



Fort Hamilton High School Alumni Association

www.fhalumni.org

fhs1973@earthlink.net

2020 Spring / Summer, Volume 28

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- Shiu Trivedi '93*
- Sandy Vallas '81*
- Grace Zito '57*

This issue of the FHHSAA newsletter comes to you with our best wishes for your good health and wellbeing. Our hearts go out to those of you who have experienced a loss or personally suffered any of the dreadful effects of this pandemic.

So many aspects of our lives have changed, including how we communicate. As a safety precaution, this newsletter is only being distributed electronically (but in a printer-friendly format for anyone who wants to print it out at home.)

PLEASE NOTE: To reduce trips outside, mail to the P.O. box has been redirected and we request that any written communication or dues renewals be sent directly to our treasurer: Mr. David Whitebook, 35 Whitehall Road, Monroe Twp., NJ 08831
You can still email President Valerie Hodgson at FHHS1973@earthlink.net

We enjoy hearing from you and look forward to the day when we meet again — in person.

SHARON BEITZ '73
NEW GOLD LIFETIME MEMBER

JUAN CARLOS FRANQUIZ II '19
NEW GOLD LIFETIME MEMBER

JOHN F. CARR '51
UPGRADED TO SILVER LIFETIME MEMBER

ANN WHELEHAN DRAGON '78
NEW LIFETIME MEMBER

Gold member
ROBERT CASALE '53
DONATION

Gold member
FRANCIS McNELLIS '60
DONATION

THANKS
to our "stars" and ALL
sustaining members
who continue to
"Support the Fort"



Fort Hamilton High School Alumni Association
2021 Membership or Renewal Application

Join us and SUPPORT the FORT

Membership is open to all FHHS grads & former students, students' parents and current or former staff members.

Please Print Clearly:

Name _____ Maiden Name _____ Class of _____
 Telephone # () _____ Email Address _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
 Gold Lifetime Membership*: \$500 One-Time Payment Amount Enclosed \$ _____
 Silver Lifetime Membership*: \$250 One-Time Payment Amount Enclosed \$ _____
 Regular Lifetime Membership: \$100 One-Time Payment Amount Enclosed \$ _____
 Annual Membership: \$20 Per Year Amount Enclosed \$ _____
 Donation: Optional Amount Enclosed \$ _____
 *A plaque has been erected outside the school library for the names of Gold and Silver Lifetime Members.
 Please check: Renewal _____ New Member _____ Lifetime Member updating information _____
 Former student/graduate _____ Staff _____ Parent _____

For parents: add name(s) and class year(s) of student(s):

If you are already a lifetime member who needs to update information or add an email address, please mail in this form or send an email to FHHS1973@earthlink.net. We will increasingly be using email to communicate with our members - don't be left out!

Please make checks payable to: "Fort Hamilton High School Alumni Association" and mail to the FHHSAA treasurer: Mr. David Whitebook

35 Whitehall Road
Monroe Twp., NJ 08831

Annual Membership will expire on December 31, 2021 Thank you for your support!

Lifetime members wishing to be listed in our Business Directory may email FHHS1973@earthlink.net or mail in this form.
 Type of Business (i.e.: Retail, Legal, Medical, Entertainment, etc.): _____
 Member's Name: _____
 Year of Graduation: _____
 Name of Business: _____
 Business Address: _____
 Business Phone: _____
 Business Email: _____
 Business Website Link: _____

Visit our website: FHALUMNI.ORG

Many grads have joined online reunion planning sites such as classmates.com or alumni.class.com. The Ft. Hamilton H.S. Alumni Association is NOT affiliated with these sites. We cannot control the communications you receive from those entities and we do not sell your contact info. The FHHSAA exists solely for the benefit of the school and its current and former students.

A Message from the FHHSAA President



September, 2020

Dear Alumni Association Members & Friends,



I hope this finds you and your loved ones well. I send you all virtual hugs.

In our last newsletter, when I said, “years that end in zeroes always feel extra special,” this is definitely NOT what I had in mind!

