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P R E S S R E L E A S E

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For Immediate Release
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Newark History Society Presents Panel on Star-Ledger

The Newark History Society and The Newark Public Library will present a panel of former and current Star-Ledger reporters and editors who will examine the state of New Jersey's largest newspaper. The discussion, "A Proud Past, An Uncertain Future," is scheduled for Tuesday, May 18 at 6 p.m. in Centennial Hall of the Main Library.

Guy Sterling, a veteran reporter and Newark resident, will moderate the panel. Sterling left the newspaper in 2008, when it reduced its editorial staff by 40 percent because of financial woes. The panelists include longtime columnist Robert Braun, former reporter George Jordan, former news editor John Lazarus and Rutgers-Newark Journalism Professor Allan Wolper.

The roots of *The Star-Ledger* date back to 1832 when *The Newark Daily Advertiser* was founded. At the time it was Newark's first daily newspaper. The paper then evolved into the *Newark Star-Eagle*, which merged with the *Newark Ledger*, becoming *The Newark Star-Ledger*. In 2008, citing steep drops in circulation and advertising revenue, the newspaper's publisher George Arwady announced *The Star-Ledger* would shut down unless it reduced its staff significantly. *The Star-Ledger* was one of many newspapers nationwide that shrank its editorial staff in 2008 as more consumers turned to the Internet instead of newspapers to get their news.

Although the newspaper avoided shutting down, it lost 151 of its editorial staff including many of its senior and most experienced reporters. *The Star-Ledger* remains New Jersey's largest and most influential newspaper.

The program is free and open to the public. The Newark Public Library is located at 5 Washington Street in downtown Newark. For more information, please call 973-733-7793 or log on to rsvp@npl.org to reserve a spot for the program.