



PEACE OUT...From left to right, Brad Hansell, Gina Schiano (teacher and resident of Westfield), Caroline Carr and the Constellation Class at Sundance School in North Plainfield send a symbol of peace to the people of Japan.

## Sundance School Teams Up in the Spirit of Peace

WESTFIELD - With the help of Westfield resident and teacher Gina Schiano, the Constellation Class at Sundance School in North Plainfield sent 1,000 cranes to the Hiroshima Peace Memorial in Japan.

Cranes for Peace began as a project to collect paper cranes for the 50th anniversary of Hiroshima on August 6, 1995.

Ever since the story of Sadako Sasaki, a young girl who was 2 at the time of the bombing and died of leukemia 10 years later, became known, people from around the world have sent origami cranes to the Children of the A-Bomb statue in the Hiroshima Peace Park as a symbol and wish for peace.

"Our 1,000 folded cranes represent our commitment to peace in our lives and in the world," said Ms. Schiano.

Together, after reading Sadako Sasaki's inspirational story, the class of 27 Sundance students, ages 7 to 9, teamed up in the spirit of peace and love to meet a year-long goal of folding 1,000 cranes.

"There is an old Japanese legend that says if 1,000 cranes are folded, your wishes come true," said Ms. Schiano.

The students collaborated to write the following message sent along with their cranes: "A crane is a spectacular symbol of peace because we use our hands, hearts and minds to come together as one. We here at Sundance send wishes of health, happiness, peace and love throughout the world."

Meral Akyuz of Scotch Plains is a member of the Class of 2008 and is majoring in digital media.

Ryan Lynch of Scotch Plains is a member of the Class of 2009 and is majoring in business administration with an emphasis: international.

Christina Minitit of Scotch Plains is a member of the Class of 2008 and is enrolled in the psychology five-year bachelor's/master's program.

Alexander Resnick of Scotch Plains is a member of the Class of 2010 and is majoring in communication arts.

Ryan Cockren of Westfield is a member of the Class of 2010 and is majoring in information technology and systems. Jeffrey Hogan of Westfield is a member of the Class of 2009 and is majoring in communications, gaming and interactive media.

Undergraduate students who received a 3.5 grade-point average or better on a four-point scale qualified for the dean's list.

Carrie is pursuing a second bachelor's degree and is majoring in geology at the university. She graduated from Bard's College at Simon's Rock in 1999.

WESTFIELD - The following residents of New Jersey were recently named to the Dean's List at the College of William and Mary for the spring 2007 semester:

Katherine Van Haasteren of Fanwood, Catherine Madurski of Fanwood, Amy Ryan of Scotch Plains, Jeffrey Perrella of Westfield, Thomas Fringer of Westfield and Max Kaplan of Westfield.

In order to achieve Dean's List status, a full-time degree seeking undergraduate student must take at least 12 credit hours and earn a 3.6 Quality Point Average during the semester.

FANWOOD - Local students Eric Douglas Pratt of Fanwood, majoring in computer science and graduating cum laude, and Angela Mary Stanford of Fanwood, majoring in interdisciplinary science, received diplomas from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute during the 201st commencement on May 19.

WESTFIELD - The following students were named to the Marist College Dean's List for the spring semester.

James Scariati of Westfield is a member of the Class of 2007 and majored in digital media. John Velasco of Westfield is a member of the Class of 2009 and is majoring in communications, radio, TV and film. Alison Yuhas of Westfield is a member of the Class of 2007 and majored in digital media.

WESTFIELD - The Westfield Board of Education invites the public to meet or reacquaint themselves with Margaret Dolan, the new superintendent of schools, on Tuesday evening, September 11.

The "Meet and Greet" will be held at 7 p.m. in the Westfield High School cafeteria with refreshments. The public is invited to remain for the board of education meeting that will follow at 8 p.m.

"Although Dr. Dolan has been an administrator in Westfield for 11 years, in her new position as superintendent of schools she will assume a more public role as the leader of the school district," said board President Ginny Leiz.

"We wanted to give the public the opportunity of informally speaking to Dr. Dolan and welcoming her as superintendent," she added. "We are thrilled to begin the new school year in her capable hands."

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## Airborne Launches Teacher Trust Fund in Area Districts

AREA - Airborne, an herbal health formula, is working to provide relief to teachers to keep arts and music programs alive.

Elementary- and middle-school teachers in Cranford, Garwood, Mountainside, Scotch Plains-Fanwood and Westfield school districts are now eligible to apply for the Airborne Teacher Trust Fund.

