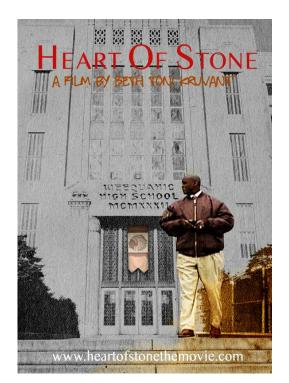


The Weequahic High School Alumni Association presents the screening of

"Heart of Stone"

The award-winning documentary about Weequahic, its Principal, and its Alumni Association by local filmmaker, Beth Kruvant.

Audience Award, Slamdance Film Festival; Jury Award for Best Documentary and Kaiser Permanente "Thrive" Award, Cinequest Film Festival; and Best Feature Film, Philadelphia Film Festival.



Monday, June 8th

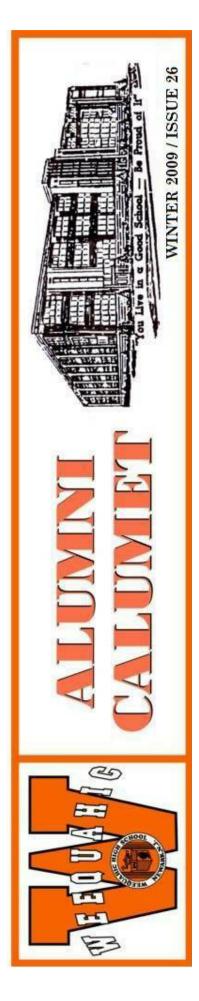
Two showings at 5:45 & 8:15

South Orange Performing Arts Center

Tickets are \$25.00 and can be purchased directly through the SOPAC web site at *www.sopacnow*.org, the SOPAC box office at (973) 313-2787, or by going to the box office in person.

Visit www.heartofstonethemovie.com for information on the film.

Proceeds will be used for Weequahic High School scholarships and student activities.

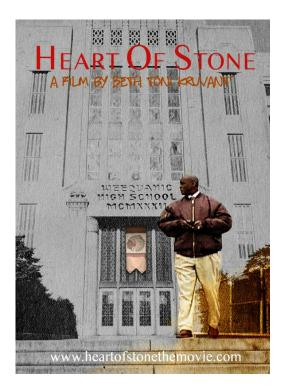


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Weequahic, remembered and (maybe) reborn

By Stephen Whitty, Star-Ledger, 03/11/09

In 1960, Newark's Weequahic High School was known as one of the best in the country.



By the time **Principal** Ron Stone took over in 2001, it was one of the worst. What had once been called a "school for strivers" was now seen as a battleground for gangs. What's changed since then and what hasn't and how people have tried to

Ron Stone

make a difference - despite some tragic disappointments - is at the core of "Heart of Stone," a new documentary.

Much of the movie is shot through with a bittersweet nostalgia for what's dubbed "Philip Roth's Newark," and a solid post-war neighborhood with blissfully safe streets, men in Packards and fedoras, and a cherished institution said to produce more future doctorates than any high school in America.

Long-time residents - or homesick exiles will be particularly thrilled to see old yearbook pictures from the `50s, interviews with retired teachers, and reminiscences from former classmates.

They may also - if they've lost touch, or track - grow tearful at what's changed. Students now pass through metal detectors. The principal is shown putting on a bullet-proof vest under his Weequahic warm-up jacket. Gang members are everywhere.

Yet "Heart of Stone" - directed by Montclair's Beth Toni Kruvant, whose parents grew up in Newark, and whose father went to Weequahic - is neither a misty daydream of what was, nor a long lament for what's lost.

Instead, it's a well-reported, sharply photographed and cleanly edited look at what is. and how teachers, police and a wonderfully inspired alumni association have been working to stop mourning the past or fearing the



Beth Toni Kruvant

luck, theatrical distribution, or a public- broadcasting slot, will soon materialize.

present but, instead,

start concentrating

"Heart of Stone"

Utah's alternative

Slamdance Film Festival, and is still

on the festival

Mary Dawkins, 1971

Sheldon Bross, 1955

won awards at

on the future.

Some alumni in the film are:



Hal Braff, 1952



Judy Bennett, 1972







Richie Roberts, 1956



Charles Talley, 1966

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HELP WRITE THE NEXT ISSUE

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

WEEQUAHIC ARCHIVES

Recent donations to our archives:

Elsie Steiner Selikoff, 1936; Anita Blumer Cohen, 1951; Bernard Freedman, 1952: Carolisa Pomerantz, 1965; Sidney Handler; 1950; The Kleinmans

Other alumni board members and former faculty who contributed to the filming of "Heart of Stone" -

Sam Weinstock, Myrna Weissman, Ruby Baskerville, Larry Bembry, Marshall **Cooper, Harold Edwards, Dave** Lieberfarb, Arthur Lutzke, Adilah Quaddus, Gerald Russell, Dave Schechner, Vivian Simons, and Hilda Lutzke.

Monroe Krichman, 1952

Arnold Keller, 1952





Weequahic High School is featured in film about gangs and the power of education

By Mark Dilonno, Star-Ledger

Young gang members, at heart, are still just kids. As gang members, they may shoot, and be shot, deal and use drugs, menace corners with territory-marking violence. But in the end, the young ones, the smart ones, those still giving school a chance, are just kids. Kids who can be reached. Kids who can be convinced they have a future beyond life and death on the streets.

This is the over-riding message of hope in the new documentary **"Heart of Stone,"** a film about Newark's legendary Weequahic High School, which is winning film festival awards from coast to coast.

The film follows former principal Ron Stone as he restores order and pride to Weequahic, with the help of concerned alumni. It is a marriage of the then-and-now cultures of a school that understands its proud history while fighting modern problems.

Then, it was all about education. Now, it is all about education, too. But, as Stone says in the movie, "school has to be the psychologist, the parents, the police." Mostly, it has to be safe, so kids can learn, and Stone convinces the gang kids to respect school grounds and a wide perimeter as a no-violence zone.

Weequahic High, then, was a Great American High School, the academic launchpad for thousands of mostly Jewish kids, who grew up on the safe, tree-lined streets of the Weequahic section. Weequahic, like Vailsburg and other Newark neighborhoods of the day, was more suburb than city. Single- family homes, lawns, driveways, parks. Everything just more compact. Everybody, closer.

In the post-World War II era, Weequahic produced more students who went on to get doctorates than any high school in the country. They weren't all Jewish. The classes were racially mixed in those days and African-American children from the era also went on to successful professional careers.



Rayvon, a gang member, received an alumni scholarship to attend college.

Filmmaker Beth Toni Kruvant, whose father grew up in Weequahic, takes a sentimental journey through those days, with a collection of home movies and interviews with alumni and former teachers. Early in the film is a Kruvantshot video of Philip Roth, the great American novelist and Weequahic's most famous graduate, who was honored a few years ago when his home-block of Summit Avenue was named "Philip Roth Plaza." *"Newark is my Stockholm and that plaque is my prize*, " Roth says, referring to the Nobel Prize, for which he has been nominated.

The opening scene of the film shows a more recent Weequahic. Stone straps on a bulletproof vest to walk the no-violence zone. He is out there on patrol; to keep peace and to counsel. Subsequent scenes show him on neighborhood streets, talking to the young men who describe themselves as members of the Bloods or Crips. The boys have one thing in common. No fathers. He has a breakfast of pancakes, sausage, bacon, eggs and grits cooked by the grandmother and aunt of Ricky, who calls himself a Blood, but is mannered enough to let "Mr. Stone" fill his plate first. Stone sits at a table in a room of unpacked boxes with Rayvon, who describes himself as a Crip. It is the home of Rayvon's foster family, his third.

He walks Aldine Street with Sharif, the proclaimed leader of the area Bloods, talking about his own days on the streets and the scar that runs from the corner of his mouth up his cheek. Back then, razors. Now, guns. But the solution is the same. Education. *"The path out of poverty is education,"* says Hal Braff, Class of 1952 and co-founder of the Weequahic Alumni Association, in the film. During a mixer of alumni and current students, Al Attles, who became an NBA player and coached the San Francisco Warriors to the league title in 1975, tells the kids, "education is a lot more competitive than basketball."

Most of the Weequahic kids know that. In the film, history teacher Bashir Akinyele says, "We have a lot of A students, and B students and kids who want to go to *college.*" But the hard cases can be reached, too. Intervention programs put together by Stone, former assistant principal Ras Baraka, and administrators Ron Morse and Elizabeth Hayden continue to this day. Akinyele and Kcyied Zahir, the dean of discipline, run weekly "conflict resolution" meetings. In the film, Zahir sits with Bloods and Crips and gets them talking. "These are kids who need help," Zahir says in the film, adding that with little family or money, the gang is sometimes the easiest outlet for acceptance.

Acceptance. The goal of every teenager in every clique, whether it's the Bloods or the Chess Club. The kids in "Heart of Stone" find it at school. Rayvon wins an alumni scholarship, to the cheers of his classmates. Sharif gets his diploma and dances across the stage like a chunky class clown, rather than a Bloods leader. Ricky, too, graduates, prodded by Stone after he is grazed in a drive-by shooting. In one of the most moving scenes of the film, Stone takes Ricky to the cemetery where Ricky's father is buried. Life on the streets killed his father, Ricky acknowledges. Ricky, now on crutches, talks about surviving to do more.