Back in less chaotic times, during election seasons, it was not uncommon for me to receive mail that included pleas for political donations which included surveys asking that we rank the issues that we felt were most important. Pondering the choices was like having to pick a favorite child, or in my case, cat. But whenever education was on a list, I always thought that it should be number one (not that I ever sent these surveys back.) It just seems to me that with a well-educated population — one that appreciates facts and science and creativity — we should be able to solve all the other problems. Check out this issue’s Spotlight heroes to see what I mean.

I’ve often said that the Alumni Association is like a family. Our classmates are siblings, other grads are cousins and the teachers are our parents. (This Alumni Association wouldn’t even exist were it not founded by one very determined Fort teacher working with others!) We’ve probably all been guilty, at one time or another, of taking our *parents* for granted and *alumni* associations by definition are more likely to focus on the grads rather than on teachers. But I’ve heard from our members and I know that, not only do we appreciate those who have inspired us, many have followed in their footsteps. I salute you all.

The obstacles, hardships and trials teachers are facing during this pandemic were previously unimaginable. With strength akin to that of maternal or paternal love, they have soldiered on and found ways to keep the classes going — while dealing with everything else happening in their own newly more complicated lives. I hope our teachers will never be taken for granted by students, parents or governments and that they will be able to safely continue doing the job they love.

Valerie Hodgson '73
President, FHHSAA



The June 2020 Pilot listed the following alumni as faculty and staff at FHHS
We appreciate their continued dedication to Ft. Hamilton — especially during these difficult times.

Physical Education:
Lynn Beruldsen '82**
Katherine Economos '07
Christine Hansen '00
Julia Balasis-Maring '01
Daniel Perez '96
Richard Sherry '98

**Business, Fine Arts,
& Performing Arts:**
Natasha Henry '12
Min Ho Shin '99

Social Studies:
Domenic Delisi '13
Noelle Gohar '97
Claudius Jones '94
Amanda Kontakos '12
Elizabeth McCabe '91
Michael Sundholm '08
Shu Min Wong '94

ENL/World Languages:
Sergio Mendoza-Gallardo '12
Kristen Proscia '07
Jonathan Torres '13

Math Department:
Kim Bianco '85*
Susanne Perez '96

English Department:
Rachael Albanese '04
Joseph Alvear '91
Jennifer D'Acunto '97
Melissa Edwards O'Leary '97
Tina Katsaros '02
Denise Kritikos '92
Hope Vallas '13
Panos Xylomenos '09
Kalli Zervos '83

Science:
John Christakos '86
Muhamad Fattah '04
Susannah O'Shea '12
Jordan Villany '09
Ekaterina Wingate '86

ISS:
Marianna Aspiotis '04
Kerri Caputo '01
Jenny Filippides '09
Jill Gibson '01
Thomas Lung '12

Guidance:
Maisa Bader '00
Jocelyn Cortes '13
Siham Jaoui '02

**Paras, Aides,
School Safety:**
Gene Bernhard '96
Marisol Casquete '12
Joseph Spatola '02
Denise Vento '81
Thomas Vlismas '79

** Gold lifetime FHHSAA member
* Lifetime member



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK
FORT HAMILTON HIGH SCHOOL
Celebrating 75 years of "Excellence in Education."

8301 SHORE ROAD
BROOKLYN, NY 11209
Phone (718) 748-1537
Fax (718) 836-3955
Website: fthhs.org

Kaye Houlihan
Principal

October, 2020

Dear Alumni:

Greetings from the Fort. 2020 has been a challenging year and we hope this letter finds you safe and healthy as we continue managing life in a pandemic.

Since schools went fully remote in March 2020, we've been working to maintain what makes Fort Hamilton HS special. Our caring and dynamic staff learned to adapt in-person lessons to a remote environment, but nothing could replace the human interaction of seeing and interacting with students daily in the building. Students who did not complete course requirements during the spring or summer terms did not fail. Instead, they earned a mark of incomplete and have through January 2021 to make up the required work for credit. In addition, students were eligible for a Regents exam waiver if they completed the course sequence and were due to take an exam in June or August 2020.

While we were unable to host live performances in spring 2020, we shared a virtual dance concert to celebrate accomplishments of our seniors and other dancers in the Joffrey Ballet Academy. Other spring 2020 events were virtual, including Senior Awards and Graduation for the Class of 2020. Many returned in September to pick up diplomas, yearbooks, and awards, and we were able to retrieve books, computers, and uniforms for marching band, etc. We will continue this distribution every Wednesday morning to accommodate students and their families.

