williams. *"They just can't accept other people."*

## What Makes Barack Obama's Inauguration So Special for Me?

By **Alain Bourdeau de Fontenay** who was an exchange student from France at Weequahic High School in 1959-1960. Alain returned to Weequahic on January 20th to watch the Inauguration with the students at the high school.



Sure, I am excited that Barack Obama is now president. Sure, I look forward to a return to what I have always seen as our most fundamental principles. Sure, all those things and much more are

wonderful, but this is not what makes the inauguration unique for me.

What makes this inauguration so special is something my children can only know through books. It is the way things were when they were young and how they have changed, slowly but, as we can see, for real.

For me, all of this started with a trip by boat from Paris to New York which took me, thanks to the Aron and the Greene families, to Weequahic where I spent 1959-1960. It is my experience at Weequahic that convinced me to come back to get my BA from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1963-1965 and my Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University in 1965-1968

What makes this day so special are my children who tell me that I am of the old generation because of the way I reacted to the people's response to Obama throughout his campaign, his election, and his inauguration. And I am happy that they are not of my generation in the way

they look at the inauguration; they can focus on what Obama can do to repair the damage that has been done over the last few years.

Their world, like Obama's, is one that has *"overcome"* the history that is in my bones (and yet it is a history they know well and respect). What makes this day so special is because it is a day my wife, deep down, had never thought would come in her lifetime (even if we still have far to go). What makes this day so special is that Michelle Obama did not have to have *"good"* hair to become the First Lady.

What makes this day so special is that it may be making up, a little, for all the abuses and all the injustices my in-laws from my first marriage, especially those from the generation before me, had to suffer in communities in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama where they were born and which were supposed to be their *"home."* It is a world I cannot imagine, one they, even though they are very religious, all described as *"vicious."*

What makes this day so special is that it finally makes the country my late father-in-law was training to defend as an airman in Tuskegee in the early 1940's a democracy where his descendants are finally full citizens.

I have been so much a part, in a lot of small ways, of the changes that have made today a reality, changes such as a U.S. Supreme Court decision that made my marriage with my first wife legal in Tennessee where we were students at Vanderbilt University and Tennessee State A&I respectively, changes such as being able, in 1969, to drive with her and our first child, a toddler, to visit her parents in Alberta, AL without having to fear for our life and the life of our child. All of those small things make this day so special.

What makes this day so special is the world it is opening for my children, not just one in which they can also become President of the United States, but one which is just *"better,"* be it in the United States, in France, or across all continents. This is, more than anything else, what makes this day so special for me.

# ALUMNI VOICES

**Cantor Don Slonim, WHS  
January 1952, Long Island**

## *How Weequahic Influenced My Life*



If you recognize my name, but can't remember from where, don't worry about your memory. After all, it's been more than half a century since I graduated from WHS.

Here are some clues. You may recall riding on the #8 Lyons Avenue and #14 Clinton Place buses, which passed *Slonim's Pharmacy*, my father's store, where I worked as a soda jerk and delivery boy. Maybe you remember me from our basketball games at the Chancellor school yard across from my house on Goldsmith Avenue and in Marty Sorger's driveway on Pomona Avenue with Hal Braff and other friends. Perhaps you remember playing in the band, where I played sax, at WHS football games, which they usually lost.

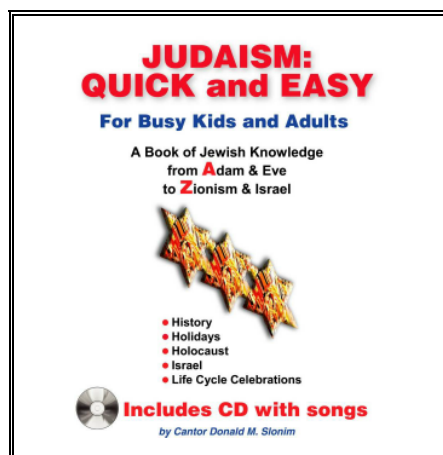
I fondly recall Dr. Robert Lowenstein, a marvelous teacher and a mentsh (wonderful human being), who rescued me from my struggles with 9<sup>th</sup> grade French. I also remember the dreaded intersection of Weequahic and Maple Avenues, the location of my orthodontist and Hebrew School at Young Israel, the Orthodox synagogue to which my parents sent me, although we weren't a religious family. My mind then was to basketball, not Bible studies. My Jewish identity came from living in the Weequahic section, which was like a *shtetl*, a very Jewish neighborhood.

Life often leads us in unexpected directions. Never in those days did I dream about becoming a Cantor and an author, although I always loved classical and Jewish music. Nevertheless, after graduating from Rutgers University, I went five years, full-time, to Hebrew Union College and became a Cantor. Subsequently, I enriched my education when I won an opera scholarship at Juilliard and earned a Masters degree at Columbia University.

Now, after many years as a Cantor, and teaching a multitude of children and their parents about Judaism, I wrote and published the book I always wanted to teach from, but which did not exist, *Judaism: Quick and Easy*.

In one volume, it tells about Jewish history and Bible stories such as the first murder mystery (Cain and Abel) and the first cruise (Noah's Ark), holidays, the Holocaust, Israel right up to its recent 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, life cycle celebrations, and includes a CD on which I sing Jewish songs and prayers. It's informal, yet informative.

It reaches out to interfaith families, "not religious" Jews, alienated and over-programmed kids and their parents, and grandparents who want to give their



grandchildren a meaningful gift to learn about their Jewish heritage. (Excerpts from the book and CD are at [www.JudaismQuickandEasy.com](http://www.JudaismQuickandEasy.com).)

While WHS has changed from mostly Jewish to mostly black, we have much in common. Students, then as now, are proud of their heritage, strive for a better life, want to help the world, and perpetuate the WHS community. As I did, many will change in unexpected ways, yet retain some lifelong interests.

We are grateful to Hal Braff, Phil Yourish, and the *Weequahic Alumni Association*, for keeping our wonderful memories alive, updating us through the *Alumni Calumet* and reunions, and for helping to make a college education possible for many of today's WHS students through scholarships. Thanks to them and all of you, *Weequahic's Legend* will continue.

**Gary Goss June 1964, Mass.**

*Blue Moon Soup*  
"Cookin' with the kids!"



As some of you know, I have been in the food business, in one form, or another, since 1975, when Minda Schwartz Goss, (WHS 1964), and I opened the first soup restaurant. I now write kids/family cookbooks. *Blue Moon Soup*, will be the first kids and family TV show, airing next year on Nickelodeon. (I hope!)

I have been coming back to N.J. often to see friends and seek out old food places that still exist. Many of the stories (*in Jac Toporek's e-mail newsletter*) talked about the old delicatessens, pastrami in particular, which, along with corned beef, distinguished the best delis. On one of my trips, in 1985-86, I thought about the disappearance of most great Jewish delis. I know Bragmans is still there, and new ones are opening.

With that I wrote a sort of lament, about this subject. Thus, *The Pope Loves Pastrami*, (not politically correct, but not always perfect!). The book tells what pastrami actually is. It tastes so good, and must be so unhealthy (not for your psyche!).

The deep red pepper covered meat, was it pickled, steamed? Is it corned beef, gone astray? The book tells about the atmosphere, decor, items, smells, etc. I list some of the old, great delicatessens. One of my favorites for pastrami was Lipshitz on Clinton Avenue.

I have some personal stories, but would love to hear about your memories of these great delis. The book will come out in 2 years, hopefully including some of your stories. Wayne Chen, 1964, of Mings fame, and I are also doing a cookbook together. He reminds me that, as we ate Chinese food at Mings, he and his family were eating pastrami in the back!



# ALUMNI VOICES

## Howard Brody, WHS June 1950



I married Lois Chase (also Weequahic class of June 1950) and we have two children. I am an emeritus professor of physics at the University of Pennsylvania. For 20+ years I did

research in high energy particle physics at the big atom smashers (Brookhaven Labs, Fermi Lab, CERN (Geneva) etc.

I then switched to the technology of tennis. I have always been interested in sports and combined it with my physics. In my first year at Weequahic (the Annex) I was captain and played number one on the varsity tennis team. In my senior year I was on the Weequahic basketball team, getting into one game and scoring 2 points.



