

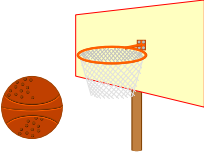
Irvington Varsity "I" Club Newsletter

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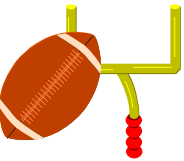
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HI FOLKS:

We are in a new year and we are still here. I hope you had a happy and joyous Holiday Season. I know, I did and I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did; one of my Granddaughters, Jill brought Jared into the world in Dec making the last three all boys, Julie having Matthew and Tommy, perhaps we will have an athlete in this group however you may rest assured that they will not be Irvington athletes.

I am going to try to give you as much news about your hometown as possible. I have received e mail from many people from all over the country. When people like Marty Carbone from California, Richard Caliscibette, Arizona, Irv Lewis, Joan Santoriello North Carolina, Leonard Maley in New Mexico, Peter Granata in Fla. and other parts of the Country, where the former easterners get the N. Y. Times for News while we read our local papers.



Leonard Maley sent me copies of the New York Times where the article about Jerry Lewis mentions Irvington, N.J. Yes, Jerry is an Irvington product, Do you recall his going to Union Ave School? We do not know if he ever went to Irvington High School. How many of you recall his working for the Rex Pharmacy on the corner of Chancellor and Union Ave as a Soda Jerk? How many of you recall in the fifties, when Jerry in his prime, Max Deutsch, who I believe was working in the Police Dept. had Jerry as his guest visit the Town Hall. The crowd got so big it almost got uncontrollable. Joe the Barber also was a good friend of Jerry's. He had a shop on Chancellor Ave near Union Ave. and Jerry used to get his Hair cut there when he was a kid.

We would appreciate any Jerry stories or people who may have known some Jerry experiences they may have had with Jerry.

We got numerous email letters concerning what is going on in our Town, with our politicians. Especially the Mayor.

It seems the New York Times wrote an article about our Mayor Bost. And where she has led the Town of Irvington. It so happens all the news is bad, except the results of this football season under coach Weiner, 5 wins and 5 defeats. That is better than Irvington has had in a long time.

The Times article written by Andrew Jacobs goes on to say: Moving like a Hurmvee in Sneakers, Dorothy Heyward cruises the streets of this sinking city, fearlessly wagging a finger at every prostitute and drug peddler she see during her daily walks "It's a sin before God."

Mrs. Heyward, 78, shouts, her voice like a trumpet as a man shamelessly urinates against the side of a burned out house. With Irvington having the state's highest



violent crime rate and more than 500 abandoned buildings ready to shelter sinful activity, Mrs. Heyward does a lot of shouting these days.

But Mrs. Heyward 's voice jumps an octave when she passes the home of Sara B. Bost, a democrat who was elected in 1994 as New Jersey's " crime fighting mayor" since then, however, Irvington has been battered by soaring lawlessness. That menace was dramatically highlighted two years ago when Mayor Bost's home was peppered with gunfire – retribution, she said, for her crime fighting zeal.

A few days later, Mrs. Bost held a news conference vowing to stamp out the malignancy of drugs in this 2.8 square mile township of 59,000. to prove her mettle, she helped the city officials rip out a score of public pay phones, calling them the street dealer's tool in trade (one officer cynically noted at the time that most dealers carried cell phones) Lest the would be assassins return, a police car was stationed in front of the mayor's modest home 24 hours a day.

There was one problem; the mayoral residence was never the target of vengeful drug traffickers. Within hour of the gunfire, investigators determined that rival gang members, firing at one another in speeding cars, had hit the Bost Home and another house across the border in Newark. Wary of embarrassing the mayor, police officials had kept quite about the report.

Last month, a rival elected official faxed the report to the press. Residents crowded township meetings to express their outrage and the police, at the Mayor's behest, scaled back the constant police presence to 12 hours, from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. The councilman who released the report, David Lyons, estimates that the police protection has cost Irvington more than \$800,000. The police chief put the figure between \$350,000 and \$680,000, depending on an officer's salary. Whatever the price tag, critics say the township, which received \$5 million this year under the state's "distressed cities" program, could find other uses for the money. " I'm sure lots of citizens would love to have a police car in front of their house," said Mr. Lyons, who is considering a mayoral run.