In the end, all the boys make it to college. Rayvon, whose last name is Lisbon, was back at Weequahic last week, as he often is, visiting Zahir and Akinyele. "Mr. Zahir called me just the other day, making sure I was staying on point," he says. He has completed two years at Essex County College and is headed to Seton Hall.

"A lot of kids, like me, they're no killers. They're no animals. They may hang out, but that kind of past doesn't determine what kind of man you are," he said. "I want to be judged by who I am now. I'm trying to uplift myself. That's what it's all about."

In that respect, Weequahic High is the same as it was then.

Film tracks alumni efforts to help troubled school

By Lois Goldrich, NJ Jewish Standard

While many have warm memories of their high school days, only a few reach beyond the memories - acting to ensure that succeeding generations will have positive experiences of their own. In **"Heart of Stone,"** Montclair resident and producer/ director/writer Beth Toni Kruvant highlights the efforts of alumni who do exactly that - reaching out to a school that has fallen upon hard times and helping to restore its former glory.

The title of the award-winning film, a play on the name of Weequahic High School Principal Ron Stone, reflects Kruvant's belief that "*he had to have a heart of stone to gain the respect of his students,*" many of whom are active gang members. His strategy, she said, was to "*co-opt*" students into the process of selfimprovement, "*using their natural leadership abilities*" to help chart a new course both for themselves and their classmates.

On her website, Kruvant points out that Stone turned the school into a "nonviolence zone ... transforming the gang culture of the school to one of discipline and performance." That, in itself, would make for an interesting film. But there is more, a distinctly Jewish angle to the story. Stone worked hand in hand with the school's alumni association, many of whose members are Jewish.

Kruvant was inspired to tell the story of Weequahic High School after returning from a trip to the Ukraine, where she visited the birthplace of her grandfather. *"I was a filmmaker looking for my roots,"* she said. Noting that a local historical society was offering a tour of novelist *"Philip Roth's Newark"* - which she described as *"a deeply rooted Jewish enclave, like Camelot to its alumni"* - she picked up the video camera she had brought to Europe and set off to trace the roots of her own father, who grew up in Newark and attended Weequahic High.

Kruvant was also attracted by a notice in a local Jewish newspaper announcing that the alumni association of Weequahic High School - which, she said, "*was known as one of the top schools in America before 1960*" - was holding a fund-raising event for today's student body.

According to Kruvant, while the Weequahic of her father's day boasted a large roster of distinguished graduates, by 2000 the school had become known as one of the most violent schools in Newark, itself ranked the 12th most dangerous city in the country. "I thought it was unusual and generous for the old Jewish alumni to *continue giving back to the place*" they came from, she wrote on her Website. "Smelling a story, I asked if I could film the event, where I interviewed Ron Stone, the principal of Weequahic High, and realized there was a major story taking place at WHS."

This is Kruvant's third documentary. Her first, "Born in Buenos Aires" - which explores the situation of the Argentine Jewish community during the political and fiscal crisis of 2001 - is being distributed by the National Center for Jewish Film. The second, "The Right To Be Wrong," was featured on PBS and chronicles the fruits of an Israeli-Palestinian friendship. Explaining the genesis of her most recent films, Kruvant explained that at one of WHS's frequent reunions, the two founders of the alumni association, Hal Braff and Sheldon Bross, came up with the idea of "giving back."

"Growing up, [the Jewish students] had good relations with the black community until the [Newark] riots in 1967," said the filmmaker. "They said, 'Let's rekindle that.' In fact, those ties have been rekindled and strengthened, at least among the alumni of the school, primarily older Jews and younger African-Americans. The co-presidents of the association are drawn from both groups. Kruvant said that the alumni association, devoted both to the school and to the notion that it could "give a future" to current students, raised \$100,000 at its first event.

The group has a 20-member board and thousands of alumni, many of whom contributed, she said. While alumni are spread out, many live in Essex County.



"They've stayed close," said Kruvant, explaining that association founders Braff - his son, the actor Zach Braff, is executive producer of the documentary and Bross were friends of her family.

"I attended the fund-raising event and every meeting of the board for two years," said Kruvant, adding that she was given permission to film freely, as she was at the school itself. Ultimately, with continued fund-raisers and private donations, the alumni association was able to establish an endowment for WHS students, now totaling more than half a million dollars. After deciding to help the new crop of WHS students, the alumni association called Stone, whose tenure began in 2001, to see if he was interested in working with them.

"He is an inspirational leader," said Kruvant. "He knows how to use the money as a 'carrot' for the students, broadening their horizons." She explained that he began by meeting with identified gang members in the school, inviting them to conflict-resolution meetings at which he tried to teach them how to resolve differences with words rather than guns. "He used their leadership ability in a positive way," she said.

As a result of alumni efforts, some students have received stipends toward college tuition, while others have been taken on school trips. "Some of them had never left the neighborhood," said Kruvant. "I don't think [the WHS students] understand the Jewish connection," said Kruvant, noting the mostly Jewish make-up of the older alumni. "There's no talk about politics in their homes," she added, explaining that parents are noticeably absent from many of the children's lives.

OUR SPRING JAZZ FUND RAISER

More than 150 people gathered at the Key Club in Newark on May 17th to attend the WHS Alumni Association's, *A Spring Jazz Fund Raiser*, featuring the talents of two Weequahic grads, Carrie Jackson, 1968, and Dwight West, 1972. Bravo to alumni Board member Harold Edwards for a super organizing job. Proceeds from the event are to be used for scholarships.

CARRIE JACKSON



Carrie Jackson and her Jazzin' All Star Ensemble swings and performs the music of "Duke" Ellington, Count Basie, Lionel Hampton, Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong, Miles, Coltrane, Diz and the Great American Songbook. Carrie

attributes her vocal style of singing to her mentors, the Great Ladies of Jazz, Sarah Vaughan, Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday, Dinah Washington, and Carmen McRae, but, Carrie truly has a *jazzin'* style that is uniquely her own.

She has a sound that is honey laden, soulful, sultry, and sings a pop, and blues tune that has a poignant mellow sound; her timing is right on and the subtle twists and turns in her phrasing make her that comparatively rarity, a real jazz singer with a great sound! Carrie is dedicated to preserving this unique jazz music culture and encourages an awareness of its history through music appreciation and understanding.

Carrie is a native Newarker who honed her early talents in Newark, the Jazz Mecca of New Jersey. She has acquired a vast amount of experience in a wide variety of musical genres. She began her musical career when she was 6 years old singing in the children's choir at Mount Calvary Baptist Church in Newark. Carrie is a product of the Newark Public School system; graduated from Peshine Avenue School, and Weequahic High School. She studied piano and voice with Howard "Duke" Anderson, teacher, composer, arranger and also performed with Duke's Big Band for many years. Her voice training and natural talents are evident providing for classical performances in Jazz & Pop favorites. Carrie rekindles thoughts of Newark's great jazz history when it had more than 200 jazz spots and great artists were in great demand including Wayne Shorter, Woody Shaw, James Moody, Hank Mobley, Ike Quebec and Sarah "Sassy" Vaughan.

Carrie's latest CD "*If I Had My Way*" has put her in the Critic's poll list of "*Talent Deserving Wider Recognition.*" She has made numerous radio and television appearances and her travels have taken her to Paris, France, touring in the U.S. and abroad.

Carrie is President/CEO of C-Jay Records (C-Jay Recording & Productions, Inc.) established in 1996. She has produced several CD's including her debut release entitled "*The Nearness Of You*," a collaboration with musician and band leader, Cecil Brooks III. Her most recent CD is entitled "*If I Had My Way*," featuring Carrie & Her All Star Ensemble.

DWIGHT WEST

By Zan Stewart, Star-Ledger



Dwight West spent many years singing R&B and gospel. He enjoyed that music, but when he turned to jazz, while in his early 30s, he found his musical home.

"Jazz is the epitome of vocalizing, the end of all music," said the Newark native, 54, who lives in Maplewood. "It's the most challenging to relay the message. The lyrics, the story line, of jazz have so much meaning, and you have to be able to relate to the story in order to convince an audience that it's real."

One way he's worked on making his message convincing is to compose his own songs. He also writes lyrics to classic instrumentals, like John Coltrane's "*Equinox.*" The singer has several motives for writing lyrics. For one, he wants listeners, especially African-Americans, to know there is something besides rap. "*We can say something positive with lyrics,*" said West, who has a warm, alluring baritone voice. "*I also want to remind listeners, especially younger ones, of our history.*"

West's lyrics to Coltrane's "Equinox," for which he is seeking clearance from the saxophonist's estate, demonstrate his approach. One of the phrases: "If you ever had any doubt to what jazz music's about, 'Equinox' played by Trane, opens up both sides of your brain; listening just don't feel the same, after hearing the music of Trane."

The singer's 2006 CD, "*The Time is Right*" on the Blue Ark label owned by West and his wife, Julie Clark-West includes several beguiling originals. There are also versions of jazz evergreens, such as Billy Strayhorn's magnificent "*Lush Life*," a moving tale of love lost written when Strayhorn was in his early 20s.

"That song is always a challenge. It hits me," said West, who notes that his favorite singer, Johnny Hartman, recorded the song with Coltrane on "John Coltrane and Johnny Hartman" (Impulse!). "That was the best ever," West said of the recording. Hartman touches West on many levels, he said. "His range is the same as mine," he began. "I love his feeling, his phrasing, the power of his voice, his selection of material."

