

EDUCATION

Questions? Contact Susan Pawlak-Seaman, education editor | 508-979-4467 | sseaman@s-t.com | @SusanSeamanSCT

COMMUNITY



Stonehill students leave parting gift

By Paula Vogler
GateHouse News Service

EASTON — Come May, many college students' thoughts turn to final exams and heading home for the summer. At some colleges there is also the question of what to do with any leftover money on college cards for things like meals, toiletries and snacks.

For students at Stonehill College, the choice was easy for many: donate the money to buy non-perishable food for the Easton Food Pantry.

That translated into more than \$1,300 worth of donations, according to Lucas Santori, a freshman who was one of the organizers of the drive.

The Freshman Class Committee "found out many students have left-over funds at the end of the year and buy things in bulk for themselves," Santori said. "We had the idea to buy bulk for someone else."

Typically students are given an order form to order things like bottles of water, snacks, or whatever else they might want to take home with them with the extra money on their Hill Card.

"We created a special form for donating to the food pantry," Santori said. "They checked off the boxes of what items they wanted to donate, swiped their card and the money was withdrawn from their account."

While the collection was last minute and not advertised well, just through some flyers and two school-wide emails, Santori said he was pleased with the response.

"It was pretty successful," Santori said. "We didn't think we'd get the amount of things we did. Next year we'll definitely plan around it."

He said it is always good to give back to the community and the people in it even if you do not know them.

"It's always a good thing to help each other out without receiving something in return," Santori said.

For those working at the food pantry the cases of food were a welcome surprise, according to food pantry coordinator Ken Wood.

"We didn't know they were going to do it and we didn't have to sort it because we knew it was all new," Wood said.

He said with two to three new families signing up each week and an average of 80 families being helped on a weekly basis, half of them large families, the donations would last nearly a month.

"They went by our list of most needed items," Wood said. "We got all items on the list so that's a big plus for us. It seems like we just buy stuff and it goes quickly."

Stonehill encourages students to share the gifts they have in a socially responsible way according to Communications and Media Relations Director Martin McGovern.

"I'm really proud of them," McGovern said. "It's a very lovely idea. It's a very touching end of summer, end of school year story."

NEW BEDFORD

Making dreams come true



New Bedford superintendent of schools, Pia Durkin has a quick word with students from the Pacheco School in New Bedford who were selected to fly on Irwin Jacobs' private jet leaving from New Bedford airport for a trip to MIT and WGBH. Mr. Jacobs' who was born in New Bedford, gives students a ride each year from his alma mater the Pacheco School (formerly the Mount Pleasant school). [PETER PEREIRA/THE STANDARD-TIMES/SCMG]

Irwin & Joan Jacobs help city students see their future

By Standard-Times Staff

NEW BEDFORD — There are plenty of jokes about guests who overstay their welcome. But you'll never hear one about Dr. Irwin M. Jacobs.

He'll always be welcomed — and remembered.

Jacobs is a New Bedford native who grew up in the city's Mount Pleasant neighborhood in the North End and in 1950, graduated from New Bedford High School. He received his electrical engineering degree from Cornell University and his master's and doctorate degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

He went on to co-found Qualcomm, a Fortune 500 company, and for some years, he and his wife Joan have called San Diego home. They've also distinguished themselves as philanthropists supporting a variety of worthy causes.

One of those is education, and the Jacobs' generous reach extends back to the place where Irwin got his start: the New Bedford Public Schools.

