



# Port Richmond High School *Alumni News*

VOL. 29 NO. 1

BRIDGING THE YEARS TOGETHER

FALL 2020

## ***Congratulations, Eileen Allen Delaney*** ***Member of the PRHS Class of 1945 receives an*** ***honorary diploma after 75 years.***



When Eileen Allen entered PRHS as a freshman in the Fall of 1941, little did she know that her high school career would end before her class graduated in 1945. It wasn't the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 that forced her to leave PRHS in her senior year. Rather, it was family financial issues that caused her to quit school and seek employment. She went to work for what was then the New York Telephone Company. Due to space limitations, we must skip over a large portion of Eileen's story to the present year 2020.

Eileen Delaney was receiving the PR ALUMNI NEWSLETTER for some time. It was this fact that gave her daughter, Maureen, the idea of contacting PRHS and the Alumni Association as to whether her mother could receive a PR diploma. PR principal, Andrew Greenfield, set the wheels in motion. As a result of the efforts of Mr. Greenfield and others, Eileen Allen Delaney '45 has her PRHS honorary diploma. Pictured here is 93 year-old Eileen Delaney holding her diploma and a picture of Eileen as a young working "girl."

Also pictured is the PR "swing" band to whose music Eileen might have danced; the music to a PR victory song which Eileen might have sung at pep rallies; candid photos from SOUNDINGS 1945; and the signature page from the yearbook.



Eileen as a working girl



PR "Swing Band"

## Principal's Message

Greetings to my fellow Alumni,



Greetings from Port Richmond High School, I hope this message finds you well and your loved ones continue to stay healthy and safe. I am happy to report that after five months of "remote" teaching and learning, we finally returned "live" to Port Richmond High School in September and are about to complete our first marking period of "blended learning."

We truly are living and teaching during unprecedented times and although school looks very different this year, it has still been extremely gratifying to see kids walking the halls and sitting in classrooms throughout the last month. I can't begin to explain the challenges faced in programming a school of 1600 students while trying to meet the safety requirements set by the DOE, UFT and CDC. As of today, 55% of our families have opted into 100% remote learning while the other 45% of students opted into a blended learning model. These students are reporting to school two out of every six days on a three cohort cycle. The other four days are also spent learning remotely. This was done to ensure the health and safety of our students and staff while also maximizing "in-person" learning. On any given day, there are no more than 200 students present in the building with no more than 6-9 students, socially distanced in each classroom. Although this has been challenging, our staff and students have been truly amazing in adjusting to this new way of teaching and learning. Although this is not the school year many students were hoping for, like last year, we will continue to make it special by finding new and unique ways to celebrate our amazing students.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic and the closing of schools through the summer, we still have many things to celebrate here at our alma mater. Over the summer, it was announced that Port Richmond had been chosen for an exciting new program called "Pathways to Technology Early College High School" or P-Tech. In collaboration with Borough President James S. Oddo, the Department of Education, the College of Staten Island President William Fritz and myself, Port Richmond students now have an opportunity to apply for this six-year program within our school that offers students the opportunity to receive a high school diploma from PRHS, a tuition-free Associate's Degree from CSI, and perhaps most importantly, hands-on work experience and education from a local industry partner. This industry partner will be selected from one of a variety of specialized fields, including healthcare, technology, public utilities or finance, including Fortune 500 companies. The partner will provide students with work-based learning activities including work site visits, mentoring and internships. After two years of planning, I am very excited to see this program start and grow this year.

Lastly, as always, I'd like to thank our amazing Alumni Association for your devotion to our school, your generosity to our students and your ongoing support of our programs and me as I begin my third year as principal of our great school.

Fondly,

*Andrew Greenfield*

Andrew Greenfield (Class of 1988)  
Principal

## President's Message

To All Alumni



Hoping this message finds you and your families healthy and safe.

As we all can imagine, the Covid19 pandemic has created issues in our schools that no-one would ever think could occur. Mr. Greenfield and his staff have been working diligently to make sure the school is doing all it can to provide the students with the opportunity to receive the education they

deserve.

