



NEST-BUILDING...Lesley Briggs, PreK 3 teacher at The Wardlaw-Hartridge School in Edison, helps Pre k-3 student Tyler Jones of Scotch Plains build a nest out of a crumpled brown bag, strands of yarn and string, dried leaves and twigs during a special art project on April 24.

Principal Andreski Offers A New Reading Challenge

WESTFIELD—McKinley Elementary School Principal Claudia Andreski once again challenged her students to do what no other students have yet to accomplish.

She challenged her students to read 15,840 books, the equivalent of approximately three miles worth of books.

In return, the students would be rewarded with a three-mile NJ Transit train ride to Kean University. McKinley students went on to read more than 16,192 books.

Having more than met their goal, students and faculty, on May 16, will be treated to a day at Kean University. The highlight of the day will be a "reading rally," where officials from local government offices will be on hand to congratulate the students and read to them as well.

Special guests include Westfield Mayor Andrew Skibitsky, Westfield Superintendent of Schools William Foley as well as Westfield police officers and fire fighters.

Also on the agenda will be a "Kid TV" video presentation. This episode of "Kid TV," created by and starring

McKinley students and faculty, will praise the value of reading and focus on how it should be an important part of every student's daily life.

Mrs. Andreski started this whole reading readiness concept two years ago. In previous years, she has made good on her challenge rewards by dyeing her hair bright blue and following up the next year by driving a monster truck on school grounds for all the students to see.

Her philosophy is that these kinds of challenges help excite the children and make them want to participate in the reading challenge program.

WF's Gundrum Makes Loyola Dean's List

WESTFIELD—Ryan Gundrum of Westfield, a member of the Class of 2010 at Loyola College in Maryland, was named to the dean's list for the fall 2006 semester.

In order to qualify for the dean's list at Loyola, a student must have a GPA of at least 3.5 with a minimum of 15 credits.

Award-Winning Illustrator Visits Wilson Elem. School

WESTFIELD—Harry Bliss, an illustrator, cartoonist and cover artist for *The New Yorker* magazine, recently visited Wilson Elementary School. Mr. Bliss captivated both students and teachers alike with his presentations on being an illustrator for children's books.

Mr. Bliss's first book, "A Fine, Fine, Fine School" by Newbery-award-winning author, Sharon Creech, was a *New York Times* bestseller.

Mr. Bliss went on to illustrate "Which Would You Rather Be?" by William Steig, "Countdown To Kindergarten" by Alison McGhee, a winner of the Minnesota Book Award, and "Diary of a Worm" by Doreen Cronin," a *New York Times* bestseller as well as "Don't Forget To Come Back" by Robie H. Harris (featured in the 24th Annual Exhibition of "The Original Art Show" at the Society of Illustrators).

Mr. Bliss's current book, "Mrs. Watson Wants Your Teeth" by Alison McGhee, was published in the fall of 2004, followed by "Diary of a Spider" by Doreen Cronin in the fall of 2005. Mr. Bliss's latest book, "Diary of a Fly" by Doreen Cronin, will be published in the near future.

Growing up in upstate New York amidst a family of painters and illustrators, he went on to study painting at The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, illustration at The University of the Arts, where he earned his Bachelor of Arts degree, and Syracuse University, where he earned his Master of Arts degree.

Prior to his cartoons and covers for *The New Yorker* magazine, he illustrated dozens of book covers for writers such as Lawrence Block, Dorothy Uhnak, Bob Dole and Fiona Buckley. Mr. Bliss lives in South Burlington, Vt.



BLISSFUL...These lucky children from Wilson School were chosen to have lunch with illustrator Harry Bliss during his visit to the school. From the front, clockwise, are: Sarah Morton, third grade; Emily Oster, second grade; Megan Landriau, fifth grade; librarian Diane Smith; Christopher Cullane, first grade; Mr. Bliss; George Burke, kindergarten; and Claudia Romeo, fourth grade.

Alumni Assoc. Continues Brick Walk at SPFHS

SCOTCH PLAINS—Many graduates of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School (SPFHS) have responded to the ongoing requests of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Alumni Association to purchase a brick to be installed in the Alumni Walk located on the high school's Westfield Road property.

The fundraising undertaking has had the cooperation of the school administration, the board of education and Erik Hammerdahl and his crew in the building and grounds department, who worked to see the bricks placed.

The walk has segments in place with inscriptions. Purchasers have placed orders "in memoriam" or as a way of recalling their time attending SPFHS. Barbara Roskin is the brick walk

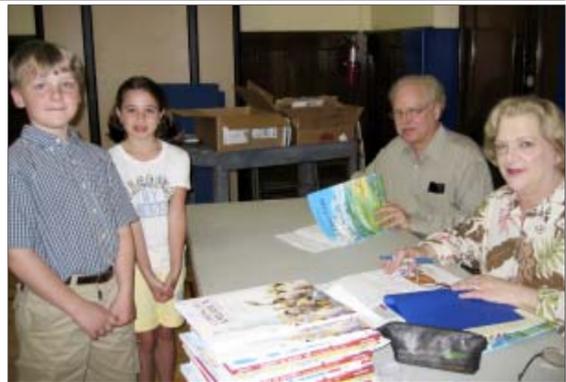
chairwoman, and anyone interested may obtain an order form from her at the board-of-education office on Cedar Street. The cost is \$50 per brick and can be engraved with up to three lines of 15 characters per line (including spaces).

The order form also has space to indicate whether the brick is being purchased as a commemorative. If so, a gift certificate will be sent to the purchaser free of charge. In making payment, checks or money orders should be made out to the SPFHS Alumni Association Scholarship Fund.

WF Student Earns Cert. Of Adv. Study

WESTFIELD—Westfield's Barbara Ruvolo earned her Certificate of Advanced Study at The College of Saint Rose.