SY2020-21 began with students remotely on September 16. To maintain social distancing in the building and classrooms, we created five cohorts for students to attend in person and one remote cohort. The first day that blended students attended in person was October 1. Things went smoothly because we had a great team to check health screening surveys, take temperatures, and distribute thermometers. Students have been cooperative about wearing the mask and walking single file in the halls. While 400-500 students in the building per day is nothing compared to 4,600, we are managing students in person while 80% of the class is remote.

We added a fourth Drama Academy class from Cohort 2024, and we have wonderful productions ahead, albeit virtual for the foreseeable future. The performing arts will still thrive at Fort Hamilton HS, and we look forward to live performances down the road. Athletics are on hold for the time being and we hope will resume this school year.

The external work on our roof and parapet continues with the promise of completion by the end of 2020. We continue to maximize our space and utilize all funds to benefit students.

We stand firm in our commitment to provide students a safe and secure environment that prepares them for college and career.

Respectfully,

Kaye Houlihan

Principal





ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS
*for outstanding service to the school and community
 were presented to*
Jessica Li & Oscar Sanchez



- ELI THOMAS ABDALLAH SCHOLARSHIP**
for excellence in mathematics and athletics..... **Alexander Stratis**
- NETTIE CHARNEY HUMANITIES AWARD**
for outstanding achievement in the study of the humanities..... **Jocelyn Orlando**
- DR. GEORGE B. CURY VALEDICTORIAN AWARD**
for the student with the highest average..... **Jocelyn Orlando**
- NY STATE SENATOR ANDREW GOUNARDES AWARD**
for outstanding community service..... **Brandon Lee**
- NY STATE SENATOR ANDREW GOUNARDES AWARD**
for outstanding academic achievement..... **Madison Morgan**
- JOSEPH GRAFFAGNINO PROFILES IN COURAGE SCHOLARSHIPS**
for courage, commitment, teamwork, leadership, sacrifice and determination..... **John Gardini, Stanley Hau,
 Daniel McGrath, Christopher Safi, Ashly Tiros**
- FHHS PTA THOMAS GREENE AWARD FOR GRIT AND COURAGE**
*for a student who has overcome personal and other obstacles, in and out of school, to succeed,
 and has made a lasting contribution to the FHHS community.....* **Elisha Bethancourt**
- VIVIAN HODGSON MEMORIAL HUMANITARIAN AWARD**
for a demonstrated commitment to peace and the protection of civil rights..... **Katie Castrianni**
- ELIAS ILLIOPOULOS MEMORIAL AWARD**
for outstanding accomplishments..... **Xin Chen**
- KRISTI BETH KVALHEIM SCHOLARSHIP**
*for outstanding character, spirit and love of participation in interscholastic sports
 and service to the school and community.....* **Irene Fanourakis**
- EDUARD NOGAY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**
for being a leader both on and off the field/court..... **Matthew Baradie**
- EDUARD NOGAY OUTSTANDING CHARACTER AWARD**
for loyalty, love of sport, academic strength, leadership, and the ability to persevere/overcome challenges..... **Matthew Baradie**
- ROBERT ROHL MEMORIAL AWARD**
for sustained excellence in scholarship..... **Ioannis Galiouras**

This year, on June 16, a different kind of Senior Awards Night was held. The virtual ceremony offered us the opportunity to learn more about the recipients, as it presented graphics that included each winner's senior portrait along with information about the awards they were receiving. Additionally, students were able to share with us a list of their accomplishments, some personal fun facts and a favorite memory (such as witnessing a whole pumpkin being thrown down the stairs and exploding on the first floor!) It could be hard not to feel nostalgic for our days at the Fort while reading about their fun times at the school.

To view the ceremony, click on this link:
https://www.fthhs.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=1768491&type=d&pREC_ID=video&showMore=1&titleREC_ID=274162

*The awards listed above are the ones given in the names of alumni.
 Thinking about your legacy?
 Contact the school's college office if you're interested in setting up an award for a 2021 graduate.*

SPOTLIGHT ON... FRONTLINE WORKERS

In the early days of the pandemic, FHHS's Instagram page recognized alumni who are working on the front lines of this battle. The school generously shared their photos with us so that we too can honor these heroic and dedicated people.