Let's all hope and pray we do not have a second wave of this virus and the world is once again what we all hope it can be. There are several items I'd like to bring to your attention concerning what we hope to accomplish during the 2020-2021 school year:

1) Since becoming President of the Alumni Association, we've been hoping to recruit some younger Alumni to serve on our Board. We've been fortunate that Eric Benedetto, a 2018 graduate has volunteered to join our Board and our hope is he'll be willing and able to help us understand what we can do to bring our Board's thinking more up-to date in reaching out to our younger graduates. In addition to Eric, another recent graduate, Ryan Horgan, Class of 2019, has also expressed a willingness to join our Board. We're in contact with him and hope he becomes a Board member by the of this month.

2) The above-mentioned Eric Benedetto has already been responsible for developing a new website for the Alumni Association. The website's address is [PortRichmondAlumni.com](http://PortRichmondAlumni.com) and you don't need a User ID or Password to open the website and review the materials on the site.

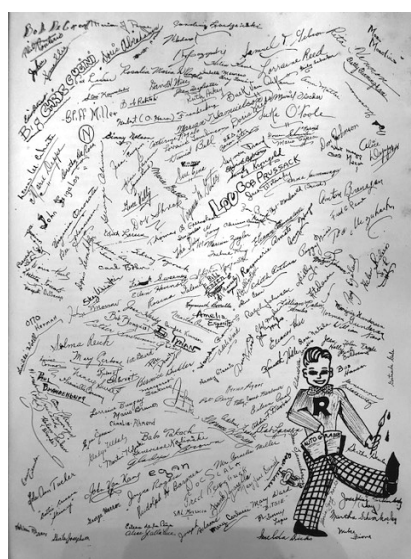
3) This past June, thanks to the dues paid by our Alumni and some very special contributions to our Scholarship Fund provided by Tom and Evelyn Anderson, we were able to award \$20,500 in scholarship money to the 2020 graduates. We recognize that a good number of Alumni pay their annual dues and that helps us to do many things that help the school and its students. This year I'd like to develop a Scholarship Fund where Alumni (especially those who've paid their lifetime dues) who feel willing to help us enlarge the funding we have to award scholarships to the graduates from the class of 2021.

Sincerely,

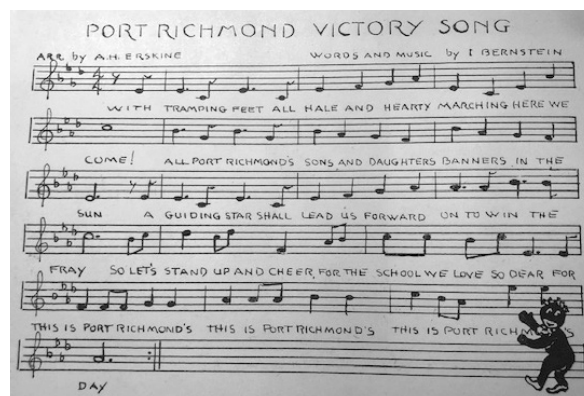
John C. Woodman '62

(cell) 347 612-1379 (email) [jwoodman1@si.rr.com](mailto:jwoodman1@si.rr.com)





Signature Page 1945 Yearbook



PR Victory Song

We truly hope that this “mini” yearbook we have prepared rekindles wonderful memories for Eileen- memories that she has carried with her all through the years. The Alumni Association wishes Eileen Allen Delaney ‘45 continued health and happiness. She truly is a PRHS “treasure!”

## **LET’S HELP THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION RAISE THE AMOUNT OF SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS IT CAN AWARD TO THE GRADUATES OF THE CLASS OF 2021**

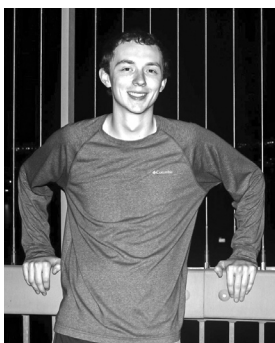
In 2019, the Alumni Association was able to distribute \$13,000 in scholarships to its graduating students. In 2020, we were fortunate to award \$20,500 in scholarship to that year’s graduating students.

