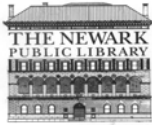


THE NEWARK PUBLIC LIBRARY
5 WASHINGTON STREET, NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07102



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Please Contact: Heidi Cramer 973-733-7837

Special Memories of Newark's Weequahic Section come to the Newark Public Library for a First Showing in a Public Venue

Past and present come together this summer at the Newark Public Library in *Weequahic Memoirs: Celebrating Newark's Legendary Neighborhood*, a special exhibit detailing the rich history of Newark's Weequahic section.

The exhibit's presentation at the Library from July 9 through September 4 will mark the first time that it has been shown in a public forum. On loan from the Jewish Historical Society of MetroWest, the exhibit debuted last June at the Leon & Toby Cooperman Jewish Community Center in West Orange and has been on view in several synagogues in Essex County, but it has not been available to a general audience.

An opening program, Thursday, July 9 at 6 p.m. will feature a panel discussion, **Weequahic Then and Now: Bridging the Years**. It will be moderated by Sandra King, Emmy award winning producer of NJN's *Due Process* and a graduate of Weequahic High School. Local historian and author, Warren Grover, will serve as one of the panelists, along with Wilbur McNeil, president of the Weequahic Park Association and a current resident of the Weequahic neighborhood. The program will be held in Centennial Hall on the second floor of the Library, 5 Washington Street, Newark.

"We're very proud to host this marvelous exhibit," said Library Director Wilma J. Grey. "The Weequahic area has an engrossing past and we are proud to once again highlight Newark's local history to our patrons."

The exhibit includes photographs of the city's storied Weequahic section, including images of Weequahic High School, Weequahic Park and all its neighborhoods. There will be a display dedicated to the life and works of Pulitzer Prize winning author Philip Roth, one of Weequahic's most famous alumni, who has written prolifically about Newark and Weequahic in his many celebrated novels. There are also images of local shops and restaurants as well as photographs of the local schools including proms pictures, dances, sports and other activities.

“The organizers of the exhibit vow that if anyone has any ties to Weequahic, no matter how tenuous, they can be guaranteed that they will find themselves or a friend or a relative in the exhibit,” said Linda Forgosh, exhibit curator and executive director of the Jewish Historical Society of MetroWest.

This exhibition was funded, in part, by a Special Project Grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State.

For more information about planning a visit to view *Weequahic Memoirs*, please call the Newark Public Library at 973-733-7775 or log on to www.npl.org.