



CHARITABLE ACT... Close to \$1,000 was raised for charity by the student-run community service club, "Early Act," at McKinley Elementary School in Westfield when the group sold gently used books donated by McKinley parents. Profits from the sale, which was held on Family Reading Night on January 20, will be donated to one or all of three charities chosen by the student members.

DECA's 'Day of Decisions' Held at SP Middle School

SCOTCH PLAINS - DECA, an association of marketing students at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, held its annual "Day of Decisions" at Terrill Middle School on February 7 and at Park Middle School on February 9.

Approximately 30 DECA students ran workshops about parent and teen-

age relationships, peer pressure, stereotypes, teenage anxiety, and fitting in at the high school.

Eighth graders interacted with their peers through hands-on demonstrations, group discussions and skits. Through these activities, many questions - ranging from the transition into a high school setting to the dangers of alcohol and drug abuse - were answered.

With the assistance of the school district's Substance Abuse Coordinator, Liz Knodel, DECA seniors Jeanette Franzone, Terrence Charles and Ben Vogel led the coordination of the activities.

"We have a responsibility to reach out to younger kids and let them know that there are safe, healthy and fun ways to get around the pressures of high school," said Jeanette.

For more information about the "Day of Decisions" program, please call DECA at (908) 889-8600.

Gil Arbtsman Earns Dean's List Status

WESTFIELD - Gil Arbtsman, a 2003 graduate of Westfield High School, has been named to the dean's list at Drew University in Madison, earning a grade point average of 3.894 for the fall 2004 semester.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Yossi Arbtsman, he is a junior majoring in economics. Gil is also a tutor for the economics department and co-captain of the Drew Rangers Men's Lacrosse team.

Orange Ave. School To Host Tricky Tray

CRANFORD - The Orange Avenue School Parent Teacher Association will hold its annual Tricky Tray Auction on Friday, March 11, at 6:30 p.m. in the school gymnasium. The auction will begin at 8 p.m.

Admission is \$8 and includes one sheet of auction tickets and refreshments.

To attend, please call Mary Catherine Sudiak at (908) 272-2298 for tickets.

Westfield BOE Will Discuss Technology, Personnel at Meeting

WESTFIELD - At the Tuesday, February 15 meeting of the Westfield Board of Education, the agenda will include a discussion of the proposed 2005-2006 school budget, with special emphasis on technology and personnel.

The meeting will be held in Room 105 at 302 Elm Street in Westfield at 8 p.m.

A complete agenda will be available on Monday, February 14, in the office of Board Secretary Robert Berman at 302 Elm Street and at www.westfieldnj.com/boe.

All public school board meetings are taped and may be viewed on Channel 36 on Tuesdays at 8 a.m., 3 and 11 p.m., and on Thursdays at 8 a.m. and 7 p.m.

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CONCEPTS & THOUGHT

Washington Elementary Fetes 50th Anniversary

WESTFIELD - Washington Elementary School in Westfield opened its doors to classes in September 1954, when the Rialto Theatre's feature film was *Hell Below Zero* with Alan Ladd, ground chuck cost 39 cents per pound at the local market, and the local pharmacy was advertising 100 aspirin for eight cents.

Washington School was built on the site that previously housed the Fair Acres Race Track. Constructed in 1900 in the area of St. Mark's Avenue to Gallows Hill Road, the facility included a half-mile track for harness racing, grandstands for 300 spectators, and stabling for 40 horses. The race club dissolved its activities in 1910, and houses and the school eventually replaced the track.

To celebrate 50 years of Washington School's history, a display case in the front hall has been filled with memorabilia pertinent to the school and the town. An early map of Westfield shows the location of the race field. Pictures of the race-track, grandstand, and several "rail sitters" are included.

Old photographs show what classrooms looked like in the middle of the last century. The front page headlines from *The Westfield Leader*, along with advertisements from local retailers, form the background of the exhibit.

The glass shelves hold toys, books, and other items from the 1950s. Several vintage Madame

Alexander dolls, a Toni doll, to whom the lucky owner was to give a Tonette permanent, and an HO model train represent playthings of the era. A transistor radio, Brownie camera and Careers game are joined by a painted plate bearing the images of the first couple of the time, Ike and Mamie Eisenhower. A representation of the Dick and Jane primer stands alongside an early report card.