This year, we’re intending to reach out to lifetime members of the Alumni Association, meaning those who have become Benefactors by making a one- time contribution of \$500..

We’re hoping that members who have Benefactor status , and anyone else who is an Alumnus, will reach out and help our Scholarship Fund grow so the Alumni Association can increase this year’s scholarships to \$25,000.

Here’s all you need to do to make a contribution to the Scholarship Fund: Write out your check to PRHS Alumni Association and in the memo area put Scholarship Fund and send your check to Carmen Cогnetta, Alumni Association Treasurer, 70 SpringHill Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10301. You may also go to our Website, PortRichmondAlumni.Com and click on the Donate button. In the area that asks for your maiden name and year of graduation please also include “Scholarship Fund” so the donation is properly directed.

## **The Alumni Association’s Newest And Youngest Board Member ERIC BENEDETTO ‘18**



Eric Benedetto is a 2018 graduate of Port Richmond High School’s “Gateway Honors Program” and currently halfway through his third year of the five year accelerated Masters Degree Program for Computer Science in the McCaulay Honors College studying at the College of Staten Island Campus. Professionally, Eric aspires to be a Full-Stack Engineer and has experience doing contract and free lance work in the area, but would like to do Full-Stack Engineering full-time in the future. Eric played baseball through his four years at Port Richmond and he also was a college athlete for his freshman year at CSI. He left the team as a sophomore to pursue his career and devote more time to studying. Eric has already shown the Alumni Board that he’s talented with computers by re-doing our website and making the website easy to use. Keep up the good work Eric.

## OLDEST LIVING PRHS ALUMNA CELEBRATES HER 105th BIRTHDAY!!



*As promised here is our 105-year-old alumna. She is the one seated. Her daughter is also an alumna.*



Agnes Zamborsky Holland, PR Class of 1933, is the second Minstrel “treasure” to have come to the attention of the Alumni Association recently. We learned of Agnes’ remarkable achievements through a Facebook posting. Her daughter, Dr. Joyce Holland Jauch is also a PRHS graduate, Class of 1960. Her birthday celebration was held in November 2019 long before Covid-19 so her family could be with her. Pictured to the left of this article are Agnes Zamborsky Holland, her daughter Dr. Joyce Jauch, and other family members.

Fortunately, Agnes Zamborsky’s photograph and biography appear in Soundings 1933, her class yearbook. In order to honor and help celebrate Agnes’ longevity, we are using pictures from her yearbook and other editions of SOUNDINGS to give those Minstrels and Raiders down through the decades an idea of what it was like to be a part of the PRHS story at its beginning.

1. Agnes Zamborsky’s senior picture and biography.
2. Aerial view of PRHS taken in 1927. Agnes attended the original u-shaped building that opened in 1927.
3. Since Agnes belonged to the Latin Club, she would have had at least one or more of the three Latin teachers – Mrs. Goller, Miss Gale, and Mrs. Adamovsky.
4. The East Corridor which led to the Assembly Room (now the Herbert Balish Auditorium). Notice the movie-like entrance doors to the Assembly Room.
5. The student cafeteria was originally located on the first floor on the driveway side of the building.
6. Port Richmond’s first championship boy’s basketball team, 1932-1933.
7. Student members of the school’s newspaper, The Crow’s Nest.

The Alumni Association and the entire PRHS family are honored to have the opportunity to get to know of this wonderful early Port Richmond student and sincerely hope that our efforts have brought a smile to her face and happy memories of her high school days. God bless you, Agnes!

AGNES R. ZAMBORSKY

AGNES

*Perseverance brings success.*

Latin Club; French Club; Basketball Club; Arrow in Gym;  
Chevron in Gym; Assistant Captain Gym.



