



FIRST DAY... All 10 Westfield Public Schools opened on September 3 including Lincoln School—the district’s Early Childhood Learning Center. Ready to begin their first day of kindergarten, pictured, left to right, are: Jack Graham, Kayla Genlot and Van Imbacuan-Elleson.

Westfield Candidates Night Canceled

WESTFIELD - The Westfield PTC-sponsored Board of Education Candidates Night, originally scheduled for Wednesday, October 16, has been canceled due to the withdrawal of Jonathan Blitt’s candidacy, leaving three candidates for the three open positions. Candidates include incumbents J. Brendan Galligan, Ginny Leiz and Mitchell Slater. The PTC thanks the members of the public who have provided questions thus far for the Candidate Forum. Issues of importance to the public can always be e-mailed to board members at wboe@westfieldnj.k12.org. Remember to vote on Tuesday, November 5.

UC Student Organizes Dyslexia Conference

SCOTCH PLAINS —Will Marsh, Union Catholic (UC) High School, Class of 2014, demonstrates UC’s core value of community, as he is a vital advocate for dyslexia awareness. Will, who found out that he was dyslexic in third grade, decided shortly after that point that he wanted to make a difference in the lives of those who are dealing with dyslexia, whether they be a student, parent or educator, since one in five individuals has some degree of dyslexia.

Will created a conference to raise awareness about dyslexia, called “Spotlight on Dyslexia,” which will be held at Union Catholic on Saturday, October 5, from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The conference will include keynote speaker G. Emerson Dickman, J.D. (Past President of the International Dyslexia Association and member of the National Joint Committee on Learning Disabilities); a screening of the HBO documentary *The Big Picture: Rethinking Dyslexia*; a panel discussion of professionals, parents and dyslexic students; breakout sessions on key issues about dyslexia by field specialists; and a resource fair. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Registration is available at spotlightondyslexia-es2.eventbrite.com.

In the past, Will has raised funds for the dyslexia walk in Scotch Plains, has mentored other dyslexic students and has even testified in front of the New Jersey Senate Education Committee in support of several laws regarding dyslexia. He has traveled to Washington, D.C. with several Decoding Dyslexia members (a parent-led grassroots movement that began two years ago in New Jersey and has since spread to 33 other states) to

meet with the New Jersey congressman and, this past summer, earned an internship with Learning Ally (formerly the Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic), where he created a database for each state containing dyslexia resources.

Will also has been nominated for the International Dyslexia Association Remy Johnston Award, a unique award that is only presented to dyslexics under age 25 for their community involvement and refusal to be limited by their learning differences. Will is the PAC (Performing Arts Company) president, and an active member of SMAC (Student Movement Against Cancer) and Forensics.

Will is hoping that the conference on October 5 will raise factual awareness about dyslexia and dispel any misconceptions that people have. His goal is for students, parents and educators to leave the conference equipped with the resources they need to maximize learning for dyslexic students.

“When you ask a person what they think dyslexia is, most people initially think that it means reading backwards; in actuality, this only happens in the most extreme cases.” Will stated. “Through the conference, I am hoping that attendees will come to understand that yes, those with dyslexia do have difficulty reading and spelling, but they also have unique strengths like seeing the big picture and using multidimensional thinking. Many of ‘the greats’ have been dyslexic, including Steve Jobs of Apple, Inc., Richard Branson of Virgin Group, and even Walt Disney.”

For 50 years, Union Catholic High School has earned its reputation as one of New Jersey’s foremost Catholic secondary schools. For information, visit unioncatholic.org.



CONGRATULATIONS... The College Club of Fanwood - Scotch Plains has awarded a total of \$31,500 in scholarships to 12 students, seven are high school seniors who graduated in June, and five are currently attending college. Pictured, left to right, are: Caitlin Carol, Lindsey Wilkinson, Alexandra Peluso, Megan Fernandez, Elizabeth Baldwin, Kelly O’Leary, Stephanie Holmes, Tara Palkoski, Danielle Karacsony, Shannon Mc Govern. Absent are Avia Shadmi and Jamie Weisbrot.

College Club of F-SP Announces Scholarships

FANWOOD-SCOTCH PLAINS - The College Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains has awarded a total of \$31,500 in scholarships to 12 students, seven are high school seniors who graduated in June, and five are currently attending college.