A non-profit charitable corporation that helps support art and music education, the Airborne Teacher Trust Fund awards grants of \$200 to \$10,000 to assist teachers in implementing these programs.

As of August 1, teachers in all 50 states and the District of Columbia can apply for these grants. Now entering its second year, The Airborne Teacher Trust Fund is the vision of Victoria Knight-McDowell, a former second-grade teacher and creator of Airborne Health Formula.

"With budgets becoming tighter each year, schools are faced with the difficult decision of having to cut vital programs," said Ms. Knight-McDowell. "The Airborne Teacher Trust Fund is meant to fill the gap and keep our youth engaged and inspired, so they can live full and rewarding lives."

According to the 2006 Center for

Education Policy, 71 percent of the nation's 15,000 school districts have reduced time spent on subjects such as art, social studies and history since 2002.

"It's frightening to think of a world in which children are not exposed to the arts in any meaningful way," says Elise Donahue, Airborne CEO. "As corporations and individuals it is up to us to make sure we're investing in the future of our country."

Application information is available at [airbornetrust.com](http://airbornetrust.com).

### Three Students Make AU Spring Dean's List

SCOTCH PLAINS - Three Scotch Plains students earned dean's list status at American University.

Aaron Klemow and Jessica McGarry, students in the School of Communications, major in public communication and journalism, respectively.

Sara Woods, a student in the Kogod School of Business, majors in business administration.

To earn dean's list status at American University, a student must obtain a 3.5 grade point average or better on his or her semester courses.

## Area Residents Make Marist College Dean's List

AREA - The following students were named to the Marist College Dean's List for the spring semester.

Maxwell Carow of Fanwood is a member of the Class of 2010 and is majoring in digital media.

Bryan Smith of Fanwood is a member of the Class of 2008 and is majoring in communications and public relations.

Meral Akyuz of Scotch Plains is a member of the Class of 2008 and is majoring in digital media.

Ryan Lynch of Scotch Plains is a member of the Class of 2009 and is majoring in business administration with an emphasis: international.

Christina Minitit of Scotch Plains is a member of the Class of 2008 and is enrolled in the psychology five-year bachelor's/master's program.

Alexander Resnick of Scotch Plains is a member of the Class of 2010 and is majoring in communication arts.

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NEW SUPERINTENDENT WELCOMES NEW TEACHERS...New teachers and administrators were welcomed into the Westfield School district at a New Teachers' Breakfast on August 30. Superintendent of Schools Margaret Dolan, standing, personally greeted many of them, including, from left to right, Demont Heard, Brooke Smith and Mike Chiera.

## Westfield Schools Welcome 42 New Teachers, 6 Admins

WESTFIELD - Superintendent Margaret Dolan welcomed a total of 42 new teachers and six new administrators to the Westfield Public Schools during a New Teacher Orientation Breakfast on Thursday, August 30.

Ms. Dolan, who enters a new role as superintendent following 11 years as a district administrator, shared her thoughts with the new hires.

She encouraged them to listen, keep perspective and celebrate the small victories in the classroom. She closed her remarks by expressing her wish that the new faculty members and administrators experience a year of learning and growing.

Board President Ginny Leiz welcomed the new hires and announced that the 48 new staff members were selected from more than 1,500 résumés. Almost half have advanced degrees and 10 were raised in Westfield. Six of the new teachers are from out-of-state, with the farthest being from Phoenix, Ariz..

Michael Seiler of the Westfield Education Association formally greeted the teachers and assured them that they were entering a community where education is supported.

Westfield Parent-Teacher Council President Joann Spera, representing the parent community, told the new teachers that parents are very helpful resources for them.

The new teachers completed a three-day orientation program within Westfield's New Teacher Institute, focusing on Classroom Management, Technology, Differentiated Instruction, Special Education and Library Resources.

They received orientation at the school level from their principals and mentors, and were also escorted on a bus tour of the town of Westfield. All the new administrators and all but three of the new teachers are replacing those who have retired, resigned or are on leave.