**Jac Toporek, class of 1963,** has a weekly e-mail newsletter with commentary about a potpourri of Weequahic topics from those who lived the life. The following are some excerpts starting with Jac.

## Class of 63 Celebrates 63

It was billed as the *Class of 63 Celebrates 63*. Last fall, the Class of 63 celebrated a collective 63<sup>rd</sup> birthday with a dinner party at Manhattan's Popover Café, owned and operated by one of its own, Carol Baer. Twenty-five classmates enjoyed great food and the intimacy which allowed for warm exchange of memories, laughs, hugs and catching up. No formal 45<sup>th</sup> reunion for our class, but, 45 years after graduation, our bond still holds strong.

## On Eleanor Roosevelt's visit to the high school:

### Roberta Stepel Shuken, 1962



My brother, Henry Stepel (Stepner - 6/53) told me the following story many times. *"The day Eleanor Roosevelt came to WHS, we were lined up along the staircase when Mrs. R*

*walked down. She stopped at me and said, "How are you doing, young man?" I replied, "Very well, thank you, Mrs. Roosevelt." She then bent down and kissed me on the cheek. Now, how many people do you know that can say, I was kissed by the First Lady?"*

### Stella Goldberg Geller, June 1952



I remember the Eleanor Roosevelt visit to Weequahic very well. I took a Home Economics class and we were assigned to provide refreshments for Eleanor. We made pinwheels hors d'oeuvres for her out of colored white bread filled with chive cream cheese and egg salad; also some little square cheese filled things. It may have been date & nut bread. We served tea. She was the tallest woman I ever met with that high pitched voice. She was very gracious, but I was so impressed by her fame, I do not remember what she spoke about.

### Karl Maling, 1952

I remember that day as if it happened yesterday. My gym class was scheduled that afternoon, but we had to wait for a very special person. She was tall and wearing a funny hat, but elegant, graceful and memorable. What a thrill to be standing next to the First Lady.

### Bob Dubman, June 1952



I definitely remember Eleanor Roosevelt speaking at WHS. In fact, to those who do not know WHS, I relate that WHS was of such caliber that Mrs. Roosevelt addressed the student body while I was a student. Was the event Torch Day that she spoke? Also, I may be confused about this, but was it at that speech that she spoke those famous words that became associated with her: *"It is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness"?*

### Jean Gorowitz Helfman, June 1952

Yes, I will never forget the thrill of seeing Eleanor Roosevelt. What a regal and commanding presence; such dignity and stature. How I idolized her and held onto



her every word. I can still hear her voice resonating in my memory. To this day she is one of the most memorable persons I have ever had the honor of seeing and hearing.

## On the Alumni Hall of Fame:

### Barbara Smith Tripp, Jan. 1952



My brother, Howard, a June 1954 grad, has had an illustrious career and should be considered for the Alumni Hall of Fame. Howard won an Academy Award for producing and directing the documentary *Marjoe*. He wrote a weekly column for the Village Voice from 1966 to 1984, in addition to hundreds of articles in national magazines and newspapers. For many years, he also hosted a weekly radio show on WPLJ.

Howard covered Woodstock live for ABC and is still interviewed for books and films about that historic event. He was a personal friend of John and Yoko Lennon and many other members of that era. Andy Warhol gave him one of his Marilyn Monroe paintings after Howard wrote about Andy being shot. Because of his importance in the 60's and 70's, he was a frequent guest on many network TV shows, Merv Griffin, Tom Snyder, and three times on Letterman. Feel free to look him up on Wikipedia.

### Roberta Wax on brother Stephen Wax



My late husband, Stephen Wax (6/60), should definitely be considered for the WHS Alumni Hall of Fame. Stephen was very prominent in the music business, having been President of a major record company, Elektra, as well as having his own company whereby he represented Barry Manilow and Fleetwood Mac, to name a few.

He won numerous Grammy awards and discovered hundreds of now famous singers, musicians, etc. The list goes on and on. His death in 2001 after an illness, brought the likes of The Eagles, Manilow, record execs, etc. to his funeral.



# Tony Handler, WHS June 1957

## Six-Time Cancer Survivor and Triathlete Wins First-Ever Growing Bolder Award

October 29, 2008 in Triathlon

*Triathlete Tony Handler was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and given two years to live. That was 25 years ago. Since then, he's beaten cancer six times and has been named the winner of the first-ever Growing Bolder Award presented by GrowingBolder.com*



Handler finished first in the 65-69 age group in the Olympic Division of the Masters Triathlon Championships, held in Orlando, Florida. A video of Handler competing and receiving the award

can be viewed at the [GrowingBolder.com](http://GrowingBolder.com) web site.

*"This award is a celebration of attitude, and is our way of honoring men and women who overcome obstacles and inspire others," says Growing Bolder President Marc Middleton. "Tony is an incredible guy who proves that age and even disease are no match for a positive attitude. Instead of letting life pass him by, he's committed to celebrating every moment. That's the Growing Bolder spirit."*



And celebrating is right! Handler is looking ahead to his 70th birthday, which is remarkable when you consider that when he was 45 years old, doctors called him in with news he never expected to hear. *"They told me, 'It's good news and bad news,'" Handler tells Growing Bolder. "The bad news is, it's malignant cancer. The good news is, we've seen people with this cancer live for two years.' I thought - that's the good news?"*

In fact, it was only the beginning of a series of battles Handler would face, starting with pancreatic cancer. Over the next two decades, he'd suffer from a malfunctioning heart valve, other genetic coronary problems and six types of cancer, requiring 17 surgeries. Even today, he receives monthly chemotherapy injections to treat his tumors and every six months doctors check him to make sure the cancer hasn't spread. He says he'll likely be on chemotherapy for the rest of his life.

How does he handle the daily reminders of his broken body? By fighting back. Now 69 years old, Handler has competed in 220 triathlons, including two Ironman events, and for his 70th birthday in 2009, he has plans for a special commem-

oration. *"The half-Ironman is a total of 70.3 miles, so I thought maybe I should try to do it in honor of my 70th birthday,"* says Handler. It's particularly appropriate, because in many ways, the Ironman saved Tony's life.

*"I was in the hospital after my first surgery, and I saw the Ironman on TV and said to myself 'I'm going to do that,'" Handler tells Growing Bolder. "And I did - twice! The doctors are amazed, and tell me exercise has saved my life. Even if it's psychological, it helps me; it helps that my family and friends don't see somebody lying in bed moaning."*

Twenty-five years after doctors gave him a life expectancy of two years, they now say Tony is a contradiction like they've never seen before. When it comes to the diseases that have ravaged his body, he's in much worse condition than most people his age. But physically, thanks to his triathlon training, he's in better shape than 99.9% of his peers.

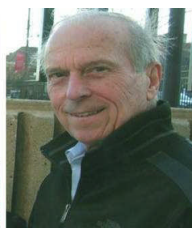
*"It's all about attitude - training has always helped me get up and out of bed faster after surgeries or treatments for cancer,"* Handler says. *"I don't feel like I'm almost 70, I feel 50. And as long as my body holds up, I'll do the triathlon."*

Married for 49 years to his childhood sweetheart Narda (who has only missed three of the 220 triathlons), Handler is proud that winning the Growing Bolder Award will help spread his message. *"Cancer doesn't have to be a death sentence,"* says Handler. *"I'm an example of that. And if my story helps others say 'I can do that,' then it's all worthwhile."*

## A "CLASS" ACT

### Recent donations:

Class of 1943; Class of 1945;  
Class of Jun. 1953; Class of  
Jan. 1958; Class of June  
1958; Class of 1963; Class of  
1968; 2009 West Coast  
Reunion, Steve & Lauri  
Dinetz, Arnold Keller, Steve  
Bogner, Dena Gittleman  
Greenstein, Clive Cummis,  
Ceil Fein, Sharon Price-Cates



*New Jersey Institute of Technology ball field in Newark was named after the Lubetkin family (Seymour - 1940; Bernard - 1943; Charles - 1949; and Alvin - 1951, for their contributions to the college. Charles (pictured above), a 1953 grad when it was known as Newark College of Engineering, was a Hall of Fame athlete in basketball and the pole vault.*

## A BOOK ON BAMBERGER

Linda Forgosh, the executive director and curator of the Jewish Historical Society of MetroWest, is writing a biography of **Louis Bamberger** (1855-1944), *New Jersey's Merchant Prince* and owner of L. Bamberger & Co. department store. She is seeking information from anyone who has a Bamberger memory, and will acknowledge them for helping her with the research. She can be reached at (973) 929-2994 or [lforgosh@jhsnw.org](mailto:lforgosh@jhsnw.org).

