



Fort Hamilton High School Alumni Association

P.O. Box 90555 · Brooklyn, NY 11209

www.fhalumni.org

fhs1973@earthlink.net

2017 Spring / Summer Issue, Volume 22

A Message From Your President

Dear Alumni Association Members:

Another school year has ended and another class has graduated from seniors to alumni. Congratulations to the Class of 2017! We hope you look back at your time at the Fort with the same pride and happy memories that so many of us share. We “old-timers” wish you all the best as you embark on your next journey in life.

Whenever I’ve had the pleasure of seeing the Fort’s students at any of their events I’m struck by the grace, poise and talent on display. It’s a little surreal to watch these kids and think back to when we were in their shoes - but I recommend it! Board member Cathy Gigante-Brown and I went to our first PTA fundraiser and left the event already looking forward to next year’s fashion show. We hope that it won’t be long before our FHHSAA attendance snowballs to where we fill a whole table at the Rex Manor for this fun luncheon. Theater Night was another occasion for alumni to break bread at the Greenhouse Cafe, enjoy one another’s company and then experience an Off-off-off-Broadway production with displays of talent worthy of a much bigger stage. Each time I attend the school musicals there’s at least one student who makes me think, *Remember that name!*

Shiv Trivedi, also one of our board members and the president of the FHHS Tiger Football Alumni Association, recently participated in Career Day at the school and enjoyed the opportunity to connect with and help the students. Read his account of that experience on the following page.

Of course, I understand how hard, or even impossible, it is for most alumni to partake in such activities which is why I’m happy to bring you this newsletter to keep us all connected. Even with all the info just a click away online, I think it’s nice once in a while to have a message that you can actually touch. I hope you’ll keep in touch, too.

Have a safe and peaceful summer,

Valerie Hodgson '73

President, FHHSAA

Alumni who join or renew now as **Regular Members** will be covered until the end of **2018**. All **Lifetime Members** only pay once and are welcome to be listed in the **Business Directory**. **Silver** and **Gold Lifetime Members**’ names are displayed on a plaque outside the school’s library. **Plus they get a big star here!**

SILVER LIFETIME

Sharon L. Korsberg Martingale '90



LIFETIME

Joan Arida Bacon '67
Kathleen Walker '72



Thanks also to lifetime member
Mona Ballin Zaloom '59
for her additional donation



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK
FORT HAMILTON HIGH SCHOOL

Celebrating 75 years of "Excellence in Education."

*Kaye Houlihan
Principal*

8301 SHORE ROAD
BROOKLYN, NY 11209
Phone (718) 748-1537
Fax (718) 836-3955

July, 2017

Dear Alumni:

The 2016-17 school year was busy indeed. In addition to the day-to-day education of over 4,500 students, we celebrated our 75th Anniversary in October of 2016 with alumni from every decade. Our Quality Review visit in June 2017 resulted in positive ratings and feedback that affirmed we provide opportunities for all students to be college and career ready. In addition, we hosted graduation at a new venue, the Coney Island Amphitheater, to accommodate more graduates and their families. We completed the fourth year of the Joffrey Ballet Academy and launch a screened Drama Program with the first incoming class in Fall 2017.

We continue to utilize resources strategically to ensure that students have the materials they need with highly qualified staff members. We also worked to repurpose and/or upgrade space and instructional materials/equipment to accommodate a projected increase in students this Fall 2017. Meeting the Title I eligibility requirement in FY17 provided critical funds to support school-wide programs, hire additional staff, schedule tutoring before and after school and for Saturday Academy, to support professional development, and to ensure that all our programs and students have the support needed to thrive and progress.

Literacy continues to be our instructional focus that will support students' ability to be critical thinkers and communicators. Engaging students and helping them build the skills necessary to be prepared for college and career is our goal. Providing a safe and secure environment for students and staff is a priority in meeting this goal. Your support for all our efforts is appreciated.

Wishing you a wonderful summer.

Respectfully,

Kaye Houlihan

Kaye Houlihan, Principal

Career Day

On Friday June 9, I had the esteemed privilege of participating in Fort Hamilton's annual Career Day. Decked out in my favorite blue suit and power tie, I voiced my requests to "Excuse me" and parted the sea of students eagerly awaiting the first period bell before being allowed into the building on their last day of class prior to Regents Week. Upon signing in, I was greeted by an awaiting escort who would accompany me to the 83rd Street side module building.