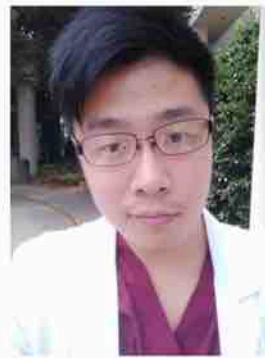
Thank you!



Tarek Elghandour '10



Antonia Christodoulou '13



Jason Ko '09



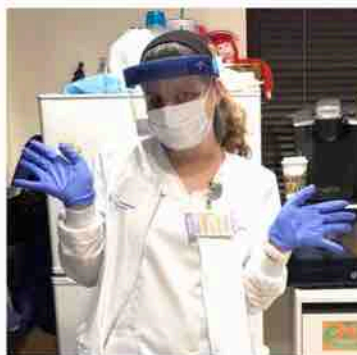
Shanna Sapienza '11



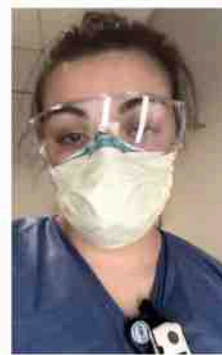
Sami Zantout '10



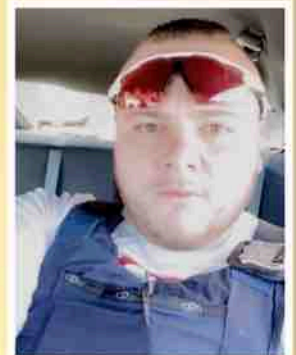
Dina Kifayah '10



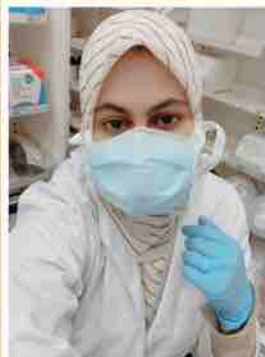
Melina Woods '15



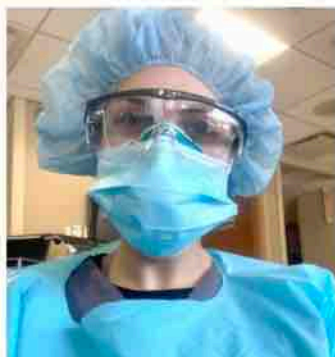
Ashley O'Neil '15



Danny Mendez '10



Hadir Omar '10



Salma Asous '11



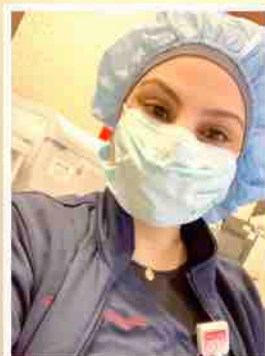
Mohamed Sleem '10



Osama Sayed '11



Joanna Verteouris '12



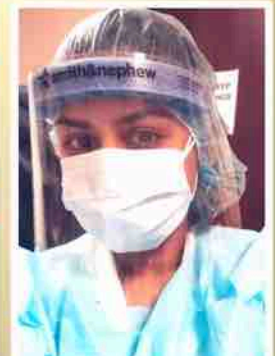
Saba Hakim '10



Graziella Orecchio '12



Nick Koven '15



Wardah Khan '09

Last December I was eagerly looking forward to 2020. I was grateful that I had the good fortune to live in a wonderful active adult community where I could enjoy swimming - my greatest recreational pleasure - year round. I looked forward to the winter months, since I had use of an indoor pool and I looked forward to the summer months, where I could swim in a large outdoor pool. I was also looking forward to my annual trip to Cozumel, Mexico and a possible return trip, after 20 years, to Sardinia and Sicily.

On March 12, I underwent a successful surgery and my biggest concern at that time was not being able to get back into the pool during recovery. Who knew the world was about to change (and that to this day, in New Jersey, virtually all the pools in adult communities would still be still closed)?