The college awarded undergraduate and graduate degrees and Certificates of Advanced Study to 1,052 students who completed their requirements in fall 2006.



MAESTRO...Author Betsy Maestro and illustrator Giulio Maestro autograph copies of their books for Franklin third graders Kevin Frega and Samantha Zecca during "Visiting Author Day."

Author-and-Illustrator Team Visit Franklin School

WESTFIELD—Betsy and Giulio Maestro, the children's author-and-illustrator team that has created books together since 1974, recently visited Franklin Elementary School in Westfield.

For the first of two assemblies for third, fourth and fifth-grade groups, the married couple spoke about the writing and illustrating process for the Visiting Author Days program sponsored by the Franklin Parent Teacher Organization this year.

Mrs. Maestro, who penned such children's books as "How Do Apples Grow?" and "The Discovery of the Americas," discussed the different challenges involved when writing nonfiction versus fiction books. She explained that nonfiction involves a lot of research and sometimes means traveling to find detailed information.

She outlined the many stages that books go through to get published, citing how often editors and writers continuously make changes. Mrs. Maestro said a story is never perfect on the first try, and she encouraged students to view correcting one's work as a positive experience that makes the piece better.

Using a large easel, Mr. Maestro demonstrated how he creates book illustrations. He also shared some storyboards and layout sheets in-

volved in the publishing process, and noted he too makes many changes along the way to improve his work. Mrs. Maestro said her "words tell Mr. Maestro what to put in the pictures."

Prior to the visit, Franklin fourth graders, under the direction of Beth Billing, created an oversized welcome banner inspired by the Maestros' works.

After each assembly, the Maestros autographed copies of their books that students had purchased prior to the event.

WF's Sheehan Wins Milton Potter Prize

WESTFIELD—Westfield's Emily Sheehan, a student at Hobart and William Smith Colleges, won this year's John Milton Potter Prize.

The John Milton Potter Prize is awarded to the member of the sophomore class who, during her first two years in college, has achieved the most distinguished academic record in the Division of the Humanities. The award is based on her accomplishments in courses and her future promise as a scholar and a writer.

Emily is pursuing a double major in English and Women's Studies at William Smith College. She was a member of the 2005 graduating class of Westfield High School.



ANIMALS IN THE MOUNTAIN...Claire Murphy and Holly Dorsett of Holy Trinity Interparochial School Mountainside campus pet a chinchilla with Travis from Wallaby Tales. The children enjoyed a presentation on mammals and also learned about a skunk, kowdy, ferret and a hedgehog.

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Osteoporosis Screening

Wednesday, May 16th from 10:00am-2:00pm

Courtesy of Overlook Hospital, Atlantic Health Systems

Please call 908-317-3030 to schedule an appointment • Assessment fee: \$10 per person

Friends and families are invited to Sunrise of Westfield for a seminar and screening for osteoporosis. Overlook Hospital, Atlantic Health Systems will discuss the causes and prevention of osteoporosis. Two ultrasound machines will be on-site for testing. A risk assessment and recommendations will be

provided to participating attendees. Literature will be provided.

Sunrise Assisted Living is committed to furthering the knowledge of senior living topics through events and seminars designed to help and inform seniors and their caregivers.



Sunrise Assisted Living of Westfield 908-317-3030 Assisted Living, Alzheimer's Care

240 Springfield Avenue, Westfield, NJ 07090

For more information and a FREE online newsletter, visit www.sunriseseniorliving.com

Registration for limited Fall 2007-Winter 2008 Openings will be accepted at Open House.

JUST BABIES
Daycare

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, May 12th 11AM - 4PM

TOURS THROUGHOUT THE DAY

Petting Zoo 11AM - 2PM

FREE Workshops

- 11:30 AM - Speech and Developmental Milestones for birth to age five
- 12:15 PM - MARACAS Parent / Child Spanish Class for toddlers and preschoolers
- 1:15 PM - Baby Sign Language
- 2:00 PM - Staying Organized with Young Children

Pre-registration not required, but suggested. Please call Lucy Pritzker, Director/Owner at (908) 654-5900 for more information.

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BATH CONNECTION OPENS BATHROOM & KITCHEN SHOWROOM



The Bath Connection 3 recently opened its bathroom and kitchen design showroom on 44 S. Martine Avenue Fanwood, offering a refreshing remedy from the ordinary. Whether you are looking bath fixtures or furniture, updating your faucets, accenting your lighting or searching for unique and beautiful bath and kitchen accessories, our showcase offers the latest designs the industry has to offer including

something for every price range. You will be pleased to find at our store knowledgeable design personnel to help you formulate a well thought approach as to whether you choose to refresh or remodel. The Bath Connection is proud to bring your very exciting products for your residence. We are open 9:30-5:30 Tuesday thru Saturday. Call 908-322-2207.

PAID BULLETIN BOARD

The Chelsea at Fanwood Proudly Presents

3rd Annual Dog Show And Contest

Please join The Chelsea at Fanwood as we host this FREE, FUN and FURRY event, guaranteed to entertain young and old. Enter your pet in the competition or just come out and root for your favorites. See dogs of all shapes and sizes. Prizes will be awarded to the "Top Dogs" and there will be plenty of treats for ALL dogs. * If you would like to enter your dog into our contest, please call or come in for an application.



WHEN: Saturday, May 19th, 2007
TIME: 10:00 a.m.
WHERE: The Chelsea at Fanwood
295 South Avenue
Fanwood, NJ 07023



RSVP by May 14th: 908-654-5200

Open to the Public - Please join us for this FREE event - Everyone is welcome!
www.chelseaseniorliving.com

This program is part of The Chelsea's ongoing commitment to professional and community involvement and family education.