*Latin Department*







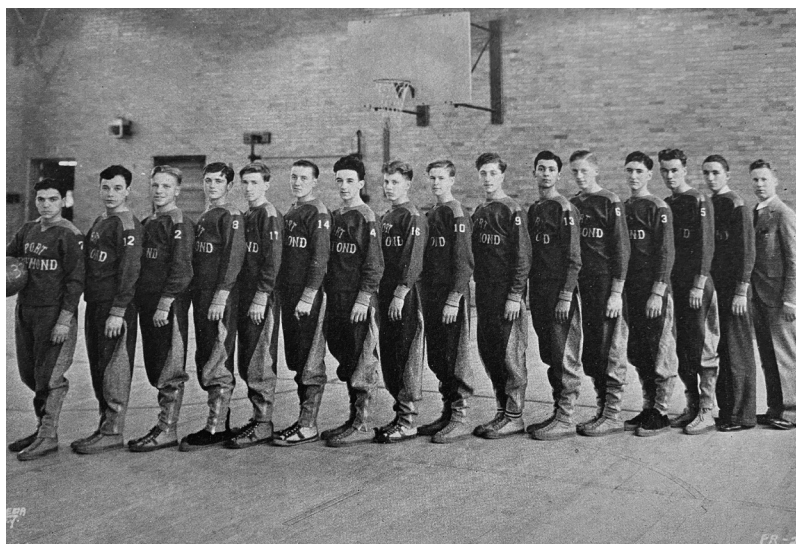
1935 Orchestra



East Wing Corridor

Crow's Nest  
Staff 1933

Cafeteria

Basketball Team  
Undeclared Island Champions



## “WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH, THE TOUGH GET GOING!”

The above quotation describes perfectly how many PRHS students, teacher, staff, administrators, and parents have reacted to the disruptions caused by covid-19. It would be impossible to describe all of the ways in which dedication, creativity, and just plain hard work have enable PRHS to get off to an excellent start this school year in spite of all of the challenges the school community faces. For example, the boy's basketball team, which had its season canceled, has spent several Saturday mornings cleaning a dangerously cluttered lot in Mariners Harbor. Led by their Coach Jeremy Smalls and with support from State Assemblyman Charles F. Falls, these fine young men have eliminated a blight from the neighborhood. They will continue their community efforts as long as the weather permits.



Seniors: Tayvon Claxton, Anthony Feliciano and Jahlil Ebanks, Boubacar Mbaye, Kareem Pfuger, Adefolarin Adeyemo, and Ibrahim Sangare. Assistant Coaches Khalil Shorter and Josh Harris were also in attendance.

## CONDOLENCES

**The Board of Directors of the PRHS Alumni Association wish to express their sincerest condolences to the families and friends of the following members of the PRHS family who have passed away:**

STEPHEN W. APPEL '49  
GARY T. ARCHER, SR '70  
IRENE ASLEY '50  
MARGARET BAILEY '34  
JOHN BARNETT '59  
JUDITH OLSEN BATTISTA '57  
RITA MEROLO BECK '55  
ROBERT BOCIGNONE '49  
IRENE ROSSTAUCHER BODEN '57  
CARL BOWER '70  
STAN BURLINGAME '56  
EMILY QUIGLY CERBONE '46  
JEFFREY CHIAPPERINO '69  
FLO KAISER CONNETT '46  
MARC COOPER '95  
WARREN H. D'ALESSANDRO 39  
JOYCE LICATA D'ESPOSITO '70  
DOROTHY WOLENSKI DANTONI '64