As we entered the wing of the module building, I came upon several alumni in various attires from all walks of life, most notably the familiar faces of the members of the FHHS Tiger Football Alumni Association (TFAA). Also present to greet the TFAA members (former president Ruben DelValle, William Quan, Troy Smith, Thomas Stanziale, and myself) were former head football coach Vincent Laino, current head football coach Daniel Perez, and former assistant football coach and current teacher Claudius Jones. Principal Kaye Houlihan and Assistant Principal Jeff Brisard also joined to greet the presenters and thanked us for our participation. After the initial greetings, each presenter was assigned a classroom where he or she would spend two 20 minute sessions with interested

seniors to present their profession and answer questions. As I would soon find out, amongst the students who visited me to learn more about finance and information technology opportunities, some students had their entire lives planned out in front of them - while others did not.

To break the ice, I asked the students how they felt about graduating. The most surprising response, from a seemingly confident young man was, "Scared." He explained that until now he'd been told where to go and what to do, but now he would need to pave his own path. Sensing the same sentiment amongst others, for the brief moment that I would have to mold these impressionable minds, I shared my own tribulations in an attempt to reinforce the *Tiger persona*. Summoning the best pep-talk skills of the legendary leaders who inspired me, I'd like to believe that my reassurances helped shed at least one percent of the anxiety these young souls were experiencing. If that is found to be true, then I would proudly consider this time spent with my newest alumni brethren as superbly invested and will always be grateful to the administration for considering me worthy of addressing its pride.

by Shiv Trivedi

Thanks to the generosity of the supporters of the FHHS 75th Anniversary Journal, monetary awards were presented on June 15 at Senior Awards Night to *Hayet Chebbi, Ariana Noka, Veronica O'Brien and Matthew Sanchez*

The ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS
for outstanding service to the school and community were presented to
Faisal Elali and Mengyuan Sun.

The awards listed below are associated with alumni.

ELI THOMAS ABDALLAH SCHOLARSHIP

for excellence in mathematics and athletics.....Alisa Latollari

ANTHONY BATCHKOV MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

for demonstrating kindness, compassion, creativity and a love for learning.....Viridiana Najera

NETTIE CHARNEY HUMANITIES AWARD

for outstanding achievement in the study of the humanities..... Brendyn Owoyemi

DR. GEORGE B. CURY VALEDICTORIAN AWARD

for the student with the highest average.....Marisa Petrusky

COUNCILMAN VINCENT GENTILE'S CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

for outstanding citizenship.....Benjamin Andrews
Wendy Zhou

JOSEPH GRAFFAGNINO PROFILES IN COURAGE SCHOLARSHIPS

for courage, commitment, teamwork, leadership, sacrifice and determination.....Nour Abourageh
Bin Chi
Esteffany Inga
Tyler Mayleas
Enrique Ortiz
Said Sarwar

VIVIAN HODGSON MEMORIAL HUMANITARIAN AWARDS

for a demonstrated commitment to peace and the protection of civil rightsCarlos Leon Morales
Brendyn Owoyemi

ELIAS ILLIOPOULOS MEMORIAL AWARD

for outstanding accomplishments.....Elise Paredes

KRISTI BETH KVALHEIM SCHOLARSHIP

for outstanding character, spirit and love of participation in interscholastic sports and service to the school and community....Feda Assad

EDUARD NOGAY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

for being a leader on and off the field/court.....Veronica O'Brien

EDUARD NOGAY OUTSTANDING CHARACTER AWARD

for loyalty, love of sport, academic strength, leadership, and the ability to persevere/overcome challenges.....Matthew Sanchez

ROBERT ROHL MEMORIAL AWARD

for sustained excellence in scholarship.....Osamh Mohamed

To learn how you can personally - and easily - create a scholarship to assist students and invest in the next generation of outstanding alumni, contact the college advisor **Fran Ferrara** at (718) 748-1537 ext. 2642 or fferrar3@schools.nyc.gov.

REUNIONS

It's a busy time for class reunions! If you don't see your year listed but know someone who graduated in '53, '57, '67, '68, '72 or '81

PLEASE let them know about these events.