With all this unexpected time on my hands I did a lot of reading. I finally got to the books that I always seemed to put off. I also reread some great books that I'd read ages ago. I re-watched many DVDs and video tapes (yes I've saved them) of miniseries I loved when I originally saw them. And I spent a lot of quality time with my dog. While he never heard of Covid-19, he loves the fact that I am home most of the day - and when I'm out of the house it is usually because I am taking him for a walk. Finally, the extra time I have has given me time to reflect on my life and what my personal hopes for the future are.

I realized how fortunate I've been. My first piece of good fortune was to be born in America. Being born to a Jewish family in 1942, I probably would not be alive if I were born in Europe (where my grandparents came from). I was fortunate to grow up in a neighborhood with great schools and to get a free college education at Brooklyn College (people seem to forget that until 1976, CUNY tuition was free). I was blessed in 1966 when I was assigned as a math teacher to Fort Hamilton High School. Though retired from FHHS for 23 years, I have occasion to visit the school in my capacity as an officer of the Alumni Association and I believe my first positive impressions of the Fort still hold true.

As I look forward to the coming months, though sad for all the lives lost, including some close friends, I am grateful for my good fortune. I have survived 6 months of a pandemic and I am still here (plus, I've have found an alternative place to swim!) I do not have any travel plans as yet but hopefully the world will soon defeat the virus and I can at least think about trips I might take in the future. Until then, I am content to enjoy my reading, my videos, my swimming and my walks with my dog and to look forward to 2021.



David takes Clark for a walk in the park

Hopefully it will be a better year for everyone.

— **DAVID WHITEBOOK**

Reflections on 2020 (so far)

To say that 2020 is an epic year is an understatement. No one would have guessed what this year would bring. We are living through a historic moment and nothing will ever be the same again. As much as people say that they want to get back to the "norm," there is no more "normal" as we used to know it. We all have to embrace a new normal. I've encountered many trials and tribulations during this time, but fortunately for me and my family, it's not all bad.

As the parent of an incoming college freshman and a 4th grader, it is easy to see that the new normal for them will be blended learning (in person and online). Even though online learning is not new, to overhaul the education system like this was unprecedented. What I see is that online learning works better for the older kids than the younger ones who still need in-person, face-to-face interactions with their teachers.

We've yet to see the effects of families moving to the suburbs or turning summer homes into year-round residences. Overcrowding has long been an issue in our public schools, but over time this new way of teaching might actually help address that.

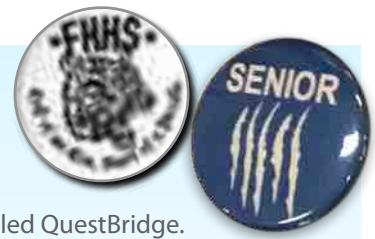
As a small business owner, we've had to cut back in volume in order to follow the social distancing mandate. There is some significant financial loss, but for the good of society as a whole we must do what we need to do until there's a vaccine. As a hairstylist, I can't work remotely but with so many clients working from home it's allowed us to space out the bookings evenly over the week. That's a welcome consolation. See, I am always looking for the silver lining!

Always look on the bright side of life. If this pandemic has taught me anything, it is that life is too short to dwell on things we cannot control.

— **ADELINE CHUNG-FEDER**



Ethan Feder now attends NYU and Acadia is a student at Lutheran Elementary



Youssef Hasweh '20 shared his Senior Year Reflection with us.

The original has been edited for space.

I am proud to have received a full scholarship to the University Of Chicago thanks to a program called QuestBridge. UChicago was the start of my journey as I navigated through the college process as a first-generation, low-income, student of color and it was my dream school ever since attending a Young Leaders Summit there.

I received 10 competitive travel grants and had the time of my life because I had never been on a plane before. With each trip, I learned a lot about myself and how I would pursue higher education.

Though I've had many successes, I have not usually been vocal about my failures, but this year was extremely hard on me. My father passed in December of last year from his battle with lung cancer. I faked being okay for as long as I could remember, I never really let myself feel anything. It killed me to think that he would not be able to watch me cross the stage at graduation, but a plus to it being canceled is that I won't have to endure that. The toughest part was watching my mom slowly deteriorate and the pain we shared in our hearts. My sister left college to come to help me take care of my 25-year-old brother who has cerebral palsy. My sister keeps saying that if only one of us can go to college that it has to be me. It kills me to feel like my family surviving is contingent on my success at the second most rigorous institution in the country. I cannot second guess if I am ready for the challenge, I just have to be. I am known for being the kid that screams "Major Key Alert" on the announcements, but I always considered school an escape from the insurmountable pressure I was feeling at home. That is why I never shared my adversities, I never wanted to mix the two. These experiences are unfortunate, however, I am stronger because of them.