West, who holds down a day job as a clerk at the United States Postal Service's bulk mail center in Jersey City, grew up in a house that embraced music. He first sang in public at age 6, at a storefront Baptist church in Newark, where his grandmother was the pianist. From the 8th to 12th grade, he sang R&B with the Newarkbased Decades, then, later, sang gospel for five years. He then met poet Amiri Baraka, who encouraged him to sing jazz. For several years, in addition to being a leader, West has been a member of Baraka's ensemble, Blue Ark: The Word Ship.

"I love music," he said. "It's given me an opportunity to express myself."

A Salute To The 70th Anniversary Of Anything

By Irv Newman, 1939



In 1939, Miss Gerber's Weequahic High School English class assignment might have read: "What Is So Special About Attending A Weequahic Alumni Reunion?"

I would answer: To physically, mentally and emotionally attend the 70th anniversary of anything has to be a memorable experience. To keep my answer brief and simple I would offer only one word to commemorate the 70th reunion of the Weequahic High School class of 1939. That vital and ultimate word is SURVIVAL and/or OUT-STANDING! Another explanation comes from the lyrics of a tune sung by the late Elaine Stritch in the Broadway production of "Company" when she challengingly declares, "I'm Here, Dammit, I'm Here."

"Getting here" for the 1939 classmates, average age 86 - 88, is not an easy task. Conquering the wear and tear on aging bodies and souls is a considerable achievement indicating substantial purpose and determination. At a 70th reunion our litany of aches and pains are relegated to mere memories. Remission of all ailments rules the day. Recalling a person's name may elude us, but recollections of what had been good and pleasant lingers on - even to an old innocent high school romance (my 62year-old marriage and still counting remains as solid as ever.)

Nationwide, the alumni of all high schools have their favorite haunts and places of distinction. For us, some of the locales included Millman's and Sabin's super hot dog emporiums situated near distinguished Weequahic Park. Also precious was Morris and Leo Bauman's Weequahic Diner which had New Yorkers coming to Newark to enjoy the superlative cuisine. Many theaters featured Newark stars like Sarah Vaughan, Dore Schary and Jerry Lewis. Downtown shopping facilities were considered some of the finest in the land. Today Newark's Performing Arts Center, international seaport and airport, and professional sports teams rank high in comparison with those olden memories.

Time is an unpredictable happenstance. We 1936 - 1939'ers and our generation occupied front and center stage 70 years ago. A few of us, before our allegiance to Weequahic High School, remember Charles Lindburgh's first solo flight to Paris in 1927 (we were seven then). Back then Newark Airport handled all traffic from a single modest building with only two operative runways.

Culturally we had (still do) a world class Newark Museum, an outstanding park system and a highly rated library system. We Weequahic Indians passed through a period of incredible developments and inventions. In reflection the years became a phantasmagoric parade of events beyond belief - radio, television, great medical cures, computers, rockets to the moon and other remarkable discoveries.

During our era, we former students pondered why and how Weequahic High School acquired the recognition as one of the finest high schools in the country. Graduates won many Woodrow Wilson scholarships and, along the way, achieved substantial goals in medicine, law, education, music, teaching and sales professions. Our standout star was Philip Roth ('50), Pulitzer Prize winner for literature. Recognition in these diversified fields presents a worthy tradition for current students to emulate.

This eminence commenced from our 18th birthday through a continuum of trial and error. Looking back (with some satisfaction) we've reached these diminishing years with the fair thought that we have contributed to the progress of our beloved country. (There's still a dynamic working doctor - Milt Luria '39, currently traveling to San Francisco to deliver a research paper to a medical convention).

Our class heartily bought into Tom Brokaw's book, "*The Greatest Generation.*" It projected that after defeating the great Depression, victory in World War II and other wars, we progressed to become a great world power and leader. Patriotism, love for our country, was a motivation that stirred us in our younger days and we guardedly think it's not "*cornball*" to retain this dedicated attitude.

There was no mystery why lofty scholarship goals and successes accrued to the old Weequahic student. The elevated level of teaching was started by the school's first principal, Dr. Max Herzberg, an eminent educational leader of the 1930's. He inspired and hired a stellar roster of advanced degree teachers. It was this dedicated team of teachers who encouraged their students during the period from 1933 to the 1960's to earn more post graduate Ph.D. degrees than any high school in the nation.

Continued on page 9



Weequahic alums: The (sports) ties that bind

The Sunday Morning Group

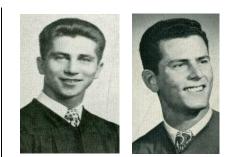
By Robert Weiner, NJ Jewish News

They first met as members of Newark's Weequahic High School football team in the late 1940's. But after graduation, their get-togethers on the gridiron turned into kinder, gentler moments on the baseball diamond.

"We call ourselves the Sunday Morning Group, because we use to get together to play softball on Sunday mornings," said one of its charter members, Len Alpert, class of 1949. "It started out as a sports thing, but now we've broadened out to anybody between 1940 and the early '60's."

Since the '60's, the Sunday Morning Group has been holding reunions every





Morty "Lefty" Leiwant & Len Alpert

other year, and for the most part, the sports they play are games of memory.

"The older you get, the better you were," said 81-year-old Mort "Lefty" Leiwant of Short Hills, a former fullback for the Weequahic Indians. "Right now I can say anything. I can be All-American, because unfortunately, all of my friends are dead," he joked grimly.

At its peak, the Sunday Morning Group managed to assemble 500 alumni. But as they prepare for their next dinner on May 21 at the Maplewood Country Club, their numbers are decreasing.

"Two years ago we had 300 guys," said Leiwant. "Unfortunately, because of the attrition here, we are closing in on 200 now." So the Sunday Morning Group is looking for new members.

It has two requirements. "We cover a 25-year span from 1945 to 1965," said Alpert, who lives in West New York. "And it is just guys. It's not that we are chauvinists, but none of the wives wanted

to come." Why no women? "Basically they get bored stiff," Leiwant said. "We tell stories about when we played a particular game and the women are not interested, even though we could tell the same story 50 times and still be excited about it.".

"There is a great unity we've had for many years," said Alpert. "We get together just to be together. We tried emcees and we tried comedians, but nobody wanted them. We just wanted to hug each other and have a good time."



"The camaraderie we had in the locker room was so different from the camaraderie we had with other students," said Liewant. "There is something special you share, and that goes on. But this is not only about sports. We have relationships we never lost."

GOLDRICH from page 4

Kruvant said the principal gave her complete access to the school and into the lives of the three gang members she subsequently filmed - Blood Gang members Sharif and Ricky, and Crip member Rayvon.

"Principal Stone walked me around the school and shared his past and introduced me to staff and students," she said. "It was then that I learned of his struggle to turn the school around." "Ron Stone is their father figure," she said, pointing out that one gang member told her that Stone's intervention has inspired him to "get out of the hood." On the website, another is quoted as saying, "If it weren't for the system at Weequahic High School, these gang members would be gone."

The filmmaker said the movie has taught her an important lesson. "*It teaches me not to give up on underachievers,*" she said. "*They have a lot to offer.*" In addition, she said, WHS alumni, many of whom are in their 70s, have found a new purpose. "They're excited to do more and more ... to invest in the next generation," she said. "'Heart of Stone' shows how disparate groups can join together to give their old communities something they haven't had for generations - a future."

The film, which has been screened at both black and Jewish film festivals, has won numerous awards, including Audience Award, Slamdance Film Festival; Jury Award for Best Documentary and Kaiser Permanente *"Thrive"* Award, Cinequest Film Festival; and Best Feature Film, Philadelphia Film Festival.

The Golden Age of Low-Tech In Praise of Life Before Technology

By Evanne Schreiber Geltzeiler, Jan. 1952





When Albert Einstein was first shown to his office at Princeton, he was asked what equipment he would need. "A desk or table, a chair, paper and pencils," he replied. "Oh yes, and a large wastebasket, so I can throw away all my mistakes." And, it was with these tools, rudimentary at best, that Einstein contributed new and remarkable scientific concepts of the atom and the universe, and new theories of space and time and motion.

On my daily commute from Mountainside to New York City, I am filled with awe, observing from the bus window, the magnificent skyline, the conceptualization and accomplishment of which was without the computer. And as I read, during my hour on the bus, I am reminded that all the great books, classics that are legendary, were written before the computer.

Word processors are great, I suppose, but I like writing in longhand. For me, there is nothing more seductive than putting pen to paper. There is a lingering embrace with writing instrument and writer that does not exist on a keyboard. Personality is quite hidden in computer generated writings. Perhaps that is my preference as a professional graphologist and forensic handwriting expert for some thirty-five years, but I know it to be true.

Albert Einstein might agree. In his first known love letter, written to Marie Winteler in 1895, he expresses his depth of passion: "It was so wonderful to be able to press to one's heart such a bit of paper which two so dear little eyes have lovingly beheld and on which the dainty little hands have charmingly glided back and forth' ("Einstein - His Life and Universe").