## REUNION REVIEWS

### *Mickey's Lunch*

By Rhoda Rosenfeld, Jan. 1945

The program cover read "*Mickey's Lunch - September 27, 2008 - Honor to Weequahic High - The Amazing People Factory.*" And so it was, on a bright autumn day at the Maplewood Country Club in Maplewood, NJ, that almost 300 of Mickey Edelston's "*closest friends*" came to a wonderful reunion luncheon which Mickey hosted for the Weequahic High School graduates of the classes 1945 through 1951.

One of the most Amazing People there was Mickey himself, from the class of June 1946, the founder and president of **Boardroom, Inc.**, a company which publishes the "*Bottom Line*" books and subscription newsletters dedicated to bringing, according to their stated purpose, "*the best information from the most knowledgeable sources in the world free from the influences of advertising.*"

Among the *Amazing People* who were educated at a high school which was almost a college prep school is the renowned author, Philip Roth, from the class of January 1950, probably the most famous of Weequahic High School's graduates.

Mickey Edelston also hosted a luncheon last January in Boca Raton, Florida, where many Weequahic High School



Mickey Edelston & Herb Zuckerberg

graduates reside, or are "*snowbirds*," spending the winter in summer climes.

The recent September luncheon in Maplewood proved such a success that Mickey promised to do the same thing next year. The bonding of these Weequahic High School graduates to each other, to their teachers and to their school defied the understanding of one guest who graduated from Hunter High School in New York City.

She told this reporter she "*simply could not grasp the idea*" that after more than half a century this group of people could still have enthusiasm and deep feelings for a time and place which still remains so dear to them. The response was: "*Ask a WHS graduate why, and notice his or her eyes just glaze over. It is hard to explain.*"

Mickey, and his wife Rita, made it possible for time to "*stand still*" as nearly 300 Weequahic High School graduates, including their "*mates & dates*" reminisced, laughed, and got a bit teary-eyed as they mingled and dined to

the music of the 40's and 50's. Their classmate, **Herb Zane**, better known to them as Butch Zukerberg, from the class of January 1945, emceed the event and his musicians, led by **Eddie Monteiro** with his electronic midi-accordion, a clarinet/sax man and a drummer, provided the background tunes to stir lots of memories of teenage romance and, in some cases, World War II experiences, both at home and overseas. Nonetheless, a great time was had by all, not the least of which was by Martin "*Mickey*" Edelston himself.

## CLASS OF JUNE 1958

**Michael Ritz, June 1958**, shares a reflection of a recent coming together of classmates:



The class of June 1958 held its 50th Reunion on September 21, 2008 at the Maplewood Country Club. It was extremely well attended and was a beautiful affair for which the Reunion Committee is to be

acknowledged for their great work.

This reunion was something which I had been looking forward to for quite some time. It turned out to be more than I could have ever hoped for. Seeing old friends and classmates, who I had not seen in 50 years, was overwhelming. Reminiscing about the old days, the neighborhood, the school, and Newark was joyous. I was especially moved to see some of my old buddies from Dewey Street, **Mickey Stern, Irwin Cohen, Sheldon Simon** and my fraternity brother **Murray Heller**.

We all know how special it was to be part of the Weequahic experience and this reunion made it even more profound. It was also great to have shared this experience with my wife, **Gail Silverstein Ritz (1/62)**, and my cousin, classmate and now neighbor, **Ed Rosengold (6/58)**.





# Vacation in Florida? *It's Never the Right Time*

By Ted Slate, WHS June 1953



Many of my friends have already left; others are packing up as I write this and they'll soon hit the road. The snowbirds are leaving Panther Valley. The annual hegira to Florida has begun.



In my retirement job as tour director, I've refused land tours that might keep me in Florida for several days. I've been there many times for

cruises that depart the Port of Miami or Fort Lauderdale but, when the cruise ship returns, I hop the first plane out of there.

I know it's irrational for me to avoid The Sunshine State the way I do. But, in my mind, I feel I've given Florida a chance. God knows I've tried to love it, but the urge that drives ME is the one that drives me away.

And it's not for elusive or imaginary reasons that I don't head south. I've got my reasons – good reasons. One reason is that, once you get there, you can't move around easily. Florida calls I-95 a highway; most see it as a gigantic parking lot. But whatever you call it, you've got to drive on it at some point. Good luck.

Some of my friends who journey there every year rave about the food, and particularly the great deal you get with the "Early Bird Specials." That's my kind of vacation: breakfast at 6 AM, lunch at 10, dinner at 3 PM and in bed by 8. Count me out; they can start their mid-afternoon dinner without me.

Over the years, I've spent thousands of dollars traveling there and invariably the weather has been cold and/or wet. The locals' response? "You should have been

here last week, it was beautiful. Will you be staying next week? It's supposed to be spectacular." So, if I'm to believe them, I'm there at the wrong time. When is the right time?

During my last trip to Florida, I attended my son's wedding near Miami and then drove to Tampa for opening day of the Yankees winter baseball season. My wife JoAnn and I sat in the stands during a downpour, freezing and wet, wearing jerry-built ponchos - garbage bags with holes for our heads - as we watched a game which, mercifully, was called off after a few innings because of the weather. It was the wrong time to be there.

Florida's animal life is another reason I don't head south. Many years ago, during a Florida vacation, I came face-to-face in my hotel room with a huge, creeping insect, the memory of which, to this day, gives me night sweats. The Floridians called it a Palmetto bug but, having lived



for many years in New York City, I knew it was a giant cockroach. That confrontation scared the hell out of me and were I a more creative person it might have inspired me to develop a movie around the theme, "Mutant Roaches Devour Florida."

Several times each summer, hundreds of sharks - I said, *hundreds* - circle offshore at Delray Beach searching for food. They do that regularly each season, heading south looking for their favorite prey, "snowbirds." I'm sure that when they view the unsuspecting vacationer, floating in the ocean on a raft, they think to

themselves: "Oh, look, people on toast." You'd never get me in that water. Six weeks ago, I read that rats from Gambia, 35 inches long and weighing nearly three pounds, were discovered living in and around Miami - reminders of the local traffic in exotic animals. And did you hear about the eight-foot alligator that appeared at the door of a Bonita Springs home? I did.

Night sweats are not the only sweats I get from my trips to Florida. I find the humidity there overwhelming, and it's no exaggeration to say that, while I'm there, I go through several shirts daily. When I ask my friends how they stand the heat, they reply, "Who stays out in the heat? We're indoors all day in air conditioning." Stay inside most of the time? Why travel 1500 miles just to stay indoors for four or five months? I can't figure it out.

I think the snowbirds leave us behind just so they can sit in front of their TVs in their air-conditioned living rooms or read newspapers at their pools reporting in detail the cold front that's just swept across the northeast, dropping three feet of snow. It's not a coincidence that the number of phone calls and e-mails I receive from Florida each winter increases exponentially as the weather in the northeast, as they see it, worsens.

It must give my snowbird friends a perverse satisfaction to call and needle me with: "How's the weather up there? Or Boy, it was so hot today I couldn't get out of the pool." I usually reply that I'm miserable up here in Warren County, looking out from my hilltop home at the gentle blanket of snow covering the valley, watching a family of deer cross the hillside just 30 feet from my door and, when I tire of that, I'll return to the living room with a brandy snifter and sit at my blazing fireplace with a good book. Things couldn't be worse.

Lately, I've been noticing how the subject of Florida has been creeping - sometimes subtly, other times blatantly - into my wife JoAnn's conversations with me. I know that she loves me - she shows me that love every day in so many ways. But down deep, for reasons I can't explain, I

Continued on page 16

# 2008 Weequahic Newark Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees

## William Belfer, 1963



During Bill's junior and senior years in high school, he won the Newark City Championship in the discus and broke the city record. He also was gold medalist in the City Championship in the shot-put in 1962 and silver medalist in 1963. As a senior he captured the bronze medal in the discus at the NJ Group IV State Championship.