These days, the police car is unmarked, but that hasn't stanchd the outcry from the people like Dorothy Atkinson, a retired beauty salon owner who has to navigate a phalanx of brazen dealers when she takes her 9-year-old grandson to Thurgood Marshall Elementary school. "Why doesn't the mayor put those cops in front of the school?" " It's inhumane "

Mayor Bost did not return a half-dozen phone calls left at City Hall last week, but her husband, Fred, a 22-year veteran of the Township Council, was asked about the continuing police presence when he emerged from his house last Thursday. "Does Mayor Giuliani have police protection?" he asked indignantly. Mrs. Heyward and her friend Mirian Jackson, who were accompanying a reporter, had a ready answer," Yes, but Mayor Giuliani does his job," the women yelled in unison. A storm of ugly words from both sides ensued, ending only when Mr. Bost drove away in his S. U. V.

Although crime remains Irvington's biggest woe, City Hall has been somewhat preoccupied by other troubles lately. On Tuesday, for the second time in two years, F.B.I. agents swept into the municipal building and carted away documents from the mayor's office. While officials would not discuss the investigation, it might have something to do with the recent testimony from a former township business administrator, who implicated the mayor in a kickback scheme.

Even if Irvington's prospect weren't so dimmed by crime, raising taxes and dwindling revenues, it would still be hampered by ongoing wars among the Township Council, the Mayor and the Police Department. The Mayor barely speaks to the Council (excepting her husband) or the police chief. Last June, a report from the attorney general described morale on the 185 –member police force as dangerously low.

State Senator Ronald Rice, a fellow Democrat who represents Irvington and the surrounding towns, said he feared Irvington could go the way of East St. Louis, a place that made headlines for its civic disorder.. "Its getting ridiculous over there," he said, " They have completely lost control. Either the people wake up and elect new leaders or they're going to lose that town."

In the meantime, Mrs.. Heyward, a retired factory worker, will continue her angry walks. " I could just up and leave, " she said after her screaming match with Mr. Bost "but who else is going to do the yelling?"

VITO.>> I WISH TO THANK ALL THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE SENT IN THIS ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN THE NEW YORK TIMES, VIA E MAIL, COMING AS I SAID FROM IRVINGTONIONS FROM FAR AWAY PLACES, CALIFORNIA, NORTH CAROLINA, FLORIDA AND OTHER FAR AWAY PLACES. THANK YOU AGAIN FOR YOUR INPUT.

There are other problems in Irvington. Do you remember me telling you about the GIBSOM Bribery trial, On Nov. 29th the Star Ledger said the end came in a mistrial? Essex County wants a retrial. Could this be another O.J.SIMPSON SITUATION. ???

ETHNIC CONFLICT RISES IN IRVINGTON SCHOOL. This violence comes at the High school between black and Haitian American students.

NO CHARGES AGAINST IRVINGTON COP IN SHOOTING. Panel declines to indict white officer accused of killing a black man at traffic stop.

EX – IRVINGTON OFFICER GUILTY OF STEALING. He is among 4 lawmen guilty in sting at warehouse.

With all this bad news, how many of you have reached the point of almost being ashamed to say, " I'm from Irvington ".

NOW FOR SOME GOOD NEWS OF OUR ALLUMNI OF IRVINGTON, THE WONDERFUL TOWN THAT WE WERE ALL GREW UP AND WERE EDUCATED IN.

LETTERS, LETTERS AND MORE LETTERS.