Class of 1957

Sixtieth Anniversary Luncheon

Wednesday, October 18 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Giacomo's Trattoria 7902 Third Avenue, Brooklyn
(complimentary valet parking)

RSVP by September 2 with payment of \$65 per person

to Vincent Bocchino
806 70th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11228

(718) 238-1532 marbocc@aol.com

50th Reunion for the Class of 1967

When: **Saturday, Oct. 14** 6 PM - 10 PM

Where: Dyker Beach Golf Course
1030 86th Street, Brooklyn

Includes: Hors d'oeuvres, dinner, dessert, open bar

Music: DJ Johnny

Parking: Ample self-parking

Price: \$100 per person

Contact: Eugenie Alexiou Trefz
eugenimax@yahoo.com

Hurry! Space is limited

The Class of June, '53 meets for a luncheon each June & December at Chadwick's Restaurant

Contact **Bob Casale** for details:

RobertFCasale@aol.com (516) 759-0939

Save The Date

Class of '68 50th Reunion

Rex Manor

Saturday, April 21, 2018 at 6PM

Cost is \$100.00 PP

Contact Lorraine Carlsen Knudson
fthamilton68@comcast.net

Please send your email address along with any other classmates' info you may have

Class of 1972 45th Reunion

Saturday, October 21

7 P.M. to 11 P.M.

Greenhouse Cafe

7717 Third Avenue, Brooklyn

\$50 per person / cash at the door
includes dinner, wine & soda (cash bar extra)

Contact: Arlene Hasset Keating:

keats818@aol.com (917) 656-8374

or Kathy Salerno Hornreich:

lasvegasfox54@aol.com (917) 868-6958

R.S.V.P. by October 10

Class of '81

Veronica Grieco and Denise Vieni are hoping there's some interest in meeting on **SATURDAY, AUGUST 26** at either the Greenhouse Cafe or the Bridgeview Diner - but they're flexible.

They'd appreciate your feedback and would love to hear from the ol' gang.

Please contact them at
FHHS81Reunion@Gmail.com
and tell your friends!

Remember to email us your reunion pix for the next newsletter



Thinking about a reunion for your class?

Check our website for reunion planning tips:
fhalumni.org/events/reunions/



Tidbits From Tigerville

Email your news for the next issue to FHHS1973@earthlink.net

Florence Mann Ames '55 sends greetings from the West Coast and would love to hear from anyone interested in forming a Los Angeles FHHS alumni branch. She can be reached at florenceames6655@aol.com or (818) 912-6347.



Here's a challenge: The Alumni Association has been offered a donation of \$100 if anyone can identify the lovely alumna in the photo left. If you can name that grad, drop a line to fhhs1973@earthlink.net.

Kathy Salerno Hornreich '72 welcomed grandson Dylan Nicholas Natal - her first grandchild! - in June. Best wishes to our newest little Tiger cub.

Bernard King '74 and (FDR High School grad) **Jerome Preisler** have teamed up on Game Face: A Lifetime of Hard-Earned Lessons On and Off the Basketball Court due out on November 7, but available now on Amazon as a pre-order. The book chronicles the hall-of-famer's life with candor and insight.



Cathy Gigante-Brown '77 has just published her third novel, The Bells of Brooklyn (Volossal Publishing), available in hardcover, softcover and as an ebook. It's a sequel to her first book, The EI, and chronicles the lives of an Italian-American family in Borough Park in the 1930s and '40s. The novel transports readers to a simpler time, where family is everything, love has no limits and dreams sometimes do come true.

Catch up with Cathy on July 27 at the Brooklyn Navy Yard (63 Flushing Avenue, Bldg. 92) at 6 pm and at the Italian American Museum (155 Mulberry St.) on October 5 at 6:30 pm. Also, feel free to give the book a like on Facebook!



Belated shoutout of **THANKS!** to our friend **Stephen Bates** and **WKTU 103.5 FM** for helping us promote the Fort's 75th anniversary celebration. You're the best!



In Memoriam

We extend our deepest sympathy to the loved ones of recently deceased alumni, faculty, family and friends.