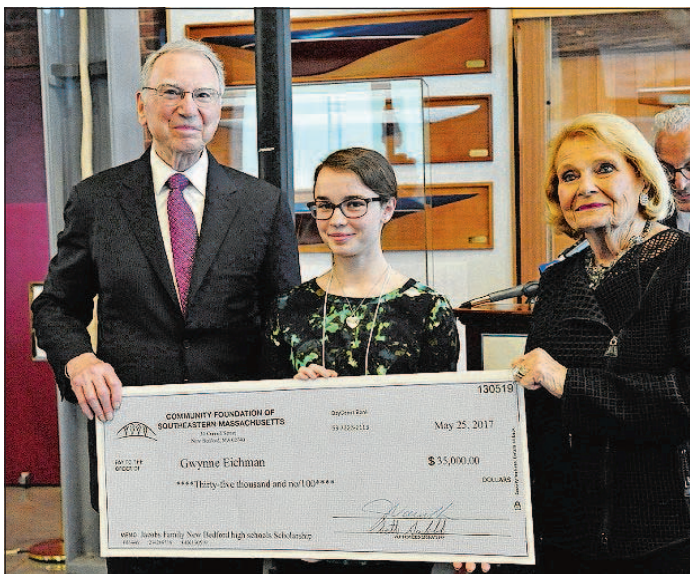
Every spring, Jacobs and his wife visit the city — and every year they bring gifts that keep on giving: they award five \$35,000 scholarships to New Bedford grads who are going on to college studies in one of the STEM disciplines.... science, technology, engineering and math.

The couple established the Jacobs Family New Bedford High School Scholarship Fund in 2000 with a \$1 million gift to the Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts.

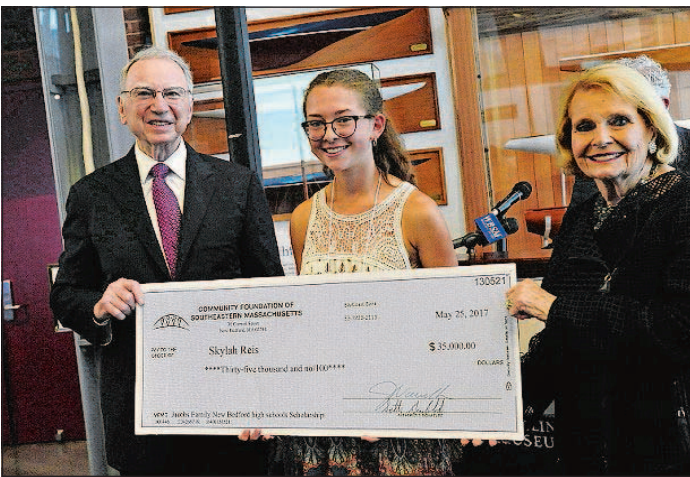
No question they've made a huge difference in the lives of dozens of urban kids who otherwise would have struggled mightily in their pursuit of higher education.

This year's recipients honored during the Jacobs' return last week were Vanessa Briand of Greater New Bedford Voc-Tech; New Bedford High School students Skylah Reis, Katelynn Amaral and Gwynne Eichman; and Isaiah Spencer, the Global Learning Charter Public School.

But that's not all the couple annually brings to New Bedford. In what's become another tradition, Irwin and Joan Jacobs invite some very lucky Carlos Pacheco School students aboard their private jet for lunch and a trip to someplace special — and educational. This year it



Gwynne Eichman, center, accepts the applause of the crowd with Irwin and Joan Jacobs after receiving his scholarship during a presentation held at the Whaling Museum in New Bedford. [DAVID W. OLIVEIRA/STANDARD-TIMES SPECIAL/SCMG]



Skylah Reis, center, accepts the applause of the crowd with Irwin and Joan Jacobs after receiving his scholarship during a presentation held at the Whaling Museum in New Bedford. [DAVID W. OLIVEIRA/STANDARD-TIMES SPECIAL/SCMG]

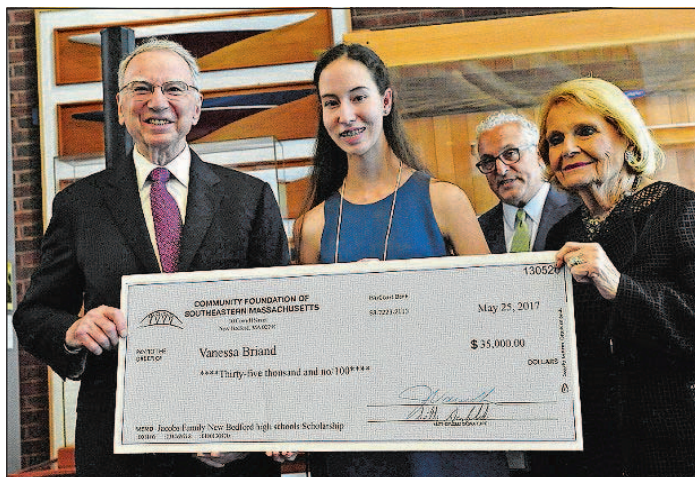


Layla Torres, 11, and fellow students from the Pacheco School in New Bedford grab a seat in Irwin Jacobs' private jet leaving from New Bedford airport for a field trip. [PETER PEREIRA/THE STANDARD-TIMES/SCMG]