The new teaching staff for the Westfield Public Schools includes:

- Victor Alfonso, Fifth Grade, Tamaques
- Antoine Allen, Special Education, WHS
- Kathleen Bigelow, Environmental Science, WHS
- Keri-Lyn Billows (Krawiec), Math, Roosevelt Intermediate
- Steven Bini, Fourth Grade, Tamaques
- Brittany Byron, Fourth Grade, Jefferson
- Michael Chiera, Special Education, Roosevelt Intermediate
- Karen Ciaramella, Art, Tamaques and Wilson
- Tina Marie DeStefano, Phys Ed and Health, Roosevelt Intermediate
- Martha Fico, Nurse/Health Educator, Edison Intermediate
- Mary Flannery, Special Education, WHS
- Diana Fleck, Art, Washington
- Stephanie Flynn, Leaps and Bounds (district-wide autistic), Wilson
- Lydia Fogelman, Science, Roosevelt
- R. Brent Geyer, Music/Strings, McKinley
- Amy Grentus, Special Education, Roosevelt Intermediate
- Demont Heard, Physical Education, Roosevelt Intermediate
- Damaris Helm, Guidance Counselor, WHS
- Nathan Hollis, School Learning Consultant, Wilson and Franklin
- Annie Howe, Second Grade, Jefferson
- Caitlin MacDonald, English, WHS
- Maria McGrath, Achieve, Tamaques
- Jacqueline Meert, Social Studies, WHS
- Leanne Merlo, Speech, Jefferson
- Joshua Miller, Fifth Grade, Tamaques
- Alana Passananti, Fourth Grade, Franklin
- Dana Passananti, Fifth Grade, Wilson
- Lisa Piegario, Special Education, Roosevelt Intermediate
- Jennifer Roman, English, WHS
- Nicholas Salvatore, Special Education, WHS
- Silvia Sangiovanni, School Psychologist, WHS
- Eric Shore, Guidance Counselor, WHS
- Diana Simoes, Fourth Grade, Tamaques
- Kathy Skoba, Kindergarten, Tamaques
- Laurie Smedley, Fifth Grade, Tamaques
- Brooke Smith, Sixth Grade, Roosevelt Intermediate
- Daniel Smith, Chemistry, WHS
- Michelle Spreitzer, Health, WHS
- Thomas Staab, Technology, Roosevelt and Edison
- Tamara Yellin, Science, Edison Intermediate
- Emily Yudkovitz, Fourth Grade, Washington
- Martha Zervas, Special Education, Edison Intermediate
- New school administrators include Eileen Cambria, Principal, Franklin School; Matthew Bolton, Assistant Principal, Roosevelt; Robert Gardella, Assistant Principal, Wilson; David Heller, Assistant Principal, Franklin; Douglas Layman, Assistant Principal, Edison; and Douglas Sanford, Assistant Principal, Westfield High School.

### Goodman Makes Union College Dean's List

WESTFIELD - Diana Goodman has attained Dean's List status at Union College for 2006-2007.

Diana, a resident of Westfield, is a 2006 graduate of Westfield High School.

In order to be named to the Dean's List at Union College, a student must have attended classes for the entire academic year and completed three courses during each of the three terms with no fewer than eight courses in the index. He or she must have maintained an overall index of 3.5 or greater.



### Sixth Grader to Perform in Macy's Parade

WESTFIELD - Westfield sixth grader Sam Hays will perform with Camp Broadway in the opening act of the 2007 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in Herald Square.

Auditions were held this summer in locations across the United States, and Sam was one of 600 singer/dancers chosen to perform "Makin' Magic" on Thanksgiving Day.

Sam is a member of The Little Opera Company in Westfield, a division of the NJ Workshop for the Arts. He is also a member of the Young Artist Institute at NJPAC.

### County Residents To Attend FDU

AREA - Michael Sherman and Joseph Brace of Scotch Plains, as well as Paul Camarda of Cranford, have received the Colonel Farleigh S. Dickinson Scholarship, granted to incoming students based on their academic records, SAT scores, co-curricular accomplishments and on-campus interviews with FDU faculty.

Paul is a graduate of Roselle Catholic High School. He is the son of Louis and Mary Ellen Camarda and plans to major in accounting.

Michael, the son of William Sherman and Ellen Hollis, is a graduate of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School. He has not yet declared his major.

Joseph is the son of Bennett and Marisa Brace. He plans to major in accounting.

Additionally, Scotch Plains resident Nithin Reddy, a graduate of Bishop Ahr High School, has received the dean's scholarship, granted to incoming students who have shown strong SAT scores and academic records. Nithin is the son of Rama Reddy. He plans to major in biology and pre-med.

### Catholic High School Admissions Exam

COOP Exam for September 2008 entrance  
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(888) 921-2267  
[support@coopexam.org](mailto:support@coopexam.org)

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