MARIE DELPRIORE '56  
ARABARA WRANOVICS DENIS '55  
CATHERINE DEPALMA '40  
WILLIAM J. DRINNAN '47  
GERARD ANDERSON DUVILLIER '57  
BEVERLY WELSH ENGLS '50 - FACULTY  
ROBERT FABISZAK '68  
LAWRENCE GOETZ '65  
MARY GREELEY '59  
SHIRLEY ULLMAN GRUBS '52  
JULIA POPP HOFF '40  
JEAN BOLEMBACH HOLLENBACH '68  
MERTON IOUSE '71  
EDWARD J. JACKUS '57  
ELINORE BOICE JOHNSON '47  
BELTON R. KIEL '55  
ROBERT KUSSNER '58  
WILLIAM R. LANKFORD '38

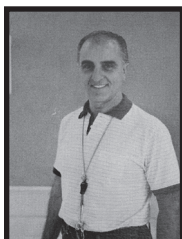
DORTHY KIESWETTER LARNEY '39  
PAULINE LAZARSKA LEVANDOSKI '39  
PATRICIA LIEVELD '76  
NORA JOHNSON MALLOW '41  
JOSEPH MARTIN '53  
MILDRED CEFANO MAZUR '42  
ELEANOR KRUSE MCCARREN '57  
DONALD MULDOON '56  
ARTHUR J. NELSON '50  
THOMAS W. NELSON '69  
DONALD F. OTTEN '44  
JOHN PARDO '55  
MARY SIUZDAL PETERS '79  
KARL J. PFEFFER '48  
ALVIN PERINA '37  
RUTH ALBIDNESS PILERE '49  
MARGARET RICHARDSEN PRALL '45  
BENJAMIN RAIMONDI - FACULTY

GAIL CHRISTIE REEVES '57  
NANCY NOLAN RONCKOVITZ '58  
JEAN HOOK SANDOW '59  
CHERYL SCHAFFER '68  
STEPHEN SHARKEY '45  
MADELINE SERIO SMITH '45  
RONALD SORGE '53  
SYLVIA ROBERTS SURPIN '37  
BERNICE NELSON SWANSON '46  
SUE LETTS THOLKEN '61  
ANITA WOODMAN TOWNSLEY '56  
JUNE CASSIDY VILLA MARIN '51  
CAROL MUZZY WARCHOLA '60  
HARVEY WEBER - FACULTY  
ANNE MARIE WINTERHALTER '64  
HELEN WICENSKI WOLENSKI '44  
BARBARA MOTT ZURMUHLEN '55

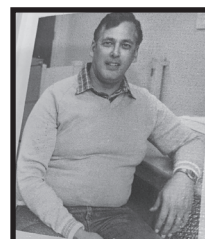
**May They Rest in Peace**



Beverly J.  
Engles



Ben  
Raimondi



Harvey  
Webber

**If you have moved,  
be sure to include  
your new address  
on membership form**

**FOR YOUR RECORDS**

Amt. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Ck. # \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Port Richmond High School Alumni Association Membership Form 2020 -2021

|                          |               |                        |                            |
|--------------------------|---------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| General Membership ..... | \$15 per year | Patron .....           | \$100 per year             |
| Co-Sponsor .....         | \$25 per year | Business Sponsor ..... | \$250.                     |
| Sponsor .....            | \$50 per year | Benefactor .....       | \$500 one lifetime payment |

(Dues Are From July 2020 - June 2021)

**PLEASE PRINT**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

MAIDEN NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR OF GRADUATION \_\_\_\_\_

Renewal ☐ New Member ☐

Please enroll me as a: General ☐ Co-Sponsor ☐ Sponsor ☐ Patron ☐ Business Sponsor ☐ Benefactor ☐

Please make check/money payable to: Port Richmond High School Alumni Association and mail to:

**CARMEN COGNETTA, TREASURER**

70 SPRINGHILL AVENUE, STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK 10301

F-2020

## TIME TO SEND IN YOUR DUES!!!!

Thank you to all our alumni who have already sent in their dues for the 2020-2021 year. However many have not! So fill out the form above and send them in. **Please add your e-mail address so we can change as many alumni as possible to e-mail rather than paper.** It allows us to spend more of your dues money to benefit the school and students! If you wish to pay by credit card (via Pay Pal) go to our newly revamped website at **www.portrichmondalumni.com** and click on the donate button, fill out the information requested, enter your credit card number and it is done! Don't forget to enter your class year in the box where you can add information and include your maiden name if necessary. If you have any questions about dues you can reach the treasurer at [treasurerprhsalumni@gmail.com](mailto:treasurerprhsalumni@gmail.com)

