

THE OLD



**McNeil**  
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: means: "It is symbol-  
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North Carolina A & T student Joseph A. McNeil, left, at the Woolworth lunch counter in Greensboro, N.C., February 1960.

**Frederick K. Brewington**  
Civil rights attorney  
A graduate of Northwestern University law school, Brewington, right, is a prominent attorney in private practice in the Village of Hempstead. He was the lead attorney in the case that resulted in the abolishment of the at-large voting system in the Town of Hempstead. The challenge cleared the way for the election of the first black member of the town board.  
He also is a trustee and chairman of the administrative board of Church of the Good Shepherd United Methodist.  
**What it means:** "I'm ecstatic about even being considered. I'm happy to be joining so many people who have made contributions to this community."

Compiled by staff writers  
William Murphy and  
Liette Chung

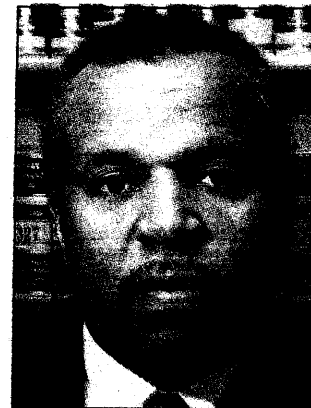


PHOTO BY HOWARD SCHNAPP



BLOOMBERG NEWS PHOTO, 2003

**Kenneth I. Chenault**  
Chairman, CEO, American Express

Born in Hempstead, he attended Waldorf School in Garden City and took enrichment courses at Hempstead High School. A graduate of Harvard Law School, he is a member of several boards, including the Arthur Ashe Foundation for Urban Health and the World Trade Center Memorial Foundation.



NEWSDAY PHOTO, 2003

**David A. Paterson**  
State senator

Paterson, who is legally blind, is a graduate of Hempstead High and the son of labor lawyer Basil Paterson. He represents Harlem in the State Senate and is the Democratic minority leader of the Senate. He is also the Democratic candidate for lieutenant governor.

**What it means:** "I have these connections [with Hempstead] throughout my life. I think Thomas Wolfe was wrong. You can go home again."



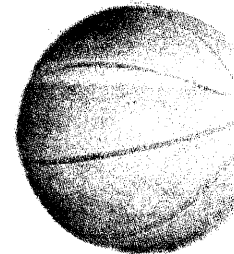
NEWSDAY PHOTO, 2005 / THOMAS A. FERRARA

**Dorothy L. Goosby**  
Councilwoman, civil rights advocate

Goosby was the first black woman ever to serve on the Town of Hempstead Board, where she has served since 1999. She was the lead plaintiff in the lawsuit that overturned the town's at-large voting system in 1997. She holds a master's degree from Adelphi, and is a registered dietitian.

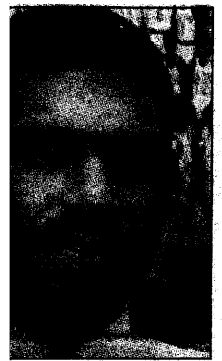
# Hempstead's finest

Some have achieved fame. Others have worked in the background. But all of them have made a difference. A dozen people with strong local connections in the village of Hempstead — they grew up there, or went to local schools, or perhaps played sports — will be the first people honored on a Wall of Fame to be dedicated tonight at the recreation center at Kennedy Memorial Park. Members of the Village Hempstead Youth Council, all local teens, selected the honorees because they wanted to show others that role models are all around them.



**Cynthia Diaz**  
Minister, attorney, judge  
Diaz was the first female and Hispanic judge of the Village Court when she was appointed in 1996. She holds a law degree from Hofstra University and is a former attorney in private practice, as well as former assistant provost at Hofstra. She graduated from New York Theological Seminary with masters of divinity, where she is director of vocational discernment.

**Julius "Dr. J." Erving**  
Pro basketball superstar and Hall of Famer  
Born in Hempstead, he attended Prospect [Elementary] School. A New York Nets player for 16 years, and 16-time All-Star in the ABA and NBA, he has been repeatedly honored for his charitable efforts and his work with youth. Since retiring in 1987, he has remained very active in community service and business ventures.

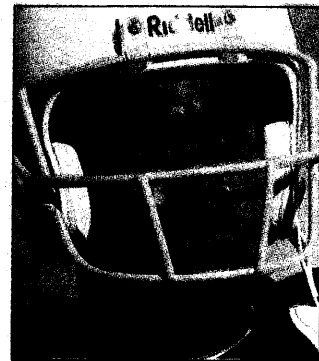


NEWSDAY PHOTO, 2003



NEWSDAY PHOTO, 2004 / MICHAEL E. ACH

**James Russo**  
Police chief  
Russo, a graduate of Hempstead High, has been chief of police for the past 17 years. He has hired more than 50 minority officers.



ALLSPORT PHOTO

**Rob Moore**  
Former pro football player  
A graduate of Hempstead High School and local sports legend, Moore went on to play wide receiver for the New York Jets.



**William Wheeler**  
Tuskegee Airman  
A graduate of Howard University, Wheeler was one of the fabled Tuskegee Airmen of the all-black 332nd Fighter Group in World War II. He is a retired businessman who worked for Fairchild Republic and other companies. A Detroit native, he now lives in the village.  
**What it means:** "I am extremely impressed. I was amazed they would come up with my name. There are so many veterans in Hempstead. It may be because I'm a Tuskegee Airman."



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NEWSDAY PHOTO, 2001 / MOISES SAMAN

**Sergio R. Arruata** Anti-gang advocate