In college at Seton Hall University, he dominated collegiate throwing events in the Northeast. He was a three time Metropolitan Collegiate Discus Champion and record holder; Metropolitan Collegiate Shot-Put Champion in 1966; silver medalist in the Penn Relays Discus in 1966; NJ Collegiate Discus Champion in 1965, 1966, 1967 and Record Holder; NJ Collegiate Shot-Put Champion in 1965, 1966 and 1967; and a two time Intercollegiate AAA of America Discus Champion and Record Holder.

Bill was also the National Junior AAU Champion in 1965. In both his junior and senior years, he qualified as a division 1 collegiate All-American in the discus. He represented the USA in the 1965 World Maccabiah Games in Tel Aviv, Israel, finishing second to the Italian National Champion by inches. In 1981 he was inducted into the Seton Hall Athletic Hall of Fame and after 40 years his discus and shot-put records still stand. His best throw of 184' 3" is one of the furthest collegiate throws in NJ AAU competition

Bill is a retired orthodontist who resides in Monmouth County. He is a graduate of UMDNJ and Boston University Graduate School of Dentistry. His wonderful wife Karen is an accomplished New Jersey artist and devoted mother to his sons, Adam and Ross. Bill has special thanks for Steve Bogner, (1966) a Weequahic teammate and standout athlete who always had wonderful insights to share. He also

gives special thanks to Sandy Scheps (1963), a lifelong friend who cheered Bill on throughout his high school years.

## Nate Granger, 1973



In high school, Nate developed into an outstanding basketball player. As a freshman, he played power forward for the Indians and by his junior year was an *All-City* selection. As a senior, he was *All-City, All-County*, and *All-State*, first team honorable mention - *All American*, and named "*Black Sports Player of the Year.*"

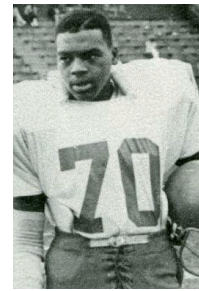
He graduated Weequahic with a scholarship that enabled him to attend East Texas State, now known as Texas A&M University. In college, Nate continued his basketball success as he was named "*Freshman of the Year*;" *All-Conference Honorable Mention* as a sophomore; *All-Conference* and rebounding leader as a junior; and *All-Conference* and all-time scoring champion as a senior.

At East Texas, Nate set new records for individual, season and career performances: most points in a game - 55; most points in a season - 700; most career points - 2,380; most field goals in a game - 26; in a season - 288, in a career - 988; most career rebounds - 1,100; and a career field goal percentage of 55 per cent.

Upon graduation, Nate was drafted by the Golden State Warriors. He continues to reside in Newark where he is a motivational speaker, focusing on the education of young people, helping them to "*learn to make better choices*" for themselves.

## Joseph Hines, 1978

In high school, Joe excelled as a line-backer under Coach Burney Adams. He was chosen *All-City, All-County* and was selected to play in the state's first *North-South All-Star* game in 1978. Joe attended Pasadena City College where he was an All-American and All-State pick in 1980, then transferred to Texas Christian University. He played for two



seasons and was named MVP of the *Horned Frogs* on a team that featured future NFL notables, Kyle Clifton (NY Jets), Greg Townsend (Oakland Raiders), and Kenneth Davis (Buffalo Bills). In addition, Joe was named to the *All-Southwest Conference Team*.

He earned his B.S. in Criminal Justice in 1984 and later earned a Masters Degree in Human Resources from Seton Hall University in 2004. After graduating from TCU, Joe signed a free agent contract with the Washington Redskins. However, he went on to play for the Washington Federals of the United States Football League (USFL) from 1984-85 and also had a tryout with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

From 1994-96, Joe served as defensive coordinator and linebackers coach at Weequahic and was associate head coach from 1997-2000. He also coached linebackers at New Jersey City University during the 2001 and 2002 football seasons.

Although his duties as a Captain in the New Jersey State Police are demanding, Joe continues to find a way to give back to the community. For the past three years he has served as the *Play It Smart* program's Academic Coach at Weequahic, home of the 2006 Group II Central Division State Champions.

## Altarik White, Athlete & Coach



Not a Weequahic grad, but a Weequahic hero, Altarik White, the high school's state championship football coach, starred in football at Shabazz High School and William Paterson College. As a running back at Shabazz, he made the *All County* team in 1988 and at WPC he still is the school's all-time leading rusher and scorer.





## WALDO WINCHESTER

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

**David Steiner, Jan. 1947**, is the co-producer of *Looped*, a new stage production about Tallulah Bankhead, starring Valerie Harper. *Looped* opened in January at the Cuello Theater in West Palm Beach, Fla, and received good reviews.

Alumni Association Co-President, **Hal Braff, 1952**, was honored in November 2008 for community service by the Union Chapel Community Development Corporation in Newark at their Tenth Anniversary Celebration. **Ruby Baskerville, 1961**, is the Executive Director.

**Fran Katz Sekela, 1954**, organized the *West Coast Reunion* which took place this past Valentines Day near San Diego. More than 125 people, from 1937-1970, attended from CA, AZ, WA, NV, NJ. *Thank you for the donation to our Scholarship Fund.* Article and pics will be in the next issue.

**Gail Frankel Sokoloff, 1963**, organized the *Florida East Coast Reunion* in Jupiter on Feb. 19th. 136 persons attended, from 1940-1966. Article and pics will be in the next issue.

For the past four years, **Richard Shaller, June 1963**, has been playing bass guitar and doing vocals as a member of *ReUnited*, a fifties through seventies rock n' roll band. They have been performing in New Jersey. To find out more, check out there web site at [www.reunitedoldies.com](http://www.reunitedoldies.com).

In December 2008, **Sandra L. West, 1964**, was awarded a Fellowship from Virginia Center for the Creative Arts to work in the area of Literary Nonfiction.

**Loraine White, 1964**, a faculty member at Weequahic for more than 38 years, was one of six women honored for service to the community by the Boys Scouts of America, Northern NJ Council, Newark's Historic Robert Treat District at their annual fund raising breakfast entitled, *The 2008 Tribute To Women*.

**Harold Edwards, 1966**, was one of the organizers in Newark for the first annual "**28 Days of Blackness**" in celebration of 2009 Black History Month.

At his web site, [www.blackheritageriders.org](http://www.blackheritageriders.org), **Miles Dean, 1968**, invites us to join in on Memorial Day weekend in commemorating and celebrating the first *National Day of the Black Jockey Celebration* to insure that their achievements will always be a part of the Historical record. Miles states that the "*the African American Horsemen....Their physical endurance and riding style became legendary and helped to launch thoroughbred horse racing into becoming the most prestigious sporting event in the history of the United States. Their story is yet to be told.*" Visit his web site for more info.



## Sadie Rous

By Gerald Eber,  
Jan. 1947



A classmate wrote in my yearbook: "*To Mrs. Rous's 'lil boy.*" At the time, I was not too happy about the implication; I wasn't a teacher's pet. After I thought about it, though, I began to understand the nature of my relationship with Sadie Rous.

Her subject was social studies. She was never afraid to express her opinions, nor was she shy about discussing her favorite causes. But most important, the way she presented the material stimulated my thinking as no other teacher had. I'm sure she could see the impact the class was having on me. She encouraged me to think beyond the basic facts and she continually fed my appetite for more knowledge. I don't know if she gave me any more attention than she did other students, but I thrived on her teaching.

Among the many topics we discussed in class, I remember most clearly that Mrs. Rous was a strong advocate for racial justice. She tellingly described the condition of Negroes (the terminology then in use) in the United States; discussed how deeply ingrained racial prejudice was and deplored how difficult it would be for blacks to achieve equality. It was the mid-40's and I doubt she could have envisioned the progress (although still incomplete) blacks have since made in this country and surely she never could have imagined the election of an African-American to be President of the United States. At this momentous time in U.S. history, I want to pay tribute to Mrs. Rous. She would be so pleased with what's been achieved, but she would not let us forget how much more there was to do.