From the perspective of relativity, personal versus mechanical, a powerful example of the intrinsic value of handwriting again relates to Einstein when he wanted to assist in raising money for the war effort by donating his special relativity manuscript to be auctioned off, possibly for millions. The original, however, he had thrown away after its publication in 1905. Einstein recreated the manuscript by having someone read it to him aloud as he wrote the words. The handwritten manuscript, thus produced, sold for almost twelve million dollars.

How delighted we are to have a book personally inscribed by the author. The popularity of book-signings attests to that fact. I have recently been separating, from my personal library, signed books and coordinating them with letters from the authors and am particularly thrilled with those written by hand. These will be very special gifts for my grandchildren.

The postmortem of handwritten missives is stunning and sad. With current burgeoning automation, are our lives really upgraded? We are, perhaps unfortunately, automating ourselves right out of the enchantment of serendipity, a genuine *"Eureka"* encounter. I can recall reading, some time ago, about Bedouin shepherds who went looking for a lost





goat. I don't remember whether or not they found the goat but what they did find, quite by accident, was the Dead Sea Scrolls. Really good things can happen by chance and the thrill that comes with it is deliciously personal.



Einstein's relish for the simplicity of life was highlighted by his uncombed hair, loose fitting rumpled clothes and no socks. But, while seemingly drifting about, Einstein was meditating. As for me, I have always been one to daydream. Even now, I get carried away in thought.

Daydreaming is enormously refreshing. How better to test-drive just about anything at all - without repercussion. When I let my mind wander, as I frequently do, that's when I often find inspiration – *Serendipity*.

Today, we are hearing about automated houses, the *RoboHouse*. The alarm wakes you up, the coffee-maker activates, lights are turned on, garage doors open and much more. A newly constructed house in my neighborhood has a "*For Sale*" sign that says, "*Talking House*." No kidding – "*Talking House*." Would you really want a house that talks?

How far have we come from the wonder and delight we experienced as children? I can still remember when my mom took me to the Horn & Hardart Automat restaurant in downtown Newark. Totally enchanted when I put a coin in a slot and the glass door unlocked, making accessible a sandwich, I can still feel the excitement of that small wonder.

As our world becomes more networked and interconnected, and as new technologies wire us ever more tightly together, the element of trust may be insidiously subverted.

GELTZEILER from page 8

One such consequence recently reported in an AM New York newspaper, was that of a 43-year-old woman, in a virtual game world, who became so angry about her sudden divorce from her online husband that she logged on with his password and killed his digital persona. Call me oldfashioned, but I liked our days of traditional courtship. The etiquette of our time was clear and most of us behaved accordingly. Nothing can replace real interpersonal relationships

With global multimedia packed in our pockets, the traditional work day, nineto-five, is issuing its dying blinks. The infusion of technology, which has insinuated itself into our lives, has expanded our work day into twenty-four / seven. So, even when we venture from our office, we can continue our company's operations. The mobile office has, quite effectively, allowed connectivity aroundthe-clock. So now tell me, do we have control of technology, or does technology control us.

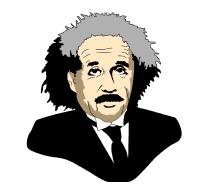
For many years I really enjoyed my commute home to Mountainside from my office in New York City. It was a quiet hour on the bus to read, or relax and doze after a long day. Now, cell phones are ringing or people are fishing them out of attaches and chatting loudly, some for the duration of the trip. This behavior, in the company of fellow passengers is extremely offensive and over-the-top rude. When you're on the bus, forty-nine other people don't need to hear your conversation or what you're ordering from Chinese take-out, for dinner.

Our youth culture, ingrained in video games, now has kids playing with Internet

NEWMAN cont. from page 6

It's evident today's teachers are a similar devoted and dedicated crew. They use their skill and training to prepare the current Weequahic student body for the formidable challenges existing in our chaotic and uncertain times (our money's on this observation).

If surviving members of the 70th class reunion could offer a gift (besides



friends. My grandchildren have been formed by technology. It's just something they do. Digital is the language they speak and when I visit them, I find myself competing with electronics. Overuse of all the digitized gadgets inhibits original, creative and out-of-the-digitized-box ideas and thinking. When we were kids, we thought-up our creative outlets and that necessity itself was remarkably creative.

My granddaughter, Hannah Rose, recently heralded her eighth birthday with a Laser Tag party. We used to have great fun just playing tag. Justice Clarence Thomas, in his book "My Grandfather's Son," describes his childhood to wit, "we rolled old automobile tires and old bicycle rims along the sandy roads, sure that there could be no better fun." "Browsing" for my brother Dick and me was looking over all the enticing counter displays at Woolworth's 5 and 10 Cent stores.

Some computer games are so violent. Violence for us was games of Cops-and-Robbers. We would "*choose up*" for who would be the good guys and who would be the bad guys and we menaced with guns of extended thumb and forefinger. Marbles, trading baseball cards and Breyer's Dixie Cup lids with movie stars or baseball players - what a thrill!

donations to the scholarship fund) to Weequahic students, we would endorse the truism that attitudes really count along with hard work and persistence - tough characteristics to command, nevertheless worthwhile targets. For sure, not all of this is easy but very satisfying when diligent personal effort yields a successful result. GO FOR IT, WEEQUAHIC-ers!

A last comment: With little dispute, excellence and specialness is clearly

Tech's limiting factors are rarely, if ever addressed. Before virtual reality, we did things in the real world. We explored our talents in different ways, without wires, we came to think for ourselves. By bending our minds and energies every which way, we derived inspiration and insight. There was always a special excitement and satisfaction in reaching our own conclusions. The omnipresence of technology has enabled and precipitated the current information assault. John Ratey, of Harvard, has introduced a new term he calls "acquired attention deficit disorder." Keep this in mind, while you multi-task.

I long for the days when *Apples* and *Macs* were deliciously edible and a *Mouse* generally necessitated a little wooden trap and a morsel of cheese. A *Hard Drive* was a long car trip, a *Provider*, your dad - and a *Web*, clearly the work of a spider. *Spam* was a food we didn't eat when it was served to us at sleep-away camp and *Instant Messaging* was a mother calling out from an open window, to come in for dinner. *Laptop* was where I snuggled close to my dad when he came home from work and *Cell Phone* - well - you can guess that one. Aren't you tired of being so wired?

In an environment of unprecedented complexity and change, all the current groovy gadgets may be really cool to my seven grandchildren, and all of yours, but I long for the good-old-days and all the warm, sappy stuff that so magnificently filled them.

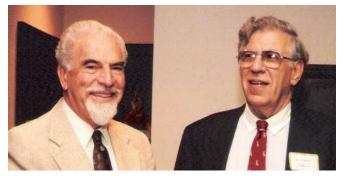
P.S. Don't bother to spell-check this essay. I used my old "Webster New Collegiate Dictionary" circa 1951 and anyway, as Henry James so wisely noted, "Mistakes are the portals of discovery."

evident in the publication of the *Alumni Calumet.* Receiving a twenty page quarterly communication about Weequahic High School alumni, teachers and recent graduates may rate the *Alumni Calumet* as one of the finest alumni bulletins in the nation.

Those that put it together have displayed skill in blending the old Newark Jewish enclave with today's aspiring and accomplishing student body.

Dr. Robert Gorlin, WHS 1940 World renowned oral pathologist

By William Weiss, M.D., WHS 1939, Bob's very close friend for 70 years.



Bill Weiss and Bob Gorlin

How many of the survivors of the class of 1940 remember Bob Gorlin, the friendly, fun loving genius, who had mastered college level chemistry while still in grammar school?

Probably the most outstanding Weequahic graduate ever, in the field of sciences, Bob led a colorful, diversified life, eventually achieving worldwide acclaim in the field of genetics. He received multiple international degrees and honors and a legacy as a universal authority in the field of maxillofacial genetic aberrations.

After graduation from Weequahic in 1940, Bob received his B.S. from Columbia and enlisted in the Army in 1943 where his astronomical I.Q. was recognized and he was sent to study civil engineering at Texas A&M. Shortly before completion of those studies, anticipating a breakup of the engineering program, the Army transferred him to St. Louis University Dental School where he received his dental degree. This improbable turn of fate ended up in providing the field of dentistry with discoveries of almost countless genetic syndromes, voluminous scientific publications and revered teaching.

Following graduation from dental school, Bob trained in oral pathology at Columbia University. Then, as an adventurous interlude, he joined in the construction of the early warning system in Thule, Greenland, where he set up dental facilities in the subzero region. With the advent of the Korean conflict, he was recalled into the service and chose to serve in the US Navy, mostly at Great Lakes Naval Station, where, in addition to dental duties, he was assigned to judicial duties, acting first as a defense attorney, then later as a prosecuting attorney in court martial cases.

Following his discharge from the Navy, he did postgraduate studies at the University of Iowa where, in 1956, he earned his Master's degree in oral pathology. That year he joined the faculty of the University of Minnesota where he remained until his death in 2006, at which time he held the ranks of Regent Professor Emeritus of Oral Pathology and Genetics at the School of Dentistry and Professor Emeritus of Pathology, Pediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Otolaryngology and Dermatology at the School of Medicine

For 50 years, Bob was at the forefront of research in oral and maxillofacial pathology, genetic defects and syndromes, craniofacial disorders and hereditary hearing loss. Among the syndromes and diseases he identified



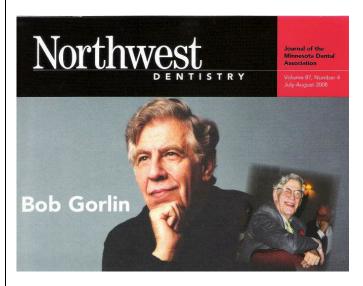
were several that bear his name, including Gorlin's Cyst (calcifying odontogenic cyst) and Gorlin's Syndrome (nevoid basal cell carcinoma syndrome).