The high school recipients for the academic year 2013-2014 are: Caitlin Carol, daughter of Joseph and Sandra Carol, who received \$3,000 and will be attending Middlebury College; Megan Fernandez, daughter of Kathy Lamendola, who received \$3,500 and will be attending Rutgers University; Kelly O’Leary, daughter of Timothy and Kathy O’Leary, who received \$3,000 and will be attending The College of New Jersey; Tara Palkoski, daughter of Kim and Robert Palkoski, who received \$3,000 and will be attending the University of Massachusetts at Amherst; Alexandra Peluso, daughter of Carin and Art Peluso, who received \$3,000 and will be attending the University of South Carolina; Lindsey Wilkinson, daughter of John and Cheryl Wilkinson, who received \$3,000 and will be attending Boston College.

Danielle Karacsony, daughter of Debra and Art Karacsony, the highest ranking female of the class of 2013 at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School (SPFHS), received an award of \$1,000 in recognition of her academic excellence. Danielle will be attending the University of Maryland.

A special dinner reception was held for the recipients and their families at the Scotch Hills Country Club on May 20. Club President Robin Musso and Scholarship Committee Co-Chairs Marie Walford and Tish Isack, made the scholarship presentations at the dinner. Past president Joan Skubish and Tish Isack presented the awards at the SPFHS awards assembly.

Anyone interested in more information about the College Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains or would like to become a member, please contact the membership committee at (908) 889-9194 or visit the club’s website at collegeclubfsp.org.

CDC’s Little Shop of Horrors Opens Oct. 11

CRANFORD - The talented denizens of Skid Row have been rehearsing for the upcoming Cranford Dramatic Club (CDC) Theatre production of *Little Shop of Horrors*, book and lyrics by Howard Ashman, music by Alan Menkin.

Down-and-out floral assistant Seymour Krelborn, played by Zach Mazouat, becomes an overnight sensation when he discovers an exotic plant with a mysterious craving for fresh blood.

This charming spoof of 1950s sci-fi movies runs Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 p.m. from Friday, October 11, through Saturday, October 26. For tickets and information, visit cdctheatre.org or call (908) 276-7611.



Chinese Enrichment Classes Give Your Child the World! Chinese Enrichment Classes For Young Children

WESTFIELD - Give your child the advantage of becoming bilingual. From novice to experienced - enroll your child in a culturally diverse, educational experience. Unique enrichment programs provide full language development instruction for all levels of Mandarin Chinese exposure. Structured in a creative setting, captivating language classes cater to children from beginners to proficient native speakers. Students will acquire new language skills based on their individual levels of language acquisition. These classes will build a strong

foundation, solidify understanding and expand on prior skills in the target language. Immersion based curriculum infused with educational and cultural activities. Accredited native language teachers. Classes are held at 836 Mountain Avenue, Westfield, N.J. 07090. For more information, call (908) 232-9550 or (908) 232-7011, or visit www.BambooShootsEducation.com.

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U Mass Announces Dean’s List

BOSTON, Mass. - Charlotte Mullan, a resident of Mountainside, was among the 2,800 students from the University of Massachusetts Boston named to the Spring 2013 Dean’s List.

Purdue University Confers Degrees

WESTLAFAYETTE, Ind. - Purdue University awarded approximately 7,100 degrees to students following the spring semester. Those earning degrees include: Stephen Aswad of Westfield, who earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from the School of Chemical Engineering.

POPCORN

“Getaway”

Road Outrage

1 and ½ popcorns

One Popcorn, Poor — Two Popcorns, Fair — Three Popcorns, Good — Four Popcorns, Excellent

By MICHAEL S. GOLDBERGER
Film Critic

One advantage of being a film critic, especially pertinent in the case of Courtney Solomon’s furiously turbulent “Getaway,” is that you get to see movies you’d never pay to see. All of which is my cute excuse for succumbing to the tastes and curiosity of the 15-year-old me. Truth be told, no one had to twist my stick-shifting arm to see this flimsy excuse for a feature length car chase.

Rarely stopping to take a breath, perhaps afraid that we’d catch up and see it for the mindless scraps of celluloid sensationalism it really is, “Getaway” literally and figuratively produces a junkyard full of half-baked and unpolished wreckage. Starring Ethan Hawke as washed up and humiliated former big-time racecar driver Brent Magra, the barrage of special effects and ridiculously exhilarating live footage features one of those absurd premises right out of your last nightmare.

Some mysterious power with a doubtlessly heinous agenda and an apparent desire to be a monstrous puppeteer of men has kidnapped Brent’s wife and then set the stage for him to wind up in a Shelby Super Snake Mustang. Fitted with cameras and all sorts of other control freak doodads—the better to watch and direct him, my dear—the cockpit serves as the action-drama’s proscenium.