## Weequahic Memoirs

*A traveling exhibit of the Jewish Historical Society of MetroWest*



**NEWARK:** At The Jewish Museum of New Jersey from **November 30 to March 15th** located at Congregation Ahavas Sholom, 145 Broadway. Open every Sunday and Wednesday, from 12 to 4. (973) 485-2609 / [www.jewishmuseum.org](http://www.jewishmuseum.org)

**VERONA:** From **March 29 to May 21**, the exhibit will be at **Congregation Beth Ahm**, 56 Grove Avenue. (973) 239-0754 / [www.bethahm.org](http://www.bethahm.org)

## *In Loving Memory*

**Herbert Cohen, WHS Jan. 1941;** passed away in Dec. 2008.



Born in Newark, Mr. Cohen lived in Livingston before moving to Caldwell 33 years ago. During World War II, he served as a

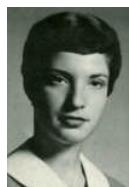
signal transmitter in the Army. He was graduated from New York University.

He retired in 1976 as a CPA with Guardian Life Insurance where he worked for many years. Previously, he was self-employed as a CPA. He followed his passion as a violinist and volunteered with the Y Symphony Orchestra on High Street in Newark as its concert master.

He also volunteered as the choir director for 35 years at Temple Beth Shalom in Livingston, along with his lifelong friend, Cantor Henry Butensky. He was the loving husband to Dorothy for 62 years; father to Susan and her husband, Matthew London, and grandfather of Nicole and Ali.

**Ethel King Berman,**

**WHS Jan. 1958,** of Pinehurst, NC, formerly of Newark, Short Hills, Maplewood and Sarasota, FL, passed away January 18, 2009 at age 68. Ethel was a resident of New Jersey for 60



years. Born and raised in Newark, Ethel was a 1958 graduate of Weequahic High School and later attended Essex County College, where she earned a degree in dental assistance.

She had a strong love for the arts and studied voice and acting, participating in many community theater productions with "The Strollers" in Maplewood. She performed in Yiddish Theater in New York City, singing with an all-women Jewish singing group "Shir-u-na" which performed at various synagogues and nursing

homes throughout Essex County with the NJ State Opera Company.

Ethel was the beloved wife of Sidney Berman; devoted mother of Shari Roth and her husband, Jeffrey, and Heidi Berman; cherished grandmother of Jordan Roth and Jacqueline Gonzales; loving daughter of Fay Pell and the late Sidney King; and dear sister of Barrett King and his wife, Barbara.

**Stuart Confield, WHS Jan. 1963,** of Greenwich Township,



N.J., died Dec. 1, 2008 in his home at age 63. He was born to the late Harry and Hilda Confield on Aug. 5, 1945 in Newark.

Stuart graduated from Weequahic High School in 1963 and received a B.A. in English and a B.S. in accounting from Rutgers University. In 1971, he married Helen Azima in a backyard garden.

Stuart constantly sought inspiration from classics in the classroom to verse in the Village, and in turn, he sought to inspire those around him. He began his career as a high school English teacher, but soon followed in his father's footsteps and became an accountant, eventually becoming a partner at Demetrius and Company in Wayne. Perhaps a less than obvious career move for a bohemian poet.

Stuart loved his work and found inspiration in it each day. When he was not at work, he was inspired to better his golf game, which he was devoted to and loved as much as his family and career. Stuart was an Army veteran, a member of the ACLU, Amnesty International, and the Association of Government Accountants. He is survived by his wife of 37 years; his son, Evan; and his sisters, Natalie and Vivian.

**Morris Larkey, WHS June 1940;** West Orange, formerly of

Caldwell, passed away on Dec. 28, 2008 at age 85. Born in Newark, Mr. Larkey graduated from



Weequahic High School and attended the Carnegie Institute of Technology. He became chief financial officer of the Larkey Company Menswear, where he pioneered a computer system for retail business that was the model that IBM recommended to clients nationwide.

Mr. Larkey started his own software firm, Retail Data Processing, and subsequently became comptroller of Sons and Harwell in Birmingham, Ala., and Custom Index in Totowa. He enjoyed singing, playing guitar and the recorder, and English Country Dancing. He was founder and early president of Temple Sholom of West Essex.

Mr. Larkey is survived by his wife of 59 years, Phoebe Engle Larkey; his four children, Dr. Edward Larkey, Dr. Leah Larkey, Amy Larkey-Emelianoff and Ben Larkey; grandchildren, Adam and Rachel Larkey and Emma Anderson. He also leaves his brother James Larkey, and is predeceased by his brother, Lewis Larkey, and sister, Joan Solomon.

**Harold Roddy Hall, WHS**

**1967,** passed away on January 19, 2009, surrounded by his loving family. Harold was a lifelong resident of Newark. He attended schools in the Newark school district, including



Weequahic High School. He developed a passion for music, sports, chess, education, travel and a profound love of family and God.

During the years, Roddy's exceptional qualities were vividly displayed. He was an accomplished, highly respected leader at work and in the community. He deeply loved his entire family and was especially proud of his beautiful children. Roddy was considered to be a problem-solver, looked to for guidance by many.

He was wise, a giver, and a sharer of knowledge.

He leaves his mother, Eleanor Bryant Hall; brothers, Anthony and Dwayne; sisters, Cheryl (Floyd) Roberts, Michele (Claude) Louissant, Vinessa (Michael) Mason, and Teresa Hall; with many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. He was predeceased by his oldest son, Vincent.

**Howard S. Korn, WHS Jan. 1962;** died peacefully on Sunday,



Jan. 4, 2009, at age 64. Born in Newark, Mr. Korn lived in Monroe Township for 38 years. He was employed at

Wuhl, Shafman, Lieberman as a bookkeeper for 42 years. He enjoyed golf, traveling and being a grandpa. He was active with the Monroe Township Jewish Center, where he was on the board of directors for many years. He coached the Monroe Wolverines Pop Warner football.

He is survived by his wife of 41 years, Sandra Raschal; daughters, Michelle Bertone and her husband, Frank, and Allison Pini and her husband, Chris; his father, James "Red" Korn; a brother, Irwin, and three grandsons, Steven Bertone and Ryan and Landon Pini.

**Jerome Fine, June 1948**

**Paulette Johnson 1971**

**Sylvia Koenigsberg Kosnett, 1941**

**Elissa Kriegfeld Norris, 1954**

**Jerome Levy, Jan. 1942**

**Paul Lyons, June 1960**

**Sanford Butch Murray, 1960**

**Morris Radler**

**Muriel Rubin Ostroff, June 1944**

**Elaine Wechsler Schneider, 1940**

**Debra Schwartz 1948**

**Ronald Schwartz, 1960**

**Charlotte Shak**

**Robert Steinwiess, 1956**

**Richard Strauss, 1956**





By Anthony Weiss, Star-Ledger, 10/8/08

Esther Friedman journeyed to the city of her youth from Queens to pray at her grandfather's grave on Newark's most recent annual safe day for Jewish mourners. The lively Jewish community that made Newark, one of the capitals of American Jewish life is long gone, but once a year a small spark of the community is rekindled - under police protection.

One day each year, typically the Sunday that falls between the High Holy Days, a detail of police officers creates a temporary bubble of security around Newark's Jewish cemeteries. On that day, hundreds of Jews trickle back into Newark, and a faint shadow of the city's once-bustling Jewish population is reborn, as visitors come to recall both the relatives and the community that have since passed on.



Among those visiting this year were Molly Schwartz Metz, (WHS 1950), and her family, who picked their way past the debris from the crumbling gateway of

Congregation Toras Emes's cemetery and walked down to the graves of Rose, Morris and Jack Schwartz - Metz's mother, father and brother respectively.

With her children and grandchildren gathered around her, Metz, 75, tearfully announced to her mother's headstone, "So we're all here, Bub." It's been 40 years since Metz lived in Newark, but like many Jews, she makes it a practice to visit the graves of her relatives on the High Holy Days.