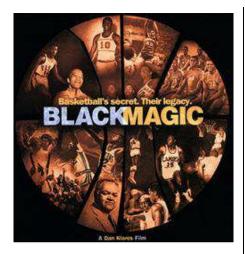
The author of more than 600 articles and 10 textbooks on genetics and oral pathology, Dr. Gorlin's "*Syndromes of the Head and Neck*," is considered the authoritative work in the field and is now in its fourth edition.

In a career spanning half a century, Dr. Robert J. Gorlin was credited with identifying more than 100 syndromes and pioneering research in a wide range of disciplines, from oral pathology and craniofacial genetics to otolaryngology and obstetrics. In addition to his achievements in the scientific field he has been acclaimed for his superb teaching ability, endearing patience, and delightful humor which made knowing him a special pleasure.

Equal to his outstanding academic achievements were his personal and familial relationships. After he returned from Greenland, he met Marilyn Alpern. They were married and raised a loving family, daughter Cathy who became an attorney and son Jed who became a physician and in 2004, contributed to Bob's work by identifying and cloning a gene responsible for several syndromes. They published the discovery together.

Bob was the consummate husband, father and grandfather of 5 grandchildren, all of whom shared his warmth, love and diverse teachings, as well as his delightful humor which was his hallmark.





An ESPN documentary featuring

Alvin Attles and Cleo Hill

By David Chimiel, NJ Monthly Magazine

During the late 1950s, Cleo Hill from South Side and Al Attles from Weequahic waged a friendly battle on Newark's basketball courts. They had no idea they'd pioneer a new era in the NBA or play pivotal roles in <u>Black Magic</u>, an ESPN documentary.

The late-winter chill may be easing, but basketball fanatics care only about a round-the-clock succession of televised games as colleges big and small compete for national championships. Coaches, players, and supporters live and die with every 40-minute passion play, knowing that each game could be the season's last. Ask most of them about the greatest contests in history, and they'll recount their team's most lasting victory or devastating loss.

Virtually no one points to the college basketball game played more than 60 years ago in an empty YMCA in Durham, North Carolina. Or that it was played at 11 am on a Sunday, while everyone else was in church, to protect the identities and safety of the all-white Duke team and the all-black North Carolina Central squad. The players had never faced opponents who didn't look like themselves. In the end, Duke got walloped. Neither the winners nor the losers were allowed to tell a soul.

A decade after that secret game in North Carolina, two Newark players, Al Attles of Weequahic High School and Cleo Hill of South Side, made local headlines for their stellar play. But in those days black players weren't scouted by colleges, they didn't play in summer showcase camps run by sneaker conglomerates, and they never considered skipping college to join the National Basketball Association.

Still, there was an outlet for good black basketball players from the Northeast attending schools in the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association, a conference of historically black colleges and universities, most of which were situated between Maryland and Tennessee.

"My father went to Morgan State, but growing up in Newark, we only heard about local schools," says Attles. "Back then. Seton Hall was our school. I wanted to play at St. John's, but that didn't work out. So I heard about an opportunity at North Carolina A&T. I didn't consider the context of the situation. I had never been south of Philadelphia." When Attles was a senior, a group of A&T students had staged the first sit-in, at a Woolworth lunch counter in Greensboro, to protest the store's refusal to serve African-Americans. Their arrests triggered sit-ins throughout the South.

"It was a confusing time," Attles says. "Athletes were told by student organizers not to participate in the sit-ins because they were afraid we wouldn't be able to tolerate the physical and verbal abuse in a truly non-confrontational way."

Nearly 50 years after witnessing the birth of America's civil-rights movement, Attles and Hill are thoughtful, genteel men who have seen much and betray little anger at what they and their peers endured. They figure prominently in *Black Magic*, a four-hour documentary that was aired in March 2008 on ESPN, which partnered with co-producers Dan Klores and former New York Knicks guard Earl Monroe, a Winston-Salem State star in the mid-1960s.

The film traces the civil-rights movement through the experiences of players at the CIAA schools and through integration in college and the NBA. Offering perspective against the historical backdrop of America in an era of change, the film shows Attles and Hill taking two different paths to success. "When I headed south, I changed my whole outlook," Attles says. "I had been a lazy student. But I promised myself I would graduate in four years. I majored in physical education and history and made the honor roll. To this day, the trophy I am most proud of is the smallest in my house. As a senior, I had the highest GPA of all the school's athletes, a 3.3. It's what I worked the hardest for."

Attles understands the urge for young players today to jump to the NBA quickly. "How do you tell LeBron James not to go pro right away?" he asks. "Those can't-miss players get huge paydays and can study full-time when they retire. Michael Jordan and many other players got their degrees after they finished playing. But it's the guys like me, the majority of good college players for whom there is no guarantee about a career, who need to be serious about their education."

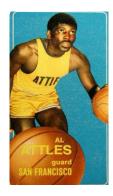
Alvin Attles and Cleo Hill





Continued on page 12

BLACK MAGIC from page 11



While the odds against being drafted by the pros are astronomical, making the NBA was tougher in 1960. With only nine teams, and only ten players per squad, job opportunities were nearly nil. "I found out that I got drafted by the Philadelphia Warriors when I read the paper the day after the picks were

made," Attles says. "I had gotten a teaching job at Robert Treat Junior High in Newark. But I went to training camp. I figured I'd be there for a week, come back to school, and play in the old Eastern League on weekends - the money wasn't great in the NBA back then - but the league was changing.?

"With the 24-second clock, with Boston's fastbreaking team dominating, teams needed to keep pace. No team had more than four black players, because some owners didn't think white fans would appreciate the new game. I was lucky to be in the right place at the right time. With a black star in Wilt Chamberlain, we had the luxury of playing the new game and we had a supportive owner in Eddie Gottlieb. Of course, he wasn't always so supportive, but he realized his mistake and allowed us to change with the times."

Cleo Hill wasn't so lucky. "I could shoot from all over the court," Hill says. "Hook shots from the corners, either hand, jump shots, fast breaks, dribbling with both hands. It was all completely natural to me." Black Magic's recovered clips of Hill's Winston-Salem days prove him to be a spinning, scoring precursor to Earl Monroe, who would rewrite Hill's records at Winston-Salem.

"It was an exciting time, because our team, and the CIAA in general, brought the fastbreak style of basketball," says Hill, who averaged more than 23 points a game during his career. "Before we knew it, we were playing before standing-room-only crowds. White people even started coming to the games. But it was still kind of a novelty."

In 1961, the St. Louis Hawks made Hill the eighth overall pick - the first CIAA player ever to be selected in the first round. He joined a team that had three stars - Bob Pettit, Cliff Hagan, and Clyde Lovellette - and had lost to the mid- dynasty Boston Celtics in the previous year's finals.

Continued on page 13

WEST COAST REUNION February 14, 2009, Oceanside, CA



Phil Yourish, 1964, and Fran Katz Sekela, 1954, reunion organizer



Oldest & Youngest -Martin Fisher, 1937, Wayne Slappy, 1970



and Bud Freedman, 1952



Gil Lustig, 1960, Alan Ginsburg, 1956, Harvey Belfer, 1956



Anita Blumer Cohen, 1951



Marty Bloom, 1954, wife Sherry, and Jesse Beim, 1951



Allan Chlowitz, 1962





Harriet Honigfeld Rosenstein, 1947



Louis Ball, 1962

Tina Centuori Freedman, 1952







Ed Berman, 1948

Fern Marion Lehner, 1959



BLACK MAGIC from page 12



Hill thought he'd have a slot since point guard Lenny Wilkens had to take the year off to fulfill his military service. "I went into camp thinking that I'd be another scoring option," Hill says. "Our owner, Ben Kerner, ordered our coach, Paul

Seymour, to have me pass the ball to the top three guys." At first, the team didn't like a rookie taking all the shots.

"Early in the preseason, we were playing the Celtics in Lexington, Kentucky, and I was denied entrance to the hotel restaurant," Hill recalls. "So Bill Russell, who had also been turned away, called a meeting and all the black players from both teams sat out. When we got back to St. Louis, the newspaper columnists wrote that I should be suspended and fined for insubordination."

"Over the course of the season, Coach Seymour told me to shoot more. That didn't go over well. On the court, Kerner kept telling Coach to bench me, and he wouldn't," Hill says. "Coach got fired, Pettit took over as player/coach, and I got benched. I went back to school, did my student teaching, and came back to camp ready to go. Three days in, our new coach, Harry Galatin, came over and said, 'Hey, I hope you're a good teacher.'"

Hill called his old coach, and Seymour reached out to his NBA contacts. No team would pick him up, so Hill went with the American Basketball league, which quickly folded. He returned to St. Louis but missed Newark, so he called the superintendent of schools, who had been his elementary school principal.

"I got a great job in the Newark School District, and I played with a few teams in the Eastern League," Hill says. "I actually made more money than some NBA players. It was a guard's league so the competition was good. I couldn't watch the NBA for awhile, but I am not angry. Those guys didn't want to play with me. I've had a great life, but it's because I was prepared for a life after basketball that I could go on."

