

Chad Ringel of Troop 104 Earns Top Boy Scout Rank

SCOTCH PLAINS—Charles Robert Ringel, the son of Betsy and Jeff Ringel, was presented with the Boy Scout organization's highest honor—the Eagle award—at a Court of Honor ceremony on September 15 at the All Saints' Episcopal Church in Scotch Plains.

A Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School junior known as "Chad," the new Eagle is a member of Troop 104. He received his award from Scoutmaster Ed Bumiller as his family and friends looked on.

Larry Rosello, assistant scoutmaster, served as master of ceremonies, while the Reverend John Paladino, pastor of St. Bartholomew the Apostle Roman Catholic Church in Scotch Plains, was guest speaker. Reverend Paladino also gave the invocation and benediction.

In addition to the 21 merit badges required for attaining the Eagle rank, Chad has earned special awards including the Arrow of Light, World Conservation, Fire'n' Chit, Totin' Chip, Order of the Arrow and Iron Man.

The Iron Man award holds special memories for Chad since he won that recognition for his entire troop at Sabattis Adventure Camp in the Adirondacks. He competed against representatives from other troops in swimming, running and biking to win the top honor in the summer of 2005.

Among his merit badges are First Aid, Swimming, Archery, Wilderness Survival, Camping, Canoeing, Personal Fitness, Life Saving, Environmental Science, Small Boat Sail-

ing, Family Life, Fish and Wildlife Management and Home Repairs, as well as badges for Citizenship in the Community, the Nation and the World.

Each Eagle candidate is required to perform a service project, organizing it from start to finish, and including a report on the project. Chad's Eagle project encompassed work in the playground area of St. Bartholomew Interparochial School in Scotch Plains, where improvements were made for the benefit of the children who use it. Troop 104 members were active in the project under Chad's leadership.

"Through scouting, I have learned that being prepared and organized are the keys to life," Chad said. "I have learned to always be ready, to give whatever you are doing your all, and in doing so you create a better environment for yourself and the people around you."

In the future, Chad hopes to work in the medical field or to have a career in biomedical sciences.

'Y' Healthy Family Day On Tap This Sunday

WESTFIELD—The Westfield Area "Y" will host a Healthy Family Day on Sunday, October 7, from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Main "Y" facility, located at 220 Clark Street in Westfield. Admission is free and open to both member and non-member families.

Participants are advised to wear their workout clothes and to bring a bathing suit. Attendees will have an opportunity to use the "Y"'s Fitness Express Center and gymnasium with climbing wall and Sportwall. There also will be a family swim from 4 to 5 p.m., a Moon Bounce and a variety of demonstration fitness classes.

Childcare, preschool and school age childcare representatives also will be available, along with youth and teen program representatives and personal trainers. Healthy snacks will be served.

Non-members will receive a complimentary one-week Fit Family Trial Guest Pass to the Westfield Area "Y" as part of the YMCA's nationwide Activate America and Keep America Moving campaigns in support of healthy lifestyles and healthy communities. For more information, please call the Welcome Center at (908) 233-2700 or visit westfieldynj.org online.

PTA Fall Festival Set Saturday In Borough

MOUNTAINSIDE—The Mountainside Parent-Teacher Association will hold its Fall Festival on Saturday, October 6, from noon to 4 p.m. at Deerfield School, located at 302 Central Avenue in Mountainside. It will take place rain or shine.

Rides, games, activities, food and crafts for all ages will be available. Vendors will display and sell various home goods and accessories. For more information, please call Gina at (908) 654-3815, Lisa at (908) 232-2994 or Jeanie at (908) 233-5838.



SOARING HIGH...Scotch Plains-Fanwood Troop 104 adult leaders flank new Eagle Scout Chad Ringel, who received the highest honor in Boy Scouting September 15. Pictured, from left to right, are: Bill Sherman, assistant scoutmaster; Larry Rosello, assistant scoutmaster; Chad and Ed Bumiller, scoutmaster.

Red Cross Chapter Reveals Babysitter Training Course

WESTFIELD—The Westfield/Mountainside Chapter of the American Red Cross will host a course in Babysitters Training for youngsters age 11 to 15 at three separate times this fall. Classes will be held on Monday, October 8, Saturday, October 20, and Saturday, November 17, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day.

The course teaches youth the best ways to keep children in their care safe and emphasizes the importance of handling babysitting jobs in a professional manner. Among the topics covered are making good decisions; supervising children of different ages; safety issues; age appropriate play and activities; performing basic infant and child care (feeding, diapering, burping) and some basic first aid. Participants also are given instruction in how to handle breathing emergencies involving a choking child or infant.

All classes are held at the Westfield/Mountainside Chapter House at 321 Elm Street in Westfield. Pre-registration is required and space is limited. For more information or to be put on the mailing list for the winter babysitting class schedule, please call the chapter at (908) 232-7090.

Synagogue to Debut New Ark at Service

WESTFIELD—All are invited to attend Shabbat services on Friday, October 12, at 8:15 p.m. at Temple Emanu-El for the dedication of the temple's new portable ark.

Crafted by congregation member Chas Bernstein, the six-foot ark was designed to meet the specific needs of the temple. It is made from American cherry wood with contrasting solid surfacing handles that create an interwoven Star of David.

