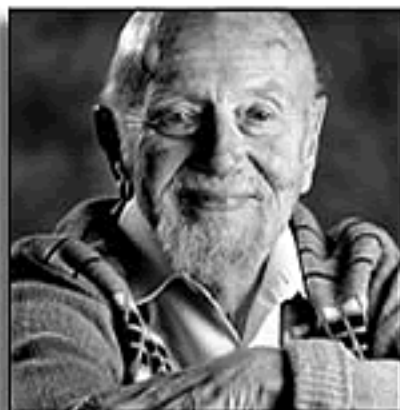


## *Special Recognition for Community Service*

**KURT LANDSBERGER**

*Bel-Art Products, Inc.*



At 90 years young, Kurt Landsberger continues to live each day with purpose and meaning. Growing up in Austria pre-World War II, Kurt Landsberger might have imagined a life of ease and leisure. After all, several close relatives owned successful businesses and Kurt was the destined heir to all. Life, however, had other plans and when circumstances of anti-Semitism forced his departure from his childhood home, he knew he was lucky to escape persecution. Arriving in America in 1939, new opportunities awaited and were often created

by a man willing to pursue an "interesting idea."

On passion and drive Mr. Landsberger and his late wife, Anny, founded two successful northern New Jersey based companies: Bel-Art Products and Maddak Inc. Bel-Art Products' Scienceware® laboratory products solve the everyday challenges faced by scientists and researchers the world over. Maddak's Ableware® produces aids for daily living to help those with permanent and temporary disabilities lead more independent lives and has grown to become the largest such manufacturer in the United States.

Knowing firsthand that life circumstances are not always in our control, but firmly believing that everyone can and should make a difference, Kurt Landsberger, a successful business owner and author of six books, has a long history of philanthropy in Essex County. Mr. Landsberger has contributed to local public libraries and historical societies, including those in Verona and Pequannock. His contributions included collections of books dealing with the Holocaust.

The Newark Public Library is the proud recipient of Mr. Landsberger's historically noteworthy assortment of more than 2,000 postcards, focusing primarily on Essex County buildings and landscapes. They are reflective of local life in the early twentieth century and provide examples of photographic techniques of the period. Historians, students, and genealogists alike can supplement their research of landmarks or events by using these resources. The collection is housed in the Charles F. Cummings New Jersey Information Center at the Library, one of the largest repositories of local history materials in the state.

Thanks to the generosity of the Landsberger Foundation, established by Kurt and Anny Landsberger, countless inner-city children have had hands-on educational opportunities to explore three of Landsberger's personal interests: the environment, historic preservation, and the game of chess. A longtime Verona resident and founder of "Save the Mountain," Landsberger and others worked together to preserve 240 acres of undeveloped land that today is part of Hilltop Reservation, an Essex County Park.

## *The Newark Public Library*

As New Jersey's largest public library, the Newark Public Library houses more than 1.5 million books, audio and visual materials, and ephemera. Each year, over a million patrons utilize the Newark Public Library system which includes the Main Library at 5 Washington Street and eight community branches.

Anchored in the heart of Newark's cultural arts district, the Library is a center of education, enjoyment and learning that has served generations of residents, students, businesses and community organizations for nearly 125 years. The Newark Public Library has a long-standing commitment to providing current information, ideas, programs and technology to all who seek them — free of charge!

*Booked for the Evening* allows the Library to raise much needed revenues for its Annual Fund — the Fund that enables the Library to continue offering excellent programs and services — while recognizing those who have displayed a great commitment toward its vision and mission.



MAIN LIBRARY, 5 WASHINGTON STREET