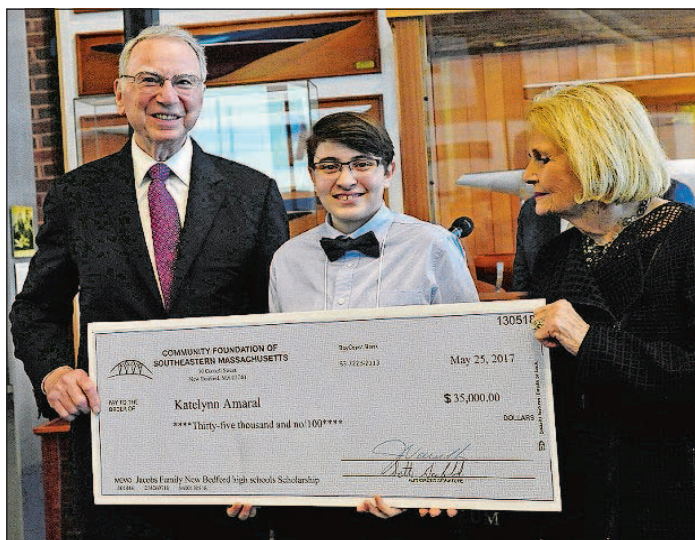
was Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research at MIT and a tour of the WGBH studios. Carlos Pacheco is Irwin Jacobs' alma mater, except when he attended, it was known as the Mount Pleasant School.

Mount Pleasant was renamed for the late Pacheco, a longtime New Bedford School Committee member, in appreciation of his dedication to the city's students.

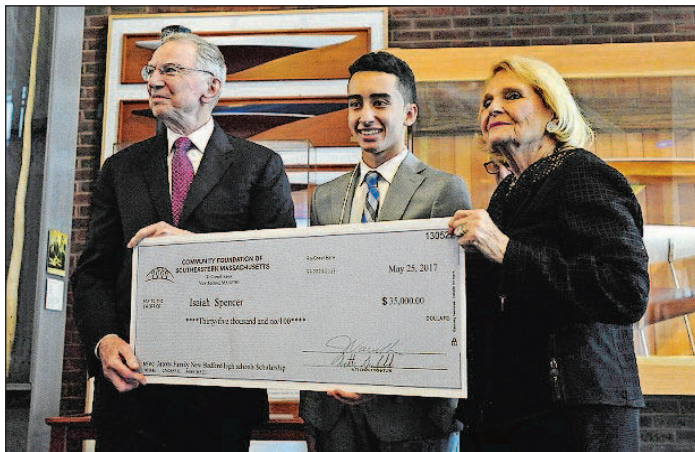
And, in appreciation of all he



Vanessa Briand, center, accepts the applause of the crowd with Irwin and Joan Jacobs after receiving his scholarship during a presentation held at the Whaling Museum in New Bedford. [DAVID W. OLIVEIRA/STANDARD-TIMES SPECIAL/SCMG]



Katelynn Amaral, center, accepts the applause of the crowd with Irwin and Joan Jacobs after receiving his scholarship during a presentation held at the Whaling Museum in New Bedford. [DAVID W. OLIVEIRA/STANDARD-TIMES SPECIAL/SCMG]



Isaiah Spencer, center, accepts the applause of the crowd with Irwin and Joan Jacobs after receiving his scholarship during a presentation held at the Whaling Museum in New Bedford. [DAVID W. OLIVEIRA/STANDARD-TIMES SPECIAL/SCMG]

has done for public schools in the city, someone else will also have a building that bears his name.

The new elementary school under construction in the far

South End of New Bedford will be named for none other than Irwin M. Jacobs.

Enjoy these photos from Irwin and Joan Jacobs' most recent to the city.