We got a letter from Linda Lee, great niece of our favorite teacher, Lorine Hyer, which reads as follows:

.. Greetings to all of Lorine Hyer's friends!!! We hope this finds you all well and happy. Lorine, or as we all call her Jinks, is doing very well. She is still living at Springmeade Health Center here in Tipp City. She developed pneumonia this fall but in her usual spirit she fought it. She is back to her wonderful self, pleasant and happy, with her great sense of humor. The Tipp City Library brings her books in large print and her roommate's husband thinks she is a speed-reader! She says her meals are good and she has a nice view of ducks and birds from her lift chair. She has our little family here and frequently has other visitors too.

Jinks will be 100 on February 15th. 2002. She loves to hear from you but has trouble writing back. Thanks to all who keep in touch

Sincerely LINDA LEE

Things are going great here in Tucson, weather and the environment is great out here especially for golf--- I had a hole in one in March, second one since living out here – my gold seems to be improving with age, which I might add I'm shooting on occasions? (81) So long for now. JOE URBAN '38

HARRY HILL' 48 AND JANET HILL routing for their son Tommy who is an NFL official out there every week officiating these very interesting games, especially

the games that go down to the last seconds. I have enjoyed watching these games; I hope Tommy does not get as nervous, in my old age, as I do.

Our congratulations to the oldest Varsity Club member, Vic Oechler in the 1920 graduating class, was an architect and worked for the architect who designed the present Frank Morrell High School. Vic made his letter in Track and was on the first Irvington State Championship track team. On June 12, 2002 Vic will be 100 years old. Vito>> we all wish you many more years of good health Vic.

JOHN FEENEY our Athletic Director of many years recently had a Colons copy at Overlook Hospital and the nurse who prepared him for the procedure was a 1960 graduate of Irvington H. S. Ingo Boss Mills'60 now living in Martinsville, N.J. John says he is feeling a lot better since the procedure.

On 1/2/2002 I received a call from John Feeney Jr. his Son telling me that John was deceased, John was to have dinner with his Son and watch the football games on New Years Day. When he did not show up, they inquired, and found John, dead in his home. It is assumed that John suffered a heart attack and passed away.

John was a good Varsity Club member and had a close contact with many athletes in his day. We have extended our condolences to his Son and Family. We wish to thank all you folks who have called or email me concerning John's demise.

AFTERMATH OF TERROR

STAR LEDGER

On Sept. 11 within the span of hours, America was transformed into a land of fear and sudden vulnerability; Images of New York's tallest skyscrapers crumbling—and the Pentagon in flames—grew more surreal with each viewing. Not even Hollywood's savviest filmmakers could dream up more scarring imagery.

The entertainment industry, our seemingly unstoppable national obsession, ground to a halt that Tuesday. Concerts were canceled, Broadway went dark, sport parks were empty and film studios were shuttered. Television—and to a lesser extent radio—was our daily companion, as news anchors struggled to make sense of the situation along with the rest of the country.

The arts have already felt the immediate after-effects of the disaster, in the form of all-star fund-raisers patriotic radio hits and shelved or delayed films. The long-term effects have yet to reveal themselves, but this much is guaranteed: The impact will be profound.

WHERE DID YOU LIVE IN IRVINGTON? Do you recognize these locations?

Police are investigating the shooting death of a local man at PROSPECT AVE AND 42 ND ST. Also the auto accident at the other end of Prospect and Stuyvesant on the corner where Marie's Pizza used to be. It is not there now. Do you remember when the Tavern, the deli, the barber shop and the ladies hairdresser, were on the other side of the street. Question?. Is Bob Zufall the son of the Teacher Mr. Zufall and the Apartment house is #128 So.Durand Pl. I believe I know because my twin daughters, Lil and I lived there as Wilbur Hartl, his wife, and son, we all were invited to move because the owner did not want families with children in their apartments. We all did, Wilbur purchasing a house at 100 Durand Pl and we purchase the house on the corner of Prospect and Durand Pl.

347 Isabella , a car fire, 50 Grove Ter. overheated car. 990 Clinton Ave assist Police. **WHERE DID YOU LIVE IN IRVINGTON?** what was it like then and what is like now?. **I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR INPUT ON THIS QUESTION.**

VITO