West Babylon Alumni Foundation

Hall of Fame Induction Dinner

October 2, 2010
**Program**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Welcome**
Ralph Rienzo ‘64, President,
West Babylon Alumni Foundation

**Superintendent’s Message**
Anthony Cacciola ‘79

**Special Presentation To**
Dr. Robert J. Manley

**Masters of Ceremony**
Martin P. Kennedy
Dr. Anthony Capone
Mathew Wilensky

**Dinner**

**Hall of Fame Inductees**
Thomas C. Teufel ‘88
Dr. Charles Thompson ’72
Thomas McAteer ’71
Justice Ralph Costello ‘59
H. Austin Sheldon Jr., (posthumously)

**Closing Remarks**
Ralph Rienzo

**Dessert**
THOMAS C. TEUFEL

Thomas C. Teufel is a 1988 West Babylon graduate, a decorated police officer and U.S. Army war veteran (Panama and Iraq).

Thomas served his community and country for more than 20 years, beginning with his enlistment in the U.S. Army in 1988 after high school graduation.

During Thomas’ 21 year career with the Army and current 15 years with the Suffolk County Police Department, he received more than 35 awards, commendations, badges and medals including one medal for bravery and one medal for valor.

Upon his return from a year long tour in Iraq, he received the General Douglas MacArthur Leadership award for his dedication to duty and his leadership abilities.

Thomas is a proud father and husband and feels honored to be inducted into the West Babylon Hall of Fame for his ongoing commitment to his community and country.
CHARLES THOMPSON

Charles Thompson is Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Director of the Center for Advanced Computation and Telecommunications and formerly Associate to the Dean for Research and Graduate Study at the University of Massachusetts at Lowell. He received a B.S. in E.E. from New York University, a M.S. at the Polytechnic University, and a Ph.D. in Acoustics at MIT in 1982.

Upon graduation he became an Assistant Professor of Engineering Science and Mechanics at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. In 1987 he joined the Department Electrical and Computer Engineering at UMASS Lowell as its Analog Devices Career Development Professor. Dr. Thompson has served on the executive boards of the Cooperative Research Fellowship program of Bell Laboratories (1991-1999) and the AT&T Labs Fellowship Program (1996-2006).

At Bell Laboratories Dr. Thompson created with the Vice President of Research and Nobel laureate, Arno Penizas, the W. Lincoln Hawkins Mentoring Excellence Award (1994). This award is given to a member of the research staff for fostering the career growth of Bell Labs students and associates. This award is Research’s highest honor for mentoring contributions. In 1998, AT&T Labs instituted a similar award named for Dr. Thompson.

His awards include the US Presidential Award for Excellence in Mentoring; Tau Beta Pi Eminent Engineer; James E. Blackwell Scholar; AT&T Bell Laboratories Cooperative Research Fellowship. He is cited in Who’s Who among African Americans, Education, and Technology Today; American Men and Women of Science; He is a Fellow of the Acoustical Society of America and cited for his fundamental contributions to theoretical and computational acoustics. He is senior member of IEEE, and a member of the American Physical Society and Sigma Xi. He has published on acoustics, control theory, fluid mechanics, heat transfer, linear and nonlinear systems, and telecommunications.
THOMAS MCATEER

Tom McAteer serves as a Senior Vice-President and Regional Market Head for Aetna Better Health, Aetna's Medicaid Division. He is responsible for the East Region and he has led an expansion that started with a health plan in Delaware and now includes plans in Connecticut, Pennsylvania and Florida. The region has grown by over 200% under Tom’s direction. The Medicaid division came with Aetna's acquisition of Schaller Anderson, a nationally recognized leader in the health care industry with over $3.2 billion in spending at risk or under management.

Prior to joining Schaller Anderson, Tom served as the President and CEO of Vytra Health Plans. In a thirteen year career at Vytra, Tom played an executive leadership role in growing the plan from annual revenues of $70 million in 1993 to over $375 million in 2005. As CEO he led efforts that returned the plan to consistent profitability while gaining NCQA (National Committee on Quality Assurance) and URAC (Utilization Review Accreditation Committee) and developing a national reputation for best in class customer service.
JUSTICE RALPH COSTELLO

Justice Ralph Costello was born in Jamaica, Queens and moved to West Babylon in 1951 with his parents and his younger brother Frank and sister Margaret, now Margaret Bonventre. He was a member of the Class of 1959. As a student, he played football and was an early member of the Marching Band and the school dance band.

After graduation, Justice Costello attended Stony Brook University and St. John’s University Law School earning his law degree in 1967. Soon after his admission to the Bar, he joined the Legal Aid Society of Suffolk County and for the next 22 years, worked in both the civil and criminal branches representing clients in all courts in Suffolk County and before various boards and agencies. Through the years, Justice Costello rose to the position of Chief Assistant Attorney of the Legal Aid Society of Suffolk.

As the designated representative of the Legal Aid Society, Justice Costello served on various government advisory panels including the County Executives Public Safety Advisory Committee formed by the then County Executive John V.N. Klein. Also as a voting member of the Suffolk County Criminal Justice Coordinating Counsel reviewing and passing on various State and Federal funding applications, he sat on panels such as the Jail Overcrowding Committee and the Community Service Board of Advisors.