Ken Rosenblum, a temple member, donated the wood. Temple members Lillie Bryn, Nina Ovrin, Eliza Ziegler and Andrea Gelber designed and sewed a parochet (curtain). The ark will be used for Simchat Shabbat, Tiny Tot Shabbat and other services.

Temple Emanu-El is located at 756 East Broad Street in Westfield. For more information, please call Carolyn Shane, executive director, at (908) 232-6770.

Willow Grove Church Series To Focus on Christianity

SCOTCH PLAINS—The Willow Grove Presbyterian Church will offer a six-week discussion series on Christianity that will explore the identity of Jesus, the relevance of his death and other matters of faith.

Participants may attend sessions either on Wednesdays from 7:30 to 9:15 p.m., with dessert, from October 10 to November 14, or on Sundays from 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., over lunch, from October 14 to November 18.

Opening the series will be the question "Is Christianity boring, untrue, and irrelevant?" The case for Christianity will be presented and an exchange of views will be encouraged. The second session will explore "Who Is Jesus?" Historical evidence will be presented supporting Jesus' existence and the contention that Christ is the unique Son of God.

During the third session, participants will discuss "Why Did Jesus Die?" They will explore why the crucifixion of Jesus was different; what it achieved and what it meant that Christ died for people's sins.

The first three sessions are designed to help individuals understand Jesus.

The following three sessions will focus on faith, the Bible and prayer. Each session will include time for participants to further discuss any questions or issues they have.

All sessions will meet on the second floor of the Willow Grove Presbyterian Church, located at 1961 Raritan Road in Scotch Plains. Childcare can be provided for a nominal cost, if requested in advance.

To register for this discussion series, please contact the course administrator, August Ruggiero, in care of Willow Grove Presbyterian Church, 1961 Raritan Road, Scotch Plains, N.J. 07076.

Participants are asked to include their name, address, telephone number and e-mail address. They also may e-mail Mr. Ruggiero at augustar@comcast.net. For more information, please e-mail Mr. Ruggiero or call (908) 889-5948.

For more information about Willow Grove, please call the church office Monday through Friday at (908) 232-5678, e-mail info@willowgrovechurch.org or visit willowgrovechurch.org.

Venture Crew Details Visit to Grand Canyon

WESTFIELD—Eagle Scout Sean Sullivan and Girl Scout Gold Award winner Jaelyn Kirna from Westfield Venture Crew number 27 made a presentation September 25 to the Rotary Club of Westfield about their trip to the Grand Canyon over the summer.

Six adult leaders and 12 coed scouts participated. Besides the Grand Canyon, the group hiked Bryce and Zion National Parks. Their experiences included climbing sheer rock cliffs, battling the rapids of the Colorado River and camping under the stars.

Scout participants included Jaelyn Kirna, Adric Quackenbush, Chris Rhodes, Matt Scharpf, Sean Sullivan and Greg Whitman. Adult leaders were Schuyler Quackenbush, Mark Rhodes, Mike Scharpf, Maggie Subhas, Dennis Sullivan and Mark Whitman.

A Venture Crew is a branch of the Boy Scouts of America, but is coed and allows an older age group to join. Comprised mostly of high school-age youth, Venture Crews participate in High Adventure activities.

Crew 27 from Westfield goes on ski trips during the winter, backpacking in the White Mountains of New Hampshire, ocean kayaking at Barnegat Bay and plans to attend Sea Base, where the scouts sail between the Florida Keys for a week, next summer. The Rotary Club of Westfield sponsors the group, with Rotarian Margaret Subhas serving as liaison.



ROARING RAPIDS...Members of Westfield Venture Crew 27 navigate the Colorado River during their visit this summer to the Grand Canyon. Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Westfield, the coed group is comprised of Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts who participate in a variety of adventure excursions. Two members of Venture Crew 27 made a presentation last week to the Rotary Club about their trip.

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Lectures to Spotlight Jewish Art and Artists

SCOTCH PLAINS—The Jewish Community Center (JCC) of Central New Jersey, located at 1391 Martine Avenue in Scotch Plains, will offer a lecture series this fall featuring an in-depth look at Jewish art and artists.

Art educator Barbara Bortniker will present the lectures on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. The dates and specific topics to be covered are as follows:

October 10—Famous (and not-so-famous, but still fabulous) Jewish Artists of the 20th Century.

October 24—Rembrandt: His Fascination and Affections for Jews and the Bible.

October 31—Art and Artists of Modern Israel.

All are welcome to attend this lecture series. The cost is \$5 per individual program and \$10 for the three-part series. Advance registration is requested. Lunch will be available after each lecture for an additional \$1.75. Advance reservations for lunch are mandatory.



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Optimist Club Of Westfield

OPTIMIST Club of Westfield

Thanks supporters of
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FRIEND OF YOUTH

The school year is once again upon us and plans are already underway for the all-night, drug and alcohol free graduation party for the Westfield High School senior class on June 19, 2008.

Over the past 18 years, approximately 85% of the graduating class students have attended Project Graduation - BASH, the substance-free celebration sponsored by the OPTIMIST Club of Westfield.

The OPTIMIST Club would like to thank the many individuals and businesses for their support and contributions to help provide a safe environment for the 2007 senior class to celebrate graduation.

2007 Senior Parent Contributions

\$20,000

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For more information about the OPTIMIST Club and Project Graduation contact us at:
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