...The officers who have provided the security escort for the past two decades come from the Essex County Sheriff's Department and the Newark Police

Department. While most are volunteers, there are Jews and non-Jews alike, all making sure that visitors feel safe in a city that has struggled to bring down its high crime rate. "My background is the Jewish faith, and I feel it's something I need to give back to my people," said Sy Nankin, a deputy sheriff with the Essex County Sheriff's Department who has been volunteering for 14 years.

The day's activities generally begin at about 10 a.m., when cars from the surrounding suburbs pull up alongside a small cluster of cemeteries in the northwestern part of the city and by a group of cemeteries near Newark's airport. The center for the day is the old office of a Jewish monument business, which is otherwise closed.

Out-of-towners can go there to ask for the exact location of a relative, grab a cup of



coffee or kibbitz about the old days. The whole thing is organized by the local Jewish federation, United Jewish Communities of MetroWest, which coordinates with the police and publicizes the day.

The majority of the visitors this year appeared to be well past 60, though they were interspersed with a few younger families. Most walked quietly out into the graveyard to find the tombstones, exchange memories and say a prayer of remembrance. Then they returned to their cars and drove away.

Newark was once home to the fourth-largest Jewish population in the country. At the community's peak in the 1930s and '40s, roughly 65,000 of Newark's 450,000 residents were Jewish. The community was based in Newark's cramped Third Ward, which was full of pushcarts and sweatshops. At the same time, synagogues and mutual aid

societies began to purchase plots of lands in Newark's thinly populated outskirts for burial grounds. Money was tight, and graves were packed in close to one another to stretch the capacities of the real estate.

As the population grew more prosperous, many Jews moved to more spacious quarters in Newark, most notably in the tree-lined and heavily Jewish Weequahic neighborhood, which has been memorialized in the novels of local boy Philip Roth, a classmate of Metz's. ("He was the smart one," she said.) "It was a beautiful neighborhood," recalled Metz. "It was so Jewish, I didn't know there was anybody who wasn't Jewish. I thought everybody was Jewish."

After World War II, Jews began to leave Newark for the suburbs, pulled by the promise of larger houses and yards, and pushed by the city's rising crime. At the same time, the cemeteries began to fill and institutions began to buy new plots in the suburbs. As the Jewish institutions moved out of town, as well, they, too, established new cemeteries in the suburbs for their members.

Newark's race riots in 1967 destroyed many of the remaining Jewish businesses in the old Third Ward, and those Jews who had remained in the city moved out shortly thereafter.

Still, in those early days after the exodus, many of those who had left the city came back to visit their relatives. "At one time, you couldn't walk around in the cemeteries, there were so many people," said Sanford Epstein, whose family monument business still cares for the cemeteries and many of the gravesites.

Today, Newark is virtually devoid of Jews. There is only one operating synagogue (Congregation Ahavas Sholom at 145 Broadway) left, populated largely by people from surrounding towns.



Communal officials estimate that Newark's Jewish population is a few hundred at most - far outnumbered by the tens of thousands of Jewish dead who are buried in Newark.

## *In Loving Memory*

### **Harold Lonoff, WHS June 1945;**

of Flemington passed away at home on November 14, 2008 at age 80. Born and raised in Newark, Mr. Lonoff graduated from Weequahic High School. He served our



country in the Army in the Korean War. He was the proud owner of Clinton Square Auto Parts in Newark.

Mr. Lonoff was predeceased by his daughter, Jan, and is survived by his identical twin sons, Robert and Richard and their wives, Bonnie and Jacqueline. He also leaves behind his grandchildren, Yin Chu, Hannah, Ariel, Emmy, Ben, Alexis and Aaron; a sister, Norma Ross, and nephew, Brad Ross.

**Jean Friedman Markowitz, 1935,** born in New York City, Mrs. Markowitz grew up in Newark and had been living in Harding with her daughter for the past year. Previously, she lived in Springfield and wintered in Marco Island, Fla. Mrs. Markowitz was a life member of Hadassah, a member of Temple B'nai Jeshurun, Short Hills, and a loyal volunteer with both St. Barnabas Medical Center and the Newark Beth Israel Medical Center.

She was the wife of the late Ben Markowitz; loving mother of Fraida Yavelberg, Sandy Markowitz and his wife, Sharon, and the late Neil Markowitz and his wife, Helen; adored grandmother of Jamie and Hunter, Michael, Joey, Lucas and Bari,

and dear great-grandmother of Rebecca and Abigail.

### **Yvette McGhee, 1984,**



passed away on January 20, 2009 at age 42. Born on Aug. 25, 1966, she was a life-long resident of Newark and graduated from Weequahic High School. She leaves her children, Salimah and Danielle McGhee; grandchild, Saniyah Tucker; her parents, Evelyn McGhee and Edward Brunson; and a host of siblings, other relatives, and friends.

### **Frederick Meyers, WHS Jan 1948**



passed away from heart disease in October 2008 at age 79. He was a retired internist in Washington from 1963 to 2000. While he was a practicing physician, Dr. Meyers was on the teaching staff at George Washington University's medical school and had rights at Sibley Memorial Hospital. In 1999, he was named an associate professor emeritus of clinical medicine at GWU.

He was a graduate of Purdue University and a graduate of the University of Cincinnati's medical school. He served as a medic in the Air Force from 1950 to 1954 in the Philippines, Korea and Texas.

He volunteered for the D.C. Police Boys Club, administering pre-summer camp physicals and was a member of Washington Hebrew Congregation, and

Woodmont Country Club.

Survivors include his wife of 49 years, Phyllis Oshinsky Meyers; three children, Steven Meyers, Sarah Lewis, and Marshall Meyers; and six grandchildren.

### **Alan Rose, WHS June 1957;**



Alan Rose of Livingston died suddenly on Dec. 15, 2008. He was 69. Born in Newark, Mr. Rose was a graduate of Weequahic High School, then Rutgers University in New Brunswick before earning a master's degree in guidance from Seton Hall University. He lived in Livingston the past 40 years.

Mr. Rose was the owner of *Ira A. Rose Furniture*, continuing the tradition his father started 75 years ago in Newark. The store was located on Central Avenue in East Orange. After closing the store and retiring in 2006, Mr. Rose maintained a much smaller version of the business, with "*Furniture by Alan*" in Livingston.

An avid tennis player and sports enthusiast, Mr. Rose was a member of Berkeley Tennis Club and Brook Lake Tennis Club. He was also a member of Temple Beth Shalom, Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity, the New Jersey Furniture Association and a past member of the Livingston Lions Club.

He was a loving family man and is survived by his beloved wife of 44 years, Phyllis; daughters, Andrea Legatt (Dan) and Kim Stiller (Craig); his mother, Ida Rose and sister, Enid Rothman. He also leaves behind four grandchildren, Jake, Kayla, Sammy and Amanda.

## **FLORIDA, from page 11**

harbor the fear that she might leave me if a single guy came along one day in early winter and offered to share his house in Boynton Beach with her. For that reason, when the weather changes and a chill fills the air, I'm especially attentive to her.

So, to my friends who have already left or are about to, from the bottom of my heart I wish you a safe journey, good health and a wonderful stay in "sunny" Florida. I can't wait until it snows in Panther Valley, because I know that's when I'll be hearing from you.

(Editor's note: *Ted is a former editor for Newsweek magazine.*)

**The Jewish Museum  
of New Jersey  
at Cong. Ahavas Sholom  
145 Broadway, Newark  
(973) 485-2609**

**Presents**

## **JEWS & BLACKS IN CONVERSATION**

**On the last day of the  
Weequahic Memoirs exhibit**

**SUNDAY, 1 p.m.  
MARCH 15, 2009**

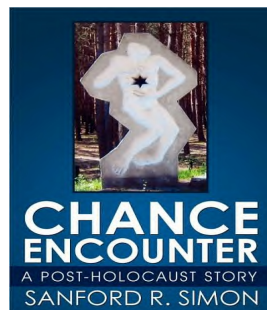
**A two-part panel discussion  
about historic efforts to  
preserve racial integration in  
Weequahic and other Newark  
neighborhoods during the  
1960s, as well as present-day  
challenges for maintaining  
racial integration in commu-  
nities throughout Essex.**

**Panelists are: Dr. Robert  
Curvin, Estelle Greenberg, Hal  
Braff (WHS 1952), Madeline  
Dworkin, Gladys Grauer, Dr.  
Komozi Woodward, (WHS 1967),  
Sandra West (WHS 1964),  
Sandra King (WHS 1965),  
Harold Edwards (WHS 1966),  
Paula Borenstein (WHS 1967),  
Carol Greenberg (WHS 1970)**

### **Sanford R. Simon, Jan. 1950**

**Chance Encounter** is the story of how an assimilated American Jew finding letters that had been returned from Poland over sixty years ago, seeks to find what happened to the family of his grandmother.