Hill served as coach and athletic director at Essex County College for 25 years, compiling a 489-128 record. "We had the highest-scoring game ever, when we scored 210 points against Englewood Cliffs, and we have the lowest scoring game, when we beat Ocean County College 8-4."

Continued on page 14

WEST COAST REUNION PICS CONTINUED



Jerry Marlis, 1939 & Fran Sekela



Steven Weiss, 1962 and Marsha Gervitz Weiss. 1965



Suzanne Rosen Graybar, 1952 with Tom Rosengard



Lorraine Rindzner DeAngelo, 1955; Ina and Bill Gelfound, 1961; Robert Kessler, 1960 and wife Debbra

SOUTH FLORIDA EAST COAST REUNION February 19, 2009, Jupiter, FL



Judy Moss Robinowitz, Janice Rubin Silberman, Gayle Frankel Sokoloff, Harlee Palan Steinberg

From Gail Frankel Sokoloff, Reunion Organizer

Your Reunion Committee planned a fabulous event, which was well attended by over 120 WHS grads, ranging from 1940 through 1965. *A great time was had by all.* We will be planning another South Florida Reunion in 2011....Please contact Gayle Sokoloff if you are interested in attending and/or participating in the planning of this event.

Gayle (Frankel) Sokoloff - gaylesok@bellsouth.net - June 1963

Thank you to my committee members, who contributed their time and creativity to this fabulous evening! **Barbara (Galex) Richman** – hobarich@aol.com - January 1961; **Marilyn (Selednick) Katz** - mkatzonly@aol.com - June 1953;

BLACK MAGIC from page 13

He and his wife, Ann, live in Orange. Their daughter, Kim, recently graduated from FIT; son, Cleon, is a NJ Transit conductor, and Cleo Jr., coaches at Cheyney University. Hill works for the Newark Public Schools after-school development program. "It gives kids an outlet for recreation, education, personal development, and cultural enrichment," Hill says.

Forty-eight years after being drafted by the Warriors, Attles is still employed by the team. He moved from Philadelphia to Oakland after Gottlieb sold the Warriors for \$850,000 in 1962 . "My wife, Wilhemena, our two children, and I have been living in a section of Oakland called Montclair. When we were all kids in Newark, we all wanted to move to Montclair. I got the biggest kick out of telling my old buddies that I'd finally made it to Montclair."

Attles was a defensive-minded guard, playing for eleven years and averaging eight points, three rebounds and three assists in the NBA. He retired and took over as coach, becoming the first CIAA player to lead a team in the NBA. He coached the team for twelve years and led the Warriors to a title in the 1974-75 season. (Roselle Park native Rick Barry was his top scorer.) He also served as the team's general manager and now works as a community-outreach director.

"I never wanted to coach. I knew that I could get myself to do what was necessary to win a game as a player, but I had no idea if I could do it for twelve players. I did it for 30 games when the team fired George Lee. I was player/coach and figured that at the end of the year, I'd open a coffee shop that I'd been working on starting in Journal Square in Jersey City. Wilhemena told me I should give it another shot, and it was the best thing that ever happened."

"These kids today can run and jump, but are not fundamentally as good as we used to be, nor can they shoot as well," Hill says. "There isn't a premium placed on shooting. We make a big deal out of it when a kid hits a five-foot hook shot? Please. I was making them from fifteen feet!

"I do wish more top players would decide to go to historically black colleges," Hill says. "There's a social aspect, an educational commitment to these colleges and universities because not every player is a legitimate pro prospect. Integration opened the doors for kids of any color to go anywhere. With scouting the way it is today, the NBA will find you. But most importantly, you'll be prepared for your entire life, not just basketball." ***

Robert Barish, WHS 1964



When I received a BS in physics in 1968, the Vietnam War was still raging. For two years I had already been on the staff of radio station WBAI in Manhattan, a well- respected outlet for anti-war and counter-cultural programming. In deciding on a graduate program, I eliminated anything that might ultimately require employment by the military industrial complex.

I learned about the professions of health physics (radiation protection) and medical physics and decided that furthering my education in those areas would be both personally enriching, and possibly be a way of making positive contributions to society.

After receiving a Master's degree in health physics from the Institute of Environmental Medicine at NYU, I went on to obtain a Ph.D. in medical physics from the University of London's Institute of Cancer Research. What has followed is a successful career in academic and clinical work that has made me proud of overcoming some significant lifelong health issues that often created obstacles of pain and frustration.

Twenty years ago, while lecturing on radiation risks, I cited something as an example; something that is often heard in radiation safety talks: "you won't even get as much exposure from this as from taking a

cross-country flight." That got me to thinking. There were hundreds of thousands of pilots and flight attendants taking transcontinental and transoceanic flights for their entire working lives.

What might that mean with respect to their exposure to cosmic radiation? On Earth the atmosphere absorbs much of this radiation from the stars in our galaxy. At airliner altitudes the majority of the atmosphere is below the aircraft, so the absorption is hundreds of times less.

So for the past twenty years, as a "*side interest*," I have been an advocate for the education of airline crew (and business frequent flyers) about the health risks of in-flight radiation. Along the way I have been invited to lecture to diverse groups including the International Association of Women Airline Pilots and the Icelandic Pilots Association in Reykjavik.

And I've published a half dozen peer-reviewed papers on the subject that have had some impact. Specifically, in the year 2000, it became law in all 27 nations of the European Union that all flight crew members receive education on the health risks of in-flight radiation.

What has been frustrating is that although our own FAA has published documents advising such education for US-based air crews, no American-based carrier has voluntarily added the subject to its training requirements. And the FAA has refused to follow the European lead in making the subject mandatory.

A few months ago a second edition of my book *The Invisible Passenger -Radiation Risks for People Who Fly* was published. Currently the Association of Flight Attendants representing 55,000 employees at 20 airlines is advertising it to their membership.

With the publication of Report No. 160 by the National Council of Radiation Protection and Measurements in March 2009 on Ionizing Radiation Exposure of the Population of the United States,

The Invisible Dassenger Radiation Risks for People Who Fly Late Idition Robert J. Barish, PhD it has now been officially documented that workers in commercial aviation receive the highest exposures of any worker group - more than those employed in medicine, industry, government and even nuclear power. Perhaps this will prompt these workers to insist that their employers not ignore the subject of possible health risks of in-flight radiation.



WALDO WINCHESTER This popular column from the Calumet first appeared in 1950.

Dr. Tara Solomon, the daughter of Gary Solomon, 1958, and the late Sharyn Margolin Solomon, 1960, is the founder and medical director of the Women's Wellness Center of South Florida. She just published a book entitled, *What Your Gynecologist Never Told You...and Your Mother Didn't Know*. The book was dedicated to her mother "whose compassion, devotion and love inspired me to write this book."

Kudos to the **Class of 1963** for their **\$1,000** contribution to the **Class of 1963 Scholarship Fund.**

The New York City revival of the **Susan Yankowitz, Jan. 1959**, play, *Night Sky*, will open on June 2 at the Baruch Performing Arts Center. The play will run until June 20. For additional information, please visit *www.NightSkyThePlay.com.*

From Jac's weekly e-mail newsletter:

A Great Idea! From Sandy Scheps (1963):

Perhaps we should have a Weequahic conference/fair, food tasting, exhibit and workshop weekend at the High School with different seminars, the Weequahic Exhibit and Newark vendors serving their signature dishes like Claremont cheese-cake, or Jerry Bombs from the Bunny Hop or a Syd's hot dog with M & K or an Italian hot dog from Dickie Dee's or Wigler's rye bread and cookies or Watson bagels (if possible) or Hobby's corned beef and pastrami or Vic's pizza (since none of the locals may very well not be available) or Cohen's knishes and more.

The Alumni Association can sell its merchandise there and make its pitch. Have the Hall of Fame inductees there, the old faculty and administrations, sports legends, writers from the Ledger and Newark Evening News and old guard Newark politicians. Arrange for bus tours of the city with stops at NJPAC, the Library, Museum, cemeteries, etc. Actually get Roth and other authors or WHS celebrities or celebrity siblings here for book or memorabilia signings (proceeds to the Alumni Scholarship Fund) and Q & A. Have the Star-Ledger, News 12 New Jersey and PBS cover it.

Call it Coming Home for the Weekend...A Trip Back to Newark! Who said you cannot go home? How different would this be than anything else in the USA from any high school? Could this be another documentary? It is a good year of planning to implement this! It can be done! And, all because of cheesecake. To see all these sentimental e-mailers and wannabes come home for one sweet, emotional sentimental weekend, great!

Newark Boy Scouts 100th Anniversary

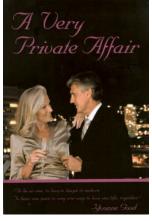
The 100th anniversary of Newark Boy Scouts will be celebrated in a yearlong set of events starting with a dinner on **November 7, 2009 at the Robert Treat Hotel**. Eagle Scouts **Jerry Gottesman** (Chairman, Edison Parking), **Robert Marasco** (City Clerk, City of Newark), **James Churchman** (Owner, Churchman Funeral Homes), and **Igor Alves** (24horas), will co-chair the celebrations.