Justice Costello was a founding member of the Suffolk County Community Service Program, sponsored by the American Red Cross and he was a member of its board from 1980 through the early 1990s when he was elected to the District Court bench from Babylon Township. After serving five years of his six-year term in the District Court, he was elected to his current term as a Supreme Court Justice presiding over civil trials.

Justice Costello has taken the opportunity to share his experience with his fellow community lawyers and judges through lectures under the umbrella of The Suffolk Academy of Law of the Bar Association and his participation on various boards and committees such as the Suffolk County Bar Association Board of Directors, The Suffolk County Criminal Bar Association, The Columbian Lawyers Association and numerous committees of specialized interest of the associations.

Justice Costello currently presides over cases in the New York State Supreme Court, civil parts.
H. Austin Sheldon Jr., Posthumously

H. Austin Sheldon Jr. relocated to West Babylon from Albany in the early 1940’s with his wife Peggy and daughter Ann. He was an insurance safety inspector assigned to the New York Area for Utica Mutual. In 1946, there family was complete when his son H. Austin Sheldon III was born.

In 1950, Mr. Sheldon took a part-time position as District Clerk with West Babylon Schools, that position quickly became a full-time one when he also took on the role of Business Manager. He held those positions for over twenty five years and retired in the late 1970’s. Retirement was short lived when he was appointed to serve West Babylon Schools and the community again as a Board Member from 1981 until his own death in 1989, including serving a term as Board President.

During his years as Business Manager and District Clerk, his responsibilities included overseeing all financial matters of the district, and supervising the cafeteria and janitorial staffs for each of the schools. On behalf of the district, he worked closely with the building contractors in erecting each of the schools that are currently utilized today. He also implemented the original purchasing system within the business office. He was beloved by all and in his time was often referred to as “Mr. West Babylon”.

In addition to all he did for the West Babylon Schools, he was actively involved in efforts for the Salvation Army, the Odd Fellows and the Lions Club. After WWII, he volunteered to serve as a spotter for the Civilian Air Patrol.

His greatest joys were his wife Peg, children Ann (Don) and Austin (Madeline) and his beloved 6 grandchildren; Wendy, Megan, Billy and Kerri Muffy, and Kim and Karen Sheldon. His lifelong dedication to community service set an example for friends and family. He is remembered for his contributions to the community, his great sense of humor, but mostly for his love for West Babylon Schools, its staff and especially the students.

In the parking lot at the West Babylon High School, a memorial walk was established by the West Babylon Beautification Society in the place where his office building once stood.
ALMA MATER

The Eagle is a symbol of the high school we hold dear. 
A school that those of us who know, regard without a peer, 
Her colors Blue and Gold, when seen, do gladden every eye, 
Of all those sons and daughters of our own West Babylon High.

Chorus

Oh, dear old Alma Mater to you we will be true, 
You’ll live forever in our hearts, West Babylon we love you.
ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

The West Babylon Alumni Foundation was established in 1997 and re-organized in 2008. The West Babylon Alumni Foundation is comprised of graduates from 50 years of students.

The purpose of the Foundation is to perpetuate the “tradition of excellence” in the West Babylon School District.

The Foundation has set goals of awarding scholarships, creating a “Hall of Fame” and establishing a website.

THE MISSION

The West Babylon Alumni Foundation, Inc. is a broadly based, non-profit organization whose purpose is educational and charitable to secure and distribute contributions from individuals, corporations, and foundations for the benefit of the students in the West Babylon Public Schools and by doing so, perpetuate the unique experience and traditions.

2010 OFFICERS
President – Ralph Rienzo
Vice President – Chris Connors
Treasurer – Noreen Lico-Wood
Secretary – Joan Datena Weinschenk

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Elaine Billings Alexander
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You can find the Foundation on the school district’s website at:
www.wbschools.org

Register as an alumni ~ See Reunion listings ~ Get Foundation Information

Or contact us at:
wbalumni@wbschools.org
Sponsors

Cosmo’s Service Station - Joseph Barbieri ‘72
West Babylon Lion’s Club
Arnold Chevrolet - Frank Bellavia ‘69
AMF Babylon Bowl - Mike Serigano ‘74
Vcrete Construction - Joe Vangeli
Brunello’s Pizza/Europa Wines - John Raimondi ‘89
Gallettaire - Carmine Galletta
Green Cactus - Chris Connors ‘76, Larry Doyle ‘76, Bob Kerzner ‘76
Iliou Family Holding Co. - John Iliou ‘87
Nick Cava, MFSI
West Babylon Teachers’ Association - Patt Squicciarini, President

Donors

Phil & June Ames (in honor of H. Austin Sheldon)
Mel & Ruth Noble (in honor of H. Austin Sheldon)
Hall of Fame Inductees

2009
Erica Crespi ‘88
Jonathan Reese ‘86
Mozelle Thompson ‘72
Judy Skillen
Senator Owen H. Johnson
Helmer Petersen (posthumously)

2010
Thomas C. Teufel ‘88
Dr. Charles Thompson ’72
Thomas McAteer ’71
Justice Ralph Costello ‘59
H. Austin Sheldon Jr., (posthumously)
“Once an Eagle, Always an Eagle”