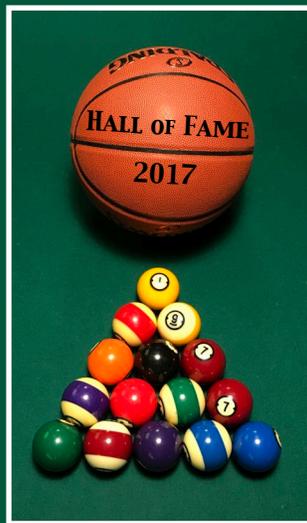
Alice Larsen Helgesen '51, February 5, 2017

Lydia Paganica DeSantis '72, June 24, 2016

Coach Ken Kern, May 12, 2107

We are pleased to announce the 2017 Alumni Hall of Fame inductees will be Jean Balukas '77 and Albert King '77

These two sports legends - Jean for billiards and Albert for basketball - are long overdue for this honor



The ceremony is tentatively scheduled for December 8 at Ft. Hamilton H.S. Save the date

Details will be posted on our website and emailed to our members when they are finalized

Please be sure we have your current email address

Those wishing to help sponsor the ceremony by advertising in the program are requested to contact us for details at fhhs1973@earthlink.net

Looking for a way to pay it forward?

FHHS's **Work-Based Learning Program** is a mutually beneficial collaborative partnership between local businesses and students. We know how important early job opportunities are for future success.

Anyone in a position to assist students gain work skills that also benefit their business is encouraged to learn more about the **WBL Program** by contacting the coordinator **Thomas O'Neill** at (718) 748-1537 ext. 3540; toneill2@schools.nyc.gov.

SPOTLIGHT on...

Nancy Ketcham Lagomarsino '76

says her artistic awakening came many years after high school where she graduated as salutatorian and was voted Most Likely to Succeed, but her algebra and geometry skills have come in handy when working with proportions and ratios in her baking for **SophistiCakes**, the company she founded in 2011.

While at Ft. Hamilton, Nancy was very active with math, music, athletics and social clubs. Her favorite subjects were English and math and her favorite teachers, Mr. D'Ambrosio and Mr. Whitebook, remain Nancy's friends today. She enjoys getting together with them and other school chums on a regular basis.

Nancy earned a B.A. in music from Barnard (1980) and married her husband John in 1981. She has worked as a computer programmer/systems analyst and in customer service. Back when her children John and Jessica were in high school Nancy started baking more and more for their school events and her undeniable culinary talents began to blossom and take root. Throwing herself into a new career in her 50s was not a change she took lightly but a stern talk from her daughter convinced her to "Just do it!" and she hasn't looked back. Nancy quit her job, enrolled in classes at the Institute of Culinary Education in NYC and continues to study sugar art and cake decorating with the masters both in the U.S. and abroad. Her confectionary creations add a level of sophistication to any special occasion.



Nancy Jean Ketcham



SophistiCakes serves the Greater New York/New Jersey area. Contact information is listed in the Alumni Business Directory

Alumni Business Directory

ANTIQU BOOK RESTORATION

Carol Mendizza Ceraldi '62
GRAHAM HILL BINDERY
321 North Craftsbury Road
Craftsbury, Vt 05826
(802) 586-2434
carolceraldi@gmail.com
grahamhillbindery.com

CUSTOM CAKES

Nancy Ketcham Lagomarsino '76
SOPHISTICAKES, LLC
Emerson, NJ
(201) 519-6141
nancy@SophistiCakesLLC.com
SophistiCakesLLC.com

EDUCATIONAL

Alice B. Cury Farkouh, Ed.D.,CEO '57
ABCFC CONSULTANTS, LLC
25 Croton Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10301
(917) 636-2003
abf@fecnyc.com
fecnyc.com

Hiram Greene '53
TEACHER / COACH
Hancock, MA 01237
hiram@massnordic.com

FINANCIAL

Alice Sorensen '78
PARKVIEW TERRACE ACCOUNTING
PRIVATE TAX SERVICE
6324 Fifth Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11209
(718) 439-4283
pvttaxaccounting@yahoo.com
pvttaxaccounting.com

Austin Trabulsy, ChFC, LUTCF '65
Personal Financial Representative
ALLSTATE INSURANCE, Co.
1200 South Ave. Suite 304
Staten Island, NY 10314
(718) 982-5403
atrabulsy@allstate.com

FUNERAL SERVICES

J. Peter Clavin '71
CLAVIN FUNERAL HOME
7722 4th Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11209
(718) 745-1445
since1866@clavinfuneralhome.com
clavinfuneralhome.com

JEWELRY

David Gilberg '79
DAVID GILBERG JEWELRY
& REPAIRS
45 W. 47th Street, Mezz. level
NY, NY 10036
(212) 719-4004
JewelerDavid@aol.com

LEGAL

Richard B. Herzog '56
HARKINS CUNNINGHAM, LLP
1700 K St. NW, Suite 400,
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 973-7602
rbh@harkinscunningham.com
harkinscunningham.com