Washington School nurse Bene Graf and fifth grade teacher Susan McClelland coordinated the display case with the assistance of the Westfield Historical Society, Westfield Board of Education, Westfield Memorial Library, and several private citizens who provided support and contributions.

Washington School currently enrolls 328 children in kindergarten through fifth grade.

Joseph Malanga, Washington Principal, said, "We celebrate the school's 50th anniversary by honoring the past and looking toward the future by preparing our children to be critical thinkers and good citizens."

Washington School is currently being featured throughout the month of February on WHS-TV36 in the district's "Focus on Our Schools" show. It can be seen on Tuesdays at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Thursdays at 2 and 10 p.m.; Saturdays at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m., and Sundays at 4 p.m. through February 27.



MEMORIES... Washington Elementary School Principal Joseph Malanga stands in front of the school's display case that features memorabilia from the early days of the school's operations. The school is celebrating its 50th anniversary.

Washington and Lee Honors Colette Moryan

WESTFIELD - Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Va. has reported that Westfield resident Colette Patrice Moryan was named to the dean's list for the fall term. She is a freshman and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Moryan of Westfield.

Erika Leigh Hasenfus Named to Dean's List

WESTFIELD - Elon University in North Carolina has reported that Westfield resident Erika Leigh Hasenfus was named to the dean's list for the fall 2004 semester. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Hasenfus.


Bushinger Named To Fall Dean's List

SCOTCH PLAINS - Eryn Bushinger, a senior majoring in social work from Scotch Plains, has been named to the fall 2004 semester dean's list at Syracuse University's College of Human Services and Health Professions.

Scott Pober Named To President's List

FANWOOD - James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Va. has revealed that Fanwood resident Scott Joseph Pober was named to the President's List for the fall 2004 semester. He is a freshman.

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SELFLESS SERVICE... Wilson Elementary School students Thomas Ross, left, and Lucas Bizzaro take their time in making sandwiches for the hungry.

Wilson Elementary Students Make Sandwiches for Needy

WESTFIELD - Recently, over 70 fourth graders from Wilson Elementary School in Westfield made 350 meat and cheese sandwiches for the hungry.

The children volunteered their time to make these sandwiches during their lunch period. Through generosity, food and materials were donated by local retailers including Trader Joe's, ShopRite of Garwood and ShopRite of Clark.

Additionally, Teixeira's Bakery of Newark donated the 350 fresh rolls for the sandwiches. These sandwiches

were then delivered to St. Joseph's Social Service Center in Elizabeth for distribution to the hungry.

This is the fifth year for the Sandwich Day service project, which is coordinated by the Friends for Friends committee of Wilson's Parent Teacher Organization.

A second sandwich day will be held with volunteers from the fifth grade of Wilson School in April. The school also participates in a weekly collection of bagged lunches from the school community for distribution to St. Joseph's Social Service Center.

Colby College Announces WF Dean's List Students

WESTFIELD - Colby College in Waterville, Me. has revealed the names of dean's list students from Westfield for the fall semester of the 2004-2005 academic year.

Gregory Engel, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Engel of Westfield, was named to the roster. He is a sophomore majoring in biology with a neuroscience concentration. He attended Westfield High School (WHS).

Stephanie Finn, a sophomore majoring in international studies, was placed on the dean's list. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Finn of Westfield, she is also a WHS graduate.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Hobson of Westfield, Kevin Hobson, was named to the roster. A freshman, he is also a WHS graduate.

Margaret Smith, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Smith of Westfield, was placed on the dean's

list. She is majoring in history and human development (independent). A junior, she is a graduate of Mount Saint Mary Academy in Watchung.

Cadet Sean Callahan Honored at Citadel

WESTFIELD - Cadet Sean Richard Callahan of Westfield was recently honored for outstanding academic achievement at The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina, during the fall semester of the 2004-2005 academic year.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard John Callahan, Sean was named to the dean's list and earned a Gold Star for achieving a 3.7 grade point average or higher. The stars are worn on the collars of the full dress and dress uniforms and the summer leave uniform.




GEOGRAPHY CHAMPS... McKinley Elementary School in Westfield recently participated in the National Geographic Geography Bee. Pictured, above, are second place winner Daniel Connolly (fourth grader) and first place winner Thea Mantle (fifth grader).

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