

**White Hills Voluntary Fire Company 5 is turning our holiday lights on & keeping them on until life gets back to normal**



**In support of & in solidarity with our neighbors  
Stay Safe & Say Home**

When I saw this post on Shelton's White Hills Fire Company Facebook page I had to share! What a great idea to help keep spirits up in the community during this dark time in our lives. Maybe other organizations could do the same? Just a thought.

*-- Patricia Villers*

Ralph and I enjoyed a short drive around the area Wednesday afternoon to get out of the house for a while.

I snapped this photo when we stopped by the reservoir at Witek Park in Derby. We remained in the vehicle so we didn't come in contact with anyone.

Stay safe all!



# Famous author's passing spurs fond memories for local journalist

By Robert C. Pollack

Roger Kahn, without whom I would never have become a journalist, died last month. He was 92, four years my senior.

His mother, the Olga Kahn, was my mother's best friend and I grew up calling her Aunt Olga. Roger was beyond bright, but had a writing problem that plagued him throughout high school. His father was one of the editors of Encyclopedia Britannica and Roger developed a mental block about writing.

That's why I was surprised when after graduating college, he got his first job as a copy boy with the now defunct NY Herald Tribune. Someone who couldn't write wanted to become a journalist?

He surprised me and everyone who knew him when he was promoted to head copy boy 18 months later and a year

or so after that, then Brooklyn Dodger correspondent Harold Rosenthal had a heart attack and had to be replaced.

To the Trib sports staff's total amazement, Sports Editor Bob Cook picked Kahn to replace him.

"Never send a kid to do a man's job," was the talk around the newsroom.


I had entered journalism as a copy boy with the NY Journal American two years earlier, thanks to an exclusive interview I got with three top disgraced players at the height of the 1951 City College basketball scandal during my one year at Brandeis University.

It was a story a lot of top journalists were chasing but I, a freshman at Brandeis, went after it and got it.

On the strength of that story, published in the Brandeis newspaper, I landed the copy boy job at the Journal months later, since I had run out of money and could not return to Brandeis.

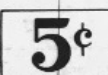
But I hated the paper and everything it stood for and was failing badly at my first job.

*Continued on P.2*



## DAILY NEWS

NEW YORK'S PICTURE NEWSPAPER



Vol. 38, No. 89    Corp. 1956 News Syndicate Co. Inc.
New York 17, N.Y., Saturday, October 6, 1956\*
WEATHER: Fair, cool.

# MURDER AT EBBETS FIELD

Story on Page 16



### Big Three and the Big Two

(NEWS Photos by Al Pucetti)  
Dodger heroes in yesterday's slugfest at Ebbets Field are (l. to r.) Duke Snider, Don Bessent and Gil Hodges. Each holds up two fingers, signifying Dodgers are two up on the Yanks in the Series. Snider belted a three-run homer which brought Dodgers even from 6-3 deficit. Bessent stifled Yanks in seven relief innings and Gil batted two doubles which drove in four runs. Equally happy is Dodger manager Walter Alston (left). Dodger fans are yelling about four straight. Yank fans are looking for one in a row today.

—Story on page 16

**TURN TO CENTERFOLD AND BACK PAGE FOR MORE EXCITING WORLD SERIES FOTOS**

# Famous author's passing spurs fond memories for local journalist



## *Continued from P.1*

I was about to be fired when Roger, who heard about my Journal travails, highly recommended me on the strength of my Brandeis piece and through his efforts I landed a copy boy job at the Trib. If he hadn't intervened, there is no doubt I would have switched fields and never would have become a journalist.

Meanwhile, Kahn had turned around the doubters and had become a highly read and successful Dodger writer. Some years later, he left the Trib to become first, a writer for Sports Illustrated and then, a free lance writer -- a move that puzzled many.

Ten years later, he called me and said he was writing a novel featuring interviews with all the great Dodger players he had covered from Jackie

Robinson and Duke Snider to Roy Campanella and Pee Wee Reese.

His idea, he said, was to recount their experiences as major league players and contrast that to what happened to them when they left baseball. "Sounds like a best seller to me," I told him.

"That's what I think," he said, "but no one wants to publish it."

Months later, he found a publisher. The name of the book? "The Boys of Summer."



Kahn made a fortune from that book and went on to write 18 others. My favorite was "Good Enough To Dream," a book he wrote after...would you believe it..he bought a Class A minor league baseball team just to write about one summer in the sun.

The team was a collection of never wases and never would be who had never won anything in their lives.

"This season will be different, he told both them and their manager. You have never won anything but this year, you are going to win the pennant."

After a year of sharp ups and downs, this collection of prior losers came roaring down the stretch and were tied for first place on the last day of the season, playing against the team they had to beat.

They nursed a one run lead into the ninth...two out..two on...and then a fly ball to center. The center fielder-stood under it..caught it and 4,000 fans in the rickety stands went wild.

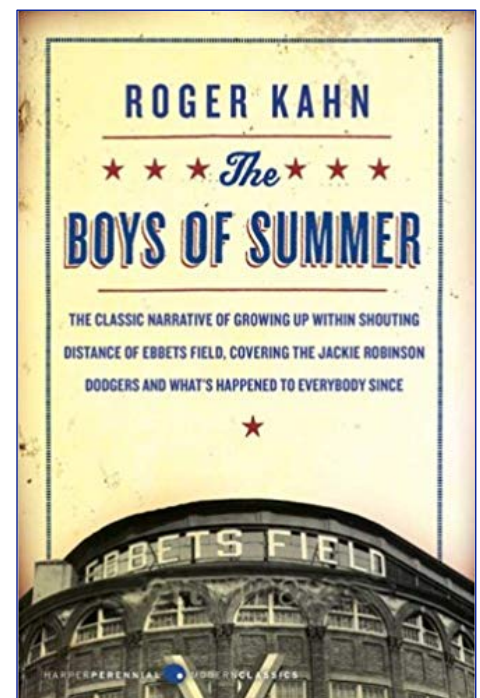
The players raced to the press box where Kahn was sitting, put him on their shoulders and carried him around the field as the crowd chanted over and over again: "Roger! Roger! Roger!"

In the book, there are then three lines of white space.

"I have known worse moments," he wrote.

To my deep regret, I lost touch with Roger over the years.

Farewell, author of my journalistic career. May your Boys of Summer live forever.





## United Way offers COVID-19 Response, Recovery Funds

SHELTON - Coronavirus is already beginning to devastate many Americans, health-wise and financially. Help by supporting efforts to assist our neighbors during this unprecedented time.

**Local:** In response to COVID-19, Valley United Way, Valley Community Foundation, Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce, and Valley Council for Health & Human Services have come together to establish the **Valley Community COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund**.

All donations will go to organizations who support those in the area most significantly affected by the pandemic.

[Donate Locally](#)

**Statewide:** United Ways across the state of Connecticut are joining forces to respond to the economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic. Together, they have created the **Connecticut United Ways COVID-19 Response Fund**.

The Fund is being coordinated with philanthropic efforts statewide. It will rapidly deploy financial resources to individuals and families economically affected by the pandemic, including those who are out of work or have reduced work hours.

In the coming days, the Fund will prioritize and qualify those who will be eligible for assistance.

[Donate To the State Fund](#)

Until further notice, Valley United Way staff will be working remotely to reduce the possibility of spreading the COVID-19 virus. While we are working from home, the phones will continue to be answered.

Community use of our common areas will be put on hold until at least May 4th to prevent the spread of germs. When we determine the rooms will be open again, we will announce this to the nonprofit community that uses them.

The regular office hours will continue as: M–F 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