George Likourezos '88
CARTER, DELUCA, FARRELL & SCHMIDT, LLP
445 Broad Hollow Road, Suite 420
Melville, NY 11747
(631) 501-5706
glikourezos@cdfslaw.com
cdfslaw.com

Donna Hansen McClellan '74
CONNORS & SULLIVAN ATTORNEYS AT LAW, PLLC
7408 Fifth Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11209
(718) 238-6500
donna.mcclellan@connorsandsullivan.com
connorsandsullivan.com

MEDIA

Ted General '59
BROOKLYN MEDIA GROUP
*(Home Reporter and Sunset News,
The Brooklyn Spectator)*
9733 Fourth Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11209
(718) 833-4928
General@journalist.com
homereporter.com

MEDICAL

Antonios Likourezos '86
MAIMONIDES MEDICAL CENTER
4802 Tenth Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11219
718-283-6896
alikourezos@maimonidesmed.org
maimonidesmed.org/

Lifetime members may be listed here and on our website by emailing to fhhs1973@earthlink.net the following information: Type of business, member's name, year of graduation, name of business, business address, business phone, business e-mail and business website link.

REAL ESTATE

Glenn C. Sorensen '80
PARKVIEW TERRACE REAL ESTATE &
BROOKLYN PROPERTY MANAGERS
5215 7th Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11220
(718) 972-0700
glenncsorensen@yahoo.com

Sandy Vallas '81
VALLAS REAL ESTATE
480 80th Street
Brooklyn NY 11209
(718) 833-7900
sandyvallas@yahoo.com

RECREATION

Jean Balukas '77
HALL OF FAME BILLIARDS
505 Ovington Avenue
Brooklyn NY 11209
(718) 921-2694
yelp.com/biz/hall-of-fame-billiards-brooklyn

RELIGIOUS

V Rev. Fr. John Hamatie '64
ST. GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
24 N. Rosalind Avenue
Orlando, FL 32801
(407) 740-8797
jhamatie@aol.com
stgeorgeorlando.org

THERAPY

Dr. Jill Muir Sukenick '71
PSYCHOTHERAPY AND PSYCHOANALYSIS
120 East 62th Street
New York, NY 10065
(212) 872-1530
drjmsukenick@aol.com

TRAVEL

Ramona Paola Manzi '71
MICATO SAFARIS
15 West 26th Street
New York, NY
(347) 413-3382
rmanzi@micato.com
micato.com

VETERINARY SERVICES

Dr. Ann Huntington, DVM '66
SUFFIELD VETERINARY HOSPITAL
577 East St. South
Suffield, CT 06078
(860) 668-4041
drann@suffieldvet.com
suffieldvet.com

Fort Hamilton High School

Alumni Association

P.O. Box 90555
Brooklyn, NY 11209



Board Members

- President *Valerie Hodgson*
- Vice President *Mary Beth Alexander*
- Treasurer *David Whitebook*
- Secretary *Robert Hedlund*
- Historian *Barbara Venito*
- Publicity Coordinator *Ted General*
- School Liaison *Greg Larsen*
- Rose Abdallah*
- Lorraine Donlon*
- Dr. Alice Farkouh*
- Cathy Gigante-Brown*
- Tom Greene*
- Petros Spanakos*
- Shiv Trivedi*
- Sandy Vallas*
- Katbleen Walker*
- Grace Zito*

Visit our website: fhalumni.org

email us at: fhs1973@earthlink.net

We Welcome New Members

RENEW or JOIN FHHSAA TODAY - Use this form or print one from our website

Please check the address label for your membership status and year of graduation

Kindly notify us if corrections are needed

Annual Membership (through calendar year 2018).....\$20

*Regular Lifetime Membership.....\$100

*Silver Lifetime Membership.....\$250

*Gold Lifetime Membership.....\$500

***Lifetime members never pay dues again and can join our business directory**

See the reverse side of this form for details

Gold/Silver Lifetime Members' names are displayed on a plaque on our "Wall of Fame"

Name (include maiden name) _____ Class _____

Phone _____ Email address **PLEASE KEEP US UPDATED ON ANY CHANGES**

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

(Optional info to serve you better) Occupation & Hobbies _____

Ft. Hamilton H.S. Alumni Association • P.O. Box 90555 • Brooklyn, NY 11209