Coincidentally, a retired German banker wishes to trace the wartime footsteps of his father, who was killed in action on the Eastern Front. When the two meet, each has experienced a profound change in attitude from the start of their journey. Their moral discussion is the culmination of the book.





# *In Loving Memory*

## **Marie E. O'Connor**

***Weequahic  
English  
teacher for  
18 years***



On Tuesday, October 14, 2008, Ms. Marie E. O'Connor passed away. A memorial mass was held in her honor on November 15th. She would have celebrated her 99<sup>th</sup> birthday in December. Born and raised in Brooklyn, Marie was a proud graduate of St. Brendan's High School and St. Joseph College. She later received her M.A. degree in English from Columbia University.

The only child of Louise and William O'Connor, she exhibited an early love of books and the written word. Her favorite gift was a bookcase from her parents. Despite many obstacles, she persevered in becoming the only thing she ever wanted to be - *a teacher*. After starting her legendary career in New York, Marie taught at Weequahic High School from 1940 to 1958. Afterwards, her love of the beach brought her to Red Bank High School, where she taught until her retirement in 1973.

Many of her former students credit her with providing the preparation and inspiration for their successful careers, and many have kept in touch with her. She cherished every letter she received and was humbled by their memories of her unique teaching methods, such as "*the word for the day*." Her hope was that her students would remember her as being a fair teacher who cared about them.

Members of the Sands Beach Club will remember her as the lady in purple, her trademark color, while residents of Applewood Estates will recall her flower-decked "*charlot*" and her flair for dressing.

A lover and creator of poetry, she would recite her favorites with a delivery that was always memorable. Although she preferred to be called a motivator, Marie never stopped teaching, challenging all she met, from the young workers in the dining room to her oldest friends. Marie donated her body to science.

Her spirit will live on in all those whose lives she touched and changed forever. Below is a poem by our Ms. O'Connor.

### ***Paeon to Purple***

**Purple's the gift of the Muses  
The artist and writer's delight  
The color that moves creators  
To scale unbelievable heights**

**The gem most favored by dreamers  
Is the Amethyst of purple hue  
Tis the stone that moves free spirits  
To dare, and not merely to do**

**If to the amethyst you are attracted  
One day a poet you'll be  
Perhaps not as great as Shakespeare  
But certainly better than me**

**I paint my small portraits  
Not in oils, but in words  
And these who use the inner eye  
Respond!**



### **From Hal Braff, 1952**

Miss O'Connor was a remarkable woman and an incredible educator - the finest that I ever knew. So inspiring was she that many of us met with her for extra classes instead of attending a study hall, in a program she called Special

English. She remained a good friend and an inspiration to me and my family. I will miss her. Please consider making a donation in her name to the *Marie O'Connor Scholarship Fund of the Weequahic High School Alumni Association, P.O. Box 494, Newark, N.J. 07101.*



### **Myron Borden, 1952**

Marie O'Connor was more than a fantastic teacher. She was an original. I became an English teacher mainly because of her influence on me. Her classes were actually entertaining.

When a student was caught chewing gum, he or she would have to *Speak to Serena* by making a deposit of a penny into a piggy bank on her desk.

When she noticed someone not paying attention to a lesson, she would point toward the student as would everyone else in the class. She did not have to admonish anyone. The result was accomplished through a creative, entertaining method. These are just a couple of things that made her classes so memorable. Whenever I see *All About Eve* on TCM, somehow the Bette Davis part always reminds me of her and always will.

## **Eugene Selesner**

***WHS June 1942, Music  
Teacher at Clinton Place  
Junior High School***



Eugene Selesner passed away October 23, 2008 at age 83 after a lifelong love affair with music.

Born in Newark, he graduated from Weequahic High School in 1942. Trained as a classical musician, he received his B.A. degree from Miami University in Ohio and his M.A. Degree from University of Illinois.

After playing behind luminaries such as Harry Belafonte, Barbara Streisand, and Alan King in the Catskills Borscht Belt in the 1950's, Selesner went on to marry, have children, and eventually settle in Long Island in 1968.

During his early years he was a music teacher at Clinton Place Jr. High School in Newark and then taught music in two middle schools in Huntington for 20 years. He worked to infuse his love of arts into his students.

More recently, he became a resident pianist at the Cinema Arts Center in Huntington, where he composed original scores to be played with silent movies that the venue screened.

His wife, Thelma, died in 1987. He is survived by sons, Eric and Gary; daughter, Janet Ingraldi; sisters June Fischer and Edith Hackel; and his longtime companion, Honey Wasserman.

# **Membership / Merchandise / Scholarship Form**

Mail to: **WHS Alumni Association, P.O. Box 494, Newark, NJ 07101**

You can also make your purchases with a credit card  
by calling us at (973) 923-3133 or using our web site at [www.weequahicalumni.org](http://www.weequahicalumni.org)

- Please Print Clearly -

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

## **2 Payment Choices:**



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

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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

## **5 Merchandise Choices (add \$5.00 for shipping & handling) (circle your size if applicable:**

1. ☐ \$25.00 BOOK: JEWS OF WEEQUAHIC
2. ☐ \$12.00 T-SHIRT (sizes S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL - now in khaki or orange with the WHS logo)
3. ☐ \$15.00 HAT (one size fits all - khaki with orange & dark brown lettering)
4. ☐ \$20.00 GOLF SHIRT (sizes S, M, L, XL - orange with Indian head and WHS alumni wording)
4. ☐ \$25.00 SWEATSHIRT (sizes S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL - now in khaki or orange with the WHS logo)

**Weequahic Murals Restoration Project :** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## **20 Scholarship Choices:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. \$ _____ ALVIN ATTLES Endowment Fund            | 11. \$ _____ PHYLLIS & DONALD KALFUS Fund        |
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| 3. \$ _____ MOREY BOBROW Memorial Fund             | 13. \$ _____ BERT MANHOFF Memorial Fund          |
| 4. \$ _____ CLASS OF 1963 SCHOLARSHIP Fund         | 14. \$ _____ SEYMOUR 'SWEDE' MASIN Memorial Fund |
| 5. \$ _____ CLASS OF 1964 SCHOLARSHIP Fund         | 15. \$ _____ EDWIN McLUCAS Athletic Fund         |
| 6. \$ _____ GENERAL ALUMNI Fund                    | 16. \$ _____ MARIE E. O'CONNOR Fund              |
| 7. \$ _____ RONALD GRIFFIN Memorial Fund           | 17. \$ _____ LEO PEARL Memorial Fund             |
| 8. \$ _____ LES & CEIL FEIN Endowment Fund         | 18. \$ _____ RICHARD ROBERTS Fund                |
| 9. \$ _____ MIRIAM HAMPLE Memorial Fund            | 19. \$ _____ SADIE ROUS Memorial Fund            |
| 10. \$ _____ READA & HARRY JELLINEK Endowment Fund | 20. \$ _____ RON STONE Memorial Endowment Fund   |

## **5 Membership Choices:**

☐ Check if change in postal address

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

Class (Month & Year): \_\_\_\_\_ Current or Past Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

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

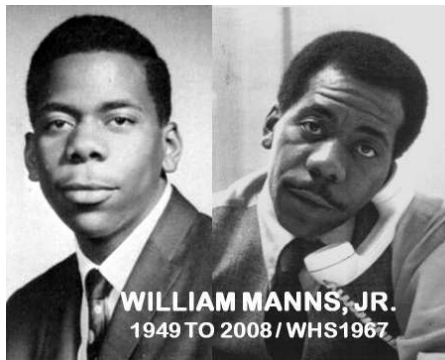
Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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



## *In Loving Memory*



On a wonderful fall day, October 28, 1949 in Newark, NJ, William *Bill* Manns, Jr., was born to the late Bernice Dykes and the late Willie Mans. *Yillie*, as we affectionately called him, was the loving brother of Joseph Fisher, the late Catherine Crew, Juanita Roebuck and the late Lamont Mans.