I have used these experiences to fuel my passions, including the PERIOD Movement, the National Honor Society and Muslim Student Association, Model UN and our school's Key Club. I am also on the baseball, moot court, mock trial, and cheerleading teams. I made news as the first male cheerleader at Ft. Hamilton. That was the focus of my college essay, in particular, having to cheer on the athletes that bullied me. I also took classes at Pace University. I've had the pleasure of representing my graduating class as junior senator and two years in a row on the senior cohort. I have tried to leave my mark on Ft. Hamilton. While trying to do so I have gotten some once in a lifetime opportunities.

I was published by TIME Magazine, discussing my perspective on the college application process and how navigating it can be harder for disadvantaged students. I was also published with Pace University with one of my professors and had an article published about me and my work for educational and gender equity by [Medium.com](https://www.medium.com).

Just writing this felt like a rollercoaster. Thank you, Fort Hamilton for creating this ride with me and helping me get over my fear of the big drop.



This year has been especially hard with all that has happened, however this quarantine has helped me realize what I want, and who I should surround myself with. I plan on attending the College of Staten Island in the fall to major in psychology. I would like to shout-out Mr. Dibisceglie and Mr. Randazzo for being the best history teachers out there! One thing is for sure, I will always remember my senior year.

Jennifer Quiles '20

My time at Fort Hamilton High School has been something truly unexpected, but something I am grateful for.

**All the best,
Jolie Jiang '20**



Tidbits *from* TIGERVILLE



Let's hear from our members! Send your news to FHHS1973@earthlink.net



Carol Laub Needleman '59 retired from the NYC school system in 1994. She now resides in Milford, PA where the local high school recently asked her to consider returning to teaching there. She's been in touch with classmates **Barbara Amador** and **Karen Youngman** (maiden names.) All are doing well, but like everyone, long for the days to return to normal.

Marilyn Daniti '64 temporarily relocated to Fresh Meadows shortly before the shelter in place orders were issued in March. She sends this greeting: "I hope everyone is taking precautions: masks, six feet apart and hand washing. Please stay safe and healthy during these trying times!!"

Joan Arida Bacon '67 has pointed out that in these trying times, *trying* is a good metaphor for *trying* to stay safe, *trying* to comfort family and friends, *trying* to maintain social distancing and perhaps the most challenging: *trying* to give a reassuring smile behind the mask!

Graduation this year meant exciting milestones for Joan's family: 2 college, 2 high school, and 1 from elementary school. While their immediate futures are a bit hazy right now, she's confident they will come out stronger and wiser on the other side.

Though a trip to London with one of her daughters, and a trip to Ireland with two friends had to be canceled, Joan reassuringly says, "I realize in the grand scheme of things — these issues are not worth a hill of beans — there's always tomorrow, next month, or next year!" That's important to remember.

Kathy (Salerno) Hornreich '72 has some happy news to share! On July 31, "miracle baby" Brooklyn Kathleen Hornreich was born. This is Kathy's first granddaughter (second grandchild.)

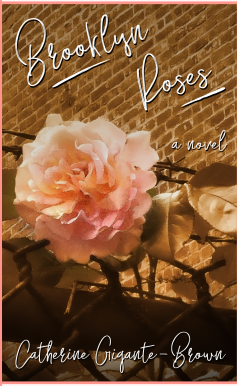


Susan Petersen '72 is happily retired now and sends greetings from Rehoboth Beach, DE where she lives with her partner of 30+ years in a wonderful 55 and over community - right next door to her sister, **Carol Petersen '76**. After teaching physical education in NYC for 15 years, Susan earned a doctoral degree at Columbia and switched gears to teach at the college level, preparing physical education teachers at SUNY Brockport. **Loretta Pelosi**, **Mary Piccolomini**, **Gail Rosen** and **Barbara Finkelstein** are some of the former Fort PE teachers who guided Susan on a path to what she calls the "best job in the world." Hard to believe it was nearly 50 years ago!