Pack 256 and Troop 272, totaling 80 youth, now operate where former Troop 96 mobilized Weequahic scouts generations ago. They, plus G.W. Carver's Pack & Troop 333 (30 Scouts) welcome the 30 sharp new Scouts at Troop 120 (Hawthorne Avenue Elementary School). The Scouts and leaders use the former Camp Mohican as often as possible.

Most of these young men will move on to Weequahic High School, more prepared for success than if they were not Scouts. Committed WHS alums, including **Mal Sumka** and **Mal Ginsberg**, have been hands-on in reviving true Scouting in the Weequahic section and the City of Newark - and many others, including **Loraine White, Jerry Gottesman, Phil Yourish, Jimmie Schwarz** and **Herb Schoenberg** have offered financial support to Scouting. For more information, contact Newark Scouting Alumni Chairman **Bill Whitley** at *bill6254@msn.com or 908-229-3161*.

Yvonne Green Good, 1963

Detroit has a history of strained relations between its white and its black populations, but the new novel, A Very Private Affair, is set in that city and weaves a tale of interracial love, both romantic and parental. The twisting, interlocking plot is a deft "what- happens-next" read in which Good demonstrates the sure instincts of a born storyteller to spin a fast-moving tale. Good describes her novel as a "Romantic Drama" and introduces aspects of a screen writing style that include parenthetical stage directions in addition to her narrative descriptions in conventional fiction form.



Florence Golum Klein (1966):

Just wanted to tell you that I saw Heart of Stone at the Philadelphia Film Festival. What an amazing story. The biggest shock was when Ron Stone put on his bullet proof vest to stand in front of Weequahic to greet the students at the start of the day. The documentary was excellent on so many levels. The illustration of conflict resolution and how to make a school safe was fascinating. The ability of Ron Stone to connect with the students and their families and his total commitment that extended way beyond the school day was inspiring. Watching how the skills of the gang leaders were tapped to try to harness their natural leadership ability was fascinating. The scenes of the Old Newark and the comments about growing up in Newark touched my soul.

I attended the movie with two friends who live in South Jersey with me. One grew up in Philadelphia and the other in Delaware. They thought the documentary was excellent even though they knew nothing about Newark except what I have told them. Both of them said that they could not relate to the feeling of community that the Weequahic alumni had. Somehow, their high schools and neighborhoods did not inspire the same feelings.

In Loving Memory

Leslie H. Unger, June 1948

NJ Sports Administrator



Leslie H. Unger, 77, a six-year resident of Colorado Springs, passed away on April 14, 2009 at Pikes Peak Hospice in Colorado Springs. He spent the first 71 years of his life

living in Newark and Central New Jersey.

Les worked over 45 years as a sports administrator. From 1955-1976, he worked at Rutgers University as the Sports Information Director. In 1976, he was hired to become the Director of Public Relations at the Meadowlands Sports Complex in East Rutherford. He worked at the Meadowlands from 1976 to 1990, and helped open Giants Stadium, the Meadowlands Arena and Racetrack.

Les also served as the Director of College Athletics at the Meadowlands, where he booked numerous college football and basketball games. He was instrumental in bringing the 1996 NCAA basketball Final Four to the Meadowlands Arena, and was also deeply involved in many other NCAA events. He was a driving force behind college football's Garden State Bowl and the Kickoff Classic. He also helped bring track and field to the Arena.

In 1990, after retiring from the Meadowlands, Les began a 10-year stint with the United States Golf Association as a part-time employee in the communications department. He served as the moderator of interviews done at the USGA championship events, including the U.S. Open, U.S. Women's Open and U.S. Senior Open. He interviewed Tiger Woods, Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, Annika Sorenstam, and a host of other well-known golfers.

Les served in the U.S. Army, receiving an honorable discharge in 1954. He was a 1952 graduate of Rutgers University with a bachelor's degree in Journalism. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Jan; two daughters, Susan Ne'eman of Eshchar, Israel and Bobbi Rector of Glendale, WI; a son, Michael, of Colorado Springs, and seven grandchildren.

Sanford Roth, June 1946

Brother of famous author



Sanford Roth died in Chicago on May 6, 2009 at 81. Born in Newark on December 26, 1927, he was educated in Newark public schools and, after serving in the navy, graduated from

Pratt Institute. He was also a student at the Art Students League.

Sandy began his advertising career in New York in the 1950s with J. Walter Thompson, later was an art director at B.B.D.O. and the Ellington Agency. In 1968 he joined Ogilvy & Mather as a creative director and, in 1976, moved to Chicago to be a senior vice-president and creative director with Ogilvy, where his major account was Sears.

He retired from Ogilvy in 1983 in order to paint; he was represented by galleries in Chicago, New York, and Palm Desert, CA. He taught painting and drawing out of his Chicago studio from 1984 to 2008.

Sandy is survived by his wife, Dorene Marcus of Chicago, a brother, Philip, of Connecticut, sons Seth of Chicago and Jonathan of Harrington Park, NJ, a daughter-in-law, Marie, and grandchildren, Trudy and Zachary. His first wife, Trudy, mother of Seth and Jonathan, predeceased him in 1970.

Abby Newman Deeds, June 1960



Abby Newman Deeds, 66, died peacefully on Good Friday and Passover at her home, "Valley View," in Lake Wynonah, surrounded by her loving family and beloved Yorkie, Rocky. She was born

in Albany, N.Y., and grew up to wonderful parents, Herman and Sarah

Newman, in Newark. Abby graduated from Weequahic High School in 1960 and Glassboro State College with a bachelor's degree in art therapy.

She will always be remembered for her devotion to her home and family, her feisty personality and her lasting positive impression on others. Abby was known for her commitment to help others. This was evident in her job working with the veterans of our country.

Abby loved traveling across the country with her husband, Barry, visiting their extensive family. She and Barry resided half the year in their home in Leigh Acres, Fla., and the other half in the home they built together in Lake Wynonah. Abby was a well-known resident of the lower Florida Keys. She is remembered fondly by her friends in Geiger Key and Key West.

Surviving are her husband, Barry Deeds; six children, daughter Sheryl, son Adam and wife Teresa, son Marc, daughter Sharri and husband Ronnie, daughter Kim and husband Rick, and adopted son John; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Sharyn Margolin Solomon, Jan. 1960



Sharyn Margolin Solomon, 65, of Livingston, passed away on Oct. 30, 2007, after a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. Born in Newark, Sharyn lived in Livingston for the past 43 years.

She was a system analyst for Prudential in Roseland for 25 years and also worked at Calico Corners for seven years. She was the owner of Baked 4U, a gourmet dessert company and was an avid gardener and seamstress.

She is survived by her husband of 45 years, Gary, and was the loving mother of Dr. Tara Solomon, Dena Babjak, and Sandi Solomon; sister of Barton Margolin; and grandmother of Austin and Ashley.

In Loving Memory

Harry Lutzke, 94 Popular WHS Biology Teacher



Harry Lutzke passed away on April 30, 2009. His wife Pearl passed away one week later. Born in Newark in 1915, Harry went to Monmouth Street School, and graduated from Central High. He received a BA degree from Upsala College and an MA degree from the University of Colorado on a National Science Foundation Fellowship.

Harry was a teacher in the Newark school system for 42 years and retired in 1979. He taught biology and other science classes at Weequahic High School.

Harry was also an accomplished musician, drummer, and pianist and led his own band, *The Harry Lewis Orchestra*, at Goldman's and Green's hotels in West Orange for many years.

He was a member of the Men's Club at Temple B'nai Abraham of Livingston for over 50 years, and a member of Local 16 A.F.of M. Harry and his wife, Pearl, traveled extensively all over the world, enjoying new experiences and acquaintances.

He was a devoted son, husband, father grandfather, and uncle. He is survived by sons, Donald and Myron; daughtersin-law, Nancy and Anca; grandchildren, Jeanne, Cindy, Julia, and Laura; sisterin-law, Hilda Lutzke; niece Eleanor Lutzke Lewis, and nephew Arthur Lutzke..

Sharon Nicely Boose, June 1961



Sharon Boose was born in Newark on April 7, 1943 to Alfred Nicely & the late Daisy Portee. She departed this life on April 2, 2009 at home, after a long illness.

Sharon was the third of five children, and always seemed to be in the middle of everything. She looked up to her oldest sister, was teased relentlessly by her older brother, and was the protector and mediator to the squabbles of her younger sisters. Sharon was affectionately known as: "Swammy Mommy" by her children, "G- Ma" by her grandchildren, "My Woman" by her husband and "Mooch" by her father.

During her school years, Sharon was quiet and well liked. She attended Weequahic High School where she loved being a majorette. It was in high school that Sharon met Thomas (Tom) James Boose, Jr. In 1963, she and Tom married and the Lord blessed their union with five wonderful children. Throughout their 46 years of marriage, they believed strongly in family and cultivated the same in their children. Sharon accepted the Lord and was a member of Bible Fellowship Church in Newark. She was a blessing to many people; a friend, a counselor, a mediator and most of all, a woman with a giving, loving heart.

Early in her career, Sharon had diverse interests. With little training, she worked as a draftswoman. She exercised her managerial skills at Hertz, where she worked her way up from Rental Agent to Corporate Manager until health issues forced her into early retirement. Sharon did all this while managing a household, raising five children and continuing her education at Essex County College.