Bill's life journey began when he received his early education in Newark attending Weequahic High School and Essex County College. He went on to continue his studies at Cornell University and received his law degree from Rutgers University School of Law. Bill served in the National Guard in 1968. He expanded himself even more working for Congressman Peter W. Rodino, Jr. but never lost his focus to some day practice law. This came to fruition when he became an in-house attorney for the Newark Housing Authority.

Bill then struck out on his own, starting his private practice in the Law Office of William D. Manns, Jr. serving in the Essex County area. Bill became very

successful in his law practice as well as in other business ventures to include the construction of the Nevada Court Street Mall, the largest project ever built by African-Americans in the City of Newark. This would have never happened without his personal and business mentor Rueben Johnson. Rueben was not only his friend but his voice of reason. A friend greater than a brother. The hand and the glove ... the perfect fit.

Surrounded by a Christian family, *Yillie* grew up attending the Welcome Baptist Church located on 12th Avenue in Newark where his mother was a founding member... always loving the Welcome Baptist family and always loving Rev. Williams. While continuing his spiritual experience, *Yillie* joined the Greater Friendship Baptist Church where Rev. John T. Teabout was his pastor.

Although devoted to his church, he managed to find time to join many other organizations. Bill was a member of NJ Bar Association, Garden State Bar Association, Essex County Bar, National Bar Association, Association of Black Law Students, 100 Black Men, Sun Downers, William D. Manns Civic Association, A Better Newark & You, Greater Newark Katrina Relief Fund, Kappa Theta, Lambda Chapter of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. He was also an accomplished student of the martial arts studying in the school of Quan Jac Lee Tae Kwon Do.

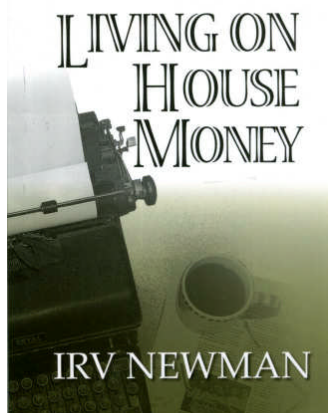
Bill was a mentor to many. He met and began to change the lives of the young and the old. He has a place holder in the lives of many like Tawana Williams,

Yvette Holmes, Cornell Johnson, Jeanette Pateiro, and Akbar Nasir, not all inclusive for there were many. He totally embraced his "*self-proclaimed*" son Maurice Snipes. He chose Maurice and Maurice accepted the charge. They had a love that expands beyond all understanding.

He instilled his words of wisdom and pressed a hand of action. He unselfishly gave of himself. He was a friend to all that knew him. Building lifelong relationships dating back to 1975 when he met and kept his good friend Ernest Booker close to his heart. To know Bill is to know Booker. They did it all together. Consider yourself blessed to ever have a friendship like theirs.

In 1973, the blessings continued to flow when he met his lifetime partner, friend and love, Emily Winslow. Bill met Emily... he had the desire and she had the fashion sense. Together they shaped a life of style, pride, respect and togetherness. This foundation afforded them a life of love that ended in a marriage that was made to last. Bill loved his wife and never failed to tell you that she is a good woman.

At the time of his passing, he leaves behind to carry on his memory, his beloved wife Emily Winslow, daughter Taji Lewis, brother Joseph Fisher, sister Juanita Roebuck, sister-in-law Cheryl Bass-Fisher, Aunt Ossie Mans, three nieces Tawanna Roebuck, Kathy D. Omigui and Nia Fisher, and two nephews, Josef and Everet Fisher. There are so many to name ... a host of family and friends ... missed by all. Bill will be sorely missed by all.



### **Irv Newman, June 1939**

*If I can contribute one hint, one priceless thought, to enrich a person's life, I'll know this effort is worthwhile...and I'll be happy.*

There is a bit of every man in the first-time author of **Living On House Money**. This 87-year-old octogenarian is a self-confessed do-gooder who claims to know the answers to many of life's dilemmas. He has experienced both rejections and successes in a full and eventful career. Decidedly, he endorses victory over defeat and provides methods to handle discouraging circumstances.

"Whimsy," he claims, "*is the first cousin of nuance and humor.*"

The writer, himself a stomach cancer victim, challenges credibility with the examination of "*Cancer Can Be A Good Thing.*" With half a stomach still functioning, Newman yet manages to play tournament tennis.

He concedes that getting through a long lifetime is not for the faint of heart. He has answers on how to live to 100. Try positiveness, exercise, humor, enthusiasm, and most of all...a very good set of family genes.

## REUNIONS 2009

### ☺ JUNE 20, 2009 / 1984 - 25th

Saturday, 8 P.M., The Mursik Room,  
37 Bloomfield Avenue, Newark, N.J.

Contact Vickie at [vsanders@oel.state.nj.us](mailto:vsanders@oel.state.nj.us);  
Lesly at (862) 755-2951; Fatima at  
[fsanford117@yahoo.com](mailto:fsanford117@yahoo.com), and Sherronda at  
[sherronda611@gmail.com](mailto:sherronda611@gmail.com)

### ☺ OCT. 4, 2009 / 1949 - 60th

Sunday, 11:30 A.M., at Cedar Hill  
Country Club, Livingston, N.J. Contact  
Nancy Leon Herman at (973) 736-2514 /  
[email@nancevans@verizon.net](mailto:email@nancevans@verizon.net) or Al Marcus  
at (973) 992-5077 / [ajaymouse@comcast.net](mailto:ajaymouse@comcast.net).

### ☺ OCT. 18, 2009 / 1959 - 50th

Saturday, 7 P.M., Hamilton Park Hotel,  
Florham Park, NJ. To include Philip  
Roth Tour of Newark and tour of high  
school. Contact Lillian Friedman Weinstein  
at [lil.weinstein@gmail.com](mailto:lil.weinstein@gmail.com)

## PLANNING REUNIONS

### Class of 1962 - 50th

Contact Marty & Marlene Powers at  
[Marty.powers@oracle.com](mailto:Marty.powers@oracle.com) /  
(732) 536-2023 / Bonnie Vogel at  
[BonnieV929@aol.com](mailto:BonnieV929@aol.com) / Cookie Wax at  
[Gulkinlgulkin@verizon.net](mailto:Gulkinlgulkin@verizon.net)

### Class of 1979 - 30th

Contact Karien L. Brooks at  
[Karbroom@aol.com](mailto:Karbroom@aol.com)

## Sunday Morning Group 19th Gala Get-Together

Maplewood Country Club

Thursday Evening  
May 21, 2009

Stag-Infomral / \$85.00

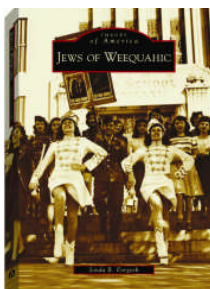
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Blvd. East, #16 D, West New York, NJ  
07093. For more information,  
call (201) 868-7135



First City Championship Cross Country Team in 1945

## WHS ALUMNI STORE

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or order from our web site



## WHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit  
organization incorporated in New Jersey.

Phil Yourish, 1964, Executive Director

### Board of Trustees:

Hal Braff, 1952, Co-President

Mary Brown Dawkins, 1971, Co-President

Sam Weinstock, 1955, Treasurer

Myrna Jelling Weissman, 1953, Secretary

Ruby Baskerville, 1961

Larry Bembry, 1966

Judy Bennett, 1972

Sheldon Bross, 1955

Marshall Cooper, 1969

Harold Edwards, 1966

Arnold Keller, 1952

Monroe Krichman, 1955

Dave Lieberfarb, 1965

Arthur Lutzke, 1963

Adilah Quddus, 1971

Gerald Russell, 1974

Dave Schechner, 1946

Vivian Ellis Simons, 1959

Charles Talley, 1966

John Tonero, Principal

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