Christian Durante '07 has been quite busy since his days at the Fort. After graduating from John Jay College of Criminal Justice with a BA in police science, minoring in cinema studies, he worked for the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs at the Brooklyn VA Hospital. In 2018, he transferred to the U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security. After just two years there, he was promoted to his current title of Administrative Operations Specialist. Christian's hobbies include reading, meditation and visiting museums. He's looking forward to someone from the Class of 2007 planning a reunion soon and can be reached at christiand1776@gmail.com.

Jana Taube '18 hopes everyone is doing well and shares with us the following message that she posted on Instagram a few months ago: "The past few weeks have been hard. Challenging. Testing. Yes, I got Covid. Yes, I was working solo full time in my mom's office. Yes, I got behind in school. BUT. The time is passing. People are dying. People are healing. If there is one thing that stays true, it is all passes. Stay faithful. We will overcome the challenges facing us together."

Tom Greene, retired FHHS science teacher understands that our next big challenge could be an environmental disaster. He's been campaigning to make the science of climate change an integral part of the curriculum in all K-5 schools and, for over twenty years, has been trying to get EcoLabs built along the shore. EcoLabs would educate students on the perils of pollution and show them, first hand, how clean energy can replace fossil fuels while producing electricity off the grid. For more information, contact Tom at thomasfgreene@aol.com or click on this link to the New York State Marine Education Association: <https://nysmea.wildapricot.org/>



Catherine Gigante-Brown '77 admits that at first, she wondered if a global pandemic was the right time for her publisher to release her fifth novel, **Brooklyn Roses** (Volossal). But her publisher pointed out that people were indeed reading more and that they needed something to give them joy and hope during these uncertain times. **Brooklyn Roses** is the third and final installment in *The El Trilogy*, which follows the trials and tribulations of Borough Park's Paradiso family through several challenging decades. It reminds us of the resilience of "Brooklyn roses," which emerge in our concrete gardens year after year, challenging barbed wire and wrought iron fences, returning even stronger.

Also available as an ebook, where you can take a sneak peek.

(Click on the underlined words above to link to the book info.)



High school reunion
 Have you ever been guilty of looking at someone your own age and thinking, "Surely I can't look that old?" You'll love this one.
 My name is Alice Smith and I was sitting in the waiting room for my first appointment with a new dentist. I noticed his DDS diploma, which showed his full name.
 Suddenly, I remembered a tall, handsome, dark-haired boy with the same name who had been in my high school class some 40-odd years ago. Could this be the same guy that I had a secret crush on, way back then?
 Upon seeing him, however, I quickly discarded any such thought. This gray-haired man with the deeply lined face was way too old to have been my classmate.
 After he examined my teeth, I asked him if he had attended Morgan Park High School.
 "Yes. Yes, I did. I'm a Mustang," he beamed with pride.
 "When did you graduate?" I asked.
 He answered, "In 1959. Why do you ask?"
 "You were in my class!" I exclaimed.
 He looked at me closely. Then, that ugly, old, bald wrinkled, fat, gray, decrepit son-of-a-gun asked, "What did you teach?"



Thank you, Bob Casale '53 for sharing this humorous clipping with us :-)



The late **Col. Eileen M. Bonner '44** is a Ft.

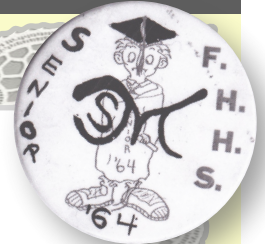


Hamilton HS Alumni Hall of Fame inductee. Fellow Hall of Famer, **Robert Adamski '64** has informed us that the Reserve Organization of America offers an *Eileen M. Bonner Scholarship Award for Medical Excellence*. This award recognizes an outstanding reservist of the

medical branch of one of the uniformed services or National Guard who has contributed above and beyond the call of duty to the military and civilian community and is furthering their medical education.

Click here for more information:

<https://www.roa.org/page/scholarships>



Congratulations!



Ruth Gustafson '64 and **Stenåke Östman**

tied the knot in the garden of their Raleigh, NC home on March 23.

Though the world was seriously quarantined at that time and they had to kiss their guest list goodbye, they took a moment during the ceremony to honor the loved ones who could only join them in spirit.