## LIFETIME MEMBERS

We have had a record number of lifetime member's joining so far this year and the year has just started! We would like to thank the following **twelve** Alumni, including two alumni couples who have already become lifetime members during the 2020-2021 year. As of October 15, 2020, they are: **Donald C. Spruck '49, Betty Olsen Harty '52 and Francis Harty '52, Irene Chrampanis Agoratus '54 (Also Faculty), John "Dwig" Dwyer '58, Ruth Kolbjornsen Nybro '64, Bonnie Olsen Selletti '64, Rose Bocchetti Takvorian '65, Susan Brown Salvesen '68 and Erling Salvesen '67, Eugene Timmins '72 and William R. Distefano '80.**

## IN MEMORIAL DONATIONS

We have received donations from the families of **Mary Siuzdak Peters '79 and William Drinnan '47** who passed away this year in their memory. These donations will be added to our newly created scholarship fund.

# Port Richmond High School

## Alumni News

85 St. Joseph's Avenue

Staten Island, NY 10302

www.portrichmondalumni.com

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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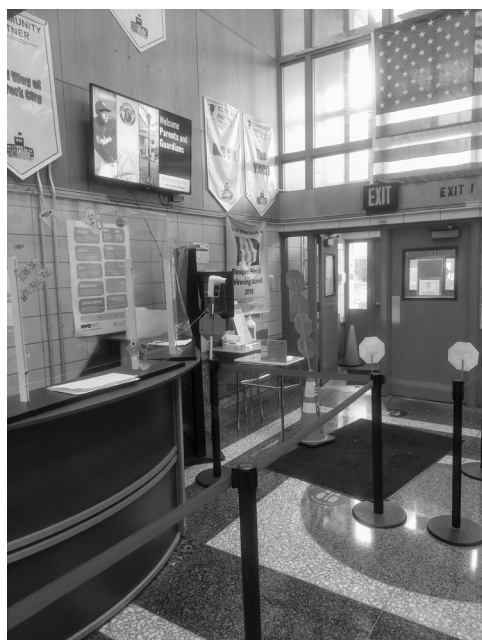
U.S. POSTAGE

**PAID**

STATEN ISLAND, NY

PERMIT NO. 22

**PLEASE SEND IN YOUR DUES TODAY**



## MEETINGS!

**All meetings now are held using zoom.  
Anyone interested in participating should send  
their e-mail address to [ejmattei@si.rr.com](mailto:ejmattei@si.rr.com).  
Information concerning dates and times of  
meetings will be sent via email.**

## PORT RICHMOND HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

JOHN WOODMAN '62 ..... President  
JUDI ROGOFF SASNAUSKAS '66 ..... Vice President  
JOSEPH CRESCENZI '83 ..... Recording Secretary  
EDMUND J. MATTEI '58 ..... Newsletter Editor  
CARMEN COGNETTA '64 ..... Treasurer  
CHRISTINE TWAITE THORSEN '64 ..... Archivist

Eric Bennedetto '19      Sophia Ling Donohue '88  
Gary Lane '69      Richard Bros '79

### PAST PRESIDENTS

GREGORY HALL '65 ..... 1986 - 1988  
CARMEN J. COGNETTA JR. '64 ..... 1988 - 1990  
WILLIAM MCANDREWS '65 ..... 1990 - 1992  
CARMINE COLCA '53 ..... 1992 - 1994  
ROBERT MATHEWS '48 ..... 1994 - 2001  
BEVERLY WURTH NEUHAUS '62 ..... 2001 - 2005  
JOHN JANKOWSKI '79 ..... 2006 - 2018

Written correspondence maybe be mailed to:  
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