Sharon was a nonconformist with the soul of an artist, and you would be hard pressed to catch her without a Pepsi or a Coke in her hand. Sharon developed a love of flying. She took lessons. Embracing her creativity, some of Sharon's happiest moments were spent making and collecting dolls. In that same spirit, she enjoyed hand-making ceramic chess sets while still finding time to take care of anyone who needed her. Sharon was a wonderful cook and enjoyed creating gournet meals for her family.

Sharon was preceded in death by her mother, Daisy Portee and brother, Alfred Nicely, Jr. Fond memories of Sharon will remain in the hearts of her devoted, supportive and loving husband, Tom; their five children, Beth Boose (James Sheppard, Jr.), Leslie Hunter (Ronald), Gregory Boose (Theresa), Melissa Boose and Leigh Boose; her father, Alfred Nicely; her sisters, Valeria Bennett (James), Jo Ann Mays and Michele Nicely; her sister-in-law, Marilyn Boose; her nine grandchildren, Taurean Ahmed, Gregory T. Boose, Janiece Sheppard, Sean Boose (Soni), Cameron Pitt, Sharon Jalysa Boose-Sheppard, Alyssa Boose, Thomas Hunter and Jada Hunter; and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, friends and loved ones.

The Boose family is establishing a Scholarship Fund in memory of *Sharon Nicely Boose* through the Weequahic High School Alumni Association.

Naomi Geltzeiler Schuster, Jan. 1957 Albert Jacobs, June 1945 Ira Bernard Jacobson, June 1951 Alan Jacobowitz, June 1955 Jay Knight, June 1963 Lillian Levine Goss, June 1936 Joan Marienthal Gruber, Jan. 1957 Curtis Neal, 1984 Joan Schartoff Lubin, June 1954 Eleanor Lutz Alan Bennett Rabinowitz, June 1962 Bucky Rous, 1939 Ralph Sherman, June 1947

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<u> Membership / Merchandise / Scholarship Form</u>				
Mail to: WHS Alumni Association, P.O. Box 494, Newark, NJ 07101				
- 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)				
<b>4. \$20.00 GOLF SHIRT</b> (sizes S, M, L, XL - orange with Indian head and WHS alumni wording)				
5 \$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	12. \$ RE	ADA & HARRY JELLIN	IEK Endowment Fund	
2.  \$ MAXINE BOATWRIGHT Memorial Fund	13. \$PH	YLLIS & DONALD KAL	-FUS Fund	
3.  \$ MOREY BOBROW Memorial Fund	14. \$ HA	HANNAH LITZKY Memorial Fund		
4. \$ CLASS OF 1945 Fund	15. \$ BE	BERT MANHOFF Memorial Fund		
5. \$ CLASS OF 1963 SCHOLARSHIP Fund	16. \$ SE`	SEYMOUR 'SWEDE' MASIN Memorial Fund		
6. \$ CLASS OF 1964 SCHOLARSHIP Fund		EDWIN McLUCAS Athletic Fund		
7. \$ CLASS OF 1968 SCHOLARSHIP Fund		MARIE E. O'CONNOR Fund		
8. \$ GENERAL ALUMNI Fund		LEO PEARL Memorial Fund		
9.  \$ RONALD GRIFFIN Memorial Fund		RICHARD ROBERTS Fund		
10. \$ LES & CEIL FEIN Endowment Fund	· =	SADIE ROUS Memorial Fund RON STONE Memorial Endowment Fund		
11. \$ MIRIAM HAMPLE Memorial Fund	20. \$ RO	N STONE Memorial E	ndowment Fund	
<b><u>5 Membership Choices</u></b> 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:				
ame: Last Name at Weequahic:				
Street: City/Tov	/n:	State:	Zip:	
Phone: ( ) Business: ( )				
Cell: ( ) e-mail:				



Morris Brinn, 96 WHS Science Chair, Vice Principal and Acting Principal



Dr. Morris A. Brinn passed away on April 2, 2009 at the age of 96. Born in Cincinnati, Ohio, he served as civilian instructor for the Dept. of the Air Force during World

War II. A graduate of Baylor University, he received his MA degree from NYU, and at age 82, a Ph.D in clinical psychology from Seton Hall University. An educator in the Newark school system for 45 years, Dr. Brinn was Chair of the Science Department, Vice Principal and Acting Principal at Weequahic.

#### From Carol Goldberg, Ph.D.

(Carol, a psychologist, is the wife of Cantor Don Slonim, class of Jan. 1952)

Hearing about the death of Dr. Morris Brinn at the age of 96, I would like to share an article I wrote about him in 1995 for the American Psychological Association. I wanted people to learn from him, as a role model of aging well.

The article is very relevant to Weequahic. His amazing achievements and resilience in overcoming family tragedies and poverty illustrate the inspirational message the Alumni Association transmits to current students. This is a human interest story, which encourages achievement beyond the usual ages.

Of the approximately 43,000 people

awarded a doctorate in 1994, one stands out as probably the oldest person to earn a doctorate in Clinical Psychology, octogenarian Morris Brinn. Anyone meeting this tall, fit, much younger looking man will not believe his age. Being among the youngest when I earned my doctorate at Columbia, I find it amazing that he could master such knowledge when he was almost sixty years older than I was when I got my doctorate. I think you, too, will be proud of him.

On December 23, 1994, three days after his 82nd birthday, Morris completed his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at Seton Hall University. Following graduation ceremonies in May 1995, I attended his party at the Manor in West Orange. He gave a beautifully smooth speech, without any notes, expressing his appreciation individually to each faculty member who was at his party. He danced to the "disco" music with many of us, without any signs of fatiguing.

Underneath his comfortably calm manner are enthusiasm and incredible stamina, enhanced by his commitment to exercise. Why did this man, who could have a leisurely retirement, decide to become a psychologist? He said as a teacher and a school administrator in a tough inner city, he was concerned about educational deterioration and spreading violence. Retirement gave him opportunities to learn more about human behavior and how to help people. He said teachers should never cease to learn.

As we discussed his life, I noted that early hardships probably also influenced his desire to become a psychologist. When he was a boy, his mother died and his father was unable to take care of three young children. Morris lived in an orphanage for several years until his father took the children back upon remarriage. His brother, who survived infancy in foster homes, was unable to overcome the horror of witnessing his friends murdered when the ship on which they were stationed together in Pearl Harbor was bombed. During the years that his brother was hospitalized with what is now diagnosed as PTSD, post traumatic stress disorder, Morris participated in his brother's rehabilitation at a V.A. Hospital.

Morris's keen intelligence, excellent memory, and thirst for knowledge are impressive. Being poor, he did not have easy paths to his academic degrees, made possible by scholarships. Having to earn money during high school prevented him from participating in sports, but not from graduating as valedictorian at South Side High School in Newark. That was the first of many honors, including graduating from Baylor University Cum Laude, earning a M.A. in Chemistry Magna Cum Laude from Fairleigh Dickinson University, membership in honor societies, National Science Foundation Grants and other scholarships.

Despite numerous honors, Morris is a modest man. He enjoys simple pleasures of being close to nature, by hiking, swimming, and traveling. Family life is so important to him that he listed it at the top of his resume. He has a daughter, who is a social worker; a son, who is an attorney; and two grandchildren.

After earning his Ph.D., Morris did not want to deprive younger psychologists of a full salaried job, so he did volunteer work to help needy populations, particularly boys from impoverished families. Always wanting to continue learning, he arranged for a very experienced psychologist at Rutgers University to supervise his work.

How I became acquainted with Morris was serendipitous. In 1980, my husband and I were vacationing in Scandinavia. We and another couple shared a couch in a hotel lobby while waiting for our rooms to be readied. As soon as we introduced ourselves by name, both men simultaneously said, "I have cousins with your last name." Yes, Morris and my husband are cousins, who had never met. Morris recalled working as a delivery boy and soda jerk in my father-in-law's pharmacy (Slonim's Pharmacy at the corner of Lyons Avenue and Clinton Place) during high school, long before my husband's birth.

We were happy to meet Morris and his lovely wife, Sylvia, who were married 2 years at the time (both had first marriages that ended with death of their spouses). We enjoyed several weeks traveling with them. We subsequently kept in touch, but a round trip of 150 miles separating our homes and our work schedules precluded seeing each other often.

Dr. Morris Brinn is an extraordinary man. I feel privileged that he became my cousin and my colleague. His accomplishments should inspire all of us and encourage achievement regardless of age.

# REUNIONS

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Saturday, 8 P.M., The Mursik Room, 37 Bloomfield Avenue, Newark, N.J. Contact Vickie at vsanders@oel.state.nj.us; Lesly at (862) 755-2951; Fatima at fsanford117@yahoo.com, and Sherronda at 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 or Al Marcus at (973) 992-5077 / ajaymouse@comcast.net.

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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* 

© OCT. 9, 2010 / 1960 - 50th Saturday, 6 P.M., Kenilwoth Inn, Kenilworth, NJ. Contact Susan Bohrer Barr at subarr@comcast.net / (9732) 574-0721

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<u>Class of 1979 - 30th</u> Contact Karien L. Brooks at karbroo@aol.com

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Los Angeles Area Screening

# SATURDAY, JUNE 6 - 1:15 PM

# Hollywood Black Film Festival

Laemmle Theater #2 9036 Wilshire Blvd, Beverly Hills, California www.hbff.org

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