The images of the FHHS buttons and pins scattered throughout this issue were supplied by the following alumni:
 Rachel Turitto Pasquale, Jan, '52
 Diane Riordan '57
 Marilyn Daniti '64
 Stephen Masterson '64
 Gloria Mullaney '71
 Valerie Hodgson '73
 James Kelly '73
 Ann Semineri Doxsey '74
 Linda Bernstein Greenberg '75
 Jamie McLaughlin '78
 Veronica Grieco '81
 and teacher, Lora Morgenstern

Generally Speaking

BY TED GENERAL

Retired art teacher **Andy Sachs**, who served many years as the faculty advisor of FHHS yearbooks, is a gifted artist in his own right. He continues to paint, sell and exhibit his works of art. Andy is also an accomplished guitarist who has performed at restaurants and clubs throughout the city.

<https://www.andysachs.art/index.html>



Thomas A. DeStefano, '55, died on April 24, 2020 due to complications from Covid-19. He was 82. On November 9, 1991, Thomas was inducted into the FHHS Alumni Hall of Fame. While a student at the Fort, he was active in drama and theater. He graduated from Fordham University where he earned a master's degree.

When DeStefano retired in 2002 as executive director of Brooklyn Catholic Charities, he had amassed 33 years of service to the Brooklyn Diocese and to thousands of poor and struggling residents of Brooklyn and Queens. During his tenure and leadership, his agency built or renovated 1,870 housing units.

<https://www.saulfuneralhomes.com/obituaries/Thomas-Anthony-De-Stefano?obId=12790195>

In Memoriam

Darryl Alladice '72, May 15, 2020

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/nytimes/obituary.aspx?n=darryl-alladice&pid=196284692>

Mary Theresa Ayoub '72, April 29, 2020

<https://www.clavinfuneralhome.com/obituary/mary-theresa-ayoub>

Kathleen A. Mullin, July 3, 2020 retired FHHS Family Worker

<https://www.clavinfuneralhome.com/obituary/kathleen-a-mullin>



The daughters of the late **Kristin Manojlovic Gentilini '81** remind us that even in the midst of a pandemic, cancer never stops. And their fundraising efforts to combat metastatic triple-negative breast cancer continue. Visit cookiescause.org to learn more and to see how you can help.

ANTIQUE 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
ABCF 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

Christopher R. Deats, LFD, CFSP '02
MICHAEL V. COSGROVE & SON INC.
FUNERAL HOME
2525 65TH Street
Brooklyn, Ny 11204
(718) 439-6640
nycfuneralhome.com

HAIR

Adeline Chung-Feder (Parent)
BODHI SALON
6806 3rd Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11220
(718) 748-0685
info@bodhisalon.com
bodhisalon.com



INSURANCE

Bob Lake '53
LAKE INSURANCE AGENCY
653 South B Street
Tustin, CA 92780
(714) 263-3400 ext. 202
lakeins.com
bob@lakeins.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 SERVICES

Cathy Brown '77
EDITING / PROOFREADING / WRITING
(718) 499-6199
cathybrown1059@gmail.com
cmgbrown.com

Ted General '59
BROOKLYN MEDIA GROUP
(Home Reporter & Sunset News, The Brooklyn Spectator)
7333 Sixth 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/

A L U M N I B U S I N E S S D I R E C T O R Y

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

Thomas Green Fac. ret.
Swimming Instructor / Coach
BAY RIDGE AQUATIC INSTITUTE (BRAINS)
brainstoswim.org

RELIGIOUS

V Rev. Fr. John Hamatie '64
ST. GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
24 N. Rosalind Avenue
Orlando, FL 32801
(321) 663-4003
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



WEDDINGS

Valerie Hodgson '73
Nondenominational Marriage Officiant
FOREVER ONE
(917) 693-5783
4FR1@earthlink.net

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

and finally...



This is a glimpse from Instagram of what the start of the new school year looks like at Ft. Hamilton.



Let's all stay safe, follow the rules, wear our masks and look forward to better days.

🐾 **LINKS:** 🐾

FHHSAA Website: fhalumni.org

FHHSAA on Facebook:
[Fort Hamilton High School Alumni Association - Home | Facebook](#)

FHHS Website: fthhs.org

FHHS Instagram: [@FortHamiltonBk](#)