The deal is, do what the sinister, foreign-accented voice says or the love of your life will be killed. And hey, this guy ain’t kidding.

This means, just for starters, ramming dozens of police cars, driving the indomitable pony car through every potentially tragic marketplace in Sofia, Bulgaria, and leaving no automotive acrobatic trick undone. And just so Brent has someone to commiserate with between power shifts, the marionette master plops some female companionship into the shotgun seat.

She is, per the credits, The Kid, portrayed by Selena Gomez...which ostensibly translates to poor little rich girl. You see, pop is a major European banker who, alas, has given her very little of his time. As consolation, though, he has given her the \$94,195 fliwver that Shelby American crafts from Ford’s GT500 Mustangs - the “only nice thing” dear old dad has ever done for her. Hmm, I’m thinking, why not parlay the guilt and hit him up for a new Ferrari and just find a father figure somewhere else?

In any case, now she has a big brother of sorts to menace and banter with as both try to figure out why the unseen dictator has constructed this merger of machine, troubled souls and confounding agenda. Oh, before I forget, it bears noting that, quite conveniently, the poor man’s Lolita is a techno geek



SPOTLIGHT ON DYSLEXIA... Will Marsh created a conference to raise awareness about dyslexia, called “Spotlight on Dyslexia,” which will be held at Union Catholic on Saturday, October 5. Pictured, Will joins Union Catholic Director of Guidance Jennifer Dixon, who empowered him and helped to make his dream conference a reality.

Westfield Fencing Club Begins New Session

WESTFIELD - The Westfield Fencing Club, a division of the New Jersey Workshop for the Arts (NJWA), currently is registering students for the new session of classes and bouting for beginning, intermediate and advanced fencers in sabre, foil and epee, using electronic scoring equipment.

“Fencing is a rapidly growing sport that helps all participants enhance their mental abilities while getting some great exercise. More important, it’s just plain fun, and that’s what we concentrate on at our club,” said Ron Margulis, Head Coach of the Westfield Fencing Club.

Mr. Margulis, joined by coaches Jerry Duffey, Charlie Dooley, David Liss, Joe Zanko and Don Satchell, will not only teach the skills involved in this sport, but also help prepare students to participate in competitions.

Classes are held on Wednesday evenings, beginning September 18, at 6:30 p.m. for beginners and 7:30

p.m. for intermediate and advanced students, and on Saturday mornings, beginning September 21, at 9 a.m. for beginners and 10 a.m. for intermediate and advanced fencers. All new students must attend the first day of classes on either Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. or Saturday at 9 a.m. for proper placement and time.

Fencing classes are open to students age 10 and older, as well as to adults. The program consists of 30 one-hour lessons, held at the All Saints’ Episcopal Church, 559 Park Avenue in Scotch Plains.

Fencers are asked to wear loose fitting clothing and white-soled sneakers to all classes. Fencing equipment is available for rental.

Students must pre-register with the NJWA before attending class. For additional information, visit njworkshopforthearts.com, stop by the NJWA studios at 150-152 East Broad Street, Westfield, or call (908) 789-9696.

WHS Graduate Gilad Edelman Releases Debut CD

WESTFIELD — Gilad Edelman, a 2005 graduate of Westfield High School and currently a second year student at Yale Law School, has released his debut CD, entitled “My Groove, Your Move” on Sharp Nine Records.

The alto saxophonist is joined by an All-Star New York City band featuring first-call pianist David Hazeltine and trumpeter Joe Magnarelli. *DownBeat* magazine awarded the CD four stars and wrote, “The leader’s individual poise impresses. He makes every familiar move fresh, whether it’s his dramatic entrances with his huge tone, his perfectly deployed double-time passages, or the way he uses an alto break to sustain and release tension.”

Noted jazz blogger Marc Myers wrote in his *JazzWax* blog, “The alto saxophonist brings enormous maturity and dexterity to a range of familiar songs... Enormous, fluid chops...”

The album includes songbook standards “I Love You” (the verse) by Cole Porter, Lerner and Loewe’s “On the Street Where You Live,” Jerome



Kern’s “The Way You Look Tonight” and a ballad medley of “For All We Know” and “We Kiss in a Shadow.” The CD is available from Sharp Nine Records (www.sharpnine.com) as well as Amazon and all major Internet retailers. It also is available as a digital download from all established download sites, including iTunes.

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