



MUSIC NOTES

*News and information of interest to the members of the
Freeport Community Band
February 2020*

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Visit our Website: www.freeportband.org

Calendar for 2020

FCB Returns to Freeport High School

All rehearsals are held on Monday evenings at 7:30pm

February 10, 24

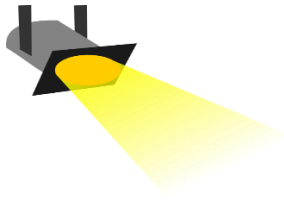
March 2, 16, 30

April 6, 20

May 4, 18

June 8, 15

June 12 Concert at the John Philip Sousa Memorial Band Shell - Port Washington



Spotlight on Robert Wysocki, MD (Baritone)

By Bill Rothchild, President, Freeport Community Band

Sometimes one's Facebook page reveals a back story to a very significant life event. In the case of Robert Wysocki, who plays baritone in the Freeport Community Band, it was a photo of Robert receiving his MD sash at the most recent graduation ceremony at the School of Medicine at Stony Brook University.



There were congratulatory posts making reference to the long time it took for Robert to earn his degrees and the fact that he is now 35 years old. (Spoiler Alert-You'll notice that I said degrees not degree!) More about this later.

Robert is a native of Orient Point, Long Island. You can't go much farther East on Long Island than Orient Point. The last time that I was there was to board a cross sound ferry boat to New London, CT on the way to a visit to Cape Cod.

Robert went to public school in Greenport. His dad was in the lawn care business and his mom was a teacher. While in elementary school he was "forced" to play a musical instrument. So from the first through the fourth grade he played the trumpet. While Robert has three sisters and one brother, the only other musician in the family was a sister who played the flute and alto sax.

His early experiences as a summer volunteer ER technician was the first tangible evidence that a medical career was in his future. After graduating from high school Robert went off to Hamilton College a private liberal arts college in Clinton, New York. It was founded as Hamilton-Oneida Academy in 1793 and was chartered as Hamilton College in 1812 in honor of inaugural trustee Alexander Hamilton.

He majored in bio-chemistry and graduated in 2007. While in college he played trumpet in the college band. When asked about the type of music that he likes, he said that it depended on what he was doing. His taste in music is “eclectic”.

After graduating from Hamilton College he took off three years to continue his studies in biological and medical sciences at the Rockefeller University in New York City. With all of this scientific background Robert was then ready to pursue a medical degree. So in 2010 he was accepted to the Renaissance School of Medicine at Stony Brook University.

(Renaissance? Is this a typo? No! Stony Brook University’s medical school was renamed the Renaissance School of Medicine on November 21, 2018 honoring the more than \$500 million in donations from employees of the investment firm Renaissance Technologies)

Robert was in a dual track program that allowed him to receive an MD degree in Internal Medicine and a PhD in Genetics-four year each, for a total of eight years of study. He received his degrees this past June.

Robert is now a resident at the NYU-Winthrop Hospital in Mineola working six days a week rotating through the different departments at the Hospital. He is now living near the Hospital in Mineola. As he describes it “it’s a lot of work but very enjoyable.”

Because of the demands of his residency it is often not possible for Robert to attend every Freeport Community Band rehearsal or concert. But when he is able to join us it’s an enjoyable experience for both Dr. Robert and the Band.

We wish Robert continued success in his chosen field of medicine.

***“The GOOD physician treats the disease;
The GREAT physician treats the patient who has the disease. ”
Sir William Osler, one of the founders of Johns Hopkins Hospital***

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[OUR TENOR SAX PLAYER'S STORY APPEARS IN NEWSDAY](#)

Love Story: He fell for her while playing the piano



Minna and Joe Perlow, seen in a photo taken in summer 2019, will celebrate their 70th anniversary this year. Credit: Edward Perlow

By Newsday Readers Updated November 21, 2019 10:03 PM
PRINT SHARE

Joe Perlow of East Meadow talks about meeting his wife, Minna.

Back in my late teens I lived with my family in Laurelton, Queens, and was a musician in a band. One day in October 1946 our drummer, Mark Gutchen, said he had a date with Minna Rosen at her house in Laurelton. He said she had a

baby grand piano and asked if I would come along and play some "mood" music while they socialized. Though the piano wasn't my best instrument, I agreed to tickle the ivory for him.

While Mark and Minna were busy chatting on the couch, I played the piano. After many choruses of playing "I'm in the Mood for Love" and Cole Porter hits, I realized I was becoming interested in Minna. While leaving, I whispered to Mark, "Mind if I ask her out?" He said, "Be my guest."



Joe and Minna Perlow were married Dec. 26, 1949 at The Great Northern Hotel in Manhattan. Credit: Perlow family

I asked Minna to go with me for ice cream that Saturday. She said, "Sure!" Sport that I am, I knew a great ice cream joint called Jan's that would give anyone whose birthday it was that day a free sundae — and my birthday happened to be the day of our date. It went great. We had so much in common. Minna, a violinist, was concert mistress of the Andrew Jackson High

School concert orchestra, and I was in the dance band and marching band. Our parents knew one another, and we had a bunch of mutual friends.

A few weeks later we started “going steady.”

Minna went to Adelphi University School of Nursing, but unfortunately developed allergies to alcohol, iodine and adhesive tape, and was forced to drop out. Despite my interest in music I graduated with a bachelor of arts in business administration from Adelphi University.

Shortly after I graduated, I asked Minna to marry me and she said yes. We were married Dec. 26, 1949, at The Great Northern Hotel in Manhattan. Minna went to work as a unit clerk in the emergency room at South Nassau Communities Hospital. My thoughts of a full-time music career came to a sudden end six weeks after our wedding when my dad died unexpectedly. He had owned a menswear store in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, so I became a retailer during the week and played gigs on weekends, something I did for 40 years.

Minna and I lived in Oceanside, where we welcomed our two daughters and a son. They all played musical instruments but have professional careers in teaching, occupational therapy and dentistry. My daughter who is a teacher is retired, and the one who is an occupational therapist will retire next year. Our son, a dentist, specializes in treating special needs patients. We have six grandchildren and three great-granddaughters.

Minna and I retired in 1990. I have played in a host of bands and orchestras — The Palm Beach Symphonic Band, The Royal Palm Beach Concert Band, The Gold Coast Concert Band, Memories of Swing Dance Band, Farmingdale Pops, Seaford Community Band, and recently The Freeport Community Band.

I’ve also been a volunteer messenger for 29 years at South Nassau Communities Hospital, now called Mount Sinai South Nassau. It keeps me

moving! Minna volunteered for about five years as a supervisor in the Oceanside elementary school lunchroom — not an easy job.

God has been very good to us. Minna and I have been together 73 years and married for 70 years.

We've traveled extensively over the years. We have plans to celebrate our 70th wedding anniversary at City Cellar Wine Bar & Grill in Westbury. Guests will be coming from near and far to help us celebrate

All in the Howard Family.....

Concert in Honeoye Falls, New York December 2019



(L-R) Jason, Barry Howard's grandson on Euphonium; Barry; Steven, Barry's son; and Matthew, Barry's grandson on tuba. "The cold was not an issue but the falling snow was for the brave crowd that came out to hear us" said Barry.

Want to hear the joke about a staccato? Never mind, it's too short.



Want to hear the one about fermata? Wait, it's too long.